UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Ely District Office Star Route 5, Box 1 Ely, Nevada 89301

> In reply refer to: 4700 (NV-043)

Memorandum

AUG 28 1989

To:

Egan Resource Area Manager

From:

Ely District Wild Horse Specialist

Subject: Census of Diamond Hills South HMA (No. 412)

and Diamond Horse Free Area.

I conducted an aerial census of the Diamond Hills South HMA and the Diamond horse free area adjacent to Hooper's Strawberry Ranch on Friday, August 11, 1989, to get an accurate count of horses in the area. A Bell 47G3Bl/Soloy Conversion helicopter from High Desert Helicopters, Fallon, Nevada, was used to conduct the census. Ron Crowe was the pilot.

The weather was cool, sunny, mostly clear with some scattered clouds during the census. Winds were light. Visibility was good for counting horses. Transects were run in a North-South direction. Total census flight time was 1.2 hours for the Diamond Hills South HMA and 1.0 hour for the Diamond horse free area west of the Strawberry Ranch.

There were a total of 176 horses censused on the Diamond Hills South HMA and a total of 109 horses counted on the Diamond horse free area. The attached map shows the in-dividual bands counted by specific location with adults/ colts counted in each band. The final census tally is as follows:

135 adults 41 colts Total: 176 Diamond Hills South HMA

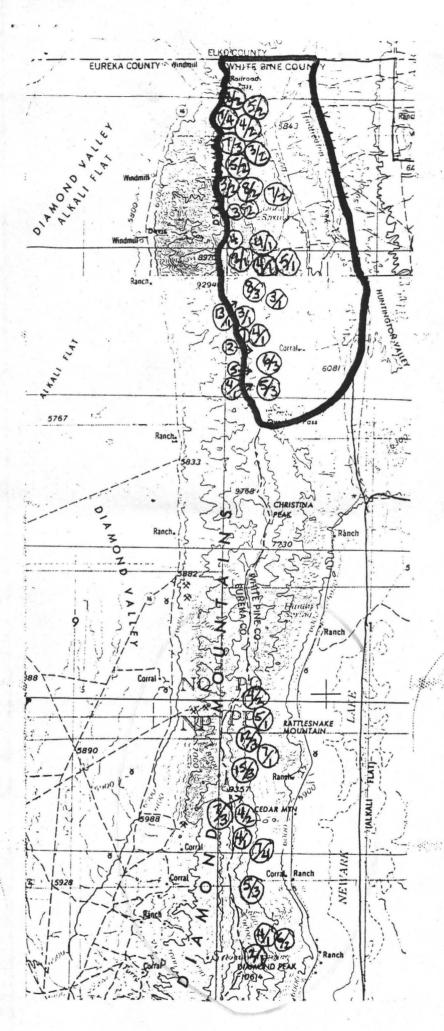
82 adults 27 colts Total: 109 Diamond Horse Free Area

Although 26 of the total 176 horses censused in the Diamond Hills South HMA and 10 of the total 109 censused in the Diamond horse free area are shown west of the Ely District line on the map, they are included as part of the Ely District census. All of these horses were first observed east of the district line and have unrestricted access between the Ely District and Battle Mountain District and were noted crossing back and forth across the line.

Bob Brown

¹ Attachment

^{1.} Census Map (1 p)



Census Map

Diamond Hills South HMA

Adults = 135

Colts = 41 Total = 176

Diamond Horse Free Area
Adults = 82

Total = 109

August 11, 1989