



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Ely District Office
Star Route 5, Box 1
Ely, Nevada 89301

G 6/14/82
IN REPLY REFER TO

4700
(N-043)

June 14, 1982

Dawn Lappin
Wild Horse Organized Assistance
P. O. Box 555
Reno, Nevada 89504

Dear Dawn,

We are sending you a copy of the original Environmental Assessment on the Buck and Bald Wild Horse gathering, the addendum and capture plan that were prepared this year.

You may receive additional copies later, but this will give you an opportunity to review them before you come to Ely in July.

Sincerely yours,

George W. Cropper
Acting District Manager

CAPTURE PLAN FOR BUCK-BALD HORSE GATHER

Introduction

The proposed gathering area is located in the northwestern portion of White Pine County, Nevada and the south central portion of Elko County, Nevada. The plan is titled Buck and Bald Horse Gather even though Buck and Bald (Ely), Maverick (Ely, Elko) and Medicine (Elko) Wild Horse Herd Use Areas are included. Maps are attached to help readers locate the proposed gathering area.

This document outlines the process and the events involved with the Buck-Bald Horse Gather. Included are the number of horses to be captured, the time and method of capture, and the handling of captured horses (wild and branded horses). Also outlined are the BLM personnel involved with the roundup, the delegation of authority, the briefing of the contractor(s), and the public meeting to be held.

Number and Location of Horses to be Gathered

The proposed number of horses to be gathered is 600 animals. This number is tentative because it is not known what the contract cost will be at the present time, how the capturing process will proceed due to climatic conditions, and the animals' behavior and other unforeseen factors. The actual number of horses captured may be slightly higher or lower.

Several trap sites will be needed due to the size of the gathering area. Horses will be gathered in the Moorman Ranch Allotment, Buck Mountain, Bald Mountain, Maverick Springs Range and the Medicine Range. Due to the many variables, such as weather, location of horses, suitable trap sites and time of year, it is not possible to identify specific locations, thus horses may be captured anywhere in the gathering area (see attached map).

Time and Method of Capture

The roundup is scheduled to start after September 1, 1982 and to be completed by November 30, 1982. Other roundups may be scheduled in this area within an 18 month period. The time of this roundup is the most desirable, but due to fund restrictions it is possible that the roundup will be scheduled for July. This time is not desirable because the horses are generally located at higher elevations, requiring more careful work and planning in moving them and in locating traps. A helicopter's fuel efficiency, load capacity and working ability are greatly reduced at this time of year due to hot weather. And in addition, this time of year is generally the end of the foaling season, when greater care and caution must be used in handling mares with young foals.

The method of capture to be used will be a helicopter, and horseback riders at the wings of portable traps.

Other methods of capture are not being considered because of the increased cost per horse. Water trapping, though easier on horses, is not feasible due to the numerous springs, reservoirs and other water sources available to horses in the proposed gathering area. Water traps take time to construct and require time for horses to accept as part of their environment; the time allotted to this roundup is limited. Also, water traps after being used a few times are not successful in capturing horses. Trapping horses by running them on horseback is not feasible because it is too easy to lose the horses after starting them towards the trap; injuries to both people and horses is more likely, and the cost factor shown from previous roundups using this method indicates that the costs are prohibitive.

The following stipulations will be applied to the helicopter and wing trap capture method:

1. The helicopter and pilot furnished by the contractor must be certified by the Office of Aircraft Services, Department of the Interior to perform this mission, and shall be under the direct supervision of the authorized officer at all times. Further the terms of 43 CFR 4730.7-2, it shall be governed by the following reservations/restrictions.
 - (a) The Contracting Officer's Authorized Representative (COAR) shall have the means to communicate with the pilot and be able to direct the use of the helicopter, at all times. The BLM will furnish the necessary radio equipment.
 - (b) The COAR shall be able to observe the effects of the use of the helicopter on the well-being of the animals.
2. Under the provisions of 43 CFR 4730.4, the use of the helicopter shall further be regulated to the extent that:
 - (a) The helicopter shall be used in such a manner that bands or herds will tend to remain together.
 - (b) The rate of movement shall not exceed limitations set by the COAR who shall consider terrain, weather, distance to be traveled and condition of animals. Maximum distance for horse movement will be 10 miles under ideal conditions and will be less where safety of animals could be jeopardized.
3. All trapping of the horses shall be subject to the following reservations/restrictions:
 - (a) All trapping will be done by helicopter and wing riders by driving the horses into temporary traps.
 - (b) All materials and labor to build and remove the traps will be provided by the contractor.

- (c) All trap sites will be located on BLM land. General areas for trap locations within the gathering area may be specified by the COAR after consultation with the contractor to assure removal of horses from specific areas. Specific trap site locations will be selected by the contractors but must be approved by the COAR prior to trap construction.
- (d) All traps and holding corrals shall be constructed in a manner as to hold and handle the horses safely and humanely. All traps and holding corrals will be inspected and approved by the COAR prior and/or during their use.
- (e) All trap and camp sites will be cleaned up per direction of the COAR at the conclusion of the contract.

Transportation and Handling of Captured Horses

1. All motorized equipment employed in the transportation of captured horses shall, under the provisions of 43 CFR 4740.4(b), be subject to the following reservations and/or restrictions:
 - (a) All such transportation shall be in compliance with appropriate State and Federal laws and regulations applicable to the humane transportation of horses and burros.
 - (b) Vehicles shall be in good repair, of adequate rated capacity, and carefully operated so as to insure that captured animals are transported without undue risk or injury.
 - (c) Vehicles shall be inspected and approved by the COAR prior to award of contract.
 - (d) Where required by the COAR, animals shall be sorted as to age, size, temperament, sex, and condition when transporting them so as to minimize, to the extent possible, injury due to fighting and trampling.
 - (e) The COAR shall consider the condition of the animals, weather conditions, type of vehicles, and distance to be transported when planning for the movement of captured animals. The COAR shall provide for any brand and/or health services required for the captured animals.
 - (f) The COAR shall be responsible for determining the need for and providing treatment for sick or injured animals. The COAR shall also determine if an injured animal must be destroyed and provide for destruction and disposal of carcasses.
2. If captured animals are held more than 12 hours at the trap site, food and water will be provided by the contractor to the animal.

All animals will be humanely and expediently transported to the central holding facilities at Palomino Valley (Reno, Nevada).

3. Government furnished property (GFP):

The following GFP will be furnished the contractor (by the COAR) at time of award:

1 Handy Talky

1 Handy Talky w/aircraft adapter furnished by the COAR at time of Notice to Proceed, for period of the contract.

Handling of Branded Horses

Branded horses will be sorted from wild horses at the holding facility in the gathering area after inspection by the COAR and State brand inspector.

Claims by individuals will be limited to branded horses and current year's colts of branded mares. Final determination on claimed horses will be made by BLM.

Before horses can be turned over to the individual(s), the Bureau must collect a trespass fee, gathering costs, and any other associated costs.

Unclaimed branded horses will be sold at public auction by the Bureau of Land Management.

BLM Personnel and Delegation of Authority

The COAR will be Hal Bybee. The COAR will be directly responsible for conducting the round-up and will appoint project inspectors and other BLM personnel to assist with the round-up.

Other BLM personnel that will be needed to help are an archaeologist to clear trap sites for cultural resources, Egan Resource Area personnel and a BLM law enforcement agent to protect BLM personnel and property from unlawful activities.

The COAR is directly responsible for reporting the roundup proceedings to the Ely District Manager, the Nevada State Office, and District Public Affairs officer.

Restricting Public Access

If the road is a BLM road, possibly a daily closure with hours could be put into effect, but would require notice in the Federal Register.

Where necessary warning signs could be placed on roads where traps are located. This would warn people in vehicles to approach cautiously, if a total closure is not necessary.

Contractor's Briefing

The contractor, after award of the contract, will be briefed on his duties and responsibilities before the notice to proceed is issued to him. A tour of the area, if necessary, will also be conducted to help familiarize the contractor with the area.

Public Meeting

One public meeting will be held in Ely at a place and time to be determined before the roundup is started to get public input on the gathering process using helicopter. Wild horse protection groups and the public will be notified in ample time to allow them to attend the meeting. Wild horse groups will be notified and asked for input into the environmental assessment, and will be given the opportunity to review the assessment.

Prepared by:

Hal M. Bybee
Hal M. Bybee
Wild Horse & Burro Specialist

4-29-82
Date

Reviewed by:

John Barnes
John Barnes
District Range Specialist

4-30-82
Date

Mark Barber
Mark Barber
Chief, Div. of Resources (Acting)

4-29-82
Date

Mark Barber
Mark Barber
District Wildlife Biologist

4-29-82
Date

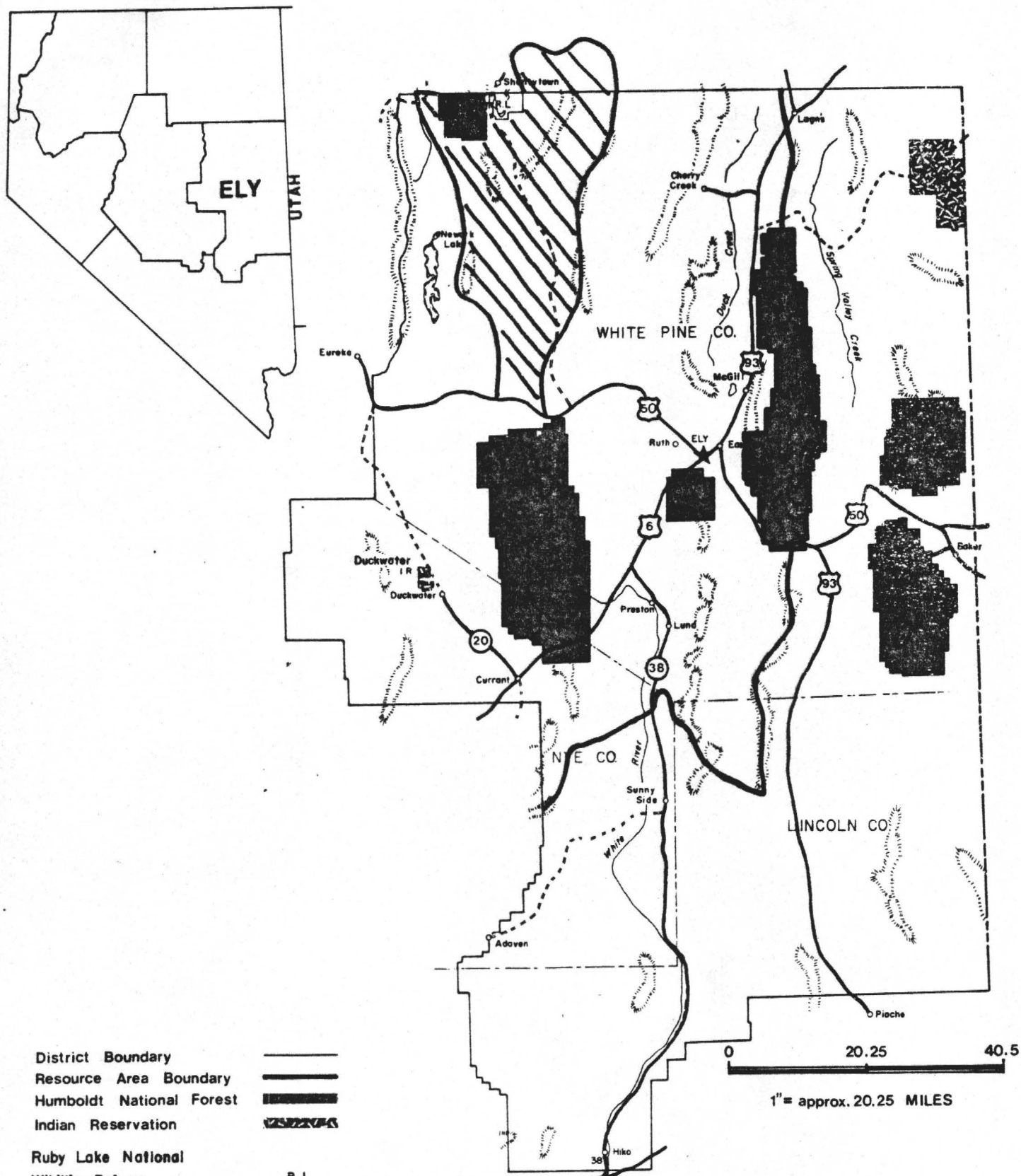
Approved by:

Howard Hedrick
Howard Hedrick
Egan Area Manager

May 10, 1982
Date

George W. Cropper
George W. Cropper
Acting District Manager

May 19, 1982
Date



District Boundary
 Resource Area Boundary
 Humboldt National Forest
 Indian Reservation
 Ruby Lake National
 Wildlife Refuge



R.L.

0 20.25 40.5

1" = approx. 20.25 MILES

ELY DISTRICT

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

AMENDMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. NV-040-0-20
BUCK AND BALD HORSE GATHER

Preface

The environmental assessment (EA) presented here analyzes the impact associated with a proposed wild horse gathering in the Buck and Bald - Long Valley area in the Ely and Elko District of the Bureau of Land Management.

In accordance with new Bureau procedures relating to EA's this analysis merely supplements the detailed EA which was prepared on the proposed gathering for 1980. The particular document is entitled Buck and Bald Horse Gathering Environmental Assessment Record (EA NV-040-0-20) and was prepared by the Bureau of Land Management, Ely District in June, 1980.

Information included here will update or revise this 1980 assessment. Portions of that document where content was considered accurate by this years writers was not repeated in this analysis. Appendices are included only if updated or new material is presented. Consequently, for full understanding the reader should obtain a copy of the 1980 assessment.

I. Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives

A. Background

Background information is discussed in the 1980 EA. Additional information will be added for this year, to update the background information.

The Buck and Bald - Long Valley area of White Pine and Elko Counties, Nevada had an estimated population of 1,200 wild and trespass branded horses in 1980. Based on that information, the Ely and Elko District, Bureau of Land Management conducted a roundup in that area during the same year. A total of 489 wild and trespass horses were removed which left a population of approximately 800. The area has been inventoried again and the population will have returned to the 1980 level with the addition of the 1982 foals. See attached appendix 1 for inventory data.

Proposed Action To go from 1056 horses as per appendix 1 in 1981 to 1200 horses (current est.) takes a 14% foal crop. However as portrayed below, the population has a 25% increase.

This remains the same, except that 600 horses would be gathered instead of 500. The rationale being that the herd returned to the same level in three years. This action would allow a longer period of time before another reduction would be necessary and still manage for a viable herd. The Egan Resource Area, Ely District and Wells Resource Area, Elko District Bureau of Land Management, propose to gather an estimated 600 excess wild and/or privately owned horses using a helicopter and portable wing traps beginning on or about September 1, 1982.

Gathering operations may be conducted over an 18 month period and may include gathering during two or three separate time

illogical conclusion since roundup occurred after 1980 foaling & 800 horses were remaining. Therefore horses returned to 1200 head in 2 years for a 25% increase. A biological impossibility as well as inconsistent w/ Ely population trends.

periods to reduce horse herds to a more manageable level of approximately 600 - 700 horses. (See attached stipulations).

All other information is discussed in EA NV-040-0-20.

Alternatives

Alternatives are the same as those analyzed in EA NV-040-0-20.

Description of Existing Environment

The discussion of the existing environment of EA NV-040-0-20 is considered adequate.

Analysis of Impacts Resulting from the Proposed Action and Alternatives

Analysis of Impacts is essentially the same as discussed in EA NV-040-0-20. However, beneficial impacts to the resources would be increased since horses would be gathered throughout the entire gathering area and a larger number of horses would be removed.

Negative impacts to the vegetation would be less in the immediate vicinity of the traps because fewer horses would be caught in each trap.

A slightly increased negative impact on horses could be expected during gathering and handling since mare horses would be captured.

Persons, Groups and Government Agencies Consulted

American Horse Protection Association
1312 - 18th St. NW
Washington D.C. 20036

American Humane Association
9725 E. Hampden
Denver, Colorado 80231

U. S. Humane Society
2100 L St., NW
Washington D.C. 20037

Animal Protection Institute
P. O. Box 22505
Sacramento, California 95822

Sierra Club
c/o Rose Strickland
Public Lands Committee of
the Toiyable Chapter of the
Sierra Club
1685 Kings Row
Reno, Nevada 89503

Nevada Wildlife Federation
P. O. Box 8022
Reno, Nevada 89507

Nevada Humane Society
P. O. Box KIND
Sparks, Nevada 89431

International Society for the Protection
of Wild Horses and Burros
11790 Deodar
Reno, Nevada 89506

Funds for Animals
7167 South 2000 East
Salt Lake City, Utah 84121

National Mustang Association
P. O. Box 403
St. George, Utah 84121

National Wild Horse Association
P. O. Box 12188
Las Vegas, Nevada 89112

Nevada Farm Bureau Federation
1300 Marietta Way
Sparks, Nevada 89431

White Pine Co. Commissioners
White Pine County Court House
Court House Plaza
Ely, Nevada 89301

United Dressed Beef
Helds Quarter Circle
Eureka, Nevada 89316

Valiant Farms
P. O. Box 38
Eureka, Nevada 89316

Stephen Wright
Ruby Valley, Nevada 89833

Te Moak Livestock Association
Lee, Nevada 89829

Art Cook
Ruby Valley, Nevada 89833

Nevada Department of Wildlife
Region II
1375 Mountain City Highway
Elko, Nevada 89801

State Clearinghouse
State Planning Coordination
Capitol Complex
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Wild Horse Organized Assistance
P. O. Box 555
Reno, Nevada 89504

Save the Mustang
P. O. Box 13
Rockwood, Pennsylvania 15557

Tina Nappe
3340 Berthond
Reno, Nevada 89503

Nevada Cattlemen's Association
975 Fifth Street
Elko, Nevada 89503

Rice Livestock Company
P. O. Box 1838
Elko, Nevada 89801

Robert Dickerson
Moorman Ranch
1590 Webster Way
Reno, Nevada 89502

Bert Paris
Star Route 1, Box 26
Ely, Nevada 89301

Loyd Sorensen
591 13th Street
Elko, Nevada 89801

Thomas S. Van Horne
Seventh Floor
Crocker Bank Building
1007 Seventh Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Nevada Department of Wildlife
Dale Elliott
Box 178
Eureka, Nevada 89316

APPENDIX I

1981 AERIAL INVENTORY ELY, ELKO DISTRICT

Buck and Bald Herd Use Area	687 horses
Maverick Springs Herd Use Area	204 horses
Medicine Range Herd Use Area	<u>163 horses</u>
Total Inventory in Gathering Area	1,056 horses

STIPULATIONS

1. Under the provisions of 43 CFR 4740.4, the use of the helicopter shall be regulated to the extent that:
 - (a) The helicopter shall be used in such a manner that bands or herds will tend to remain together.
 - (b) The rate of movement shall not exceed limitations set by the COAR and/or Project Inspector who shall consider terrain, weather, distance to be traveled and condition of animals. The contractor shall provide the helicopter/pilot for the COAR and/or Project Inspector to perform an aerial reconnaissance prior to capture at each trap site to set these limitations. (Not to exceed 5 hours flight time).
 - (c) The COAR/Project Inspector shall have the option at any time to ride in the helicopter to monitor the gathering.
 - (d) The contractor shall provide the COAR/PI five hours helicopter time for a post gathering inventory.

2. All motorized equipment employed in the transportation of captured horses shall, under the provisions of 43 CFR 4740.4(b), be subject to the following reservations and/or restrictions:
 - (a) All such transportation shall be in compliance with appropriate State and Federal laws and regulations applicable to the humane transportation of horses and burros.
 - (b) Vehicles shall be in good repair, of adequate rated capacity, and carefully operated so as to insure that captured animals are transported without undue risk or injury.
 - (c) Vehicles shall be inspected and approved by the COAR/Project Inspector prior to award of the contract or at the prework conference.
 - (d) Where required by the COAR and/or Project Inspector, animals shall be sorted as to age, size, temperament, sex, and condition when transporting them so as to minimize, to the extent possible, injury due to fighting and trampling.
 - (e) Trailers (including gooseneck or bumper pull) or other suitable equipment as approved by the COAR/Project Inspector may be used to transport horses from the traps to the temporary holding facility. Bob-tail trucks, tractor pulled single deck trailers or double deck trailers with a minimum height of 13.6 feet will be permitted for transportation of captured horses to the Nevada Distribution Center, Palomino Valley (Reno). Trailer 30 feet in length will be required to have two sections (one partition) and trailers 40 feet or longer will have three sections (2 partitions).

- (f) The COAR and/or Project Inspector shall consider the condition of the animals, weather conditions, type of vehicles, and distance to be transported when planning for the shipment of captured animals.
 - (g) The COAR shall provide for brand inspection services.
3. All trapping of horses shall be subject to the following reservations/restrictions:
- (a) All trapping attempted under this contract shall be accomplished utilizing a helicopter to herd the wild horses into the traps. Wing riders may be used as necessary. Roping will be done only when necessary as determined by the COAR and/or Project Inspector. Under no circumstances will horses be tied down for more than one hour.
 - (b) All materials and labor to build, repair, and remove the traps and holding corrals will be provided by the contractor.
 - (c) All traps and holding corrals will be located on BLM land and the locations will be approved by the COAR and/or Project Inspector prior to construction.
 - (d) The central holding corral will be located at a location agreed upon by COAR and contractor. Panels and other necessary equipment will be furnished by the contractor.
 - (e) All trap wings and holding corrals will be constructed to handle wild horses safely and humanely. Trap wings and holding corrals will be constructed with portable panels, unless otherwise approved by COAR/PI, the top rail of the trap will not be less than 72 inches high, and the bottom rail of which will not be more than 12 inches from the ground level. Holding corrals will not be less than 96 inches high and the bottom rail of which will not be more than 12 inches from the ground level. Traps and holding corrals will be round or oval in design and will not be less than 40 feet in diameter. Holding corrals may be required to be larger as determined by the COAR/Project Inspector.
 - (f) All trap and camp sites will be cleaned of all litter and debris when abandoned, to the satisfaction of the COAR.
4. Captured horses shall generally not be held more than 72 hours prior to transporting to Palomino Valley (Reno), Nevada. Exceptions to the 72 hours maximum may only be granted by the COAR/PI.
5. Horses held for 10 hours or more in the traps or holding facility will be provided good quality hay at the rate of not less than (2) two pounds of hay per 100 pounds of body weight per day. Horses held for 24 hours or more shall be fed all the hay they will eat, or as directed by the COAR and/or Project Inspector.

6. Horses held for 10 hours or more in the traps and/or the holding facility will be provided, by the contractor, fresh, clean water in an amount sufficient to satisfy the demand as directed by the COAR and/or Project Inspector.
7. Where required by the COAR and/or Project Inspector, animals will be sorted by age, size, sex, temperament, and condition while at the trap and holding corrals so as to minimize, to the extent possible, injury due to fighting and trampling.
8. The COAR and/or Project Inspector shall be responsible for determining the need and provide for the treatment of sick or injured animals. The COAR and/or Project Inspector shall also determine if an injured animal must be destroyed and provide for destruction of the animals. The contractor shall dispose of carcasses as directed by the COAR and/or Project Inspector.
9. The contractor will be required to furnish locks and chains to lock outside gates of the holding corral if deemed necessary by the COAR.
10. The COAR and/or Project Inspector will make available a Nevada State Brand Inspector for the purpose of inspecting the animals for brands.
11. All feed, water, vehicles, helicopters, fuel and maintenance for vehicles, traps, holding facilities, loading chutes (no open sided chutes, open sided chutes must be lined with plywood or other suitable material) troughs and any other necessary equipment.

The contractor will be required to provide the temporary holding corrals, squeeze chutes and manpower to assist the Brand Inspector.

Contractor shall provide sufficient experienced personnel and saddle horses with appropriate tack to complete the required work.

12. Government Furnished Property

Radio equipment necessary for air to ground communications will be provided to the contractor, as necessary, for helicopter operations, (except for the adapter in the helicopter).

13. Roundup Procedures within Contract Area.

The COAR/PI will determine specific roundup areas and number of horses within general contract areas as animal concentration and weather conditions dictate. The trap will be moved a minimum of five times.

14. Only those bids from contractors with a proven background of capability and experience in handling wild or feral horses will be considered. Please complete the attached questionnaire and return with the bid.

Bureau of Land Management
Elko District Office
2002 Idaho Street
Box 831
Elko, Nevada 89801

Participating and Reviewing Staff

Prepared by:

Hal M. Bybee
Hal M. Bybee
Wild Horse and Burro Specialist

4-27-82
Date

Reviewed by:

John Barnes
John Barnes
District Range Specialist

4-30-82
Date

Mark Barber
Mark Barber
Chief, Div. of Resources (Acting)

4-29-82
Date

Mark Barber
Mark Barber
District Wildlife Biologist

4-29-82
Date

Kathy Lindsey
Kathy Lindsey
Environmental Coordinator

4/27/82
Date

Howard Hedrick
Howard Hedrick
Egan Area Manager

May 10, 1982
Date

CAPTURE PLAN FOR BUCK-BALD HORSE GATHER

INTRODUCTION

This document outlines the process and the events involved with the Buck-Bald Horse Gatherers. Included are the number of horses to be captured, the time and method of capture, and the handling of captured horses (wild and branded horses). Also outlined are the BLM personnel involved with the roundup, the delegation of authority, the briefing of the contractor(s), and the public meeting to be held. Maps are enclosed to help readers locate the proposed gathering area.

Number of Horses to be Gathered

The proposed number of horses to be gathered is 400 to 500 animals. This number is tentative because it is not known what the contract cost will be at the present time, how the capturing process will proceed due to climatic conditions, and the animals' behavior and other unforeseen factors. The actual number of horses captured may be slightly higher or lower.

Time and Method of Capture

The roundup is scheduled to start after July 15, 1980 and to be completed by September 30, 1980. Other roundups may be scheduled in this area within an 18 month period. The time of this roundup is not desirable, but due to fund restrictions this is the only time that the roundup can be scheduled. This time is not desirable because the horses are generally located at higher elevations, requiring more careful work and planning in moving them and in locating traps. A helicopter's fuel efficiency, load capacity and working ability are greatly reduced at this time of year due to hot weather. And in addition, this time of year is generally the end of the foaling season, when greater care and caution must be used in handling mares with young foals.

The method of capture to be used will be a helicopter, and horseback riders at the wings of portable traps.

Other methods of capture are not being considered because of the increased cost per horse. Water trapping, though easier on horses, is not feasible due to the numerous springs, reservoirs and other water sources available to horses in the proposed gathering area. Water traps take time to construct and require time for horses to accept as part of their environment; the time allotted to this roundup is limited. Also, water traps after being used a few times are not successful in capturing horses. Trapping horses by running them on horseback is not feasible because it is too easy to lose the horses after starting them towards the trap; injuries to both people and horses is more likely, and the cost factor shown from previous roundups using this method indicates that the costs are prohibitive.

The following stipulations will be applied to the helicopter and wing trap capture method:

1. The helicopter and pilot furnished by the contractor must be certified by the Office of Aircraft Services, Department of the Interior to perform this mission, and shall be under the direct supervision of the authorized officer at all times. Further the terms of 43 CFR 4730.7-2, it shall be governed by the following reservations/restrictions:
 - (a) The Contracting Officer's Authorized Representative (COAR) shall have the means to communicate with the pilot and be able to direct the use of the helicopter, at all times. The BLM will furnish the necessary radio equipment.
 - (b) The COAR shall be able to observe the effects of the use of the helicopter on the well-being of the animals.
2. Under the provisions of 43 CFR 4730.4, the use of the helicopter shall further be regulated to the extent that:
 - (a) The helicopter shall be used in such a manner that bands or herds will tend to remain together.
 - (b) The rate of movement shall not exceed limitations set by the COAR who shall consider terrain, weather, distance to be traveled and condition of animals. Maximum distance for horse movement will be 10 miles under ideal conditions and will be less where safety of animals could be jeopardized.
3. All trapping of the horses shall be subject to the following reservations/restrictions:
 - (a) All trapping will be done by helicopter and wing riders by driving the horses into temporary traps.
 - (b) All materials and labor to build and remove the traps will be provided by the contractor.
 - (c) All traps sites will be located on BLM land. General areas for trap locations within the gathering area may be specified by the COAR after consultation with the contractor to assure removal of horses from specific areas. Specific trap site locations will be selected by the contractors but must be approved by the COAR prior to trap construction.
 - (d) All traps and holding corrals shall be constructed in a manner as to hold and handle the horses safely and humanely. All traps and holding corrals will be inspected and approved by the COAR prior and/or during their use.

- (e) All trap and camp sites will be cleaned up per direction of the COAR at the conclusion of the contract.

Transportation and Handling of Captured Horses

1. All motorized equipment employed in the transportation of captured horses shall, under the provisions of 43 CFR 4740.4(b), be subject to the following reservations and/or restrictions:
 - (a) All such transportation shall be in compliance with appropriate State and Federal laws and regulations applicable to the humane transportation of horses and burros.
 - (b) Vehicles shall be in good repair, of adequate rated capacity, and carefully operated so as to insure that captured animals are transported without undue risk or injury.
 - (c) Vehicles shall be inspected and approved by the COAR prior to award of contract.
 - (d) Where required by the COAR, animals shall be sorted as to age, size, temperament, sex, and condition when transporting them so as to minimize, to the extent possible, injury due to fighting and trampling.
 - (e) The COAR shall consider the condition of the animals, weather conditions, type of vehicles, and distance to be transported when planning for the movement of captured animals. The COAR shall provide for any brand and/or health services required for the captured animals.
 - (f) The COAR shall be responsible for determining the need for and providing treatment for sick or injured animals. The COAR shall also determine if an injured animal must be destroyed and provide for destruction and disposal of carcasses.
2. If captured animals are held more than 12 hours at the trap site, food and water will be provided by the contractor to the animal. All animals will be humanely and expediently transported to the central holding facilities at Palomino Valley (Reno, Nevada) and/or Delta, Utah.

3. Government furnished property (GFP):

The following GFP will be furnished the contractor (by the COAR at time of award:

1 Handy Talky

1 Handy Talky w/aircraft adapter furnished by the COAR at time of Notice to Proceed, for period of the contract.

A holding facility within or near the gathering area, where captured horses may be collected from trap sites and held for sorting and resting prior to trucking to central holding facilities, including feed and water at this facility.

Handling of Branded Horses

Branded horses will be sorted from wild horses at the holding facility in the gathering area after inspection by the COAR and State brand inspector.

Claims by individuals will be limited to branded horses and current year's colts of branded mares. Final determination on claimed horses will be made by BLM.

Before horses can be turned over to the individual(s), the Bureau must collect a trespass fee, gathering costs, and any other associated costs.

Unclaimed branded horses will be turned over to the State brand inspector and will be handled under the state estray laws.

BLM Personnel and Delegation of Authority

The COAR and the Project Inspector will be Richard Howard, with George Cropper as alternate. The COAR will be directly responsible for conducting the roundup, and can appoint other BLM personnel to assist with the roundup.

Other BLM personnel that will be needed to help are an archaeologist to clear trap sites for cultural resources, YACC personnel to help construct temporary holding and sorting facilities in the gathering area, and a BLM law enforcement agent to protect BLM personnel and property from unlawful activities.

The COAR is directly responsible for reporting the roundup proceedings to the Ely District Manager, the Nevada State Office, and District Public Affairs officer.

Contractor's Briefing

The contractor, after award of the contract, will be briefed on his duties and responsibilities before the notice to proceed is issued to

him. A tour of the area, if necessary, will also be conducted to help familiarize the contractor with the area.

Public Meeting

One public meeting will be held in Ely at a place and time to be determined before the roundup is started to get public input on the gathering process using helicopter. Wild Horse protection groups and the public will be notified in ample time to allow them to attend the meeting. Wild Horse groups have been notified and asked for input into the environmental assessment, and will be given the opportunity to review the assessment.