



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Winnemucca Field Office
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In Reply Refer To:
4720 (NV-022.44)

September 27, 2000

NOTICE OF INTENT TO GATHER

Dear Reader:

This letter is to inform you that the Winnemucca Field Office plans to remove excess wild horses and burros from the Calico Mountains, Warm Springs Canyon, and the Black Rock Range - East & West Herd Management Areas (HMA's) starting no earlier than October 15, 2000. This removal constitutes no new decision and is not an appealable action. The removal is a continuation of the implementation of the Multiple Use Decisions for the Buffalo Hills, Leadville, Soldier Meadows, and Paiute Meadows Allotments issued February 9, 1993, January 19, 1994, January 24, 1994, and July 12, 1995 respectfully.

These multiple use decisions established the Appropriate Management Level (AML) for the Calico Mountains, Warm Springs Canyon, and the Black Rock Range - East & West HMA's. The capture methods are outlined within the Final Calico Complex Capture EA dated September 14, 2000. The removals are in accordance with the Wild and Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971 (P.L. 92-195) section 3(b)(1) and (2), as amended.

Based on the 2001 strategy, the plan will be to implement the management ranges identified in the Multiple Use Decisions, which is to reduce the population to 40% below AML, then manage at a range where the AML is the maximum number for the HMA.

The following table lists the AML, estimated wild horse and burro populations, and estimated number to be released back into the Calico Mountains, Warm Springs Canyon, and the Black Rock Range - East & West HMA's. The population estimate is based on a July 2000 helicopter census.

HMA	Estimated 2000 Population	Estimated #'s to Remove	AML Range	Estimated #'s to Release
Calico Mtn	1,148	948	200-333	200
Warm Springs Canyon	749/45*	644/30*	105-175 15-24*	105/15*
Black Rock East & West	854	742	112-186	112

* Burros

A fertility control research project is scheduled in conjunction with the removal. The Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) which analyzed the environmental consequences of implementing a proposed fertility control research project within the Winnemucca Field Office was approved November 10, 1999. This PEA serves as an umbrella or district wide analysis of population level fertility control research. The specific proposals for fertility control research for the Calico Mountains, Warm Springs Canyon, and the Black Rock Range - East & West HMA's was tiered to this PEA through an internal Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Adequacy.

The Final Calico Complex Capture Environmental Assessment, and Wild Horse Fertility Control Research PEA are available for review at the Winnemucca Field Office.

If you have any questions, please contact Bryan Fuell or Rodger Bryan at (775) 623-1500.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Colin P. Christensen".

Colin P. Christensen
Assistant Field Manager
Division of Renewable Resources