

7/6/79

IN REPLY REFER TO

4700
(N-027.8)



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
705 East Fourth Street
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

July 6, 1979

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

Dear Ms. Lappin:

In response to the increase in wild horse and burro numbers in the Winnemucca District on the Soldier Meadows allotment in the Sonoma-Gerlach Resource Area, and on the Paute Meadows allotment in the Paradise-Denio Resource Area, we have proposed to reduce the herd sizes to interim management levels of 200 and 182 animals respectively. This will involve the removal of approximately 1100 wild horses from both public and private lands. A detailed inventory will be conducted prior to the roundup to determine the exact number of animals to be removed.

The magnitude of wild horse numbers has caused a significant decrease in the percentage of ground cover and is contributing to increased soil erosion problems, plus increased wildlife and livestock competition for forage.

The roundup has been tentatively scheduled to begin this summer or fall, depending on the availability of funds, and will continue until the proposed number of horses has been captured.

It is not anticipated that any harassment to the wildlife populations will occur during the trapping operation.

In accordance with Section 14 of the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-514), we invite your comments concerning the proposed gathering.



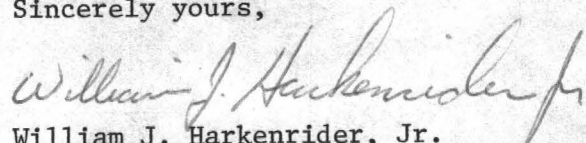
*Post card. re: inventory date + count
also count injunction
livestock decrease*

Save Energy and You Serve America!

If you require any further information, please contact Brad Hines, Rodger Bryan, or Paul Bryant at this office.

If you care to comment on the proposed action, please do so by July 31, 1979.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William J. Harkenrider, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

William J. Harkenrider, Jr.
Acting District Manager