

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Winnemucca District Office
705 East Fourth Street
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

In reply refer to:

4700 (Nv 026.81)

October 27, 1992

Memorandum

To: Sonoma Gerlach Area Manager (S) Ron

From: Amanda McCutcheon, ^{dm} WH & B Specialist

Subject: Wild Horse Observations on the Fox and Lake HMA (NW-228)

On October 5 & 6, 1992, Dale Owen and I conducted horse observations on the Fox and Lake Range HMA. Due to lack of available forage, there has been some concern about the condition of the horses as we enter the winter months.

There were 28 adults and five foals observed on October 5 on the east side of the Fox Range and 44 adults and five foals on the west side of the Fox Range on October 6. The majority of the horses have moved into the winter range (lower elevations) and were first noted during the September distribution flight.

The horses on the west side of the Fox Range were in very poor physical condition. The skeletal structures of the horses were highly visible showing protruding ribs, hips, and vertebrae.

The condition of the horses on the eastern side of the Fox Range was not as severe as those on the west side. They did, however, have protruding ribs and hips.

All age classes, of the horses observed, exhibited poor condition. A severe winter would significantly impact the horse population on the Fox and Lake HMA. Observation forms and map locations are attached.

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 10/5/92

OBSERVER: Owen, McCutcheon

HMA: Fox & Lake Range

WX CONDITIONS: Clear & sunny

GROUND COND: dry

REF. # H/B ADULTS FOALS LOCATION COMMENTS

① 4/2 1 Buckskin, and the rest Bays (East Side of Fox Range)

② 3/1 Bays, Black

③ 2/1 Bays - scrawny looking

④ 3/0 Bays

⑤ 2/1 Black, Bay, Buckskin

⑥ 6/0 4 Bays, 1 Black, 1 Buckskin

⑦ 6/0 Bays, Black

⑧ 2/0 Sorrel, Paint

Total 28/5

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Ribs were showing on these animals and some hip bones. Conditions were observed on all age classes of horses.

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 10/6/92

OBSERVER: Owen, McCutcheon

HMA: Fox & Lake Range

WX CONDITIONS: sunny, clear

GROUND COND: dry

REF. # H/B ADULTS FOALS LOCATION COMMENTS

⑨ 2/0 Black, & Bay (West Side of Fox Range)

⑩ 2/1 Bay, 2 Browns

⑪ 5/0 3 Bays, Black, Sorrel

⑫ 5/1 1 White, 4 Bays, Paint foal

⑬ 1/0 Bay, White, Paint, Sorrel, Grulla, Black

⑭ 5/2 4 sorrel, 2 bays, 1 black

⑮ 2/1 Bay, Point, Black

⑯ 1/0 Black

⑰ 1/0 Appy

⑱ 5/0 Sorrels, Bay

⑲ 5/0 5 Bays

Total 44/5

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: 9-17 are very bony, ribs, hipbone and even some vertebral can be seen on the animals. These conditions were observed on the foals and yearlings as well as the older horses.



Fox Lake Range

Horse Observations
October 5, 6, 1992

Observers D. Owen
A. McEachern

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Winnemucca District Office
705 East Fourth Street
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

In reply refer to:

4700 (NV026.81)

June 10, 1992

Memorandum

To: Sonoma-Gerlach Area Manager *P*
From: Amanda McCutcheon, *dm* Range Conservationist

Subject: Horse Observations on the Fox-Lake Range HMA (NV-228)

On June 1-4, 1992, Dale Owen, Peggy Wiltse, Leigh Redick, Debbie Anderson, and I were on the Fox Range conducting use pattern mapping. Several horse observations were made during this time.

The high country was examined on horse back by Dale and myself on June 2nd and 4th. Leigh, Peggy, and Debbie covered the low country by vehicle on the 1st and 2nd of June. On the 3rd of June, we all worked together but were in two vehicles. Horse counts were taken from both vehicles and were significantly smaller in the second vehicle than the first. The counts obtained from the first vehicle were considered the most accurate, as horses tend to leave an area when disturbed.

The total number observed for the area was 124 adults and 17 foals. The reproductive rate was calculate to be 14% for this year. The breakdown of horse observations is as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
June 1	Redick & Wiltse	8/00
June 2	Redick & Wiltse	13/03
	McCutcheon & Owen	24/03
June 3	McCutcheon & Anderson	25/03*
	Redick & Wiltse	46/10
June 4	McCutcheon & Owen	33/01
		124/17

*Number not used in total as it was not considered an accurate observation.

With the exception of ribs starting to show, most horses seemed to be in fairly good condition. They appear to have moved up to the higher elevations. This could be due to the warm weather, lack of vegetation on the lower slopes, and lack of available water.

Several springs and creeks were looked at during this week. Many of the springs were dry and the only creeks producing a substantial amount of water were Rodeo Creek and Wild Horse Creek. Lost Creek and Little Rattlesnake Creek were running but are assumed to have dried up by now.

This HMA should probably be one of our main concerns due to excessive numbers of horses, and the lack of vegetation and water.

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 6/4/92

OBSERVER: Owen, McCutcheon HMA: Fox & Lake Range HMA (NV 228)

LOCATION: _____
(legal description, place name, nearest cyn./spring)

REF. NO.	HORSES		BURROS		COMMENTS
	ADULTS	COLTS	ADULTS	COLTS	
1.	3	0			Bays
2.	4	0			2 Bays, 2 whites
3.	5	0			Bays & Sorrels
4.	4	1			Roar. Bay, Black
5.	4	0			2 Bay, Roar. Sorrel
6.	5	0			1 Paint, 1 Palomino, 1 white, 2 bay
7.	2	0			2 bays
8.	6	0			Bays, Black, Sorrel
Total	33	1			

ECO. SITE: _____

WX CONDITIONS: Sunny clear

GROUND CONDITIONS: dry

OTHER COMMENTS: _____

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 6/2/92

OBSERVER: Owen, McCutcheon, HMA: Fox-Lake (NV 228)

LOCATION: Stan Ceresola
(legal description, place name, nearest cyn./spring)

REF. NO.	HORSES		BURROS		COMMENTS
	ADULTS	COLTS	ADULTS	COLTS	
9.	3	0			Bays, Sorrel
10.	13	2			Bays, Blacks, Browns, Sorrels
11.	4	1			Bays, Sorrels
12.	3	0			Roans, Bays
13.	1	0			Bay
Total	24	3			

ECO. SITE: _____

WX CONDITIONS: Sunny & clear

GROUND CONDITIONS: dry

OTHER COMMENTS: _____

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 6/3/92

OBSERVER: Anderson, McCutcheon HMA: Fox-Lake Range #MANV-228

LOCATION: _____
(legal description, place name, nearest cyn./spring)

REF. NO.	HORSES		BURROS		COMMENTS
	ADULTS	COLTS	ADULTS	COLTS	
14.	6/1				Bay, Roans, Sorrels
15.	3/1				Ross, Bays
16.	3/0				Sorrel, Bays
17.	3/0				Bay, Black, Sorrel
18.	5/1				Black, Bay, Paint Sorrel
19.	5/0				all sorrels 2 mares, 2 yrlds, 1 stud.
	25/3				

ECO. SITE: _____

WX CONDITIONS: sunny & clear

GROUND CONDITIONS: dry

OTHER COMMENTS: We were following behind another vehicle, so counts varied from # in the first vehicle due to startling animals off.

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 6/12/92

OBSERVER: Redick, Wiltsie

HMA: Fox & Lake NV 228

WX CONDITIONS: Sunny & clear

GROUND COND: dry

<u>REF. #</u>	<u>H/B ADULTS</u>	<u>FOALS</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
20	7/0		Cottonwood Creek	
21	1/0		Cottonwood Basin	
22	5/2		Godays Rock	
23	1/0		Smith Canyon	
24	1/0		Reynard	
25	6/1		Last Creek	
Total	21/3			

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Observed by Leigh Redick & Peggy Wiltsie as they were use pattern mapping on the lower country

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 6/3/92

OBSERVER: Redick, Wiltsie

HMA: Fox & Range NV-228

WX CONDITIONS: Dry, Sunny, Clear

GROUND COND: Dry

REF. # H/B ADULTS FOALS LOCATION COMMENTS

* 14. 2/3

* 15. 3/1

* 16. 8/4

* 17. 4/1

* 18. 5/1

These #'s correspond w/ previous page. (1st veh. on site.)

* 19. 5/0 group of several

Total 46/10

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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Winnemucca District Office
705 East Fourth Street
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

In reply refer to:

4700 (NV-026.82)

May 4, 1992

Memorandum

To: Sonoma-Gerlach Area Manager
From: Leigh Redick, Range Technician
Subject: Horse Observations in the Fox and Lake Range HMA

From April 20 thru April 23, 1992 Amanda McCutcheon and I conducted wild horse observations in the Fox and Lake HMA while collecting use pattern mapping data. We recorded the number of adults and foals in each group and animal color on a WH&B observation form and plotted a reference number on a map showing the location of the animals. Animals were observed from a four wheel drive vehicle and while walking, using binoculars and a spotting scope. All animals appeared to have wintered well. A total of 191 adult horses and 11 foals were observed, for a reproductive rate of 5.7% so far this year. Some of the groups may have been counted twice since we were in the same area for several days.

Leigh Redick

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 4/20/21/22/23-92

OBSERVER: Redick, McCutcheon HMA: Fox and Lake Range

LOCATION: See attached map
(legal description, place name, nearest cyn./spring)

REF. NO.	HORSES		BURROS		COMMENTS
	ADULTS	COLTS	ADULTS	COLTS	
1	5	0			4 sorrels 1 roan
2	4	1			4 bays 1 sorrel
3	7	0			3 buckskins, 4 bays
4	4	0			2 blacks, 2 bays
5	1	0			1 bay near H ₂ O tanks W. of Gerlach ^(not on map)
5	10	1			1 black, 1 brown, 3 buckskin, 1/1 sorrels, 4 bays
6	6	0			2 sorrels, 1 buckskin, 1 black, 2 bays
7	6	0			3 buckskins, 2 bays, 1 sorrel
8	4	0			4 bays
9	9	0			5 bays, 4 sorrels

ECO. SITE: _____

WX CONDITIONS: Warm & breezy

GROUND CONDITIONS: Dry

OTHER COMMENTS: _____

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 4/20/21/22/23-92

OBSERVER: Redick, McCutcheon HMA: Fox and Lake Range

LOCATION: See attached map
(legal description, place name, nearest cyn./spring)

REF. NO.	HORSES		BURROS		COMMENTS
	ADULTS	COLTS	ADULTS	COLTS	
10	4	0			2 sorrels, 1 bay, 1 brown
11	2	0			1 brown, 1 paint
12	3	1			2 bays, 1/1 sorrel
13	4	0			2 sorrels, 1 red roan, 1 bay
14	6	0			4 bays, 2 whites
15	2	0			2 bays
16	13	2			buckskins, bays, palominos, white, paint
17	2	0			1 bay, 1 red
18L	11	2			2/2 Sorrels, 3 bays, 3 red roan, 2 paint, 1 black
19L	4	1			1 bay, 1 brown, 1 sorrel, 2 roans

ECO. SITE: _____

WX CONDITIONS: Cool, windy

GROUND CONDITIONS: Dry

OTHER COMMENTS: _____

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 4/20/21/22/23-92

OBSERVER: Redick, McCutcheon HMA: Fox and Lake

LOCATION: See attached map
(legal description, place name, nearest cyn./spring)

REF. NO.	HORSES		BURROS		COMMENTS
	ADULTS	COLTS	ADULTS	COLTS	
20L	3	0			bays
18	11	0			1 black, 1 buckskin, 1 white, 8 bays
19	7	0			bays, black, buckskin
20	11	0			white, buckskin, sorrels, black, bays (may be part of #15)
21	2	1			2 bays, 1 blue roan
22	12	0			sorrels, bays, 1 black, 1 buckskin
23	2	0			black, bay
24	7	0			1 white, 1 black, 1 buckskin, 4 bays
25	1	0			bay
26	4	0			1 brown, 1 buckskin, 2 bays

ECO. SITE: _____

WX CONDITIONS: _____

GROUND CONDITIONS: Dry

OTHER COMMENTS: _____

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April 13, 1992

In reply refer to:

4700 (NV-026.81)

Memorandum

To: Sonoma-Gerlach Area Manager
From: Amanda McCutcheon, ^{AM} Range Conservationist
Subject: Wild Horse Observations

On April 6, through April 8, 1992, a trip was made to the Fox Range to conduct Use Pattern Mapping on the Rodeo Creek Allotment. During this trip the following wild horse observations were made.

- April 6 We rode horseback from Rodeo Creek to Juniper Flat and back. A total of 42 adult horses and one foal were observed. 2% reproduction rate
- April 7 We drove through Wild Horse and Fox Canyons. There were 30 adults and one foal counted on this day. One horse was a blanket appaloosa and appeared to be a reservation horse. 3%
- April 8 On horseback again, we traveled from Cottonwood Creek to Smith Canyon and back. We observed 18 adults and one foal. 6%

Observers included Dale Owen, Leigh Redick, Peggy Wiltse, Stan Ceresola, and myself. Ground conditions were dry and the weather was sunny and clear. The three foals, that were observed, seemed to have been born within the last three months. Observation forms and map, with locations, are attached.

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 4/6/92

OBSERVER: McClutcheon, Redick HMA: Fox & Lake Range (NV-228)

LOCATION: Rodeo Creek Allotment
(legal description, place name, nearest cyn./spring)

REF. NO.	HORSES		BURROS		COMMENTS
	ADULTS	COLTS	ADULTS	COLTS	
1	2	0	2	0	Blacks W of Ceresola's Cabin
2	4	0			Rodeo Creek
3	5	0			Rodeo Creek
4	3	0			Bull Basin
5	9	1			N. of Bull Basin 1992 foal in group
6	3	0			Juniper flats
7	5	0			Juniper flats 5 studs
8	4	0			Juniper flats 1 blk/white paint, 1 palomino paint
9	7	0			east of mud springs
Total	42	1			

ECO. SITE: _____

WX CONDITIONS: clear & sunny

GROUND CONDITIONS: dry

OTHER COMMENTS: _____

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 4.7-92

OBSERVER: McCutcheon, Redick HMA: Fox & Lake Range (NV-228)

LOCATION: Pole Canyon - Rodeo Creek Allotment
 (legal description, place name, nearest cyn./spring)

REF. NO.	HORSES		BURROS		COMMENTS
	ADULTS	COLTS	ADULTS	COLTS	
1	10/0				N. of Wildhorse Canyon
2	2/0				Wildhorse Cyn. White & Black
3	3/0				S. of Pahrump Peak
4	6/0				S. of Pahrump Peak
5	5/1				(1992 foal) Fox Canyon
6	4/0				1 blanket appaloosa Fox Canyon
Total	30/1				

ECO. SITE: _____

WX CONDITIONS: _____

GROUND CONDITIONS: _____

OTHER COMMENTS: _____

WILD HORSE/BURRO OBSERVATIONS

DATE: 4-8-92

OBSERVER: Redick, McCutcheon HMA: Fox & Lake (NV 228)

LOCATION: _____
 (legal description, place name, nearest cyn./spring)

REF. NO.	HORSES		BURROS		COMMENTS
	ADULTS	COLTS	ADULTS	COLTS	
1.	4	1			Cottonwood Basin (1992 foal)
2.	2	0			S. of Cottonwood Creek,
3.	12	0			Smith Canyon
Total	18	1			

ECO. SITE: _____

WX CONDITIONS: Clear & Sunny

GROUND CONDITIONS: dry

OTHER COMMENTS: _____