

MemorandumDEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Susanville, California

IN REPLY REFER TO:
4700 (CA-020)

Buffalo Hills

8-1-86

To : District Manager, Winnemucca, NV

Date: AUG 1 1986

FROM : District Manager, Susanville

SUBJECT: Report on horses received at the Litchfield Facility
from Winnemucca District, Nevada 7/07/86 - 7/21/86

Enclosed is a report by Jerry Bonham, Litchfield Wild Horse & Burro Corral Manager, about horses received from the Winnemucca District, Nevada from 7/07/86 to 7/21/86. Also enclosed is a report from the Lassen Veterinary Hospital about treatment of sore-footed foals and a copy of our Receiving Log.

Robert J. Shewe
Acting

Attachments (3)

- (1): Report - Horses Received at Litchfield Facility
From Winnemucca District
- (2): Report from Lassen Veterinary Hospital
- (3): Wild Horse Receiving Log

cc: Milt Frei
Fred Wyatt
Connie Kingston
Dawn Lappin

REPORT

HORSES RECEIVED AT LITCHFIELD WILD HORSE & BURRO FACILITY
July 7, 1986 to July 21, 1986
FROM
WINNEMUCCA DISTRICT, NEVADA

On July 7, 1986 I started receiving horses gathered from the Buffalo Hills area of the Winnemucca District. The horses arriving had ample room on the trucks and were in good shape health-wise.

On the 9th there was one colt down on the truck that was very sore-footed. As the loads during the next few days arrived from Buffalo Hills, I noticed a few more colts with sore feet. In all, a dozen of them were pretty bad.

As we ran these horses through the chute to give them their initial strangles vaccination, we would give the worst of sore-footed colts 10cc of penicillin and then turn them out with the rest of the wet mares and colts into a big pen, as we did not know which mare went with which colt yet.

From July 7 to July 15 I received 348 horses total from the Buffalo Hills area. Most all of the grown horses were in good shape except for one old stud that was really banged up and stiff.

Out of these Buffalo Hills colts three were found dead in the field within a couple of days of arrival and two more were euthanized because of their condition which was extremely bad feet and weak.

On July 17 I started receiving horses from the Donnelly Mountain (Calico Mountain) area of the Winnemucca District. From 7/17/86 to 7/21/86 I received 214 horses from the Donnelly Mountain area.

The grown horses were arriving in good shape; however, about 2/3 of the colts were sore-footed.

On the 18th there was a dead mare on the truck; however, it was not due to overcrowding. There was no definite known cause. On the 21st there was a dead colt on the truck which I was told had been kicked at the trap before loading him. There wasn't any outward visible injuries. One mare was found dead in the pen the next morning from this same load. There wasn't any outward sign of injuries. On the 23rd one colt from the Donnelly Mountain area was found dead in the pen. It had real bad feet.

On July 24th I had the vet come out to treat the worst of these sore-footed colts. (See attached report.)

On about July 22 I called the sore-footed problem to the attention of Dick Wheeler of the Winnemucca District. Symptoms sometimes did not show until a day or two after arrival, so it took some time to see the total scope of the problem.

In summary, from July 7, 1986 through July 21, 1986, 562 horses from the Winnemucca District were received at the Litchfield Facility. Also, in addition to these, there was one adult and one foal dead on the truck on arrival.

Of the 562 horses received, the following losses have occurred as of July 28, 1986:

1 adult died
5 foals died
3 foals were euthanized
9 in total

We are continuing treatment on the sore-footed colts.

Jerry Bonham

LASSEN VETERINARY HOSPITAL

THEATRE ROAD
P.O. BOX 564
SUSANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96130
BUS. (916) 257-6311

7/29/86

REPORT ON BLM SORE-FOOTED FOALS

Called out on July 24th, 1986 to the BLM Wild Horse Corrals at Litchfield to check on sore-footed foals. Examined the eight worst (lamest)--three from Buffalo Hills, Nevada, four from Calico Mountain, Nevada, and one from Fox Mountain, California.

The first Buffalo Hills foal's hooves were separating from his feet at the coronary band, and seeping blood and pus. He also had a purulent nasal discharge, and was so painful he could hardly stand. This foal was euthanized with Tel.

The second Buffalo Hills foal died from the stress of handling.

The remaining six foals had hooves worn down to the quick, swollen ankles, (one to three), and were bleeding from the sole, white line, and/or the coronary bands. Several had sections of hoof wall separating from the foot at the coronary band or at the white line.

Treatment consisted of penicillin injections (IM), opening and cleaning pus pockets, and nitrofurazone spray. Prognosis for foals with separating hooves is guarded.

ASSESSMENT: These lesions are consistent with a diagnosis of having been run too hard for too long over rough terrain in dry hot weather.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Treatment---Soak hooves in cool water to soften hoof walls and ease inflammation. (If no water is available, mud will do). Penicillin and Nitrofurazone to control infection.

Prevention---The best prevention would be to gather foals later in the year when the weather is wetter and the foals are older. If necessary to drive young foals long distances in dry hot weather, they should be driven slowly, and penned in a wet or muddy area as soon as possible.

Signed,



Jona Jordan DVM

MemorandumDEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Susanville, California

IN REPLY REFER TO:
4700 (CA-020)

TO : District Manager, Winnemucca

FROM : District Manager, Susanville

SUBJECT: Sore-Footed Foals

Date: AUG 22 1986

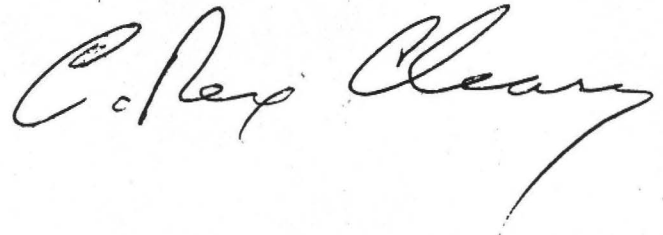
This is a follow-up to the earlier reports transmitted to you by memo dated 8/01/86.

I have enclosed a letter from the Lassen County Sheriff which summarizes the results of his staff's investigation of the sore-footed foal situation. The investigation was prompted by two anonymous phone calls to the Sheriff's Office complaining about the condition of the colts.

We are following up on determination No. 2 and recommendation No. 1 which pertain to the management of the animals at the Litchfield facility.

I understand you have taken steps to prevent reoccurrence.

I'm pleased we can be of assistance in processing your excess animals.



Enclosure
Sheriff's letter 8/18/86

cc: State Director, CA
State Director, NV
Ronald Jarrell
Dawn Lappin

Ronald D. Jarrell**SHERIFF**

COURTHOUSE, SUSANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96130-4393 TELEPHONE: 916-257-6121

RECEIVED

AUG 18 1986

BUREAU OF LAND
SUSANVILLE

August 18, 1986

Rex Clearey
Bureau of Land Management
705 Hall Street
Susanville, CA 96130

Dear Rex:

In reference to the investigation conducted by my staff concerning sore footed foals at the BLM Corrals, we have made the following determinations:

1. The seriously effected animals came primarily from gatherings outside your district, and accomplished by an independent contractor.
2. There was some delay in treatment of the animals by a veterinarian after arrival at the corrals, in spite of a veterinarian's presence each day. (It's our determination that this probably occurred as a result of deligent effort by your staff to address other medical concerns such as blood tests, strangles vaccinations, etc., which diverted attention from existing medical problems.)
3. Method of gathering is the primary cause of the "sore footed" problem and prevention techniques should be applied during gathering in order to maintain minimum incidents.

Our recommendations are as follows:

1. Protocol should be established for new arrivals to receive inspections to include specific attention for potential medical problems associated with sore feet. This would facilitate not only prompt treatment but also notification and implementation of corrective procedures at gathering sites.

(It should be noted that the medical treatment rendered by your staff was certainly acceptable when the problem was discovered.)

2. Consistent with the language in your contractual agreements, gatherers, especially independent contractors should be required to gather in such manner and over only distances and terrain that will prevent the occurrence of the problems. I feel the conduct such as Mr. Gene Nunn's decision to terminate the gathering when it was discovered that some animals had developed sore feet as a result of having to be caught twice from a spilled trap, is responsible conduct and should be encouraged.

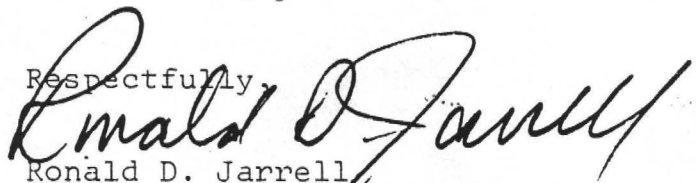
I also feel that the accountability for humane gathering lies principally with the Project Inspector and each of them should be aware of the consequences of less than diligent monitoring of independent contractors, who may be motivated by production placing at risk the medical well being of the animals.

I am aware of the efforts in the Winnemucca district to increase the mobility of the Project Inspector which should facilitate closer scrutiny of the contractors in that area. This is indicative of the attitudes we have found prevalent in the BLM staff to conscientiously protect the animals from unnecessary harm.

I compliment you and your staff for their total cooperation and assistance during the investigation. It is our sincere desire to assist you in the maintenance of a humane program for which you have the responsibility.

If I may be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,



Ronald D. Jarrell
Sheriff - Coroner

RJ/md

- 3 ✓
- 4 ✓
- ① All knew distance limitation
- ② All knew ~~hard area~~ requirement
↓ contract stipulation of using
only Claw Alpine
- ✓ ③ All knew there would not be enough
① horses in the C.A. before they ever got
out there. (Or that they would have to
gather ALL the horses in that herd area
which is next to impossible today)
- ✓ ④ Everyone involved was aware of the
death & crippling caused by Catoor
running horses too hard & fast.
- 2 ✓ ⑤ Everyone knew that the only
reason Catoor & Hicks were available
is because they were shut down
for inhumane treatment.

WILD HORSE RECEIVING LOG

702-623-3676

Butte Hills

Calico Mountains

Authorization Number	Date	Time	Number Horses Received	Truck Driver Signature	Signature of BLM Official	Remarks
# 1	7/7	3:15 PM	39	M. Balandina	Jerry Benham	
# 2	7/8	1:00 PM	50	M. Balandina	Jerry Benham	
# 3	7/9	10:45 AM	48	M. Balandina	Jerry Benham	1 colt down in truck sore footed.
# 4	7/9	4:11 PM	36	C. Cook	Jerry Benham	
# 5	7/10	1:45 PM	42	M. Balandina	Jerry Benham	1 mare with cut
# 6	7/11	10:50 AM	46	C. Cook	Jerry Benham	1 stud banged up
# 7	7/14	1:20 PM	42	M. Balandina	Jerry Benham	
# 8	7/15	3:15 PM	45	C. Cook	Jerry Benham	
# 9	7/17	4:48 PM	44	M. Balandina	Jerry Benham	
# 10	7/18	11:25 AM	43	M. Balandina	Jerry Benham	1 DOA
# 11	7/18	5:10 PM	46	C. Cook	Jerry Benham	
# 12	7/21	1:25 PM	45	M. Balandina	Jerry Benham	
# 13	7/21	4:57 PM	36	Dave Catta	Jerry Benham	1 DOA
		Total	562			