

High Desert 25¢ 11/28/90

Advocate

No. 46

Wednesday November 28, 1990

Published Weekly

WILD HORSE KILLED



Another seven horses shot near Wendover

12/5 ADVOCATE

By David Copelan

Bureau of Land Management investigators are following up reports of at least another seven wild horses shot south of Wendover, BLM office confirmed Friday.

Six horse carcasses were discovered in September in the Morgan Basin south of town by Wendover resident Neil Peterson. The seventh horse, a young foal, was found near death at its dead mother's side.

Peterson brought the foal into Wendover and nursed it back to health with antibiotics, he said.

Peterson never reported the incident to law enforcement or BLM investigators, but came forward last week after the Advocate reported the killing of a mare ten miles south of town.

Peterson said that he didn't realize that taking care of the foal was against federal laws.

"The BLM told me that it was against the law to take the horse," he said. "But if I didn't care of it, it would have died. They told me that they would try to arrange things so I could adopt it."

Leaf and other BLM investigators were in Wendover Friday and interviewed Peterson. They were unable however to confirm the horse killings.

"The military was conducting special flyovers in the area. They didn't let us take our helicopter in there to sight the horses." Leaf explained. He added that the agency will come back to Wendover this weekend to verify the killings.

In the meantime the agency is still waiting for ballistics reports before they make any charges in the horse shooting ten miles south of town.

That mare was shot sometime in late October, but the shooting was only made public last week with the Advocate report.

The BLM has a suspect, a Wendover man, and has seized his weapons. Those weapons are being compared to a bullet found in the mare.

The killing of a wild horse is a gross misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail and \$2,000 fine.