

M 4/17/85

Wild Horse and Burro Status Report
April 17, 1985

Contracts:

Contracts have been awarded for four facilities for the maintenance of excess wild horses and burros. Two facilities are located in Nevada, one in Texas, and one in Nebraska. The contractors, their locations, and the dates when they will begin operations are listed below.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Opening Date</u>
Don Hatfield, Dyer Ranch Co.	Dyer, NV	May 15
Richard A. McDougal, Western Horse Services, Inc.	Lovelock, NV	May 21
Clark Mills and Son	Bloomfield, NE	May 31
Paula and Randall Carr and Malcom Hickman	Muleshoe, TX	June 7

The term of the contracts is for the balance of the fiscal year with an option to extend them through Fiscal Year 1987, subject to program needs and availability of funds.

The contract between BLM and the National Academy of Sciences for wild horse and burro research has been signed, and the NAS Committee on Wild Horses and Burros has been named. This committee met for the first time, along with BLM representatives, in Logan, Utah, on April 10 and 11, to discuss expenditure of the research funding provided in the FY 1985 appropriation. Priorities presented by BLM were concurred in by the committee, and it was decided to prepare statements of work for projects on: (1) population and cost projections for various herd management strategies; (2) parentage determination in breeding horse bands; and (3) mare-focused fertility control. Statements of work are to be prepared by the committee for publication in the Commerce Business Daily by June 1.

During the months of June, July, and August, Sharon Saare has planned only one appearance because of work on a new slide program and vacation plans. Attachment 1 lists appearances currently scheduled. Additional appearances will be scheduled for the fall and winter seasons.

Wild Horse and Burro Information System:

Progress on completing the Disposal data base has accelerated with the award of the animal maintenance contracts. With activation of these contracts, there will be a need to have an inventory of the animals in the new contract facilities, as well as in the existing BLM and contract facilities. The Disposal data base provides this capability. Plans are to initiate the use of the shipping record for animals transferred to the contract maintenance centers when they open. Information about newly captured animals will be entered beginning in July, and the remaining entry procedures will be completed by the end of FY 1985. A memorandum explaining this process in more detail will be issued in early May.

<u>Removals:</u>	Scheduled	Accomplished
Arizona	700	435
California	900	783
Colorado	225	0
Idaho	285	186
Montana	35	0
Nevada	10,000	5,504
New Mexico	40	0
Oregon	1,000	1,310
Utah	640	33
Wyoming	<u>4,000</u>	<u>2,139</u>
Totals	17,825	10,390

Adoptions: A total of 3,314 adoptions have been entered into the data base since October 1, 1984, nearly 35 percent of the 9,500 adoptions planned for FY 1985. (Reminder: adoption statistics usually lag 4 to 6 weeks behind actual adoptions because of the paperwork involved.)

Regulations: The revised wild horse and burro regulations are in the surnaming process and are still expected to be published as final rules in July 1985.

Forms: As reported previously, revised adoption application and private maintenance and care agreement forms will be issued after publication of the final wild horse and burro regulations.

Publications: Because supplies on hand have been depleted more rapidly than anticipated, the revision of So You'd Like to Adopt a Wild Horse . . . or Burro? will be printed and made available in the near future even though the new application form will not be ready for use until approximately mid-July.

Status of Pending Litigation: Mountain States Legal Foundation, et al. v. Clark, et al. On March 29, 1985, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit agreed to withdraw its decision and rehear arguments in this case. The decision being reheard is the opinion of two judges that a person who owns private property intermingled among public lands is entitled to compensation from the United States under the Fifth Amendment for forage consumed by wild, free-roaming horses that strayed onto the private property. No date has been set for the rehearing.

Calendar of Special Events: Attachment 2 is a 1-page version of the Calendar of Special Events for April through September. Changes or additions can be called in to June Wrona (FTS 653-9215).

2 Attachments:

- Attach. 1 - Presentation Schedule for Sharon Saare (1 p)
- Attach. 2 - Calendar of Special Events (1 p)

April 16, 1985

Presentation Schedule for Sharon Saare

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Organization</u>
4/15/85	Clemson, SC	Clemson University
4/18/85	Ithaca, NY	Cornell Extension
4/20/85	Portland, ME	Mixed Organizations
4/25/85	Coeur d'Alene, ID	Back Country Horsemen
5/7/85	San Luis Obispo, CA	Cal Poly Cutting and Reining Horse Club
5/8/85	San Jose, CA	Quicksilver Endurance Riders
5/9/85	Santa Rosa, CA	Redwood Empire Veterinarian Association
5/17/85	Hartford, CT	Connecticut 4-H Leaders Conference
7/18/85	Athens, GA	University of Georgia
11/2/85	Concord, NH	New Hampshire 4-H Leaders Conference
1/11/86	Virginia Beach, VA	Virginia Horse Council

Attach. 1

WILD HORSE AND BURRO PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 1985
Special Events Calendar

APRIL

ESO	Satellite	Vincennes, IN	4/12-16
	Midwest Horse Fair (Exhibit)	Madison, WI	4/13-14
	Mini-Satellite (PA Contractor)	West Friendship, MD	4/19-20
NM	Satellite	Navasota, TX	4/13-14
	Satellite	Kingsville, TX	4/27-28

MAY

ESO	Satellite	Manchester, IA	5/2-5
	Wild Horse and Burro Days	Cross Plains, TN	5/25-27
NM	Satellite	Oklahoma	TBD
	Satellite	Nacogdoches, TX	5/11-12

JUNE

CA	Satellite	Eureka, CA	6/15-16
ESO	Horse Show (Exhibit)	Chicago, IL	6/6-9
	Satellite	Blackstone, VA	6/7-11
NM	2 Satellites	TBD	TBD

JULY

CA	Satellite	Yuba City, CA	7/13-14
ESO	Satellite	Marion, WI	7/12-15

AUGUST

CA	Satellite	Ukiah, CA	8/3-4
ESO	Satellite	Rio Grande, OH (Bob Evans Farm)	8/2-7

SEPTEMBER

CA	Satellite	Sonora, CA	9/7-8
ESO	Satellite	Mississippi	TBD
	Wild Horse and Burro Days	Northeast Contract Center	TBD
NM	Satellite	Albuquerque, NM	September (late)