

9-8-95



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Winnemucca District Office  
705 East 4th Street  
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

In Reply Refer To:  
4720.1 (NV-026.8)

September 8, 1995

Dear Reader:

This letter is to inform you that the Winnemucca District plans to remove excess wild horses from the Buffalo Hills and Granite Range Herd Management Area's (HMA) from November 1, 1995 to November 30, 1995. The removal is a continuation of the implementation of the NOTICE OF FINAL FULL FORCE AND EFFECT MULTIPLE USE DECISION, BUFFALO HILLS ALLOTMENT dated February 9, 1993, which established the Appropriate Management Level (AML) for the Buffalo Hills and Granite Range HMA's. This removal constitutes no new decision, since current monitoring data indicates that the established AML is valid and that the capture methods remain the same as stated in the Buffalo Hills and Granite Range Wild Horse Removal Plan and Environmental Assessment dated February 9, 1993. The removal is in conformance with the Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971 (P.L. 92-195) section 3(b)(1) and (2), as amended.

The intent of the removal is to achieve AML, and to initiate management of the wild horse population within the ranges established in the NOTICE OF FINAL FULL FORCE AND EFFECT MULTIPLE USE DECISION, BUFFALO HILLS ALLOTMENT. However, due to the population level in the Granite Range HMA, it is anticipated that the post removal population will exceed AML. As stated in the Buffalo Hills and Granite Range Wild Horse Removal Plan, the primary emphasis will be on removing animals that are 5 years old or younger. However, based on current policy, horses up to nine years of age may be removed. On the Granite Range HMA, horses up to nine years of age may be removed in an attempt to achieve AML.

The following table lists the management range and the estimated current wild horse population for the Buffalo Hills and Granite Range HMA's. The estimated population is based on an August 1995 census.

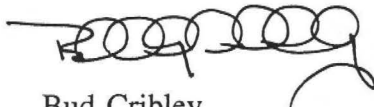
HMA	Management Range <u>75% of AML to AML</u>	Population <u>Estimate</u>
Buffalo Hills	235 to 314	381
Granite Range	193 to 258	674

*what is actual*

*data on recruitment rate*

If you have any questions, please contact Tom Seley or Nadine Jackson at (702) 623-1500.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bud Cribley". The signature is stylized with several loops and a horizontal line extending to the left.

Bud Cribley  
Acting District Manager

9-14-95

September 14, 1995

Bud Cribley, Area Manager  
Winnemucca District Office  
705 East 4th Street  
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

RE: Proposed Gather for Buffalo Hills and Granite Range HMA's

Dear Mr. Cribley,

Thank you for the notification of your intent to gather horses in the above mentioned HMA's.

In your notification you mentioned that "since current monitoring data indicates that the established AML is valid...", which justifies the proposed gathers.

Please provide us with the current monitoring data that was analyzed and provide how that data was used to determine that the established AML's are still valid. Please include current census and distribution data as well. We would like the opportunity to review that data to determine if these proposed gathers are necessary. Also, please provide us with the pertinent information on the livestock portion of those decisions and what reductions have been initiated.

Thank you in advance for this information. If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

Sincerely,

CATHERINE BARCOMB  
Executive Director