

10/5/93



October 5, 1993

Mr. Russell T. Dailey  
Elko Resource Area  
Bureau of Land Management  
3900 East Idaho Street  
Elko, Nevada 89801

Subject: Rock Creek Wild Horse Gather Plan

Dear Mr. Dailey,

The Nevada Commission of the Preservation of Wild Horses appreciates your consultation for the Mahogany Springs Wild Fire Rehabilitation Plan and Rock Creek Wild Horse Gather Plan. We recognize the emergency nature and need to exclude livestock and wild horse use from this wild fire. We appreciate the decision to not establish an appropriate management level for this herd prior to multiple use decisions for Squaw Valley and Spanish Ranch allotments.

Realizing that the removal of 145 horses from a population of 725 horses does not propose a great threat to the herd structure and viability, we are concern with future removals under the broad policies of the Strategic Plan. The author recognizes studies of Jenkins to support the decision to remove mares five years and younger from the population. We would like the literature references that determined that six to 20 year old mares reach maximum foaling rates between 78 and 80 percent. ? *Survivability?*

It is also important to provide us the wild fire rehabilitation objectives and monitoring plan. Full rehabilitation of the sites potential should be achieved prior to livestock and wild horse use of the area. We hope that the vegetation objectives will be met, rather than the broad policy of two years rest.

- ① fence
- ② "yearling" (pg 5) # 2
- ③ pg 7 part para.

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Thank you for consulting the Commission. We look forward to receiving the requested information.

Sincerely,

Catherine Barcomb  
Director