

9/13/91

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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

NEVADA STATE OFFICE
850 Harvard Way
P.O. Box 12000
Reno, Nevada 89520-0006



IN REPLY REFER TO:
4700
(NV-931.3)

SEP 13 1991

Wild Horse Organized Assistance
Post Office Box 555
Reno, NV 89504

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Bureau of Land Management proposes to gather excess wild horses and burros from public lands in the State of Nevada no sooner than 28 days from the date of this letter.

The proposed gathering will be conducted in the Elko District in the areas shown on the enclosed maps and as described below.

<u>Herd Management Area/Herd Area/Name</u>	<u>EA Record Number</u>	<u>Reason for Gather</u>	<u>No. to be Removed</u>	<u>No. to Remain</u>
Spruce-Pequop	NV-010-90-007	Remove from private land in accordance with Land Use Plan and applicable law.	129	64

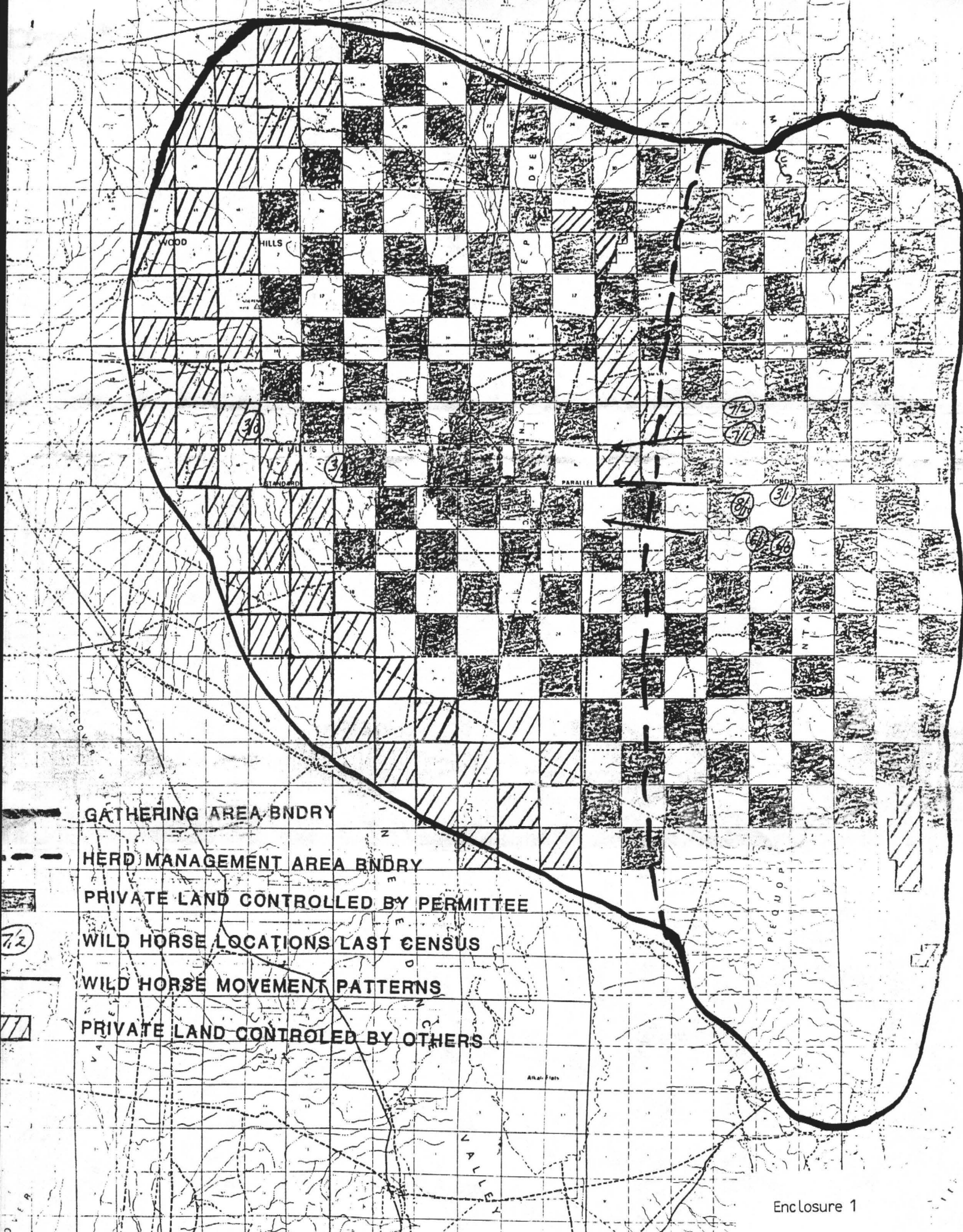
Sincerely,

Billy R. Templeton
State Director, Nevada

For

- 2 Enclosures
- Encl. 1 - Map of Proposed Gather
- Encl. 2 - Map of Proposed Gather

cc: District Manager, Elko
(Attn: Bruce Portwood)



GATHERING AREA BNDRY

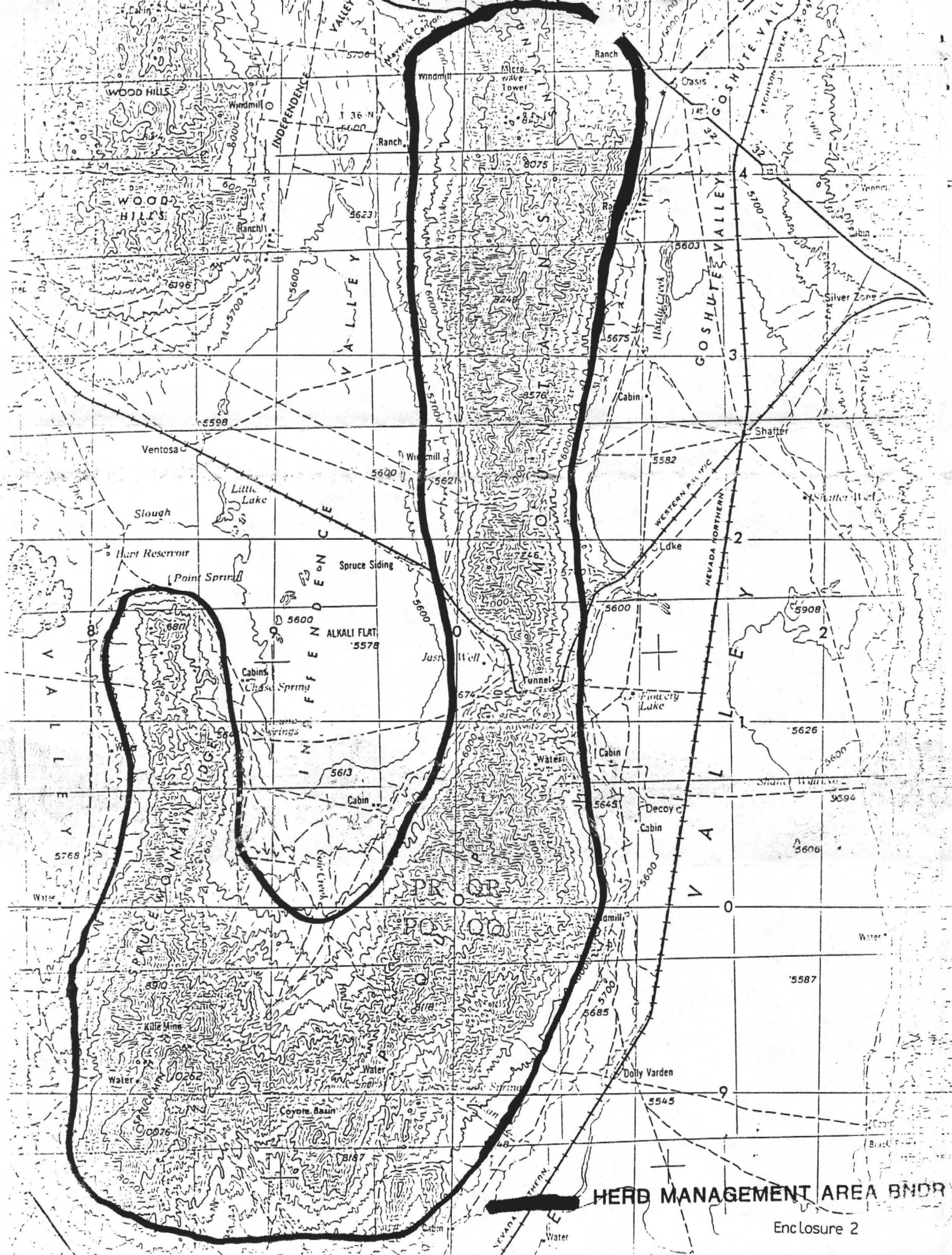
HERD MANAGEMENT AREA BNDRY

PRIVATE LAND CONTROLLED BY PERMITTEE

WILD HORSE LOCATIONS LAST CENSUS

WILD HORSE MOVEMENT PATTERNS

PRIVATE LAND CONTROLLED BY OTHERS



HERB MANAGEMENT AREA BNDRY

Enclosure 2



**COMMISSION FOR THE
PRESERVATION OF WILD HORSES**

**Stewart Facility
Capitol Complex
Carson City, Nevada 89710
(702) 687-5589**

COMMISSIONERS

Dan Keiserman, *Chairman*
Las Vegas, Nevada

Michael Kirk, D.V.M., *Vice Chairman*
Reno, Nevada

Paula S. Askew
Carson City, Nevada

Steven Fulstone
Smith Valley, Nevada

Dawn Lappin
Reno, Nevada

October 11, 1991

Rodney Harris, District Manager
Elko District Office
P.O. Box 831
3900 E. Idaho Street
Elko, Nevada 89801

Dear Mr. Harris,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 28 day gather notice for the Spruce-Pequop HMA.

We do not intend to appeal this gather. Instead, we would prefer to make suggestions that we feel appropriate for possible alternatives to the permanent removal of 129 wild horses from this portion of their herd area.

In the ROD/FONSI, you mention an attempt to drive the horses to the south end of the herd area which was unsuccessful. We notice that no AML has been established for this HMA, particularly for the southern end for purposes of our comments. Currently there is no determination as to how many animals can stay there in a thriving ecological balance. We recommend physically "relocating" those animals from the checkerboard area to the south end. Driving and relocating are two entirely different approaches. The horses would be in vehicles for transport to PVC, why not release them near water sources in the southern portion of their HMA. Creating holding corrals to include those water sources would assist those animals in establishing that area as their own prior to release.

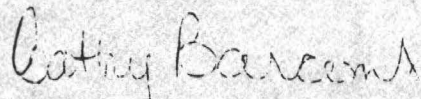
In recent directions from BLM-Nevada State Office, Districts were instructed to leave wild horses older than 10 years old on the range. You need to determine how many wild horses could "safely" be released in the southern portion and by doing so create an outlet for those older horses. By safely, we refer to a thriving ecological balance.

Another option would be to release all of the animals captured in the southern portion, determine through monitoring your AML, and then remove only those animals younger than 10 years to achieve your balance.

Rodney Harris, District Manager
October 11, 1991
Page 2

If you have any questions please feel free to call. I would also like to request a response to the suggestions we have posed.

Sincerely,



CATHY BARCOMB
Executive Director

TYPE-ERASE

52% COTTON FIBER USA



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ELKO DISTRICT OFFICE
3900 E. IDAHO STREET
P.O. BOX 831
ELKO, NEVADA 89801



IN REPLY REFER TO:

4700(NV-013)

OCT 28 1991

Ms. Catherine Barcomb
Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses
Stewart Facility, Capitol Complex
Carson City, NV 69710

Dear Ms. Barcomb:

The Spruce-Pequop Wild Horse Gather was appealed by API. As a consequence, we are planning to amend the Wells RMP to remove the checkerboard area of the Spruce-Pequop herd area from the herd management area (HMA).

We still plan to remove horses that impact private land by setting up a water trap on the private waters outside the herd area boundary. The weather will probably require us to wait until summer to accomplish this. Since most of the horses in the proposed gather area water at this water, it should be successful in removing the majority, if not all, of the horses from the checkerboard area.

In regard to your specific recommendation to return horses to the southern part of the HMA. This area has limited water, which during Nevada's protracted drought is being stretched to the limit, and it would be unwise to add more horses to exacerbate the situation.

Sincerely yours,


RODNEY HARRIS
District Manager