

7-13-87

PRELIMINARY REPORT

July 13, 1987

of

MONTGOMERY PASS WILD HORSE HERD  
for Coordinated Resource Management Plan

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The following report is a summation of data compiled from field notes of three range observers from May 1, 1987 to July 8, 1987 of part of the Montgomery Pass Wild Horse Herd and Range.

Each Wild Horse band observed was assigned an alphabetical letter, with number of horses in that band noted and an individual number and description for each horse in the herd. Foals were also assigned an individual number so that a numbering system could be developed for possible future genetic records and other studies.

In total, 30 categories, each with specific parameters were entered in a computer for information to track each horse and band. Computer entries were cross-matched for omissions and duplications. Not all categories for all horses has been completed to date. Much data is incomplete and will require several more years of observation before definite statements or conclusions can be made. The following information, therefore, is only a rough guide, and it is expected that these statistics will shift and change.

The total tabulated live horse count (including foals) is 173. There are 41 bands ranging in size from 1 to 12 horses. The average statistical size is 4.2 horses.

Band Size	Number of Bands	Total
1	4	4
2	11	22
3	2	6
4	7	28
5	5	25
6	6	12
7	4	28
8	2	16
9	0	0
10	2	20
11	0	0
12	<u>1</u>	<u>12</u>
	41	173

There have been reports of additional horses seen in the "triangle area", but not by the three range observers. It is believed that a more accurate count may be 220 head.

#### GENERAL CONDITION OF HORSES:

98% of the horses observed were in a good flesh condition of with no apparent open wounds, leg or hoof problems. Conformation generally was good.

#### MALE AND FEMALE POPULATION:

male	25.4%
female	21.4%
unknown	<u>53.2%</u>
	100.0%

Close observation for determination of sex is difficult because most bands are quite flighty.

DISTRIBUTION BY AGE GROUP OF LIVE HORSES

1 - Newborn to 1 mo.	0.6%	
25 - 1 mo. to 6 mo.	14.5%	= 15.1%
10 - Yearlings	5.7%	
8 - 2 year olds	4.6%	= 10.3%
129 - Adults	74.6%	
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	100.0%	

MORTALITIES:

6 foals, aged 0-6 months. 3 showed evidence of possible lion kills.  
3 of undetermined cause.

1 adult horse                      undetermined cause.

The horse and foals were not included in the count of 173 head because the dams were unknown, and none could be linked with any particular band. It is highly probable that more foal deaths occurred, but were not found.

MORTALITY AND SURVIVAL RATES:

Applying the Distribution by Age Group of Live Horses, the known deaths and the female adult population of the above sampling, an interesting hypothesis can be made.

130 divided by 2 =	65	Adult mares
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	X 90%	conception rate
	58	projected foals

26 foals counted  
58 projected foal count = 48% foal mortality rate

DISTRIBUTION BY COLOR:

bay	31.2%
black	1.7%
brown	12.7%
buckskin	13.3%
chestnut	11.0%
dun	5.2%
grey	10.4%
grulla	1.1%
sorrel	6.9%
white	0.6%
unknown	5.8%
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	100.0%

\* see attached page for definitions of colors.

RANGE USAGE:

	<u>Sagehen</u>	<u>Jacks Spring</u>	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Antelope</u>	<u>Pizona</u>	<u>McNamara</u>	<u>Truman</u>
Bands	L,M, N,O	G,H	C,I J,K	P,Q	A,B, S,T, U,V, W,X, Y,AA, BB	E,D, F	EE,FF HH,II, JJ,KK, LL,NN, GG,OO
	97.1% =12.1%	3.5%	8.1%	8.1%	32.3%	8.7%	24.2%

2.9% Band R, grazing area not available from field notes.  
100.0%

WATER PATTERN

	<u>Jacks Spring</u>	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Antelope</u>	<u>Pizona</u>	<u>Truman</u>	
Bands	G,H	C,I, J	R,Q	A,B, D,E, F,S, T,U, V,W, X,Y, AA,BB, DD	L,M, EE,HH, II,GG, FF,OO, JJ,KK, NN	
	91.9%	3.5%	6.9%	8.1%	41.0%	32.5%

8.1% Bands O,K,N not sighted at the above springs or lakes.  
100.00%

BAY - mixture of varying shades of red and yellow. It includes many shades from light yellowish tan to a dark rich shade. Always has a black mane and tail, and often black legs and black on the tips of the ears.

BLACK - completely black, including muzzle and flanks.

BROWN - (seal brown) is actually black, but has tan or brown on the muzzle and flanks. Much more common than a true black.

CHESTNUT - (sorrel) basically red, the shades vary from light washy yellow to a dark liver color, between which come the brilliant red gold and copper shades. Normally, the mane and tail of a chestnut are the same shade as the body, although they may be lighter in color; these are termed a flaxen mane & tail. A chestnut will never have a black mane and tail.

WHITE - a true white horse is born white and remains white throughout its life. A white horse has snow white hair, pink skin, and brown eyes (rarely blue).

GREY - varies from almost white (differentiated by black skin) to dark steel grey. Many of this range have black manes and tails.

PALOMINO - golden color with light colored mane and tail (white, silver, ivory).

DUN - (grulla) range from yellowish beige to dark grey beige - distinguishable by the dorsal stripe down the back and sometimes across withers, occasionally horizontal stripes on backs of legs. Manes and tails same color as body, but a few shades darker.

BUCKSKIN - yellowish tan to a light red-beige (looks almost sunburnt). Always black mane and tail; sometimes legs are also black and may have a dorsal stripe, as well.

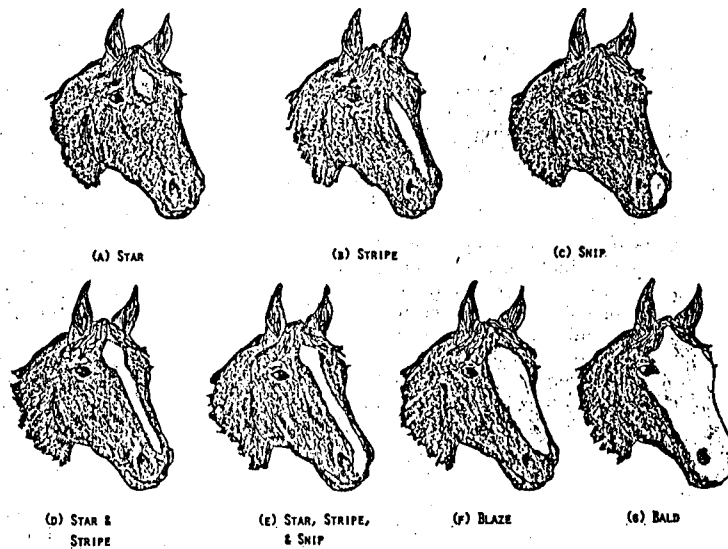


Fig. 4-18. The head marks of horses. (A) *Star* is any white mark on the forehead located above a line running from eye to eye; (B) *stripe* is a narrow white marking that extends from about the line of the eyes to the nostrils; (C) *snip* is a white mark between the nostrils or on the lips; (D) *star and stripe* includes both a star and stripe; (E) *star, stripe, and snip* includes all three of these marks—star, strip, and snip; (F) *blaze* is a broad, white marking covering almost all the forehead but not including the eyes or nostrils; (G) *bald* is a bald, or white, face including the eyes and nostrils, or a partially white face.

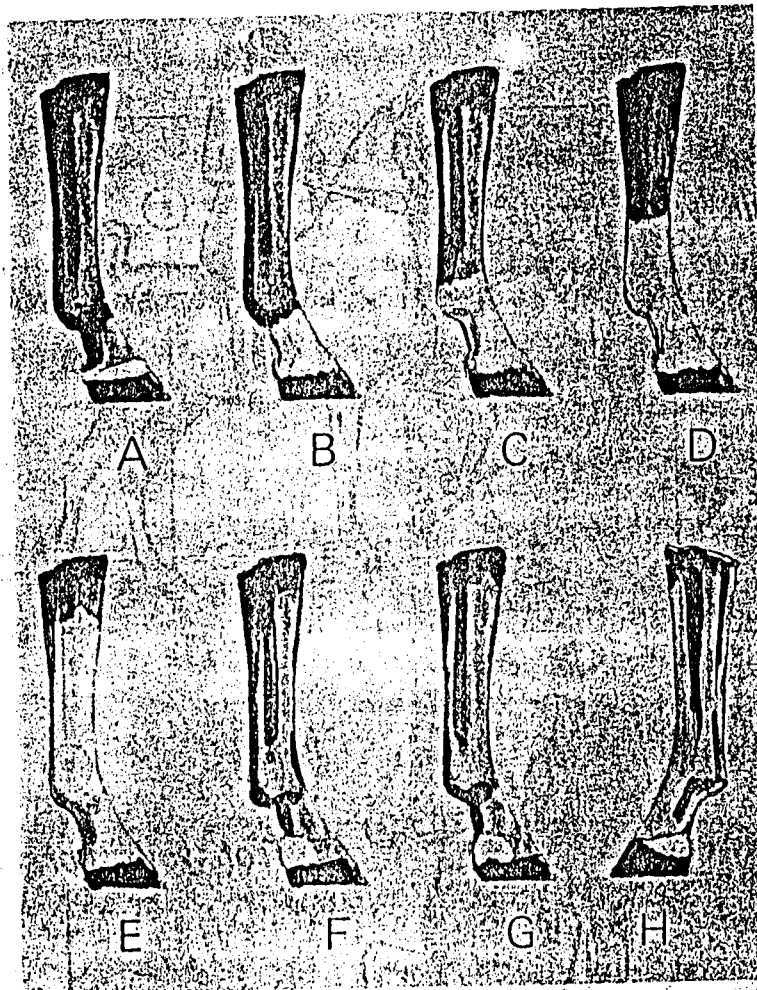


Fig. 4-19. Most common leg marks: A, *coronet*—a white strip covering the coronet band; B, *pastern*—white extends from the coronet to and including the pastern; C, *ankle*—white extends from the coronet to and including the fetlock; D, *half stocking*—white extends from the coronet to the middle of the cannon; E, *stocking*—white extends from the coronet to the knee. When the white includes the knee, it is known as a full stocking; F, *white outside heels*—both heels are white; G, *white outside heal*—outside heel only is white; H, *white inside heel*—inside heel only is white. (Courtesy, USDA)