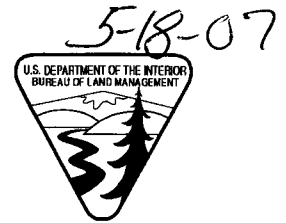




United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Surprise Field Office
602 Cressler Street
Cedarville, CA 96104
www.ca.blm.gov/surprise

In Reply Refer To:
4700 (CA-370) P

May 18, 2007

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

STATE: Nevada

COUNTY: Washoe and Humboldt

FIELD OFFICE: Surprise Field Office

PROPOSED ACTION: Gathering and Removal of wild horses from the Wall Canyon East, Nut Mountain, Massacre Lakes and Bitner Herd Management Areas (HMAs)

WILDERNESS AREA: Massacre Rim Wilderness Study Area (CA-020-1013), and the East Fork High Rock Canyon Wilderness Area (N74464).

Background

This Notice of Proposed Action supplements an earlier notice issued on September 7, 2005 for the gathering and removing of wild horses from the Wall Canyon East, Nut Mountain, and Bitner Herd Management Areas in fiscal year 2006. This gather was postponed and is now scheduled for late in fiscal year 2007 and affect horses within the East Fork High Rock Canyon wilderness. BLM also plans to gather the Massacre Lakes Herd Management Area (HMA) affecting horses within the Massacre Rim wilderness study area.

Approximately 18% or 14,125 acres of East Fork High Rock Canyon Wilderness Area occurs within the Wall Canyon East and Nut Mountain HMAs. The Massacre Lakes and Bitner Herd Management Areas occur within the Massacre Rim Wilderness Study Area (WSA), (see attached maps).

Description of the Proposed Action

The Surprise Field Office proposes to gather and remove excess wild horses to achieve Appropriate Management Level (AML). The wild horses would be gathered by using a helicopter, and gathering facilities would be located outside of wilderness or WSA boundaries. Collectively, the above mentioned four herd management areas (aka Nut Mountain Complex) have an AML of 75-125 wild horses, and an estimated 372 wild horses would be removed. The AMLs for the Wall Canyon East,

Nut Mountain, and Bitner Herd Management Areas were established by environmental assessment number CA-028-93-03. The environmental affects of gathering and removing wild horses from these herd management areas was analyzed in environmental assessment CA-370-05-28, and Decision Record dated October 18, 2005. For the Massacre Lakes Herd Management Area an environmental assessment will be completed prior to gather operations.

If you have comments on this proposed activity please contact Steve Surian at the Surprise Field Office at the address above, or at 530-279-2712. The comment period for this notice will close on June 20, 2007.

Sincerely,

Steve Surian (acting)

Surprise Field Manager

Attachments:

Wall Canyon East and Nut Mountain Herd Area map
Massacre Lakes and Bitner Herd Area map

146N

T45N

T44N

T43N

T42N





R20E

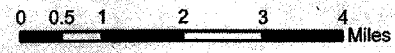
R21E

R22E

R23E

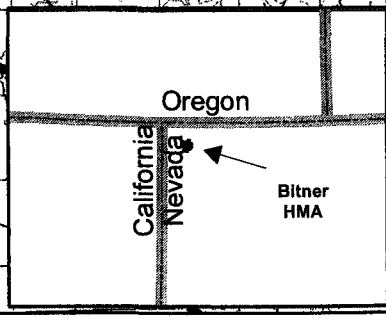
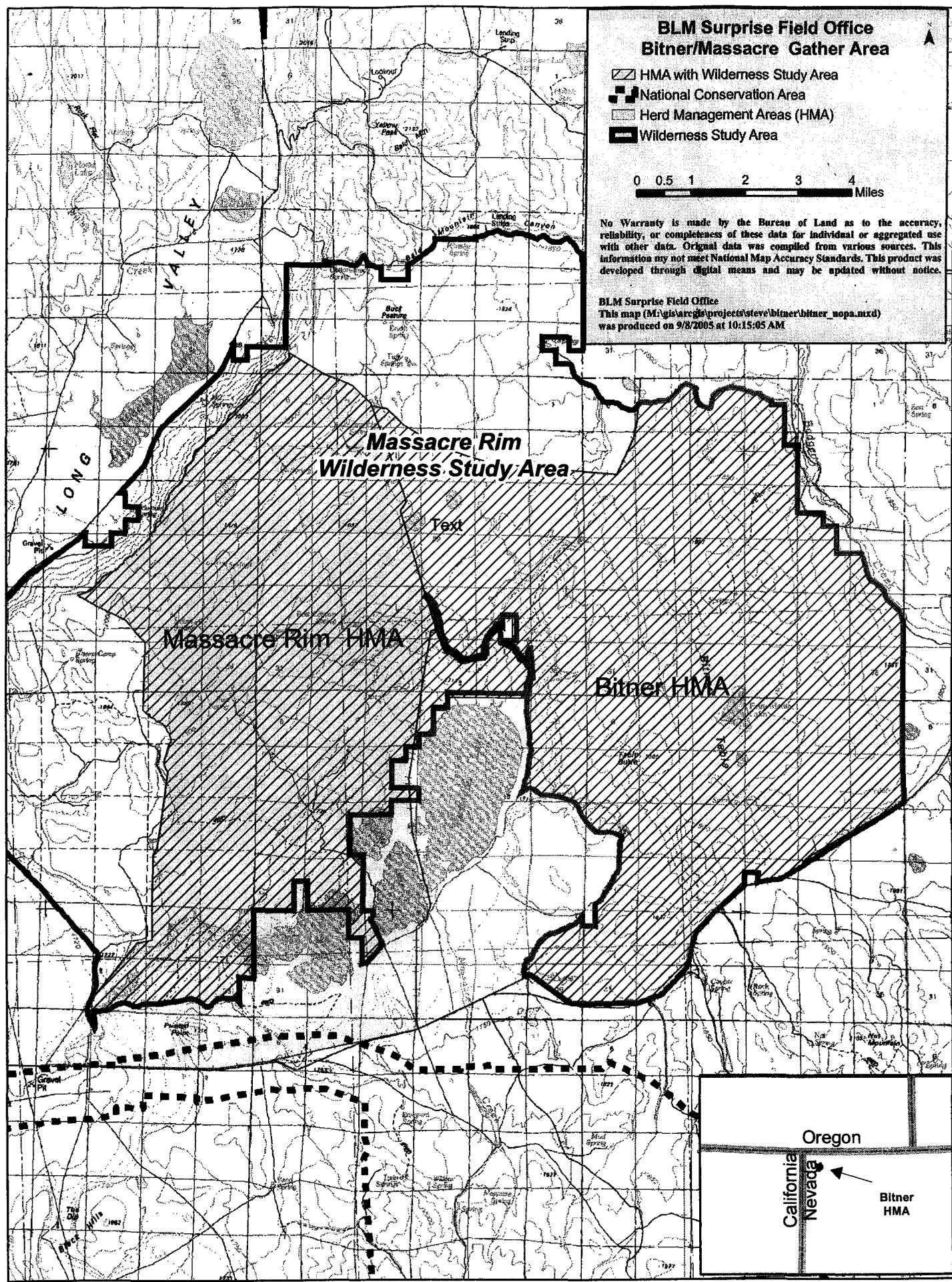
BLM Surprise Field Office Bitner/Massacre Gather Area

-  HMA with Wilderness Study Area
-  National Conservation Area
-  Herd Management Areas (HMA)
-  Wilderness Study Area



No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregated use with other data. Original data was compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notice.

BLM Surprise Field Office
This map (M:\gis\arcgis\projects\steve\bitner\bitner_nopa.mxd) was produced on 9/8/2005 at 10:15:05 AM







T44N
43N
32N
1N
5N

R22E R22.5E R23E R24E

BLM Surprise Field Office Wall Canyon/Nut Mountain Gather Area



-  Wilderness Area
-  Herd Management Areas (HMA)
-  National Conservation Area
-  Wilderness within Herd Mgmt. Area



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BLM Surprise Field Office
This map (M:\high\arcas\products\sewall_canyon_eastwall_canyon_0604.mxd) was produced on 3/7/2005 at 9:10:19 AM

