

G 9-24-86



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Las Vegas District Office
P.O. Box 26569
Las Vegas, Nevada 89126

IN REPLY REFER TO: 4700
(NV-053)

24 SEP 1986

Wild Horse Organized Assistance
P.O. Box 555
Reno, Nevada 89504
Attn: Dawn Lappin

Dear Ms. Lappin, *Dawn,*

I appreciate your concern over the recent gatherings in Nevada and Las Vegas in particular. I feel the contractor and the professionals I had working on the Nellis gathering did an excellent job of minimizing problems as they came up. Even though the steps we took did not prevent all of the problems, we did the best we could under the extremely dry conditions this spring. I will address the issues you cite, but only the items which refer to my District.

The "dust pneumonia" problem from the Nellis removal was not discovered until the horses had been in Palomino Valley for several days. The horses were hauled over dusty roads because of necessity. As one road became dusty and rutted, the contractor used alternate routes. The weather was extremely dry and windy throughout the removal period.

We also attempted to find any foals which might have been left behind at Stonewall Mountain. The area was flown thoroughly by the COR and the Air Force immediately after the removal was completed. No lone foals were found.

As to the "dust pneumonia" and other issues, Nevada State Office has issued Instruction Memorandum No. NV-86-546, which will alleviate most, if not all of the problems encountered during 1986 in Nevada. A copy of this memorandum is enclosed for your information.

If I can be of further assistance or you have any questions concerning the wild horse and burro program in Las Vegas, please give me a call.

Sincerely yours,

Ben F. Collins
District Manager

Enclosure:

Encl. 1 - Instruction Memorandum No. NV-86-546