



August 10, 1992

District Ranger
Toiyabe National Forest
2881 S. Valley View, Suite 16
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Dear District Ranger:

We are pleased to give comments during your scoping period for your proposal to gather and remove wild horses from Lee Canyon and Mt. Charleston Wilderness Area.

The following are our comments we would like incorporated into your scoping period:

That alternative mitigating measures besides removal be investigated to prevent expansion of wild horse herds into territories they did not occupy prior to the Act. (ie: fencing, water development, etc.)

That determinations are made as to why horses are migrating outside their areas. (ie: excess numbers, grazing pressures from other herbivores, encroachment of their territories by mining or development, etc.)

That special consideration be given to wild horses in a multiple use area because wild horses are limited to areas they were found in 1971. Other users have essentially no limits.

That monitoring and inventorying recommendations by the National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board be used as guidelines for monitoring and inventorying wild horses and burros. (Copy enclosed)

We would like to again notify you that our Reno office of ISPMB has closed. We look forward to participating with you in the management of these wild horses.

For ISPMB,

Ms. Karen A. Sussman, President

DIVISION OF
NEVADA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

'92 JUL -7 110:51

DATE: July 6, 1992

ADMIN.	
PL III	
PL II	
RW II	
RW I	
TECH	
MA	
WP	
CD	
TAHOE	
FILE	

Department of Administration
Budget Division
Blasdel Bldg, Rm. 204
Carson City, Nv. 89710
687-4065

TO:

- Governor's Office
- Agriculture
- Colorado River Cmsn.
- Communications Bd.
- Community Services
- Economic Development
- Fire Marshal
- Human Resources
- Aging Services
- Health Division
- Health Protection

- Legislative Counsel Bureau
- Minerals
- Nuclear Projects Ofc.
- PSC
- Tourism
- Transportation
- UNR Mines Bureau
- UNR Library
- Wild Horse Commission
- Wildlife
- Natural Heritage

- Conservation-Natural Resources:
- Director's Office
- State Lands
- Environmental Protection
- Forestry
- Historic Preservation
- Conservation Districts
- State Parks
- Water Resources
- Water Planning

Nevada SAI # 92300192

Project: Scoping, Wild Horse Round-UP in Lee Canyon & Mount Charleston Wilderness Area

CLEARINGHOUSE NOTES:

Attached, for your review and comment, is a copy of the above mentioned project. Please evaluate it with respect to its effect on your plans and programs; the importance of its contribution to state and/or local areawide goals and objectives; and its accord with any applicable laws, orders or regulations with which you are familiar.

Please submit your comments no later than August 7, 1992. Use the box below for short comments. If significant comments are provided, please use agency letterhead and include the Nevada SAI number and comment due date for our reference.

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY REVIEWING AGENCY:

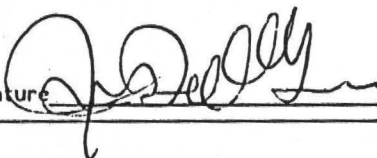
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No comment on this project | <input type="checkbox"/> Conference desired (See below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proposal supported as written | <input type="checkbox"/> Conditional support (See below) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional information below | <input type="checkbox"/> Disapproval (Explain below) |

AGENCY COMMENTS:

If the federal code of regulations requires that wild horses be managed in the areas where they existed at the time of enactment then there should not be any question on whether the wild horses in Lee Canyon and other areas outside their territory should be removed or not. The only questions should be on how they will be removed and when.

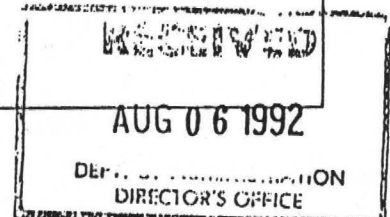
The issues and concerns identified by the Forest Service have no bearing since those impacts won't occur if all the wild horses are removed as they are required to be.

Signature



Date

8-6-92



Nevada State Clearinghouse

Department of Administration
Budget Division
Blasdel Bldg, Rm. 204
Carson City, Nv. 89710
687-4065

DATE: July 6, 1992

TO:

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Nevada SAI # 92300192

Project: Scoping, Wild Horse Round-UP in Lee Canyon
& Mount Charleston Wilderness Area

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No comment on this project
 Proposal supported as written
 Additional information below
 Conference desired (See below)
 Conditional support (See below)
 Disapproval (Explain below)

RECEIVED
JUL 08 1992

AGENCY COMMENTS:

THE DIVISION OF FORESTRY IS IN SUPPORT OF REMOVING THE WILD HORSES FROM LEE & KYLE CANYON WILDLANDS. THE DIVISION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING "EMERGENCY SERVICES" IN THE MT. CHARLESTON FIRE DISTRICT AND HAS RESPONDED TO NUMEROUS HORSE VS. VEHICLE ACCIDENTS; MANY OF THESE ACCIDENTS CAUSING LOSS OF LIFE. IN 1973 WILDHORSES CAUSED AN ACCIDENT ON KYLE CANYON HIGHWAY KILLING 4 OUT OF A FAMILY OF 5. HORSES ARE EXTREME HAZARDS ALONG THE ROAD ESPECIALLY DURING EARLY SPRING AND EARLY FALL, AS ROADSIDE VEGETATION APPEARS TO ATTRACT THE HORSES..

Signature [Signature] Date 7/8/92



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

1100 Valley Road
P.O. Box 10678
Reno, Nevada 89520-0022
(702) 688-1500

BOB MILLER
Governor

Fax (702) 688-1595
Region III III-93-024
State Mailroom Complex
Las Vegas, Nevada 89158
July 22, 1992

WILLIAM A. MOLINI
Director

Juan Palma, Acting District Ranger
Las Vegas Ranger District
Toiyabe National Forest
2881 So. Valley View, Suite 16
Las Vegas, NV 89102

RE: 2260

Dear Mr. Palma:

The proposal to gather wild horses which are occupying and using lands located in Lee Canyon and the Mount Charleston wilderness area has been reviewed by Habitat personnel in Las Vegas.

The Nevada Department of Wildlife is charged with the management of wildlife within the State of Nevada, and, as such, has exhibited concern relative to horses and burros, which are considered to be wild, on numerous occasions. The condition of the range resources in the Spring Mountain Range have been identified as being in less than desirable condition. These conditions have affected wildlife resources to the point that planned Rocky Mountain elk augmentations have had to be precluded until such time that range resources are in acceptable condition. It is recognized that drought conditions in Nevada have contributed significantly to this situation; but, use by wild horses and burros and continued grazing by domestic livestock has caused this situation to intensify.

The Department is supportive of this action which would remove horses from Lee Canyon, Macks Canyon, McFarland Canyon, Trough Spring and Wallace Canyon. A plan, in conjunction with the Bureau of Land Management, should be devised which would allow for the removal of any of these animals which leave a recognized Horse Management Area (HMA) and allow methods which would discourage the movement back into these areas as much as possible.

Juan Palma

2

July 22, 1992

Thank you for the opportunity to comment upon this proposed action on the National Forest lands of Southern Nevada. If you have any questions or require additional input, please feel free to contact the Region III office of the Department at (702) 486-5127.

Sincerely,



Cornelio O. Padilla
Supervising Biologist-Habitat

COP:

cc: Habitat Division Chief
Game - Las Vegas, Pahrump
Law Enforcement - Las Vegas



THALIA M. DONDERO
Commissioner

Board of County Commissioners

CLARK COUNTY BRIDGER BUILDING
225 BRIDGER AVENUE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89155
(702) 455-3500

July 13, 1992

Kim Marshall, District Ranger
Las Vegas Ranger District, Toiyabe National Forest
2881 S. Valley View, Suite 16
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

PROPOSAL TO GATHER AND REMOVE WILD HORSES FROM
LEE CANYON AND THE MT. CHARLESTON WILDERNESS AREA

Dear Mr. Marshall:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Scoping Document for the proposed wild horse removal. In addition to the Land and Resource Management Issues and Concerns identified by the Forest Service under section II. of the Scoping Document, there are several other issues and concerns that I feel should be addressed. Some of these concerns are the same ones that I expressed in July 1990 in response to the wild horse removal from Lee Canyon proposed by the Las Vegas Ranger District at that time.

I am in agreement with the removal of the horses, as this course of action would be consistent with the management objectives for Management Area 11 and the provisions of 36 CFR 222.21 (a(1)) relative to the location and management of wild horses and with the management objectives of Area 12 to protect the fragile environment of the Wilderness Area and to maintain quality watershed conditions. The following additional issues and concerns are listed for your consideration:

1. The scoping document does not indicate what will be done with the horses when they are removed from the canyon areas. Will they be returned to the Spring Mountain Wild Horse Territory?
2. Under 1.C. Nature of Decision to be Made, the number of horses to be removed "to prevent expansion into areas outside federally designated territories" is questioned. Does this imply that additional horses may be removed from the Spring Mountain Wild Horse Territory to reduce

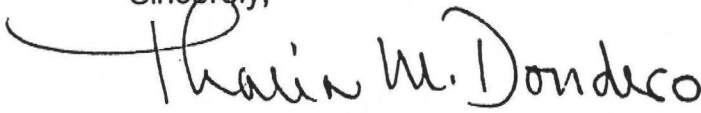
Kim Marshall
July 13, 1992
Page 2

the likelihood that additional horses will move into the canyon areas? If so, where would these horses be taken?

3. Is adequate forage available to support the increased population resulting from relocating the horses to the wild horse territory?
4. Would wildlife habitat or other carrying capacities be significantly impacted by the return of the horses to the wild horse territory?
5. Will the stability of the soils or the hydrology of the territory be threatened by the increased horse population, resulting in a transference of the problem from the canyon areas to the wild horse territory?
6. Is there a problem, such as lack of forage or lack of drinking water, that causes the horses to wander onto these lands? What actions can be taken to increase the likelihood that the horses will stay within the designated wild horse territory?

I would appreciate being notified of the decision made on this proposal. Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



THALIA M. DONDERO
COMMISSIONER

TMD:JY:bh
L180



July 4, 1992

George Perkins, Ranger
Las Vegas Ranger District
Toiyabe National Forest
2881 S. Valley View - Suite 16
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Re: 2260 - Scoping Statement - Wild Horse Removal from Lee Canyon and the Mt. Charleston Wilderness area.

We are in complete agreement with all the identified concerns outlined in your scoping statement.

Additionally, we and other horse owners adjacent to the target areas are troubled by the potential for the spread of disease from these small bands of feral horses and outcast herd members to the privately owned horses. Since it is the practice of the wild horses to run off their less healthy herd members, the possibility of disease in the outcast animal increases.

As studies published by the Bureau of Land Management demonstrate very high costs for the roundup and maintenance of feral, free-roaming horses, and that horses available for adoption exceed the individual demand for such animals, it is our recommendation that a contract for the roundup, removal and disposition of the wild and free-roaming horses be put out for bid to private contractors and, further, that restrictions on means of capture and disposition be as minimal as may be consistent with the interests of all concerned citizens and agencies.

Barbara C. Orcutt
Barbara C Orcutt

BCO/mf

Betty L. Barge, biologist/desert tortoise specialist

5157 Poncho Circle, Las Vegas, NV 89119 (702) 739-8043

Kim E. Marshall
District Ranger
Toiyabe National Forest
Las Vegas Ranger District
2881 Valley View Blvd. S. Suite 16
Las Vegas, NV 89102

1 July 1992

Re: 2260

Dear Mr. Marshall:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the scoping document re the proposal to gather and remove wild horses from Lee Canyon and the Mt. Charleston Wilderness Area.

You have my support not to compromise the Wilderness Act and the federal code of regulations at 36 CFR 222.21 (a(1)) and to do what is necessary regarding the removal of wild horses to protect the fragile environment and its unique plants and animals and to maintain quality watershed conditions.

I am not knowledgeable about the methods that might be used or how many horses should be removed. The full knowledge of those who do know should be used to effect efficient and humane removal of the numbers necessary to effect the goal. If disposal of live animals might create a bottleneck it should not determine the numbers that need to be removed (on an ecological basis). Euthanasia should be considered a viable solution, if necessary, but the flesh should not be wasted. It should be given to the needy for consumption.

Sincerely yours,

Betty L. Barge



Dear Mr. Perkins;

This letter is in response to
2260 Scoping Doc. concerning the
removal of excess wild horses in
the Mt. Charleston area.

I have absolutely no objections
as to the removal of the excess head
count. Hopefully this will include
the Cold Creek & Willow Springs
area. I have seen 10 newborns
here already for a total headcount
of 40+! I have witnessed vegetation
ruin and also destruction of the
reproduction habitats. The elk calving
grounds have been overrun by wild
horses. I have actually seen calves
left alone by their mothers due to
horses; but not abandoned. The
horses upset the watering areas of
the elk herds. The horses are always
at the creek where the grass is, that
the elk usually graze on. The elk
have been forced to eat in lesser
areas.

I feel the removal of the excess
horses is long past due!!!

Sincerely,
Dore L. Krumholz

"JUST; DO IT!"
(as the saying goes!)

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Region 4

Toiyabe National Forest
Las Vegas Ranger District
2881 So. Valley View - Suite 16
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Reply To: 2260

Date: July 24, 1992

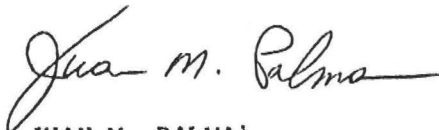
Cornelio O. Padilla
Supervising Biologist-Habitat
Nevada Department of Wildlife
Region III
State Mailroom Complex
Las Vegas, Nevada 89158

Dear Cornelio:

I received your letter of July 22, 1992 regarding the issue of wild horses and burros. Thank you for your review and support of our action to remove horses from Lee Canyon, Macks Canyon, McFarland Canyon, Trough Spring, and Wallace Canyon.

Thank you for your input. If you have any further questions, please contact George Perkins.

Sincerely,



JUAN M. PALMA
Acting District Ranger

cc: G. Perkins



BOB MILLER, Governor

STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

P. O. Box 170
Las Vegas, Nevada 89125-0170
August 28, 1992

GARTH F. DULL, Director

Mr. George Perkins
Toiyabe National Forest
Las Vegas Ranger District
2881 S. Valley View, Suite 16
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Dear Mr. Perkins:

In review of the scoping document for the proposal to gather and remove wild horses from Lee Canyon and the Mt. Charleston wilderness area, the major impact upon Nevada Department of Transportation facilities would fall within item seven under "Identified land and resource management issues and concerns".

The gathering operation should be conducted in such a fashion as to not increase the risk and exposure of vehicles using both SR 156 (Lee Canyon Road) and SR 158 (Deer Creek Road).

The area that is provided for relocation of these animals should not increase the potential for vehicle/animal involvement on any Nevada Department of Transportation roadways.

A copy of the scoping document, when completed, is requested.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kent E. Mayer".

Kent E. Mayer
Assistant District Engineer

KEM:jfj
cc:Environmental Services Division