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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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(N-063)

TO : Chief, Division R/M, Battle Mtn. DO & FILES DATE: April 29, 1974

FROM : Wild Horse Specialist, Battle Mtn. DO

SUBJECT: Coordination Meeting w/USAF concerning Wild Horse Range on Nellis AFB

On April 26, 1974, the Battle Mountain and Las Vegas districts met with the USAF to conduct the first annual meeting concerning management of wild free-roaming horses and burros on Nellis AFB. An annual meeting is prescribed in the Cooperative Agreement recently entered into between BLM and USAF.

The meeting was held in the Las Vegas District Office.

Gene Nodine, District Manager, Sam Rowley, Tonopah Area Manager, and I, represented the Battle Mountain District. Major Carder, a special project liaison, represented the Air Force.

The Air Force recognizes the need to manage the horses on the bombing range. Major Carder said they were quite willing to cooperate in any way possible to develop and implement a management plan. An item which was not made clear is whether they are talking about the whole bombing range or just that portion covered by the recent Cooperative Agreement, which is the designated Wild Horse Range. This will need to be clarified.

Major Carder pointed out there are generally three periods during the year when their activity on and near the Horse Range is minimal to nil. These are 5/15 - 7/1, 9/1 - 10/15, and 1/1 - 2/15. Probably during these periods work could be done in that area without being in the way of their training programs.

It was stated the Air Force has no objections to construction of facilities for horse management on the reservation. Their being a party to the management plan proposing such facilities would constitute their agreement or permission.

The Battle Mountain district is administering gathering of claimed horses on the bombing range. We have stipulated in the gathering authorization a fifteen day notice prior to any gathering activity there. Carder indicated this is ample time for them to coordinate their activities with the gathering, or to direct a postponement.

It was tentatively agreed the Air Force would provide a helicopter and pilot to do an intensive horse inventory on the Horse Range and



surrounding area during the week of May 20, 1974. At least one representative from each district and from the Air Force are to ride each flight. Major Carder agreed to do all the coordination necessary with Sandia Corporation and with the Base Commander. He is to contact BLM, Las Vegas when the plans are firm and arrangements made.

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Michael Mitchell