8-15-94



BOB MILLER, Governor

STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 1263 S. Stewart Street Carson City, Nevada 89712

August 15, 1994

GARTH F. DULL, P.E., Director

In Reply Refer to:

Mr. George W. Condon President NWHA P.O. Box 12207 Las Vegas, NV 89112

Dear Mr. Condon:

In response to your letter of July 12, 1994, the Department would like to apprise you of the status of the fencing project on SR 160 north of Pahrump. As you are aware, NDOT is constructing improvements on the two culverts to allow burro access to both sides of the road.

BLM has identified the major horse use area within the Johnnie Head Management Area (JHMA). Of the 168,880 acres set aside for JHMA, 68,682 acres or 41% are on the west side of the road. Of this, 7% is considered to have high use by the burros and horses. This constitutes approximately 2.8% of the range.

NDOT is working in conjunction with BLM and the Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses to develop or improve water sources on the east side of the highway. Additionally, both BLM and the Wild Horse Commission feel that it would be beneficial to restrict the horse herd to the east, since horses are beginning to encroach into the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge. Apparently there is concern for potential damage to the habitat.

This would also eliminate the consideration for constructing an underpass. The cost for such a structure would be in the neighborhood of \$350,000 to \$450,000.

Mr. George W. Condon, President NWHA Page 2 August 11, 1994

NDOT is continuing to work with both the Nevada Wild Horse Commission and BLM to satisfy the needs of the motorist and, at this location, the requirements of the horse herd.

cerely,

Director

GD:RH:dmg

cc: Gene Weight, District Engineer Catherine Barcomb, Executive Director Bruce Dawson, Chief, National Wild Horse & Burro Program Pete Christensen, Assistant District Manager, BLM - L.V. Paula - Governor's Office

Mike Ango



July 12, 1994

State of Nevada ESTABLISHED 1971 Department of Transportation Garth Dull, Director of Transportation 1263 South Stewart Street Carson City, NV 89712

94-2005

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE LAS VEGAS, NV

JUL 2 8 1994

REGEIVED

Dear Mr. Dull:

The National Wild Horse Association (NWHA) is extremely concerned with the right-of-way fence project your agency is currently building. The fence is being built along State Route (SR) 160 from Pahrump north to Highway 95.

This project will eliminate a large portion (50% or more) of the Johnnie wild horse and burro herd area. Our National Organization is based in Las Vegas and has worked extensively with the BLM to manage this herd. Our membership is opposed to this action unless some effort is made to insure that the wild horses and burros will continue to have full access to the entire HMA.

We commend your current efforts with the BLM to mitigate the project for short term impacts. The one-way gates, fence "Y's" funneling the animals to the existing six foot culverts, and associated gates and cattleguards are all good. This should help the burros continue to use the west and east portions of their herd area.

While the existing 6 foot culverts may be useable as underpasses by the wild burros, wild horses would not be able to use them as they are too small. The result is that wild horses will be excluded from using the west side of their herd area. Our organization urges you to install at least one 8 by 10 or 12 foot cement box culvert to serve as an underpass within 12 months of fencing the right-of-way.

The work the Las Vegas BLM has completed with you on the potential location of the larger culvert (underpass) agrees with our information on the crossing areas used by the horses prior to the fence.

I appreciate your help in this matter. I await your reply.

Sincerely,

eoge In Pordor

George W. Condon President NWHA

cc: State Assemble Person State Senator Bob Miller, Governor State Director, Nevada Las Vegas District Manager

8-3-94 8/3/94 CBARCOMB BRUCE DALOSON TOM POGACNIK, PETE CHRISTIANSON PAHRUMP FENCE Jim GALLEGOS, BOB HILDEBRAN July 18 last meeting w/ STABER Bob H told stage he needed a letter re: what they needed, want to see, etc. cattle quards a signs needed permits & scheduling NDOT REHABING CULVERTS Cattle quards go in where heavy usage of gates is expected if no gate, public usually acts fence, NOUT BUN Pete alle (MOOT) you open to c.G.'s BOOH. : IF you can show A MEED OF USAGE WE would be ammenable Peter when had 3 co's we wave going to pert in, Bim can put in by 10th Borb: Huy Dept will accept Bun pathing in C6's, contractor must work on upproved order STATE PURCHASING/CATTLE GUARDS tom chock w/shuff art of Patricing to see if what mayor legal access to Had