

Gold Butte Draft Research – Monitoring

In 2001, no burro use was found at the following springs:

1. Horse Spring: Outside the HMA but has received heavy burro use in the past. No evidence of burros was found at this time. Pipe and water development was also in disrepair.
2. Mocking Bird Springs: No sign of burro use. Evidence of corral being used for holding domestic horses. Area was completely filled with cattails so couldn't determine if there was surface water or not. Experimental trough/collection box was non-functional. Was water in an old concrete trough in the corral so pipeline was working. Gate was left open.
3. Maynard Springs: Signs of burro use. Contains trough installed under fence. Full of water and being used. Understory at spring had thick mat of Bermuda grass.
4. Catclaw Wash: Observed light burro use all the way to Lake Mead. No heavy use along the Lake shore (to observers surprise).
5. Devils Cover: Historically had extremely heavy burro use. No sign of burro use at all in cove or canyon leading to Devils Cove.
6. Connelly, New and Lower Summit Springs: Water was available in troughs at both Connelly and New Springs but no burro use at either site. Some burro use at Lower Summit Spring, only small though with no identified resource damage.
7. Grapevine Spring: No burro use.
8. Falls Springs: No burro use.
9. Willow Wash (towards Lake Mead): Signs of burro tracks for 2 miles but never located burros. Also could not find Willow Spring.
10. Aqua Chiquita Spring: Very little burro sign in area.

“It appears that a considerable number of burros have recently been removed from the Gold Butte HMA. The burro use that we did observe did not appear to be significant.”