

## **Nevada Wild Horse Range**

Preliminary Gather Plan and Environmental Assessment #NV-052-2007-362

Available on line at [www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo.html)

Comments due by October 17, 2007

Comments should be submitted in writing to:

Bureau of Land Management

Las Vegas Field Office

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### Herd Statistics

AML 500 wild horses

HMA 1,301,628 acres

On horse per 2,603 acres

Nellis horses are reported to have a high incident of club foot.

Reported populations:

FY04 600

FY05 780 (30% reproduction rate)

FY06 928 (19% reproductive rate)

FY07 1,114 (20% reproductive rate)

FY07 Population + 20% Reproduction Rate= 1,337

### Prior Actions

#### Gather in December 2004

Captured 1,651

Removed 1,097

Released 550

358 mares treated with fertility control

192 studs

Ungathered population estimated to be 50 (80% studs, 20% mares)

Remaining population: 600 (232 males and 368 females)

Reset AML in July 2004 from 1,000 to 500

#### Removals Conducted in September 2006

Removal #s unknown

Emergency Removals Conducted July 6-8, 2007

Removed 178 wild horses

Estimated Remaining Population- 1,100-1,150

Reported Wild Horse Deaths –July 2007

71 wild horses

**Alternative 1 – Proposed Action**

Remove 800-820

Release 300-320

Manage population for 60% males and 40% females

Treat mares with fertility control

BLM reported reproduction rate with fertility control- 22%

BLM reported reproduction rate without fertility control – 24%

Estimated cost of removals- \$1,780,220

\$2,171.00 per horse in NV assuming all wild horses are successfully adopted after 1 year containment.

**Alternative 2**

Same removals and release #s

-150 males would be released. Of these, 75 would be gelded and managed as a non-breeding population and 75 would be allowed to continue to breed.

-150 mares released would be treated with PZP.

Sex ratio: 50/50

**No Action**

No gather and would continue to spend \$12,000 per month to haul water.

Additionally, weekly site visits to monitor lameness in foals and general herd health would be required and lame foals would need to be captured and removed from the range for treatment at an estimated cost of \$500.00 per foal.