



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Tonopah Field Station
1553 South Main Street
P.O. Box 911
Tonopah, Nevada 89049-0911



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In Reply Refer To:
(NV-065.008)
4700

Dear _____:

Thank you for your interest in the wild horse and burro gathers on the Paymaster and Silver Peak HMAs. In response to your inquiries:

We captured a total of 332 animals: 178 horses from Paymaster HMA, and 143 horses, 5 mules, and 6 burros from Silver Peak HMA. We released 28 healthy horses (50:50 stud/ mare ratio) back onto Paymaster HMA. No horses or burros were released back onto Silver Peak HMA in hopes of relieving the recurrent starvation/ emergency gather issues there.

No horses were killed as a direct result of the gathers. However, during the Paymaster HMA gather, one foal received a broken leg by an overly aggressive mare and had to be euthanized. Another unthrifty foal with an existing draining abscess was initially treated with a topical antibiotic, but was found the next morning in severe distress and had to be euthanized. Nineteen other horses had to be euthanized to end suffering from existing, pre-gather injuries and chronic health conditions caused by lack of adequate forage and water in the area. The BLM euthanasia policy (Instruction Memorandum No. 2006-023, enclosed) was strictly adhered to during the gather. One foal was orphaned and has already been adopted. No animals were injured, killed or euthanized during the Silver Peak gather.

All horses removed from the range were transported to the Ridgecrest Wild Horse and Burro Facility in Ridgecrest, California, where they will be vaccinated, freezemarked, and placed into the adoption program. These horses consisted of grays, roans, appaloosas, blacks, sorrels and bays, and many were curlies.

Again, thank you for your interest in the wild horse and burro program. Let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Andrea Felton
Wild Horse and Burro Specialist
Tonopah Field Station

Enclosure: Instruction Memorandum No. 2006-023