



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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In Reply Refer To:  
4700/1792 (NV-010.02)

June 25, 2012

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Winnemucca District, Humboldt River Field is soliciting public comment on the Humboldt Herd Area Wild Horse Gather Plan Preliminary Environmental Assessment (EA).

The gather focuses on the Humboldt HA and is located approximately 30 miles south of Winnemucca, Nevada and extends along the east side of Interstate 80 to Lovelock, Nevada. The Humboldt HA was not designated for the long term management of the wild horses in the Sonoma-Gerlach Management Framework Plan (SG-MFP) due to the checkerboard land pattern found within the HA and therefore, is not currently managed for wild horses and burros.

The gather area is comprised of 431,544 acres of both private and public lands. The wild horse population within the Humboldt HA is estimated to be 161 animals. The exact origin of these wild horses has not been determined. However, some animals may have been missed in the initial gather to remove wild horses from the area in 1985. Other wild horses may have migrated into the Humboldt HA from adjacent Herd Management Areas (HMAs). Since this area is not an HMA managed for wild horses, these wild horses have been categorized as excess wild horses.

Removing the excess wild horses will help to prevent further deterioration of the range and water resources, as well as address safety issues on roads and private land issues.

The proposal and associated impacts are described and analyzed in the Humboldt Herd Area Wild Horse Gather Plan Preliminary Environmental Assessment and can be viewed online at [http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo/blm\\_information/nepa0.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo/blm_information/nepa0.html). Hardcopies of these documents are available upon request from the Winnemucca District Office.

The BLM would appreciate receiving substantive comments on this preliminary EA by close of business (4:30 pm), July 25, 2013. Questions and written comments should be directed to:

Samantha Gooch, Project Coordinator  
BLM Winnemucca District Office  
5100 E. Winnemucca Blvd  
Winnemucca, NV 89445-2921

Comments can also be submitted by email to [HumboldtWildHorseEA@blm.gov](mailto:HumboldtWildHorseEA@blm.gov). Email messages should include "Humboldt HA Gather" in the subject line.

Commenters should be aware before including their address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in their comment, that their entire comment -including personal identifying information -may be made publicly available at any time. While they can ask BLM in their comment to withhold personal identifying information from public review, BLM cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so. Anonymity is not allowed for submissions from organizations or businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses.

After the public review period has concluded (July 25, 2013) for the Humboldt Herd Area Preliminary EA, comments will be analyzed and considered in preparation of the final EA.

Sincerely,

/s/Ken Loda

Ken Loda  
Acting Field Manager  
Humboldt River Field Office