



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Ely District Office
HC33 Box 33500 (702 N. Industrial Way)
Ely, Nevada 89301-9408
http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely_field_office.html

In Reply Refer To:
4700 (NVL02000)

AUG 17 2015

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Ely District Office, Schell Field Office has prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) to implement a Plan to primarily bait and water trap all the wild horses within the Water Canyon portion of the Antelope HMA in order to apply fertility control treatments to all mares in the project area. However, helicopter-drive trapping may be needed to meet management objectives to capture the highest percentage of wild horses present. The purpose of the long term management plan is to monitor the effectiveness of treating all mares with a fertility control vaccine and to determine the overall reduction in foaling rates that can be achieved, while minimizing the number of excess horses that need to be removed over a 10-year period (2015- 2025) by reducing the overall population growth rate and stabilizing the small wild horse population within this portion of the Antelope HMA.

The Final Environmental Assessment (EA) for Ely District, Water Canyon Wild Horse Growth Suppression Pilot Program (EA) EA DOI-BLM-NV-L020-2015-0014, Finding of No Significant Impact, and Decision Record is available on-line at <http://on.doi.gov/1PKK0Jg>. Hard copies can also be obtained, upon request, from the Ely District Office.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Ben Noyes, BLM Ely District Wild Horse and Burro Specialist, at (775) 289-1800.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Podborny
Field Manager
Schell Office