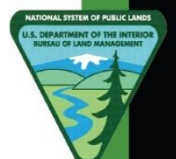


United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

**Finding of No Significant Impact**  
DOI-BLM-NV-S030-2020-0003-EA

Nevada Wild Horse Range Herd Management Area Wild Horse Gather Plan

PREPARING OFFICE  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89130  
702-515-5000



## Finding of No Significant Impact

### Selected Alternative

Environmental Assessment (EA) DOI-BLM-NV-S030-2020-0003-EA analyzed the all alternatives proposed within this document. The Proposed Action, as described in Chapter 2 of the EA, would provide for a long-term management plan for the wild horses and burros that reside within the Nevada Wild Horse Range, located within the Nevada Test and Training Range.

### Finding of No Significant Impact

The Southern Nevada District Office interdisciplinary review and analysis of EA DOI-BLM-NV-S030-2020-0003-EA determined that the Proposed Action would not trigger significant impacts on the environment based on criteria established by regulations, policy and analysis.

Context: The affected region is limited Nye County (Nevada), where the project area is located. The gather has been planned with input from the interested public and users of public lands.

Intensity: Based on my review of the EA against CEQ' s factors for intensity, there is no evidence that the impacts are significant:

- 1. Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.* The Proposed Action would allow the Southern Nevada District to capture and remove wild horses and burros from the Nevada Wild Horse Range. This is in conformance with Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burros Act of 1971 (WFRHBA). Although the gather and removal of excess wild horses is expected to have short-term impacts on individual animals, over the long-term, it is expected to benefit wild horse and burro health.
- 2. The degree to which the proposed action affects public health or safety.* The Standard Gather Operating Procedures (EA, Appendix B) would be used to conduct the gather and are designed to ensure protection of human health and safety, as well as the health and safety of the wild horses and burros. The proposed action would improve wild horse and burro health conditions within the Nevada Wild Horse Range.
- 3. Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.* The Proposed Action has no potential to affect unique characteristics such as historic or cultural resources or properties of concern to Native Americans. There are no wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas present in the areas.
- 4. The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.* Effects of the gather are well known and understood. No unresolved issues were raised through consultation or public comments.
- 5. The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.* Possible effects on the human environment are not highly uncertain and do not involve unique or unknown risks. The Proposed Action has no known effects on the human environment which are considered highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks. This is demonstrated through the effect's analysis in the EA.
- 6. The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.* The Proposed Action is

compatible with future consideration of actions required to improve wild horse management. The Proposed Action does not set a precedent for future actions. Future actions would be subject to evaluation through the appropriate level of NEPA documentation

7. *Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.* The Proposed Action is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

8. *The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historic resources.* The Proposed Action has no potential to adversely affect significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

9. *The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.* The Proposed Action is not likely to adversely affect any listed species, and the action area does not include any habitat determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act.

10. *Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.* The Proposed Action is in compliance with the Records of Decision (ROD) and Approved Nevada Test and Training Range Resource Management Plan (July 2004), and is consistent with other Federal, State, local and tribal requirements for protection of the environment to the maximum extent possible.

Based on the findings discussed herein, I have determined that the Proposed Action is not a major Federal action and will result in no significant impacts to the environment, individually or cumulatively with other actions in the general area. No environmental effects meet the definition of significance in context or intensity as defined in 40 CFR 1508.27 and do not exceed those effects described in applicable land use plans. Therefore, preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) to further analyze possible impacts is not required pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lee Kirk  
Planning & Environmental Coordinator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robert C. Wandel, Acting Field Manager  
Pahrump Field Office

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date