



## Augusta Mountains Herd Management Area Lander County, Nevada



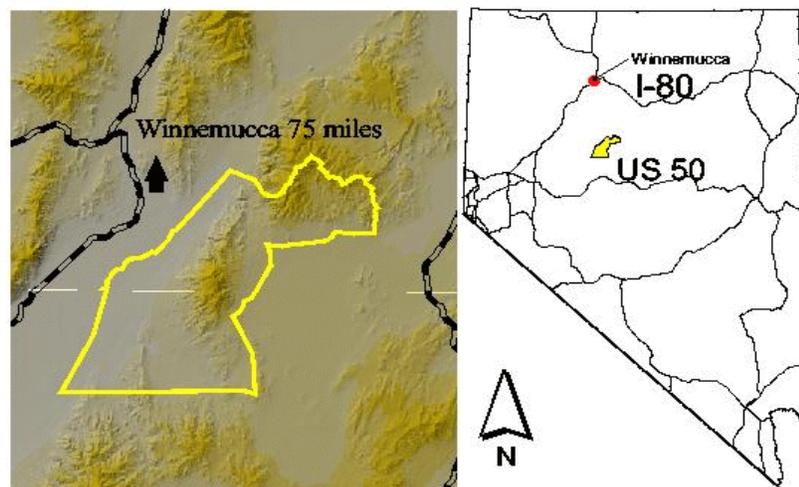
### Location/Habitat

This portion of the Augusta Mountains Herd Management Area (HMA) is located approximately 40 miles southwest of Battle Mountain, Nevada, in Lander County. The area consists of 55,774 acres. The terrain across most of the former Shoshone-Eureka planning area managed by the Battle Mountain Field Office is typical of the Great Basin region with steep north and south trending mountain ranges separated by large sweeping valley bottoms. Nevada has the largest number of mountain ranges in the United States. The HMA contains the Augusta Mountain Range through its center, surrounded by wide valley bottoms. Elevations range from 8,450 feet at the peak of Mt. Moses, down to 4,973 feet in the valleys below. Temperatures range in excess of 100 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer to 20 degrees below zero in the winter. Precipitation is in short supply with an annual total of only 5 to 16 inches.

In addition to the wild horses, the HMA is often utilized by domestic cattle and domestic sheep. Wildlife species occurring in the area include mule deer, sage grouse, chukar, coyote, mountain lion, bobcat, pronghorn antelope and numerous other small mammals, birds, and reptiles.

### Vegetation

Vegetation types are distributed according to topography and elevation and the associated precipitation. Within the highest elevations, and subsequently the greatest precipitation, the vegetation consists primarily of pinyon pine, juniper trees, mountain mahogany and low sagebrush. The lower and drier elevations consist of saltbush, greasewood, sagebrush and a variety of annual and perennial grasses and wildflowers. In some areas it may take 25 acres to support one horse for one month.



**Herd Description**

The horses in the Augusta HMA vary in color, and include many dun and sorrel horses. Other colors include black, bay, buckskin, brown, chestnut, palomino, grulla (mouse colored), red roan, and a few paint (pinto) horses.