

Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program Team Assessment Report

August 18, 2022

Gather Name: 2022 Blue Wing Complex Wild Horse and Burro Gather

State: Nevada

District/Field Office: Winnemucca District Office, Humboldt River Field Office

Incident Commander: Garrett Swisher

Lead COR: Morgan Weigand

Contractor: CD Warner Livestock

Gather Method: Helicopter Dive Trapping

Gather Reason: Excess animals, outside HMA, and private land issues

CAWP Assessment Team Members: Jerrie Bertola, Jake Benson, and John Hall

Assessment Dates: August 8-9, 2022

Total Number of CAWP Gather Standards: 189

Number of Applicable CAWP Gather Standards: 132

Compliance with Applicable CAWP Standards: 129

Compliance with Applicable CAWP Standards: 129/132 = 98%

General Notes and Comments from the CAWP Team: All personnel involved in the 2022 Blue Wing Complex Gather exhibited the knowledge and skills needed to provide the highest level of care and compassion for the wild horses and burros. The crew exhibited the upmost skill and patience while handling and loading all animals. The primary device used to move wild horses was body position and flags as needed and limited only to times when it was truly necessary. While working burros body position was used followed by the shaker paddle. Loud noises (i.e., yelling) were not used at the trap or temporary holding corral. The CAWP team was provided access to all aspects of the gather operations and coordination and communication worked smoothly.

Requirements of Permanent Instruction Memorandum (PIM) 2021-002, Wild Horse and Burro Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program (CAWP):

- All state, district, and field offices will continue to comply with the WHB CAWP policy within their jurisdictions at all times. This includes the CAWP Standards for Wild Horse and Burro Gathers.
- All personnel, including contractor and partners involved in the care, handling, and transportation of wild horses and burros at wild horse and burro gathers are required to complete training annually.

Conditions found to be in non-compliance with the CAWP Standards for Wild Horse and Burro Off-Range Corrals:

Trap Site

Standard

III.A.1 On-site veterinary support must be provided for all helicopter gathers and on-site or on-call support must be provided for bait trapping.

Non-compliance: The on-site veterinarian was not on-site at either the trap site location or temporary holding on August 9, 2022.

Temporary Holding Corral

Standard

III.B.1.c.ii Hay placement must allow all WH&Bs to eat simultaneously.

Non-Compliance: Placement of hay did not allow for all burros to eat simultaneously.

Transport

Standard

V.A.2 WH&Bs identified for removal should be shipped from the temporary holding facility to a BLM facility within 48 hours.

Non-Compliance: Not all burros identified for removal were shipped from temporary holding to a BLM facility within 48 hours.

Table 1: Overall Summary Rating

CAWP Standards and Policy Requirements	Compliant	Partially Compliant	Non-Compliant	N/A
CAWP Trained BLM Staff	✓			
CAWP Contract Trained Staff	✓			
Required Documentation	✓			
Trap Site Facility		✓		
Trap Site Animals	✓			
Temporary Holding Facility		✓		
Temporary Holding Animals	✓			
Transport Design and Facilities	✓			
Transport Animals		✓		
<i>Compliant – all the activities of the section were compliant with the standards or policy requirements. Partially compliant – one or more activities of the section were non-compliant with the standards or policy requirements. Non-Compliant – all activities of the section were non-compliant with the standards or policy requirements. N/A –activities were not observed during the assessment.</i>				

Rating scale for CAWP Assessments: 96-100% - Excellent, 86-95% - Good, 70-85% - Complies, and 0-69% - Failure to Comply.

Final CAWP Assessment Rating: Excellent. 98% of applicable CAWP standards were met.