

# Coyote Lake/Alvord Tule Springs

## Herd Management Area

Vale District BLM



**LOCATION:** Eighty miles southeast of Burns, Oregon southwest of Burns Junction where highways 78 and 95 meet.

**ACREAGE:** 553,603 acres

**ELEVATION/LANDMARKS:** Much of the area is flat to gently rolling hills with very little distinct topographical changes. The southern portion contains several steep buttes with rims and rocky outcrops.

**VEGETATION:** The southern portion contains big sagebrush as the dominant vegetative cover, while most of the flats are covered by salt desert vegetation, playas, or dunes. Other vegetation includes low sagebrush, greasewood, winterfat, bluebunch wheatgrass, bottlebrush foxtail, and Sandberg bluegrass. The area is free of snow during most of the winter.

**WILD LIFE:** Mule deer, pronghorn antelope, sage grouse, kit fox, and a variety of small mammals and reptiles.

**HERD SIZE:** 198 to 390 horses

**HORSE COLORS:** Bay, sorrel, black

**SIZE OF HORSES:** 14.2 to 15.2 hands and weigh 950 to 1,050 pounds

Many of the horses are descendants of thoroughbreds from U.S. Army remount stallions. Others are descendants of escaped or released horses from local ranches. Characteristics of the herd have remained the same since 1975.

**GENERAL INFORMATION/HISTORY:** The Alvord-Tule Springs HMA and the Coyotes Lakes HMA are currently being managed as the Coyote Lakes/Alvord Tule Springs complex because of known migration between the two HMAs through Sand Gap.