Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program Team Assessment Report

March 1, 2022

Adoption Event Name: Okeechobee Wild Horse and Burro Adoption/Sale Event
State: Eastern States (Florida)
District/Field Office: Southeastern States District Office
Adoption Lead: Scarlett Frost
Providing Facility: Ewing Off-Range Corral
CAWP Assessment Team Members: Jerrie Bertola, Jason Lutterman, and Travis Tolbert
Assessment Dates: February 24-26, 2022
Total Number of CAWP Adoption/Sale Standards: 94
Number of Applicable CAWP Standards: 81 out of 94 total
Compliance with Applicable CAWP Standards: 72/81 = 89%

General Notes and Comments from the CAWP Team: The assessment of the Okeechobee Adoption/Sale Event includes the Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program standards for Adoption/Sale Events and, Transportation, and some of the Off-Range Corral standards as referenced in the Adoption Standards. An Adoption/Sale Event Assessment is of the entire event, including the transportation of how the wild horses and burros get to the event.

By the end of the adoption/sale event, the adoption/sale event personnel were already thinking about and discussing how improvements could be made in the future to become compliant with CAWP Standards.

Conditions found to be in non-compliance with the CAWP Standards for Wild Horse and Burro Adoption/Sale Events:

Care of Wild Horses and Burros Received at Satellite Facilities
Standard
3.III.C WH&Bs must be sorted upon arrival at adoption events into pens with animals of appropriate age and temperament such that animals can promptly begin a period of rest, eating, and drinking with limited disturbance.

Non-Compliance: Animals were not sorted upon arrival to the event. One truck load was worked through the chute to have neck tags replaced upon arrival, but the animals were not sorted.
**Loading and Unloading Facilities**

**Standard 2.I.B** The side panels of the loading chute must be a minimum of 6 feet high and covered with materials such as plywood or metal without holes that may cause injury.

**Non-Compliance:** The sides of the loading chute were not fully covered and had gaps that could cause injury.

**Standard 2.I.C** There must be no holes, gaps, openings, protruding surfaces, or sharp edges present in fence panels or other structures that may allow escape or cause possible injury.

**Non-Compliance:** During loading wing gates and trailers were not always connected while the trailer gate was being closed, which created a situation where animals may escape.

**Standard 2.I.E** Trailers must be properly aligned with loading and unloading chutes and panels with no gaps between the chute/panel and floor or sides of the trailer creating a situation where a WH&B could injure itself.

**Non-Compliance:** There were gaps between the loading/unloading chute and the straight-deck trailers that could cause a wild horse or burro to injure itself.

**Care of Wild Horses and Burros During Transport Preparation Procedures**

**Standard 2.II.C** WH&Bs being transferred to another off-range corral facility, off-range pasture, eco-sanctuary, or adoption event must be sorted prior to shipping to ensure compatibility and minimize aggressive behavior that may cause injury during transport.

**Non-Compliance:** Wild horses were not sorted according to sex prior to transport. All compartments of wild horses were mixed with mares and geldings.

**Vehicles**

**Standard 2.III.J** Surfaces and floors of trailers must be cleaned of dirt, manure and other organic matter prior to the beginning of a shipping event, and must have non-skid material on the trailer floor, such as, wood shavings, rubber non-skid mats etc.

**Non-Compliance:** There was no non-skid materials on the trailer floor.
Transport Procedures

Standards
2.IV.G WH&Bs should not be allowed to remain standing on straight-deck and stock trailers while not in transport for a combined period of greater than three (3) hours.

Non-Compliance: Wild horses were standing on the straight-deck trailer for greater than three hours combined.

Receiving Procedures
Standard
1.III.B.8 Newly arrived WH&Bs must immediately be provided hay and water upon unloading.

Non-Compliance: Wild horses were not immediately provided hay upon arrival; it was one and a half hours after arrival when feeding of the first wild horses began.

1.III.B.10 WH&Bs should be penned with WH&Bs of like age, sex, and temperament.

Non-Compliance: Wild horses were not penned with like sexes.

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<th>CAWP Trained BLM Staff</th>
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<th>Non-Compliant</th>
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<td>Care of WHBs Received at Satellite Facilities</td>
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Final CAWP Assessment Rating: Good. 89% of applicable CAWP standards were met.