

Fish Creek Herd Management Area Fact Sheet February 2015

What: Fish Creek Herd Management Area (HMA) Wild Horse Gather

Where: Located in Eureka County, approximately 20 miles south of Eureka.

Planned number of horses and burros to be gathered: Approximately 500 wild horses.

Planned number of mares to be treated with the fertility control vaccine PZP and released back to the range: Approximately 150. All mares released back onto the range will be treated with PZP.

Planned number of horses and burros to be removed from HMA: Approximately 200 wild horses.

Population to be left in HMA: Approximately 349 wild horses, which is still about 205% of the appropriate management level (AML).

Planned duration of gather: February 13 to February 22, 2015

Reason/s for the Gather: This gather is part of a population growth suppression program for the Fish Creek HMA that is designed to achieve and maintain AML of wild horses over ten years. Severe and extreme drought conditions have been recorded in the Fish Creek HMA since 2012, as documented by the U.S. Drought Monitor (<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>). Drought conditions, coupled with an overpopulation of wild horses exceeding AML, have necessitated water hauling since 2012 to maintain wild horse health. Removing the excess wild horses will help prevent further deterioration of range and water resources, help restore a thriving ecological balance within the HMA, and ensure the long-term health and viability of wild horse herds in the Fish Creek HMA.

For general information about the BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Program, please visit:

Fish Creek Gather website: <http://on.doi.gov/161y5Yh>

BLM's Website at: www.blm.gov/whb

BLM WH&B Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BLMWildHorseandBurro

BLM YouTube "playlist" (WH&B section): <http://blm.gov/c65c>

BLM National WH&B hotline and e-mail: 866-468-7926 (866-4MUSTANGS) and wildhorse@blm.gov

Quick Facts about the program:

http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/whbprogram/history_and_facts/quick_facts.html

Myths and Facts about wild horse management:

http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/whbprogram/history_and_facts/myths_and_facts.html

Information about the wild horse and burro adoption program:

http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/whbprogram/adoption_program.html