Wild Horse Walkabout Registration

Registration for the Wild Horse Walkabout is now OPEN! Please fill out a separate registration for each participant. Course material builds upon previous units. It is strongly recommended that participants are present for the duration to gain the maximum benefit. Even though there is no cost for this event, we ask that you kindly register by **Friday, June 11, 2021** to help us prepare materials.



INFORMATION

Dates: 25-27 June 2020

<u>Place:</u> Twin Peaks Herd Management Area, near Susanville, CA
Meet at BLM Eagle Lake Field Office parking lot (outside)at **9:00 am, Friday, June 25**2550 Riverside Drive
Susanville, California

Contact:

Amanda Gearhart, Wild Horse and Burro Specialist BLM Northern California District agearhart@blm.gov 530-250-5921

- Most of the HMA is very rugged and remote. There is no cell phone service.
- Registration is between 9:00 9:30 am at the Eagle Lake Field Office in Susanville. We will depart for the HMA **PROMPTLY** at 10:00 am.
- High clearance four-wheel drive vehicle with 10-ply tires is required (minimum 8 inches).



CLIMATE

- Twin Peaks HMA is located in the high desert; days are often warm, nights are typically cold.
- Long pants and long sleeve shirts are strongly recommended.
- Our field days will be spent primarily in sagebrush steppe. There is no shade, please bring a hat.
- Daytime temperatures typically in the mid 80s to mid 90s. Nighttime temperatures often range from the upper 30s to upper 40s.
- It is very dry with low relative humidity, lip balm is strongly recommended.
- May plants will be flowering, if you have allergies, please come prepared.
- Wind is highly variable and can be very strong or not at all.
- We will be outside regardless of weather, bring lots of layers, including a rain jacket.
- We will be going on several nature walks, be sure to wear sturdy hiking boots. We have a lot of cheatgrass and rocks. Shoes constructed with any type of mesh material are not recommended.
- It will likely be very dusty. Be sure to pack a solar shower or wet wipes for personal hygiene.
- Bring a camp chair for field instruction.



- Meals are <u>not</u> provided, please bring your own food.
 - o 3 lunches, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners
- Days in the field are often long, bring plenty of snacks.
- Bring more water than you think you will need. We recommend a minimum of 2 gallons of water per person per day.



ACCOMMODATIONS

- Lodging options include camping at Ramhorn Campground, dispersed camping on public lands, or hotels in Susanville (drive to HMA is approximately 1 hour each way).
- At Ramhorn Campground, there are 10 campsites, first come, first served.
- Due to space issues, please no motorhomes or travel trailers at Ramhorn Campground.
- For the safety of your pet, please leave all pets and personal horses at home.
- It is EXTREMELY dry this year, and we will very likely have fire restrictions, so campfires will likely not be allowed.



LEARNER OBJECTIVES

There are 4 units in this Walkabout. Units build upon skills and knowledge from previous units. In each unit, you will learn 3-5 skills or knowledge bases and practice them in the field! Each unit contains fun, experiential learning activities.

Unit 1: Dirt Works

Describe the three main components of soil and how they influence water holding capacity, rooting depth, and nutrient cycling.

Unit 2: Power of the Plants

Identify 10 key upland and 5 key riparian plant species.

Unit 3: Rumens, Ceca, and Stomachs, Oh My

Recognize the differences between monogastrics, ruminants and cecal digesters.

Unit 4: Elementary Math

Distinguish the difference between carrying capacity and stocking rate.



TENTATIVE ITINERARY

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

Morning

Registration at Eagle Lake Field Office parking lot

Depart for Ramhorn Campground (classroom activities will be based here)

Lunch (bring your own food)

Introductions

Introducing Twin Peaks

UNIT 1: Dirt Works

Afternoon

Field travel (Big Spring)

Unit 1: Dirt Works field activities Return to Ramhorn Campground

Unit 2: Power of the Plants

Evening

Free time, explore HMA

Dinner (bring your own food)

Evening Discussion: Eurasian Invasion

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Morning

Breakfast (bring your own food)

Travel to field location (Smoke Creek Road)

Plant ID in field

Unit 3: Rumens, Ceca, and Stomachs, Oh My

Return to Ramhorn Campground

Lunch (bring your own food)

Afternoon

Free time, explore HMA

Unit 4: Elementary Math

Evening

Dinner (bring your own food)

Evening Discussion: Art and Science of Rangeland Management

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

Morning

Travel to field site (Horn Ranch Road)

Unit 4: Elementary Math field exercises

Team landscape evaluation activity

Return to Ramhorn Campground

Afternoon:

Team presentations, evaluations



٧	CLOTHING	
		Sturdy hiking boots (non-mesh)
		Long pants
		Long sleeve shirt
		Rain jacket
		Warm layers (it gets cold at night)
		Hat (no shade in the field)
		Gloves
٧	Accessories	
		Sunscreen
		Insect repellent
		Sunglasses
		Day pack
		Lunch box (for field locations)
		2-3 refillable water bottles
		2-3 writing utensils and notebook or paper
		Clipboard
		Camera
		Binoculars
		Toilet paper & zip-top bags (for the field, be prepared for emergencies)
		Lip balm
		First aid kit, personal medications (including Epi pen, if needed)
		Personal toiletries including wet wipes or solar shower
٧	Camping	
		Sleeping bag
		Pad or air mattress
		Pillow
		Tent or bivy
		Water (recommended 6 gallons total)
		Food (3 lunches, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners)
		Snacks (for the field)
		Campstove and fuel (permit required)
		Lantern and fuel
		Flashlight and/or headlamp
		Camp chair
		Cooking equipment (pots, pans, utensils)
		Ice chest
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