

Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program Team Assessment Report

May 19, 2025

Off-Range Corral: Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center Off-Range Corral

State: California

Facility Manager or PO: Amy Dumas, Program Officer

CAWP Assessment Team Members: Jerrie Bertola, Tami Howell, Kayce Faulkner and Preston Rushing

Assessment Dates: May 15, 2025

Total Number of CAWP Off-Range Corral Standards: 117

Number of Applicable CAWP Standards: 61

Compliance with Applicable CAWP Standards: 52/61= 85%

Understanding Assessments: The Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program promotes the welfare of wild horses and burros during management activities while minimizing stress and ensuring humane care, handling and treatment. CAWP assessments evaluate compliance with standards during the activities taking place at the time of the assessment. This framework helps ensure a clear and unbiased evaluation of events or actions as they occur. Here are some key points:

- **Holistic Approach:** Assessments reflect the entirety of the activity, not targeting individuals or specific groups.
- **Time-Specific:** The evaluation focuses solely on the observed circumstances during the assessment period.
- **Limitations:** Previous or subsequent events are not accounted for, meaning the assessment is a standalone observation.

General Notes and Comments from the CAWP Team: Assessments of Off-Range Corrals includes the Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program standards for Off-Range Corrals and Transportation as applicable.

Coordination with the Rio Consumnes Correctional Center Off-Range Corrals was good. The CAWP team was well received and was provided access to the entire facility. The team was able to observe wild horses being handled and worked by trainers. Rio Consumnes Correctional Center Off-Range Corrals is small but provides another way to place trained animals. All the wild horses were in various stages of training.

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 Off-Range Corral Facilities, Transportation, and Adoption/Sale Events.
- All personnel, including contractor and partners involved in the care, handling, and transportation of wild horses and burros at off-range corrals and adoption/sale events 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:

Facility Personnel

Standard

- 1.I.C** The facility must have personnel that can properly maintain the working chute systems and facility infrastructure to provide for the safe housing, movement, and processing of the WH&Bs.

Non-Compliance: Due to staffing shortages, the facility has fallen behind on infrastructure maintenance, including fences, and gates.

Facility Design

Standard

- 1.II.E** Facility fences, gates, alleys, tubs, and working chutes must be constructed of stout materials and must be maintained in proper working condition.

Non-Compliance: Gates were not constructed with stout materials and were tied with lead ropes and twine. Chain-link fencing was tied to poles with twine, and panels were tied together rather than properly fastened.

Standard

- 1.II.F** Fences in pens, alleys, and working chute systems must be not less than 6 feet high for horses, 5 feet high for burros, and the bottom rail must not be more than 12 inches from ground level.

Non-Compliance: Fence and gate heights were less than 6 feet in multiple locations, and some gates and fencing were more than 12 inches from the ground.

Standard

- 1.II.G** Fences must be of stout design and be maintained in proper condition with no holes, gaps, or sharp edges which could result in WH&Bs being injured.

Non-Compliance: There were multiple gaps that could result in animals being injured and many fences were not of stout design.

Standard

- 1.II.M** Facilities must provide access to shade and shelter (wind breaks) in pens designated for compromised animals needing special care (i.e., injured or weak animals). Additional provisions for shade and shelter (wind breaks) will be evaluated and determined by managers as appropriate for their region, the function of their facility and the condition of the animals under their care.

Non-Compliance: Shelter for compromised animals was inadequate and there were no wind breaks for compromised animals.

Loading and Unloading Facilities

Standard

- 1.III.A.1** Facilities in areas for loading and unloading WH&Bs must be maintained in a safe and proper working condition, including gates and doors that swing freely and latch or tie easily as designed.

Non-Compliance: Gates were bent and sticking out into the alleyway and not in proper working condition.

Standard

- 1.III.A.3** There must be no holes, gaps or openings, protruding surfaces, or sharp edges present in fence panels or other structures that may cause escape or possible injury.

Non-Compliance: The materials used were not of stout design and therefore could cause injury or allow an animal to escape.

Feed and Water

Standard

- 1.IV.C.6** Salt and/or mineral blocks should be provided in holding pens at all times.

Non-Compliance: Salt and/or mineral blocks were not provided in the holding pens.

Preparation Procedures

Standard

- 1.IV.D.6** Facilities must adhere to the current BLM vaccination policy.

Non-Compliance: The BLM vaccination policy requires vaccinations to be given every six months. Booster vaccinations were not documented on some of the paperwork that was reviewed.

Table 1: Overall Summary Rating

| CAWP Standards and Policy Requirements | Total Numbers | Percent Compliant | Rating |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Facility Personnel | 3/4 | 75% | Complies |
| Facility Design | 10/14 | 71% | Complies |
| Loading and Unloading Facilities | 0/2 | 100% | Failure to Comply |
| Receiving Procedures | 7/7 | 100% | Excellent |
| Veterinarian | 6/6 | 100% | Excellent |
| Biosecurity | 3/3 | 100% | Excellent |
| Feed and Water | 5/6 | 83% | Complies |
| Preparation Procedures | 3/4 | 75% | Complies |
| Euthanasia Procedures | 5/5 | 100% | Excellent |
| Carcass Disposal | 2/2 | 100% | Excellent |
| Willful Acts of Abuse | 4/4 | 100% | Excellent |
| General Handling | 4/4 | 100% | Excellent |
| Overall Compliance and Final CAWP Assessment Rating | 52/61 | 85% | Complies |

Possible ratings for CAWP Assessments are 96-100% Excellent, 86-95% Good, 70-85% Complies, and 0-69% Failure to Comply.