



## Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program Team Assessment Report

July 11, 2025

**Off-Range Corral:** Hutchinson Off-Range Corral

**State:** Kanas (New Mexico State Office)

**Facility Manager or COR:** Carey Fieser, Facility Manager

**CAWP Assessment Team Members:** Jerrie Bertola, and John Hall

**Assessment Date:** July 9, 2025

**Total Number of CAWP Off-Range Corral Standards:** 117

**Number of Applicable CAWP Standards:** 80

**Compliance with Applicable CAWP Standards:** 76/80 = 95%

**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 include the Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program standards for Off-Range Corrals and Transportation, as applicable.

The coordination with the Hutchinson Off-Range Corral was excellent. The CAWP team was well received and was provided with access to the entire facility. When reviewing the paperwork and records of the care provided at the Hutchinson Off-Range Corral, many questions were asked about designs, care, and ways to provide services that would be helpful and needed in the future. The CAWP Team was able to watch animals being worked through the alley and chute system, and observed animals in the training program.

### **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 Design**

**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:** Not all pen fences were 6 feet high, and there were several places where the bottom rail was more than 12 inches from ground level.

**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 places where the welds and edges of the primary fencing could result in animals being cut or injured.

**Preparation Procedures**

**Standard**

- 1.IV.D.2** Facilities must conduct Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) testing and apply freeze-marks within 30 days of receiving WH&Bs, unless directed by the facility veterinarian when age or physical condition requires a delay.

**Non-Compliance:** The Hutchinson Off-Range Corral serves as a maintenance facility focused on providing wild horses and burros to adoption and sale events and serving as an adoption location. However, not all EIA testing was completed within 30 days of initially receiving the animals at a facility.

**Standard**

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

**Non-Compliance:** The BLM vaccination policy requires vaccinations to be administered every six months. A review of the paperwork for randomly selected animals revealed that some vaccinations were overdue.

**Table 1: Overall Summary Rating**

| <b>CAWP Standards and Policy Requirements</b>              | <b>Total Numbers</b> | <b>Percent Compliant</b> | <b>Rating</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Facility Personnel</b>                                  | 4/4                  | 100%                     | Excellent     |
| <b>Facility Design</b>                                     | 12/14                | 86%                      | Good          |
| <b>Loading and Unloading Facilities</b>                    | 4/4                  | 100%                     | Excellent     |
| <b>Receiving Procedures</b>                                | 11/11                | 100%                     | Excellent     |
| <b>Veterinarian</b>                                        | 6/6                  | 100%                     | Excellent     |
| <b>Biosecurity</b>                                         | 5/5                  | 100%                     | Excellent     |
| <b>Feed and Water</b>                                      | 7/7                  | 100%                     | Excellent     |
| <b>Preparation Procedures</b>                              | 8/10                 | 80%                      | Complies      |
| <b>Euthanasia Procedures</b>                               | 5/5                  | 100%                     | Excellent     |
| <b>Carcass Disposal</b>                                    | 2/2                  | 100%                     | Excellent     |
| <b>Willful Acts of Abuse</b>                               | 4/4                  | 100%                     | Excellent     |
| <b>General Handling</b>                                    | 6/6                  | 100%                     | Excellent     |
| <b>Handling Aids</b>                                       | 2/2                  | 100%                     | Excellent     |
| <b>Overall Compliance and Final CAWP Assessment Rating</b> | <b>76/80</b>         | <b>95%</b>               | <b>Good</b>   |

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