



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management



# Wyoming Wild Horse Herd Management Areas



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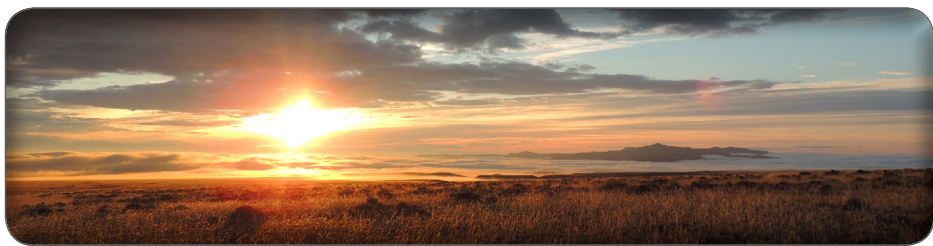
*Note: The HMAs are listed north to south according to the map on pages 8-9.*

The Bureau of Land Management maintains and manages wild horses or burros in herd management areas (HMAs). In Wyoming, about 3,000 horses are managed in 16 different HMAs scattered across the western part of the state. Wyoming has no wild burros. The Bureau establishes an appropriate management level (AML) for each HMA. The AML is the population objective for the HMA that will ensure a thriving ecological balance among all the users and resources of the HMA, for example, wildlife, livestock, wild horses, vegetation, water, and soil.

The Wyoming horses have a diverse background of many domestic horse breeds. They are generally most closely related to stock horse breeds like the American Quarter Horse, Thoroughbred, and Morgan. Some have shown characteristics of gaited breeds such as Rocky Mountain Horse, American Saddlebred, and Standardbred. Occasionally draft and curly horses are found within the HMAs. In general, the horses range from 13 to 16 hands weighing between 750 and 1,100 pounds.

## Know Before You Go

A quick stop at the field office would allow you to check local weather and road conditions, identify legal access areas, and obtain maps. Before traveling to an area, make sure your vehicle is in good repair. If it has not stormed recently, you can make a trip to many of the HMAs in any full or mid-sized passenger vehicle, but a high clearance, four-wheel drive vehicle is recommended. Make sure your spare tire is usable and you have drinking water, food, and emergency supplies. Many areas are fairly isolated, and it could be some time before help could arrive. Do not attempt to travel during inclement weather. Be especially cautious when there is snow on the ground. Travel in the HMAs is restricted to existing roads and trails, cross-country travel is not allowed. Don't forget to bring your camera and binoculars. Please maintain a distance of at least 300 feet from wild horses, especially during foaling season (February 1 through July 31), approaching the horses may result in foal abandonment. Do not attempt to feed or touch wild horses and do not engage in activity that interrupts their current behavior. Pursuing horses that move away from you because of your presence may be seen as harassment.



## McCullough Peaks HMA

**Administered by:** Cody Field Office

**Location:** east of Cody

**Acres:** over 110,000

**Elevation:** 6,300 ft. - 7,900 ft.

**AML:** 70-140

**Colors:** bay, brown, black, sorrel, chestnut, white, buckskin, gray and palomino; blue, red and strawberry roan; pinto



The McCullough Peaks HMA encompasses over 110,000 acres, including the McCullough Peaks Wilderness Study Area. The climate is typical of a cold desert with annual precipitation averaging five to nine inches. Stock reservoirs and intermittent streams fed by winter snows and spring runoff provide adequate water for the HMA. Topography is highly variable, ranging from mostly flat to slightly rolling foothills carved by drainages, to colorful badlands and desert mountains featuring steep slopes, cliffs and canyons.

The animals tend to be moderate to large-sized and habitat conditions are such that the horses are in very good condition. The combination of size, conformation, coat colors and patterns, and excellent physical condition has become a draw for potential adopters and a matter of reputation for "McCullough Peaks" horses.



## Fifteenmile HMA

**Administered by:** Worland Field Office  
**Location:** east of Meeteetse  
**Acres:** over 81,000  
**Elevation:** 4,700 ft. - 5,700 ft.  
**AML:** 70 - 160 mature horses  
**Colors:** bay, sorrel, gray, roan and pinto



The first recorded wild horse gather on federal rangeland took place in October, 1938 on lands now administered by the Worland Field Office.

The HMA is in a very remote part of the Bighorn Basin. It encompasses over 81,000 acres of mostly public land with some intermingled state and private lands.

The HMA ranges from rolling hills to rugged canyons and badlands. The country is semi-arid with hot summers and cold winters. Precipitation averages approximately eight inches per year. Part of the HMA lies within the Bobcat Draw Wilderness Study Area, with its colorful and intricately-carved formations known as hoodoos, goblins, mushrooms, and castles.

## Antelope Hills HMA

**Administered by:** Lander Field Office  
**Location:** 15 miles SE of Atlantic City  
**Acres:** nearly 159,000  
**Elevation:** 7,100 ft. - 7,250 ft.  
**AML:** 60-82  
**Colors:** predominantly bay and brown



The Antelope Hills HMA encompasses nearly 159,000 acres of both public and private lands.

The HMA is bisected by the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail. The area receives five to seven inches of precipitation annually. Predominate vegetation type is sagebrush/grass and riparian zones are infrequent but very important to wild horses, wildlife and livestock.

The topography ranges from rolling flatlands south of Cyclone Rim, uplifted ridges along Cyclone Rim, and abrupt rocky zones of the Granite Rocks area of the Antelope Hills, interspersed with rolling lands north of the rim to the Sweetwater River. These horses spend much of their summer in the Granite Rocks Region of the HMA.

This HMA has genetic markers that would reflect a similarity to the New World Spanish horse breeds. Sweeping views of the southern Wind River Mountain Range can be seen to the west of this HMA. This HMA is truly in the "middle of nowhere" with scenic vistas throughout.

## Crooks Mountain HMA

**Administered by:** Lander Field Office

**Location:** SSE of Sweetwater Station

**Acres:** over 58,000

**Elevation:** 6,900 ft. - 8,100 ft.

**AML:** 65-85

**Colors:** predominantly bay and brown



The lower elevations of the Crooks Mountain HMA receive approximately 10-14 inches of precipitation annually, and the upper elevations receive 15-20 inches annually. The major vegetation types are sagebrush/grass, woodland, and riparian. Topography within the HMA is generally rolling hills and slopes to the north and south of Crooks Mountain.

The Crooks Mountain portion of the herd area is quite steep and broken with mountainous terrain. The area supports significant wildlife populations of elk, deer and antelope.

## Muskrat Basin, Conant Creek, Rock Creek and Dishpan Butte HMAs

**Administered by:** Lander Field Office

**Location:** north of Jeffrey City

**Acres:** over 375,000

**Elevation:** 5,300 ft. - 7,200 ft.

**AML:** 320-536

**Colors:** predominantly bay and brown



These four HMAs are located in east central Fremont County. They encompass over 375,000 acres of land, of which about 90 percent are BLM-administered public lands. While the four HMAs are managed with recognized individual populations, there is no geographic separation of the HMAs and the gates between them remain open a significant part of the year. As a result, the horses move regularly among the HMAs, helping to ensure the overall genetic health of the horses. Most horses are solid in color yet you may find a few pintos and blue roans scattered through the HMAs.

Topography of the area includes high ridges and steep terrain with grand vistas. Beaver Rim, located on the western edge of the HMAs, is a beautiful, high escarpment with amazing views of the Wind River Mountains, Copper Mountains and Owl Creek Mountains. The area receives five to 12 inches of precipitation a year, depending on the elevation, most of it in the form of snow. Vegetation is dominated by various sage and grass species. Elk, deer and pronghorn inhabit this area.

## Green Mountain HMA

**Administered by:** Lander Field Office

**Location:** SSE of Sweetwater Station

**Acres:** nearly 117,000

**Elevation:** 6,200 ft. - 9,200 ft.

**AML:** 170-300

**Colors:** predominantly bay and brown with some tobiano pintos



The Green Mountain HMA encompasses nearly 117,000 acres, of which nearly 75,000 acres are BLM-administered public lands. Topography within the herd area is generally gently rolling hills and slopes north and south of Green Mountain. Green Mountain itself is quite steep with mountainous terrain and conifer/aspen forests. Elevations range from 6,200 to 9,200 feet with grand vistas of the Red Desert, Sweetwater Rocks, and Oregon Trail from the higher elevations. Precipitation ranges from 10-14 inches at the lower elevations to 15-20 inches at the upper elevations. Most of the precipitation is in the form of snow.

Most horses are solid in color, but a noticeable number of tobiano pintos are present. Vegetation around the mountain is dominated by various sage, grass, woodland and riparian species. The Green Mountain portion of the HMA is characterized by lodge pole forests breaking to a juniper/limber pine vegetative type. Much of the mountain itself is steep and rugged. Wild horses tend to spend their time on top of the mountain during the summer and fall months. The area supports significant wildlife populations of elk, deer, pronghorn, bighorn sheep and moose.

## Adobe Town HMA

**Administered by:** Rawlins Field Office

**Location:** west of Baggs

**Acres:** nearly 478,000

**Elevation:** 6600 ft. - 7800 ft.

**AML:** 610-800

**Colors:** predominantly roan and gray



The Adobe Town HMA encompasses nearly 478,000 acres of mostly BLM-administered public land with a small portion of intermingled private lands.

The topography of the area is varied with everything from colorful eroded desert badlands to wooded buttes and escarpments. In between are extensive rolling to rough uplands interspersed with some desert playa and vegetated dune areas. Limited, sensitive desert riparian areas are important features of the landscape and winters are long and severe.

## **Adobe Town HMA** (continued)

Annual precipitation ranges from less than seven inches in the desert basins to more than 12 inches at some of the higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 6,600 feet to 7,800 feet along Kinney Rim, which forms the western boundary of the HMA. The HMA is in the Adobe Town Wilderness Study Area and other features in the area include the Cherokee Trail, the Haystacks and Powder Rim.

The horses exhibit a full range of colors, with grays and roans predominating. The present population has been influenced by the routine escape of domestic saddle stock from the surrounding populated areas. One of the most famous wild horses of all times, named "Desert Dust," came from this area.

## **Lost Creek HMA**

**Administered by:** Rawlins Field Office

**Location:** NW of Wamsutter

**Acres:** over 251,000

**Elevation:** 6,500 ft. - 6,800 ft.

**AML:** 60-82

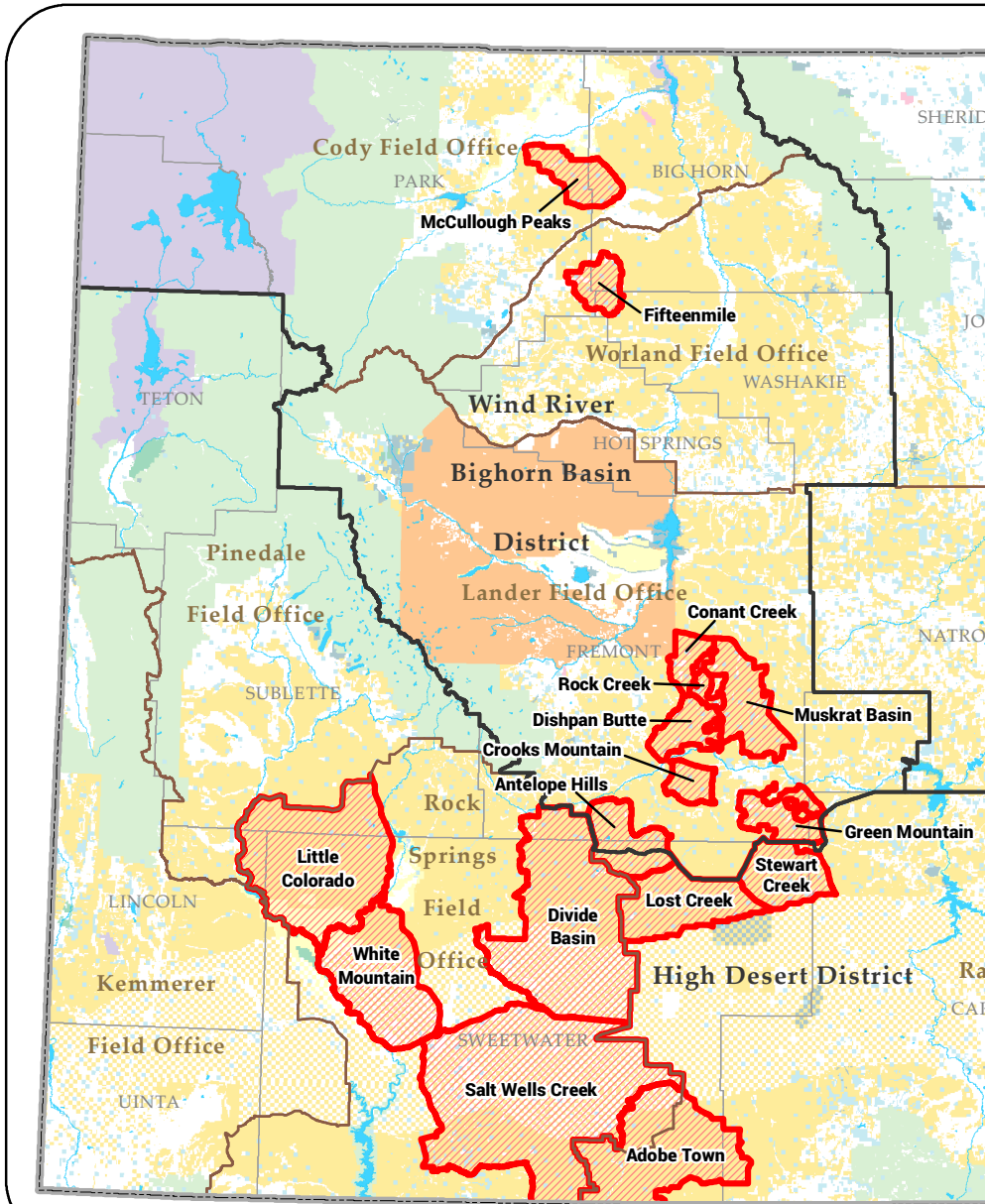
**Colors:** predominantly bay and brown



The Lost Creek HMA encompasses over 251,000 acres of which 235,000 acres are BLM-administered public lands. This HMA is joined on the east by the Stewart Creek HMA, on the north by the Antelope Hills HMA, and on the west by the Divide Basin HMA. The HMA lies within the Great Divide Basin, a closed basin out of which no water flows. Some desert playa and vegetated dune areas are interspersed throughout the HMA. Several sensitive desert wetland riparian areas occur throughout the area, including both intermittent and perennial lakes and streams. The winters are long and severe and annual precipitation averages a little less than six inches.

The present population has a full range of colors and has been influenced by the routine escape of domestic saddle stock from the surrounding populated areas. The genetic analysis of the Lost Creek HMA by Dr. Gus Cothran of Texas A&M University, October 14, 2010, states, "Genetic variability of this herd is fairly high. All values related to allelic diversity and heterozygosity are high. Genetic similarity results suggest a herd with mixed ancestry that primarily is North American. There is a possibility of some, although limited, Iberian ancestry."

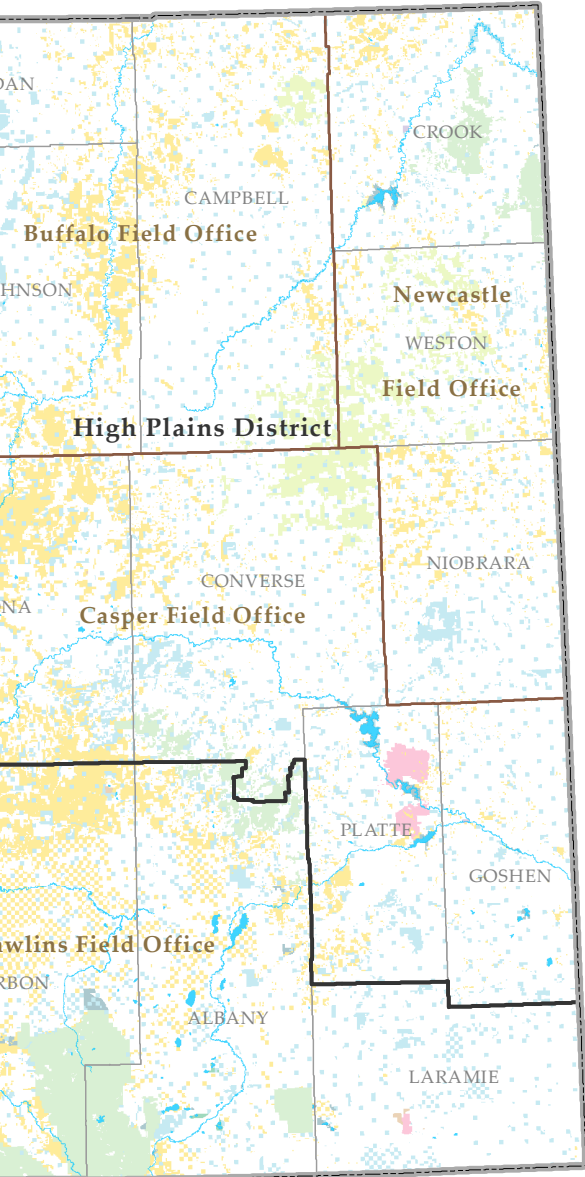
# BLM Wyoming's Wild Horse



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# WYOMING Herd Management Areas



## BLM Wyoming Wild Horse & Burro Program Herd Management Areas

- Herd Management Areas
- BLM District Boundaries
- BLM Field Office Boundaries
- Surface Management**
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Fish & Wildlife Service
- National Forests
- National Grasslands
- National Park Service
- Military Reservations
- Other Federal Agencies
- Indian Reservation Tribal Lands
- State Lands
- State Wildlife and Recreation Areas
- Private Lands

Herd Management Areas	Appropriate Management Level (AML)	BLM Acres	Other Acres
Adobe Town	610-800	444,321	34,757
Antelope Hills	60-82	150,896	7,796
Conant Creek	60-100	49,528	8,800
Crooks Mountain	65-85	54,726	3,698
Dishpan Butte	50-100	92,275	7,466
Divide Basin	415-600	56,143	217,507
Fifteenmile	100-230	68,673	12,536
Green Mountain	170-300	99,311	17,363
Little Colorado	69-100	527,307	105,020
Lost Creek	60-82	236,353	15,041
McCullough Peaks	70-140	103,920	5,928
Muskrat Basin	160-250	176,340	6,922
Rock Creek	50-86	19,100	5,483
Salt Wells Creek	251-365	688,632	483,993
Stewart Creek	125-175	157,514	10,329
White Mountain	205-300	207,981	85,092
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>2,520-3,795</b>	<b>3,638,338</b>	<b>1,137,121</b>



Date: 10/11/2019

## Stewart Creek HMA

**Administered by:** Rawlins Field Office

**Location:** south of Bairoil

**Acres:** nearly 168,000

**Elevation:** 6,500 ft. - 7,900 ft.

**AML:** 125-175

**Colors:** predominantly bay and brown with some tobiano pinto



The Stewart Creek HMA encompasses mostly BLM-administered public lands. The Continental Divide (eastern boundary of the Great Divide Basin) traverses the HMA in a north-south direction in its eastern portion along Lost Soldier and Bull Springs rims. Adjacent to these rims on either side are strongly rolling uplands. These areas transition to the gently rolling uplands which comprise the majority of the HMA. The most abundant plant community is sagebrush/grass. The climate in the Great Divide Basin is fairly harsh, with long, severe winters. Annual precipitation ranges from less than seven inches at the lower elevations to more than ten inches at some of the higher elevations with most of the precipitation occurring as snow.

The horses exhibit a full range of colors but most are solid in color. A noticeable number of appaloosas are within this HMA. The present population has been influenced by the routine escape of domestic saddle stock from the surrounding populated areas.

The viewing route for this HMA will pass both historic and current signs of the area's considerable natural gas and uranium resources. In addition, rural agriculture is an important use of the area.

## Divide Basin HMA

**Administered by:** Rock Springs Field Office

**Location:** NE of Rock Springs

**Acres:** nearly 779,000

**Elevation:** 6,200 ft. - 8,700 ft.

**AML:** 415-600

**Colors:** bay, sorrel, black, brown, pinto, buckskin and gray



The Divide Basin HMA encompasses nearly 779,000 acres, of which 562,702 acres are BLM-administered public lands.

The northern portion of the HMA consists primarily of consolidated public lands with state school sections and small parcels of private land making up the remaining lands. The southern portion is in the checkerboard land ownership area created by the Union Pacific Railroad grant.

## **Divide Basin HMA** (continued)

Topography within the herd area is generally gently rolling hills and slopes with some tall buttes and streams. Precipitation ranges six-ten inches, predominately in the form of snow.

Most horses are bay, sorrel, black, brown, paint, buckskin, or gray, but many colors and combinations are present. Vegetation in the HMA is dominated by sagebrush and grass intermixed with greasewood and saltbrush. The area also supports significant wildlife populations including elk, deer and pronghorn. Domestic cattle and sheep use the area lightly in summer and moderately in winter.

## **Salt Wells HMA**

**Administered by:** Rock Springs Field Office

**Location:** SE of Rock Springs

**Acres:** nearly 1,173,000

**Elevation:** 6,300 ft. - 7,900 ft.

**AML:** 251-365

**Colors:** bay, brown, black, pinto, buckskin, gray; palomino and sorrel with flaxen tail and mane



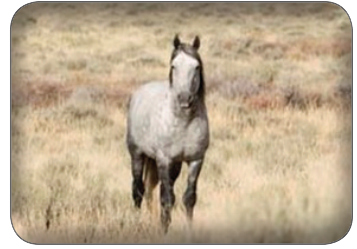
The Salt Wells HMA encompasses nearly 1,173,000 acres, of which over 724,000 acres are BLM-administered public lands. The majority of the herd management area consists primarily of checkerboard land ownership area created by the Union Pacific Railroad grant in the northern portion. Consolidated public lands with state school sections and small parcels of private land making up the majority of lands in the southern section of the HMA.

Topography within the herd area is generally gently rolling hills. There are several small streams passing through the area, and some high ridges. Precipitation ranges 7-10 inches in lower elevations and 15-17 inches at higher elevations, predominately in the form of snow. The area is unfenced other than portions of boundary fence and right-of-way boundaries along Interstate 80. A full range of colors are present.

Vegetation in the HMA is dominated by sagebrush and grass, with juniper, aspen, and conifers interspersed. Horses typically use a high amount of grass species, the most favorable being needlegrass, Indian ricegrass, wheatgrass and sedges. The area supports significant wildlife populations including elk, deer and pronghorn. Domestic cattle and sheep use the area lightly in the summer and moderately in the winter, but primarily cattle use.

## Little Colorado HMA

**Administered by:** Rock Springs Field Office  
**Location:** west of Farson  
**Acres:** over 632,000  
**Elevation:** 6,300 ft. - 7,900 ft.  
**AML:** 69-100  
**Colors:** bay, sorrel, brown, black and gray



The majority of the HMA consists of consolidated public lands along with state school sections and, in the south of the HMA, Bureau of Reclamation lands. The HMA is bounded on the west by the Green River, on the east by Highway 191 and on the north by the Pinedale/Rock Springs Field Office boundary. The area is mostly rolling hills with significant canyons breaking up the area. Precipitation ranges from six-ten inches, predominately in the form of snow. The area is unfenced except for sections of the boundary fence between the Rock Springs and Pinedale Field Offices, and along Highway 191.

Vegetation in the HMA is dominated by sagebrush/grass, with saltbrush, winterfat, greasewood and meadow species. Horses typically use a high amount of grass species, the most favorable being needlegrass, Indian ricegrass, wheatgrass and sedges. The area supports significant wildlife populations including deer, antelope and Greater Sage-Grouse. Domestic cattle and sheep utilize the area lightly in the summer and moderately in the winter.

## White Mountain HMA

**Administered by:** Rock Springs Field Office  
**Location:** NW of Rock Springs  
**Acres:** over 393,000  
**Elevation:** 6,300 ft. - 7,900 ft.  
**AML:** 205-300  
**Colors:** bay, sorrel, red roan, black, gray and pinto



The White Mountain HMA encompasses over 393,000 acres of which over 240,000 acres are BLM-administered public lands. The majority of the HMA consists of checkerboard land ownership within the Union Pacific Railroad grant. Consolidated public lands with state school sections and small parcels of private land make up the remaining lands in the northeast section of the HMA. The HMA is a high plateau that overlooks Rock Springs. Precipitation ranges six-ten inches, predominately in the form of snow. The area is unfenced except for portions of boundary fence and right-of-way boundaries along Interstate 80 and Highway 191 North.

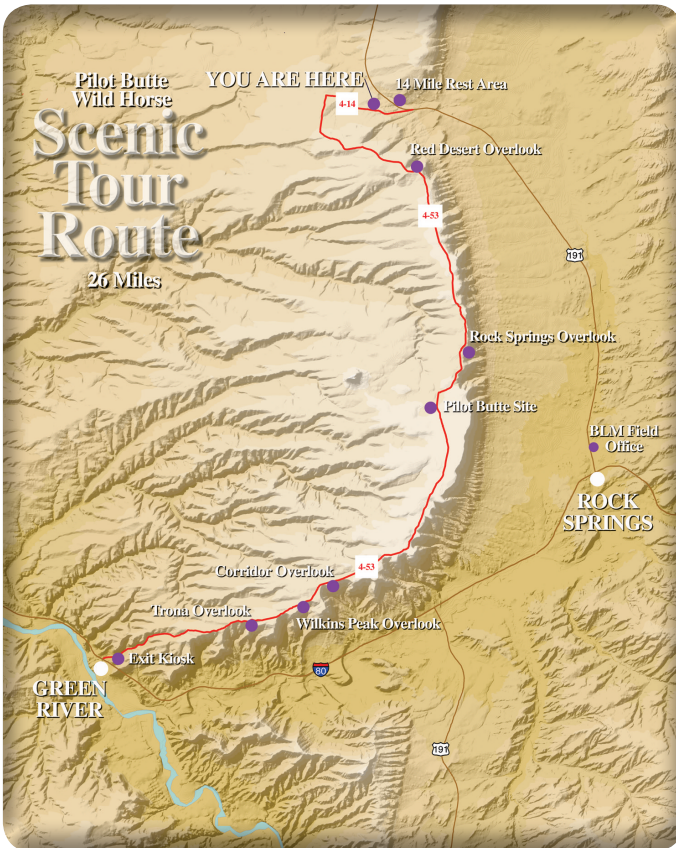
Vegetation in the HMA is dominated by sagebrush and grass, with saltbrush, winterfat and greasewood intermixed. Horses typically use a high amount of grass species, the most favorable being needlegrass, Indian ricegrass, wheatgrass and sedges. The area supports significant wildlife populations including elk, deer and antelope. Domestic cattle and sheep utilize the area lightly in the summer and moderately in the winter.

## Where can I see wild horses?

### Pilot Butte Wild Horse Scenic Loop Tour

The White Mountain HMA is located directly west and to the north of Rock Springs. The area can be accessed from Rock Springs by going north on Highway 191 approximately 14 miles. Turn left (west) onto County Road #14 and follow the Wild Horse Loop Tour signs. The Wild Horse Loop turns left (south) onto County Road #53 and ends up in Green River, Wyo. For a longer and more extensive experience County Road #14 to County Road #5 can be taken. North on County Road #5 will end at State Highway 28 approximately 15 miles west of Farson. South on County Road #5 will end up just west of Green River. County roads are typically improved gravel roads maintained at scheduled intervals. Road conditions vary from very good to rough and rutted from wet weather and possibly impassable. Horses may also be observed on the west side of Highway 191 between Rock Springs and Eden.

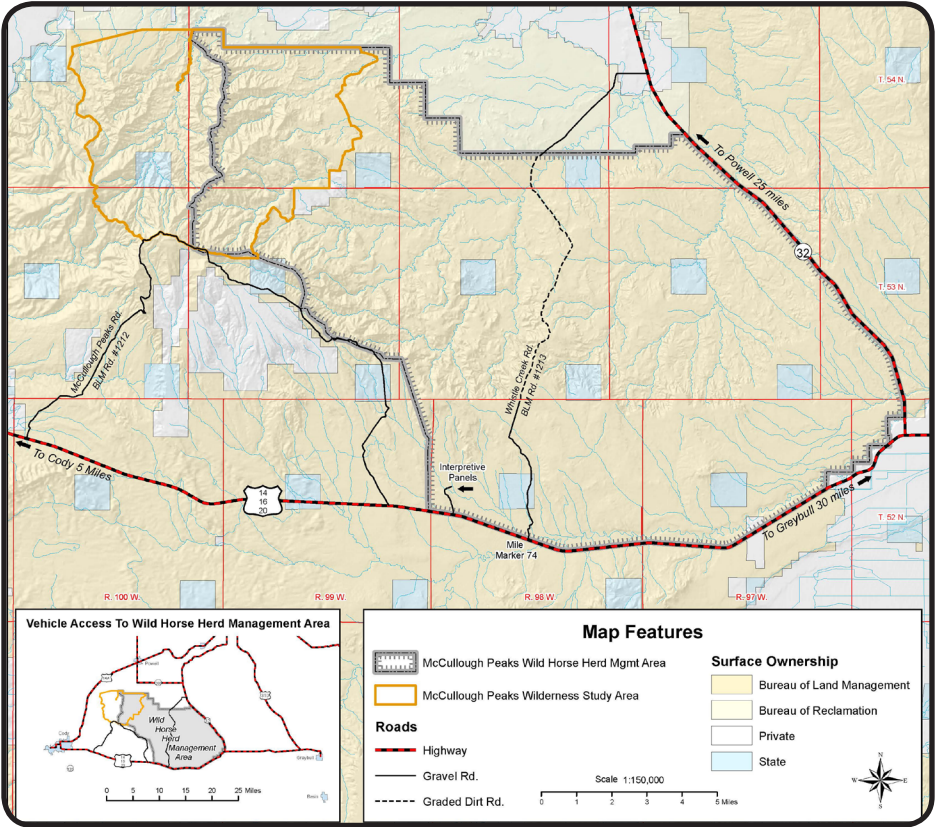
The tour takes about two and a half hours and offers several scenic overlooks including Pilot Butte, Boar's Tusk, Killpecker Sand Dunes, the Overland Trail and the Union Pacific railroad corridors. For more information, please call the Rock Springs Field Office at 307-352-0256.



# Where can I see wild horses? (continued)

## McCullough Peaks Turn-out

From Cody, go east on Highway 14-16-20 to mile marker 72 (about 18 miles) - on the left you will see a gate; often horses are in this area and you can enter if you choose. If not, continue to near mile marker 74 where you will see a kiosk and the Whistle Creek road sign on your left; enter, proceed to pipeline marker 75 (about six miles) and enjoy the remarkable panoramic view of the badlands. Be sure to bring your binoculars and always look on both sides of the roads for the mustangs and other wildlife!





**For more information about the BLM Wyoming Wild Horse and Burro Program, visit our website at [www.blm.gov/wy](http://www.blm.gov/wy) or call 307-775-6256.**

**Follow us and stay updated on wild horse and burro happenings and adoption events.**



