

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-MT-0010-2015-0018-EA**

*(Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range Bait/Water Trapping
Preliminary Environmental Assessment*

Tiered to the

*Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range/Territory Environmental Assessment
And Herd Management Area Plan May 2009)*

This unsigned FONSI and EA (DOI-BLM-MT-0010-2015-0018-EA) proposes to capture numerous individual horses and bands; then, selectively remove up to 25 excess wild horses in accordance with the PMWHR HMAP, beginning in summer 2015. The proposed action would consist of removing excess animals targeting the 1-3 year old cohorts through a combination of bait and water trapping, along with some possible herding to move congregated animals away from or towards traps. The removal would be conducted to the most feasible extent with the removal considerations identified in the HMAP and to meet herd characteristics objectives.

Alternative A would consist of an annual incremental gather of excess wild horses. The herd would be evaluated to determine which additional animals should be removed annually. The techniques would be the same as same as the proposed action.

The EA is available for a 30-day public review and comment period beginning on May 6, 2015 and will end on June 6, 2015. The documents are available on the Billings Field Office website at http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/fo/billings_field_office/wildhorses/pryorherd.html.

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts in the attached EA and consideration of the significance criteria in 40 CFR 1508.27, I have determined that with proposed mitigating measures incorporated as part of the proposed action this would not result in significant impacts on the human environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required.

The decision to approve or deny a gather(s) within PMWHR, and if appropriate a signed FONSI with rationale, will be released after consideration of public comments and completion of the EA.