Appendix Q:
Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range

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1975 Memorandum between Montana and Wyoming - Administration of the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range

APPENDIX 3.5: MEMO ON ADMINISTRATION ON THE PMWHR BETWEEN WYOMING AND MONTANA

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : District Manager, Billings District, Montana
District Manager, Worland District, Wyoming

DATE: MAR 18 1975

FROM : State Director, Montana
State Director, Wyoming

SUBJECT: Administration of the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range

This memo supersedes the memo of January 9, 1969, on the same subject. A new memo is deemed necessary for the dual purpose of 1) Shifting jurisdiction of additional national resource lands from the Worland District to the Billings District, and 2) Broadening and clarifying the nature of the responsibilities shifted.

On September 9, 1968, the Secretary of the Interior established the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range by so designating a block of approximately 29,700 acres of national resource lands in the State of Montana and 2,300 acres in the State of Wyoming. On September 9, 1969, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior designated an additional 1680 acres in the State of Wyoming as a part of the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range. Copies of the Federal Register publications for the two designations are attached.

Since that time, it has been determined and mutually agreed by the State Directors of Wyoming and Montana that an additional 2,360 acres of national resource land in Wyoming and 560 acres of national resource land in Montana be made a part of the Wild Horse Range to facilitate management pursuant to authority contained in Public Law 92-195. A description of this latter 2,360 acres is attached. In total, this will result in approximately 6,340 acres of national resource lands in Wyoming that will be a part of the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range.

Subject to valid existing rights, the lands involved in the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range are to be primarily administered for the protection and management of wild horses, wildlife, watershed, recreation, archaeological and scenic values.

The administration of the range requires close coordination with several State and Federal agencies and with representatives from a number of interest groups. Proper management of the resources makes it necessary for BLM personnel to spend considerable time on the site and to maintain close surveillance on resource conditions. The conditions and requirements of managing this special purpose area have dictated that one office of the Bureau be the focal point for administration.

Since a fraction of the total area is located in the State of Wyoming, and since the critical wildlife habitat is essential to species originating in Montana and the effect of watershed management accrues principally downstream in the State of Montana, it is only logical that the range in total should be administered by the Montana office of the Bureau.

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The logic of total administration by the Montana office has been further demonstrated by the successful management of the range by the Billings office.

In view of the foregoing, it is reaffirmed that the Billings District Office will administer resource management in both the Montana and the Wyoming portions of the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range, including but not limited to grazing, wildlife, soil and watershed conservation, recreation, lands, minerals, forestry, fire, cadastral survey, access, etc. No action responsibilities beyond those functions of application or offer and maintenance of official records is intended by Wyoming offices.

As an example, all applications or offers filed pursuant to the public land and mineral leasing laws for national resource land in Wyoming within the range will be filed in Cheyenne and referred to the District Manager, Billings, Montana, for report and recommendations including any special stipulations necessary to further the objectives of the range.

For the purpose of coordination and record keeping, the State Director of Wyoming will be advised of all transactions involving lands in Wyoming in order that land office plats, statistical reports and improvement records may be kept current. Since the State of Wyoming is concerned with the enforcement of livestock sanitary measures, game management, recreation and its share of revenues from the public lands located within the borders of the state, all such matters including news releases and public information programs affecting Wyoming will be coordinated with the Worland District and State Director of Wyoming.

The contents of this memorandum are subject to periodic review and may be modified by mutual consent of the State Directors.

State Director
Wyoming

State Director
Montana

Attachments: Federal Register publications 9/12/68 and 9/13/69
Description of additional 2,360 Wyoming acres.

A-51

September 12, 1968 Federal Register Notice – Establishment of Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range

FEDERAL REGISTER, VOL. 33, NO. 178—THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1968

MONTANA AND WYOMING

Establishment of Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range

1. Pursuant to the Classification and Multiple Use Act of September 19, 1964 (74 Stat. 986, 43 U.S.C. 1411), R.S. 2478 (43 U.S.C. 1201), the Act of October 15, 1966 (80 Stat. 913; 16 U.S.C. 460t), and the provisions of 43 CFR Subpart 1727, I hereby designate the public lands in the following described area as the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range and establish the rules for management of said Range.

MONTANA PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN

CARBON COUNTY, MONT.

T. 8 S., R. 28 E.,
Sec. 19, E½E½;
Sec. 20, all;
Sec. 21, W½, W½E½;
Sec. 28, W½;
Sec. 29, all;
Sec. 30, E½E½;
Sec. 31 E½E½;
Sec. 32 all;
Sec. 33 W½, W½SE¼.

T. 9 S., R. 27 E.,
Sec. 1, all;
Sec. 2, all;
Sec. 11, all;
Sec. 12, all;
Sec. 13, all;
Sec. 14, all;
Sec. 23, NE¼, E½SE¼;
Sec. 24, all;
Sec. 25, W½, NE¼, N½SE¼, SE¼SE¼.
T. 9 S., R. 28 E.,
Sec. 4, W½, W½E½, E½SE¼, SE¼NE¼;
Secs. 5–36, all lying west of the Bighorn River.
T. 9 S., R. 29 E.,
Sec. 18, all lying west of the Bighorn River.
T 10 S., R. 27 E.,
Sec. 1, lots 1 and 2.

SIXTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN

BIGHORN COUNTY, WYO.

T. 58 N., R. 95 W.,
Sec. 19, lot 1;
Sec. 20, N½;
Sec. 21, N½, SE¼, northeast diagonal ½ of SW¼;
Sec. 22, all;
Sec. 23, W½W½, E½NW¼, NE¼SW¼, N½SE¼;
Sec. 26, NW¼NW¼;
Sec. 27, N½;
Sec. 28, NE¼NE¼.

The area described aggregates approximately 32,000 acres.

The Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range is a Class III natural environment area under the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation system of classification.

2. Subject to valid existing rights the area will be primarily administered for the protection and management of wild horses, wildlife, watershed, recreation, archeological, and scenic values.

3. The Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range shall be in all respects subordinate to the Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area established by the Act of October 15, 1966 (80 Stat. 913; 16 U.S.C. 460t), so far as it affects lands comprising any part of the Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area. Wild horses within the area shall be managed by the Bureau of Land Management, in a manner that is compatible with the purposes for which the Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area was established.

4. The Bureau of Land Management, for the public lands within the Range, and in cooperation with the National Park Service for the lands within the National Recreation Area, will develop and keep current a management plan for the Range which will provide for the management of the wild horses and their habitat within a balanced program which considers all public values and without impairment of the productivity of the land.

5. For purposes of management of the wild horses within the Range, the boundaries thereof shall conform to natural barriers and feasible fencing routes within the area described in paragraph 1 of this order. The lands are more particularly identified and delineated on plats or maps filed in the respective Land Offices. Lands which lie outside the meandering boundaries will be subject to existing domestic livestock grazing under the Taylor Grazing Act.

STEWART L. UDALL,
Secretary of the Interior.

SEPTEMBER 9, 1968.

[F.R. Doc. 68-11056; Filed, Sept. 11, 1968; 8:49 a.m.]

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