United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle_mountain_field.html

In Reply Refer To:
LLNVB0000 (4700)

OCT 19 2012

Dear Reader:

The Preliminary Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Diamond Complex will be available for your review and comment on October 19, 2012. The document may be viewed on-line at http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle_mountain_ field_office.html. Hard copies are available from the Mount Lewis Field Office.

The EA analyzes the potential direct, indirect and cumulative effects to the human environment associated with completion of a wild horse gather. Should a determination be made that implementation of the Proposed Action or alternative actions would not result in "significant environmental impacts" a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be prepared to document that determination, and a Decision Record issued providing the rationale for approving the chosen alternative.

The proposed gather area is located north of Eureka, Nevada in Eureka, White Pine and Elko Counties. The Diamond Complex is comprised of the Diamond, Diamond Hills South and Diamond Hills North Herd Management Areas (HMAs) administered by the Mount Lewis, Egan and Tuscarora Field Offices respectively. The area is managed as a complex due to inherent movement patterns of the wild horses throughout the HMAs. The Mount Lewis Field Office is the lead preparer of the Diamond Complex Gather EA. The upper range of the Appropriate Management Level (AML) for the Diamond Complex is 210 and the 2012 estimated population is 826 wild horses. Please refer to the EA for more detail about these HMAs and the proposed wild horse gather.

This Preliminary EA is being provided to the interested public for review for 30 days from October 19 through November 19, 2012. Please submit comments, issues, alternatives, recommendations, or other input for inclusion into the Final EA. In order to provide meaningful input, please submit comments that are applicable to the proposed wild horse gather, referencing the Preliminary EA where possible.

Interested individuals should mail written comments to the BLM Mount Lewis Field Office, 50 Bastian Road, Battle Mountain, NV, 89820, attention Christopher Cook, Field Manager. Comments may also be provided through e-mail to this address: Diamond_Complex_Gather@blm.gov. Be advised that *only* the comments received by postal mail

or to this specific e-mail address will be considered in the completion of the Final EA, FONSI and Decision.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. If you would rather not remain on the mailing list for the Diamond Complex wild horse gather, and do not wish to receive subsequent documents, please submit your request in writing to the Mount Lewis Field Office.

All comments received during the public comment period will be fully considered and evaluated for preparation of the Final EA. If you have any questions, please contact Shawna Richardson, Mount Lewis Field Office Wild Horse and Burro Specialist, at (775) 635-4181.

Sincerely,

for: Christopher J. Cook
Field Manager,
Mount Lewis Field Office