

November 3, 2009

Mr. Ron Wenker, Director  
Nevada BLM  
P.O. Box 12000  
Reno NV 89520  
Response to: [wfoweb@nv.blm](mailto:wfoweb@nv.blm).

Re: Calico Complex Capture Plan (Fox)

Dear Mr. Ron Wenker:

The Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council is writing in support of the Calico Complex Wild Horse Capture plan. This recommendation is based on the work of the Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon-Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area Committee established in 2000. The Committee contributed to the development of the Black Rock Management Plan and meets several times a year to review BLM programs. Protecting healthy range resources is one of the goals. Recently, the Committee established a wild horse and burro program subgroup because of increasing numbers of horses and their impact on the Black Rock Desert-High Rock-Emigrant Trails NCA's limited range resources. Off highway vehicle use, weeds, and protection of springs are priorities.

On one of the tours several years ago, the Committee visited the site of a proposed water development in High Rock Canyon. The Department of Wildlife was requesting permission to install a water development to serve bighorn sheep. A nearby spring was so heavily used by wild horses that bighorn sheep could not access it. Based on BLM staff assurance that excess horses would be removed the Committee recommended that no guzzler be built. Committee attendees assumed, incorrectly, that excess horse removal would occur more quickly.

The RAC and the committee support the Calico wild horse removal plan and regret the delay.

Sincerely,



John Gebhardt, Chairman  
Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin  
Resource Advisory Council

cc: Gene Seidlitz, DM, Winnemucca BLM