

Table 2.1.25 Proposed RMP and Alternatives – Wild Horses					
PROPOSED RMP	Alternative A (Preferred Alternative)	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D Current Management (No Action)	Alternative E
WILD HORSES — MAP FIGURE 45					
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES					
Provide for interim management of wild horses as the goals and objectives of the Proposed RMP for gathering and removal is completed.					
BONANZA					
This Herd Area will not be managed for wild horses. Any horses present are in trespass.	This Herd Area will not be managed for wild horses.	Same as Alternative A	The Book Cliffs Resource Management Plan Amendment involving the Bonanza Wild Horse Herd Area would be implemented.	There would be no horses managed for in the Bonanza HA.	Same as Alternative C.
This Herd Area will not be managed for wild horses. Any horses present are in trespass.	This Herd Area will not be managed for wild horses.	Same as Alternative A.	A herd of 40 horses, allowing for a maximum of 85, would be re-established that would have the following physical and conformation characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color — bay, buckskin, palomino, red and blue roan, brown, dunn, sorrel, black, and grulla. • Markings — Spanish mustang indicators, such as dorsal and zebra stripes. • Size — 13 to 15 hands high and weighing 800 to 1,000 pounds. • Breed-mixed, including Appaloosa and Spanish mustang. 	There would be no horses managed for in the Bonanza HA.	Same as Alternative C.
The Bonanza HA delineation will continue.	Do not maintain Herd Management Area (HMA).	Same as Alternative A.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The HMA would be maintained with horses. • In an area/s identified where wild horses would be maintained and managed, protect them from unauthorized capture, branding, harassment, or death. • Provide for the appropriate number by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Reducing reproductive rates to levels which would accommodate a minimum four-year gather schedule to allow for maintenance of the AML; ◦ Maintaining the desired sex structure for herds; ◦ Establishing a more “normal distribution” through selective removal; and ◦ Managing horse populations to reflect allocated or available forage. • Maintain herd characteristics and genetic diversity. • Periodically introduce new animals to maintain genetic viability. 	There would be no horses managed for in the Bonanza HA.	Same as Alternative C.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain healthy wild horse populations and continue appropriate testing protocols through close coordination with the State of Utah Veterinarian. Limit management of wild horses to the projected occurrence area of the Herd Management Area (HMA). Manage habitat to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustain established wild horse populations. Achieve and maintain a desired plant community that would provide palatable, nutritious forage for wild horses while sustaining rangeland health and a thriving natural ecological balance. 		
This Herd Area will not be managed for wild horses. Any horses present are in trespass.	This Herd Area will not be managed for wild horses.	Same as Alternative A.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish an AML of 85 wild horses with a minimum herd of 40. Adjustments in the interim AML would be in accordance with criteria outlined under the Forage section. 	There would be no horses managed for in the Bonanza HA.	Same as Alternative C.
Gap fences would not be constructed.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three miles of gap fences would be constructed where cliffs on the north rim of the White River would not provide natural barriers. Cattle guards would be placed on routes where needed to ensure integrity of the fences. 	There would be no horses managed for in the Bonanza HA.	Same as Alternative C.
Additional water developments would not be provided for wild horses.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	25 additional water developments consisting of a combination of reservoirs, shallow wells, and guzzlers would be provided.	There would be no horses managed for in the Bonanza HA.	Same as Alternative C.
Up to 15 reservoirs outside of, but in close proximity to, the Herd Area (HA) boundary would not be fenced.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	The need to fence up to 15 reservoirs in proximity to the Herd Area (HA) boundary would be determined under the Herd Area Management Plans.	There would be no horses managed for in the Bonanza HA.	Same as Alternative C.
There would be no horses managed for in this HA. Any horses present are in trespass.	There would be no horses managed for in this HA.	Same as Alternative A.	A gathering plan would be prepared and approximately 45 horses would be removed every four years; gathered horses would be available for adoption under the BLM's Adopt-A-Horse program.	There would be no horses managed for in the Bonanza HA.	Same as Alternative C.
There would be no horses managed for in this HA. Any horses present are in trespass.	There would be no horses managed for in this HA.	Same as alternative A	A Wild Horse Herd Area Management Plan would be prepared within three years after the Record of Decision (ROD) is signed.	There would be no horses managed for in the Bonanza HA.	Same as Alternative C.

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HILL CREEK					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All wild horses would be removed, the area would be declared unpopulated, and the HMA designation would be removed. The area would only be managed as a HA with no specific management plan for wild horses. Any horses present are in trespass. 	Same as Alternative D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All wild horses would be removed, the area would be declared unpopulated, and the HMA designation would be removed. The area would only be managed as a HA with no specific management plan for wild horses. 	No horse grazing permits would be issued on public lands within the HMA or immediate areas to grazing permittees, including the Northern Ute Tribe.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would be managed as a wild horse HMA. In an area/s identified where wild horses would be maintained and managed, protect them from unauthorized capture, branding, harassment, or death. Provide for the appropriate number by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing reproductive rates to levels which would accommodate a minimum four-year gather schedule to allow for maintenance of the AML; Maintaining the desired sex structure for herds; Establishing a more “normal distribution” through selective removal; and Managing horse populations to reflect allocated or available forage. Maintain herd characteristics and genetic diversity. Periodically introduce new animals to maintain genetic viability. Maintain healthy wild horse populations and continue appropriate testing protocols through close coordination with the State of Utah Veterinarian. Limit management of wild horses to the projected occurrence area of the Herd Management Area (HMA). Manage habitat to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustain established wild horse populations. Achieve and maintain a desired plant community that would provide palatable, nutritious forage for wild horses while sustaining rangeland health and a thriving natural ecological balance. 	Same as Alternative C.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There would be no horses managed for in this HA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An AML of 70 to 145 horses would be established with a minimum herd 	There would be no horses managed for in this HA.	Same as Alternative A.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An AML of 195 horses would be continued; minimum herd size would be 	Same as Alternative A.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any horses present are in trespass. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> of 70. A management objective would be to manage for a 100 animal wild horse herd. 			unspecified.	
No horse grazing permits would be issued on public lands within the former HMA or immediate areas to grazing permittees, including the Northern Ute Tribe.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A horse-grazing permit or permits would be offered on the public lands within the Hill Creek HA (Figure 45) to the Northern Ute Tribe. The permit or permits could collectively total up to a 1,200 AUM allocation for up to 100 tribal horses. 	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Unspecified in the current management plans.	Same as the Proposed RMP.
A Nation-to-Nation agreement with the Northern Ute Tribe and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with adjacent private property owners would be entered into for the gathering of and phasing out of wild and feral horses on federal lands.	A Nation-to-Nation agreement with the Northern Ute Tribe and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with adjacent private property owners would be entered into for range improvements, (i.e., fences) for key areas of management concern and for wild horse and tribal horse management.	A Nation-to-Nation agreement with the Northern Ute Tribe and a MOU with adjacent private property owners would be entered into for range improvements (i.e., fences) for key areas of management concern and for tribal horse management.	Same as Alternative A.	Unspecified in the current management plan	Same as Alternative A.
A gathering plan would be prepared for the removal of wild horses and made available for adoption under the BLM's Adopt-A-Horse program.	A gathering plan would be prepared every four years and approximately 75 horses would be removed and made available for adoption under the BLM's Adopt-A-Horse program.	There would be no horses managed for in this HA.	Same as Alternative A.	Unspecified in the current management plans.	Same as Alternative A.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All wild horses would be removed, the area would be declared unpopulated, and the HMA designation would be removed. The area would only be managed as a HA with no specific management plan for wild horses. Any horses present are in trespass. 	The boundaries of the Herd Management Area would be extended to include the north end of Wild Horse Bench (approximately 30,347 acres) and Big Pack Mountain (approximately 22,865 acres).	There would be no horses managed for in this HA.	Same as Alternative A.	Herd Management Area boundaries would be continued as identified in 1971.	Same as Alternative A.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All wild horses would be removed, the area would be declared unpopulated, and the HMA designation would be removed. The area would only be managed as a HA with no specific management plan for wild horses. Any horses present are in trespass. 	A Wild Horse Herd Management Area Plan would be prepared after the ROD is signed.	There would be no horses managed for in this HA.	Same as Alternative A.	Unspecified in the current management plans.	Same as Alternative A.
WINTER RIDGE					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All wild horses would be removed, the area would be declared unpopulated. The area would only be managed as a HA with no specific management plan for wild horses. Any horses present are in trespass. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An AML of 50 to 100 horses would be established. The herd would not be reduced below 50. Adjustments in the AML would be accordance with criteria outlined under the forage section. 	There would be no horses managed for in this HA.	Same as Alternative A.	An AML would not be established.	Same as Alternative A.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All wild horses would be removed, the area would be declared 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A gathering plan would be prepared and an estimated 50 horses would 	There would be no horses managed for in this HA.	Same as Alternative A.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A gathering plan would be prepared and the herd would be removed. 	Same as Alternative A.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> unpopulated. The area would only be managed as a HA with no specific management plan for wild horses. Any horses present are in trespass. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> be removed approximately every four years. Gathered horses would be available for adoption under the BLM's Adopt-A-Horse program. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gathered horses would be available for adoption under the BLM's Adopt-A-Horse program. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All wild horses would be removed, the area would be declared unpopulated. The area would only be managed as a HA with no specific management plan for wild horses. Any horses present are in trespass. 	The HA would be designated as a HMA.	There would be no horses managed for in this HA.	Same as Alternative A.	The HA would not be designated as a HMA.	Same as Alternative A.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All wild horses would be removed, the area would be declared unpopulated. The area would only be managed as a HA with no specific management plan for wild horses. Any horses present are in trespass. 	A Wild Horse Herd Management Area Monitoring Plan would be prepared after the ROD is signed.	There would be no horses managed for in this HA.	Same as Alternative A.	A Wild Horse Herd Management Area Monitoring Plan would not be prepared.	Same as Alternative A.