

September 2009

BLM Washington, D.C., Public Affairs Office

PRYOR MOUNTAIN GATHER FACTSHEET

- The gather was completed as of Sept. 8, 2009.
- A total of 146 animals were captured, including 15 foals. There were no injuries or deaths.
- 28 were removed from the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range; 29 were removed from Forest Service land outside the horse range. (A total of 57 were removed.)
- 57 will be put up for adoption (all the animals that were removed), including three foals that will be adopted out with their mothers as pairs. The other 12 foals were released back to the range; there were no orphans.
- In all, 125 horses were left on the horse range.
- 42 of the released mares were treated with PZP.
- Nine were not captured on Forest Service land outside the horse range. The nine consist of five bachelors and one band of four horses.
- The sex ratio on the horse range is now 56 percent female and 44 percent male. The long-term objective is 50-50, but that ratio could not be achieved on this gather.
- A larger number of foals than expected have died this year (12 out of 38 total born). Based on observations of the foals and mares captured, BLM specialists believe this is probably because of insufficient milk in mares. Most of the mares have no milk bags and the foals are thin. According to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service veterinarian on site, this is one of the first physiological signs of poor nutrition, which is a result of poor range conditions. (Note: These deaths had occurred *before* the gather operations were conducted. No foals were injured or died as a result of the gather.)
- Cloud was returned to the range.