

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC HEARING

Annual Statewide Public Hearing
Use of Helicopters and Motorized Vehicles
in Wild Horse Management Operations

HELD:

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

TIME:

5:30 p.m.

LOCATION:

Bureau of Land Management
Rock Springs Field Office
280 Highway 191 North
Rock Springs, Wyoming

Reported by:
CRYSTAL HEREFORD, RPR
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A P P E A R A N C E S

Hearing Manager:

Jay D'Ewart
Wild Horse and Burro Specialist
Bureau of Land Management
Rock Springs Field Office
280 Highway 191 North
Rock Springs, Wyoming

I N D E X

COMMENTS BY:	PAGE
Don Schramm (200 2nd Street, Rock Springs, WY)	6

A T T A C H M E N T S

(None.)

1 July 16, 2014
2 Rock Springs, Wyoming
3 5:30 p.m.

3 - - -

4 MR. D'EWART: Good evening and welcome.

5 This public hearing will now come to order.

6 My name is Jay D'Ewart, wild horse and
7 burro specialist with the Bureau of Land Management,
8 Rock Springs Field Office. I will be the hearing
9 manager for tonight's hearing.

10 We will observe several procedural
11 guidelines for this hearing.

12 First, please confine your statements to
13 your views of the Bureau's use of helicopters and
14 motorized vehicles in the management of wild horses and
15 burros. This hearing is not a debate, a trial, or
16 question-and-answer session on wild horse and burro
17 management. It is the opportunity for the BLM to listen
18 to comments for the record on the use of motorized
19 vehicles in the management of wild horses and burros.

20 Each speaker will be allowed two minutes.
21 We will keep time for each speaker and indicate when one
22 minute remains. If you cannot express all your comments
23 in that length of time, you may submit further comments
24 in writing.

25 As the hearing manager, I will recognize

1 only one speaker at a time. There will be no discussion
2 or cross-questioning of the speaker.

3 All participants are required to sign in on
4 the register. I will call each participant in the order
5 on the register to come up to the front of the room and
6 provide their comments. Late arrival participants may
7 sign the register and then will be called to provide
8 their comment.

9 Profanity and vulgar language will not be
10 allowed. Please keep your statements clean, or you will
11 be escorted off the premises.

12 If you have a written statement, you may
13 present them for the record when you come up.

14 Please come up to the front of the room and
15 speak into the microphone where your comments can be
16 heard and recorded. Please state your name, address,
17 and any organization that you might represent.

18 Hearing comments will be available at a
19 later date upon request.

20 If there are any questions about the
21 procedures of this hearing, I will answer them now.

22 (Pause.)

23 If there are no other questions, I will
24 start the informal part of the hearing followed by the
25 public comment portion of the hearing.

1 The Federal Land Policy and Management Act
2 of 1976 authorized the Bureau of Land Management to use
3 helicopters and motorized vehicles in administration of
4 the Wild Horse and Burro Act.

5 The act also requires a public hearing to
6 be held on such use. This annual public hearing this
7 evening, July 16, 2014, is being held in accordance with
8 the regulations to obtain information and your views,
9 comments, and suggestions about the Bureau of Land
10 Management's use of helicopters and motorized vehicles
11 in the management of wild horses within the state of
12 Wyoming.

13 Management of the wild horses includes such
14 things as wild horse removals, aerial census, and
15 population distribution flights of wild horse herd
16 management areas. Motorized vehicles in the form of
17 semi trucks, trailers, and pickup trucks will also be
18 used to transport wild horses in our management actions.

19 At this time the hearing is open to the
20 public to state their comments. Please remember, come
21 up to the front of the room and state your name,
22 address, and any organization you might represent,
23 followed by your statement.

24 As the hearing manager, I will now call on
25 the participants that indicated on the register that

1 they would like to comment to come forward in that order
2 they signed the register.

3 BLM REPRESENTATIVE: This might be a little
4 confusing, but Don Schramm.

5 MR. D'WART: Don Schramm.

6 MR. SCHRAMM: Don Schramm, S-c-h-r-a-m-m,
7 200 2nd Street. I represent Rock Springs Grazing
8 Association and Anadarko Land Corporation.

9 Off the record, in a sense, the history of
10 this horse program in Rock Springs started in 1976 with
11 a contract to an individual who was responsible for
12 gathering a thousand horses in the Granger unit on
13 horseback. He managed to collect 25 before we
14 terminated the contract as not feasible.

15 One year later, the first authorized
16 helicopter roundup was here in Rock Springs, as
17 authorized by FLPMA, and that was conducted, and I was
18 the project manager.

19 Since that time, almost 37 years of
20 helicopter use in the wild horse program, it has proven
21 extremely successful and the only reasonable alternative
22 to gather wild horses. There have been more people
23 injured in plane accidents and ATVs than all the horses
24 in 37 years that have been injured.

25 We continue to support the BLM in the use

1 of helicopters. Thank you.

2 MR. D'EWART: Are there any other people
3 that wish to make comments?

4 (Pause.)

5 Seeing none and hearing none, since there
6 are no further comments, this hearing is now adjourned.
7 Thank you for your participation.

8 I would ask that everyone gather themselves
9 and proceed to the exit. As soon as everyone has exited
10 the building, the restrooms will be checked, and the
11 building will be secured.

12 This hearing is now adjourned. Thank you.

13 (Proceedings concluded at 5:40 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF WYOMING)
) ss.
COUNTY OF UINTA)

I, Crystal Hereford, RPR and Notary Public in
and for the State of Wyoming, do hereby certify:

That said public hearing and comments were
taken down by me in shorthand at the time and place
therein named and thereafter reduced to typewriting
under my direction; that the foregoing transcript
contains a full, true, and accurate record of said
public hearing and comments.

I further certify that I have no interest in
the event of the action.

WITNESS my hand and seal this 16th day of
July 2014.

Crystal Hereford, RPR
and Notary Public in and for
the State of Wyoming

My commission expires: 7-13-2018