



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Nevada State Office  
1340 Financial Boulevard  
Reno, Nevada 89502-7147  
<http://www.blm.gov/nv>

DEC 15 2015

Ryan Shane, President  
Nevada Section-Society for Range Management  
8905 Little Creek Road  
Reno, NV 89508

Dear President Shane:

Thank you for your interest of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) wild horse and burro program. This letter is in response to the Society for Range Management, Nevada Section's letter of concern with the Nevada BLM brochure, "Go Wild Horse and Burro Watching." A little history behind the brochure;

The "Go Wild Horse and Burro Watching" brochure was never intended to be a publication about the plight of the wild horses and burros within Nevada or any other state. Nor was it designed to be a complete document about where wild horses and burros are located within Nevada or a discussion document on BLM's management of these animals.

The brochure was originally collaborated in the late 1990's between several public citizens in northern Nevada to promote viewing of wild horses and burros across Nevada and give visitors a place to view them as well as generate possible tourism dollars within local communities. These individuals asked BLM if they would provide a location or two within each Nevada BLM districts that had relatively easy access and a good chance to see wild horses or burros. Each district supplied the information requested and the original brochure was created. Over the years there have been a couple of revisions and later BLM took over the updating of the brochure with the one that you commented being the latest version.

Though the members of the Nevada Section may have a different opinion, we feel that the brochure serves a useful purpose. Over the years, BLM has received many comments from all over the country about this brochure and how they appreciated a simple information source to guide their potential viewing of wild horses and burros when visiting Nevada.

Supplies of the brochure are low and BLM Nevada is planning to update and reissue the brochure within the coming year. At that time, I assure you, we will take the comments within your letter into consideration as we update the brochure.

For further inquires, please contact Alan Shepherd, Wild Horse and Burro Specialist at 775-861-6469.

Sincerely,

Raul Morales  
Deputy State Director  
Resources and Planning



SRM

SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT

Nevada Section

December 21, 2015

Alan Shepherd  
BLM Nevada State Office  
1340 Financial Blvd.  
Reno, Nevada 89502

Dear Mr. Shepherd:

During a general membership meeting held by the Nevada Section Society of Range Management (SRM) on August 8, 2015, a letter from a Ms. Maggie Orr dated June 24 was reviewed (see attachment). Based on a majority vote from the members present, a motion was passed directing me to write you to communicate the support by the Nevada Section SRM for many of the valid and significant points brought out in Ms. Orr's letter.

While the purpose of this government brochure may have been to simply educate the public on how and where to view wild horses and burros (WHBs) located in Nevada, the Nevada Section SRM maintains a strong belief that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) should emphasize at every opportunity the need to manage WHB populations for a thriving ecological balance and to inform the public on the adverse consequences that result, both in terms of rangeland and WHB health, when this goal is not achieved. As pointed out in Ms. Orr's letter, this important information is lacking in the BLM brochure entitled "Go Wild Horse and Burro Watching!" (GPO: 2013-671-963/P1471).

The Nevada Section SRM recommends that the current brochure be removed from agency offices throughout the State as well as from the website and replaced with a brochure containing a more balanced public message that describes both the historic importance of WHB herds in the west along with the negative impacts improper management can produce. Not updating the brochure and keeping it available will result in a missed opportunity to educate the public regarding the importance of managing for rangeland health and subsequently, for healthy wild horses.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions concerning this letter or if the Nevada Section SRM can be of assistance in the development of an improved and updated version of the current agency brochure.

Sincerely,

Ryan S. Shane, President  
Nevada Section – Society for Range Management  
[rsshane@gmail.com](mailto:rsshane@gmail.com)

CC: Director John Ruhs, BLM Nevada State Office

*The Society for Range Management (SRM) is the professional scientific society and conservation organization whose members are concerned with studying, conserving, managing and sustaining the varied resources found on rangelands, which cover nearly one-half the earth's land area. Established in 1948, the SRM has about 4,000 members in 48 countries, including many developing nations. SRM's members are land managers, scientists, educators, students, producers and conservationists—a diverse membership guided by a professional code of ethics and unified by a strong land ethic.*

<http://www.rangelands.org/nevada/>

<http://www.rangelands.org/>

June 24, 2015

(this letter mailed and emailed on 06/25/2015)

Maggie Orr  
P.O. Box 145  
Caliente, NV 89008

Alan Shepherd  
BLM Nevada State Office  
1340 Financial Blvd.  
Reno, NV 89502

Dear Mr. Shepherd,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the BLM Nevada brochure "Go Wild Horse and Burro Watching!" (GPO: 2013 – 671-963 / P1471). This elegantly designed brochure deals with an emotionally charged situation that has serious consequences which are not revealed.

I offer my compliments on the design. The layout follows a logical progression of easy-to-learn information with interesting color features and flattering photos of the subject to hold interest. The "Viewing and Safety – What to Bring" segment is excellent, particularly the "don't camp near water" statement. Nevertheless, I have the following concerns:

- I understand the map on the inside highlights specific Herd Management Areas (HMAs) where horses have an intriguing ancestry or are more easily accessed by visitors to public lands. However, in doing this, the map implies that these HMAs shown are the only places wild horses or burros are found in Nevada which is misleading as we know they are far more widespread. By not showing the total area of Nevada affected by horses it downplays the size of the problem.
- My main objections concern copy on the opening pages just inside the cover with the blue-green banner at the top. The banner statements are inflammatory, taken together and given the factual situation to be found on public lands and in the BLM budget. Things are not as wonderfully exciting as this implies; our rangelands are at stake.
- The "Federal Management" segment would better serve to use information from the wild horse sections of the National and/or Nevada BLM websites. I found the material on both to be balanced and to the point; such information as copied here from various spots on those websites would be more honest:
  - ✓ *"Wild horses and burros can quickly overpopulate an area. They have long life spans and are not very susceptible to predation or disease. Left unchecked, wild horse and burro numbers can double in four years. That can severely impact desert rangelands with scattered, small water sources like we have in Nevada."*
  - ✓ *Or, "This type of rangeland management is different from management of wildlife, which are controlled by hunters and natural predators, or livestock, which are controlled by grazing permits. To learn more about BLM's grazing program, click here. Because of Federal protection and a lack of natural predators, wild horse and burro herds can double in size about every four years."*
  - ✓ *Or, "Much of the West is suffering ongoing severe drought. In the areas hardest hit by drought and where wildfires have resulted in reduced forage, the health of wild horses and burros will likely decline. Many livestock permittees have already taken voluntary steps to significantly reduce the number of cattle grazing on public lands as a result of drought. Limits on*

the Wild Horse and Burro Program's budget and on the number of additional horses and burros that can be accommodated in off-range holding space means that fewer animals will be removed than in previous years."

Or, "The BLM estimates that 49,209 wild horses and burros are roaming on BLM-

managed rangelands in 10 Western states, based on the latest data available, compiled as of March 1, 2014. Wild horses and burros have virtually no natural predators and their herd sizes can double about every four years. As a result, the BLM, as part of its management of public rangeland resources, must remove thousands of animals from the range each year to control herd sizes."

The American public deserves to have accurate, balanced information to make decisions for when they vote or advise agencies or representatives of their opinions. They need to know the reality of the costs involved and damage caused to Nevada's rangelands by the numbers of wild horses and burros present. I believe they should receive this information from the BLM and not just hear emotional and inaccurate appeals from the wild horse interest groups. This brochure glamorizes a situation that has many problems associated with it. The reality is not as pretty as this brochure implies. Our rangelands are at stake; the BLM has management authority over much of Nevada's rangelands, it is important for the BLM to send a consistent message concerning proper management of those rangelands.

One brochure in and of itself is not a big deal, but what does this one say about the BLM approach to managing wild horses and burros, your charge and your charge alone? The argument for BLM should always be about conservation and management of our valuable rangelands. I ask that you pull this brochure from your offices and website now and create one that presents the complete picture.

Sincerely,

Maggie Orr

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

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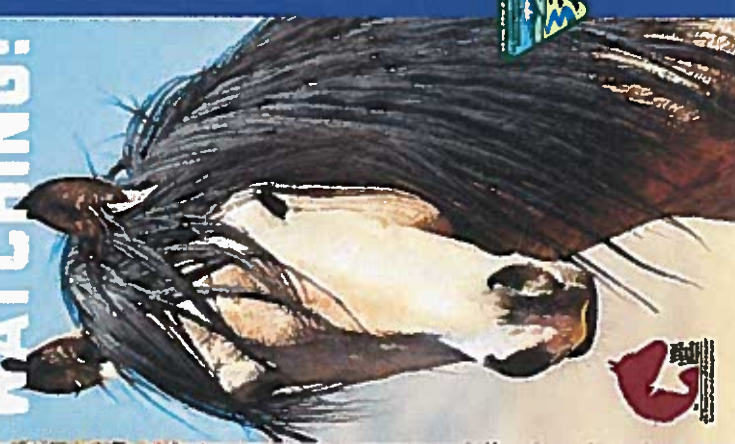
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DESIGN BY: MESHCREATIVE.WH.MESHCREATIVE.COM  
PHOTOS BY: PHILLIP ADAMS, NEVADA; NICOLAS PHOTOGRAPHY  
AND JOHN AXTELL - BLM NEVADA  
BLM/NV/NV/IG/13-13-1800

**BLM Nevada**

**GO WILD AND HORSE AND BURRO WATCHING!**



THE SIGHT OF A WILD HORSE, HEAD HELD HIGH, EARS ALERT, LONG MANE SPILLING OVER FOREHEAD AND NECK, IS THRILLING TO SEE. THE MAJESTY, WILDNESS AND WARINESS OF THESE ANIMALS STIR EMOTIONS AND, IN ONE'S HEART, THERE IS A KNOWING THAT THESE ANIMALS BELONG IN THE LANDSCAPE OF THE WEST.



**FEDERAL MANAGEMENT**

Nevada is the Silver State, but could also be called the Wild Horse and Burro State since about half of the nation's wild horses and wild burros free-roam on public lands primarily managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Nevada. The places where most of the wild horses and burros are found are identified as herd management areas, or HMAs. The HMAs highlighted in this brochure offer good chances of seeing these animals. They move with the seasons seeking food and water so they will be found in different parts of the HMAs throughout the year.

**VIEWING AND SAFETY -- WHAT TO BRING:**

- Binoculars
- Camera
- Sturdy shoes
- Plenty of food and water
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Warm clothing or layers
- Hat
- Durable tires and a spare tire
- Full tank of gas
- Coverage can be unreliable



**PLEASE DON'T APPROACH WILD HORSES OR BURROS.**

It is against Federal law to harass or remove a wild horse or burro from public land.

Nevada State Law makes it illegal to camp within 300 feet of a spring or water hole as this will prevent animals from approaching these life-giving sources.

# COLORS AND PATTERNS

Seeing the variety of colors and markings is one of the interesting things to do while watching wild horses and burros as you travel around Nevada!

Predominant colors of wild horses are sorrels, bays and browns, but there are many variations of colors throughout Nevada's HIMA.



## WILD HORSES

**Appaloosa:** Colorful, spotted or roan coat patterns, striped hooves, and mottled or spotted skin.

**Bay:** Red or brown with black points

**Black:** Solid black, including points

**Blue Roan:** Mixture of white and black hairs on the body, and darker on head and lower legs.

**Brown:** Body is brown or black with light areas around muzzle, eyes, flank, and inside upper legs, with black points

**Buckskin:** Tan with black points

**Dun:** Red, brown or tan with a dorsal stripe and possible striping on the legs.

**Gray:** Can vary from almost white to almost black. Gray horses tend to lighten up as they age or change color yearly.

**Grullor:** The term is Spanish for mouse colored. Smokey gray with a dorsal stripe and black points

**Palomino:** Golden yellow with white mane and tail.

**Pinto:** Large solid patches of white and another body color.

**Red Roan:** Mixture of white with red hairs, red on head and lower legs, red or flaxen mane and/or tail.

**Sorrel:** Most are entirely reddish in color.

**White:** Various shades from bright white to pale tan



## WILD BURROS

**Gray:** Various shades of gray with white muzzle. Most have a visible dorsal stripe and lines down their withers/shoulders that form a cross pattern.

**Pinto:** Large solid patches of white and another body color.

**Black:** Black, usually with white muzzle, eyes and ears.

**Maltese:** Rare color pattern of solid black, brown or gray, including the muzzle.

**Pinkie:** Usually a roan pattern of reddish pink with white

## MARKINGS TO LOOK FOR

### DORSAL STRIPE

A stripe down the animal's backbone.

### POINTS

Legs from knees down, mane and tail.

## WHAT IS A WILD HORSE?

Nevada's wild horses and burros were brought here by miners, ranchers, missionaries, and others. These wild animals now reflect the many colors, sizes and ancestral breeds brought here during the settlement of the West. You might see rare Curly horses with their curly rings of hair all over their bodies—as well as curly eyelashes, kinky manes and tails and curly hair in their ears. Another interesting aspect of these animals is that—like the poodles of the dog world—they are hypoallergenic!

## WHAT IS A BURRO?

Burros grow to be about half the size of a horse. Males are called jacks, and females are called jennies. The differences between horses and burros are easy to see and hear. Burros have longer ears and shorter manes and tails and they bray instead of whinny.

Most burros, regardless of coat color, will have dorsal stripes and shoulder crosses, dark ear marks, as well as light points of white muzzle and eye rings, and white belly and inner legs.

## WHAT IS A BAND?

Wild horses and burros form small bands or family groups consisting of a dominant stallion, a lead mare, other mares and their young. When young males are about two years old and weaned, they are forced to leave the band. These adolescent studs join bachelor bands with other males.

By watching a band of wild horses closely, you may be able to identify the lead mare, the dominant stallion, or a bachelor band.

## ELY DISTRICT 775.899.1000

### 1 PANCAKE HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

This is one of the remaining areas where herms with curly horns can still be seen in the wild. These herms are primarily descendants of mining camp, with influences from local ranch herms, sheepherders' herms and Calvey herms. The herd derives its name from the Panake Mountains Range that runs through the middle of the HMA.

How to get there

- From Ely, drive west on U.S. Highway 90 over Little Antelope Summit. At the base of the summit on the west side take the Belmont/Green Springs turnoff south off of U.S. Highway 90. Once leaving the highway, visitors are within the Herd Management Area. This road runs down the eastern portion of the HMA moving from the center. Following this road south, it leads to U.S. Highway 6, about 60 miles southeast of Ely.

### 2 SILVER COBB HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

The wild herms here are descendants of ranch stock, miners, Calvey herms and visitors to the area. The herd derives its name from the Silver King Mining District of the late 1800s.

How to get there

- From Ely, drive south about 60 miles on U.S. Highway 93 to Mohr. Turn west on the main road for about 11 miles, which leads into the HMA.
- From Caliente, drive north about 30 miles on U.S. Highway 93 to the Beale Wells turnoff. As soon as you leave the highway you are within the HMA.

## ELKO DISTRICT 775.763.0800

### 1 ANTELOPE VALLEY HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

This herd is comprised of remaining herms that were rounded out for better breeding. The wild herms are descendants of herms used by homesteaders, ranchers and miners. There is some evidence that the Army Remount Service was active in at least part of the area during the early 1900s to the early 1940s.

How to get there

- From Interstate 80, exit at West Wendover in the Sherman 93. Take Sherman 93 South to the Kinley Mountain turnoff and head east.
- What to know before you get there: Herms are very shy in the summertime and muddy and rutted in the fall and spring. Wintertime brings more to northern Nevada and winter tires or chains are suggested.

### 2 SPRUCE-PEDDIP HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

This herd is comprised of remaining herms that were rounded out for better breeding. The wild herms are descendants of herms used by homesteaders, ranchers and miners. There is some evidence that the Army Remount Service was active in at least part of the area during the early 1900s to the early 1940s.

How to get there

- From Interstate 80, exit at West Wendover on Highway 93. Approximately 40 miles south, turn into the Goshute Valley turnoff and head east.
- What to know before you get there: Herms are very shy in the summertime and muddy and rutted in the fall and spring. Wintertime brings more to northern Nevada and winter tires or chains are suggested.

## WINNEMUCCA DISTRICT 775.823.1000

### 7 TREASURE MOUNTAIN HERD MANAGEMENT AREA/PORTER SPRINGS

Herms within the HMA are descendants of ranch herms that either escaped or were released into the area. Herms within the HMA are descendants of ranch herms that were rounded out for better breeding. The wild herms are descendants of herms used by homesteaders, ranchers and miners. There is some evidence that the Army Remount Service was active in at least part of the area during the early 1900s to the early 1940s.

How to get there

- From Interstate 80, travel to Lovelock. Take exit 106 to Lovelock. Lovelock. Stay on Main Street toward City Hall, then turn right onto Central Ave. Travel 1.8 miles to Pitt Road, NV399. Turn left onto NV399. Travel about 12 miles, then take the Seven Trails Road (this is a gravel road). After about 6 miles, look for the Seven Trails/Verona/Porter Springs Road and turn left. After the left turn, stay on the main road, traveling over the Seven Trails Range. Once on the west side of the range, Porter Springs will be on the right side of the road before the turn.

What to know before you get there: On Porter Springs, there are different roads that lead to Porter Springs, Winnemucca or Pyramid Lake. There main gravel roads in Truckee County are well maintained.

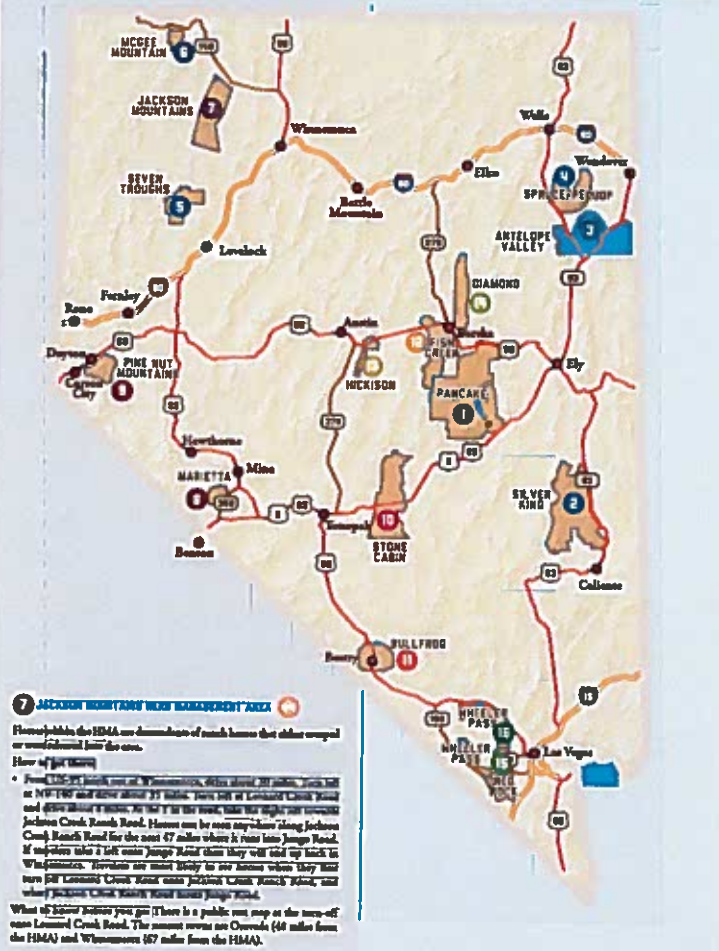
### 8 MCCOY MOUNTAIN BUREAU HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

Herms within the HMA are the descendants of ranch animals used by miners and sheep ranchers.

How to get there

- From U.S. 93 south out of Winnemucca, drive about 30 miles. Turn left at NV-140 and drive 9.3 miles. Turn left at Dumble Junction to stay on NV-140 and drive 9.3 miles. Turn left on Kinley Creek Road. The McCoy Mountain HMA is the mountains on the right (west). From Kinley Creek Road, herms can be seen on both sides of the road for the next seven miles.

What to know before you get there: All roads mentioned on state and county roads, but few are unmaintained, so 10-ply tires are recommended. The McCoy Mountain HMA for herms is bounded on the east and west by the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge, administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



## CARSON CITY DISTRICT 775.888.8000

### 1 MARIETTA NATIONAL GAME RANGE

Marietta is the nation's first federally designated Wild Horse Range. This designation means the area may be managed primarily, but not necessarily exclusively, for wild horses. One reason for the designation is the unique opportunity available for public viewing of the herd and its habitat. The herms roam freely over the ruins of the historic Nevada mining town of Marietta and the seasonally changing Tule Marsh. The Marietta Wild Horse Range was publicly dedicated in 1991, the 20th anniversary of the passage of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act.

How to get there

- Travel south from Hawthorne on U.S. Highway 95. Turn southwest onto State Route 360 towards Beatty, California. Then turn west onto the maintained dirt county road to Marietta. It will take just over an hour to drive the 55 miles to the turnoff at Marietta from Hawthorne.
- Traveling north on Highway 95/Highway 6 from Tonopah take Highway 6 west to the 360 turnoff. Continue south to the Marietta turnoff.

What to know before you get there: Marietta is an old mining district, so we caution to there are open mine shafts, shaly buildings, unstable rock outcrops and outcrops are common. Some of the property in Marietta is private, so visitors need to respect the outdoors and its property.

### 2 PINE NUT HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

Located in the Pine Nut Mountains Range of Lyon, Douglas and Carson counties about five miles east of Carson City, this HMA encompasses approximately 90,000 acres. The herms generally stand 13 to 14 heads tall (53 to 56 inches measured from the ground to the top of their withers). It is generally accepted that these herms originated from escaped ranch stock and a Shoshone pony herd herms which contained for their generally small size and stubborn nature.

How to get there

- From U.S. Highway 50 in Dayton, go east on Dayton Valley Road about four miles to be intersected at Bullion Road. This is on the south side of a residential area with large, scattered lots with a view of public lands to the south of the road where fence along the south side of Dayton Valley Road. Herms are sometimes visible against the hills to the east and south.

What to know before you get there: Deer in the close proximity to Carson City and Dayton, herms can sometimes be seen from gravel roads. The recommended observation point is at the far corner and of Dayton Valley Road.

## BATTLE MOUNTAIN DISTRICT 775.635.6000

### 10 STONE CABIN HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

Wild herms in this HMA can have a special "Stone Cabin Gray" when Stone Cabin Gray are thought to be offspring of a parent gray throughout the famous gunfighter Jack Longmont started herms in the valley. Stone Cabin Gray are distinctive because they are born dark, almost black, and then lighten up with age to be nearly completely gray or white. These gray mixed with fine throughout stock from the grandfather of the current Stone Cabin number to produce some great herms.

How to get there

- The Stone Cabin HMA is located approximately 28 miles east of Tonopah in Nye County, east of the Sibley Summit on Highway 6.
- What to know before you get there: In Stone Cabin Valley, wild herms usually can be observed in the valley on the north or south side of the highway, and sometimes from the highway. Exploration throughout the valley will likely produce numerous sightings of wild herms grazing or resting from feeding areas to water, particularly on the east side of the valley near Clifford Mine. The gravel roads are maintained and usually in good condition depending on recent weather activity.

### 11 BULL/BOYS BUREAU HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

Herms were brought to the area by local owners. They were used by mining prospectors for carrying loads and riding.

How to get there

- The Bulling HMA surrounds the town of Beatty. The best possible place to view herms outside Beatty is along the Amargosa River in the morning and late evening. From Beatty, travel north on U.S. Highway 95 for 5-10 miles.

What to know before you get there: Herms are locally known as the "Beatty herms" and can be seen around town. The gravel roads are in fair to improved condition; however, high-clearance vehicles are recommended.

## FISH CREEK HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

Through time, curly herms are known to exist within this HMA, and since the mid-1990s, the HMA has been named as the "Home of the Curly Herms." According to the book "The Dinosaurs and the American Curly Herms" by Dale E. Wooley, Tom Dixon was one of the largest herms breeders in the Snake area, creating more than 10,000 herms. He is said to have brought back these curly herms from a horse trader in Idaho in early 1874 that was reported to have been from Reno. One of these herms was released to the north in the Buckskin Plateau area, located between Kelly Creek and Black Creek in the vicinity of Two Horns Canyon. Another was released in White Pine County. The following year young curly herms were seen in both regions and were later seen in Fish Creek Valley.

How to get there

- From Beatty, drive about 15 miles east of Beatty on U.S. Highway 90. Once past Roberts Mountain Road on the right, travel one more mile and turn left onto the gravel road. Follow this gravel road south into Antelope Valley and watch for wild herms to the left in the foothills. Continuing south will take you into the Stone Cabin HMA, then further south into the Little Fish Lake HMA, Stone Cabin HMA and finally Highway 6, east of Tonopah.

What to know before you get there: Gravel roads are in fair to improved condition.

### 12 HOCKESSON BUREAU HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

Herms were brought to the area by local owners. They were used by mining prospectors for carrying loads and riding. Sponsor Hot Springs area is notable feature in the area that has been developed by locals and other visitors for fun. The herms sometimes use the overflow of the springs, and their tracks can be observed in the area.

How to get there

- The HMA is located 20 miles east of Austin. Travel east on U.S. Highway 50 to the junction with Highway 376 to the south. Turn right and travel approximately one-quarter of a mile to a well-graded gravel road on the left. Follow this road about 2.5 miles, and either turn left, right or continue on into the foothills to view the herms.

What to know before you get there: The herms have three sources of water: Joe's Well, Dunes Well and the Spencer Hot Springs. All three of these water sources are located in close proximity to each other, and this is a great area to see them. The gravel roads are in fair to improved condition.

### 13 DIAMOND HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

Early visitors of the Snake area were involved with ranching, mining, wood cutting and production. Herms were an integral part of everyday life in the earlier established homesteads in the area. The herms have today no descendants of these herms, which escaped or were released once established visitors came into wild animals in the area.

How to get there

- Travel north of Beatty on Highway 279 approximately 17 miles to Soffer Brown Road, which turns off to the east (right). Follow this road approximately four miles to a main gravel road running the valley to the east. Turn this road across the valley to the Diamond Mountains Range approximately 15 miles to the gravel road that travels along the foothills of the mountains.

What to know before you get there: Gravel roads are in fair to improved condition.

## SOUTHERN NEVADA DISTRICT 702.625.5000

### 14 RED ROCK HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

The Red Rock HMA is home to several groups of wild herms and horses. The local population originated from animals that escaped or were abandoned by miners coming to the Las Vegas valley, ranchers, prospectors that originally mined in this region and Native American tribes.

How to get there

- From Las Vegas, take Charleston Blvd. west until you reach State Route 159. State Route 159 will make a loop through a portion of the HMA and then reverts back into Las Vegas on State Route 160 (Dixie Diamond Road).

What to know before you get there: The wild herms primarily live south of State Route 160. The majority of the wild herms live north of the highway. One of the best places in Red Rock Canyon to look for the wild herms is between Spring Mountains Ranch State Park and the small community of Blue Diamond on SR-159 where they frequently visit at the springs north of town and graze by the road.

### 15 WHEELER PASS HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

This wild herms originated from animals that escaped or were abandoned by miners coming to the Las Vegas valley, ranchers, prospectors that originally mined in this region and Native American tribes. Do not be surprised to see more with fenceposts on their left hip or left shoulder. These herms were named with a fertility symbol. The fertility symbol herms is intended to show the population growth and does not mean the wild herms are their herms.

How to get there

- One of the best places to see wild herms is near Cold Creek, a small community about 45 miles north of Las Vegas. From the northwest side of Las Vegas, take U.S. 95 north about 20 miles, then turn left on State Route 172 (Cold Creek Rd.). Travel about 15 miles, and the paved road ends at the Cold Creek community.

What to know before you get there: Wild herms can be seen from about four miles east from Cold Creek. There are several springs, creeks and fire suppression ponds near Cold Creek that supply water to the wild herms and wildlife in the area. Cold Creek fits within the Wheeler Pass HMA and the Spring Mountains Wild Horse Territory (WHT). The BLM manages the HMA, while the U.S. Forest Service manages the WHT and the herms migrate back and forth in the area.

4WD VEHICLE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

