



Wyoming  
DEPARTMENT OF *Agriculture*

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*The Wyoming Department of Agriculture is dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources and quality of life.*

August 10, 2017

Wild Horse and Burro Specialist  
Rock Springs Field Office  
Bureau of Land Management  
280 Highway 191 North  
Rock Springs, WY 82901

RE: Environmental Assessment: DOI-BLM-WY-D040-2017-0022EA (Adobe Town, Salt Wells Creek and Great Divide Basin Herd Management Areas Wild Horse Gather).

To whom it may concern,

Following are the Wyoming Department of Agriculture's (WDA) comments pertaining to the proposed Adobe Town, Salt Wells Creek and Great Divide Basin Herd Management Area (HMA) Wild Horse Gather Environmental Assessment (EA).

Our comments are specific to our mission: dedication to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources, and quality of life. As wild horses affect our agriculture industry, our natural resources, and welfare of our citizens, it's important you continue to inform us of proposed actions and decisions and continue to provide us the opportunity to express pertinent issues and concerns.

The WDA fully supports the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) proposal to remove wild horses from these HMAs to low Appropriate Management Level (AML). The EA does an excellent job of identifying how the alternatives will affect the various resources on the ground. We appreciate BLM's intent to remove all wild horses from areas adjacent to the HMAs. However, the EA does not identify the number and location of wild horses outside the HMAs. We strongly suggest the BLM work with livestock permittees and adjacent landowners to identify locations of wild horses outside of the HMAs when implementing the gather.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the EA and the BLM's desire to comply with applicable laws and regulations associated with wild horse and rangeland management, and the 2013 Consent Decree with Rock Springs Grazing Association. We strongly support the active management of wild horses and the removal of excess wild horses from the range. If you have any questions or developments regarding this EA please contact Chris Wichmann, Natural Resources and Policy Manager, at (307)777-6576.

Sincerely,

Doug Miyamoto  
Director

DM/cw

CC:	Governor's Policy Office	Wyoming State Grazing Board
	Rocky Mountain Farmers Union	Wyoming Stock Growers
	Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts	Wyoming Wool Growers
	Wyoming Game and Fish Department	Wyoming Board of Agriculture

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