

BASIN AND RANGE NATIONAL MONUMENT

The BLM manages public lands within the monument in accordance with the 2015 Presidential Proclamation and Ely Resource Management Plan signed in 2008, as amended.

ELY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The November 2019 Greater Sage-Grouse Plan Approved Resource Management Plan has been placed under a preliminary injunction by the U.S. District Court for Idaho. Therefore, the September 2015 Greater Sage-Grouse Approved Resource Management Plan, which amended the Ely District Resource Management Plan (RMP) signed in 2008, is now in effect.

The BLM has published for public review and comment a draft supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) for management of Greater Sage-Grouse habitat on public lands in Nevada and Northeastern California. The comment period concludes April 6, 2020. The draft SEIS addresses issues identified in the order issued by the U.S. District Court for Idaho, which affects BLM sage-grouse plans in Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, Utah and Wyoming, as well as Nevada/Northeastern California. The BLM has likewise published for public review and comment draft SEIS' for Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah and Oregon. The public comment periods conclude April 6, 2020.

ENERGY

Electrical Transmission Development –

TransWest Express Project: The BLM is reviewing the Plan of Development before issuing a Notice to Proceed. The Record of Decision for the TransWest Express Transmission Project was published in the Federal Register in December 2016. The 60-day appeal period closed Feb. 15, 2017. The BLM Wyoming State Office is the project lead. The 730-mile transmission line project will extend from Wyoming, through Colorado and Utah, to southern Nevada through the southeast corner of Lincoln County and deliver up to 3,000 megawatts of electric power generated by wind energy to major load centers, including Las Vegas and San Diego, Calif.

Renewable Energy Development –

Invenergy LLC Solar Project: Following a December pre-application meeting with BLM Caliente Field Office staff, Invenergy, LLC submitted alternative locations for a proposed solar energy installation. One site is in Lincoln County and was relocated outside of and adjacent to the Beaver Dam Slope Area of Critical Environmental Concern. The second site is location is in Clark County.

FIRE MANAGEMENT

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation –

Gregerson Fire: The BLM in January 2020 aerially seeded approximately 3,000 of the 3,320 acres of public lands burned in the 2019 Gregerson Fire. The ESR plan, completed in summer 2019, also provides for weed treatments/inventory, a livestock grazing closure and treatment effectiveness monitoring. The Gregerson Fire burned mule deer and desert bighorn sheep habitat within the Delamar Mountains Wilderness in Lincoln County, about 20 miles southeast of Alamo.

White Cloud Fire: The BLM in January 2020 aerially seeded 422 of the 428 acres of public lands burned in the 2019 White Cloud Fire. In November, the BLM installed sagebrush seed caches in the burn area. Both treatments are part of the White Cloud Fire Emergency Stabilization and Burned Area Rehabilitation CX (categorical exclusion) completed in October 2019. The CX, which includes a livestock grazing closure, also provides for weed treatments/inventory, and treatment effectiveness monitoring. The BLM is coordinating treatments with the Nevada Department of Wildlife. The White Cloud Fire burned Greater Sage-grouse, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk and sheep habitat in north Spring Valley, approximately 30 miles northeast of Ely.

Goshute Cave Fire: In coordination with the Nevada Department of Wildlife, the BLM in mid-November 2019 planted willows to stabilize streams in Goshute Creek. Hazardous tree felling was completed in late-October 2019. The BLM will also treat for noxious weeds. The Goshute Cave Fire burned general Greater Sage grouse and critical mule deer winter and summer habitat in and outside the Goshute Canyon Wilderness in White Pine and Elko counties, about 55 miles north of Ely.

Fuels Reduction/Habitat Restoration –

Cave and Lake Valley Watershed Restoration Project: The BLM and Nevada Department of Wildlife in late October 2019 finished hand-thinning pinion-juniper on approximately 2,000 acres of public land in northwest Cave Valley. The BLM in October and early November 2019 chained and seeded approximately 2,200 acres of pinion-juniper in Cave and Lake Valleys. Approximately 2,200 acres remain to be treated. The BLM will begin treating the remaining acreage in October 2020. Beginning in March 2020, the BLM will masticate pinion-juniper as part of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act-funded Table Mountain Corridor Project (the BLM has already treated 85 of the 150 targeted acres). The BLM in November 2018 chained pinion-juniper on, and applied seed to approximately 2,130 acres of the public lands located near the Atlanta Road in Lake Valley, south of Ely, Nev. The project goal is to reduce catastrophic wildfire risk and improve Greater Sage-grouse habitat.

Combs Creek: The BLM in September 2019 finished masticating pinion-juniper on 200 acres of the public lands in south Butte Valley, northwest of Ely, Nev. The BLM in summer 2020 plans to masticate pinion-juniper on an additional 100 acres. The BLM, with assistance from the Great Basin Institute and Nevada Conservation Corps, has so far

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hand thinned or masticated trees on about 5,700 acres of the public lands. Masticated acreage was seeded with assistance from the Nevada Department of Wildlife, which provided Heritage Fund Program dollars through the White Pine County Wildlife Advisory Board. When the multi-year project is complete, the BLM will have selectively thinned pinion-juniper on up to 7,000 acres of the public lands to improve Greater Sage-grouse habitat.

Douglas Canyon Habitat Improvement Project: The BLM is completing NEPA documentation to complete approximately 3,000 acres of mastication near Douglas Canyon, approximately 30 miles south of Ely, Nev. A decision is expected by mid-summer 2020, and implementation could begin as early as winter 2020. The project is a collaborative effort by the BLM, Nevada Department of Wildlife and private landowners in Douglas Canyon. The goal of the project is to improve habitat for wildlife while reducing the threat of catastrophic fire.

Duck Creek Basin Fuels Reduction and Habitat Improvement Project: Project implementation is scheduled to begin in fall 2020. When complete, the project will improve Greater Sage-grouse habitat and create fuels breaks within the urban interface in Duck Creek Basin, northeast of Ely, Nev. It will compliment already-completed work on neighboring Forest Service land and private property. The BLM issued the final decision on Aug. 23, 2019. The 30-day public review and comment period on the preliminary environmental assessment concluded July 23, 2019. The final EA and Decision Record are available online at <https://go.usa.gov/xmqH6>

Egan and Johnson Basins Restoration Project: The BLM in January 2020 finished hand thinning and masticating pinion-juniper in Egan and Johnson basins, about five miles west of Cherry Creek, Nev. Aerial seeding of the masticated areas was also completed in January 2020. In August 2020, the BLM and Nevada Department of Wildlife will hand thin pinion-juniper over approximately 1,093 acres of the Nine-mile chaining completed in 1998. The multi-year project aims to treat up to 24,375 acres of an 84,675-acre project area to reduce catastrophic wildfire risk and improve Greater Sage-grouse habitat through the use of manual and mechanical tree thinning, invasive plant and noxious weed treatments, and prescribed fire use.

Kern Mountain Restoration Project: The BLM in December 2019 burned slash piles of pinyon-juniper in the Kern Mountains, about 80 miles northeast of Ely. The BLM and Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) in fall 2019 thinned pinion-juniper on approximately 1,000 acres of the project area. NDOW and BLM in summer 2020 will begin masticating pinion-juniper on approximately 400 acres and hand thinning on approximately 2,000 acres in the Kern Mountain area. Project goals are to reduce fuel loading and improve vegetation understory and big game habitat. The project has received Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) funding.

Long and Ruby Valley Watershed Restoration Project: The BLM is reviewing comments received on the preliminary environmental assessment. The public review and comment period concluded September 30. Pending the review, a decision and final EA is expected to be released by mid-March 2020.

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Mill Creek Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Mastication: The BLM issued a Decision and Determination of NEPA Adequacy for the Mill Creek WUI Mastication Project on Aug. 27, 2019. Implementation is planned for winter 2020. The project allows for the mastication and seeding of up to 330 acres near Mill Creek, approximately eight miles northwest of Baker, Nev. Project goals are to reduce the threat of a wildfire spreading from public to private land or vice versa.

Newark and Huntington Watershed Restoration Project: The BLM in late 2020 will hand thin pinion-juniper on 1,200 acres of the public lands near Buck Mountain, about 70 miles northwest of Ely, Nev. The BLM, in cooperation with the Nevada Department of Wildlife, in 2018 selectively hand thinned pinion-juniper on approximately 7,800 acres in southern Newark Valley. The Bald Mountain Restoration Project, completed in 2018 and which thinned trees on an additional 1,600 acres, is part of the Newark and Huntington Watershed Restoration Project.

Overland Pass Habitat Restoration Project: The BLM and Nevada Department of Wildlife in September 2019 finished hand thinning pinion-juniper on approximately 4,700 acres of in the Ruby Valley and Overland Pass areas, 80 miles northwest of Ely, Nev. The BLM in fall 2020 expects to treat approximately 400 acres through mastication and seeding in areas of dense pinion-juniper. The treatments are part of the Overland Pass Habitat Improvement Project, which is a collaborative restoration project between the BLM, Nevada Department of Wildlife and Forest Service.

Range Fire: The BLM has so far seeded 100 acres of the public lands burned in the 2012 Range Fire, east of Ely, Nev. The BLM in fall 2017 established green strips in the burn area to help reduce the potential severity of a repeat fire in the original footprint. The BLM in fall-winter 2020 will continue to work toward establishing perennial, fire resistant species within the green strips. The work could include the prescribed burning of cheatgrass and herbicides treatments.

South Ely Green strips: The BLM completed the project, which consisted of mowing sagebrush and seeding fire resistant species along roads and private property near Madison and Minnesota Avenues, south of Ely, in September 2019. The BLM treated approximately 40 acres to create fuels breaks to aid in fire suppression and protect private property.

South Steptoe Valley Watershed Restoration Project: The BLM in October-November 2019 initiated a prescribed burn in the Robber's Roost area of the Mt. Grafton Wilderness, burning 520 acres total. The BLM this winter expects to burn wood piles on approximately 80 acres near Monument Spring and Sawmill Canyon. Mastication and hand-thinning on approximately 3,000 acres near Cattle Camp Wash, Lone Pine Draw, Monument Canyon and west of Comins Lake will be finished by the end of February 2020. The project that reduces fuel loading in the wildland urban interface is part of the South Steptoe Valley Watershed Restoration Project that when complete will have treated up to 54,000 acres of the 200,000-plus acre watershed. The project goal is to restore watershed health and improve wildlife habitat and reduce catastrophic wildfire risk.

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Tule Desert Fuels Breaks: Project implementation will begin in fall 2020. The project goal is to protect desert tortoise habitat by establishing fuel breaks that would slow or stop a fire or provide anchor points for fire suppression forces to stop fire spread. The Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act-funded project is designed to minimize the amount of desert tortoise habitat burned in the Mojave Desert area.

Ward Mountain Restoration Project: The BLM and Forest Service expect to begin implementation in 2020. The BLM issued the Decision Record and Finding of No Significant Impact in February 2019 following a decision issued by the Forest Service. The agencies are working with the Ely Shoshone Tribe to restore vegetative health and improve wildlife habitat, and reduce catastrophic wildfire risk on Ward Mountain, adjacent to Ely, Nev., through use of manual and mechanical treatments, and prescribed fire. When complete, the 10-year project will have treated approximately 42,670 acres of the 100,000-acre project area. Portions of the project have received Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act funding.

LANDS & REALTY

Lincoln County Public Land Sales: The BLM Ely District, Caliente Field Office is proposing to offer through a competitive sale six parcels, totaling approximately 248 acres, of public lands in Lincoln County, Nev. All parcels are located within five miles of the following communities: two parcels near Alamo, three parcels near Panaca, and one parcel near Rachel. The BLM approved the sale of these parcels in September 2019 and the Notice of Realty Action is expected to publish in the Federal Register this summer with a sale anticipated in August 2020.

Land Conveyances: The BLM Ely District, Bristlecone Field office has completed the conveyance to White Pine County for 152 acres of the White Pine Industrial Park. The patent was issued on Jan. 9, 2020.

Dingell Act (PL 116-9): The BLM Ely District is developing an implementation plan for the conveyance of approximately 400 acres to Lincoln County for a landfill as directed in the Dingell Act (PL 116-9). The BLM is also completing the process of issuing a patent correction to Coyote Springs LLC for transfer of conservation lands. Both projects are in Coyote Springs Valley, in southern Lincoln County.

Southwest Gas Pipeline: The BLM Ely District, Caliente Field Office has reviewed Southwest Gas' plan of development for a natural gas pipeline spur that would deliver natural gas from the Kern River Pipeline to Lincoln County Lands Act-disposed lands. The field office anticipates issuing the grant in March 2020. The gas would be delivered to Mesquite, Nev. Utility providers including Southwest Gas, Vidler Water Co., Lincoln County Water District, Lincoln County Telephone System and Lincoln County Power District #1 are coordinating efforts for their proposed utility installations in the Lincoln County Conservation Recreation and Development Act (LCCRDA) Utility Corridor in southeastern Lincoln County.

MINERALS

Active Mining Plans –

Robinson Mine: KGHM Robinson Operation, operated by Robinson Nevada Mining Company (RNMC), proposes to amend the Plan authorized by the 1994 Record of Decision for the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Robinson Project.

The preliminary proposed Plan of Operations Amendment for the King and North Tripp Dumps and Tailings Storage Facility includes:

- Extending the mine life to 2027,
- Resuming mining in the Liberty Pit requiring the Liberty Pit expansion,
- Constructing the new King Waste Rock Dump (WRD) south of the Liberty and Ruth pits,
- Expanding disturbances at the Giroux Wash Tailings Storage Facility (TSF); and
- As an alternative to the King WRD construction, resume waste rock placement on the North Tripp dump, requiring North Tripp Dump expansion

The proposed activities would result in a total increase of approximately 1,227.5 acres of surface disturbance within the Project Area Boundary for a new end of mine life (EOML) total surface disturbance of 10,115.1 acres. The proposed increase would comprise of 221.7 acres of new disturbances on private land under ownership of RNMC and 972.5 acres of new disturbance located on public lands administered by the BLM.

The BLM has developed and executed cooperating agency memorandums of understanding with White Pine County Board of Commissioners, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The project is in pre-planning status as data is collected and preliminary issues and alternatives are drafted.

Kinross Bald Mountain Mine: The proponent is proposing to expand, modify and eliminate select authorized mine components and develop new disturbance in eight primary mine areas located at the NOA. An additional mine area is subject to modification to mainly accommodate proposed concurrent reclamation activities, including pit backfill. The Juniper Project will consist of disturbance development, modification, reclassification, realignment, elimination, concurrent reclamation activities, and a sequencing and backfill schedule for the Poker Flats Pit. These actions will result in an increase to the life-of-mine disturbance of about 4,192 acres or an increase from 10,782 acres to approximately 14,974 acres within the NOA Plan boundary.

Robin Claims Mine: The BLM completed and approved a Plan of Operations for the Robin Claims in Panaca, Nev. A bond is required before authorizing operations.

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Mackie/Tenacity Perlite Mines: Active mining and processing of perlite is ongoing. The BLM is reviewing the mine plan of operations merging two plans into one for the Tenacity and Mackie Mines

Gold Rock Mine: The BLM is working with the Nevada Department of Wildlife and mine owner Fiore Gold on a Greater Sage-Grouse mitigation plan. The BLM Ely District, Bristlecone Field Manager issued the Record of Decision for then-GRP Gold Rock, LLC's Gold Rock Mine Project on Sept. 21, 2018. The Notice of Availability of the Gold Rock Mine Project Final Environmental Impact Statement was published in the Federal Register on July 27, 2018.

Abandoned Mine Lands -

Preliminary work to remove tailings from Antelope Canyon is underway as a potential time-critical removal action under CERCLA.

The BLM Ely District, Caliente Field Office has processed a categorical exclusion to close 44 mine hazards in the Pioche area.

Oil & Gas –

February-March Oil & Gas Lease Sales: BLM Nevada has postponed analysis and public comment for parcels within the Ely District in response to the U.S. District Court, District of Idaho Preliminary Injunction in W. Watersheds Project V. BLM (No. 1:16-cv-00083-BLW).

Applications for Permit to Drill: The public comment period for the Western Oil Exploration APD Scott Federal #25-1 and #35-1 Oil Wells Preliminary Environmental Assessment (EA) concluded on Thursday, Feb. 7. The site-specific EA analyzes potential impacts that could result from a Western Oil Exploration Company proposal to drill two exploration oil wells on a valid existing lease on public lands in Newark Valley, about 40 miles west of Ely, Nev. The Ely District is developing a final EA, Finding of No Significant Impact, and Decision Record incorporating comments received during the public comment period.

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

Wilson Creek Term Permit Renewal: The BLM is reviewing and finalizing the grazing decisions. The BLM continues to meet with the permittees to identify any unresolved issues. The BLM is evaluating three proposed alternatives.

Rangeland Monitoring/Term Permit Renewals: The Ely District in 2019/2020 expects to issue grazing decisions for the following allotments: Wilson Creek, South Hiko-Six Mile, Lewis allotments, and Uvada and Black Hills. The BLM will separate vegetation treatment options from the Cottonwood Allotment (Bob Lewis TPR) EA with a separate decision issued.

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The Ely District, Bristlecone Field Office is performing rangeland health evaluations on the following allotments: Sacramento Pass, Stephens Creek, Indian George, Connors Summit, Willow Springs, Chin Creek, North Steptoe, North Steptoe Trail, Becky Creek, Whiteman Creek, Second Creek, Becky Springs, Sampson Creek, Tippet Pass, Antelope Valley, White Rock, Little White Rock, Chimney Rock, Lake Area, Fox Mountain, Timber Mountain and Cave Valley Ranch.

Monitoring planned for 2020 is based on priority permit renewals submitted to the State Office as part of NV-IM-2019-013 (Priorities, Reporting, and Program Direction). The two biggest priorities are for the allotments associated with Need More Sheep and SNWA's northern allotments.

Outcome Based Grazing Demo Project: John Uhalde and Company is one of eleven outcome-based grazing demonstration projects, nationwide. The sheep-cow operation spans 13 allotments on nearly a half-million acres of public land administered by the Ely District's Bristlecone Field Office and Basin and Range National Monument. The permit is scheduled to be issued in fiscal year 2020.

RECREATION & TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Ash Springs Recreation Site: The Ely District on Aug. 26, 2019 received the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's (FWS) Biological Opinion (BO). The BLM conducted formal consultation with the FWS for the endangered White River Springfish, in conformance with the Endangered Species Act. The BLM will review the BO and, if necessary, will amend the Little Ash Springs Recreation Site's environmental assessment (EA). The Little Ash Springs Recreation Site is located alongside U.S. Highway 93, about 100 miles north of Las Vegas.

Lincoln County Partners Multi-Purpose, Non-Motorized Trail System Phase I: Thirteen miles of new hiking and mountain biking trails on public lands in Phase I are finished and available for use. Neighboring Kershaw Ryan State Park has finished 10 of their 13 miles and the City of Caliente has finished three miles of trail and a bike park. The trail work completed in spring 2019 is the first of the three-phase project that will enhance access to public lands and improve recreational opportunities in Lincoln County, Nev. The trails system is a partnership between the City of Caliente, Lincoln County, Nevada Division of State Parks, BLM Ely District, and the non-profit organizations American Conservation Experience and International Mountain Biking Association. Funding for the BLM portion of Phase I was provided through Round 15 of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA).

Lincoln County Partners Multi-Purpose, Non-Motorized Trail System Phase II Environmental Assessment (EA): Trail construction is underway for a 10-mile connector trail linking Barnes Canyon to Kershaw-Ryan State Park. The 25-mile Ella Mountain Trail is also under construction. The BLM Ely District's Caliente Field Office is initiating a SNPLMA Round 17 trail project for Highland Peak. The BLM will conduct a public review period for site specific trail locations. Construction on Phase II began in summer 2019. The Caliente Field Office signed the Decision Record and Finding of No

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Significant Impact for Phase II of the project in April 2018. Phase II provides for construction of new hiking and mountain biking trails, and development of equestrian-friendly trailheads in areas around Caliente, Panaca and Pioche, in Lincoln County, Nev. SNPLMA Round 16 provided funding for the environmental assessment and planning and construction of the hiking and mountain biking trails.

ROADS

The BLM Ely District has finished grading roads in the Tule Desert and nearly finished grading roads in Coal and Garden valleys (Basin and Range National Monument).

SPECIAL LEGISLATION

Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative (LCAI) –

Round 12 Proposals: The Executive Committee has made the final recommendation to the BLM Nevada State Director for approval of approximately \$1 million from the Lincoln County Land Act special account to fund the top Round 12 projects. Contracts/agreements are expected to be awarded in spring 2020.

Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) –

On May 22, 2019, U.S. Secretary of the Interior David L. Bernhardt announced the commitment of more than \$106.8 million to support 47 public lands projects throughout Nevada and California side of the Lake Tahoe Basin. These projects, which encompass a broad range of recreation improvements, wildlife habitat conservation, and hazardous fuels reduction and wildfire prevention projects, were nominated and are funded through the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 17. Eight of the projects are in Lincoln and White Pine Counties and provide the rural communities with new recreation opportunities, wildlife habitat conservation, and eastern Nevada landscape restoration projects. Project implementation is scheduled to begin in spring 2020. Details regarding each project are at <https://snplma.blm.gov/snplma/home.do>

SNPLMA Round 18 nomination period has not been announced.

WATERSHED ANALYSIS

The Ely District continues to develop and implement watershed-level planning to identify high priority habitat improvement projects for Greater Sage-grouse and other wildlife species, hazardous fuels reduction projects, and other actions needed to improve public land health. The district has completed the watershed analysis process for 27 of 61 priority watersheds. The district has completed implementation plans for nine watersheds. The district is currently conducting watershed planning for Long Valley / Ruby Marshes and Butte Valley.

WILD HORSE PROGRAM

Eagle Complex Wild Horse Gather: The BLM's Caliente and Cedar City field offices concluded the Eagle Complex wild horse gather on Feb. 25, 2020. The BLM gathered 1,716 excess wild horses from in and around the Chokecherry, Eagle and Mt. Elinore Herd Management Areas (HMAs) located in Lincoln County, Nevada and Beaver and Iron counties, Utah. The BLM treated 28 mares with the fertility control vaccine GonaCon-Equine and released them with 19 stud horses.

The purpose of the gather was to remove all excess wild horses from areas not designated for or suitable to their long-term management and prevent further degradation of public lands. In the 2008 Ely Resource Management Plan, the BLM decided to manage this area for zero wild horses as it no longer met the criteria for maintaining a thriving ecological balance with multiple uses as authorized under the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The gather was necessary to improve watershed health, protect wild horse health, and make significant progress towards achieving Mojave-Southern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council Standards for Rangeland Health.

The BLM transported wild horses removed from the range to the Palomino Valley Center Wild Horse and Burro Corrals, in Sparks, Nevada, to be readied for the BLM's wild horse and burro Adoption and Sale Program. Wild horses not adopted or sold will be placed in long-term pastures where they will be humanely cared for and retain their "wild" status and protection under the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act. Additional gather information is available on the BLM website at <https://go.usa.gov/xpSxK>.

Seaman and White River HAs Wild Horse Gather: The BLM Caliente and Bristlecone field offices and Basin and Range National Monument concluded the Seaman and White River Herd Areas (HAs) wild horse gather on Jan. 12, 2020. The BLM gathered and removed 420 excess wild horses from in and around the Seaman and White River HAs located in Lincoln, Nye and White Pine counties in eastern Nevada.

The purpose of the gather was to remove all excess wild horses from areas not designated for or suitable to their long-term management and prevent further degradation of public lands. In the 2008 Ely Resource Management Plan, the BLM decided to manage this area for zero wild horses as it no longer met the criteria for maintaining a thriving ecological balance with multiple uses as authorized under the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The gather was necessary to improve watershed health, protect wild horse health, and make significant progress towards achieving Mojave-Southern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council Standards for Rangeland Health.

The BLM transported wild horses removed from the range to the Ridgecrest Regional Wild Horse and Burro Corrals in Ridgecrest, California, to be readied for the BLM's wild horse and burro Adoption and Sale Program. Wild horses not adopted or sold will be placed in long-term pastures where they will be humanely cared for and retain their "wild" status and protection under the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act.

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Additional gather information is available on the BLM website at <https://go.usa.gov/xpTmp>

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*Chris Hanefeld, BLM Ely District public affairs specialist, last updated this report on **Feb. 27, 2020**. Contact Chris at (775) 289-1842 or chanefel@blm.gov for more information on these and other projects/programs in the District.*