

Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program Team Assessment Report

March 30, 2022

Off-Range Corral: Northern Nevada Correctional Center Off-Range Corral

State: Nevada

Facility Manager or COR: Ruth Thompson, COR

CAWP Assessment Team Members: Jerrie Bertola, Dr. Al Kane, Jason Lutterman, Ben Noyes, and Doug Satica

Assessment Dates: March 21-24, 2022

Total Number of CAWP Off-Range Corral Standards: 117

Number of Applicable CAWP Standards: 70

Compliance with Applicable CAWP Standards: 60/70 = 86%

General Notes and Comments from the CAWP Team: Assessments of the Off-Range Corrals includes the Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program standards for Off-Range Corrals and Transportation as applicable.

Coordination and access to the Northern Nevada Correctional Center (NNCC) Off-Range Corral was excellent. The ability to see and access the facility was excellent as was the opportunity to ask and answer questions. During the assessment period, the CAWP team observed training of wild horses and wild horses worked through the chute system as blood work was collected. NNCC has a detailed record keeping system for keeping track of the wild horses and burros at the facility, but it does not directly link into the Wild Horse and Burro Program System (WHBPS).

Requirements of Permanent Instruction Memorandum (PIM) 2021-002, Wild Horse and Burro Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program (CAWP):

- All state, district, and field offices will continue to comply with the WHB CAWP policy within their jurisdictions at all times. This includes the CAWP Standards for Off-Range Corral Facilities, Transportation, and Adoption/Sale Events.
- All personnel, including contractor and partners involved in the care, handling, and transportation of wild horses and burros at off-range corrals and adoption/sale events are required to complete online training annually.

Conditions found to be in non-compliance with the CAWP PIM 2021-002: Some of the contract personnel had not completed the CAWP training.

Conditions found to be in non-compliance with the CAWP Standards for Wild Horse and Burro Off-Range Corrals:

Facility Personnel

Standard

- 1.I.D The facility should be staffed by appropriate office staff for record maintenance and recording. (minor)

Non-Compliance: Record maintenance and recording was not all up to date in the Wild Horse and Burro Program System (WHBPS). This seemed likely due to inadequate BLM staffing at the facility, noting that a new project inspector has recently been hired to help with this workload.

Facility Design

Standard

- 1.II.E Facility fences, gates, alleys, tubs, and working chutes must be constructed of stout materials and must be maintained in proper working condition. (major)

Non-Compliance: Facility fences were not working as designed. Some panels were tied with twine, rope or wire, and the pins of many panels were not inserted into the fasteners.

Standard

- 1.II.F Fences in pens, alleys, and working chute systems must be not less than 6 feet high for horses, 5 feet high for burros, and the bottom rail must not be more than 12 inches from ground level. (major)

Non-Compliance: The height of fences in some of the pens was less than 6 feet either because panels had sunk into the ground or dirt had accumulated along the bottom.

Standard

- 1.II.G Fences must be of stout design and be maintained in proper condition with no holes, gaps, or sharp edges which could result in WH&Bs being injured. (major)

Non-Compliance: There were holes and sharp edges on some of the fences that could cause injury to wild horses. Of particular concern were the gaps in the fences near the water tanks in pens containing foals.

Standard

- 1.II.M Facilities must provide access to shade and shelter (wind breaks) in pens designated for compromised animals needing special care (i.e., injured or weak animals). Additional provisions for shade and shelter (wind breaks) will be evaluated and determined by managers as appropriate for their region, the function of their facility and the condition of the animals under their care. (major)

Non-Compliance: The facility did not have adequate shade and shelter in the pens designated for compromised animals.

Loading and Unloading Facilities

Standard

1.III.A.2 Loading and unloading ramps must have a non-slip surface and be maintained in a safe and proper working condition to prevent slips and falls. Examples of non-slip floors would include, but not be limited to, rubber mats, sand, shavings, and steel reinforcement rods or rough surfaces built into the ramp. There must be no holes in flooring or items that cause an animal to trip. (major)

Non-Compliance: A piece of rebar was broken on the loading and unloading ramp and posed a risk of injury.

Feed and Water

Standard

1.IV.C.2 Fresh, clean water appropriate for livestock must be accessible to WH&Bs located in holding pens at all times. (major)

Non-Compliance: Erosion around one water tank was enough that would prevent foals from reaching water.

Standard

1.IV.C.4 Feeding sites must allow all WH&Bs within a pen simultaneous access to hay. (major)

Non-Compliance: Not all animals could simultaneously access hay in some of the pens. In some cases, the flakes were not adequately distributed but were left in large piles instead of spread out limiting the amount of functional bunk space.

Standard

1.IV.C.6 Salt and/or mineral blocks should be provided in holding pens at all times. (minor)

Non-Compliance: Salt and/or mineral blocks were not provided in all pens.

Euthanasia Procedures

Standard

1.IV.E.2 Euthanasia must be done in compliance with BLM Euthanasia policy. (major)

Non-Compliance: Animals with serious physical conditions or defects (severely sway backed and club footed animals) were being maintained on site.

Table 1: Standards and Overall Assessment Rating

CAWP Standards and Policy Requirements	Compliant	Partially Compliant	Non-Compliant	N/A
CAWP Trained BLM Staff	✓			
CAWP Contract Trained Staff		✓		
Facility Personnel		✓		
Facility Design		✓		
Loading and Unloading Facilities		✓		
Receiving Procedures				✓
Veterinarian	✓			
Biosecurity	✓			
Feed and Water		✓		
Preparation Procedures	✓			
Euthanasia Procedures		✓		
Carcass Disposal	✓			
Willful Acts of Abuse	✓			
General Handling	✓			
Handling Aids	✓			
Care of WHBs During Transport Preparation Procedures				✓
Vehicles				✓
Transport Procedures				✓
<i>Compliant – all the activities were compliant with the standards or policy requirements. Partially compliant – one or more of the activities were non-compliant with the standards or policy requirements. Non-Compliant – all standards were non-compliant with the standards or policy requirements. N/A – standards that are not assessed during an assessment.</i>				

Final CAWP Assessment Rating: Good. 86% of applicable CAWP standards were met.