

## Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program Team Assessment Report

February 28, 2024

**Gather Name:** McCullough Peaks Bait Trap Wild Horse Gather

**State:** Wyoming

**District/Field Office:** Wind River Bighorn Basin District Office/Cody Field Office

**Incident Commander:** Cade Powell

**Lead COR:** Abel Guevara

**Gather Method:** Bait Trapping

**CAWP Assessment Team Members:** Jerrie Bertola, Ben Noyes, and Garrett Swisher

**Assessment Date:** February 28, 2024

**Total Number of CAWP Bait Gather Standards:** 216

**Number of Applicable CAWP Gather Standards:** 59

**Compliance with Applicable CAWP Standards:** 52

**Compliance with Applicable CAWP Standards:** 52/59 = 88%

**General Notes and Comments from the CAWP Team:** Coordination and access to this gather was excellent. The gather team asked good questions and were willing to receive feedback on how gather operations could be improved. The gather team was new to bait trapping and was trying to figure things out as they were bait trapping. The gather team took corrective action to comply with a standard at one of the trap locations while the team was on site. As part of the gather, some wild horses were being released while gather operations were ongoing, which increased the duration of the gather and potentially increased the difficulty of gathering animals identified for removal.

**Conditions found to be in non-compliance with the CAWP Standards for Wild Horse and Burro Gatherers:**

### Facility Design Trap Site

#### Standard

**I.A.7** There must be no holes, gaps or openings, protruding surfaces, or sharp edges present in fence panels or other structures that may cause escape or possible injury.

**Non-Compliance:** At one of the trap sites there were sharp edges in several locations that could cause possible injury.

**Corrective Action:** The gather team covered the sharp edges with pipe covering and closed the gates so that the sharp edges would not be accessible until they could replace the gate in the loading area of the trap.

## **Facility Design Temporary Holding**

### **Standard**

**I.A.4** Fence panels in pens and alleys 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.

**Non-Compliance:** The temporary holding corral was set up at a location where permanent pipe fencing was used. In multiple locations, the fence height was less than 6 feet in height.

### **Standard**

**I.A.7** There must be no holes, gaps or openings, protruding surfaces, or sharp edges present in fence panels or other structures that may cause escape or possible injury.

**Non-Compliance:** In the area used to load wild horses, there were large holes in the fencing that could possibly cause injury.

### **Standard**

**I.A.9** Hinged, self-latching gates must be used in all pens and alleys except for entry gates into the trap, which may be secured with tie ropes.

**Non-Compliance:** The temporary holding corral did not have a self-latching gate in the pens and alleyways.

### **Standard**

**I.A.13** All gates and panels in the animal holding and handling pens and alleys of the trap site must be covered with materials such as plywood, snow fence, tarps, burlap, etc. approximately 48" in height to provide a visual barrier for the animals. All materials must be secured in place.

**Non-Compliance:** The temporary holding corral did not have a visual barrier on gates and panels.

### **Standard**

**I.A.13.a** For exterior fences, material covering panels and gates must extend from the top of the panel or gate toward the ground.

**Non-Compliance:** There was no material covering panels and gates on exterior fences.

**Standard**

**I.A.13.b** For alleys and small internal handling pens, material covering panels and gates should extend from no more than 12 inches below the top of the panel or gate toward the ground to facilitate visibility of animals and the use of flags and paddles during sorting.

**Non-Compliance:** The panels and gates of the temporary holding corral were not covered with material to facilitate visibility for the wild horses.

**Table 1: Overall Summary Rating**

	<b>Total Numbers</b>	<b>Percent Compliant</b>	<b>Rating</b>
<b>Trap Site</b>	23/24	96%	Excellent
<b>Temporary Holding</b>	29/35	83%	Complies
<b>Transportation</b>	Not Assessed	--	--
<b>Gather Compliance</b>	52/59	88%	Good

**Final CAWP Assessment Rating:** Good. 88% of applicable CAWP standards were met overall.

Possible ratings for CAWP Assessments are 96-100% Excellent, 86-95% Good, 70-85% Complies, and 0-69% Failure to Comply.