

## Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program Team Assessment Report

November 8, 2024

**Off-Range Corral:** Rock Springs Off-Range Corral

**State:** Wyoming

**Facility Manager or COR:** Jake Benson

**CAWP Assessment Team Members:** Jerrie Bertola, Dr. Matt Traylor, Ruby Kyle and Lynae Rogers

**Assessment Date:** November 6, 2024

**Total Number of CAWP Off-Range Corral Standards:** 117

**Number of Applicable CAWP Standards:** 81

**Compliance with Applicable CAWP Standards:** 77/81 = 95%

**Understanding Assessments:** The Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program aims to promote the welfare of wild horses and burros during management activities while minimizing stress and ensuring humane care, handling and treatment. CAWP assessments evaluate compliance with standards during the activities taking place at the time of the assessment. This framework helps ensure a clear and unbiased evaluation of events or actions as they occur. Here are some key points:

- **Holistic Approach:** Assessments reflect the entirety of the activity, not targeting individuals or specific groups.
- **Time-Specific:** The evaluation focuses solely on the observed circumstances during the assessment period.
- **Limitations:** Previous or subsequent events are not accounted for, meaning the assessment is a standalone observation.

**General Notes and Comments from the CAWP Team:** During the assessment, the team observed off-range corral staff handle wild horses through the tub and alley into the squeeze chute, where they selected stallions to return to the range. The staff worked well together to keep an efficient, effective, and safe working environment for staff and wild horses. The staff communicated easily and naturally, creating a positive and supportive environment for the wild horses being handled.

The Rock Springs Off-Range Corral has had recent construction, including the addition of an enclosed working area. An enclosed working area makes working animals much easier than having to be out in the elements. The pens for animals in compromised conditions were still under construction,

**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 training annually.

*All personnel were current with CAWP training.*

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

**Facility Design**

**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.

**Non-Compliance:** There were gates with a bottom rail that was more than 12 inches from ground level.

**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.

**Non-Compliance:** The compromised animal pens were under construction; the facility anticipates that the pens will be completed soon as long as the weather remains favorable.

**Preparation Procedures**

**Standard**

- 1.IV.D.2** Facilities must conduct Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) testing and apply freeze-marks within 30 days of receiving WH&Bs, unless directed by the facility veterinarian when age or physical condition requires a delay.

**Non-Compliance:** A review of the randomly selected paperwork revealed that some newly arrived wild horses were freeze-marked and tested for EIA up to 45 days after their arrival at the facility.

**Standard****1.IV.D.6** Facilities must adhere to the current BLM vaccination policy.

**Non-Compliance:** The BLM vaccination policy requires vaccinations to be administered every six months. A review of the paperwork for randomly selected animals revealed that certain booster vaccinations were several months overdue.

**Table 1: Overall Summary Rating**

<b>CAWP Standards and Policy Requirements</b>	<b>Total Numbers</b>	<b>Percent Compliant</b>	<b>Rating</b>
<b>Facility Personnel</b>	4/4	100%	Excellent
<b>Facility Design</b>	11/13	85%	Complies
<b>Loading and Unloading Facilities</b>	4/4	100%	Excellent
<b>Receiving Procedures</b>	10/10	100%	Excellent
<b>Veterinarian</b>	6/6	100%	Excellent
<b>Biosecurity</b>	5/5	100%	Excellent
<b>Feed and Water</b>	7/7	100%	Excellent
<b>Preparation Procedures</b>	8/10	80%	Complies
<b>Euthanasia Procedures</b>	5/5	100%	Excellent
<b>Carcass Disposal</b>	2/2	100%	Excellent
<b>Willful Acts of Abuse</b>	4/4	100%	Excellent
<b>General Handling</b>	6/6	100%	Excellent
<b>Handling Aids</b>	5/5	100%	Excellent
<b>Care of WHBs During Transport Preparation Procedures</b>	Not Assessed		
<b>Vehicles</b>	Not Assessed		
<b>Transport Procedures</b>	Not Assessed		
<b>Overall Compliance and Final CAWP Assessment Rating</b>	<b>77/81</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>Good</b>

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