

Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program Team Assessment Report

November 17, 2022

Off-Range Corral: Elm Creek Off-Range Corral

State: Wyoming/Nebraska

Facility Manager or COR: Joe Stratton, Facility Manager

CAWP Assessment Team Members: Jerrie Bertola, Dr. Al Kane, Ruby Kyle, and Rob Sharp

Assessment Date: November 10, 2022

Total Number of CAWP Off-Range Corral Standards: 117

Number of Applicable CAWP Standards: 79

Compliance with Applicable CAWP Standards: 71/79 = 90%

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

Coordination with the Elm Creek Off-Range Corrals was excellent. The CAWP team was well received and was provided access to the entire facility. The team was able to observe wild horses having their hooves trimmed and worked through the chute system.

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.

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

Facility Personnel

1.1.B The facility must have employees with training, skills, and experience to observe, move, and handle the WH&Bs on the facility.

Non-Compliance: While the employees have the training, skills, and experience to observe, move and handle the wild horses, they facility does not have enough employees.

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: Not all pen fences were 6 feet high, and there were several places where the bottom rail was more than 12 inches from ground level.

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.

Non-Compliance: Some of the perimeter fence has woven wire that was broken and had holes and sharp pieces that could cause injury.

Standard

- 1.II.N** Shelter structures should be designed or constructed to reduce the risk for injury of the WH&Bs and maintained to avoid excessive manure and mud.

Non-Compliance: The sheet metal around the bottom of shelter structures had broken edges and were not designed to avoid excessive manure.

Loading and Unloading Facilities

Standard

- 1.III.A.3** 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: There was a long bolt creating a protruding surface in the loading/unloading chute that could cause injury.

Receiving Procedures

Standard

- 1.III.B.3** Any WH&B needing immediate veterinary attention must be identified and separated as necessary for examination, and a consultation with a veterinarian must be conducted within 4 hours.

Non-Compliance: Because one of the primary activities at Elm Creek Off-Range Corral is to rest loads of wild horses and burros traveling to the Eastern United States, there are times when animals arrive at night, and it may be greater than 4 hours before a veterinary consultation could occur.

Standard

1.III.B.4 An authorized, properly trained, and experienced person, as well as euthanasia equipment and supplies, must be available immediately following unloading in the event that the emergency euthanasia of an animal is required. Euthanasia must be done in compliance with BLM Euthanasia policy.

Non-Compliance: Personnel and equipment are not always available immediately following unloading.

Preparation Procedures

Standard

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

Non-Compliance: Although all animals were current on vaccinations at the time of the assessment, according to randomly selected animal health records, not all animals in the facility received flu/EHV and strep booster vaccinations on schedule.

Table 1: Overall Summary 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 of the section were compliant with the standards or policy requirements. Partially compliant – one or more activities of the section were non-compliant with the standards or policy requirements. Non-Compliant – all activities of the section were non-compliant with the standards or policy requirements. N/A –activities were not observed during the assessment.</i>				

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

Final CAWP Assessment Rating: Good. 90% of applicable CAWP standards were met.