



Date: April 22, 2003  
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BILLINGS -- The Bureau of Land Management Billings Field Office is asking the public to review and comment on an environmental assessment (EA) of activities planned for the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range. The BLM plans to gather young stallions and continue fertility control research on wild horse mares this summer.

Fertility control field trials began on the Pryor herd in 2002 with 11 yearling and six 2-year-old mares receiving the immunocontraceptive vaccine. This year's fertility control efforts would focus on younger and older mares.

The BLM intends the proposed partial gather of young wild horse stallions to reduce the herd to a size that will not negatively impact the herd's genetic viability or cause irreparable harm to the range.

The proposed activities would begin no earlier than July 7 and may continue through September 30. The wild horses would be offered for adoption later this fall at the BLM Britton Springs Administrative Site near Lovell, Wyo.

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Comments on the EA must be submitted in writing and be postmarked by May 16, 2003, and sent to: Bureau of Land Management, Billings Field Office, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, MT 59101. Copies of the EA can be obtained from the Billings Field Office or on the internet at [www.mt.blm.gov/bifo/whb/doc2.html](http://www.mt.blm.gov/bifo/whb/doc2.html).

In addition, a public hearing regarding the use of helicopters during this year's proposed gather will be held June 26, 2003, at 7 p.m. at the Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area Visitor Center in Lovell.

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