



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**BIG SUMMIT WILD HORSE ROUNDUP SCHEDULED;  
TEMPORARY CLOSURE (LOWER COYLE CREEK/HOHN SPRINGS AREA)  
AUGUST 13 & 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2009**

Prineville, OR - A roundup to gather approximately 15 wild horses off the Ochoco National Forest is scheduled to take place on Thursday, August 13 and Friday, August 14, 2009. Roundup efforts will take place in the vicinity of Hohn Creek and Coyle Creek in the Big Summit Herd Management Area (HMA).

A temporary area closure will be in place during the roundup for the safety of the general public, the contractor and the wild horses. Road guards will be on site to redirect members of the public away from the area.

The closure is defined as follows:

Road and adjacent area of Forest Road 2610 from the junction with Forest Road 42 north to the Junction with Forest Road 2610-300

Road and adjacent area of Forest Road 2610-100 with the junction with forest Road 2610-120 southwest to the terminus.

Copies of the temporary closure order are available at the Ochoco National Forest Supervisor's office in Prineville or visit our website at [www.fs.fed.us/r6/ochoco](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/ochoco)

The roundup is an implementation activity associated with the management plan for the Big Summit wild horse herd. The objective of the roundup is to ensure that horse numbers are maintained at levels which will not damage the natural resources and also to keep the horses in a healthy condition. The current management plan provides for the maintenance of an average of 60 head of horses. A recent annual survey of the area estimates the current population in the HMA at 75 or more horses.

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In addition to managing the range for wild horses, other uses, such as wildlife forage and cattle grazing, must be considered.

“There is plenty of forage out there right now, which can be a bit deceiving. When it comes to feed, the limiting factor here is winter range,” said Lookout Mountain District Ranger Bill Queen.

The horses will be gathered by a private contractor under the supervision of Forest Service personnel. A helicopter will be used to locate the horses and then ground riders will herd the horses into a temporary corral. The captured horses will be transported to the Bureau of Land Management's Wild Horse Adoption Facility in Burns, Oregon.

The Bureau of Land Management facility in Burns handles a large number of adoptions each year. They are equipped to provide proper care for the captured horses and match prospective adopters with available horses. The Central Oregon Wild Horse Coalition, a local non-profit organization, also works to match potential adopters with horses.

Anyone interested in adopting a wild horse should contact the Bureau of Land Management, 75 South Alvord, Burns, Oregon, 97720 or call 541-573-4400, or visit the website: <http://www.blm.gov/or/district/burns>

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