

Emergency wild horse gather completed in Saylor Creek Herd Management Area 334 horses gathered in rescue from mid-July Clover Fire



A group of wild horses from the Saylor Creek Herd Management Area being herded to safety during the first morning of the gather. Note the extensive blackened area, devoid of vegetation from the Clover Fire.

Twin Falls District Office: Between July 28 and 31, a total of 334 horses were successfully gathered during an emergency wild horse gather in the Saylor Creek Herd Management Area of the Jarbidge Field Office. BLM Twin Falls District Rangeland Management Specialist Mike Courtney said due to safety concerns for the animals, about ten horses were left on the range. "The existing unburned forage in the area will support this small number."

Courtney said the majority of the horses gathered are being sorted and prepped for adoption in September or will be released back onto the range sometime in the near future. The remaining animals will be released back onto the Herd Management Area once a fence can be built to separate them from burned area currently being rehabilitated.

Most of the rehabilitation work will be conducted this fall and winter and next spring. It will include seedings of grasses and forbs and aerial seedings of shrubs. In addition to providing for habitat, the seedings will serve to help stabilize the soil. The effort will also include repairing and installing protective fences as well as repairing roads damaged from fire suppression activities. (Contact: Mike Courtney, 208-736-2369)