

7-27-2022 - Reno City Council Meeting - Item #A.3 Public Comment

[illegible]

RENO CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC COMMENT CARD

Thank you for participating. We know your time is valuable and we look forward to hearing your comments, ideas and questions. The Mayor and City Council request that all comments are expressed in a courteous manner. Public comment is limited to three minutes each. Comments should be addressed to the council as a whole, not an individual member.

NAME: Allison Hinkle

ADDRESS: 6016 Plumas St Unit A

CONTACT PHONE: 916.200.5819

E-MAIL: allison@americanwildhorsecampaign.org

If you are representing someone, other than yourself, please indicate whom:

American Wild horse campaign

☐ WARD 1

☒ WARD 2

☐ WARD 3

☐ WARD 4

☐ WARD 5

☐ OTHER _____

DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK? YES ☒ NO ☐

COUNCIL MEETING DATE 7/27/22

AGENDA ITEM ~~WPA~~ General public comment

A.3

IN FAVOR ☐ IN OPPOSITION ☐

COMMENTS: update on fertility control program

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND PARTICIPATION





Virginia Range Fertility Control Program

YEAR 3 REPORT

SUBMITTED BY THE AMERICAN WILD HORSE CAMPAIGN

Introduction

The Virginia Range Horse Fertility Control Program, implemented through a limited purpose, non-exclusive Cooperative Agreement between the American Wild Horse Campaign (AWHC) and the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) continues to deliver strong results. Despite beginning in April 2019 during peak foaling and breeding season, the program has resulted in a steady decline in the number of foals born each year. Recorded births totaled 554 in 2020, down to 327 in 2021, and further declining to 201 for January through June 2022, which includes the March/May peak foaling season. Based on 2020 and 2021 foal mortality data, fewer than 100 of these 2022 foals are expected to survive beyond the first year. A sharp decline in births is predicted to continue from July-December 2022. (See chart below.) As we continue to expand and increase darting access in more remote areas, population growth rates are expected to continue to decline.

On April 28, 2022, AWHC and NDA signed the Year 4 Cooperative Agreement covering a period of May 1, 2022 – April 30, 2023. The program continues to enjoy broad community support, including Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak, Nevada Assemblyman Jim Wheeler, the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center (TRIC), the tech company Blockchains, LLC, local governments such as the Storey County Commissioners, multiple community organizations, and local wild horse advocacy groups. Participating landowners include TRIC, Blockchains, Switch, Tesla, The Nature Conservancy, Nevada State Parks, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Waste Management, Reno Land, EP Minerals, and many more.

The Virginia Range program is the largest free-roaming horse fertility control program in the world, according to the Science and Conservation Center (SCC), which manufactures the porcine zona pellucida (PZP) vaccine utilized in the program and provides certification training for its application. This applies to both the treatment area (just under 300,000 acres) and the population size (approximately 3,186 confirmed living horses to date). This program continues to gain international recognition and attention from political leaders and management entities striving to improve the management of wild equids on the range. In May 2022, AWHC was a platinum sponsor of the Botstiber International Wildlife Fertility Control Conference held in Colorado Springs, where we were able to highlight the Virginia Range program and discuss details with many experts and researchers in the field. Five staff members, including our Program Coordinator and Special Projects Manager, attended the conference.

Program Costs

AWHC's fiscal year runs from January 1 – December 31. In addition to the fertility control program, AWHC funded the diversionary feeding for a public safety program at TRIC, conducted under the range management Cooperative Agreement between NDA and Wild Horse Connection. AWHC's expenditures on the Virginia Range program are as follows:

Item	2021	2022 (through Q2)
Fertility Control	\$236,267	\$113,478
Public Safety Diversionary Feeding (TRIC)	\$71,659	\$38,064

Funding sources: Blockchains LLC/Project Frontier, Bently Foundation, Giant Steps Foundation, Engelstad Foundation, Summerlee Foundation, The Marilyn Lichtman Foundation, Individual Contributions.



PZP Vaccine (Background)

The program utilizes the Porcine Zona Pellucida (PZP) immunocontraceptive vaccine administered via remote darting to breeding-age female horses using CO2-powered rifles.

PZP is scientifically-proven to be safe and effective, with over three decades of use and is recommended by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) for use in federally protected wild horse herds. The vaccine produces an immune response that prevents fertilization without impacting the reproductive hormones that drive natural behaviors. It is reversible and safe for delivery to pregnant and nursing mares.

The PZP vaccine requires a primer and booster dose in the first year and annual boosters thereafter. Many mares are now getting their yearly boosters, accounting for our total treatment numbers. PZP is more than 90 percent effective in preventing pregnancy when mares are fully vaccinated within specified time periods.

Fertility Control Year 3 Progress

Treatments

During the third year of the Fertility Control Program (May 1, 2021 – April 30, 2022), the AWHC team treated 1,376 mares with PZP for a total treatment count of 2,048 PZP vaccines via dart delivery, including 459 primers and 1,589 boosters.

The initial program goal (and benchmark for effective fertility control) of vaccinating 80% of the estimated breeding age mare population has been achieved each year and we expect to continue meeting, if not exceeding, this goal.

With our continued progress in increasing access agreements with private property owners and limited use bait-feeding approvals from the NDA, we expect an even greater impact resulting from the fertility control program in 2023 and beyond.

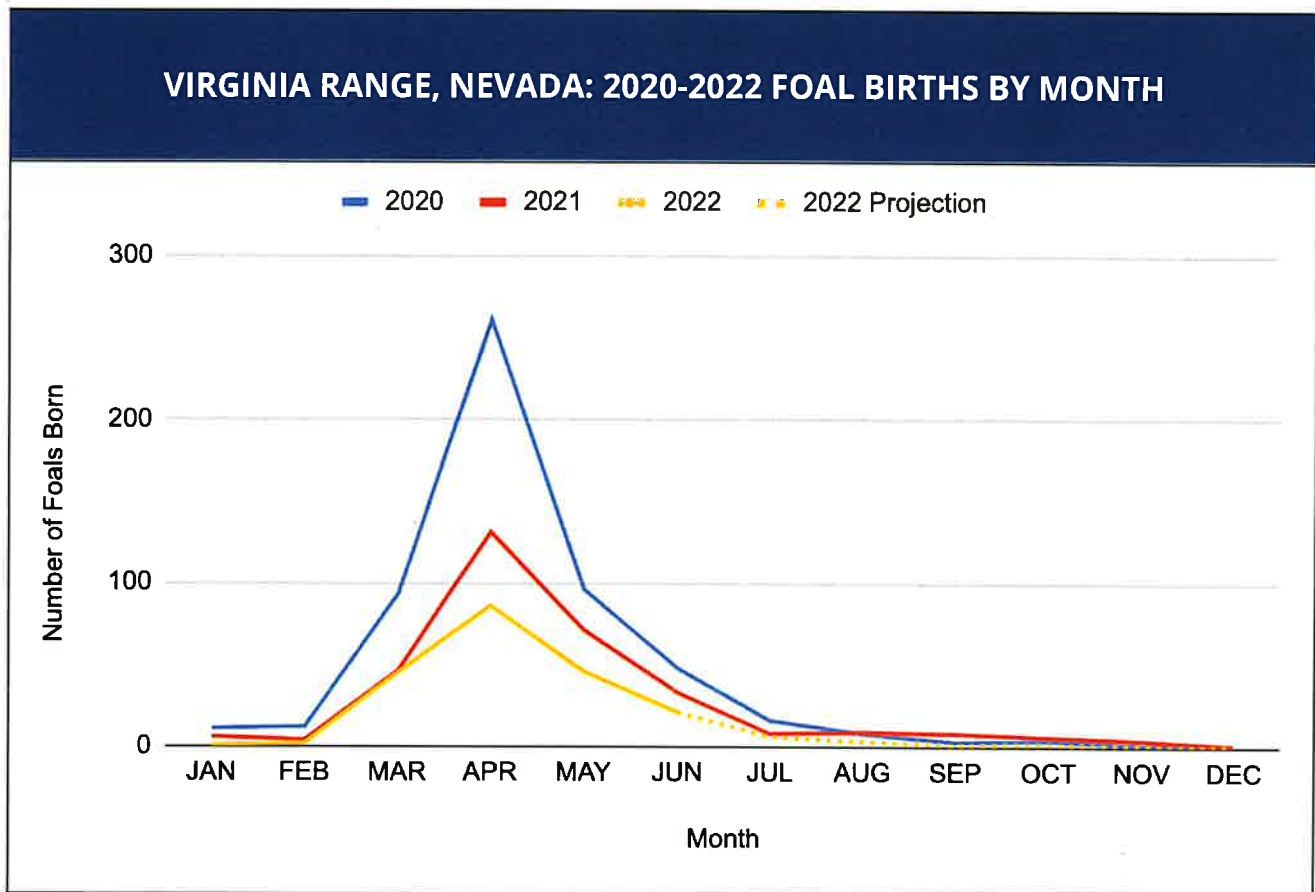
AREA	MARES	PZP*
Biddleman SP	15	18
Dayton Valley	71	109
Fernley	119	158
Highlands	89	118
HV Hillside	66	114
Lockwood	132	184
Meadows	71	109
Mound House	151	223
Rhodes Road	91	139
Silver Springs	49	68
Stagecoach	64	94
The D	33	52
USA Parkway	316	499
Washoe	109	163
TOTAL	1,376	2,048

Fertility Control Year 3 Progress (continued)

Foal Counts

For the purpose of this report, we are relaying foal births this year to date (January 1 – June 30, 2022), which includes data through the peak foaling season. Foals born during this period total 201, with 4 removed and 52 deceased or missing and assumed dead. In 2020, during the same time period (January–June), 521 foals were recorded as being born.

This shows a 61.4% reduction in the number of foals born in 2022 as compared to the same time period in 2020. Foal mortality remains high due to natural predation and other causes, averaging 52.5% for the last full year (2021). Based on data collected to date, a similar foal mortality rate is expected for 2022.



Standard Operating Procedures

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are continuously updated from previous years and cover the darting process, access requirements, and safety. The current Darting SOP can be found [here](#). The Database SOP for data entry and maintenance has also been continuously updated throughout the years with the goal of improved entry standardization and quality control to meet the needs of a growing program. Since June 2019 AWHC has been updating historical records to comply with updated SOP standards to improve consistency and clarity. Out-of-date data continues to be removed and updated, and horses that have not been seen for over 3 years have been archived and marked deceased. The current Database SOP can be found [here](#).

Fertility Control Year 3 Progress (continued)

Database

The database is used to record information such as horse name, number, gender, band affiliation, age (if known), physical color and unique markings, general range/territory as reported by volunteers, PZP vaccination history, and other pertinent information about individuals or bands.

All aspects of AWHC's fertility control program are tracked in the wild horse database, including information relating to PZP vaccination (e.g., date of darting, darter, darting location, distance from the horse when darted, CO2 pressure level, primer vs. booster vaccine, PZP lot number, and dart performance and recovery status) and foaling rates. This allows us to track data trends such as dart recovery rates. For Year 3 of the cooperative, we had a 99.51% recovery rate, with 2,048 treatments and 2,038 darts recovered.

The current database has been updated to include 3,186 individually identified and confirmed living on the range. In addition, 417 horses are marked as missing, 145 removed, and 1,683 confirmed deceased. These numbers are updated regularly as documenters move into more remote areas of the Virginia Range



Data Analysis

AWHC is partnering with the University of Pretoria for program data analysis with a focus on the efficacy and safety of the PZP vaccine and its impact on Virginia Range horse foaling rates. This is groundbreaking work since previous studies have focused on smaller populations and habitat areas. Analysis of 2020 and 2021 data should be completed later this year.

Sponsored by AWHC, Dr. Martin Schulman, Veterinary Professor, and Specialist/Researcher in Equine Reproduction at the University of Pretoria, traveled to attend the Botstiber International Wildlife Fertility Control Conference in Colorado Springs in May 2022. Dr. Schulman then visited the Virginia Range where AWHC staff accompanied him on a driving tour of the full range.

Dr. Schulman and an AWHC staff member also participated in a flyover with a private pilot. Both tours focused on range and horse conditions, as well as the challenges and successes of the program. Observations included that the horses were in better than expected body condition considering current drought conditions.

These tours enhanced Dr. Schulman's overall impressions and understanding of the landscape, boundaries, development, and gave him a firsthand view of the horses themselves.

Year 3 Goal Progress

Darting Access

We achieved our goal of expanding access to private property for fertility control darting, increasing the total number of approved properties to 84. In addition, large commercial land owners such as Waste Management continue to renew their access agreements annually. Continued community and business support for the program contributes to its success by influencing private property owners to partner with AWHC for darting access.

Training

We achieved our goal of expanding the number of trained volunteers for the program. During the reporting period:

- Seven new darters were trained through the Science and Conservation Center (SCC) certification class. This brings the total number of available certified darters to 21.
- Three additional documenters were trained, bringing the documenter total to 23.
- Ongoing training for veteran documenters and spotters continued via both Zoom and in the field.

Individual in-person meetings between the project coordinator and volunteers have resumed post-COVID-19 restrictions. Feedback from herd leads (volunteers who are responsible for ensuring data integrity for specific areas of the Virginia Range) is discussed as an ongoing process to ensure that best practices are being followed and updates in protocol are implemented where necessary.

The retirement of staff members and volunteers has resulted in a fluctuation of our team member numbers.

Challenges for the Program

1. Delays in new volunteer recruitment and training due to the SCC's limitations on off-site training opportunities while they ramp up vaccine production at the lab. This has limited the number of new darters who can be trained to date this year.
2. Slow property access approvals for darting and documenting resulting from legal requirements by companies with high-security access restrictions for property at TRIC.
3. The prohibition on darting the horses south of Highway 50 and north of the Carson River under the Cooperative Agreement has limited full access to the Virginia Range horse population. These horses are listed in the total population and foal birth counts provided by AWHC to NDA, but since they fall outside the southern boundary of the Virginia Range as defined by the Cooperative Agreement, AWHC cannot dart them. Meanwhile, the BLM continues to maintain that the horses in this area are not BLM horses, creating a bureaucratic inconsistency that has created a treatment gap. AWHC is unable to treat or retreat mares who travel into this area via a wildlife underpass or unfenced roadway. These mares will continue to reproduce until access to the horses in this area is granted by NDA.



Photo: Christine Dallas



Goals for Year 4

- Continue to meet the goal of treating at least 80 percent of the population of reproductive age females.
- Train 3 new darters in Summer 2022 in Billings, MT at the SCC certification class. This will bring the total number of available certified darters to 24.
- Identify and treat mares in remote areas with NDA approved bait-feeding and increased property access permissions.
- Work with BLM and NDA to gain access to treat and retreat transient Virginia Range mares between Highway 50 and the Carson River who are currently moving in and out of the NDA fertility control agreement area, crossing the southern boundary through wildlife passages and unfenced roadways.
- Continue to increase public education opportunities for program understanding through new business and public safety training, speaking engagements, fairs and exhibits, and darting tours.
- Use data analysis by the University of Pretoria to document program impacts and evaluate and adjust treatment protocols to ensure maximum efficacy.
- Assist with research updates to training modules used by the SCC in darter certification classes utilizing data analysis findings from University of Pretoria.

Questions and More Information

Suzanne Roy
Executive Director
American Wild Horse Campaign
(919) 697-9389
sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org



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NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

If you are representing someone, other than yourself, please indicate whom:

☐ WARD 1 ☐ WARD 2 ☐ WARD 3 ☐ WARD 4 ☐ WARD 5

☐ OTHER _____

DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK? YES ☒ NO ☐

COUNCIL MEETING DATE _____ A.3

AGENDA ITEM _____

IN FAVOR ☐ IN OPPOSITION ☐

COMMENTS: _____

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NAME: Terry Brooks
ADDRESS: 590 Lake St. #800
CONTACT PHONE: 775-335-3489
E-MAIL: none

If you are representing someone, other than yourself, please indicate whom:

☐ WARD 1 ☐ WARD 2 ☐ WARD 3 ☐ WARD 4 ☒ WARD 5
☐ OTHER _____

DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK? YES ☐ NO ☒

AGENDA ITEM General Public Comment A.3

☐ IN FAVOR ☐ IN OPPOSITION ☐ NO POSITION STATED - CONCERNED

COMMENTS: Chapter 35:
Follow the Politics to Homelessness

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NAME: Tracy Wilson
ADDRESS: 10444 Fire Poppy Cir
CONTACT PHONE: 775-292-0610
E-MAIL: tdk.wilson@americanwildhorsecampaign.org

If you are representing someone, other than yourself, please indicate whom:

American Wild Horse Campaign / Wild Horse Connection

☐ WARD 1 ☒ WARD 2 ☐ WARD 3 ☐ WARD 4 ☐ WARD 5
☐ OTHER _____

DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK? YES ☒ NO ☐

COUNCIL MEETING DATE 7/27/22

AGENDA ITEM Emergency Public Comment A.3

IN FAVOR ☐ IN OPPOSITION ☐ N/A

COMMENTS: Thanking the City for
work so far on the urban/rangeland
interface)

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Public Comment <publiccomment@reno.gov>

Project at 0 Riverside

1 message

Casey Burchby <casey.burchby@gmail.com>
To: publiccomment@reno.gov

Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 2:37 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this email to express support for the Howell House relocation to 0 Riverside Drive from the current location next to the Nevada Museum of Art. The plans are stunning and the structure would be a major addition to our beautiful riverfront.

The last thing local residents want to see is another modern condo building along the river walk. Though adding homes to the area is important, there are countless other locations for new builders to consider. I strongly feel the riverwalk should be someplace for everyone to enjoy.

Sincerely,
Casey Burchby

From my iPhone



0 Riverside Drive

1 message

hgh_sierra_spirit@yahoo.com <hgh_sierra_spirit@yahoo.com>
To: "PublicComment@reno.gov" <publiccomment@reno.gov>

Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 3:29 PM

Dear City Council Members,

I am making this comment in support of the proposal by the Nevada Museum of Art and Nancy Gilbert to construct a cultural center along the Truckee for the enjoyment of the general public. The idea as suggested sounds absolutely wonderful.

In addition, I would point out the popularity of Food Truck Fridays at Idlewild Park. People want to have food and drinks available while they enjoy the area. The nearest place to get any sort of refreshments from the park is 1 to 2 miles.

Please approve the development of this fabulous idea.

Sincerely,
Gloria Fitch



Public Comment <publiccomment@reno.gov>

Panhandling

1 message

Harry Robert Kindorf <outlook_F263F82FB879974F@outlook.com> Tue, Jul 26, 2022 at 1:31 PM
To: "publiccomment@reno.gov" <publiccomment@reno.gov>

Panhandling in this city has become an enormous problem and most, including those in the highest public positions, want to look the other way. This enormous problem must be addressed by city council now. Post signs throughout the city, stating panhandling is prohibited, give to charities. Our fine citizens must stop giving money to the panhandlers and give to charities instead. They don't realize they are enabling drug addiction and alcoholism as is the city fathers. Stop what is happening before this city looks like SF and Los Angeles, thank you for addressing this problem now.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows



Public Comment <publiccomment@reno.gov>

NO MORE APTS IN THE VALLEYS ON BUCK DR

1 message

Jacquelyn Marcelle <jmarcelle4@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 22, 2022 at 7:35 AM

To: "publiccomment@reno.gov" <publiccomment@reno.gov>

Sent from Mail for Windows



Agenda item for Reno City Council meeting set for tonight re: Moving to Sinai Mansion onto O Riverside Drive

1 message

Nik Walters <nwalterslaw@sbcglobal.net>

Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 2:01 PM

Reply-To: Nik Walters <nwalterslaw@sbcglobal.net>

To: "publiccomment@reno.gov" <publiccomment@reno.gov>

Cc: Nancy Gilbert <nancy@ngilbertlaw.com>, Tim Gilbert <tgilbert@intercomm.com>

Dear members of the Reno City Council,

I have been a resident of Reno since my family moved here from Idaho in 1950.

We fully support Tim and Nancy Gilbert's concept for moving the Sinai Mansion onto O Riverside Drive.

Their concept would greatly enhance the appearance of, and the public's access to, the banks of our beloved Truckee River. Their concept provides a tremendous opportunity for our community to more fully enjoy and experience the beauty of the Truckee River.

We strongly oppose any further condominium development along the banks of the river near downtown Reno. Such a development would necessarily degrade the appearance of, and restrict access to, the banks of our River and surrounding area.

Such a development would clearly not be beneficial to our community as a whole.

Respectfully,

Nik V. Walters, Esq.
P.O. Box 5083
Reno, NV 89513
(775)303-5737

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Public Comment <publiccomment@reno.gov>

Fwd: PC Public Comment Form - 07/20/2022, City Manager's Office D.2, Sunny Solomon

1 message

Heather Taylor <taylorh@reno.gov>

Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 2:25 PM

To: Public Comment <publiccomment@reno.gov>

Good Afternoon,

This comment came in through the Planning Commission email.



Heather Taylor

Planning Technician

Development Services

775-334-2668 (o) or 775-741-2981 (c)

TaylorH@Reno.Gov

[1 E. First St., Reno, NV 89505](#)

[Reno.Gov](#) | Connect with us: [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [in](#) [d](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **PC Public Comment** <wilseyc@reno.gov>

Date: Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 12:50 PM

Subject: PC Public Comment Form - 07/20/2022, City Manager's Office D.2, Sunny Solomon

To: <fournierm@reno.gov>, <renoplanningcommission@reno.gov>

Your form has a new entry. Here are all the answers.

Email Address	memorie3@yahoo.com
Your Name (First and Last)	Sunny Solomon
Address	1200 Riverside Drive, Unit 1254

Phone Number 7753295620

Planning Commission Meeting Date 07/20/2022

Agenda Item or Case Number City Manager's Office D.2

Please state if you are in favor of or in opposition of the agenda item in which you are commenting: No Position Stated - Concerned or Neutral

Your Comment

Item D.2 is not an "In Fabvor or In Opposition" item. As a resident of 1200 Riverside, I would strongly support the Howell House being moved to the vacant lot next to 1200 Riverside. To build anything larger on that property would be wildly detrimental for the traffic; it would destroy the historic setting of the surrounding neighborhood; and I cannot believe the water and sewer system would not be harmed.

By checking the "Yes" below, you understand, acknowledge, and expressly agree that: (1) all information submitted by you will be entered into the public record, made available for public inspection, and freely disseminated without restriction; and, (2) any contact, personal, financial, or medical information intentionally or inadvertently submitted by you will not be maintained in a confidential manner, or subsequently exempted from public inspection.

Yes

By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.

Yes

Sent via [Google Form Notifications](#)



PC Public Comment - 07/20/2022, City Manager's Office D.2, Sunny Solomon.pdf
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