



Muddy Mountain Herd Management Area

Clark County, Nevada

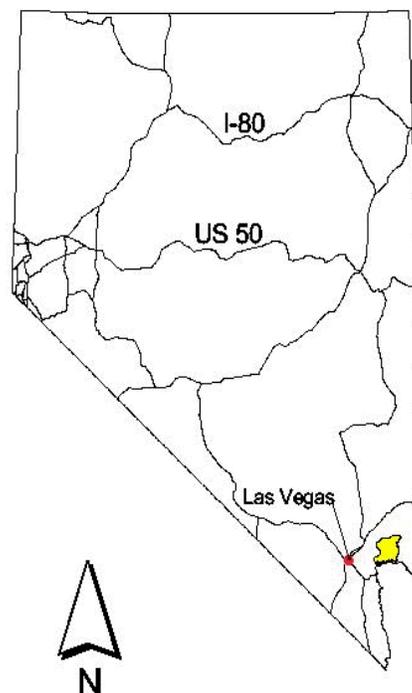
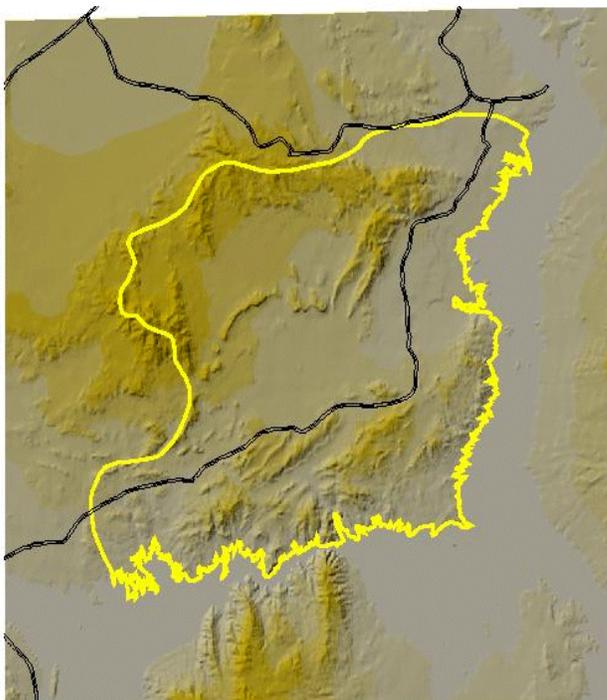


Location/Habitat

The Muddy Mountain Herd Management Area (HMA) is located in southern Nevada, approximately 40 miles east of Las Vegas in Clark County. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Las Vegas Field Office and the U.S. National Park Service (NPS) have joint administrative responsibilities for wild burros. The HMA consists of a total of 140,699 acres, with BLM managing 61,226 acres and the NPS managing 79,473 acres.

This area is characterized as Mojave desert surrounded by low, rocky desert mountains. Lake Mead consists of half of its boundary. During the hot months of the year burros occupy broken areas characterized by ravines which supply shade. During the cooler season burros move away from the lake and utilize the whole HMA.

Permanent water sources consist of springs and Lake Mead. The animals can travel up to ten miles and back each day for water during the drier part of the year. Burros drink water at least once each day during the hotter part of the year, but can survive by drinking every second day during the winter and early spring.



Vegetation

Vegetation in the HMA is typical Mojave desert shrub; low growing and able to survive long periods of drought. The vegetation consists of salt-tolerant plants such as saltbush, greasewood and rabbitbrush, with grasses such as galleta grass.

Herd Description

The estimated Appropriate Management Level (AML) is 50 burros. The NPS manages for an AML of zero; however, they do allow incidental use by the burros in the HMA area managed by both agencies.