



Tobin Range Herd Management Area Pershing County

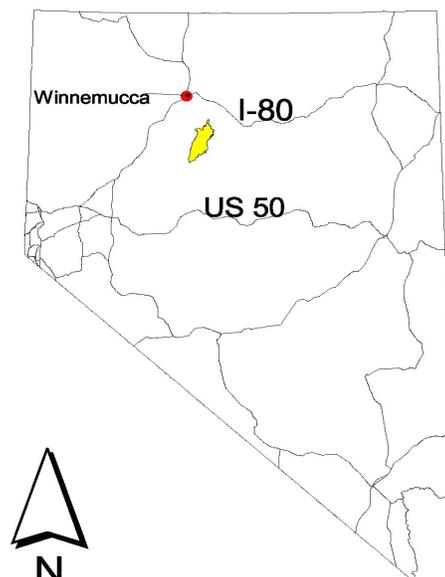
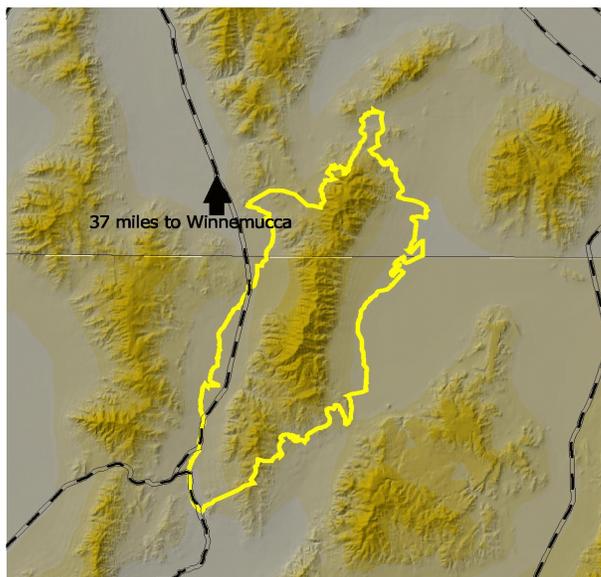


Location/Habitat

The Tobin Range Herd Management Area (HMA) is located close to the eastern edge of the Winnemucca Field Office area. It is bordered on the west by Pleasant and Grass Valleys, on the north by Buffalo Mountain, on the east by Buffalo Valley, and on the south by Jersey Valley. Horses are to occupy the area of the HMA in the Pumpnickel and South Buffalo allotments as established by evaluations and Final Multiple Use Decisions for Pumpnickel and Goldbanks allotments, and by the Land Use Plan for the Pleasant Valley and South Buffalo allotments. The elevation ranges from 9,775 feet to 4,371 feet. The area is comprised of approximately 195,136 acres: 7,702 acres private land, 187,434 acres public land (of which 1,882 acres are fenced). Summer climate is characterized by warm, dry days and cool nights. Low yearly precipitation ranges from 4 to 6 inches at lower elevations. Winters are typically cold and dry.

Vegetation

The vegetation in the HMA is characterized by big sagebrush, saltbush, bud sage, low sage, Utah juniper, rabbitbrush, horsebrush, Sandberg bluegrass, cheat grass, bottlebrush, squirreltail, needlegrass, buckwheat, filaree, halogeton, Russian thistle, tumbled mustard, and tansymustard. Poisonous plants appear to have little effect upon wild horses in this area, as there are only six species known to occur in the Tobin Range in limited quantities: deathcamas, larkspur, loco weed, lupine, halogeton, and horsebrush.



Herd Description

Horses generally stay in the same vicinity year round where water and forage is available to them. The appropriate management level (AML) for wild horses in this HMA is managed in a range from 12 to 19 horses. Periodic removals are conducted to maintain this population level. The majority of the horses are bays, browns or sorrels. They are descendants of ranch horses and horses that escaped or were released into the area. It is not possible to provide specific information on parentage of wild horses found in this area.