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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLM ANNOUNCES TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF WILD HORSE CORRALS

“The U.S. Bureau of Land Managements (BLM) Burns Wild Horse Corrals will be closed from Monday, November 19 until Monday, December 2, to enable employees to prepare recently gathered horses for adoption,” reports Burns District Manager Tom Dyer. He says, “The corral staff will need time to prepare approximately 450 animals, an unusually large number, and will be unable to provide the usual service for visitors during the effort.”

According to Burns District Wild Horse Specialist Dean Bolstad, “The preparation effort is very labor intensive and will be even more so, given the larger numbers of animals. The new horses are being gathered from the Beatys Butte Herd Management Area, south and west of Catlow Valley in Lake County.”

Preparation work involves separating the animals into pens, assuring health issues are taken care of, and providing individual animals with primary and booster vaccinations for six equine diseases and testing for Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA or “Swamp Fever”). It also includes worming, aging (inspection of teeth), freeze marking, and preparation of a comprehensive health and identification record for each animal.

In addition to the preparation efforts, ongoing feeding, facility maintenance, and other work will not allow time to provide visitor services until the facility is opened for public visits on December 2.

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Bolstad says, “The Corrals will be open to walk-up adoptions by appointment beginning on January 3, once all of the booster inoculations have been given to the animals.”

Dyer apologizes for any inconvenience the temporary closure may cause people who might want to visit the facility during the time it will be closed to the public.

People with questions regarding the temporary closure of the Burns Wild Horse Corrals can call the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4456 weekdays between 7:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Internet users can check the Burns District website at: www.or.blm.gov/Burns/ for current wild horse program information.

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