

Cherry Spring Wild Horse Territory

The Cherry Spring Wild Horse Territory (WHT) is administered by the Ruby Mountains Ranger District, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest.

Location/Habitat

The Cherry Spring WHT is located in Nevada approximately 50 miles south of Elko. The territory consists of 23,794 acres of National Forest land and 35 acres of private land. The territory lies on southern portion of the Ruby Mountain Range. It is bordered by Sherman Mountain on the north and Overland Pass on the south. It is flanked by Ruby Marsh on the east and Huntington Valley on the west.

Wild horse movements through the territory are seasonally motivated among high, mid, and low elevation ranges. The high elevation range is over 7,800 feet and is used in the summer. Snow cover prohibits high elevation use from fall until late spring. The mid elevation range is from 7,000 to 7,800 feet and is most heavily utilized in the spring as the snow line recedes and again during the fall as the snow line pushes horses out of the high elevations. The low elevation range is from the Forest boundary up to 7,000 feet and is primary winter range for the wild horse herd.

Livestock grazing is permitted within the territory.

History

The Cherry Spring Wild Horse herd was developed from saddle horses used to work livestock. The wild horse ancestry came from saddle horses of large structure such as quarter, thoroughbred, or morgan, but were not draft animals nor were they closely linked to the Arabian horse.

Herd Description

Cherry Spring WHT is managed for an appropriate management level of 58 horses. These horses are large for wild horses, 14.5-17 hands. The herd is being managed for historical characteristics. The horses have a variety of coloring. Blacks with white facial markings and black pintos are the most prominent coloring. Buckskin, palominos, gray-brown or black dapples, brown bays, grulla, and sorrels are also present. White and appaloosa coloring are not part of this herd.

For More Information

Contact the Ruby Mountain Ranger District at 775-752-3357.

