

Three Sisters Wild Horse Territory

The Three Sisters Wild Horse Territory (WHT) is administered by the Goosenest Ranger District, Klamath National Forest.

Location/Habitat

The Three Sisters WHT is located in California about 7 miles northeast of Tennant. The territory consists of 26,000 acres of Forest Service land.

Topography is open, rolling rangeland. Elevation ranges from 4,600 feet in the north to about 5,200 feet in the south. Temperatures during the winter may drop well below zero for short periods of time, and temperatures during the summer can reach 100° F. The horses spend the summer in the higher elevations of the southern part of the territory and move north during the winter.

Wildlife present within the territory include the Mt. Dome deer herd.

Livestock grazing occurs in the wild horse territory.

History

Large herds were found near Three Sisters since at least the early 1900's. The source of the original horses in this area is unknown. However, many horses escaped or were released by ranchers, miners, and soldiers, which mixed with existing herds. Indications are that in about 1950 a thoroughbred stud was released into the herd.

Over the years this and other herds were used to replenish local ranch stock and to provide supplemental income for the local ranchers. During World War I, large numbers of horses from the Three Sisters area were rounded up and sold to the Army.

When the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act was passed in 1971, population of the Three Sisters herd was 7 horses. All of the horses were bay.

Herd Description

The Three Sisters WHT is managed for an appropriate management level of 15 horses.

For More Information

Contact the Goosenest Ranger District at 530-398-4391.