



## LEAST RESISTANCE TRAINING CONCEPTS

PROCEDURE GUIDE No. 20-11

### ORPHANED RANGE FOALS

Issue Date: 1-9-2020



This Procedure Guide supersedes all previous guides in order to comply with the latest Lyon County training standards.

#### **Discussion:**

Each year we receive reports of foals that are found to be isolated, are associated with an incorrect band of horses, or are associated with the correct band but the foal's dam is missing. This Procedure Guide addresses all of these possible circumstances.

#### **Responder Qualifications:**

IS-100.c, IS-700.b, TLAR Foal Rescue Module

#### **1. Safety Policy:**

- 1.1 Safety is the overarching priority in all responses. No procedure or protocol provided in this Procedure Guide shall supersede the use of sound judgment as may be appropriate to maximize incident safety.
- 1.2 All responders shall wear appropriate helmets at all times, and wear ANSI Class-II or Class-III vests or jackets whenever operating on or near any active traffic lanes.
- 1.3 In circumstances where responders cannot reliably communicate by direct voice, portable radios shall be utilized.

#### **2 Incident Assessment:**

- 2.1 Removal of a foal shall be a last resort, necessary for the foal's welfare. A reasonable assessment shall be made to determine whether the subject foal can be reunited with its dam, is old enough to flourish with its family unit without its dam, or is socially disassociated and/or too young to likely survive without formal intervention.
- 2.2 Determinations as to which band a foal should be associated with shall be based on WHIMS and other reliable information.
- 2.3 Any decision to remove any foal for definitive care shall be based on objective findings that would include the animal's age (survivability without nursing,) degree of social integration and protection, any injuries or disabilities, and extreme environmental conditions.

### **3 Reunification:**

3.1 If a foal's dam is not known to be deceased or debilitated beyond the ability to maintain the foal, or if the foal is of sufficient age and health to maintain itself, all reasonable efforts shall be undertaken to reunite the foal with its family band.

### **4 Authorization for Removal:**

4.1 No foal shall be removed without first transmitting findings to the Range Manager or her designate including the objective evaluation of risks and probabilities, and receipt of formal approval of a removal and care plan.

### **5. Removal Operations:**

5.1 Removals of foals shall be conducted using prescribed low stress methods to the greatest extent practicable.

5.2 Detailed documentation shall be provided to the Range Manager and shall include WHIMS data (if available,) description of approximate age, sex, color and markings (including representative photos if conditions permit,) observed health and condition, location, date and time of removal and arrival at approved destination.

### **3. On-scene Immediate Care:**

3.1 If upon objective examination a foal requires immediate care in the field, protocols outlined in Procedure Guide 20-13 (Sick or Injured Range Foals and Weanlings) shall apply.

3.2 If the foal is neonatal, protocols outlined in Procedure Guide 20-12 (Neonatal Foal Emergencies) shall apply.

NOTE: All personnel should review *Responses to Incidents Involving Foals*  
<http://whmentors.org/training/foals01.html>