

# HEED THE HERD: Let's talk horse safety

The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) is responding to increased reports of horse activity in the Virginia Range. The NDA urges residents to use caution around feral horses, maintain a safe distance and stay alert on dark roads.

#### Range



The horses on the Virginia Range have the best chance of survival on the range. Like any other animal living in the wild, if there is not sufficient forage, the horses are expected to search for food to survive.

### **Drive Aware**

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Horses on or near roadways present a public safety hazard. Please stay alert, drive with caution, use your high beams when appropriate, and be prepared to stop.

# Admire from afar



While the animals can be beautiful, it's important to admire from afar. Horses can be unpredictable and may charge, kick or strike those in proximity.

# **Protect your property**

Nevada is a fence-out state, meaning property owners are required to fence their own property if they wish to keep out livestock, including the Virginia Range horses. The NDA, Nevada Department of Transportation, BLM and other local agencies are working towards erecting and repairing fencing to keep horses on the Virginia Range and away from roadways and urban areas.



## Don't feed or water



Providing feed and/or water to horses encourages them to migrate off of the range and further into urban areas where they are at risk of wandering onto roadways and being involved in vehicle collisions. Per Nevada Revised Statute 569.040, providing feed to the Virginia Range horses can result in a fine of up to \$2,000 and a gross misdemeanor charge.

Residents can call the Wild Horse Connection to report horses posing a public safety risk at (775) 352-3944.