Date: October 4, 2006 Contact: Nancy Bjelland, 406-896-5222

Fourteen wild horses from the Pryor Mountain National Wild Horse Range were adopted in September according to BLM Billings Field Manager Sandy Brooks. "The highest bid was for a red roan yearling filly. She went for \$1,500." The adoption was conducted through a sealed bid process with \$125 being the minimum bid.

Of the 18 horses offered for adoption, 14 received bids. The average price was \$565.60. The remaining four horses, all five-year-old stallions, will go to the wild horse adoption facility in Rock Springs, Wyoming, and be offered in a subsequent adoption.

The Billings Field Office had 19 approved bidders on file, and 16 of those bid on a horse. Six of the successful bidders were from Montana and two from Wyoming.

The horses remain the property of the United States government for one year. At that time, the adopter may receive title to the horse if it has been properly cared for.

###