



Prevention Pays Off

IAC Northwest Region

2019 marks the 8th year IAC and USDA's Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services provided an equine vaccination clinic on the Umatilla Reservation of Oregon. 63 horses were vaccinated with Prestige V + WNV, wormed and 38 horses coggins tested. Northwest IAC provides funding to purchase the vaccine and wormer which is ordered by the USDA Veterinary Services Veterinarian after a head count from the tribal members is completed, around three weeks prior to the date scheduled for the clinic. The Umatilla Tribes Range Program provides the funding for the coggins testing on the horses, the coggins testing is cost free from the Tribes as an incentive to the horse owners to vaccinate their horses.

In 2010 the Extension Agent at the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon encouraged IAC to contact APHIS Vet Services and request a vaccination clinic be scheduled for the Umatilla Reservation, as there is transportation of horses between the two reservations, which is ongoing and established throughout the history of the two Tribes, with the tribal members taking part in traditional parades, namings, and other cultural events.

Equine Infectious anemia (EIA) is a retroviral disease of equids that may be characterized by acute and/or chronic recurring clinical signs including fever, anemia, edema and cachexia and some animals. Many horses have very mild or inapparent signs on the first exposure, and carry the virus subclinically. The owners of these animals are unlikely to realize that they are infected unless serological testing is done. All infected horses, including those that are asymptomatic, become carriers are infectious for life. Infected animals must either be destroyed or remain permanently isolated from other equids to prevent transmission.



"I am grateful for this service and coordination. Thank you, Katherine. We are proud of having such support of our equine community from your organizational resources. Bobbie"



In 1982 a program was formed on the Warm Springs Reservation to combat an outbreak of EIA on reservation, approximately 3500 horses were rounded up and tested 2-4 times. With this history, the vaccination clinic at Umatilla is a preventative measure to keep the two Tribes horses healthy and disease free.