## Intrigue of wild horses draws tourists to rural Nevada

## By Bonnie Matton, Reno Gazette-Journal

Ecotourism isn't a word one hears often in reference to Lyon County, but a significant number of people are willing to travel thousands of miles to visit the area in search of wild horses.

I recently had the privilege of taking two groups of tourists out to see wild horses that roam the Stagecoach area.

As president of Wild Horse Preservation League, I receive many calls, emails and letters from people, not only from Nevada, but other states and other countries. They all ask the same question: "Where can we go to see wild horses?"

Several years ago the league established a Wild Horse Adventure Program, with the goal providing tourists the opportunity to see the wild ones, while bringing ecotourism dollars into rural Nevada communities. The tourists seeking a glimpse of the wild horses hires tour guides, stays in hotels or motels, eat in our restaurants and take in attractions.

On this particular April Saturday a group of nine people in search of wild horses gathered at the Carson Plains Casino restaurant to plan the morning's activities and eat a hearty breakfast.

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