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PRESS RELEASE GARFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ANIMAL CRUELTY

Garfield County, Colorado; At approximately 4:27 p.m. on November 9, 2009 the Garfield County Emergency Communications Center received a call of an injured horse on the north side of I-70. The horse was last seen near a well pad between mile marker 79 ½ and 80. Deputies located the horse and requested the Brand Inspector who responded at around 5:16 p.m. who then called out an emergency veterinarian.

Tracks left behind from what appeared to be a truck and trailer were located near a well pad in the area. It appears the horse was unloaded and shot, with what looks like a small caliber gun. A half mile blood trail was located from where the horse appeared to be unloaded to where deputies located the horse.

The horse is approx 14.2 to 14.3 hands high, and is a grey gelding in his late teens or early twenties. No brand or identifying marks were located on the horse. The bullet entered the front of his head and exited approx 5 inches below his right ear on his neck. The horse is under a vet's care and is being given meds for infection and pain.

At this time it is unclear if the horse will recover from the gunshot wound without permanent damage.