

William Gosney of Hinton, Alberta has been charged with 7 counts under the Alberta Stray Animals Act as well as 2 counts of Mischief to property under \$5,00.00 contrary to the Criminal Code. These charges are in relation to numerous complaints of stray horses on Highway 16 and Highway 40 near Hinton, Alberta. There were a total of 26 horses seized over a 3 month period from December 2008 to the end of February 2009.

The seizures were a direct result of a joint horse capture operation involving the RCMP Hinton Det., K Division Livestock Investigator, Livestock Identification Services, Alberta, Sustainable Resource Development and The Alberta Department of Transportation.

The Horse Capture Program has been an ongoing process over the past 5 years with several horses being seized and charges being laid against the owners who permit them to stray on the highways.

This year there were a total of 26 horses captured and seized. Hinton RCMP report that during 2008, there were a total of 58 complaints of horses straying on the highways. There were 3 motor vehicle collisions involving horses, with one of these collisions resulting in injuries.

In order for the safe and efficient flow of traffic upon our highways, the RCMP advise that motorists should report any stray livestock to their local detachments.