

## Hurricanes and the Shackleford Banks Wild Horses

We've received many e-mails and phone calls asking whether the horses will be removed from Shackleford since Hurricane Irene is on the way.

It really *isn't* feasible to try to remove them. We would have to round up over 100 wild horses. Get them onto barges to carry them across the sound to the mainland (which is low), then get them into horse trailers, then transport them to some place higher (?). Then, when the storm has passed, round them up again, transport them again, get them back onto barges and back across the sound to be released. (*Actually, once they are brought off, they are not allowed to be returned - by federal law*) It would be a massive undertaking, a logistical nightmare, and would likely put more of the wild horses at risk (especially the foals) than the hurricane. Also, in some years we have had as many as four hurricanes in a season.

They are wonderful, and we always worry a LOT, and pray for angels to camp out on Shackleford until the storms are past! I have lots of confidence in those herd lead-mares, too. They are smart old cookies!

Thanks to everyone for their concern. Say a prayer and keep your fingers crossed.

We'll be on the island "counting noses" to account for horses, as soon as we are able to get to Shackleford after the storm..

Carolyn Mason, President  
Foundation for Shackleford Horses, Inc.

*My treasures don't jingle or glitter in the light.  
They gleam in the sun and nicker in the night.  
~Unknown~*