

What to Know Before You Go Instructions for visitors to the 2020 Shawave HMA Wild Horse and Burro Gather

When to meet: Visitors to the gather, including all media and members of the public, must call the Nevada Wild Horse Gather Info Line at (775) 861-6700 for an update on the next day's gather activities, meeting times and location. Note: Gather operations are dependent on the weather and could change with little or no notice.

Where to meet: Visitors to the gather, including all media and members of the public, will meet at specified locations that are subject to change; locations will be determined based on the location of the traps. All visitors must call the Nevada Wild Horse Gather Info Line at (775) 861-6700, the night before they plan to attend for meeting times and locations. All visitors will need to sign in on the visitor's log sheet and there will be a short briefing for the day and introductions.

The group, led by either a LEO or BLM Staff, will then caravan out to the gather site of the day and all visitors must stay until gather operations are completed. We may not know the exact location of these sites until the day before, therefore, it is extremely important that visitors be flexible.

Transportation: All visitors must have their own transportation – BLM staff cannot take people in government vehicles except in an emergency. The temporary holding corrals/sites will move around to several locations and the roads can get very rough in and around the Shawave HMA. Visitor vehicles must have 4-wheel drive and it is recommended; the vehicles have high clearance.

Due to the distances involved within the HMA and the lack of facilities, extra gas cans are highly recommended. Visitors must have their own spare tires (we suggest multiple spare tires!). There are full-service gas stations in Lovelock, but no other gas stations between Lovelock and the gather area. Cell phones are also a good idea if you get stranded, though coverage cannot be guaranteed. We will travel together to and from the gather. Headlights must always be on during travel and if any vehicle has mechanical problems and/or flat tires, the caravan will stop.

Amenities / Lodging: There is minimal lodging opportunities in and near Lovelock, Nevada

Weather conditions: This is Nevada in August and September; it is advised to plan for everything. Dressing in layers is recommended due to highly fluctuating temperatures throughout the day.

COVID-19: BLM staff will escort all media and/or visitors to and from the gather site each day. The health and safety of our visitors, employees, volunteers, and partners continues to be paramount. We continue to work closely with the Department of the Interior and follow CDC guidance to ensure public and employee spaces are safe and clean for visitors, employees, partners, and volunteers.

The [CDC](#) has offered guidance to help people recreating on public lands prevent the spread of infectious diseases. We will continue to monitor all functions to ensure that visitors adhere to CDC guidance for mitigating risks associated with the transmission of COVID-19 and take any additional steps necessary to protect public health. When recreating, the public should follow local area health orders including Governor Sisolak's [standards](#) for individuals, businesses and employers, practice [Leave No Trace](#) principles, practice social distancing and avoid high-risk outdoor activities.

What to bring:

- Bland, earth toned-colored clothing (*NO bright colors or loud patterns, please*)
- Closed-toed sturdy shoes (*recommended some sort of hiking shoe or boot*)
- Coat / hat (*Rain gear recommended dependent on weather conditions at the time of the gather*)
- Sunscreen
- Food and plenty of water
- Toilet Paper / Tissue (*There are NO bathrooms at the trap site so plan accordingly*)

- Extra Can of Gasoline and Spare Tire (*be sure to have proper equipment*)
- Binoculars and/or Camera
- A small collapsible camp chair or cushion for the ground (*neutral in color and light enough to carry for a distance*)
- Facemask or covering
- Hand sanitizer