

What to Know Before You Go Instructions for visitors to the Desatoya Complex Wild Horse Gather

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.

Where and When to meet: Visitors to the gather, including all media and members of the public, **must RSVP** by calling (775) 885-6101 – *you must make your reservation by 5:00 p.m. the night before you intend to observe the gather activities.* If you have RSVP'd, no later than 5:00 p.m. the night before, you will receive a call back on meeting time and location no later than 9:00 p.m. that evening. **If no RSVPs are received by 5:00 p.m., no public viewing will be available the following day.**

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.

The group, led by BLM staff, will then caravan out to the gather site of the day and all visitors must stay until gather daily operations are completed. We may not know the exact location of these sites; 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. Visitor vehicles must have 4-wheel drive, off-road vehicle tires and it is recommended; the vehicles have high clearance. The roads can get very rough in and around the Desatoya HMA.

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 tire. There are full-service gas stations in Fallon, NV.

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.

If any vehicle has mechanical problems and/or flat tires, the caravan will stop.

Amenities / Lodging: For gather operations the closest lodging opportunities are in Fallon, NV.

Weather conditions: This is Nevada, in Winter is advised to plan for cold conditions. Dressing in layers is recommended due to fluctuating temperatures throughout the day.

What to bring:

- Hand sanitizer
- Food and plenty of water
- Extra can of gasoline and spare tire (*be sure to have proper equipment*)
- 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/gloves (*Rain gear recommended dependent on weather conditions at the time of the gather*)
- Sunscreen
- Toilet Paper / Tissue (*There are NO bathrooms at the trap site so plan accordingly*)
- 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*)