



## West Douglas Herd Area Gather 2023 Questions and Answers

***Q. What is the official name for this gather?***

**A.** 2023 West Douglas Wild Horse Gather

***Q. Where and how will we know when to go and where to meet each day?***

**A.** All media and/or visitors wanting to go to the gather site will need to call the information line at (720) 432-9689 for daily meeting times/location the day before their planned visit by 6:30 p.m. Meetup times and locations may change and will be updated on the information line.

***Q. Will there be any designated public observers at the gather site locations?***

**A.** Yes. BLM staff will meet the public each morning at a specified location and time to escort them to the gather sites. Limitations will only be imposed to ensure safety and accomplishment of the mission.

***Q. Why is this gather necessary?***

**A.** To prevent further deteriorating body condition of the wild horses in the area due to extremely limited forage and water sources, undue or unnecessary degradation of the public lands associated with excess wild horses, and to restore a thriving natural ecological balance.

***Q. What is the appropriate management level for wild horses in West Douglas Herd Area?***

**A.** The West Douglas Herd Area is not suitable to be managed for wild horses and the appropriate management level is zero animals. The BLM has designated the Piceance-East Douglas Herd Management Area as a suitable, nearby area for wild horse management.

***Q. How many horses will be gathered and how many will be removed from the range?***

**A.** The BLM plans to gather and remove approximately 122 excess wild horses from the range.

***Q. What will the remaining herd population of this herd management area be?***

**A.** The purpose of this gather is to remove all remaining horses from the West Douglas Herd Area, since the area is not designated for wild horses.

***Q. Where do the removed animals go?***

**A.** Excess wild horses removed will be shipped to the Canon City Facility in Colorado.

***Q. Where may I learn more about the Wild Horse and Burro Program?***

**A.** Please visit the BLM's website at <https://www.blm.gov/whb>