



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
White River Field Office
220 East Market Street
Meeker, CO 81641



August 8, 2026

Notice of Public Closure

Piceance East Douglas Gather Closure Order #CON05000-26-05 for BLM

managed lands in

Rio Blanco County, Colorado

Pursuant to 43 CFR 8364.1, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is giving notice that BLM lands in Rio Blanco County within and adjacent to the area of the Piceance East Douglas and West Douglas Herd Area (PEDHMA/WDHA) Gather as described below are temporarily closed to all unauthorized entry effective 0001 August 9, 2026. Please also see the attached map.

This emergency closure is necessary to address animal safety concerns by limiting access to gather sites and holding facilities to ensure humane care and treatment of all animals gathered but also address the potential public safety concerns by providing notification to the public of the active gather operations within a given area. The closure will ensure the safety of the public, staff, contractor and wild horse during all phases of gather activities. The order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until the completion of PEDHMA/WDHA gather operations or until this order is amended or rescinded.

Closure Area Description: This closure lifts the closure area under #CON05000-26-04 and establishes a new closure area affecting all BLM lands as described within the following boundaries: areas North and East of Rio Blanco County (RBC) Road 122, South of BLM Road 1033 and along RBC Road 88.

6th Principal Meridian

T. 1 N., R. 98 W., secs. 7 through 8, and 16 through 21, and 28 through 32;
T. 1 N., R. 99 W., secs. 11 through 14, and 23 through 26, and 36;

Prohibited Acts:

1. You must not enter or use BLM lands described in this order.
2. You must not use the roads or trails in the area described in this order.

Exemptions:

The following persons are exempt from this order: Federal, state, and local officers and employees in the performance of their official duties; members of organized rescue or fire-fighting forces in the performance of their official duties; and persons with permitted authorization from the BLM (i.e. oil and gas permittees, grazing permittees and right-of-way holders) through daily coordination with BLM and incident command operations. Penalties: Any person who violates the above rules and/or restriction may be tried before a United States Magistrate and fined no more than \$1,000, imprisoned for no more than 12 months, or both. Such violations may also be subject to the enhanced fines provided for by 18 U.S.C. 3571.

For more information:

BLM White River Field Office, (970) 878-3800.

William J. Mills
Field Manager

