

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Thank you for your interest in observing BLM wild horse gather operations – 2026 Red Desert. Gather locations are rugged and remote, and conditions can change quickly. Public observation is provided at designated locations under BLM escort, with safety as the first priority.

Before You Go

- **RSVP** with the BLM Wyoming Communications Team: blm_wy_comms@blm.gov
- Once confirmed, check your email for the meeting location, time and possible changes. Gather plans may change or be canceled on short notice.

Observation Day: What to Expect

- After a briefing at the meeting location, BLM staff will escort the group to the observation site. Observers drive their own vehicles.
- Operations often begin before sunrise. Drive cautiously in the convoy, watch for wildlife and maintain a safe following distance.
- Stay in designated observation areas until gather operations are complete and follow BLM staff instructions.
- Expect to spend up to 10 hours in the field and be prepared to wait for hours without seeing wild horses. Weather, inaccessible sites, trap moves or equipment issues can cancel viewing, sometimes after the meeting time.
- There are no public facilities or restrooms at gather sites. Cell service may be limited.
- Some observation sites require hiking over steep, rocky terrain. Hiking requirements will be explained during the morning briefing.

Plan for Remote, Rugged Conditions

TRANSPORTATION	BRING & WEAR
• Provide your own transportation; government vehicles cannot transport observers. • Roads are rugged and rocky. A high-clearance, four-wheel-drive vehicle is strongly recommended. • Have good tires, a fully inflated spare and tire-changing equipment. • Arrive at the meeting place with a full tank of gas.	• Food and plenty of water. • Weather-appropriate layers; there may be no shade. • Neutral, earth-tone clothing; avoid bright colors and loud patterns. • Sturdy hiking shoes or boots. • Binoculars or a camera with a telephoto lens. • Optional: a lightweight, neutral-colored camp chair or ground cushion.

Leave These at Home

- **Drones** are prohibited on or around the gather site. Anyone operating or possessing a drone in the observation area will be asked to leave.
- Do not bring handheld radios or other communication devices that could interfere with gather operations. Radio interference poses a safety risk.

REMEMBER: Gather operations are dynamic. Locations, access, timing and viewing opportunities may change with little notice. The safety of wild horses, observers, contractors and BLM staff comes first.