



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Billings Field Office
5001 Southgate Drive
Billings, MT 59101
<https://www.blm.gov>



NOTICE OF TEMPORARY CLOSURE

OFFICE: Bureau of Land Management, Billings Field Office

ACTION: Notice of Temporary Closure of Specific BLM-Administered Public Lands Within the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range

Pursuant to Section 303(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. § 1733(a)), 43 CFR 9268.3(d), and 43 CFR 8364.1, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is temporarily closing designated BLM-administered public lands within the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range to public access during wild horse gather operations.

This temporary closure applies to designated BLM-administered public lands and specified road segments within the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range, as depicted on the associated closure map.

Areas Closed to All Public Access:

The following areas are closed to all public access and entry, regardless of the method of travel:

- BLM-administered public lands within a 0.5-mile radius of the Pond Trap Site.
- BLM-administered public lands within a 0.5-mile radius of the Trough Trap Site. (See EXEMPTIONS below for public viewing area)
- BLM-administered public lands within a 0.5-mile radius of the Britton Springs Administrative Site.

Roads Closed to Vehicle Use Only:

Designated portions of Burnt Timber Road and Sykes Road identified on the associated closure map, are closed to motorized vehicle use. These restrictions do not prohibit non-motorized public access along the designated road segments outside the areas closed to all public access.

Crooked Creek Road, which runs adjacent to the Britton Springs Administrative Site, will remain open to public travel.

Additional information and updates regarding the gather operation are available at:

[2026 Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Gather](#)

PURPOSE: The temporary closure is necessary to protect public health and safety and allow BLM personnel to conduct wild horse gather operations safely, efficiently, and humanely. Restricting public access to active trap sites, temporary holding areas, and designated access routes reduces risks to the public, gather personnel, and wild horses while minimizing disturbances that could interfere with trapping operations.

AFFECTED AREA: This temporary closure applies only to designated BLM-administered public lands within the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range, as identified on the associated closure map. Portions of the closure areas depicted on the map extend onto lands administered by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), including portions of Pryor Mountain Road. These areas are subject to a separate closure order issued by the USFS under its applicable authorities.

The affected areas include the Pond Trap Site, Trough Trap Site, Britton Springs Administrative Site, and specified portions of Burnt Timber Road and Sykes Road. Closure boundaries and restricted road segments are identified on the associated map.

Public lands and roads outside the designated closure boundaries will remain open unless otherwise restricted by an applicable order.

DATES: The temporary closure is scheduled to begin on **October 19, 2026, at 12:00 PM**, and remain in effect through **November 16, 2026, at 6:00 PM**, unless rescinded earlier by the BLM Authorized Officer.

PROHIBITIONS: During the effective period of this Order, public access to and entry upon the designated BLM-administered public lands within the closure boundaries are prohibited, including travel on the specified closed portions of Burnt Timber Road and Sykes Road.

EXEMPTIONS: This Order does not apply to:

- Federal, State, or local officers or employees acting within the scope of their official duties.
- BLM-authorized contractors, agents, volunteers, or personnel engaged in gather operations.
- Persons specifically authorized by the BLM Authorized Officer.
- The public viewing area at the Trough Trap Site is located within the closure area. Individuals going to the viewing area must follow the designated route and stay within the designated viewing area, all other areas within the closure area are prohibited to the public.

PENALTIES: Any person who violates this Order may be tried before a United States Magistrate and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than \$1,000 and/or imprisoned for not more than 12 months, in accordance with 43 CFR 8364.1(e).

EFFECTIVE PERIOD: This Order becomes effective on **October 19, 2026, at 12:00**, and will remain in effect until **November 16, 2026, at 6:00 PM**, unless rescinded earlier by the Authorized Officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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APPROVED BY:

Nathaniel L. Arave
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NATHANIEL ARAVE
Date: 2026.10.19
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