

Directions to the Range

IMPORTANT: Check the weather first. If there is a chance of rain, we recommend postponing the trip for another time. The roads are dirt roads that get very slippery when wet—even for 4-wheel drive vehicles. High clearance vehicles are also recommended.

We recommend you take a map (available from the BLM or you can download it [here](#)); food, water, and a jacket. Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to be back. Purchase an inexpensive Rescue Card from the Colorado Division of Wildlife so you won't be charged if you need to be rescued from the area. Cell phones may not work in the area.

There are three different routes to get to the horse range.

Coal Canyon entrance: From Grand Junction, go east on I-70 to the Cameo exit (Exit 45), cross the river. Go past the Cameo Shooting and Education Complex, staying on the main road for about 1.5 miles. You will come to the Coal Canyon Trailhead. You can then explore Coal Canyon or Main Canyon.

DeBeque/ Dry Fork entrance: Exit I-70 at De Beque, CO (EXIT #62). Drive towards the town of De Beque, but instead of turning left to go through the town, drive past it and ignore the sign that says, **Wild Horse Area**. After about 3.5 miles, there will be another Wild Horse sign that points left. Turn left onto X.5 Road. You will now be on a washboard, gravel road. Continue for 6.8 miles until the road forks. Take the left fork (South Dry Fork), drive by the High Lonesome Lodge, and in about 5.5 miles, look for the sign that says, **To Wild Horse Area**. Turn left, go over the cattle guard (this is Corcoran Wash Road), and proceed on the dirt road. Note that this is the easiest turn to miss.

In about 2 miles, when you see a sign pointing left that says, "Corcoran Wash." DO NOT GO LEFT! About 4.2 miles later, you will have passed a unique geologic feature named The Goblins. In about another $\frac{3}{4}$ mile you will go through a gate that says private land. You may continue on this road since it is a county road. If the gate is closed, open it, drive through and close the gate again. About $\frac{1}{2}$ mile later, the road will fork. Go left (there should be a sign). The road is steep. Continue driving for another 1.5 miles, cross a cattle guard, and the road forks again. You will see a sign that says:

Wild Horse Area Indian Park Entrance 8 miles (arrow points up)
Wild Horse Area N. Soda Entrance 2 miles (arrow points right)

For North Soda, take the right fork. In about 1.5 miles, there is a cattle guard and a sign that says, "Entering Little Book Cliff Wild Horse Area." The drive is short into North Soda, and the road ends at a cabin. However, there are usually plenty of horses in this area, if you look carefully.

For Indian Park, Low Gap, Round Mountain, and Monument Rock, go back on the "loop" road driven in on, and continue driving about 3 or 4 miles where the road forks and go right. You will go down and back up a steep hill. Stay on the main road for another 4 or 5 miles where you cross a cattle guard when entering the wild horse range. Shortly after entering the area, there is a sign at Indian Park and another fork. To go to Low Gap and Round Mountain, stay LEFT. This is the best chance of seeing horses. The road is about 6 miles and ends at an old gas pad where you can see Main Canyon.

To go to Monument Rock, stay RIGHT at the fork at Indian Park and continue driving for about 7.5 miles. This road is impassable if it is wet, and best to have 4WD even when dry. It's an interesting drive, but horses can be hard to find because it is a heavily wooded area. If you don't see horses in the big sage park near the rocks, you probably won't see them in this section of the range.

To return to De Beque via Winter Flats and Deer Park, get back on the "loop" road and turn right. There is a sign that says, De Beque 19 miles.

DeBeque/Winter Flats entrance: Exit I-70 at De Beque, CO (EXIT #62), and turn into the town of De Beque. Turn left at the first stop sign and proceed down the street through several turns, crossing a bridge, and then turn right onto V 2/10 road. Stay on this main dirt road (there are several signs to keep you on this road) for 19 miles until you hit the intersection with the signs, Wild Horse Area Indian Park Entrance 8 miles (arrow points up), Wild Horse Area N. Soda Entrance 2 miles (arrow points right). Once you reach the signs, refer to the same instructions noted in Route 1 above.