

# Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

## Office of Public Information

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Joseph Lombardo, Sheriff

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **LVMPD and BLM Officials Combatting a Spike in Illegal Activity on Public Lands**

Law enforcement is dealing with a spike in illegal activity on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) public lands, causing the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department to step up patrol in those areas.

Visitor volumes have surged to four times the normal level amid the COVID-19 “Stay at Home” order. BLM authorities are reporting increased illegal activity of off-highway vehicles, target shooting, camping and illegal dumping—all which carry hefty fines. If caught, the penalty for these activities can result in up to six months in jail or a \$1,000 fine. Target shooting is legal outside of the valley when it is a half-mile from a state highway or 500 feet from a road. But, it is illegal to shoot near a residential area.

Authorities have also reported seeing a lot of the activities in or around the Red Rock area, prompting the LVMPD to close Calico Basin Road, which accesses several trails in the Red Rock area.

Restrictions on shooting and off-road use are in effect for all areas within the valley. These restrictions have been put in place to protect the residents within the Las Vegas Valley who are venturing into public lands that border populated areas. These closures are to maintain public safety and air quality standards for the residents of the Las Vegas Valley.

BLM recreation lands will remain open unless state or local authorities have ordered or recommended closure of public lands e.g., “Stay at Home” orders.

For more information about public lands closed to illegal activity, [click here](#) or contact BLM by phone at 702-515-5000 or by emailing questions to [lvfoweb@blm.gov](mailto:lvfoweb@blm.gov).

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[www.LVMPD.com](http://www.LVMPD.com) or [www.ProtectTheCity.com](http://www.ProtectTheCity.com)

