This video is an overview about the Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area (NCA), a unit of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS)

## "Where the Pavement Ends, the Experience Begins -Protect, Respect, Survive"

## Video

Vast
Primitive
Solitude

Where the Pavement Ends, the Experience Begins -- Protect, Respect, Survive

Situated in northwestern Nevada's high desert, The Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area, is a 1.2 million acre expanse encompassing some of the most extraordinary land the public owns.

In 2000, the U.S. Congress designated it as a national conservation area, to be managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

The landscape varies from the immense, flat, dry-lake bed known as the Black Rock Playa, to desert canyons twisting through rimrock country, and surrounded by an extensive network of jagged mountain ranges.

The rough landscape and harsh conditions in the NCA conceal a complex system of wildlife, plants (including several rare and sensitive species), and remote water sources.

Day to night temperatures can differ by as much as 50-60 degrees Fahrenheit. One day it may be sunny and warm, and the next day it can be snowy and frigid, with a wind that cuts to the bone.

It is a place of extremes. . . . landscape extremes. . . . temperature extremes. . . . visitation extremes.

Many times a visitor traveling through the NCA may not see another car or person for hours.

Other times, during a special event like a rocket launch, the Black Rock Playa turns into a mini city swarming with campers and out-of-doors enthusiasts.

The attendance at the annual Burning Man Festival transforms the area into the seventh largest city in the state.

Historic pioneer travelers left wagon ruts, inscriptions, temporary shelters, and journal entries that speak of hardship and despair.

The pioneers had to survive on what they had with them, and so will you. Bring everything you may need before you enter the NCA.

The Black Rock-High Rock Country was made a special area to protect the parts of the California and Oregon Emigrant Trails that wind across the playa and through High Rock Canyon.

Also protected is the surrounding landscape of rugged mountains and high desert.

Amazingly little has changed since those early days when the trails were created.

The 10 wilderness areas in the Black Rock-High Rock Country form a wonderful panoramic landscape - offering visitors vast areas of real solitude and unlimited opportunities for primitive recreation.

Respect your public lands by following the outdoor ethics of Leave No Trace. These lands are for your enjoyment and the enjoyment of future generations.

This is 'your' Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area:

Where the pavement ends, the experience begins. . . .

Protect

Respect

Survive

## **Credits**

Black Rock Desert- High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area

A Unit of the BLM National Landscape Conservation System

A Production of the BLM National Training Center (video released in June, 2007)

