

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT



BLACK ROCK DESERT
HIGH ROCK CANYON
EMIGRANT TRAILS

NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

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

Managers Report
Fiscal Year 2008

This report covers the Black Rock Desert - High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area (NCA) with 799,165 acres of public lands (NCA) and 751,844 acres in 10 wilderness areas located both inside (378,329 acres) and outside (373,515 acres) the NCA boundaries as well as an additional 32,000 acres of adjacent public lands for a total of approximately 1.2 million acres. There are some 17,776 acres of private land inholdings within the NCA Management Area.

1. Natural and Heritage Resource Conditions:

Natural Resource Trends

Less than one third of the NCA has been assessed for Land Health Standards. The assessed lands indicate that the vast majority of upland sites in the NCA and Wilderness are meeting the standards but less than 25% of riparian and wetland sites meet standards. The single major problem with riparian and wetland standards is populations of wild horses and cattle grazing. The first joint wild horses census was conducted with the Surprise Field Office in March 2008 and found nearly twice the number of horses that were expected in the NCA herd management areas.

Natural resource condition trends are generally stable to upward for upland sites. Riparian and wetland sites with regular exposure to wild horses or summer livestock use, often remain degraded without upward trend. As a result we plan to focus on monitoring springs and riparian sites using our partners and volunteers over the next several years.



Escalating OHV use, particularly in the closed areas of the dunes and hummocks surrounding the Black Rock Desert Playa is a major concern and will require significant efforts to stop the degradation of resources. An education and signing program has been started along with rehabilitation of OHV trails. The OHV traffic on the margins of the playa are impacting known, but unrecorded and unevaluated cultural resources as well as wildlife habitat. There is a lack of an “on the ground” presence in the NCA. Funding for staff, inventory, identification, evaluation, protection and/or rehabilitation for these resources is desperately needed.

Accomplishments toward meeting natural resource standards in Fiscal Year 2008 include the following:

- The NCA hosted a Chicago Botanical Garden Intern who conducted inventories and surveys evaluating: aspen stands, springs, pygmy rabbit and sage grouse habitats, and sensitive plants.
- Continuation of spring inventories in the northwestern part of the NCA.
- Assessments of stream conditions continues in the High Rock region.

- Campsite inventories have been completed for the NCA and Wilderness. More than 150 campsites have been recorded and physical information has been cataloged in GIS and Access database programs. Use of campsites in High Rock Canyon and Soldier Meadows Hot Springs is restricted to designated sites only.
- Field work was completed for sage-grouse habitat inventory in the area of High Rock Canyon.
- Continued assessment of the status of 20 rare plant populations in various locations.



Sage-grouse

Smooth stickleaf



Major natural resource restoration projects for 2008:

The Playa Dune Restoration Project work continued in 2008 utilizing volunteers led by the Friends of Black Rock-High Rock in cooperation with Earth Guardians and Friends of Nevada Wilderness. Some 300 feet of buck and rail fence was constructed to protect dunes impacted by illegal vehicle use. The project will continue in 2009 in the dunes and hummocks that surround the Black Rock Desert playa.

This marks the 7th year for restoring vehicle routes in wilderness. To date, the Nevada Outdoor School and the International Crew (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) and other volunteers and partners have reclaimed a total to 167 routes covering some 145 miles in wilderness.

The NCA hosted a Geological Society of America intern in the summer of 2008. He completed and updated an inventory of abandoned mine lands in the NCA and wilderness, developed new maps showing the potential for paleontological resources in the NCA and Wilderness, and assisted with other projects throughout the summer.

Work toward inventory, monitoring and restoration of streams and springs continues. The following photographs taken in 2008 show the results from the construction of a buck and rail fence enclosure at Buck Springs. The fencing was needed to keep wild horses from damaging the spring water source and to allow for restoration of the riparian vegetation.



Buck Spring in May 2008 within the new enclosure.



Same area of Buck Spring in the fall of 2008 showing lush growth of vegetation inside the enclosure.

Noxious Weeds

There is currently an inadequate inventory of critical noxious species including tall whitetop and Russian knapweed.

There is Tamarisk occupation of over 60 miles of drainage along the Quinn River within Black Rock Desert wilderness and the NCA.

Nevada Outdoor School and the International BTCV crew of 6 people from Great Britain conducted tamarisk removal projects in the South Jackson Mountains Wilderness.

Cultural Resources

Roughly 600 acres have been inventoried for cultural resources within the boundaries of the NCA. The bulk of this work was completed by the University of Nevada Reno Anthropology Department for the Rabbithole Project, although inventory and site documentation was also completed using volunteers from Trails West and the California-Nevada Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association. The NCA is also working closely with the Nevada Archaeological Site Stewardship Program, and has assigned some fourteen site stewards to sites throughout the NCA and wilderness areas.

Cultural and historic resources within the unit generally remain in fair to good condition except for sites along the playa margins which continue to be damaged by OHV traffic. Site monitors are documenting increasing damage to three sites (Trego Hot Springs, Black Rock Hot Springs, and Double Hot Springs) from OHV and unregulated recreation activity.

Major heritage restoration projects for 2008:

BLM was able to complete restoration work on the two emigrant glyphs sites that were damaged by uneducated visitors in 2004 and later. One site is located in Fly Canyon and the other site is near Post Office Cave in High Rock Canyon. The sites have been recorded and periodic monitoring of these sites will continue.

Restoration and stabilization work was completed for the Fox Homestead structure (Yellow Rock Garage). A contractor and volunteers from High Rock Trekkers completely re-pointed (added new mud chinking) the structure in 2007. The roof was repaired in FY 2008 by the BTCV volunteer crew and consisted of laying out new aspen logs and covering with natural soil. The Nevada SHPO recognized the completion of the restoration work with a certificate of appreciation for preserving Nevada's rich heritage.

Cultural inventories were complete in the Double Hot Springs area by volunteers including cultural stewards, and volunteers with the Oregon California Trails Association and Trails West.

2. Recreation Facilities, Roads and Trails Conditions

Recreation facilities, roads and trails within the NCA and wilderness are limited to only a handful of semi-developed sites and roads. Most recreation visitation is dispersed in nature and involves motorized travel. Most visitors appreciate the general absence of development and solitude available in the NCA and wilderness.

The NCA Transportation Network

The NCA Resource Management Plan designated a 900-mile road and trail system in the NCA that is composed largely of the 750 miles of primitive roads. Primary access roads are a combination of bi-annually maintained BLM system roads and County roads. Many of the primitive routes are not hardened, have low water crossings or culverts, receive little maintenance, are poorly sited, and are therefore susceptible to wash-out during run-off months. There is a large backlog of route maintenance and drainage projects remaining.

Transportation management planning was a priority for FY08. The NCA staff has been assessing route condition and the need for drainage installations, maintenance and reroutes. The planning effort completed the assessment of approximately 50% or 450 miles of the road system. Route signing was also started for the designated route system. The inventory and signing will be completed in FY09. Funding will be needed to implement upgrades and provide maintenance that will allow adequate access to the NCA and protect resources from new route development.



The Applegate Trail continues to see recreational use from the High Rock Trekkers, Oregon-California Trails Association, Trails West, and other organized and unorganized groups who like to travel the historic trail over two to three days in an effort to acquire an appreciation for the hardships endured by the emigrants and to test their backcountry skills. These folks have a strong educational component to their use, as they use trips to educate new members about the trail and related resources.

Camping Facilities

Primitive camping facilities are maintained at Soldier Meadows Hot Springs, Stevens Camp, and Massacre Ranch. Most camping use is primitive, self-contained camping, which is dispersed throughout the NCA and wilderness.

Stevens Camp Recreation Facility

The Stevens Camp cabin is one of three semi-developed recreation facilities in the NCA. The Backcountry Horsemen Association has adopted the facility and provides annual maintenance for the building with coordination with the Park Ranger. Some maintenance and improvements were completed by Surprise Field Office engineering staff.



Stevens Camp Cabin, Corrals and Vault Toilet

Soldier Meadows Area of Critical Environmental Concern

In 2008, work was completed to further improve pedestrian trail access to the hot spring pools and to continue restoration of sensitive habitats. New steel campsite markers were installed along with directional signage to direct visitors to the campsites from the main roads. A volunteer campground host was on site from May through November this year. The onsite presence greatly reduced the potential for vandalism to facilities and violations of regulations, as well as providing direct visitor outreach. To date, the project has been completed using recreation staff, volunteers and Nevada Outdoor School crew resources.

Massacre Ranch Cabin

Massacre Ranch has a rustic cabin that is popular for camping. Toilet facilities, though present, are currently below standards and in need of upgrade. The cabin is also in need of repair and maintenance. Future planning efforts will address camping use at the cabin.

Portal Signs

All of the existing portal signs were replaced in FY2008, using the additional recreation maintenance funding that was received. Portal signs were installed between 2003 and 2005 as part of the pilot sign project, but had deteriorated and were desperately in need of replacement. Signs were developed and installed according to the BLM sign standards for the NLCS.



New Portal Information Sign

Portal Information Signs/Kiosks

Portal information signs were installed in conjunction with NCA portal signs and at a few



other key wilderness portals. 14 new signs were installed. A sign graphic was designed in cooperation with partners for entrances to the Black Rock Desert Playa. A graphic is still being designed for the other key portal locations, which will be installed next spring. The kiosks generally include an area map, showing designated vehicle routes and open/closed areas, as well as the supplemental regulations for use of the area.

A new campground information sign was developed and installed at Soldier Meadows Hot Springs ACEC. The sign includes visitor use regulations and a map of the area.

New designated campsite markers were installed at designated sites in High Rock Canyon and Soldier Meadows ACECs. Visitors are restricted to designated sites within these areas.

NCA Sign Evaluation and Decision Process

A sign evaluation and decision process was approved and initiated in conjunction with the Resource Advisory Council subgroup in the spring. This process outlines where, when and how signs will be used to disseminate visitor information and area regulations as well as help protect resources. Implementation of the sign program will be handled through various activity level planning efforts including the transportation plan, recreation site plans, the wilderness management plan and cultural resource management plans. The decision to develop a process rather than site specific sign proposal was due in part to the contentiousness of signing within the NCA and the need to properly inventory and identify signing needs.

3. Outreach, Environmental Education Interpretation and Volunteers

Outreach

Revised NCA Visitor Guide

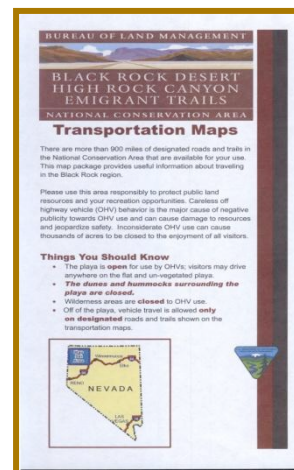
The Friends of Black Rock-High Rock website has been our go-to page for directing visitor inquiries. Detailed wilderness maps and the transportation map set are available on this site, as well as a whole range of information about the NCA resources, volunteer activities, current weather, hazards, safety, events, etc. www.blackrockdesert.org.

High Rock Canyon ACEC Brochure

A new brochure was developed for the High Rock Canyon ACEC. The brochure contains a detailed map, some history and warnings for the area and the special regulations for the area. The brochure will be available for the FY09 season

Transportation Maps

The NCA transportation maps were reprinted and disseminated to provide accurate information about designated routes, seasonal restrictions and open areas within the NCA. The maps are accompanied by text that outlines the new OHV regulations.



New NCA Brochure

A new NCA brochure was developed and printed through the Friends of Black Rock High Rock with support from the Nevada Commission on Tourism. The brochure has new and updated information and a new detailed map of the region with a focus on designated roads and trails.

NCA Mobile Visitor Contact Facility

The visitor contact trailer was operated by volunteers with the Friends of Black Rock-High Rock, Inc. and was open most weekends through the spring, summer and fall. This facility has provided outreach to thousands of area visitors since its inception in 2004. In 2008 Friends took the trailer to Earth Day events in Reno and Lake Tahoe, as well as other public venues, such as Cabela's and the Burning Man Festival. This year the facility was upgraded to better meet the needs of visitors and volunteers through the installation of a solar power source to supply light and air conditioning to the interior of the trailer. Some of the interpretive displays were also upgraded. These improvements were completed by the Friends of the Black Rock – High Rock under assistance agreement, funded in part by Challenge Cost Share funding.

Black Rock Rendezvous

The Black Rock Rendezvous has been held for the past five years as an effort to provide awareness and support as well as provide volunteer training to people who have an interest in or want to get involved with management and protection of the area's numerous resources. This year's event was the biggest success yet with over 200 participants and presentations from a variety of local organizations and artists. The event serves a multiple purpose as an outreach and advocacy event, direct service project, and volunteer training opportunity. In 2008 there were more interpretive tour opportunities for participants, and a playa dune restoration project was performed. Training this year included archaeological site steward training and orientation, which in turn led to seven new stewards being assigned archaeological sites in the NCA.

Gerlach and Empire Information Kiosks

The Friends of Black Rock High Rock maintains the highly visible information kiosk, which is located in the center of the gateway community of Gerlach, Nevada. Friends keeps the facility stocked with brochures and up to date announcements and information.

The Friends of Black Rock High Rock bought, installed, and maintains a new back-lit information map display outside the Empire Store just south of Gerlach.

Messaging

The NCA staff and partners have been working diligently to develop consistent messaging for the NCA. The following messages came from partner workshops:

- The absence of development in the Black Rock Desert and High Rock Canyon offers a unique opportunity to experience the landscape as it existed for the indigenous peoples, and the terrain, sites, and conditions as they were for the overland trail emigrants in the 1840s and '50s.
- A message was developed by our partners in 2007 and is used in publications, notices, and information materials: *“When the Pavement ends the Experience Begins: Protect, Respect, Survive”*.
- The Black Rock Desert and High Rock Canyon offers the opportunity to experience a broad spectrum of the Great Basin’s land forms and plant and animal species in an unaltered landscape.
- The Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon area of northern Nevada is extreme, foreboding and desolate – it is not for every one!
- The NCA offers unique opportunities for research and learning.
- Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly information is highlighted.

Environmental Education

Nevada Outdoor School

The Nevada Outdoor School (NOS) is a 501c3 non-profit organization that fosters knowledge and respect for all living and non-living things, increases scientific literacy, and promotes ecological stewardship in rural Nevada and beyond. NOS partners with the BLM to bring a wide range of environmental education and interpretive programs to Nevada. NOS has worked hand in hand with Humboldt County School District educators and administrators to develop a fully integrated, place based, inquiry based curriculum for grades 1-6 that works in harmony with what teachers are ALREADY doing in the classroom. It meets the national and state benchmarks and standards and is in the process of being accredited through the North American Association for Environmental Education. Each grade level is given a yearly theme that aligns to the power standards of that grade level, every lesson that we teach builds on the foundation of those standards and relates back to the yearly theme. We have also divided each month into a different unit of study ensuring that students do not receive the same lesson twice.

NOS provides outdoor education resources for land agencies, non-profit organizations, youth groups, teachers, and non-traditional educators.

In FY 2008 Nevada Outdoor School taught 7,923 students in 408 classes for a total of 16,870 contact hours.

- *Outdoor Educational Classroom Lessons*—NOS has been able to collaborate with local schools and youth groups in order to teach outdoor education in numerous classrooms with students ranging from the elementary level to high school and beyond. All of our lessons use the scientific inquiry approach and meet Nevada State Department of Education Standards. Our lessons are made available to every school in Nevada free of charge and all the lessons can be viewed and downloaded from our website at www.nevadaoutdoorschool.org.
- *Interpretive Kits*—In conjunction with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Nevada State Parks, Sheldon, Hart and Stillwater Wildlife Refuges and The Nevada State Department of Education, NOS has worked and will continue to develop interpretive kits for historical and ecological points of interest in the in lands managed by these agencies in alignment with National and State Benchmarks and Standards. These kits include sections on pre-history, history, native plants and animals, outdoor ethics, visitor information, and lesson plans/activities. These kits can be used in the classroom for thematic units, or can be used on field trips to any of the areas.
- *Classrooms Unleashed*- is the NOS fieldtrip program and will host its first full time staff member beginning September 3, 2008. NOS is working to provide benchmark fieldtrips for all grade levels in rural Nevada. WE are adding 1-2 fieldtrips each year as funding available. We currently offer the following:
 - Water canyon- 3rd grade
 - Lovelock cave- 4th grade
 - Lamoille Canyon-5th grade (will begin this fall)
 - Lake Tahoe- 6th grade

After School Programs

- Outdoor Club-Once a week Winnemucca Junior High and High School students come together after school to engage in a Service Learning Project. The Club provides nurturing, educational, and exciting activities to the youth. In this club the students participate in the process of identifying problems in the community, then develop and implement a solution. These projects benefit the community and increase student's awareness of volunteerism. This years project is Sterile Feral and has received a wide range of community and national support.

Teacher Training Workshops

- *Great Basin Teachers Workshop* ([GBTW](#))—Every summer, Great Basin National Park offers a workshop for educators who teach about the Great Basin. The workshops bring field experts to the park to teach about their fields of expertise. While teachers are the intended audience for the workshops, the workshops focus more on content than teaching methodology.

- [Lamoille Canyon Workshop](#)—Lamoille Canyon Workshop was a weeklong workshop resulting from collaborative efforts of [NOS](#), [NNREC](#), and [USFS](#), to bring natural resources education to teachers in Nevada. Educators were certified in [Project Wet](#), [Project Wild](#), [Project Archeology](#), and [Project Learning Tree](#). They also received training in grant writing.
- *Water Canyon Teacher Workshop* - Nevada Outdoor School has partnered up with the [NNREC](#) to bring an exciting and informative teacher's workshop to Water Canyon. On May 11th 2008 from 8am to 6pm educators can learn engaging, hands-on lessons and activities for your students that incorporates Winnemucca's unique and diverse natural resources. Teachers will have the opportunity to learn lessons from the Water Canyon Field trip kit on the Interpretive Trail and receive a certification in Project Learning Tree. Lessons included in the kit are: [Water Canyon : A focus on Riparian Wetland Zones](#), [Geology of Water Canyon](#), [Fresh Water Habitat : A Water Quality Study](#), [Water Canyon : Northern Paiute Indians](#), and Much More

Summer Programs

- *Nature at Noon*—Nature at noon is designed for children going into preschool through second grade. This program is filled with fun, age appropriate games, outdoor nature activities, and crafts. Each week the children have an opportunity to explore different topics in nature aimed in strengthening their awareness of nature. This summer the children will learn about rainbows, flowers, birds, insects, and much more.
- *Girl's Camp*—Girl's camp is a day camp for girls entering 5th and 6th grades. This camp provides adolescent girls with the opportunity to enjoy art, recreation, and education as they gain skills in friendship, leadership, and decision making. Women mentors, whom have become well known leaders in their community, help strengthen the girl's confidence and community interest while having fun and making new friends.
- *Adventure Camp*—Adventure camp is an indoor and outdoor science camp for students entering 3rd-8th grades. Participants of this program will have the opportunity to explore and experience exciting ecological concepts as well as enjoying such outdoor activities like orienteering, hiking, wilderness survival skills, backpacking, falconry, and much more.
- *Ruby Mountain Backpacking Adventure*—This is an eight day long backpacking trip that takes place in the beautiful Ruby Mountain range of northern Nevada. Students who participate are offered an experience and education of a life time by learning about outdoor education in a backcountry environment. Outdoor specialist will teach the students about the native fauna and flora, habitats, river and lake ecology, and many more interesting and educational lessons.
- *Sierra Mountain Backpacking Adventure*—Eight days of fun and challenges are offered to students who love the challenge of the outdoors, enjoy hands on learning, and are interested in a career in natural resource management. The

participants will spend numerous days studying the river, wildlife, land development, human impact, and many other natural resource topics while following the Carson River up into the High Sierra.

- *Black Rock Desert NCA backpacking Adventure*- Eight days of fun and challenges are offered to students who love the challenge of the outdoors, enjoy hands on learning, and are interested in a career in natural resource management. The participants will spend numerous days studying the historical and cultural significance of the NCA, the Emigrant trail, learn about native Paiute traditions and the beautiful flora and fauna that exists in the fragile desert ecosystem.
- *Family Astro*—Spinning off of our successful [Project ASTRO™](#) program, the Astronomical Society of the Pacific developed Family ASTRO to help families, youth groups, after-school clubs, and everyone else learn and enjoy some of the exciting ideas that underpin our understanding of the universe. An important aim of the program is to help parents (and other caregivers) to get more involved in their children’s science education, and to spend more time together in active experiments, observations, and discussion.

Volunteers

Both the Nevada Outdoor School (NOS) and Friends of Black Rock High Rock administered active volunteer programs.

Volunteer Activities and Accomplishments

- Inventoried 163.24 miles of roads
- Inventoried 27 dispersed campsites
- Installed 63 Signs
- Removed 1606 lbs. of debris
- Rehabilitated 5.6 miles of closed roads
- Inventoried 2 springs
- Cleaned and naturalized 6 campsites
- Cleaned and reduced 2 firerings
- Monitored 10 Vehicle Counters and installed 1.
- Recorded UTM locations for 2 new portals signs
- Removed 25 Mine Claim Posts
- Removed 41 miles of barbed wire fencing
- Cleaned 1 Historic Cabins
- Replaced roof rafters and cleared 10ft of defensible space around historic Yellow Rock Garage.
- Created 2 Gabions to protect the endangered Desert Dace at Soldier Meadows
- Dispersed 1000 Lbs of Rock at Soldier Meadows campground
- Transplanted 8 Basalt Cinquefoil – a sensitive species
- Improved 2.25 miles of hiking trail
- Inventoried 2 historic homesteads (Bernard’s and Van Riper Place)
- Recorded 1 historic can dump site

- Set-up camp host at Soldier Meadows Hot Springs campground
- Encouraged stewardship and hosted tours for 144 participants at the Black Rock Rendezvous
- Hosted 2 Eco Kids Camps (including National Public Lands Day)
- Constructed 312ft of buck and rail enclosures around Coyote Spring Dunes
- Rehabilitated 2 dunes on the Black Rock playa
- Removed 2 illegal hunter blinds in Wilderness
- Cleared 3 roads of fallen trees
- Assisted BLM with ICP set-up at the Burning Man event
- Set-up two yurts for BLM interpretation camp at the Burning Man event
- Staffed the interpretation camp at Burning Man with volunteers
- Assisted with BLM Monitoring at Burning Man
- 18 rusted livestock troughs were removed from Wilderness
- Established 1 turn around point at the end of a Wilderness access road
- Built 1 rock wall to discourage OHV use at the end of a trail head

4. Science

Current Science Projects

Playa Dynamic Study

This is a collaborative effort between BLM and the Desert Research Institute. Chief investigators: Don Sada and Ken Adams.

This is the last year of a three-year study of the physical and biological impacts of increased recreational use on the playa of the Black Rock Desert. DRI is helping answer questions about the forces that influence the condition of the playa and specifically how human use is impacting the playa and what if any mitigation might be required to reduce such impacts. The three-year study is funded using fee program monies of around \$150,000 with a match of about \$50,000 from DRI.

Preliminary findings indicate that heavy levels of vehicle use impact eggs of native aquatic macro-invertebrates that occur on the dry playa between wetting events. Additionally, much of the observed transient dune formation is due to natural processes that are somewhat enhanced by increased recreational OHV use.

Paleontology Research

High Rock Paleontology—Ongoing research into the geology and geomorphology associated with a Miocene fauna. Chief investigator: Dick Hilton, Sierra College.

A multi-year study of a Miocene fauna associated with volcanic ash events in the High Rock Canyon area. Primary findings relate the fauna to a widespread lahar event.

Hot Springs Research

Black Rock Hot Springs Bacteria—Ongoing research into archaeobacter species associated with hot springs. Chief Investigator: Chuanlun Zhang, Univ. of Georgia.

A multi-year study of primitive bacteria living in hot spring vents. This group is primarily marine in origin so the non-marine species provide opportunities to study the evolution of the group.

Cultural Resource Research

Cultural resource inventories have been completed on only about 2% of the NCA and Wilderness. The NCA received challenge cost-share funding to continue with inventory work to be completed by the Sundance Archaeological Research Fund (SARF) at the University of Nevada Reno (UNR) as well as funding to support the Rabbit Hole project also through UNR. Some 500 acres were inventoried and several Depression Era mining sites were intensively recorded and tested this year.

Trails West provided volunteer labor for archaeological inventory and site recording at Double Hot Springs.

California-Nevada Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association provided volunteer labor for archaeological inventory and site recording at Double Hot Springs.

High Rock Trekkers provided volunteer labor for rehabilitation and stabilization of the Fox Homestead structure.

Refer to the attached Science Table for a list of current projects.

5. Partnerships, and Collaborative Relationships

Nevada Outdoor School

The Nevada Outdoor School (NOS) is a 501c3 non-profit organization that fosters knowledge and respect for all living and non-living things, increases scientific literacy, and promotes ecological stewardship in rural Nevada and beyond. NOS partners with the BLM to provide outdoor education resources for land agencies, non-profit organizations, youth groups, teachers, and non-traditional educators. (Refer to the section of this report regarding environmental education for more information about NOS programs.) NOS also supports several positions and sponsors an AmeriCorps program based out of Winnemucca NV that provides a valuable service to BLM and surrounding communities. For more information see the NOS website at <http://www.nevadaoutdoorschool.org/>

AmeriCorps Program

Nevada Outdoor School's AmeriCorps* State program is in its second year of operation. Currently, the program hosts 12 full-time AmeriCorps members and one half-time member at worthy organizations throughout the greater Winnemucca area. The host sites where members serve include the Friends of the Black Rock/High Rock, Nevada Outdoor

School, the American Red Cross, the Winnemucca Domestic Violence Shelter, Safe Haven Rescue Zoo, Hospice and JOIN. These members are individuals who are dedicating a year of their lives to serving others in the community by being community stewards and educators. Nevada Outdoor School will also host AmeriCorps VISTA volunteers at the following organizations for FY 2009: JOIN, Hospice, First way Pregnancy, Friends of the Black Rock High Rock, Great Basin College, and French Ford Middle School. We hope to expand our program next year to include additional host sites.

Full time AmeriCorps members benefitting the NCA and other BLM public lands included Docent Coordinators, Naturalist Educators, Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly Educators, Rural Outreach Specialist, Transportation Specialist and Service Learning Coordinators year-round in the NCA and surrounding areas.

British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)

The Nevada Outdoor School, in collaboration with the BTCV was able to host the third annual international volunteer crew to perform restoration and other project work in the NCA. This group of 5 dedicated volunteers paid for the privilege of a working “Holiday” in the hot, dusty Black Rock Desert region for three months on various tasks that are highlighted in the volunteer section of this report.

Friends of the Black Rock High Rock

The Friends of Black Rock High Rock is a 501©3 organization which helps manage the resources of the Black Rock Desert region and educates the public to foster stewardship and preserve its unique character. Friends promotes the health and welfare of the Black Rock Desert NCA and the neighboring region through direct volunteer management and conservation services, visitor contact, interpretive tours, events, websites, and publications.

Friends educates visitors about the safe, responsible use of sensitive resources, enlists and trains volunteers from all interests to stabilize, improve, monitor, or enhance historical and natural resources, encourage the enjoyment and improvement of recreation opportunities, and develop programs for education and interpretation. The organization recognizes that as visitation to the Black Rock Desert increases, it is important that people appreciate the remote wilderness qualities of the area and avoid behaviors which could be destructive to fragile ecosystems, or to themselves.

The Friends of Black Rock High Rock is under an Assistance Agreement and BLM provided \$47,500 to the organization in 2008 for various projects and programs. Friends also provided funding and volunteer support for numerous projects and events in the NCA as outlined below:

Maintains a comprehensive website with the most up to date visitor information available for the Black Rock Desert region at <http://www.blackrockdesert.org/>

Maintained the Gerlach and Empire information kiosks.

Friends sponsored an Emigrant Experience Tour with Chuck Dodd that had 10 members participate over 2 weekends in the NCA.

Friends continues with the Playa Dunes Restoration project. See the paragraph under Restoration projects.

Friends provided volunteers and had a display at the Burning Man Earth Guardians interpretive camp in conjunction with the BLM Playa interpretive exhibit. Approximately 7,500 visitor contacts were made at the exhibit over a 1 week period, and public service announcements were produced for the event information radio station.

Several Friends members attended the Association of Partners for Public Lands national conference in Denver and were successful at networking with numerous national organizations.

Friends provides on-going visitor contact through the website, the Friends office in Gerlach that is open for walk-in visits, as well as phone calls, email correspondence.

Other outreach included:

- * Manned a booth at the Jackpot of Gems, in Reno
- * Attended “X Night” at the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno
- * Attended the Lake of the Sky Festival at Lake Tahoe
- * Sponsored Hot Springs Tours with the Sierra Club
- * Attended the Nevada Day Parade in Carson City
- * Produced a spring and fall newsletter distributed to over 800 people
- * Produced monthly electronic newsletters to over 1200 people



NCA Visitor Contact Trailer next to restored Friends of Black Rock High Rock office in Gerlach.

Special Community Events supported by Nevada Outdoor School and Friends of Black Rock High Rock

- *Earth Day Celebration*—Earth Day is a large scale celebration across the globe of our beautiful Mother Earth. Winnemucca takes this opportunity to host a wide range of hands on activities for students at the Winnemucca Community garden. Students have the opportunity to learn a variety of earth friendly concepts such as composting, recycling, leave no trace camping, and much more. The Friends of Black Rock brought the NCA Visitor Contact Trailer to 3 separate Earth Day events in Reno, contacting hundreds of people and promoting wilderness ethics.
- *Public Lands Day*—National Public Lands Day is the nation’s largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands American’s enjoy. Teaming up with the Winnemucca BLM field office, NOS has successfully co-sponsored a variety of volunteer work projects throughout Nevada’s wilderness areas in an effort to protect the fragile desert environment. By recruiting and training volunteers and providing outdoor education lessons, NOS works to increase the community’s awareness and appreciation of our wilderness areas during this national event.
- *Black Rock Rendezvous*- each year on Memorial Day weekend, NOS, the Friends of the Black Rock and the BLM host a 3-day interpretive and volunteer training event that had some 300 participants in 2008. Please visit www.blackrockdesert.org/rendezvous for more details



National Public Lands Day participants cleaned up an old mine site in the Pahute Peak Wilderness - background.

Listing of local partner organizations

Association of Experimental Rocketry of the Pacific (AERO-PAC) has roots in the earliest times of high-power rocketry. Aeropac provided a presentation and rocket demonstration at the Black Rock Rendezvous.

AmeriCorps is a national program that provides support to nonprofits, public agencies, and community organizations to increase the capacity of low-income communities across the country to solve their own problems. It provides human resources to regional nonprofits through the VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America), rural AmeriCorps, and National Civilian Community Corps programs.

Desert Research Institute (DRI) conducts environmental research and fosters scientific talent for the advancement and integration of terrestrial, hydrologic, atmospheric, and anthropologic sciences. DRI is conducting the Black Rock Playa Dynamics Research Project under an assistance agreement.

Friends of Nevada Wilderness is dedicated to preserving all qualified Nevada public lands as wilderness. Friends assists with organizing and conducting several volunteer stewardship projects each year in the NCA.

Earth Guardians inform, inspire and encourage Burning Man participants to apply Leave No Trace (LNT) principles to life in their temporary desert home and beyond. Earth Guardians conducts an annual LNT trainer course each year in the NCA.

Back Country Horsemen Association perpetuates the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's backcountry and wilderness. The BCHA conducts wilderness monitoring and site stewardship for a popular camping area in the NCA.

Friends of Black Rock-High Rock (FBRHR) promotes the health and welfare of the NCA and surrounding region through direct volunteer management and conservation services, visitor contact, interpretive tours, events, websites, and publications. Friends operates the visitor information station and assists with volunteer projects in the NCA under an assistance agreement.

Great Basin Institute is an interdisciplinary field studies organization that promotes environmental research, education, and conservation throughout the West. GBI provides volunteer labor and research associates to assist with recreation and wilderness projects in the NCA.

High Rock Trekkers four-wheel drive club promotes Tread Lightly principles and works to ensure that trails and roads remain open for motorized access. The Trekkers assist with various maintenance projects each year.

Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) protects, preserves, manages and restores wildlife and its habitat for their aesthetic, scientific, educational, recreational, and economic benefits. NDOW provided an informative presentation at the Black Rock Rendezvous.

Nevada Outdoor School fosters knowledge and respect for living and non-living things, increases scientific literacy and promotes ecological stewardship in rural Nevada and beyond. NOS is a key partner that operates under an assistance agreement. It annually provides labor and staff to assist with recreation and wilderness projects.

Nevada Rock Art Foundation identifies, documents, preserves, and protects rock art and promotes public awareness and appreciation of Nevada rock art and other heritage resources.

Oregon California Trails Association (OCTA) is dedicated to the preservation and protection of overland emigrant trails and the emigrant experience. OCTA members advocate and protect the trails to prevent the destruction of trail remnants, graves and other trail-related sites in the NCA.

Reno Gem and Mineral Society develops and fosters interest in the rock, gem, and mineral hobbies, and locates and identifies various materials through field trips. RGMS provided a

presentation and field trip at the Black Rock Rendezvous.

Sierra Club is a grassroots environmental organization that promotes conservation and preservation of wilderness and conducts hikes, tours, and stewardship outings in the NCA.

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe is a federally recognized Indian Tribe whose reservation borders the NCA. The reservation contains one of the last habitats for the endangered Lahontan Cutthroat Trout. Summit Lake Tribe works together with BLM to raise awareness of and reduce impacts to LCT habitat.

Trails West, Inc. is a working group of volunteers dedicated to locating and marking the California Trail from southern Idaho to its various destinations in California. TW members place markers on the trails and maintain existing markers along the Applegate and Nobles National Historic Trails in the NCA

Advisory Committees

The NCA has a Resource Advisory Council (RAC) Subgroup consisting of up to 16 members that represent a diverse variety of interests and stakeholders. The Subgroup is an outcome from the NCA Resource Management Planning effort. The group is all-volunteer and reports to both the Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin and Northeast California RACs. The RAC Subgroup met once in 2008. The meeting focused on the Wilderness Management Planning effort and selection of alternatives. The group also discussed various ongoing projects and issues as well as a proposed recreation plan for the NCA.

The Sierra Front-Northwest Great Basin RAC toured the NCA in July and discussed the wilderness management plan, recreation issues, OHV use, and drought conditions affecting wild horse populations in the NCA.

Refer to the attached Partnership Table for a listing of project contributions.

6. Fiscal Year 2007 Business Practices

Total BLM annual expenditures and total number of work months

Total allocated federal appropriations available for labor and project work in the Black Rock NCA and wilderness in FY 08 was \$889,000. This total includes four cultural resource and one recreation challenge cost-share projects for a total of \$52,000. In addition, an estimated \$60,000 in labor and project work costs were funded out of the Surprise Field Office and an estimated \$100,000 was funded out of the Winnemucca Field Office for support of various programs and projects in the NCA and wilderness

Receipts from recreation and other activities and their associated uses.

The annual Burning Man event is the largest special recreation permit administered by BLM. The 2008 event saw a peak population of 49,599 participants from all over the world. Since the accounting for the event is not yet completed, the estimated total cost for the special recreation permit is \$1,108,000. The total includes cost recovery expenses of about \$703,000. The cost recovery funds are used to pay for BLM expenses for administering the permit, conducting compliance and for law enforcement activities. The total also includes the commercial rate fee of 3% of gross revenues that should reach around \$405,000 this year. The \$405,000 is held in the NCA fee program account to be used for visitor services, resource protection projects, road maintenance, and other related projects in the NCA and Wilderness.

Other special recreation permits issued this year include rocket launches, commercial guides and outfitters, and land speed trials for the North American Eagle project. These permits generated an estimated \$15,000 in 2008.

BUDGET TABLES

Table 1. BLM ALLOCATION	
FY 2008	
Base Funding (Labor and Operations)	\$ 653,000
One Year Flexible Funding (Labor and Operations)	\$ 236,000
<i>TOTAL Allocation</i>	\$ 889,000
<i>Does Not include recreation fees or cost recovery receipts.</i>	

Table 2. CONTRIBUTED FUNDS & IN-KIND SUPPORT	
FY 2008	
Nevada Outdoor School: In Kind Volunteers for Black Rock NCA Projects FY 2008	\$82,159
Nevada Commission on Tourism- advertising for the Black Rock Rendezvous	\$3,000
British Trust for Conservation: Summer Volunteer Crew	\$26,680
High Desert RV Park: housing for volunteer crew	\$1,710
Nevada Division of State Parks: funding for Black Rock Trails Project	\$65,000
United Way: funding for environmental education programs	\$29,000
Public Lands Institute: funding for NPLD	\$440
AmeriCorps VISTA: 3 full time VISTA members to perform outdoor education	\$90,000
AmeriCorps State: Leave No Trace Member, Docent Coordinator, Transportation specialist	\$90,000
Friends of Black Rock - Nevada Commission on Tourism- event promotion, publications, kiosks	\$15,200
Friends of Black Rock: In Kind Volunteers for Black Rock NCA Projects and outreach FY 2008 (not included w/ NOS above)	\$26,721
Friends of Black Rock - NCA Visitor Contact Trailer – volunteer labor	\$20,828
Friends of Black Rock – Black Rock Desert Museum	\$3,325
TOTAL Contributions	\$454,063

Table 3. RECEIPTS FROM RECREATION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES	
FY 2008	
Special Recreation Permits (# collected)	\$ 415,537
TOTAL Receipts	\$415,537

Table 4. COST RECOVERY	
Source and usage	Amount
Burning Man - used mainly for Law Enforcement at the event	\$703,000
This is Estimated Cost	
TOTAL Cost Recovery	\$703,000

Table 5. MAJOR EXPENDITURES	
Item	\$Cost
Labor	\$634,500
Travel	\$35,000
Supplies/Materials	\$102,800
Vehicles	\$60,000
Other	\$459,500
Contracts, Services and Agreements	\$116,400
TOTAL Expenditures	\$1,408,200
Includes expenditures from recreation fees but does not include contributed funds.	

Table 6. STAFF & WORK MONTHS		
Black Rock Desert – High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails NCA		
Work Months and Funding (10 wms = 1 work year)	Work Months	Funding (\$ K)
Black Rock NCA Staff		
NCA Manager	10	\$96,000
5 permanent staff: Outdoor Recreation Planner, Wilderness Specialist, Backcountry Ranger, Archeologist, Ecologist	50	343,000
1 Contract Park Ranger	10	\$40,000
Total for NCA Staff	70	\$479,000
Winnemucca Field Office Staff Support		
Wildlife, T&E	1	\$6,500
Wild Horse & Burro	2	\$13,000
Range	3	\$20,000
Administrative Support	8	\$58,000
Totals for Winnemucca FO	14	\$97,500
Surprise Field Office Staff Support		
Range	2	\$13,000
Weeds	0.5	\$3,500
Cultural/Paleo	0.5	\$3,500
Wildlife, T&E	1	\$13,000
Law Enforcement	1	\$13,000
Fire and Fuels	1	\$12,000
Totals for Surprise FO	6	\$58,000
TOTAL Work Months & Funding	86	\$634,500

7. Managers Corner = Wilderness

A discussion of the Black Rock Desert – High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails NCA is not complete without a discussion regarding Wilderness. The 10 wilderness areas associated with the NCA total 751,844 acres. Seven Wilderness areas are located inside the NCA boundaries (378,329 acres) and most of 3 Wilderness areas are located outside the NCA boundaries (373,515 acres). The Black Rock Desert Wilderness is currently the largest single Wilderness unit in BLM. The 10 Wilderness areas are listed in the following table:

Name	#Acres	Name	#Acres
Black Rock Desert	314,829	Little High Rock Canyon	48,353
Calico Mountains	64,983	North Black Rock Range	30,646
East Fork High Rock Canyon	52,616	North Jackson Mountains	23,437
High Rock Canyon	46,463	Pahute Peak	56,890
High Rock Lake	59,093	South Jackson Mountains	54,534

Wilderness Program Projects and Accomplishments

Wilderness Monitoring

The NCA staff monitored all 10 areas which includes some 800 miles of boundaries and replaced some 250 boundary signs.

- Monitored by vehicle and on foot entire boundary and large interior portions of wilderness areas for
 - o Motorized/ mechanized vehicle trespass
 - o Unauthorized activities/uses
 - o Compliance with SUP stipulations
 - o Compliance with cooperative agreement stipulations
 - o Public use activities and levels of use
 - o Campsite condition
 - o General resource condition (wildlife, plants, cultural, wild horses, trails/ routes, etc.)
- Coordinated and completed aircraft safety plan, contract, schedule, and flight de-confliction of monitoring flights for Winnemucca and Surprise Field Offices (18 wilderness study areas and 10 wilderness areas)
- Conducted aerial monitoring of 10 wilderness areas and one wilderness study area.

Wilderness Management Plan

- Substantial progress was made toward completion of a Wilderness Management Plan draft document.
 - o A meeting was held with the RAC subcommittee to present the preliminary alternatives and planning issues. A general consensus was reached that public use needed to be managed and benefits based management would be an appropriate approach for maintaining wilderness solitude and naturalness. The subcommittee felt more details were needed to formulate management direction for natural fire and range developments.
 - o A final range of alternatives was developed and a preferred alternative selected by the WFO and SFO managers.
 - o Draft management objectives and strategies were developed and the impact assessment portion of the NEPA portion of the wilderness plan was initiated.
 - o A formal consultation conducted with NDOW representatives.

Two notices of proposed actions were issued

- Public Notice, Environmental Assessment (NV-025-08-13), and FONSI were prepared and signed for use of mechanized equipment to remove debris from the Fluorite Mine site within the Pahute Peak Wilderness Area. See project details below.
- Public Notice and draft Environmental Assessment were completed for renewal of the Happy Creek Grazing Permit. As of the end of FY08, the EA was under protest and no final decision had been issued.

Restoration Projects

- High Rock Lake Restoration (High Rock Lake Wilderness)-
 - o Abandoned fenceline (0.8 miles) removed and restored to natural conditions.
 - o Approximately 64 hours of labor were donated by Friends of Nevada Wilderness and Nevada Outdoor School.
- Fly Canyon Restoration (High Rock Lake Wilderness)
 - o Abandoned road (0.4 miles) rehabilitated to single hiking trail.
 - o Approximately 36 hours of labor were donated by Friends of Nevada Wilderness and Nevada Outdoor School.
 - o Project 50% complete.
- Horse Spring Restoration (Pahute Peak Wilderness)
 - o Discarded troughs, abandoned structure and other items removed and sites rehabilitated (0.5 acres).
 - o Support from Nevada Outdoor School and British Trust Conservation Volunteers (BTCV).

- Harry Spring Restoration (High Rock Lake Wilderness)-
 - o 12 discarded troughs removed and site rehabilitated (0.5 acres).
 - o Approximately 100 hours were donated by the British Trust Conservation Volunteers.

- Summit Twin Spring Restoration (North Black Rock Range Wilderness)
 - o With support from Friends of Nevada Wilderness, Nevada Outdoor School, BTCV approximately 0.5 miles of abandoned fenceline were dismantled.
 - o Approximately 126 hours of labor were donated by volunteers.
 - o Project is approximately 40% complete.

- Abandoned Structure Removal and Restoration (Pahute Peak Wilderness)
 - o With support from other Black Rock Field Office staff, Friends of Nevada Wilderness, Reno Montessori School, Friends of Black Rock, and Nevada Outdoor School: approximately 2.5 tons of debris were removed.
 - o Approximately 720 (60 volunteers) hours of labor were donated by volunteers.
 - o Project 60% complete. Wooden portion of structure, materials inside structure and 1.5" black poly pipe in canyon still remain. Remaining materials need to be treated and removed to finish project.

Weed Inventory, Monitoring and Treatment Projects

- Inventoried several portions (approximately 700 acres) of the North and South Jackson Mountain wilderness areas for tamarisk and other noxious weeds.

- Tamarisk Treatment:
 - o Obligated \$7,500 to Nevada Department of Forestry (NDF) for three tamarisk treatment projects within the South Jackson Mountains Wilderness Area.
 - o Coordinated with NDF to re-treat tamarisk within approximately 60 acres of Bliss, Alaska, and Hobo canyons.

Range Management (see also Restoration Projects)

- Conducted condition assessment for 40 range water developments and 6 fence lines or fenceline segments.

- Assisted with wild horse and burro gathers for Fox Range HMA/ Fox Mountain WSA

- Assisted with wild horse and burro census for Fox Range, Calico, Granite, Warm Springs, Black Rock East, Black Rock West, and Pahute HMAs (included Fox Mountain WSA, Lahontan Cutthroat ISA, Calico Mountains, High Rock Lake, East Fork High Rock Canyon, Little High Rock Canyon, North Black Rock Range, and Pahute Peak wilderness areas).

Wilderness Boundaries

- Upgraded signs at six locations with steel posts and wilderness boundary signs to aid recovery of areas rehabilitated and/or closed to motorized use at designation (approx. 25 acres).
- All wilderness boundaries were monitored and re-signed with fiberglass signs as needed.
- Work on the draft legal descriptions for the Calico Mountains continued and was initiated for the North Jackson Mountains and Pahute Peak wilderness areas.

Law Enforcement

- During monitoring efforts, discovered three instances of unauthorized motorized vehicle use within designated wilderness.
- Coordinated with law enforcement officers, range specialists, and archaeologists at both the State and District levels to issue two public notices and two written warnings for unauthorized use of motorized vehicles within wilderness.
- Removed two illegal hunting blinds—one within the Pahute Peak Wilderness and one within the Little High Rock Canyon Wilderness.

Location/Unit	Project Name	Discipline	Research Contributor/ Collaborator/	Project Description	Status	Products	Applications	Outreach Options	BLM Contributions
Black Rock Desert Playa	Playa Dynamics Study	Geology, Biology, Hydrology,	Desert Research Institute	Study of the dynamics of the vast Black Rock Desert Playa, what it is made of, how and why dunes are formed, living organisms in the soild, and dertermining what the impacts of human use is and how it can be mitigated.	3rd year - wating for final report and recommendations	Report with recommendation for management of human uses and mitigation of impacts on the playa	To change management and/or mitgate impactsto resources		\$150,000 over 3 years
Black Rock NCA	Sundance Archeology Project	Archeology	University of Nevada Reno	UNR conducts archeological surveys in the NCA and wilderness for the purpose of discovering and recording prhistoric sites in the search for early man in desert. Emphasis is on searching for sites with buried components, which have a higher potential for haveing intact features and perishable items, which in turn would yeild valuable subsistence data and chronological information.	3rd year for the Sundane Project	Information in the form of inventory reports, site records, potential testing and excavation reports, presentations at conferences and to the public, and published papers and manuscripts.	Information will be useful for public education and interpreteation.	Use information to develop public interpretation products and presentations	\$13,000 in 2006 \$13,000 in 2007 \$12,500 in 2008
Black Rock NCA	Rabbit Hole Field School	Historic Archeology	University of Nevada Reno	UNR conducts a historic archeology field school each year near Rabbithole Springs. Focus is unventory and excavation of great depression era gold mining camps in the vicinity of Rabbithole.	3rd year for the field school	Identifying, recording and excavating historic sites and developing invormation to be used in the interpretation of historic resources within and outside the NCA.	Infromation about the history of mining camps in and outside the NCA will be used to presevre and intepret the history.	Use information to develop public interpretation products and presentations	\$20,000 in 2006 \$20,000 in 2007 \$5,000 in 2008

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1	Location/Unit	Project Name	Partners	Project Description	Status	Results	Outreach Options	BLM Contribution	Partner Contribution
2	High Rock Canyon- Yellow Rock Garage Historic Site	Yellow Rock Garage Restoration October 6-9, 2007	Nevada Outdoor School	BLM and NOS replaced the rafters of the roof with new Aspen poles as needed, then installed an insulating layer with a combination of sagebrush and straw and placed burlap sacks as a preventative measure. Dirt was placed on top of the roof and 10 ft. of defensible space was cleared around the building. All work was done with historical accuracy to maintain the integrity of the structure.	Completed	Replaced roof rafters and top roofing layer on Yellow Rock Garage . Cleared 10 ft. of defensible space			2 unskilled volunteers worked 34hours each valued at \$1,020.00 of in-kind labor
3	Soldier Meadows ACEC	Soldier Meadows Transprotation Planning November 13-16, 2007	Nevada Outdoor School	NOS assisted with logging GPS coordinates in order to create more accurate maps of the NCA. They also monitored campsites and installed wilderness signs	On Going	Over 60 miles of road inventoried and logged using GPS. 6 Campsites inventoried. 7 wilderness signs installed.	See attached news article: "Blm, Nevada Outdoor School map Soldier Meadows"	BLM contribute \$49,000 for all transportation planning project	5 skilled volunteers worked 40 hours each valed at \$4,600.00 of in-kind labor
4	Calico Wilderness Area	Calico Mountains Transportation Planning November 29-December 1, 2007	Nevada Outdoor School	NOS assisted with logging GPS coordinates in order to create more accurate maps of the NCA. They also monitored campsites, installed wilderness signs, and removed trash and debris from wilderness areas.	On Going	31.96 miles of road logged using GPS. 2 campsites inventoried. 2 wilderness signs installed. Removed 150 lbs. of debris from wilderness	See attached news article: "Groups continue work throughout Black Rock Area"	BLM contribute \$49,000 for all transportation planning project	2 skilled volunteers worked 30 hours each valued at \$1,380.00 of in-kind labor
5	High Rock Canyon	Massacre Ranch Trasporation Planning December 4-7, 2007	Nevada Outdoor School	NOS assisted with logging GPS coordinates in order to create more accurate maps of the NCA. They also monitored campsites, installed wilderness signs, and removed trash and debris from wilderness areas.	On Going	39.15 miles of road GPSed. 7 Campsites inventoried. 6 wildernes signs installed. Removed 200 lbs. of debris			4 skilled volunteers worked 30 hours each, valued at a total of \$3,680.00 of in-kind labor
6	Soldier Meadows	Soldier Meadows Rehabilitation March 28- 30, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School	NOS, Friends of Nevada Wilderness and Friends of Black Rock High Rock recruited 26 volunteers for a weekend of improving the Soldier Meadows campground. Gabbions were built to protect the desert dace, basalt cinquefoil was transplanted, tresspassed road was rehabbed, trail was improved and rocks were dispersed.	Completed	2.25 miles of road rehabilitated. Two gabbions were created. Dispersed 1,000 lbs of rocks. Transplanted 8 Basalt Cinquefoil. Improved 2.25 miles of trail.	See attached news article "Local groups team up to rehabilitate Soldier Meadows and flyer		26 volunteers worked 8 hours each for a total value of \$4,784.00 of in-kind labor

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7	Calico Wilderness Area	Calico Mountains Transportation Planning March 31-April 4, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School	Two volunteers spent five days in the Calico Mountains, hiking into canyons, inventoring sites, cleaning and naturalizing campgrounds, inventoring springs and removing debris. Volunteers were also able to GPS 15 miles of road.	On Going	10 campsites inventoried. 2 springs inventoried. Removed 250 lbs of trash. Installed 1 wilderness sign. Cleaned and naturalized 4 campsites. Logged GPS coordinates for 15 miles of road.	See attached news article: "NOS, BLM map the Calicos"		2 skilled volunteers worked 40 hours each for a total value of \$1,840.00 of in-kind labor
8	E. Fork High Rock Canyon Wilderness	Pole Canyon Wilderness Monitoring April 14-17, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School	NOS inventoried 2 historic homesteads, removed 150 lbs of debris and 3 mine claim posts while scouting pole canyon. NOS also monitored campsites to GPS locations of impact and encourage active stewardship	Completed	Inventoried to historic homesteads, Bernard's and Van Riper Place. Recorded historic camp dump with GPS coordinates. 2 campsites inventoried, cleaned and fire rings reduced. 1 campsite cleaned and dispersed. Cleaned and disinfected Steven's Camp. Removed 150 lbs. of debris and 3 mine claim posts.			2 volunteers worked 30 hours each for a total value of \$1,380.00 of in-kind labor
9	Black Rock Desert Playa	Double Hot Springs Transportation Planning April 29-May 1, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School	NOS assisted with logging GPS coordinates in order to create more accurate maps of the NCA. They also monitored and installed car counters, and removed 25 mine claim posts.	On Going	3 vehicle counters checked, recorded and batteries changed. 1 vehicle counter installed. Recorded UTMS for 2 portal signs to be installed. Installed 8 designated route signs. Removed 25 mine claim posts.			2 volunteers worked 24 hours each for a total value of \$552.00 of in-kind labor

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10	High Rock Lake Wilderness	High Rock Lake Restoration May 2-4, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School, Friends of Nevada Wilderness	14 volunteers camped at High Rock Lake for a weekend of restoration including removal of an old fence and road rehabilitation	Completed	1 mile of old barbwire fence was removed from a hillside. .5 miles of rehabilitated in Fly Canyon.	See attached news article: "Volunteers pitch in for project at High Rock Lake" and flyer		14 volunteers worked 8 hours each for a total value of \$2,576.00 of in-kind labor
11	Soldier Meadows	Soldier Meadows Transprotation Planning May 12-15, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School	NOS assisted with logging GPS coordinates in order to creat more accurate maps of the NCA. They also installed 'Motorized Route Ends' and 'Designated Route' signs	On Going	Set up camp host at Soldier Meadows. Logged GPS coordinates for 17.24 miles of road. Installed 8 'Motorized Route Ends' signs. Installed 30 'Designated Route' signs			3 skilled volunteers worked for 32 hours and one unskilled volunteer worked for 24 hours for a total value of \$2,024.00
12	Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area	Black Rock Rendezvous May 24-26, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School, Friends of Nevada Wilderness, Friends of Black Rock High Rock and various other user groups	144 participants camped out on the Black Rock Desert Playa for a weekend of tours, entertainment, restoration, a Cultural Site Stewardship class and other opportunities to increase participant knowledge of the NCA and the importance ecological stewardship. NOS also provided and Eco-Kids camp for children	4 annual year of the Black Rock Rendezvous	144 participants attended. Coyote Dunes Restoration Project was completed.	See attached new articles and flyers		Several volunteers of various skill levels worked for various hours for a total value of \$15,832.00 of in-kind labor. Groups secured \$4,481.00 of in-kind donations in order to host event.
13	Black Rock Desert Playa	Black Rock Rendezvous May 25, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School, Friends of Nevada Wildernss, Friends of Black Rock High Rock, +various other user groups	Volunteers at the Black Rock Rendezvous participated in a restoration project to protect the Coyote Dunes from ATV and OHV users on the playa.	Completed	Buck and pole fences were installed around dunes to prevent ATV and OHV traffic. Dunes were restored			18 volunteers worked for 6 hours each for a total value of \$2,484.00 of in-kind labor
14	Pahute Peak Wilderness Area	Pahute Wilderness Rehabilitation July 6, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School	AmeriCorps volunteers assisted the BLM from removing old, abandoned troughs and illegal hunter blinds from wilderness areas.	Completed	500 lbs of debris removed from wilderness. 2 illegal hunter blinds removed	See attached news articles and flyer		4 volunteers worked 10 hours each for a total value of \$9,200.00 of in-kind labor
15	High Rock Lake Wilderness	Harry Spring Restoration July 15-17, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School, BTCV	Volunteers removed 14 obsolete troughs from wilderness and installed one sign	Completed	14 troughs removed. 1 'Road ends in .7 miles' sign replaced			6 volunteers worked 20 hours each for a total value of \$2,760.00 of in-kind labor

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16	Soldier Meadows ACEC	Soldier Meadows Rehabilitation July 22-27, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School, BTCV	NOS and BTCV converted a two-track road to a one-track trail, installed campground markers, and other various items in the Soldier Meadows campground	completed	Converted .4 miles of two-track road to one-track. Installed 7 campground markers. Installed 1 'one-way' marker. Installed 7 campground markers. Installed 1 'Designated Route' post. Installed 1 fire ring. 1 directional sign removed due to damage. 20 lbs of trash removed.			7 volunteers worked 54 hours each for a total value of \$8,694.00 of in-kind labor
17	Steam Boat Rock and Black Rock Range Wilderness	Steam Boat Restoration July 30- August 1, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School, BTCV	Volunteers rehabilitated roads, removed debris, maintained vehicle counters, and installed a sign	Completed	6 lbs of trash removed. 7 vehicle counter readings recorded. .1 mile of road rehabilitated. 1 sign installed.			10 volunteers worked for 20 hours each for a total value of \$4,600.00 of in-kind labor
18	Lahontan Cutthroat Trout WSA	North Black Rock Range Restoration August 1-3, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School, Friends of Nevada Wilderness, Friends of Black Rock High Rock, BTCV	Volunteers rehabilitated roads, cleared fallen trees from designated routes and removed fencing. NOS also provided and Eco-Kids camp for children	2nd year of North Black Rock Range Rehabilitation Project	1 mile of road rehabilitated. 3 designated routes cleared. 2 miles of fence cleared.	See attached letter sent out to volunteers, flyer and events calendar article		26 volunteers worked 24 hours each for a total value of \$14,352.00
19	E. Fork High Rock Canyon Wilderness	Fly Canyon Restoration August 8-13, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School, BTCV	Volunteers converted .5 miles of two-track road to one-track. They also assisted in the set-up of the Perseids Meteor Shower volunteer event	On Going	.5 miles of two-track road converted to one track. Set-up for volunteer event completed			6 volunteers worked 50 hours each for a total of \$6,900.00 of in-kind labor.
20	Black Rock Desert Playa	Burning Man, August 22-26, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School, BTCV	Volunteers assisted the BLM with various monitoring studies during Burning Man, removed debris and set-up the ICP	Completion for 2008	Set up ICP at Burning Man. Monitored for population counts, grey water, burn sites and trash counts. Removed debris along Black Rock City fence.			6 volunteers worked 50 hours each for a total of \$6,900.00 of in-kind labor.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
21	Black Rock Desert Playa	Burning Man Interpretive Camp, "Where Dreams Collide," August 24-30, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School, Friends of Black Rock High Rock, Desert Research Institute	Volunteers staffed the Burning Man Interpretive camp with Visitor Contact Trailer at Burning Man to increase knowledge of the Black Rock Desert Playa and surrounding NCA while fostering ecological stewardship. Special interpretive displays were created to match the event theme. Public Service Announcements were created for event FM radio broadcast.	Completion for 2008	Volunteers set-up interpretive camp, staffed interpretive camp, and took down interpretive camp. Over 800 people entered the camp, and thousands heard the public service announcements.	49,599 people attended Burning Man 2009.	BLM provided about \$3,000 to develop interpretive displays	Approximately 42 volunteers worked 4 hours each for a total value of \$3,528.00.
22	Pahute Peak Wilderness Area	National Public Lands Day September 18-20, 2008	Nevada Outdoor School, Friends of Nevada Wilderness, Friends Black Rock High Rock	Volunteers traveled to the Pahute Peak Wilderness Area to remove debris from an old mining camp. Two wilderness designation routes were installed and the road leading to the mining camp was rehabilitated. NOS also provided an eco-kids camp and a volunteer project with several younger participants.	Completion for 2008	1 30 cubic foot dumpster filled with debris. .25 miles of road rehabilitated. 2 wilderness posts installed	produced a news article and flyers		78 volunteers worked 8 hours each for a total value of \$14,352.00 of in-kind labor.
23	Gerlach, NV	Gerlach Visitor Contact Trailer (VCT)	Friends of Black Rock High Rock	Volunteers greeted visitors, recorded visitor data, provided maps and brochures, and gave directions and current conditions to visitors. Solar panels were added to power the evaporative cooler. The VCT also was brought to 5 separate outreach events.	Completion for 2008	1680 visitors were contacted (in Gerlach), with numerous maps and other materials distributed.		BLM provided about \$7,000 in funding for operation and maintenance of the visitor contact trailer.	38 volunteers worked 726 hours and traveled 3,660 miles for a total in-kind value of \$18,545.00. Donated porta-potty and truck rental added another \$2,282.70 in value, for a total of \$20,828.00.
24	Reno, NV; Carson City, NV; Lake Tahoe, CA; San Francisco, CA	Friends of Black Rock High Rock Outreach	Friends of Black Rock, Nevada Outdoor School	Friends of Black Rock (FBRHR) attended public events to promote responsible practices in and awareness of the Black Rock Desert region. Events included the FBRHR Spring Kickoff Party, Reno Earth Day, UNR Earth Day, Truckee Tahoe Earth Day, Cabela's Reno, Jackpot of Gems rock show, Lake of the Sky festival, San Francisco Decompression, Reno Decompression, Nevada Art Museum X-Night, XPRS rocketry event, BALLS rocketry event, & the Nevada Day Parade.	Completion for 2008	Over 650 people received interpretive information, maps, and brochures.			37 volunteers worked 297 hours for a total in-kind value of \$6,831.00.
25	Imlay, NV to Goose Lake, CA	Emigrant Experience Tour, July & August, 2008	Friends of Black Rock High Rock	Friends of Black Rock (FBRHR) conducted a tour of the Lassen Applegate Trail with noted Oregon California Trails Association historian Charles Dodd.	Completion for 2008	16 participants traveled the length of the trail, with printed and oral interpretation provided.			1 trip leader and 2 assistants volunteered 288 hours for a total in-kind value of \$6,624.00.
26	Black Rock Desert, Hualapai Flat	Hot Spring Tours, spring - fall, 2008	Friends of Black Rock High Rock, Sierra Club	Public tours of the hot springs	Completion for 2008	4 separate guided tours were conducted to area hot springs.			1 trip leader volunteered 64 hours and traveled 1,272 miles for a total in-kind value of \$2,115.00

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27		Black Rock NCA map and visitors guide	Friends of Black Rock High Rock, Nevada Commission on Tourism	Friends of Black Rock (FBRHR) completed the revision of the visitor's guide and map of the Black Rock NCA.	Completed, distribution ongoing	The guide was completed and printed before the Burning Man event, and is being distributed.			Approximatey \$3,000.00 in printing costs was provided by the Nevada Commission on Tourism.
28	Double Hot Spring	Double Hot fence project, September - October 2008	Friends of Black Rock High Rock, Oregon California Trails Association	Volunteers installed a split rail fence at Double Hot Spring, removed old barbed wire fence, and installed temperature warning signs.	Completed	530 feet of split rail fence installed, 200 feet of barbed wire fence removed, 2 warning signs installed.		BLM provided supervision for the project	16 volunteers worked 191 hours and traveled 7,412 miles for a total in-kind value of \$10,829.00, including donated materials.
29	Black Rock Desert Playa	Perseids Meteor Shower Campout, August 12 - 15, 2008	Friends of Black Rock, Nevada Outdoor School	Volunteers set up and removed a tent to serve as the central camp for an astronomy event during the Perseids Meteor Shower, and Nevada Outdoor School held the AmeriCorps volunteer recognition event.	Completed	The tent was set up and removed.			4 volunteers worked 14 hours for a total in-kind value of \$322.00.
30		Friends of Black Rock High Rock newsletter, spring and fall 2008	Friends of Black Rock High Rock, Nevada Commission on Tourism	Friends of Black Rock (FBRHR) published two seasonal newsletters with stories of interest concerning the Black Rock NCA.	Completion for 2008	Brochures were printed and distributed by volunteers and by mail.			Printing, mailing, and design costs supported by Nevada Commission on Tourism totaled \$5,600.00.
31	Gerlach, NV	Black Rock Desert museum	Friends of Black Rock High Rock, Black Rock City, LLC, Nevada State Museum	Friends of Black Rock (FBRHR) staffed the museum, renovated by BRC LLC, 35 hours per week since March 2008. Nevada State Museum has provided some artifacts, with other local artifacts and interpretive materials available, and FBRHR offices are housed in the back.	Ongoing	Artifacts were displayed from NV State Museum, the building renovated, and over 200 people contacted.			Black Rock City, LLC provides the building with utilities and high speed internet for an in-kind value of \$475/mo., for a total of \$3,325.00.
32	Empire, NV	Black Rock NCA map and brochure holder	Friends of Black Rock High Rock, Nevada Commission on Tourism	Friends of Black Rock (FBRHR)installed a backlit NCA map display and brochure rack at the Empire Store in Empire, NV, funded by the Nevada Commission on Tourism.	Completed	Hundreds of brochures and visitors guides were distributed.			Cost of display was \$1,170.00.