

Ely District

Recreation Opportunity Guide

Recreation:
Activity done for enjoyment,
when one is not working.

Bureau of Land Management

Ely District Office & Bristlecone Field Office
702 N. Industrial Way
Ely, NV 89301
775-289-1800

Caliente Field Office & Basin and Range National Monument
1400 S. Front St.
Caliente, NV 89008
775-726-8100

www.blm.gov

U.S. Forest Service
350 E. 8th St.
Ely, NV 89301
775-289-3031
www.fs.fed.us/r4/hntf/

Great Basin National Park
Hwy 488
Baker, NV 89311
775-234-7331
www.nps.gov/grba

Nevada Department of Wildlife
1218 N. Alpha
Ely, NV 89301
775-289-1655
www.ndow.org

Nevada Division of State Parks
Panaca Region
PO Box 176
Panaca, NV 89042
www.parks.nv.gov/

Nevada State Parks
Beaver Dam 775-726-3564
Cathedral Gorge 775-728-4460
Cave Lake 775-728-4460
Echo Canyon 775-962-5103
Kershaw-Ryan 775-726-3564
Spring Valley 775-962-5102
Ward Charcoal Owens 775-728-4460
Ranger Station 775-289-1693

Nevada Northern Railway
1100 Ave A
Ely Nevada, 89301
775-289-2085
www.nyny.com

Pony Express Territory
www.ponyexpressnevada.com

White Pine County Sheriff
1785 Great Basin Blvd.
Ely, NV 89301
775-289-8808

Lincoln County
Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 915
Panaca, NV 89042
www.lincolncountynevada.com

White Pine County
Chamber of Commerce
636 Aultman St.
Ely, NV 89301
775-289-8877
www.elynevada.net

Great Basin National Heritage Area
775-234-7171
<http://www.greatbasinheritage.org/>

The Greater Sage-Grouse



BIRD, BIRD, BIRD...BIRD IS THE WORD...

The Greater sage-grouse is the bird and education is the word. Although the Greater sage-grouse was precluded from being listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as endangered or threatened in 2015, it does not mean that we are out of the woods. The main threat to sage-grouse is fragmentation/loss of habitat due to agriculture and development, oil and gas drilling, livestock grazing, mining, unnatural fire, invasive weeds, off-road vehicles, roads, fences, pipelines and utility corridors to name a few. The BLM has the responsibility to protect the sagebrush landscape and reduce the threats to the sage-grouse's habitat. How can you help out? The best thing we can all do is to learn more about sage-grouse and be responsible in our recreational endeavors. Help out by staying on open roads and trails, packing out your trash, and practicing leave no trace and tread lightly ethics.

<https://www.blm.gov/programs/fish-and-wildlife/sagegrouse>

Responsible Recreation

Leave No Trace and **Tread Lightly** are two non-government organizations whose sole purpose is to educate people on how to recreate responsibly. Below is a short list of both organizations principles. To learn more visit each organization online at <https://lnt.org/> <https://www.treadlightly.org/>

Leave No Trace refers to a set of outdoor ethics promoting conservation in the outdoors. It is built on seven principles:

1. plan ahead and prepare,
2. travel and camp on durable surfaces,
3. dispose of waste properly,
4. leave what you find,
5. minimize campfire impacts,
6. respect wildlife,
7. be considerate of other visitors.

Tread Lightly Principles

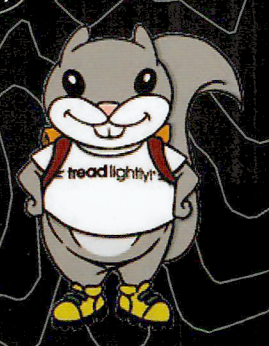
Travel Responsibly on land by staying on designated roads, trails and area. Go over, not around, obstacles to avoid widening the trails.

Respect the Rights of Others including private property owners, all recreational trail users, campers and others so they can enjoy their recreational activities undisturbed. Leave gates as you found them.

Educate Yourself prior to your trip by obtaining travel maps and regulations from public agencies.

Avoid Sensitive Areas on land such as meadows, lakeshores, wetlands and streams. Stay on designated routes. Don't disturb historical, archeological or paleontological sites.

Do Your Part by modeling appropriate behavior, leaving the area better than you found it, properly disposing of waste, minimizing the use of fire, avoiding the spread of invasive species and repairing degraded areas.



INTRODUCTION

The BLM Ely District Office manages 11.4 million acres of public land in eastern Nevada. Eastern Nevada is known for its outstanding outdoor recreation opportunities. Whether you are there to hike, fish, hunt, view wildlife, or simply to enjoy the scenery, we welcome you to explore the wonders of this area. Stop in and see us at the Ely District Office or the Caliente Field Office.

The northern portion of the district is shaped by Basin and Range topography. The landscape consists of long, narrow valleys of sagebrush and grasses to foothills covered with pinion pine and juniper trees. Aspen, fir and ponderosa pines grow at higher elevations in many of the mountain ranges. White Pine County is known for its plentiful wildlife, especially pronghorn antelope, mule deer, Rocky Mountain elk, and wild horses.

The southern portion of the district in Lincoln County is characterized by Mojave Desert plant species, including Joshua trees, yucca and cholla cacti. Wildlife such as desert tortoise, kit fox, roadrunners and desert bighorn sheep abound. The Mojave population of the desert tortoise is federally listed as a threatened species. Three desert tortoise Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) exist in the southern end of Lincoln County. The ACECs were designated to promote the recovery of the desert tortoise. Minimize your impacts to these reptiles and their habitat. Please do not pick them up and stay on existing roads and trails.

The BLM's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of your public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

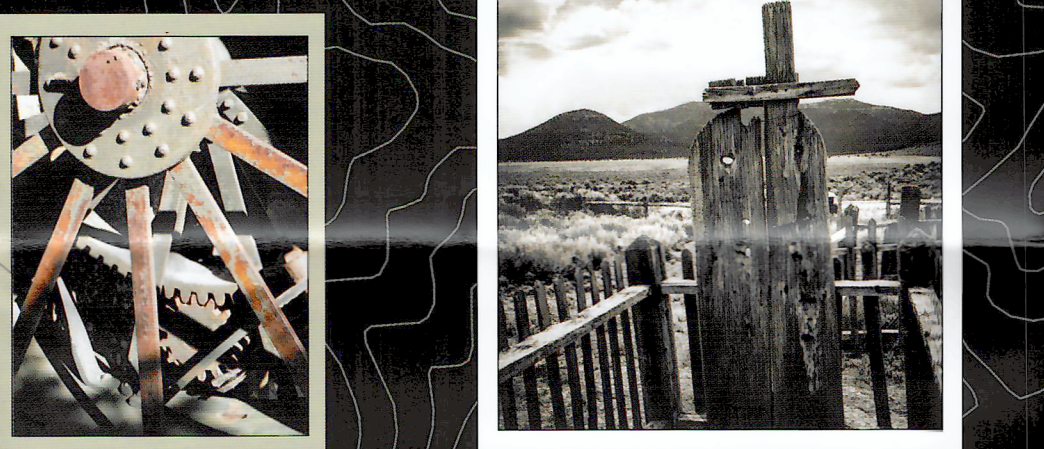


Cultural (Archaeological) Resources

Cultural resources are defined as the evidence of human activities, which may be prehistoric or historic (beginning of written records), and the locations of objects of the past.

Prehistoric resources, for example, may include projectile points ("arrowheads") and other tools, grinding stones, baskets, beads, and pottery. These sites demonstrate habitation, food processing, and tool manufacture.

Historic resources, for example, may include ghost towns or single cabins, cemeteries, mining features, refuse scatters, old equipment/cars, or historic roads/railroads. These sites demonstrate mining boom and bust cycles, ranching history, transportation related activities, and others.



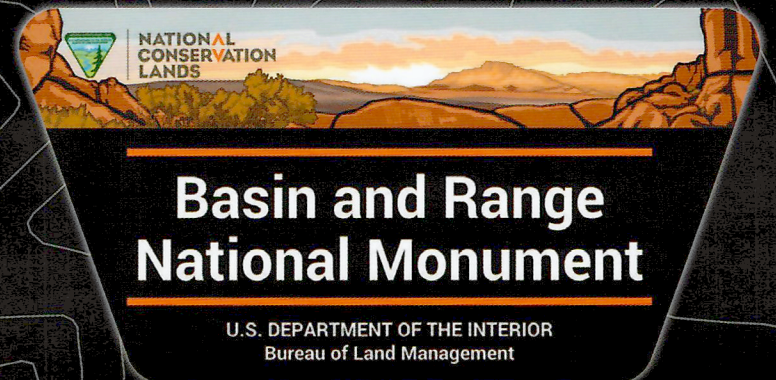
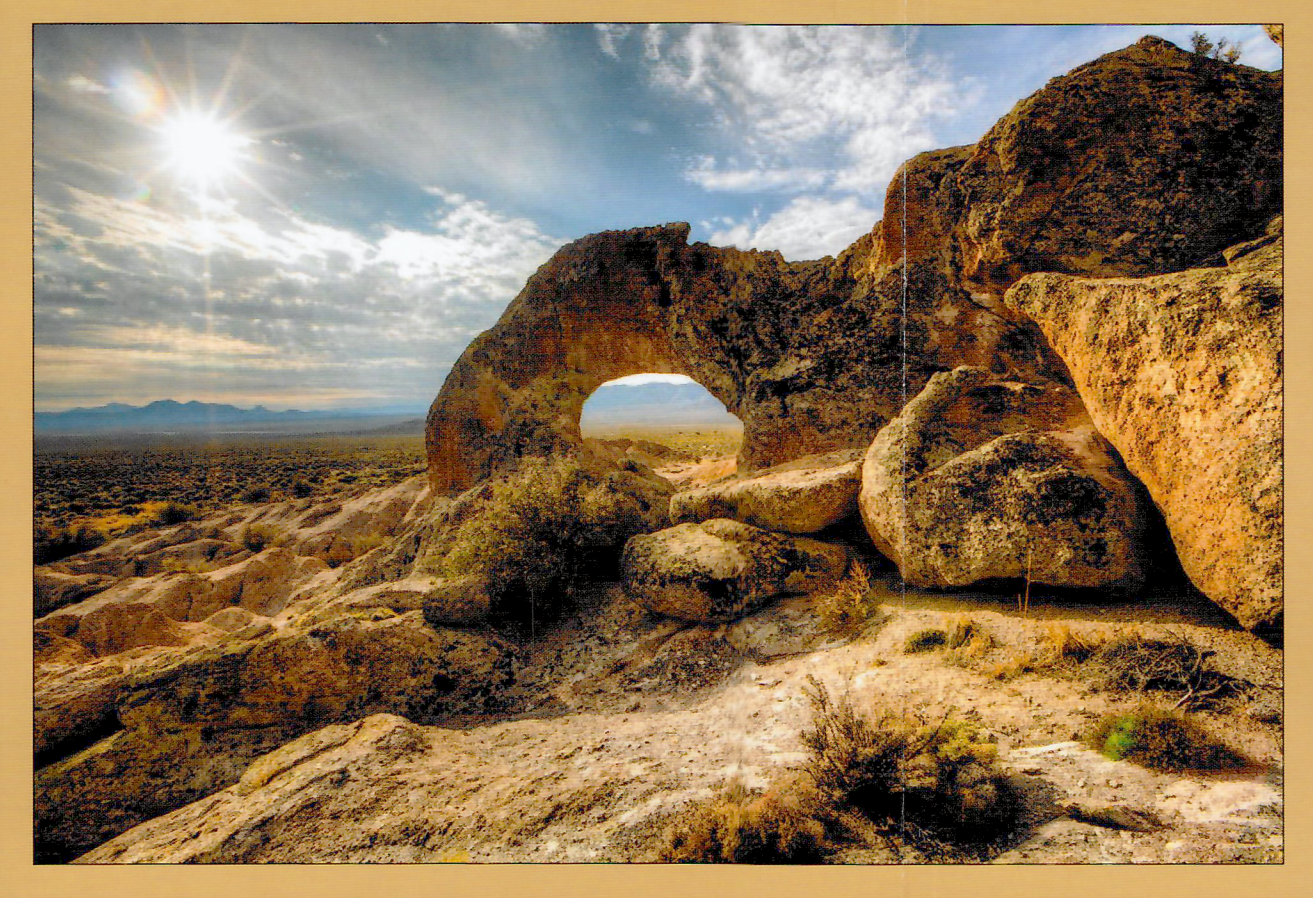
There are public archaeological sites available for visitation, and these are noted on the back of the brochure. Enjoy the thrill of discovery but **please leave any resources where you find them so that others may too experience the past.**

Cultural sites and their associated artifacts, located on public lands, may not be removed, damaged, disturbed, excavated or destroyed without a BLM or Forest Service permit. Violations involving removal of any artifacts or historic items from public land should be reported to the BLM at (775) 289-1800.

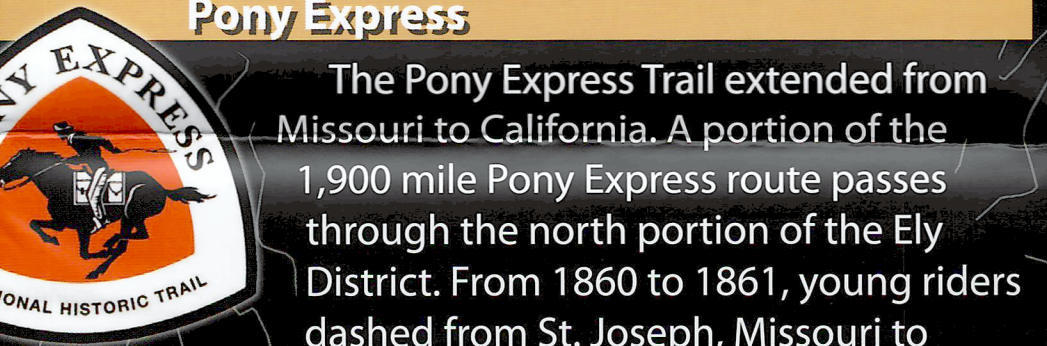
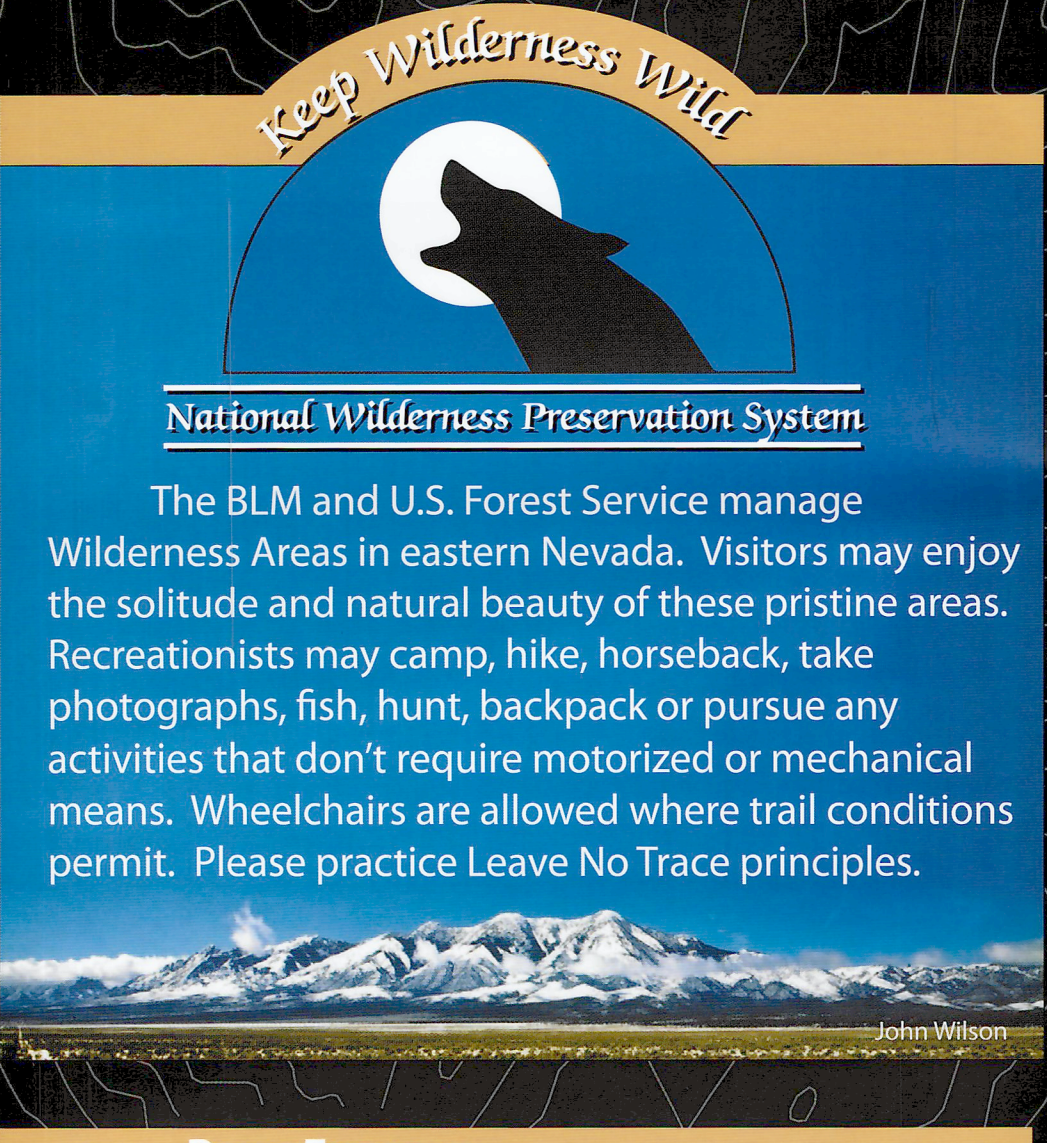


Mines

There are countless mines in the district. Abandoned mines are very dangerous. Some of the potential hazards are unstable explosives, poisonous gases, unseen vertical shafts, cave-ins and rattlesnakes. The best way to stay safe around abandoned mines is to stay out!



The Basin and Range National Monument was designated by presidential proclamation in 2015 to preserve objects of cultural, prehistoric, historic, natural and scientific interest. The monument comprises 704,000 acres of public lands managed by the BLM in Lincoln and Nye counties in Nevada, about two hours north of Las Vegas. The monument includes Garden Valley and Coal Valley; the Worthington Mountains, Golden Gate Range, Seaman Mountains, and Mount Irish Range; the Hiko Narrows and White River Narrows Archeological District (G-5); and the Shooting Gallery rock art site. It is the first national monument managed by the BLM in Nevada.



The Pony Express Trail extended from Missouri to California. A portion of the 1,900 mile Pony Express route passes through the north portion of the Ely District. From 1860 to 1861, young riders dashed from St. Joseph, Missouri to Sacramento, California, relaying the mail to a fresh rider and horse at every station. The mail completed its journey in only nine days. Stations were located about every 15 miles. The Pony Express lasted only 19 months and resulted in financial disaster. It became obsolete with the completion of the transcontinental telegraph line. An information kiosk is located next to Shellbourne Station, 50 miles north of Ely, on Highway 93 (B-6). The trail can be hiked, ridden on horseback, and portions can be driven. On-the-ground markers can help guide you along the trail.

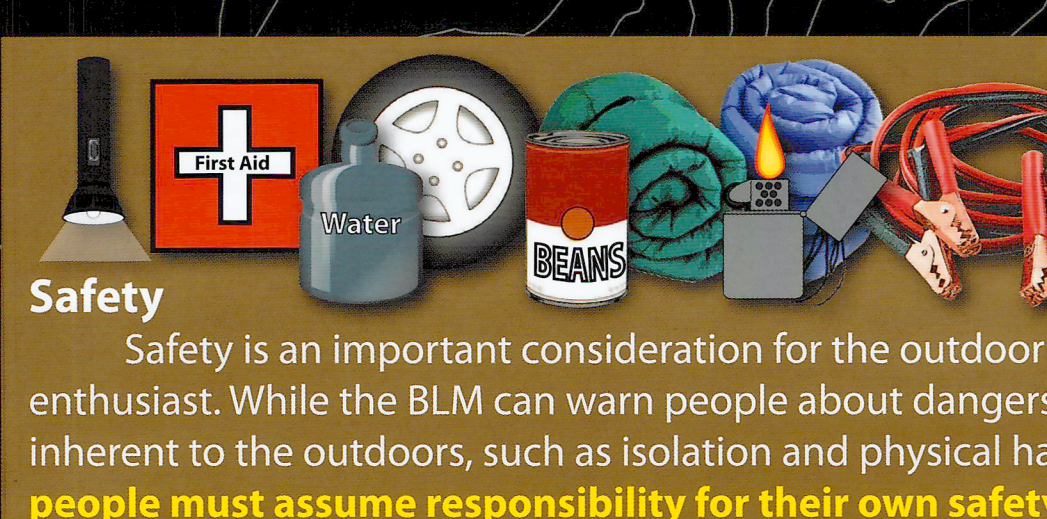


Rock Hounding

Garnet Hill is a popular rock-hounding site. Just 8 miles west of Ely (C-6), visitors can collect semi-precious garnet gemstones. These dark red to brownish-colored gems may be found on the surface or extracted from the surrounding volcanic rhyolitic rock with rock hammers or pocket knives. Other types of rock collecting include Nevada wonder stone, obsidian and petrified wood.

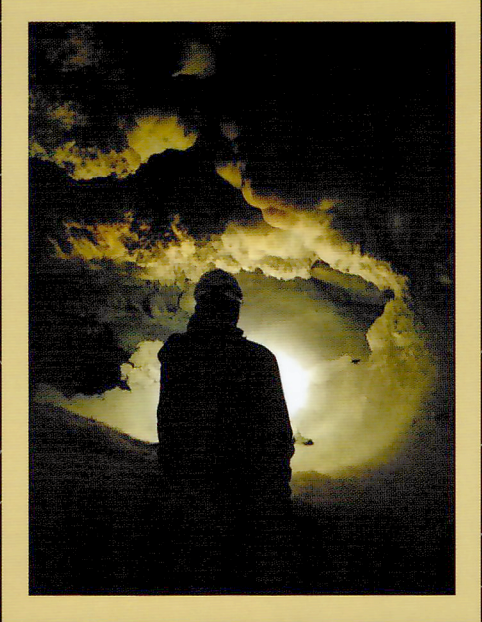
Petrified wood may be collected up to 25 pounds plus one piece per person per day, with a maximum of 250 pounds per person per year. Permits are required for pieces over 250 pounds. Petrified wood may not be traded, bartered or sold without a permit.

Common invertebrate fossils such as plants, mollusks and trilobites may be collected for personal use in reasonable quantities, but may not be bartered or sold. Trilobite fossils are the geologic record of 500 million-year-old creatures that were once abundant in shallow seas that covered Nevada. They can be found west of Caliente at Oak Springs Summit (Q-6). Collection of vertebrate fossils requires a permit.



Safety

Safety is an important consideration for the outdoor enthusiast. While the BLM can warn people about dangers inherent to the outdoors, such as isolation and physical hazards, **people must assume responsibility for their own safety.**



you plan to return. Before visiting BLM caves you should contact the BLM to see if you need a permit and a key for those caves that have been gated.

Caving

There are several caves within the Ely District. The most popular and easiest to visit is Lehman Caves. Lehman Caves are managed by the National Park Service at the Great Basin National Park (D-8). Guided tours are conducted year round.

Caves are fragile natural ecosystems and require extreme care to minimize human impacts. When visiting a cave it is helpful to remember good stewardship: always stay on established footpaths; do not touch the formations; do not build fires in caves; leave what you find; pack it in, pack it out; and always tell someone where you are planning to go and when you plan to return.



Camping and Picnicking

There are several maintained camping areas in the district. Campgrounds include Cleve Creek (C-7), in Spring Valley; Illipah Reservoir (C-4), off Hwy 50; Meadow Valley (G-8), east of Pioche; Sacramento Pass (D-8), off of Hwy 6 & 50, and most of the Silver State Trail trailheads: Patterson Pass (E-6), Stampede (G-7), Chief Mountain South (H-6), and Chief Mountain West (H-6). These sites have tables, grills and toilets. Water is not available. Ward Mountain Campground (U.S. Forest Service, D-6), and some of the National Park and State Campgrounds offer water (summer months only), tables and toilet facilities.

There are many opportunities for primitive camping throughout the District. BLM public lands are open to camping for no charge (**14-day camp stay limit**). When primitive camping please exercise good stewardship. Leave No Trace outdoor ethics are encouraged. Please, pack out your trash, build fires in previously established fire rings, and collect dead or down firewood away from heavily used sites. This will ensure a quality experience for all those who wish to use the area.



Fishing

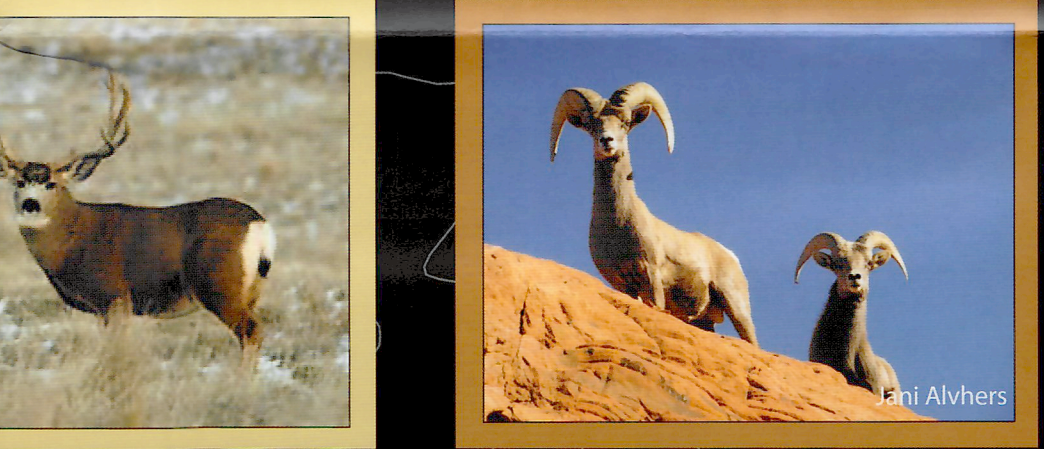
Streams and reservoirs provide a multitude of fishing opportunities throughout eastern Nevada. Fish species include a variety of trout (rainbow, brown, brook, tiger and cutthroat), largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, and bullhead. Popular reservoirs and lakes for fishing are Illipah (C-4), Comins (D-6), Bassett (C-6), Silvercreek (D-8), Cave Lake (D-7), Sunnyside (F-5), Upper Pahranaagat (I-5), and Spring Valley (G-8). Popular fishing streams are Cleve Creek (C-7), Goshute Creek (A-6), and Eagle Valley (G-8).

Buy a fishing license at local license vendors or the Nevada Department of Wildlife Office in Ely.



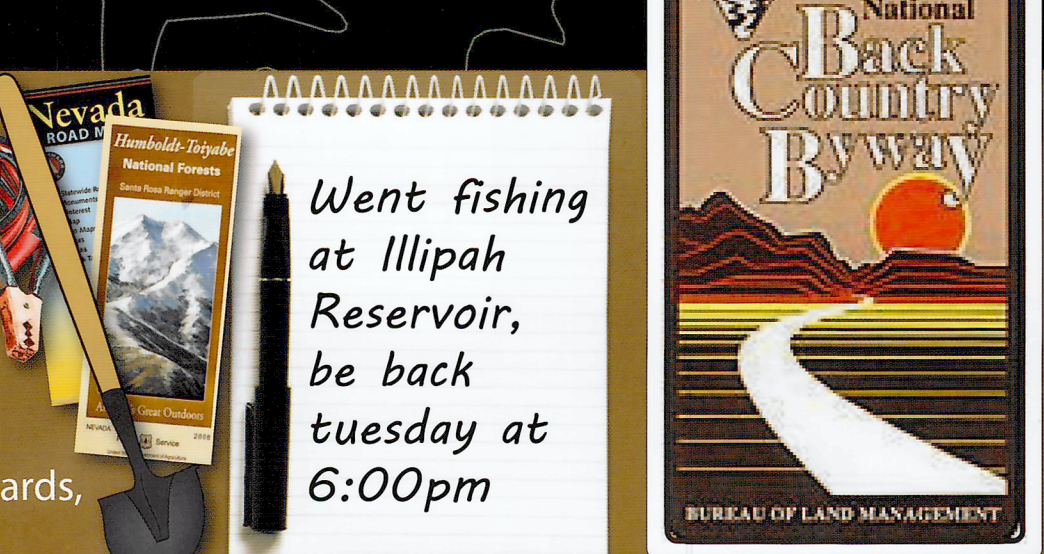
Hunting

Public lands provide abundant opportunities for hunting from accessible, popular areas to remote backcountry wilderness experiences. Hunters can enjoy hunting big and small game, waterfowl, and upland birds. Popular hunted species include elk, mule deer, bighorn sheep, pronghorn antelope, lion, cottontail, sage grouse, chukar and dove. Trapping opportunities exist for furbearers, such as fox and bobcat. License and season information may be obtained from the Nevada Department of Wildlife or local license vendors.



Swimming

There are a few places to swim. Cave Lake (D-7), the McGill Pool (north end of town, McGill), the Aquatic center (in Ely), and the Caliente public pool (in Caliente).



Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV)

OHV enthusiasts can enjoy thousands of back country roads and trails throughout the area. As a reminder, please stay on open roads and trails and tread lightly in your adventures.

The congressionally-designated Silver State OHV Trail (SST) offers 260 miles of trail riding opportunity. SST trailheads include: Chief Mountain South (H-6) and Chief Mountain West (H-6) southwest of Caliente, Stampede (G-7) and Patterson (E-6) north of Pioche, and Pahroc Wash (H-5) north of Hiko.

The Chief Mountain OHV Area is located 10 miles west of Caliente on Hwy 93 and can be accessed from three trailheads: Chief Mountain South (H-6), Chief Mountain West (H-6), and Oak Springs Summit (I-6)). This area offers 30 miles of signed ATV and motorcycle routes.

Organized OHV races are also held within the Ely District. For more information and Travel Management maps, please call or visit the Ely District Office or Caliente Field Office.

Prevent the spread of weeds by: staying on roads and trails, washing off your vehicle, and learning to identify weeds, so you can report them!

Trails

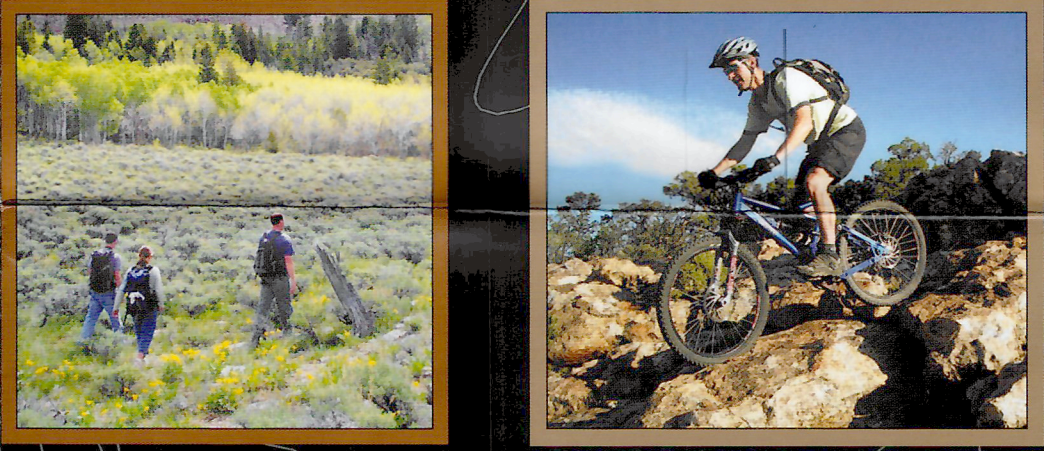
Trail systems within the Ely District offer hikers, cyclists, skiers and horseback riders the opportunity to enjoy the diversity of eastern Nevada. Trail maps are available at the Ely District Office and Caliente Field Office.

The Ward Mountain Trail system (C-5), southwest of Ely, offers more than 20 miles of signed trail routes. Most routes are suitable for beginner and intermediate hikers, skiers and cyclists. Shelters are located along the route.

The Egan Crest Trail system (C-6) west of Ely, has more than 30 miles of signed trail routes suitable for the beginner to the advanced hiker, skier, cyclist, and OHV enthusiast.

Sacramento Pass (D-8) east of Ely, includes 12 miles of signed trail routes suitable for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding. There is also a small fishing pond at the trailhead and OHV riding opportunities exist in the area.

The Caliente Field Office is currently in the planning stage of a professionally designed trail system that will provide hikers and bikers 40 miles of trail opportunity with trailhead access points close to town.



Backcountry Skiing

The White Pine County area receives enough snow to enjoy cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and backcountry skiing. The Ward Mountain Trail system offers groomed ski trails (C-5). Please carry safety equipment, tell someone where you are going, and be aware of weather conditions.



Wild Horses

Wild horses and burros roam throughout the public lands. There are some places where you are almost sure to catch a glimpse of these animals. Long Valley (E-3), White River Valley (N-3), Newark Valley (C-3), Lake Valley (R-2), and North Steptoe Valley (H-1) are a few of the prime viewing areas.

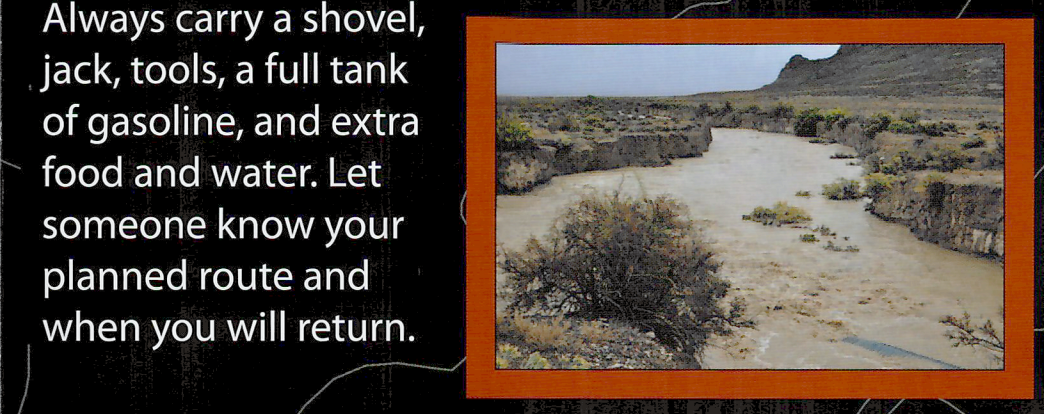
Wild horses and burros share the range with livestock and wildlife. The BLM has the responsibility to monitor, protect and maintain the herds while managing for healthy rangeland conditions.

When the number of wild horses becomes excessive in a herd management area (HMA), the BLM removes some of them and places them in the wild horse adoption program. Those interested in HMA locations or adopting a wild horse or burro may call 1-866-4MUSTANGS or visit the website at www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov.

Scenic Byway and General Backcountry Driving

The Mt. Wilson Back Country Byway (F-7) extends around 66 miles of the Wilson Creek Range. The gravel road winds through a volcanic caldera overgrown with pinyon and juniper at lower elevations and aspen and ponderosa pine near the peaks.

Be sure your vehicle is in good condition. Check your tires, including the spare; two spares are preferable. Always carry a shovel, jack, tools, a full tank of gasoline, and extra food and water. Let someone know your planned route and when you will return.



RECREATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDE

DISTRICT BLM

BLM RECREATION SITES

#	Site Name	Location	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1.	Cold Creek	B - 3																
2.	Goshute Creek	A - 6	●		●			●									●	●
3.	Blue Mass	B - 8															●	●
4.	Egan Crest	C - 5		●	●										●	●		
5.	Garnet Hill	C - 5	●															
6.	Cleve Creek	C - 7	●														●	●
7.	Sacramento Pass	D - 8		●	●		●	●								●	●	●
8.	Ward Mtn North T.H.	C - 5	●	●	●										●			
9.	Illipah Reservoir	C - 4		●	●											●	●	●
10.	North Creek	E - 6													●	●	●	●
11.	Shoshone Ponds	D - 7					●											
12.	Ely Elk Viewing Area	D - 7	●		●	●		●										
13.	Baker Village - Day Use Only	D - 8																
14.	Meadow Valley	G - 8	●				●	●							●	●	●	●
15.	Lexington Arch T.H.	E - 8															●	●
16.	Cottonwood Canyon Trail	E - 7						●	●								●	●
17.	Little Boulder Springs Trail	H - 6	●	●		●				●	●							
18.	Oak Springs Trilobite Site	H - 6													●	●		
19.	Mecca	H - 5	●				●											
Silver State Trail-Trail Heads																		
20.	Patterson Pass	E - 6		●	●	●	●			●					●	●	●	●
21.	Stampede	G - 7	●	●														
22.	Chief Mountain South	H - 6	●	●											●	●	●	●
23.	Chief Mountain West	H - 6															●	
24.	Pahroc Wash	H - 5		●	●										●	●	●	●
Back Country Byway																		
25.	Mt. Wilson	F - 7						●							●	●	●	

USFS RECREATION SITES

[illegible]

STATE RECREATION SITES

[illegible]

NATIONAL PARK RECREATION SITES

#	Site Name	Location												
42.	Upper & Lower Lehman Creek	D-8			●	●	●	●	●				●	●
43.	Snake Creek	D-8			●	●	●	●	●				●	●
44.	Wheeler Peak Campground	D-8	●											
45.	Baker Creek	D-8			●	●	●	●	●				●	●
46.	Lexington Arch Trail	E-8			●	●	●	●	●				●	●
47.	Strawberry Creek	D-8			●	●	●	●	●				●	●

U.S. ARMY CORPS of ENGINEERS RECREATION SITES

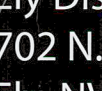
#	Site Name	Location																					
48.	Matthews Canyon Reservoir	H - 8																					
49.	Pine Canyon Reservoir	H - 8																					

Private Land RECREATION SITES

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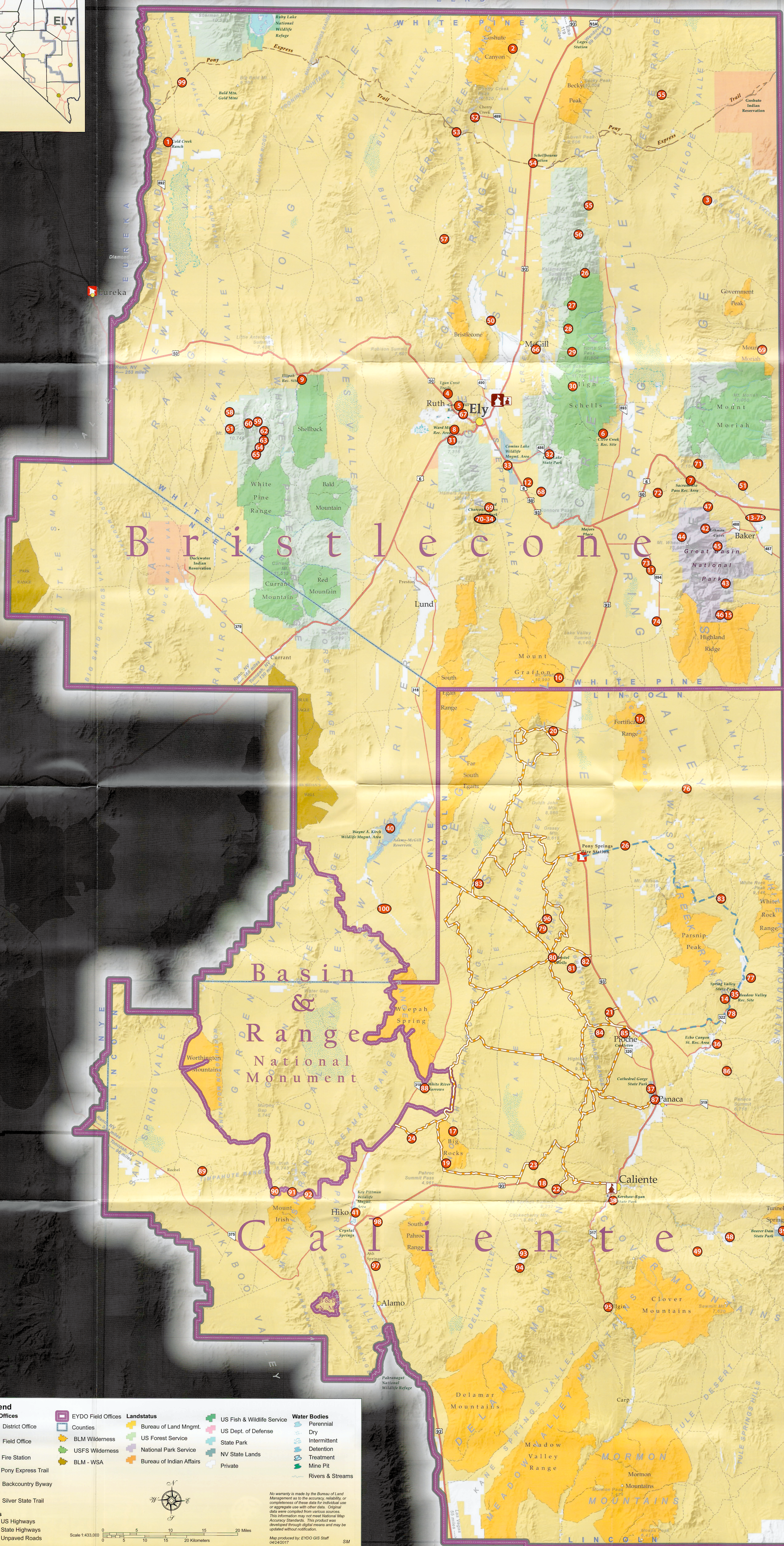
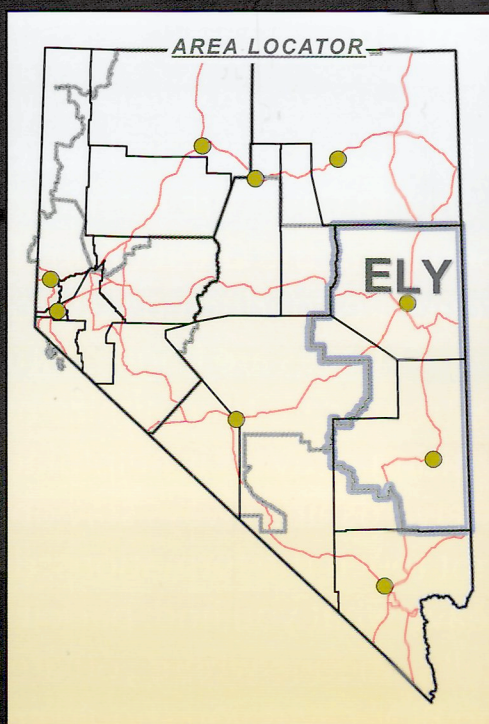
Historic & Prehistoric Points of Interest

#	Site Name	Location	#	Site Name	Location
52.	Cherry Creek	B - 6	78.	Ursine	G - 8
53.	Egan Canyon Cemetery	B - 5	79.	Silver Horn	F - 6
54.	Schellbourne Station	B - 6	80.	Bristol Wells	G - 6
55.	Aurum Cemetery	B - 7	81.	Bristol	G - 7
56.	Ruby Hill	B - 7	82.	Jackrabbit	G - 7
57.	Hunter	B - 5	83.	Griswold Cabins	F - 6
58.	Seligman	C - 3	84.	Highland	G - 7
59.	Hamilton	C - 4	85.	Caselon	G - 7
60.	Babylon	C - 4	86.	Panaca Kilns	G - 8
61.	Monte Cristo	C - 3	87.	Bullionville Cemetery	G - 8
62.	Treasure City	C - 4	88.	White River Narrows	G - 5
63.	Picotillo	C - 4		Archeological District	
64.	Eberhardt	C - 4	89.	Templute	H - 3
65.	Shermantown	D - 4	90.	Crescent Millsite	H - 4
66.	Septept City	C - 6	91.	Logan City	H - 4
67.	Lane City	C - 5	92.	Mt. Irish	H - 4
68.	Taylor	C - 6		Archeological District	
69.	Ward Cemetery	D - 6	93.	Delamar	H - 6
70.	Ward Charcoal Ovens	D - 6	94.	Delamar Cemetery	I - 6
71.	Black Horse	D - 8	95.	Elgin Schoolhouse	I - 7
72.	Oscuela Cemetery	D - 7	96.	Bailey Spring	F - 6
73.	Shoshone Ponds	D - 7	97.	Ash Springs Petroglyphs	I - 5
74.	Minerva	E - 7	98.	Crystals Wash Petroglyphs	H - 5
75.	Baker Village - Day UseOnly	D - 8	99.	Jacob Well	A - 3
76.	Atlanta	F - 8	100.	Sieker U-2	F - 5
77.	Rice Family Cemetery	G - 8			



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Legend

BLM Offices

- District Office
- Field Office
- Fire Station
- Pony Express Trail
- Backcountry Byway
- Silver State Trail

EYDO Field Offices

- Counties
- BLM Wilderness
- USFS Wilderness
- BLM - WSA

Landstatus

- Bureau of Land Mngmt.
- US Forest Service
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Indian Affairs

US Fish & Wildlife Service

- US Dept. of Defense
- State Park
- NV State Lands
- Private

Water Bodies

- Perennial
- Dry
- Intermittent
- Detention
- Treatment
- Mine Pit
- Rivers & Streams

Roads

- US Highways
- State Highways
- Unpaved Roads

Scale 1:433,000

0 5 10 15 20 Miles

0 5 10 15 20 Kilometers

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04/04/2017

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