



BLACK ROCK DESERT
HIGH ROCK CANYON
EMIGRANT TRAILS



NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

Frequently Asked Questions of the Emigrant Trails:

How long did the average journey take to get from Missouri to California?

The average journey took roughly five months

Did the emigrants usually walk or ride in the wagon when they traveled?

The emigrants usually walked, unless they were injured, but the wagon ride was not comfortable, it was very bumpy.

How far did the emigrants travel each day?

The emigrants usually traveled around 15 miles per day

Would the emigrants travel alone or with a large group?

The emigrants would usually travel in large family groups, or in large groups of their hometown.

How much did an average journey cost?

The average journey out west cost between \$800 and \$1,000.

How many people used the Applegate-Lassen trail?

Nearly 80,000 emigrants used the Applegate-Lassen trail.

Was Lassen's cut-off a shortcut?

No, Lassen's cut-off was actually 200 miles longer and it put the emigrants in the desert at the hottest time and in the mountains in the coldest time. The extended journey also left the exhausted emigrants with little or no provisions, because they were not expecting this extended journey.

What was the most common cause of death on the trail?

Disease or accidental death.

What were the reasons for heading out west in the mid 1800's?

Gold was a main factor for a lot of people, but it wasn't the only reason that people headed out west. Other reasons for the westward migration were: good, rich soil, the want of a better life, religious freedom, industrialization was pushing people west, because they longed for the old way of life.