



**BLACK ROCK DESERT
HIGH ROCK CANYON
EMIGRANT TRAILS**



NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

PREHISTORY TIMELINE

10,000-12,000 B.C.

- Man first entered the Great Basin.
- The climate was cool and moist.
- It was the beginning of the Anathermal Phase.
- People were most likely big game hunters (wooly mammoth).
- Lake Lahontan was at its maximum peak.

6000-9000 B.C.

- Hunting culture oriented toward grasslands and marshes.
- Lake Lahontan began to recede.

5000 B.C.

- Human occupation of the Great Basin was minimal and possibly non existent.
- It was a period of drought.
- It was the Altithermal Climactic Period.

4500 B.C.

- This time period is known as the Great Basin Archaic Period.
- Repopulation began; most likely by the same culture groups.
- Substinence was by means of adaptation involving desert and mountain resources.

1500 B.C.

- The long period of drought came to a close.
- Medithermal Climactic conditions, like those which are present today were established.
- Shallow lakes reappeared.
- Population increased dramatically.

200 A.D.

- Environmental conditions deteriorated again.
- Human population became sparse.

1000 A.D.

- Late Prehistoric period
- The Paiute began filtering in to the Great Basin from southeastern California. They reached the Winnemucca District about 1300 A.D.

