

3.11 RECREATION/SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

The ROI is the drilling sites and access roads within the project area. Off-highway vehicle activities, hiking, and wildlife viewing are major types of casual/dispersed recreational use in the ROI. Also, several BLM-permitted off-highway vehicle races pass through the region, as well as horse endurance rides and the annual Pony Express Re-Ride in June. The main north-south road is used for off-highway vehicle races. Off-highway vehicle race events occur on weekends and temporarily restrict use of the roads during the race event.

The Pony Express Trail, the Overland Stage Route, and portions of the California Trail, pass near the ROI. The trails and associated segments are of national significance, are managed and protected under the National Trails System Act, and continue to provide recreational opportunities for those who live in and visit the area. Recreation associated with this trail includes retracing pioneer routes and visiting historic monuments.

The Grimes Point Archaeological Area is on the north side of US Highway 50, outside of the ROI. The CCFO of the BLM administers the site. The Grimes Point area is popular for hiking, picnicking, touring Hidden Cave, and viewing petroglyphs (prehistoric rock art).