

## Fort Churchill State Historic Park Hiking Trail Descriptions



### **Ruins Loop**

This short 0.6-mile trail is accessible from the museum parking lot and from various parking areas along the park road. (Please park only in designated parking areas). Take a short side trail to learn about the Overland Telegraph Company. Follow the rock-lined path for close-up views of the ruins of Fort Churchill and discover what life was like for the soldiers stationed here. The 1.6-mile nature trail starts from the Ruins Loop.



### **Buckland Loop**

This trail is accessible from the campground, across from the fee station or from the Group Use Area. This is an easy, 0.6-mile loop trail. Keep your eyes and ears open for park wildlife and look for tracks or scat (droppings) on the ground. This trail offers views of the campground and

surrounding agricultural fields. As you cross the footbridge, look for signs of beaver activity below. A short side trail joins the Buckland Loop with the Ruins Loop. The end of this trail meets the Railroad Trail.



### **Railroad Trail**

This 0.2-mile trail connects the Group Use Area to the Nature Trail near the Picnic Area. The trail leads up and over the railroad tracks—be sure to look and listen for trains!



## Joseph Stewart Trail

This trail begins at the Samuel Buckland Campground, between sites 13 and 14. Hikers will find themselves surrounded by a forest of cottonwood trees and sagebrush. Signs of beaver activity along the Carson River are obvious. This trail ends at the Group Use Area, where hikers can access the Railroad Trail and continue on the Nature Trail all the way to the Orchard across from Buckland Station.



## Nature Trail

This 1.6-mile interpretive trail can be accessed from the Ruins Loop, the Group Use Area—via the Railroad Trail, the Picnic Area or the Orchard across from Buckland Station. Stroll along the Carson River and look for wildlife or signs of wildlife. Beavers are nocturnal, but their downed trees and chew marks are visible any time of the day.

Interpretive signs along the way draw attention to various plants, wildlife species and other important features of Fort Churchill State Historic Park. The trail passes some historic agricultural fields, which are still in use, as Fort Churchill is part of a working ranch. In some places along the river, the bank is unstable, so please stay back!

