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University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Period Ending June 30, 2009

Cooperative Agreement Number: H8R07060001
Task Agreement Number: J8R07070002

Project Title: Southern Nevada Agency Partnership
Cultural Site Stewardship Program – Program Expansion and Steward Retention

Executive Summary

- A total of 428 stewards were trained and registered on database.
- Cultural Site Stewardship Program funding modified to extend program.

Summary of Attachments

- Minutes and agenda of June 4 team meeting.

Collaboration with Interagency Team

The Interagency Cultural Site Stewardship Team (ICSST) met on June 4, 2009 (see attached agenda and minutes). Tami Lucero, Acting Southern Nevada Agency Partnership (SNAP) Executive Director, asked the team for any unapplied funding to assist SNAP in employing a visual arts specialist. U.S. Forest Service Archaeologist, Kelly Turner, offered $10,000 from sources within her agency.

In a new program initiated to identify and plot mine locations along the Colorado River, the Lake Mead National Park Service (NPS) requested volunteers from CSSP. Of more than 75 respondents, 45 volunteers met the preliminary qualifications to participate. NPS will also provide classes. George Phillips, CSSP Program Manager, will monitor the volunteer hours donated, their personal information, and all volunteer assignment information. The project is planned to begin in the fall of this year.

As mentioned in the last CSSP Quarterly Progress Report, the stewardship program’s funding was scheduled to terminate in July, 2010. A concern was voiced by ICSST members that the Nevada State Stewardship Program could not absorb Clark County’s stewardship program. The team chose to follow a SNAP suggestion and arrange for a financial “band-aid” extension. Steve Daron, Agreement Technical Representative, and Program Manager Phillips, prepared a budget modification to extend the program for Clark County through June 2012. Peg Reese, Executive Director of the Public Lands Institute, reviewed the figures and considered the plan feasible. Steve will submit the plan through SNAP and other
necessary channels. CSSP will continue to seek grants and outside commercial funding sources while avoiding conflicts with federal policy regulating outside solicitations.

**Project 1 – Recruitment, Training, and Retention of Volunteer Site Stewards**

**Task 1 – Site Stewardship Database**

The CSSP-originated database is highly effective and continues to produce information requested by federal agencies. Due to its success and in the absence of a state-wide system for stewards outside Clark County, the Nevada State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) requested CSSP to share possession of its database program. An earlier plan by SHPO for a system funded through SNPLMA named “Site Stewardship Reporter” did not materialize, and SHPO subsequently made a formal request to ICSST for Clark County’s database. Federal team members are considering the request.

In addition, SHPO asked that all site monitoring data from Clark County site stewards be sent to its Carson City office where archaeological site records are maintained. The CSSP database information is currently stored in UNLV’s super computer and provides the security required by SNAP agencies to maintain discrete access to site information. SHPO representatives will forward a letter outlining the specific site information wanted to federal ICSST members for response.

**Task 2 – Recruit additional volunteer cultural site stewards.**

Two steward classes have been held this year and 41 new volunteers have been trained. An additional five volunteers from the Nevada site steward program joined CSSP bringing the total trained volunteers to 428 stewards. The program had an increase of 46 stewards, which is 12% over 2008 totals. No classes were held this quarter. The next scheduled training class will occur in late September. Shown in figure 1 below, is the number of stewards registered on the CSSP database on June 30 of each year reflecting a steady growth.

![CSSP Steward Growth](image)

*Figure 1. Cumulative growth of total stewards compared on June 30 of each year.*
Task 3 – Deliver, evaluate, and refine basic training classes for volunteer cultural site stewards.

Classes continue to be conducted in locations adjacent to the regions having the greatest need for stewards. Instruction is subsequently adjusted to focus on special needs for that region and specific organizations are targeted for special needs. The primary growth phase for Clark County has reached a satisfactory level for agency representatives. Classes and training will continue to comply with requirements of the CSSP Task Agreement and to maintain effective monitoring numbers required for site locations.

Task 4 – Deliver, evaluate, and refine optional educational training for volunteer cultural site stewards.

Classes are being prepared for map and compass navigation, fundamental GPS operation, tours of public pre-historic sites, lithic studies, and pottery recognition.

Task 5 – Obtain and evaluate feedback from volunteer cultural site stewards about the program and incorporate into program improvements.

CSSP has completed re-assignments for stewards based on information obtained from direct telephone contact and e-mails to stewards by Regional Coordinators. Based on previous methods of obtaining feedback including complete written evaluations and anonymous program assessments, direct calls to stewards has proven the most effective method for hard-hitting feedback. Primary reasons for reassigning stewards include changes in medical conditions, difficulty accessing sites due to road closures, and apathy to the original sites after monitoring for three or four years.

Task 6 – Plan and implement volunteer recognition initiatives and events.

As reported in the last Quarterly Progress Report, CSSP will join the Interagency Volunteer Program recognition event on Nevada Day, 2009. A traditional annual picnic for CSSP volunteers will also be held at Lake Mead on Saturday, November 7. Plans are being prepared in collaboration with team members.

Project 2: Monitoring of Cultural Resource Sites and Reporting Results

Task 1 – Assign, monitor, supervise, and evaluate volunteer site stewards to protect cultural sites on public lands.

Stewards are assigned site monitoring units in teams. Site assignments are considered after volunteers undergo required basic training. Site preferences, physical abilities, transportation needs and outdoor experience are considerations for assignment and are discussed in advance. If volunteers are unknown to the program manager, they are assigned with experienced stewards and are very frequently placed in public sites. Two or more teams are often assigned the same monitoring units in order to increase vigilance in sensitive or high visitation areas. Only experienced stewards are placed in highly sensitive areas. Safety is the first priority and overrides all other considerations. CSSP is fortunate in having only two incidents reported in its five years of operation. Safety protocol requiring members to sign-in and out prevented several potential problems.
Assignments on federally-managed lands are heavily weighted towards the Bureau of Land Management. As seen in the chart below, 84% of all monitoring reports for the quarter ending June 30, 2009, were for the BLM. (A new U.S. Fish and Wildlife representative is planning to reassign both CSSP and Nevada State volunteers on the Desert Refuge, no visitation or reports have been submitted).

![Monitoring Activity by Agency](image)

**Figure 2.** Percent of monitoring activity by agency from April 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009.

**Task 2 – Report incidents to appropriate agencies.**

All incident reports have been submitted to the appropriate agencies. Impacts in Clark County are shown below:

**CLARK COUNTY IMPACTS**
REPORTED OVER 9 MONTHS ENDING 6/30/2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Description</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graffiti</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OHV RELATED</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VANDALISM</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIGN DESTRUCTION</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLECTORS PILES</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCESS TRASH</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POTTING/DIGGING</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL (fytd)** 64

Graffiti and OHV related incidents remain highest in Gold Butte. Out of all significant impacts, 22 of 64 (34%) reports are from Gold Butte’s 45 site stewards.
Shown in Figure 2 below are impacts reported for quarters ending June 30 and compared by year. Reported site impacts decreased 17% this year to date over the same period in 2008. A new Road Designation Plan in the Gold Butte/Arrow Canyon areas implemented in late fall of 2008 accounts for the reduction.

![Annual Site Impacts Nine Months through June](chart)

**Figure 2. Impacts measured annually through June.**

**Task 3 – Collect, maintain, and provide longitudinal statistics to federal land managing agencies and create and maintain a central database containing site steward and cultural site monitoring information and statistics from all five agencies.**

All site monitoring activities are kept in compliance with agency instructions and are provided upon request.

**Project 3: Community Outreach and Education**

**Task 1 – Inform the community about the Cultural Site Stewardship Program and their opportunity to get personally involved in protecting public lands.**

The Annual Nevada Archaeological Association Meeting was held in Lovelock, Nevada on April 3-5. Phillips presented an update on activities and membership status of CSSP.

On May 9, 2009, CSSP managed a booth at the Clark County Cultural History Fair in the Springs Preserve. An estimated 150 to 200 people viewed the booth and four volunteers were recruited for stewardship.
Task 2 – Educate the public about the need to protect cultural sites, increase public awareness of the significance and value of heritage resources, and educate the public about proper site etiquette in accordance with existing state and federal laws enacted for historical preservation.

The Nevada Rock Art Foundation held its annual meeting in Mesquite, Nevada on May 2, 2009. George Phillips gave a presentation on the Effectiveness of Site Stewardship to approximately 75 members.

The American Rock Art Research Association invited Phillips to present a similar presentation on Site Steward Effectiveness at its annual meeting in Bakersfield, California on May 23, 2009. Approximately 230 were in attendance.

Submitted by:

Margaret N. Rees, Project Administrator

6/30/2009
ICSST MEETING AGENDA

June 4, 2009

US Forest Service Conference Room

Clark County Interagency Office

1. Tami Lucero - funding for SNAP visual arts specialist
2. Annual picnic
3. CSSP Funds Sustainability
4. Succession - charter motion
5. Database - Karen de Dufour
6. Channel 99 interview, destruction of petroglyphs
7. Other
ICSST MEETING MINUTES
June 4, 2009
US Forest Service Conference Room
Clark County Interagency Office

9:45 a.m.
Present:  Elaine Homes  Mark Boatwright  Kelly Turner
         Ruth Lopez    Sali Underwood  Steve Daron
         Laurie Perry  Karen de Dufour  Anne Marie Kmetz
         George Phillips

Note:  Eva Jensen, Archaeologist for the Lost City Museum has moved and will no longer be active with ICSST or CSSP.

1.  **Review of previous meeting minutes:** amend “all” with visit with Peg Reese on item #3. Approved amended minutes.

   Mark wanted to discuss an issue involving “Rock Art in Context,” an issue mentioned briefly in the March ICSST meeting. Due to time considerations, we will put this off until the next meeting.

2.  **Tami Lucero**, acting Executive SNAP Director, said she applied and received a time extension from SNAP for a $22K BLM fund that expired on 12.08. It has been submitted to SNPLMA. Was this for Site Stewardship? No, according to Mark. This is one half of the $56K used by the previous archaeologist (Shawn) and Mark would like to use it for surveys. Mark has approval and will complete the paperwork.

   - Tami said about 4 out of 5 agencies are using direct extensions for their programs if to complete program tasks. If ICSST would like to extend the CSSP program, we should advise SNPLMA to revise the project-end date and provide a justification. The team should ask for enough time to complete the tasks and provide a clear reason for the extension.

   - Tami mentioned further that the Cultural Team and ICSST (and CSSP) will meet with the SNAP board on 9/25/09. She will send us further information later. George will complete a “Lessons Learned” form for SNAP and forward it to Tami. Mark has the CSSP Three Year Report and will forward a copy to her within the next couple of days.

   - SNAP is requesting any contributions from the teams to support funding for a Visual
Arts Specialist. Tami asked if we have $5K - $10K to assist. Billie Whitcomb will be leaving in October and another specialist will replace him. Kelly Turner volunteered $10K in funds from her agency.

3. **Sustainability.** Steve and George met with Peg Rees, Executive Director of the Public Lands Institute, with a proposal to extend CSSP at least one year to 7/2011 and possibly to 12/2011. The current budget is proposed for modification and will feasibly provide a more restrained but nevertheless complete package to continue the program. Funds from the Bureau of Reclamation may be available to assist with the extension. A motion to continue with the extension plan was made by Laurie and seconded by Kelly. Motion passed.

Tami suggested applying for funding through different alternatives. We will work on Round 11 funding with the realization that there will probably be little money available. Nominations will not come out until next fall and we should present the concept to the SNAP Board first.

George mentioned that Mary Jo Rugwell brought up possible cost sharing that may be available. Mark said that early fall is the time to apply. Tami will check this out.

4. **Annual get-together.** George set Saturday, November 7 for the steward annual get-together at Lake Mead. He will provide more details at the next meeting, but mentioned that Lake Mead is the best location. Valley of Fire has now limited gatherings to a maximum of 45 people and 12 cars. The Spring Mountain Ranch has no vacancy. A ’Steward of the Year“ award will occur at the IVP Recognition Ceremony on the previous weekend.

5. **Succession.** George introduced his concern that the existing ICSST charter addressing the transference of team leadership may harness flexibility during the next year or two. Currently, the team leader is automatically appointed for a 2 year term. Since 2004, the team has had two leaders who have had experience and intimate knowledge of the program. George felt that the team has had 4 different BLM members (Suzanne, Shawn, Mark and Kathleen), two USF&W Representatives (Kathleen and Ruth), two USFS Representatives (Kelly and Kathleen), gained one SHPO Member (Sali) and lost one Nevada State member (Eva). He suggested that because the team funding and long-term sustainability are tenuous, the federal voting members should build flexibility by modifying the charter and consider choosing a leader yearly based on the situation before them. Additional subsequent comments regarding possible outdated information within the charter were addressed.

A spirited discussion followed and Steve subsequently felt there was too much confusion, that everyone should take a step back and write comments to him by mid-July with the following points:

1) What language should be changed in the charter?
2) What in the operating procedures should change?
3) Consider the length of team service time each federal member has and comment to what degree seniority should be considered for team leader, if at all.

Steve will organize the comments and send them around for review. We’ll discuss this at the next meeting.
6. **Database.** Karen de Dufour, SHPO NVC RIS Data Manager, reported that the new NVCRIS will be available this summer. GNOMON, a company originally contracted to assist, is no longer working with this program. The Site Steward Reporter, a $47K database system planned earlier in 2006 has not been constructed. Karen asked that information regarding site monitoring information from Clark County be sent to her for input into the NVCRIS system. She will send a summary letter to be reviewed by the Cultural Team and CSSP will be advised on the process to follow and the data to send.

7. **Interview.** Robert Goldberg, a reporter for Community TV Channel 99 requested an interview to discuss destruction of petroglyphs. Mark and George will handle this.

8. **Announcement.** George announced that Paul DePatta, the Moapa Regional Coordinator, had a mild heart attack and has just been diagnosed with Leukemia. Mark suggested the team recognize him for his work with CSSP. George will follow up.

9. **Next meeting.** The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 13, at the Nevada State Museum in Lorenzi Park at 9:30.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.
George Phillips