

9-8-2006

## Community Engagement, Education & Research

Public Lands Institute

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*PUBLIC LANDS*



Community Engagement,  
Education & Research

# Rapid Growth Creates Environmental Issues

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**2003**

# On Our Public Lands



***“Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”***

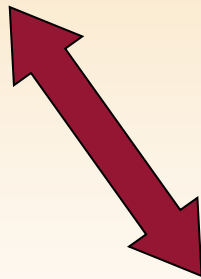
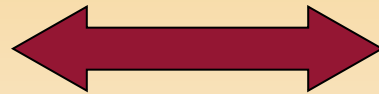
Margaret Mead





# Collaborative Partnership

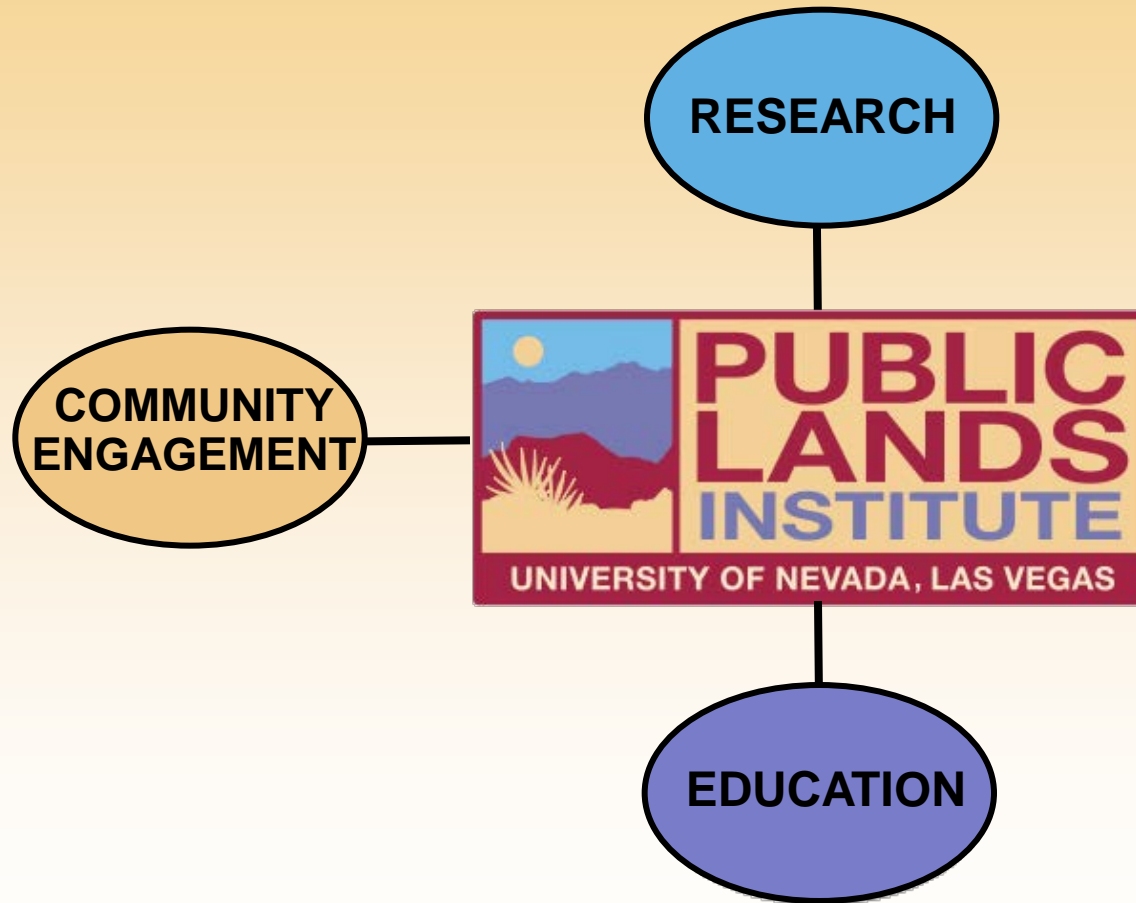
Southern Nevada Agency Partnership



Community Partners

# Spheres of Involvement

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# Our Mission

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**T**he Public Lands Institute is dedicated to strengthening the national fabric that is essential for the protection, conservation, and management of public lands.

In collaboration with federal, state, and non-profit partners, we are:

- creating new knowledge
- advancing technology
- improving education
- engaging the public to become involved in conservation and stewardship.



# Growing Network of Community Partners

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- Archaeo-Nevada Society
- CHOLLA
- Clark County Parks & Recreation
- Clark County School District
- Community College of So. Nevada
- Desert Research Institute
- Forever Resorts
- Friends of Gold Butte
- Friends of Nevada Wilderness
- Friends of Red Rock Canyon
- Friends of Sloan Canyon
- Great Basin Institute
- Las Vegas Valley Water District
- Latin Chamber of Commerce
- Mojave Rock Art Workshop
- Nevada Wild Horse & Burro Assoc.
- Nevada Archaeological Association
- Nevada Rock Art Foundation
- Nevada Wilderness Society
- Outside Las Vegas Foundation
- Paradise Professional Development School
- Pictographics
- Red Rock Canyon Interpretive Assoc.
- River Mountains Trail Partnership
- Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
- Southern Nevada Interpretive Assoc.
- Southern Nevada Regional Trails Partnership
- Southern Nevada Rock Art Assoc.
- Virgin River Conservation Partnership

# Involving Faculty and Students

- **College of Business**
  - Department of Public Administration
- **College of Education**
  - Department of Curriculum and Instruction
  - Department of Educational Leadership
  - Center for Evaluation and Assessment
- **College of Engineering**
  - Center for Transportation Research
- **College of Fine Arts**
  - School of Architecture
  - Department of Film
- **College of Liberal Arts**
  - Department of Anthropology
  - Department of History
- **College of Sciences**
  - School of Life Sciences
  - Department of Geoscience
- **College of Urban Affairs**
  - Department of Environmental Studies
  - Department of Communication Studies
  - UNLV-TV
- **College of Hotel Administration**
  - Department of Tourism
- **Facilities Management and Planning**
  - Office of Planning & Construction
  - Rebel Recycling Program
- **Division of Student Life**
- **Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies**
- **William S. Boyd School of Law**

# Community Engagement

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*Our goal is to engage and inspire people to actively participate in the enjoyment, protection, and responsible use of our public lands.*



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

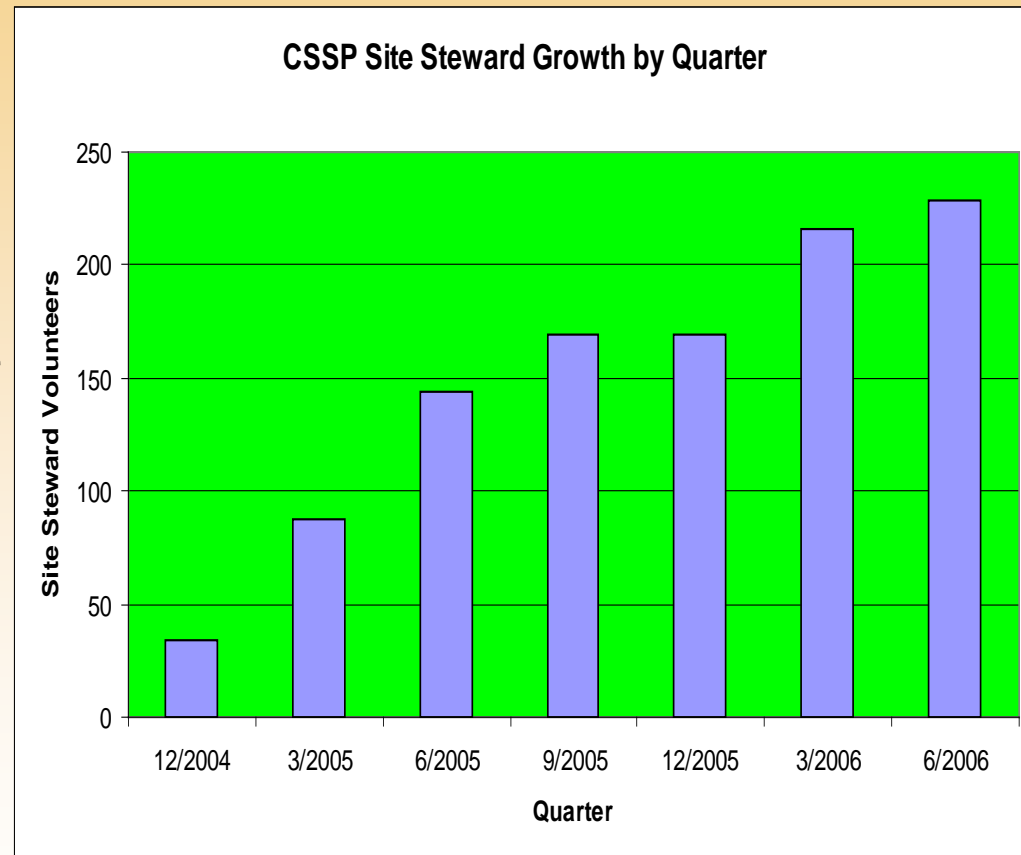
## Projects

- Clark County Cultural Site Stewardship Program
- Southern Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program
  - Get Outdoors Nevada
- Take Pride in America in Southern Nevada
  - Anti-Litter & Anti-Dumping Program



# Site Steward Program

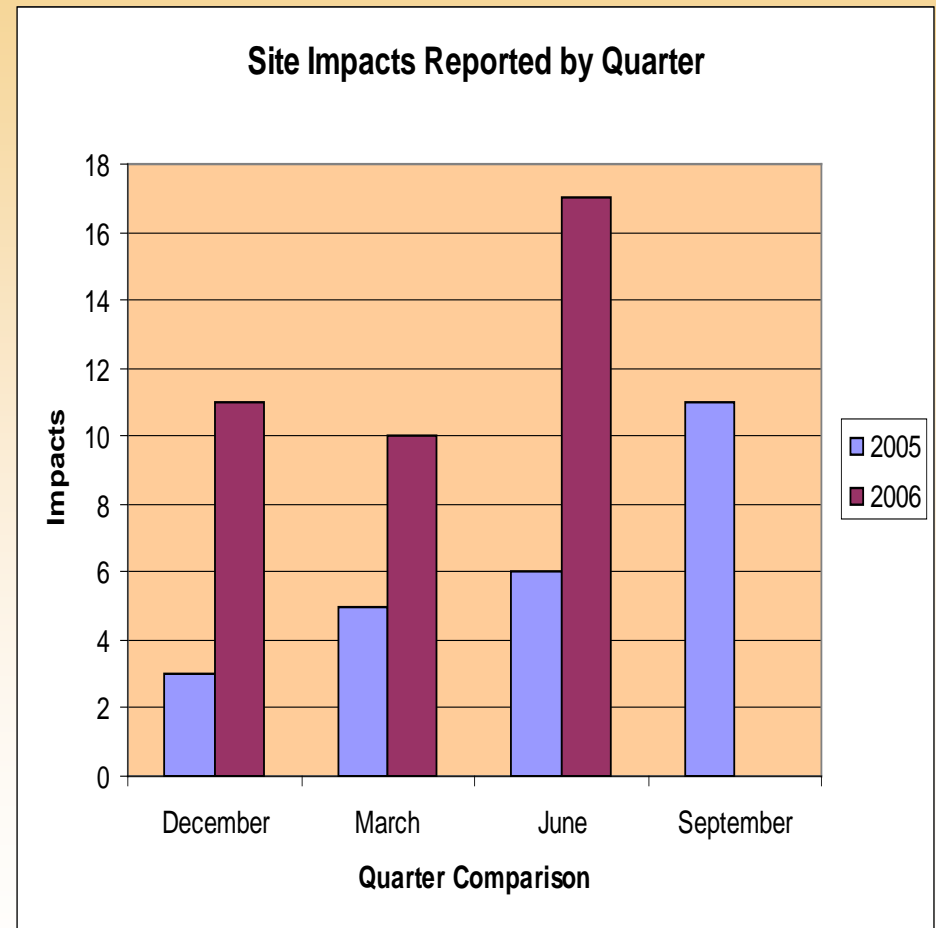
- Active stewards now total 229.
- 674% increase since program inception.
- 54 new stewards in last 6 months.





# Site Steward Program

- Stewards logged 5,100 hours in 2005 – 36 major impacts and 12 lesser impacts reported.
- 10 training classes in 2006. Enrollments exceeding capacity.
- Statewide program now underway.



# Interagency Volunteer Program



## 2005

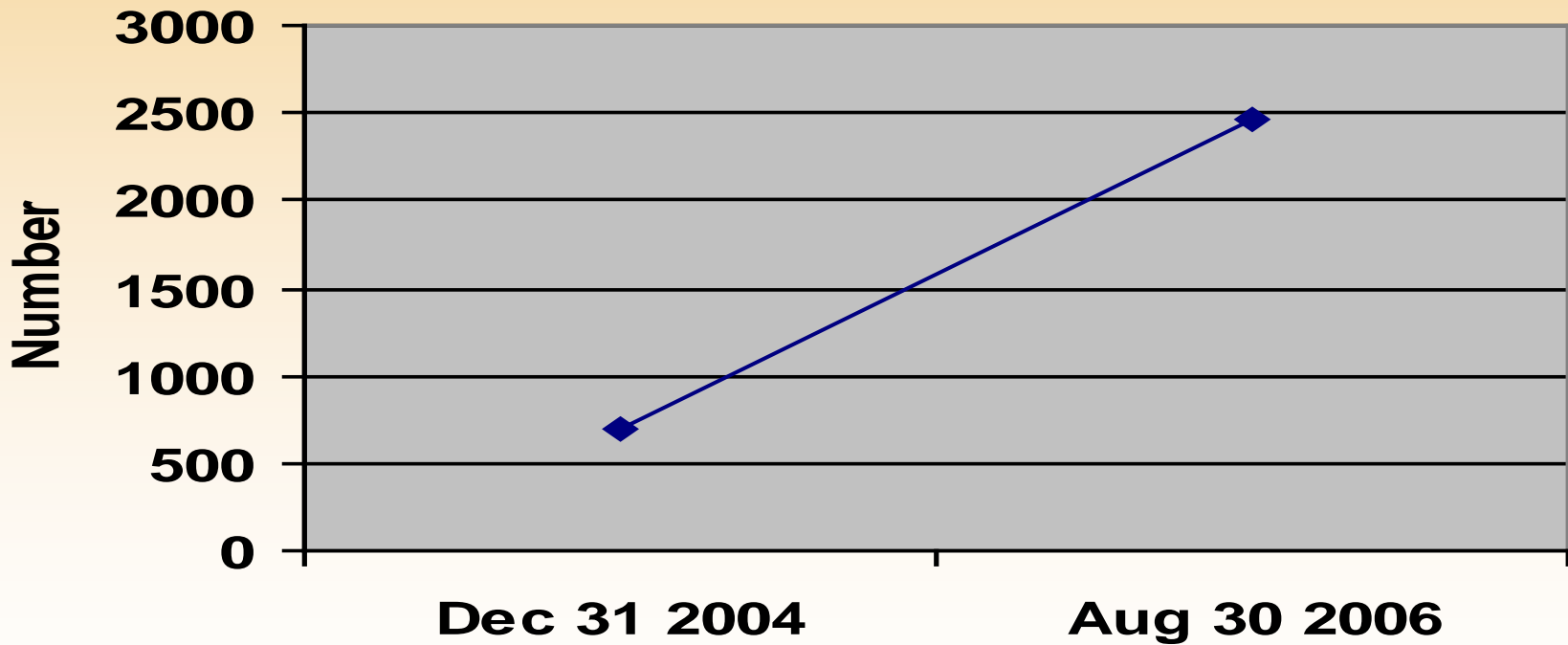
- 160,000 volunteer hours.
- Estimated value \$2.7M.
- 100 tons of litter & debris collected plus trail & wetlands restoration.

## 2006 to date

- 2,471 volunteers.
- Estimated value \$1M.
- 500 cubic yards removed.



## Increase in Public Lands Volunteers, from Program Inception





- Partnered with national Take Pride program – created 5 Nevada PSAs with Clint Eastwood. Local PSA created by UNLV students and UNLV-TV.
- Community Round Table – strategic plan & ongoing feedback.
- “Don’t Trash Nevada” media campaign – official launch October 12.



# Don't Trash the Neighborhood.



Many creatures in Nevada call the desert home. As you enjoy the many recreational opportunities and rugged frontier beauty of our state, remember to respect our wildlife and public lands by taking your trash home with you, or placing it in appropriate trash bins.



Southern Nevada Agency Partnership



[www.DontTrashNevada.org](http://www.DontTrashNevada.org)



# WATCH YOUR STEP.

Watch out! Today it's not uncommon to find empty beer bottles, cigarette butts, dirty diapers, empty shotgun shell casings, and just about anything else littering the ground. Careless use of our recreational areas and public lands is harming our precious environment. And, it's illegal.

Please avoid fines and help keep Nevada beautiful by taking pride in our natural landscape.



Southern Nevada Agency Partnership



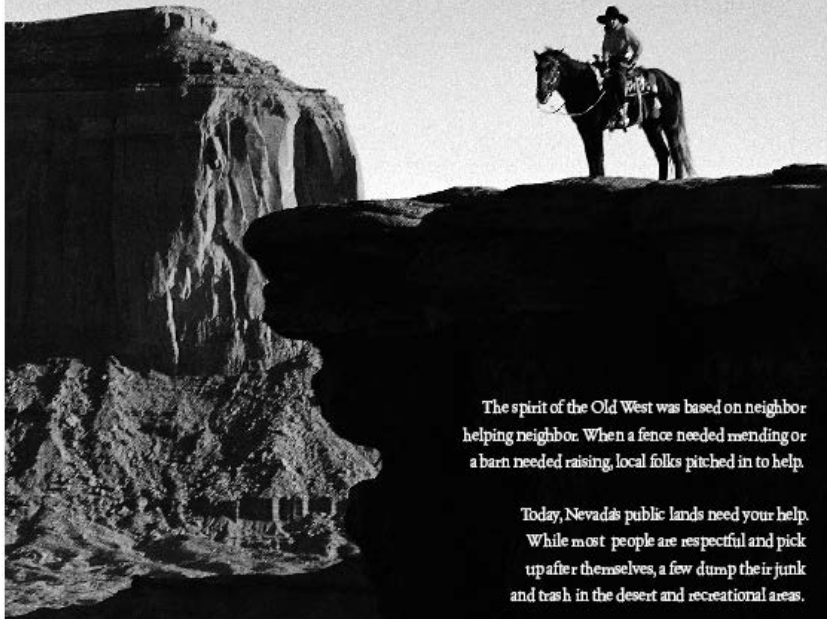
Funded by Southern Nevada Public Land Management, LLC

[www.DontTrashNevada.org](http://www.DontTrashNevada.org)





# Spirit of THE West



The spirit of the Old West was based on neighbor helping neighbor. When a fence needed mending or a barn needed raising, local folks pitched in to help.

Today, Nevada's public lands need your help. While most people are respectful and pick up after themselves, a few dump their junk and trash in the desert and recreational areas.

So, be a good neighbor to Nevada's public lands and help keep our environment healthy and safe. Enjoy the Wild West, don't waste it.



Powered by Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act

[www.DontTrashNevada.org](http://www.DontTrashNevada.org)



## No Contamine la Comunidad.

Varias criaturas hacen del desierto de Nevada su hogar.

Cuando disfrute de las múltiples oportunidades recreacionales y belleza de nuestro estado, acuerdese de respetar la flora y fauna llevándose a casa su basura, o disponiendo de ella en recipientes adecuados.

Sea un vecino responsable.



Powered by the Public Lands of Nevada Public Land Management Act

*La Basura Es Perjudicial.*  
[www.DontTrashNevada.org](http://www.DontTrashNevada.org)



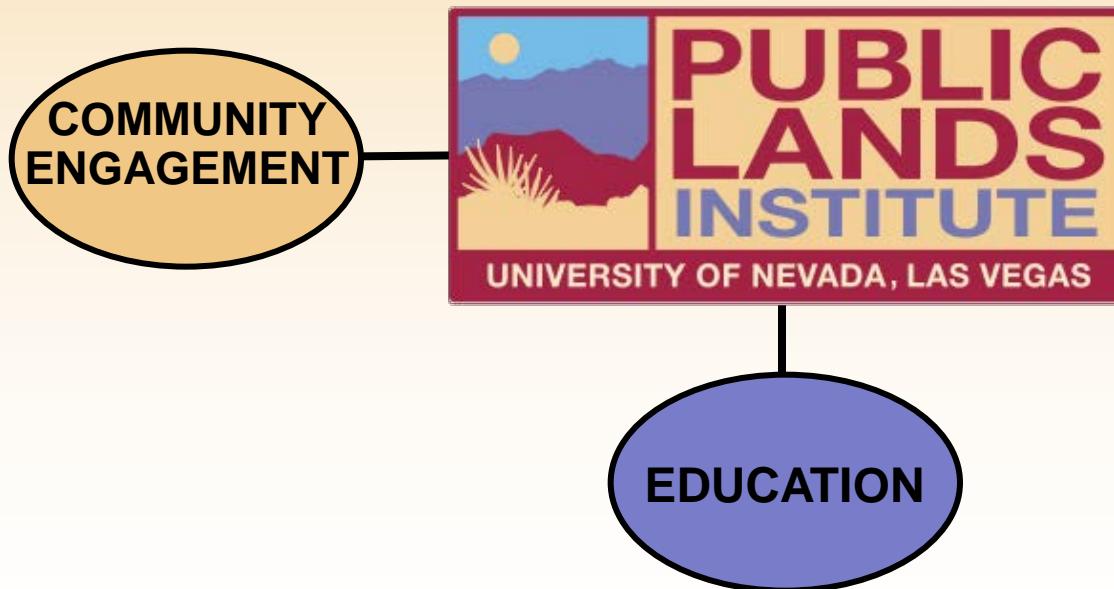
# Don't Trash the Neighborhood.



[www.DontTrashNevada.org](http://www.DontTrashNevada.org)  
Funded by Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act

# Education

*Our goal is to provide people of all ages with opportunities to acquire the skills, knowledge, and commitment to participate in the enjoyment, protection, and responsible use of our public lands.*



# EDUCATION

## Projects

- Education in the Environment Strategy
- Forever Earth Science Program
- Discover Mojave Outdoor World Program
- Red Rock Desert Learning Center



DISCOVER  
**Mojave**  
OUTDOOR WORLD



## EE STRATEGY

## Accomplishments

- Southern Nevada Education in the Environment Strategy completed. 45+ informal & formal educators involved.

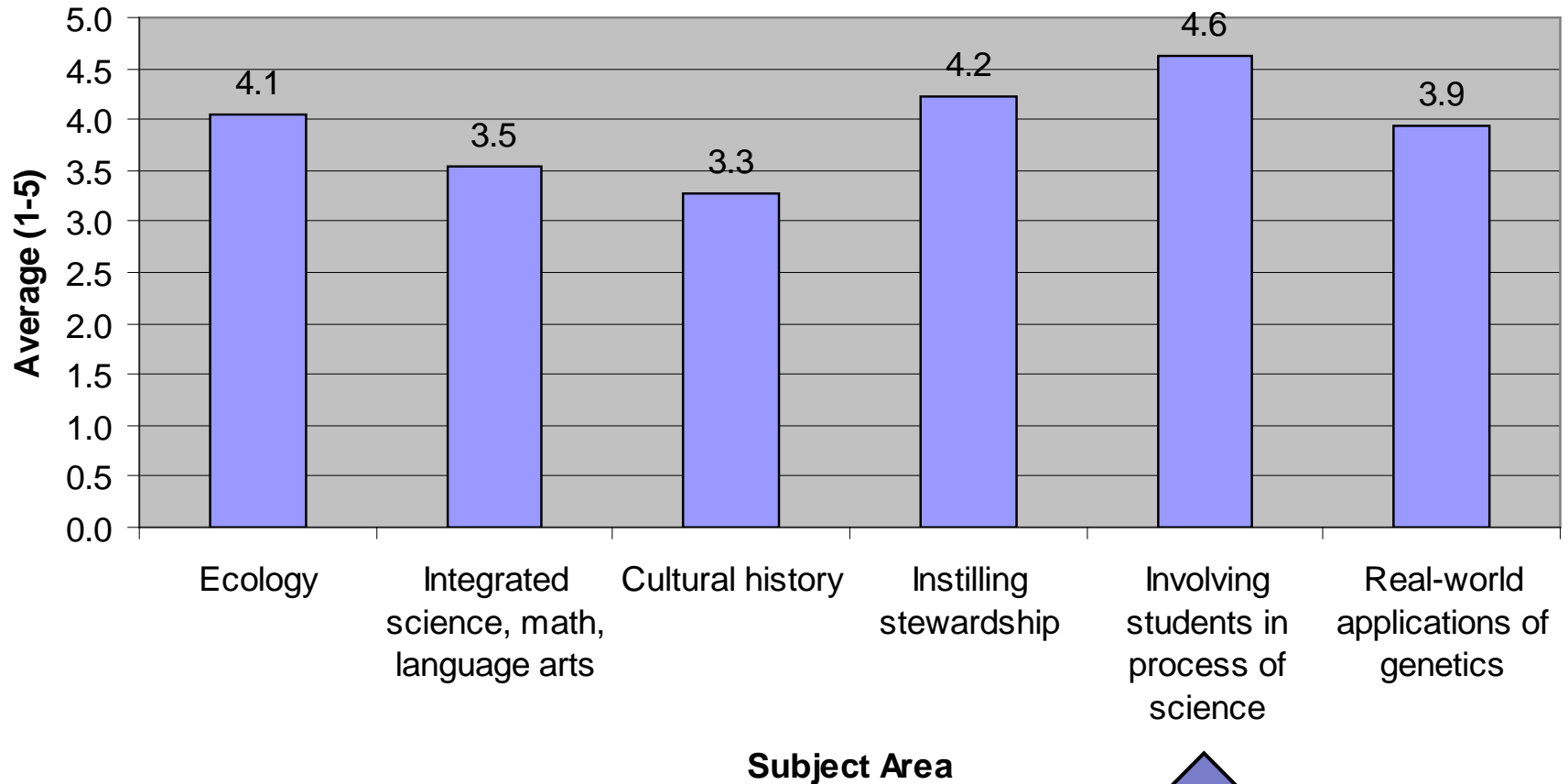
### Outcomes:

- More interpretive programs
  - Larger audiences, all ethnic groups
  - Higher quality, more targeted programming
  - Reduced duplication
  - Coordinated resources & information-sharing
  - Better trained staff & volunteers
- OHV curriculum created for new CCSD Driver Ed course





# Schoolteachers' Field-Trip Survey



- UNLV hosted inaugural conference for 200 place-based educators:
  - 7 corporate / non-profit / federal sponsors
  - \$12,000 in external funds and in-kind donations
  - Nationally recognized keynote speakers.
- Searchable field-trip website for teachers
- UNLV Planning
  - EE certificate program and master's degree

# Forever Earth

## Principal Uses:

- Education:  
University, High School, Middle School
- Teacher workshops
- Scientific studies, mapping, dives
- Water quality monitoring
- Incident command post
- Floating visitor center

*Photo courtesy of Brett Seymour, Submerged Resources Center, National Park Service*



# Forever Earth

- Curriculum for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> grades:
  - Technology based (PDAs/Probes)
  - Students' work tied to local/regional research
  - Pre-trip classroom lessons
  - On-board activities & data collection
  - Post-trip classroom lessons



# Discover Mojave Outdoor World

## Goals:

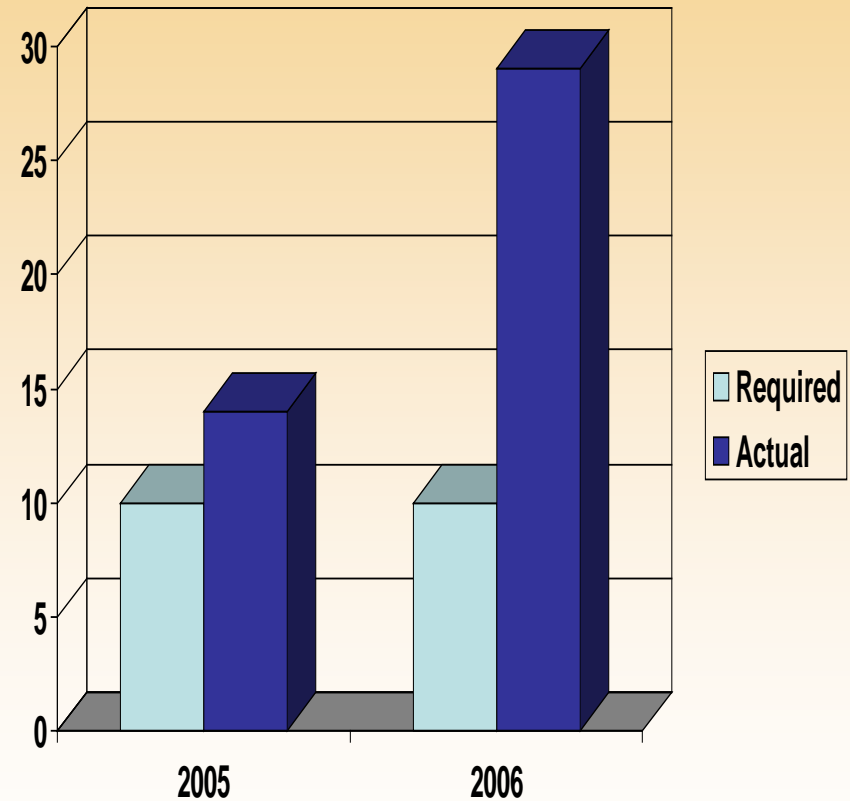
- ✓ Instill conservation ethic in youth
- ✓ Get them outdoors!
- ✓ Dispel fears of natural environment
- ✓ Create personal connections to the land
- ✓ Teach Tread Lightly recreation skills and principles





# Discover Mojave

- 22 Discover Mojave Outdoor World events held for 184 children in Year 1.
- 29 events in Year 2 – 290% increase over required deliverable.
- Fishing, kayaking, canoeing, bird-watching. Rock-climbing to come.



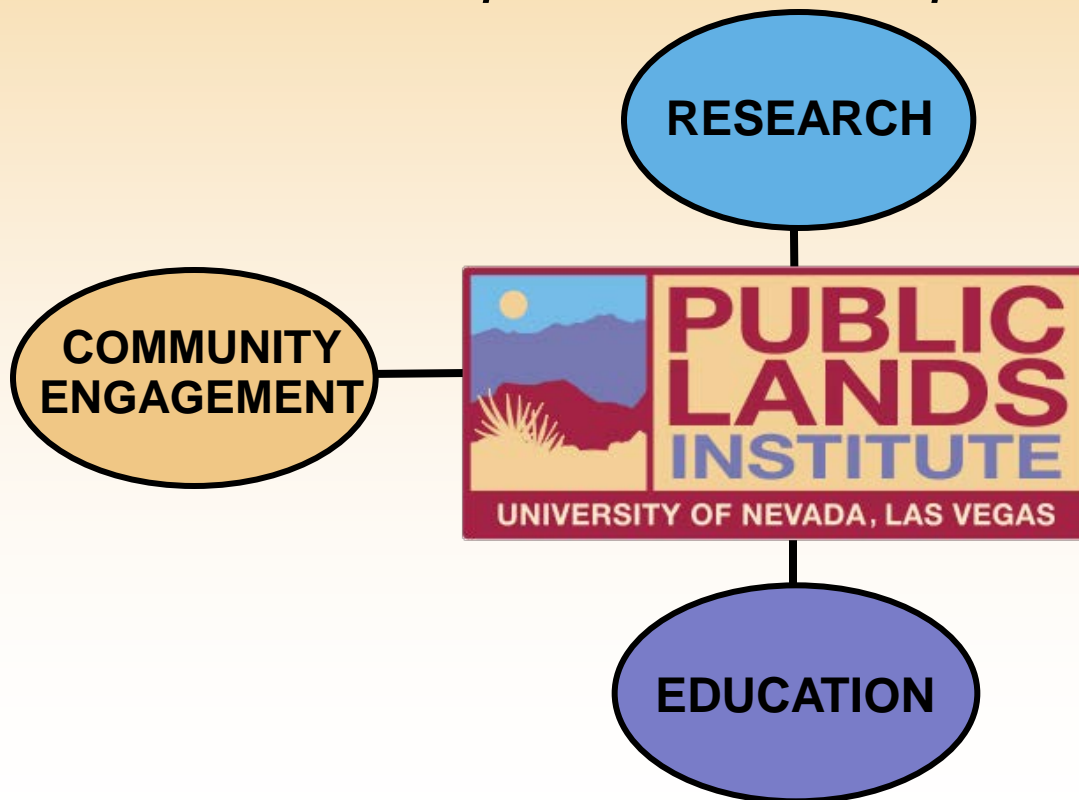
# Red Rock Desert Learning Center



- Core curriculum completed:
  - Ecosystems Science
  - Historical Figures
  - Cultural Connections
  - Wild Horse and Burro
  - Night Sky
  - Green Building Technology
- Native American cultural integrations completed for each subject area.
- 5 teacher piloting workshops conducted Spring 2006 to test the curriculum.

# Research

*Our goal is to create high quality, relevant, up-to-date knowledge that is needed to solve problems and make effective decisions about the management, protection, and responsible use of public lands.*



## RESEARCH

## Projects

- Science and Research Strategy for Southern Nevada
- Plants, Animals, Air & Water Monitoring
- Data Management and Analysis
- Alternative Workforce Study
- Anti-Litter Strategy for Southern Nevada



# Walking Box Ranch

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Built in 1931 by silent film stars  
Rex Bell and Clara Bow



# Walking Box Ranch

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# Walking Box Ranch











# Walking Box Ranch





# Advocates for Public Lands



*PUBLIC LANDS*



<http://publiclands.unlv.edu>

702.895.4678