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Presentation to River Mountain Trails Partnership
March 22, 2005

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Presentation to
River Mountain Trails Partnership
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UNLV Public Lands Initiative and SNPLMA

University engages in selected SNPLMA projects as determined by the four federal agencies, which are:

- Compatible with UNLV’s mission.
- Enhance education and research.
- Draw upon expertise of faculty, staff, and students.

Partnership began with Round 4 projects.
Current SNPLMA Projects

- Current UNLV Round 4 projects are:
  - Red Rock Desert Learning Center
  - Forever Earth Program
  - WOW on the Water Program
  - Environmental Education Strategy
  - Natural Resources Career Internship Program
  - Cultural Site Stewardship Program
  - Science and Research Strategy
  - Southern Nevada Take Pride In America Program
  - Interagency Volunteer Program
Red Rock Desert Learning Center: UNLV’s Role

- Assist BLM with overall project coordination.
- Develop an integrated curriculum.
- Coordinate a business plan.
- Provide public outreach and publicity.
- Design and maintain website.
Red Rock Desert Learning Center: Status Report

- Environmental assessment is underway.
- Schematic designs completed December 2004.
- Science curriculum completed January 2005.
- Core curriculum currently under development.
- Communications plan in progress.
- Website has been launched.
Forever Earth: UNLV’s Role

- Execute cooperative agreement with vessel owner, Forever Resorts.
- Design the curriculum and programming for K-12 science activities.
- Establish standard operating procedures.
- Schedule and operate the vessel.
- Conduct teaching and research on the vessel.
Forever Earth: Status Report

- Project manager hired – Daphne Sewing.
- Cooperative agreement between UNLV and Forever Resorts in final draft.
- Standard operating procedures manual in final draft.
- Insurance quotes in progress.
- Curriculum currently under development.
- Grant secured for 6 Forever Earth events through Outside Las Vegas Foundation.
WOW on the Water: UNLV’s Role

- Develop the curriculum.
- Schedule and implement recreation events on public lands.
- Establish partnerships with:
  - Parks & Recreation Agencies
  - Boys and Girls Clubs
  - Local businesses
  - Schools
  - Donors
  - National WOW organization
WOW on the Water: Status Report

- Project manager hired – Daphne Sewing.
- 5 half-day activities created:
  - Bird-watching
  - Kayaking
  - Canoeing
  - Fishing
  - Art
- First event scheduled for March 23. Nine other events scheduled between April and June.
- Assessment instruments developed.
Outdoor Education Strategy:
UNLV’s Role

- Develop 5-year strategic plan for environmental and interpretive education on public lands and throughout Clark County.
- Integrate curricula and programs where desirable.
- Provide an integrated implementation plan for use in:
  - Visitor Centers
  - Educational programs
  - Interpretive programs
  - Outdoor venues
  - Interpretive trails
  - Museums
Outdoor Education Strategy: Status Report

- Project manager hired – Allison Brody.
- Educational themes established by Outside Las Vegas Environmental Education Committee.
- Meetings underway between project manager and community stakeholders and agency personnel.
- Survey of existing programs underway.
- Survey of audiences underway.
Student Internship Program: UNLV’s Role

- Implement and manage a paid student internship program for high school juniors and seniors with the federal land management agencies.
- Target to ethnically diverse youth.
- Provide transportation to work sites, supervision, and uniforms.
- Encourage college attendance and future employment in natural resource management fields.
Student Internship Program: Status Report

- Program manager hired – Geannine Jordan.
- Internship forms and processes created.
- Students recruited, interviewed and hired.
- Graduate student hired as driver/supervisor.
- Internship experience began February 7 with BLM and Forest Service.
- Next rotation mid-April with National Park Service in Boulder City.
Cultural Site Stewardship Program: UNLV’s Role

- Recruit and train site stewards.
- Create database of volunteers and site locations.
- Assign stewards to monitor and protect cultural and natural resources in Southern Nevada.
- Create integrated training program.
- Coordinate with Interagency Volunteer Program where appropriate.
Cultural Site Stewardship Program: Status Report

- Project manager hired – George Phillips.
- Database records loaded.
- Site information compiled.
- Training manual created.
- Incident report forms created.
- Site steward ID cards created.
- Meetings held with stakeholder groups.
- Orientation session held March 19.
Science and Research Strategy: UNLV’s Role

- Coordinate partnerships among federal agencies and scientists/researchers.
- Facilitate development of strategic plan for science and research proposals.
- Provide written strategy for use by the federal agencies.
- Oversee process for review of proposals.

STATUS: Search for project manager underway.
Take Pride in America Campaign

- Sponsor regular series of clean-ups on public lands.
- Develop anti-litter/desert dumping strategic plan for Southern Nevada public lands.
- Develop recycling plan.
- Conduct judicial review of littering fines and restitution.
- STATUS: Search for project manager underway.
Interagency Volunteer Program
UNLV’s Role

- Develop an integrated volunteer database for all four public lands agencies in Southern Nevada.
- Develop common application forms.
- Develop a volunteer training program.
- Develop a program to reward volunteers.
- Help federal agencies implement volunteer events on public lands.
Interagency Volunteer Program: Status Report

- Project manager hired – Donna Grady.
- Interagency application forms created.
- Database software selected and records loaded.
- Website completed: getoutdoorsnevada.org
- First event held March 5, Great American Clean Up
- Future Events:
  - April 2, Red Rock Day
  - June 4, National Trails Day
  - September 24, National Public Lands Day
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