
Margaret N. Rees

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, peg.rees@unlv.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/pli_cultural_stewardship

Part of the Archaeological Anthropology Commons, Civic and Community Engagement Commons, Community-based Learning Commons, Cultural Resource Management and Policy Analysis Commons, and the Historic Preservation and Conservation Commons

Repository Citation
Available at: http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/pli_cultural_stewardship/25

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by the Public Lands Institute at Digital Scholarship@UNLV. It has been accepted for inclusion in Cultural Site Stewardship Program by an authorized administrator of Digital Scholarship@UNLV. For more information, please contact digitalscholarship@unlv.edu.
Executive Summary

- Updated Site Steward documentation
- Held recognition event at Lake Mead
- Program funding extended through 12/1/2013

Summary of Attachments

- Agenda and Minutes for August 19, 2010, team meeting

Collaboration with Interagency Team

The Interagency Cultural Site Stewardship Team (ICSST) met on October 14, 2010, at the Nevada State Museum (see attached agenda and minutes). George Phillips, Program Manager, reported that the Cultural Site Stewardship Program (CSSP) began assigning stewards to the Desert Wildlife Refuge (DWR) and to other remote sites along the Nevada’s border southwest of Searchlight. Beginning December, 2010, CSSP resumed the Abandoned Mines, which project begun in late 2009 under the direction of the National Park Service. A select team of ten stewards will continue documenting abandoned mines and neighboring cultural sites in mountains along the Colorado River. During the first month ending December 31, 2010, the team donated 88 hours and 530 miles.

On October 29, 2010, CSSP received formal approval of funding from Round 11 formally extending operations through December 31, 2013. Members of ICSST met with the board of the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership on November 19, 2010, to discuss issues related to sustainability beyond 2013. The board recommended ICSST research funding options.

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

Task 1 – Site Stewardship Database

As reported last quarter, CSSP packets were mailed to active stewards requesting completion of new volunteer agreements, ethics statements, updated emergency contact information, and current vehicle identification information to ensure information was current. All data has been received and updated in both the stewardship database and personal hard files.
**Task 2 – Recruit additional volunteer cultural site stewards.**

No basic site stewardship classes were conducted this quarter. The next class is scheduled for Saturday, January 29, 2011, at UNLV’s Paradise Campus. Out of 511 stewards trained in CSSP during the past six years, approximately 355 are active.

Volunteer Regional Coordinators are the backbone of the stewardship program providing continued vigor to the program. After four years, new coordinators were chosen for Gold Butte and Moapa regions replacing previous coordinators who remain site stewards to assist with the transitions.

**Task 3 – Deliver, evaluate, and refine basic training classes for volunteer cultural site stewards.**

Each training class is modified to address stewardship program needs. Three basic training classes will occur during fiscal year 2011 focusing upon populating new sites or reinforcing sites that require greater attention.

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

A map and compass orientation and gps navigation course was conducted to Regional Coordinators on October 15, 2010, at the Red Rock Visitors’ Center. Each Regional Coordinator and the program manager will assist with continuing instruction to stewards.

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

Class program evaluations are given to new site stewards at the end of each basic class, and feedback from the stewards has been very positive. Prevailing comments received in each class include requests for more information on prehistory, sites, features and artifacts. Classes are adjusted to accommodate preferences within reason.

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

An annual traditional recognition event for all Clark County stewards and ICSST members was held on November 6, 2010, at the Boulder Beach Picnic Area. A “Site Steward of the Year” was announced and four other stewards were recognized with plaques and certificates for individual achievement. Eighty-six CSSP members attended. Food and refreshments for the event were supplied from funds provided by the Public Lands Institute.

**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.**

Twenty-three new site stewards were trained and assigned sites throughout Clark County. New sites in the Desert Wildlife Reserve were assigned where early snowfall allowed. The Abandoned Mines Lands project operated by the National Park Service continues with new objectives along the Colorado River.

**Task 2 – Report incidents to appropriate agencies.**
All incident reports have been submitted to the appropriate agencies. Impacts to sites in Clark County for the first fiscal quarter of 2011 are shown in Figure 1 below. Impacts are rated in accordance to their severity of destruction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Mod.</th>
<th>Low</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gold Butte</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moapa</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sloan</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>43</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Figure 1. Priority is assigned to severity of destruction, High, Moderate, Low

Impacts are categorized in Figure 2 below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graffiti</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OHV Related</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fence Destruction</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vandalism</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign Destruction</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess Trash</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potting/Digging</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullet Damage</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Damage</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Natural Causes</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Figure 2. Impacts categorized

Numbers in Las Vegas are higher due to increased vandalism and graffiti in Red Rock Canyon, NCA. The most egregious graffiti damage recorded by CSSP was discovered in Red Rock in mid-November 2010. Personnel from the BLM responded immediately to apprehend one juvenile and is pursuing others possibly connected to the vandalism in the National Conservation Area.
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. Annual reports were provided to each agency for FY 2010 on October 1, 2010. CSSP volunteers donated 3,765 hours not including Abandoned Mines Project hours and provided 32,926 miles of travel.

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.

Monthly or quarterly gatherings are attended by Phillips and a range of highly motivated stewards. These include the Southern Nevada Rock Art Association, Nevada Archaeological Association, the Friends of Gold Butte, and the Nevada Rock Art Foundation. These groups regularly forward announcements of upcoming events and classes for CSSP.

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.

Phillips presented photos and information regarding OHV data gathered at Gold Butte by CSSP stewards at the Friends of Gold Butte meeting on October 4, 2010, and again on November 16, 2010 with the Charleston Hikers Club. Photos were taken in one week intervals of the rapid evolution of off-road damage.

Submitted by:

Margaret N. Rees, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Public Lands Institute

December 31, 2010
ICSST MEETING AGENDA
October 14, 2010
Nevada State Museum

1. Minutes of 8/19/2010 meeting.

2. Status of CSSP
   a. Twenty-three new stewards from last class on 9/11/2010/
   b. Assignment of stewards – DWR to begin – coordinate with Harry
   c. Steward mailings complete. New VA’s, Ethics, pins, contact info.
   d. Coordinator Map, Compass, basic GPS class on 10/15/2010
   e. A new first. Mountain top steward proposal
   f. Valley of Fire Outreach – 55 families.

3. Mark – OSTA and CSSP

4. Gold Butte Coordinators

5. Site Steward class being scheduled for mid-January at UNLV
   As usual, archaeologist presence required to tame exaggerations and lies.
   Thanks to Mark Slaughter for last class!

6. CSSP recognition event Saturday, November 6
   (1) Location
   (2) Food
   (3) Awards
   (4) VIP invitations to SNAP board. Other recommendations?

7. Other
ICSST MEETING NOTES  
October 14, 2010  
Nevada State Museum

Present:  Steve Daron  Kelly Turner  George Phillips  
Dena Sedar  Elaine Holmes  Mark Boatwright

Absent:  Harry Konwin, Kathleen Sprowl, Mark Slaughter

1. Minutes: Minutes of the 8/19/2010 meeting were approved as read.


All site stewards were mailed new volunteer agreements, ethics statements, lapel pins and blank contact information forms for updating. Over 86% returned the signed, completed forms.

On October 15, a Map, Compass, and basic GPS class will be given to Regional Coordinators who will assist stewards in their areas. The class will be held at the new Red Rock Visitors’ Center.

George reported that during a new site introduction, one new steward proposed marriage to his girl friend, also a new steward. She accepted ... a mountain top first.

On September 25, George participated with a family Outdoor Environmental Education Outreach group led by Dr. Alison Brody. Phillips escorted 55 families through rock art panels in the Valley of Fire State Park. Although the day was warmer than expected, the interest was extraordinary and the event was successful.

3. OSTA: Mark said he has been active with OSTA (Old Spanish Trail Association) with Kathleen. The team discussed conditions under which CSSP might be involved with the organizations and focuses on ensuring conditions would allow maximum agency control. The topic was left on the table for further discussion with Kathleen. Mark Henderson

4. Gold Butte Coordinators: George reported that new regional coordinators for Gold Butte area were chosen and are already assisting stewards in their area. The previous coordinators are facilitating the process.

5. Class: A Site Steward class is being scheduled for late January 2011 at UNLV. There are currently 15 applicants and there is anticipation for more. The class will attempt to remain below 20 participants.

6. Recognition Event: The CSSP annual Recognition Event will be held on Saturday, November 6 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Boulder Beach Picnic Area at Lake Mead. Steve will arrange for a fee waiver. PLI will provide funding for food being catered by At Your Service Catering. A Site Steward of the Year plaque and four Appreciation Certificates will be awarded. VIP invitations to the SNAP board and others will be mailed 3 weeks before the event. ICSST members are asked to appear around 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

The next meeting will be held at the Overton Lost City Museum on Thursday, January 6, 2011.

George Phillips