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University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Period Ending March 31, 2011

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

- One basic site steward class was held this quarter adding 17 steward volunteers.

Summary of Attachments

- Agenda and Minutes for January 6, 2011 team meeting
- Agenda for March 17, 2011 team meeting

Collaboration with Interagency Team

The Interagency Cultural Site Stewardship Team (ICSST) met twice this quarter. On January 6, 2011, (See agenda and minutes attached) plans were discussed for a site stewardship class in January. Also, Kelly Turner, Archaeologist, US Forest Service, attended the meeting. Phillips introduced two regional coordinators who will assist with classroom training. Additionally, in light of recent graffiti incidents to local cultural sites, the team recapped procedures to direct stewards from inadvertently affecting investigations of criminal activities involving cultural sites.

Phillips asked the team to consider assigning families with elementary school age children, to public petroglyph sites that have historically received extensive graffiti and trash damage. Limited sites would be chosen and approved by the agency archaeologist and would not include those remote or difficult-to-access sites. The goal is to increase community awareness of cultural value.

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

Task 1 – Site Stewardship Database

The stewardship database continues to store and provide virtually all information regarding sites, stewards and agency reports. Backup copies are made frequently and are maintained in a separate section of the UNLV computer system where confidentiality is maintained. Small additions to expedite agency reports were designed and implemented during this quarter to focus on data concerning wilderness sites.
**Task 2 – Recruit additional volunteer cultural site stewards.**

The first stewardship class for 2011 was conducted at UNLV on Saturday, January 21, 2011, at the UNLV Paradise Campus. Seventeen new volunteers participated in the class, bringing the number of stewards trained to 528. Additional training classes for 2011 are planned for May and September.

As shown in figure 1 below, growth has been steady in both total and active stewardship. Numbers of active stewards are amended throughout the year to reflect those who are part-time residents or do not visit their sites at least once within a three-month period.

![Site Stewardship Growth](image)

**Figure 1. Annual stewardship growth**

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

Each training class is modified to address stewardship program needs. Supplementary basic training or “refresher” classes for all stewards are being considered by the team. Emphases will be placed on safety, legal and site documentation updates. Decisions to proceed will be made at the next ICSST meeting on May 5, 2011.

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

No optional classes were conducted this quarter. Rock Art Recording, lithics, gps navigation, and map and compass classes are being prepared for spring and summer 2011, by CSSP Regional Coordinators.

**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. Criticisms received in the past often referred to the“legal”
portion of stewardship. The class was restructured in response to comments from volunteers with ICSST guidelines, and no further criticisms have been received in that regard since January 2009.

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

The seventh recognition event for all Clark County stewards and ICSST members will occur in November 2011. Detailed plans will be made this spring. All six previous events were well-attended and considered highly successful. Stewards are recognized for outstanding service and are presented with plaques, certificates and other awards during an outdoor informal ceremony.

**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.**

All but six trained stewards were assigned and introduced to sites. Winter weather and stewards’ time issues slowed site introductions which will be completed by April 2011.

**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 six months of the fiscal year are shown below:

| *CLARK COUNTY CULTURAL SITE IMPACTS*  
| 6 Months of Fiscal Year Ending March 31 |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Graffiti                               | 24        | 26        |
| OHV Related                            | 20        | 20        |
| Fence Destruction                      | 5         | 3         |
| Vandalism                              | 3         | 10        |
| Sign Destruction                       | 5         | 9         |
| Excess Trash                           | 2         | 6         |
| Potting/Digging                        | 8         | 3         |
| Bullet Damage                          | 2         | 0         |
| Fire Damage                            | 3         | 1         |
| Other Natural Causes                   | 2         | 4         |
| Other                                  | 5         | 10        |
| **Total**                              | **79**    | **92**    |

*Site impact numbers will differ from Site Reports. More than one impact may be included in each report.*

Site Monitor Reports indicate accelerating site impacts consistent with increased visitation. As reported in previous quarters, a by-product of off-road vehicle popularity is site degradation. Figure 2 below shows the increase in significant site impacts and does not reflect data from reports of minor effects. Minor impacts, including trash accumulation and illegal desert off roading, are reported to agency representatives to indicate visitation pressure, but they do not affect the site itself. A protocol for damaged site reports includes contacting law enforcement officers as well as the agency representative at the earliest opportunity. Law enforcement officers and agency archaeologists inspect the scene to evaluate the damages for possible destruction to government property and ARPA violations.
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.

Site monitoring activities are kept in compliance with agency instructions and are provided upon request. Annual reports are provided to each agency at fiscal year-end. CSSP will submit a report to USFWS at fiscal year-end 2011.

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.

In January 2011, Phillips’ interview on site stewardship in Clark County was published in Vegas Seven Magazine. Additionally, in early February 2011, a second interview with Boulevard Magazine focusing on activities by CSSP was also published.

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.
On January 19, 2011, Phillips gave a presentation on visitation trends in wilderness to combined meeting of the Nevada Wilderness Project, Friends of Wilderness and Friends of Gold Butte in participation with Debra Sullivan, LEO; and Mark Boatwright, Archaeologist, at the Mesquite Community Center.

Submitted by:

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

March 31, 2011
1. Minutes of 10/14/2010 meeting

2. CSSP Update – Class scheduled for 1/29/2011.

3. George – Coordinators for Moapa

4. Kelly – Weed issue

5. Sali – Request for notification by agencies of major issues

6. Mark and Sali – SNAP Public Release

7. Other

8. Next meeting

Days are getting longer.
ICSST MEETING NOTES
January 6, 2011
Lost City Museum

Present:  Harry Konwin  Steve Daron  Kelly Turner
Sali Underwood  Mark Slaughter  Dena Sedar
Joseph Cenicola  George Phillips  Kathleen Sprowl
Elaine Holmes

Absent:  Mark Boatwright


2. Class:  A basic stewardship class will be given on January 21, 2011 at the Paradise Campus of UNLV.  Kelly Turner will be present as archaeologist and Chris Allen will present the “Laws” Portion.

3. Coordinators:  Jennifer Cornett and Steve Cox have actively taken over the Moapa Region.  They'll assist in training in Las Vegas for fundamental site stewardship classes.  They'll attend their first training class on January 21.

4. Marijuana growing:  Kelly described how pots are used for growing marijuana in remote, dry locations.  She cited one example where 800 plants were found using pots with drip lines.  PVC drip lines may be indicators.  She wants to make stewards aware and report any indicators such as removal of “access” signs.

5. Awareness of major issues:  In response to recent local media attention to major graffiti damage in cultural sites, Sali asked to be made aware of any major incidents so she may respond to questions of stewards or potential stewards.  Steve suggested she obtain names of public relations officers for each agency whom she can contact if issues arise.

6. Sali:  Recently, a SNAP Public Release from Ron James at SHPO accented a talk by Alice Baldrica for historical preservation to be held at the State Museum in Lorenzi Park.  Mark Slaughter pointed out that museums are a primary source of outreach for preservation.

7. Round 11 Funding:  Steve asked Joseph Cenicola the status of Round 11 funding for CSSP.  Joseph said we can commence work whenever it is signed.  According to Joseph, SNPLMA funding assignments will be concluded in the next week or two.  He will help to request funds.  Money will probably be available in April.  Joseph will take the lead on this and get back to Steve in the next week.  The team will defer discussion of funding until the next meeting when Mark Boatwright will be available.

8. Other:  Sali said events for Prehistoric Month requests were sent out by SHPO…the theme is “Trails”.  Send completed event forms to her by February 12.
    Dena announced That Native American Weaving Day will be held on February 19th from 10am – 2 pm at the Lost City Museum.
    Harry said he has 24 sites identified for the Desert Wildlife Refuge and finally has NVCRI access.
    Steve said funds from Round 6 were due to expire at the end of 12/2011.  Agencies should be sure to spend all money by then.

    Next meeting of ICSST will be March 17 at the IA office @ 9:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

George Phillips
1. Minutes of 1/6/2011 meeting
2. CSSP Update
3. Site photographs – cameras
4. Family monitors
5. Steve – Round 11 funding
6. George – Hand print removal issue
7. Kelly – Red Rock
8. Other
9. Next meeting