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Executive Summary

- Team expands plans for stewardship “refresher courses”

Summary of Attachments

- Agenda and Minutes for August 18, 2011 team meeting

Collaboration with Interagency Team

The Interagency Cultural Site Stewardship Team (ICSST) met on August 18, 2011, at UNLV’s Public Land Institute Office Conference Room (see attached agenda and minutes). Dr. Peg Rees, George Phillips and Nevada Site Steward Coordinator, Sali Underwood met with Ron James, State Historic Preservation Officer to propose using UNLV’s Public Lands Institute to assist the state stewardship program. UNLV and the state will remain open to the possibilities for partnering during the next fifteen months as CSSP transitions to the state system. SNPLMA funding designated for CSSP through 2014 will be redirected a year early to support the Nevada Site Stewardship Program beginning January 1, 2013.

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

Task 1 – Site Stewardship Database

Annual reports of stewardship activities and site data are being prepared for each federal land managing agency. Stewardship hours and mileage, site impacts, and trends will be provided in detail for fiscal year ending September 30, 2011.

The CSSP stewardship database continues operations as planned. According to the Nevada Stewardship Coordinator, the Nevada Site Stewardship Program (NSSP) will develop its own database system by September 30, 2011, through the State Historical Preservation Office in Carson City. Data from CSSP will be transferred to the state of Nevada as directed by the ICSST federal members in 2012.

George Phillips, CSSP Manager is working with Dr. Elizabeth Barrie, Project Manager for the Take Pride in America program to further implement the project’s highly successful anti-litter and desert dumping
strategic plan. The stewardship’s relational database format is being employed to help manage both volunteer and site location data for Southern Nevada.

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

In response to ICSST direction, no Fall stewardship classes have been scheduled. Instead, “refresher classes” are being prepared for all stewards. Modifications to the classes were added underscoring law enforcement, operations, and safety. Instructors designated by the agencies will conduct major portions of the training. As reported previously 59 new stewards were introduced this fiscal year showing an increase of 6.6%. There are currently 545 stewards on the CSSP database.

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

As mentioned above, refresher classes will address changes in operations that have occurred over the past 7 years and those that will change as the program transitions to the Nevada program. The new training will be required for stewards remaining. Outside instruction in topics such as CPR, general first aid, and other subjects will be available and required of all volunteers. All volunteers will be subject to the same training required of federal agency employees.

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

Optional classes will resume upon completion of refresher class training.

**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.

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

An annual traditional recognition event for all Clark County stewards and ICSST members is scheduled for Saturday, November 5, 2011. A “Site Steward of the Year” will be announced and other stewards will be recognized with plaques and certificates for individual achievement and special recognition. The event will be conducted at the Boulder Beach Picnic Area.
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 stewards have been assigned. With approval of ICSST advisors, 4 volunteers will be reassigned to accommodate personal preferences.

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 fiscal year are shown below: Most recently, data accumulated for Gold Butte area was requested by the BLM to be submitted to Senator Harry Reid’s office. Figure 1 below reflects the number of reported impacts to cultural sites in Gold Butte compared with those in Clark County.

![Cultural Site Impacts Gold Butte vs. Clark County](image)

Fig. 1 Cultural site impacts in Gold Butte compared with impacts in Clark County

Reports indicate Gold Butte impacts were approximately 50% of total county impacts for the first four years in which data was collected. This figure decreased to 23.7% currently. In 2008, the decline in impacts to cultural sites occurred as a result of a BLM Road Designation Plan. A highly effective off-road restoration process was also begun to support the newly enacted plan. Forty-five stewards have consistently monitored the Gold Butte area since 2005.

Figure 2 below compares categories of destruction in Gold Butte with those in Clark County during the 2011 fiscal year:
GOLD BUTTE CULTURAL SITE IMPACTS  
Fiscal Year Ending September 30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Gold Butte</th>
<th>Clark Cty.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9/30/2011</td>
<td>9/30/2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graffiti</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OHV Related</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fence Destruction</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vandalism</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign Destruction</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess Trash</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potting/Digging</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullet Damage</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Damage</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Natural Causes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>29</strong></td>
<td><strong>122</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fig. 2 Impact categories shown for fiscal year 2011 for Gold Butte and Clark County

**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 will be provided to each agency through September 30, 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.

On July 29, Phillips met with members of the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce to plan a “Gold Butte Information Room” in the Chamber of Commerce. The room will be dedicated to providing non-site specific information to tourists.

Submitted by:

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

September 30, 2011
ICSST MEETING AGENDA
August 18, 2011
PLI Conference Room – UNLV

1. Review minutes of 6.23.11 meeting

2. CSSP update – conversation with Sali and Ron James

3. Use of CSSP Database

4. Refresher training
   a. Participants
   b. Schedule for consideration
      9/17 Sat. a.m. UNLV Paradise Campus
      10/15 Sat. a.m. IA Office
      10/18 Tues eve. Boulder City
      11/10 Thurs. p.m. Mesquite
   c. Power Point Program
   d. Letter

5. Charter – Team Lead consideration due 10/1

6. Other
ICSST MEETING NOTES  
May 5, 2011  
Interagency Office

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

Meeting began 9:40 a.m.

1. **Minutes of 6.23.11 meeting:** Under item #3, transfer of funds corrected. Kelly stated that Stephanie suggested transferring all CSSP funds to the state now. Group discussion...why should USFS break away from the group now? It would be best to wait and do it all at once. Process must be laid out first.

2. **CSSP update:** In a phone conversation, George, Peg, Sali and Ron James discussed possibilities of partnering with UNLV to support the state stewardship program. It was decided to wait to see if anything was needed by the state program. George reported he held a Regional Coordinators’ meeting to discuss the future of CSSP and inform the coordinators of coming changes to the state system. Coordinators will continue to work closely with their stewards. Process changes will be introduced by Sali later next year.

3. **CSSP database:** George met with GIS people building a database for the Don’t Trash Nevada Program. The CSSP database format will be used to supplement the volunteer portion of the program. The relational database will be used to account for trash site locations and manage monitoring activity by assigned volunteers.

4. **Refresher Training:** An outline and agenda for stewardship refresher training was prepared and pending approval by the team. Mark Boatwright said the BLM will require a safety component to be presented by their Safety Officer. An additional 2 hours or so class time should be added to the agenda. Coupled with a 45 minute law enforcement presentation, a class will require approximately 4 ½ hours and will eliminate night classes. George will redesign the agenda and check with Mark DeCaria, the Safety Officer for class preparation. Kelly will check with Chris Allen to coordinate with the law enforcement side. This may extend the commencement of classes from the end of September to sometime in October, depending on the schedules of the BLM personnel involved. George will re-write the emails to stewards advising them of the classes until details are clear. Mark said further that volunteers will be compelled to attend all safety and first aid classes required of BLM employees. He said this has always been a requirement that will not be enforced if volunteers wish to remain as site stewards. He will gather details from Jim Cribbs, the volunteer coordinator for the BLM and give them to George. Mark thought that some classes may be taken by computer but some, such as CPR, must be scheduled and attended by all volunteers. George asked if all stewards must take classes from the BLM whether they’re stewarding BLM lands or not. The question will be addressed by Mark and Kelly, but it’s thought that at this time all stewards will probably go through the same training.

5. **Charter- team lead succession:** In accordance with the ICSST Charter, the team lead is scheduled to change on October 1, 2011. Harry Konwin suggested that Kelly continue. The team agreed that she will continue until the voting members decide who will be lead based on a new charter to be created.

Meeting concluded 11:40,  Next meeting on 10/20/2011 at 9:30 in IA office.

George Phillips