CESU Agreements: Beyond Traditional Science Applications

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CESU Agreements:
Beyond Traditional Science Applications

Margaret N. Rees
UNLV Public Lands Initiative

- Partnering with four federal land-management agencies
  - Bureau of Land Management
  - National Park Service
  - U.S. Forest Service
  - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Projects funded by SNPLMA
  - Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act
- CESU Agreements funding vehicle
Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act

- Enacted in 1998.
- BLM to sell federally owned land around cities.
- ~50,000 acres approved for sale in disposal areas.
- Proceeds used for designated public purposes.
Public Lands Initiative at UNLV

- Engages in selected SNPLMA projects.
  - Compatible with UNLV’s mission
    - Learning, Discovery, and Community Engagement
  - Enhances education and research
  - Draws upon expertise of faculty, staff, & students
  - Draws on expertise UCCSN, community, nation
CESU Agreements

- Used for selected SNPLMA projects.
  - Education
  - Research
  - Technical Assistance
  - Science
Red Rock Desert Learning Center

- Residential outdoor learning environment
  - Integrated science, art, and language facility
- Includes a Wild Horse and Burro Facility
- Targeted to 5th grade students in Clark County
- Will be available for other uses
Red Rock Desert Learning Center
UNLV’s Role

- Help BLM with project coordination
- Develop an integrated curriculum
- Coordinate a business plan
- Provide public outreach and publicity
- Design and maintain website
Forever Earth

- A floating education laboratory and center
  - Docked on Lake Mead
- Designed for K-12 science education
- Available for scientific research

UNLV’s role:
- Designing the curriculum and programming
- Scheduling and operating the vessel
- Teaching and research
Programs on the Water

- An outdoor recreation program for children
  - Fishing, boating, and water safety
  - Bird watching
  - Art
  - Environmental education

- Targeted Group
  - Urban youth,
  - Economically disadvantaged
Programs on the Water
UNLV’s Role

- Develop curriculum
- Implement programs
- Schedule events
- Secure partnerships
  - parks & recreation agencies
  - Boys and Girls Clubs
  - local businesses
  - schools
Outdoor Education Strategy

- Develop 5-year strategic plan for education
  - On public lands & throughout Clark County
    - Visitor Centers
    - Educational programs
    - Interpretive programs
    - Outdoor venues
    - Interpretive trails
    - Museums

- Provide an integrated implementation plan
Outdoor Education Strategy
UNLV’s Role

- Coordinate projects and partners throughout Southern Nevada

- Integrate curricula and programs
  - Red Rock Desert Learning Center
  - Forever Earth
  - Programs on the Water

- Ensure complementary activities county-wide
Science and Research Strategy

- Coordinate partnerships
- Facilitate Development of Strategy
- Provide written strategy
- Oversee process
Interagency Volunteer Program

UNLV’s Role

- Develop a comprehensive, integrated volunteer database for Southern Nevada’s public lands
- Develop a common training program
- Develop a reward program for volunteers
- Help implement volunteer events
Natural Resources Career Internship Program

- Develop a Student Internship Program
  - High school juniors & seniors participate
  - Provide experience with land management agencies
  - Encourage future employment with federal land-management agencies
- Targeted to ethnically diverse youth
- Encourage college attendance
- Coordinate program with four agencies
Cultural Site Stewardship Program

- Recruit and train volunteers
- Help agencies monitor and protect cultural and natural resources in Southern Nevada
- Modeled after the Arizona Site Stewardship Program
- Coordinated with Interagency Volunteer Program
Take Pride in America Campaign

- Judicial review and analysis of littering fines
- Help coordinate volunteers
- Develop broad-reaching clean-up strategy
- Develop strategic plan