

6-30-2006

Archaeological Research & Data Management, Lake Mead National Recreation Area and Parashant National Monument: Quarterly Progress Report, Period Ending June 30, 2006

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Rees, M. N. (2006). Archaeological Research & Data Management, Lake Mead National Recreation Area and Parashant National Monument: Quarterly Progress Report, Period Ending June 30, 2006. 1-5.
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QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

**University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Period Ending June 30, 2006**

**Cooperative Agreement Number H8R07010001
Task Agreement Number J8R07050012
Archaeological Research & Data Management,
Lake Mead National Recreation Area and Parashant National Monument**

Executive Summary

- Interviews for the post-doctoral scholar position have been completed and a hire is imminent.
- 1,853 acres have been surveyed this quarter.
- 71 archaeological sites condition assessments were completed.
- 55 archaeological sites were recorded.
- The summer field school is underway.

Program Activities

This task agreement was awarded to UNLV Public Lands Institute (PLI) on October 1, 2005. During the past quarter, ending on June 30, 2006, the following activities have occurred toward meeting deliverables in the statement of work.

Hiring

The search committee has completed interviews of three applicants for a post-doctoral scholar position to work with the archaeology team on this project. NPS Park Archaeologist Steve Daron served as a member of the search committee. The university has made an offer to the preferred candidate and hopes to have the person hired and on board by August 1, 2006.

Two temporary field technicians (hourly employment), Christina Dykstra and Lynn Geoghegan, were hired by PLI to provide additional field assistance during the summer field season. Unfortunately, Christina had to quit in May for family reasons, but Lynn has assisted the field crew with survey and site documentation on the Shivwits Plateau during June 2006.

Class I Inventories

A draft of the Archeological Clearance Survey Form for the South of Lakeshore Drive to BMI Aqueduct Survey (Cultural Resource Project (CRP) 05-063) was submitted to LAME Park Archeologist Steve Daron, which included a discussion of previous research that took place within 1 mile of the project area. All of the survey was completed during the third quarter (January to March 2006), but three sites were documented during this quarter in early April (4

person-days). The Clearance Report also includes seven completed site forms for sites documented during the project.

Class III Inventories

The field work for eight Class III inventory projects was conducted at LAME and Parashant National Monument (PARA) between April and June 2006. During these survey projects, 1,853 acres were surveyed and 55 sites were documented (Table 1).

Table 1. Class III Inventories Undertaken, April 1-June 30, 2006.

Project Name	Acres Surveyed	Sites Documented	Artifacts Analyzed	Total Artifacts Mapped & Talled	Total Person-Days in Field*
Sandy Cove Vault Toilet Survey, LAME (CRP 06-032)	1	0	0	0	0.5
Roaring Rapids Rock Art Documentation, LAME (CRP 06-031)	3	1	3	0	10
Willow Beach Powerline Survey, LAME (CRP 06-038)	70	0	0	0	3.5
Twin Point Fuels Project, PARA (CRP 06-027)	200	8	194	36	16.5
Pine Well Post-Burn Survey, PARA (CRP 06-029)	230	11	299	464	18.5
BLM Yellow John East Prescribed Burn Unit, PARA (CRP 06-028)	300	12	398	772	38
Andrus Prescribed Fire Survey, PARA (CRP 05-047)	950	17	206	51	26
NPS/BLM Fence Survey (CRP 06-034)	99	6	104	22	14
Total	1,853	55	1,204	1,345	127

The Sandy Cove Vault Toilet Survey (CRP 06-032) was completed at LAME in mid-April 2006. A one-person crew surveyed one acre, and zero sites were found. The Clearance Report was finalized and submitted to Steve Daron at NPS.

The Willow Beach Powerline Survey (CRP 06-038) was conducted at LAME in mid-May 2006. A crew of three people surveyed 70.5 acres, and zero sites were found. The Clearance Report is in progress.

The Twin Point Fuels Project (CRP 06-027) was completed on the Shivwits Plateau at PARA in May. During the survey, a crew of three people surveyed 200 acres and recorded 8 sites (Table 1). The Clearance Report and site forms are in progress.

The Pine Well Post-Burn Survey (CRP 06-029) was conducted on the Shivwits Plateau at PARA in late May and early June 2006 by a crew ranging from three to five people. The crew completed survey of 230 acres and documented 11 sites. The Memo and site forms are in progress.

The Bureau of Land Management Yellow John East Prescribed Burn Unit Survey (CRP 06-028) was conducted in early May and early June 2006. A crew of three to five people surveyed 200 acres and documented 12 sites. A preliminary draft of the report and site forms has been prepared.

The NPS-BLM Fence Survey (CRP 06-034) was conducted in late May and late June 2006. A crew of two to three people surveyed 99 acres and documented 6 sites.

Draft reports for two projects, the AR 78A ORV Survey (CRP 05-058) and the Northshore-Lakeshore ORV Survey (05-060) within LAME, were submitted to Steve Daron for editing.

Site Documentation, Evaluation, and Condition Assessment

The Roaring Rapids Petroglyph Site was documented by two PLI employees, an NPS employee, and a Bureau of Reclamation employee. During the site documentation, 126 features and 3 artifacts were identified and documented over the 3.5 acre site. PLI contributed 10 person-days to the effort, and a site map was completed in draft form. The Bureau of Reclamation will prepare and submit the final document.

The Tassi Ranch Landscape Study is being prepared by the National Park Service. PLI Research Assistant Leah Bonstead attended the interagency/interdisciplinary meetings (in the field and office) and served as the archeological representative for that portion of the project (4 person-days).

Seventy-one Archeological Site Management Information System (ASMIS) condition assessments were completed between April and June 2006 (Table 2). For LAME, 16 condition assessments were completed, and 55 were completed for PARA. Of the assessments completed for LAME, 15 were for previously documented sites, and one is for a newly recorded site. For PARA, zero assessments were completed for previously documented sites, and 55 were completely for newly recorded sites. We have completed 50 condition assessments for previously recorded LAME and PARA sites from October 1, 2005, to June 30, 2006. As such, we met our goal of completing 50 assessments for this year. During this quarter, we entered one new ASMIS record and modified 86 records.

Table 2. Condition Assessments Completed at Lake Mead, April 1-June 30, 2006.

NPS Unit	Newly Recorded	Previously Recorded	Total
Lake Mead National Recreation Area	1	15	16
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument	55	0	55
Total	56	15	71

Probing and Shovel Testing

No Probing or Shovel Testing was conducted by PLI staff this quarter.

Test Excavation and Data Recovery

Consultations regarding the field school project were undertaken with members of the Hopi Indian Tribe on April 25, 2006. Present at the meeting were Project Principal Investigator Dr. Karen Harry (UNLV), Rosie Pepito and Steve Daron (NPS), and several members of the Hopi tribe. The Hopi expressed no objection to the project.

The summer field school is currently underway, managed by UNLV. Thus far, field school activities have focused on excavations at AZ A:14:50 (ASM), an 18-room pueblo dating to about 1150/1200 A.D. Excavations will continue at the field school and will be initiated at a nearby field house during the remaining three weeks of the field school.

PLI Research Assistant Steph Velasquez traveled to the UNLV field school and cut trees prior to the start of excavation. Research Assistant Leah Bonstead volunteered 32 hours at the field school, assisting with excavation.

Monitoring

No monitoring was conducted by PLI staff this quarter.

Site and Spatial Data Entry

The photo database that was in use from 1996 to 2003 at LAME was imported into the new photo database, and the missing fields were filled in. The scanning of archeological reports and the population of LAME and PARA GIS databases are ongoing.

Curation

PLI Research Assistant Lisa Gioia-Acres has been entering catalog records for the Main Ridge collections into the NPS ANCS (Automated National Catalog System) computer database. LAME has instituted a new photo cataloging policy that all black and white photos will be organized in archival sleeves by site number. Two PLI research assistants (Lisa Gioia-Acres and Lynn Geoghegan) have organized the photos for 248 sites in this manner.

Training & Professional Development

During this quarter, the following staff training and professional development activities occurred:

1. PLI Research Assistant Steph Velasquez attended an annual Wildland Fire Refresher course (8 hours), the S-217 Helicopter Crew Member course (32 hours), and the Nevada Archaeological Association (NAA) Historic Artifact Workshop "Telling Time With Historic Artifacts" (5 hours).
2. PLI Research Assistant Lisa Gioia-Acres attended the B-3 Basic Aviation Safety course (3 hours), and the NAA Historic Artifact Workshop "Telling Time With Historic Artifacts" (5 hours).

3. PLI Research Assistant Liz Roycraft attended the NAA Historic Artifact Workshop "Telling Time With Historic Artifacts" (5 hours).

4. PLI Research Assistant Leah Bonstead attended the NAA Annual Meeting in Mesquite, Nevada, on April 8, 2006. She attended the 2006 Biannual Meeting held between the NPS and the Nevada State Historic Preservation office in Virginia City, Nevada, on May 11-12. Leah wrote a preliminary report titled "Thermal Properties of Four Clays from Northwestern Arizona and the Moapa Valley, Nevada."

Submitted by:

Margaret N. Rees, Project Administrator

June 30, 2006
Date