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Walking Box Ranch Planning and Design Quarterly Progress Report: Period ending January 10, 2013

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QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

**University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Period Covering October 11, 2012 – January 10, 2013**

Financial Assistance Agreement #FAA080094

Planning and Design of the Walking Box Ranch Property

Executive Summary

- BLM notified UNLV on Nov 7, 2012 that they had cancelled the WBR solicitation for a general contractor and that they were reconsidering the scope of the project. BLM and UNLV met on Nov. 22, 2012 and BLM updated UNLV on their decision to terminate the task agreement for the field and research station, and to modify plans for interpretation at the future WBR Visitor Center. BLM and UNLV will meet Feb. 7, 2013 to discuss the path forward regarding interpretation and the Visitor's Center.
- UNLV is continuing to work with direction from Carolyn Shelton, BLM interpreter, to collect interpretive content for WBR and has completed a draft interpretation plan that has been submitted to Carolyn for review.
- UNLV's Office of Sponsored Programs is working with BLM Project Manager Glen Marsh by providing him with detailed information on all expenditures on the two current BLM-UNLV Financial Assistance Agreements (#FAA080094 and #FAA080093).

Summary of Attachments

- NA

Planning and Design, and Construction Phase Items:

- 1. Provide BLM with consultation and advise to assist the BLM in defining the scope of work for the design of this project. The UNLV shall coordinate with the University departments and schools and act as the academic focal point for information relative to the design of the Science and Training Center for arid land studies.*

- UNLV has participated in the following meetings or conversations with BLM during the past quarter:
 - November 27 meeting during which BLM updated UNLV on their plans for terminating the task agreement for the field and research station, and to reduce the scope of future interpretation and the WBR museum.
 - UNLV is continuing to work with direction from Carolyn Shelton, BLM interpreter, to collect interpretive content for WBR and has completed an interpretation plan.
2. ***Participate in all phases of scoping and planning meetings and meetings with the BLM's planners, architects, and contractors for the design and development of the Walking Box Ranch as a Science, Research, and Training Center and Museum for the study of arid lands and development of the Headquarters as a Museum and interpretive center. The UNLV's participation is to provide input to the BLM relevant to the specific educational and research goals of the project.***
 - There were no meetings with architects or contractors during the past quarter.
 3. ***Assist BLM in developing the environmental assessment by providing technical input and review of the draft environmental assessment.***
 - There were no EA issues this quarter.
 4. ***Provide technical and academic advice to BLM in the development of the museum facilities, by conducting research into the historic records of the ranch and providing recommendations about the appropriate interpretive and environmental education programs that may be presented at the ranch.***
 - UNLV will meet with BLM on Feb. 7 to learn what direction BLM plans to take the WBR project in the future. UNLV will assist with efforts to move in that future direction.
 5. ***Contribute technical and educational-based assistance to the BLM for the BLM's consideration during construction development for the Science and Training Center and Museum as it relates to the future operations of these facilities as education centers.***
 - BLM has determined it will not build the field and science center. UNLV will assist BLM with the Museum when BLM determines the revised scope for this project.
 - UNLV's Office of Sponsored Programs is working with BLM Project Manager Glen Marsh by providing him with detailed information on all expenditures on the two current BLM-UNLV Financial Assistance Agreements (#FAA080094 and #FAA080093).

6. *Provide input and feedback to the BLM during the construction of the Field Research and Training Center and the Museum.*

- BLM has determined that the Field Research and Training Center will not be built at WBR. BLM is now determining what will be built in the future for the museum.

Phase 1 Deliverables:

1. *Provide a Facility and Future Needs Alignment Report that will identify the types of future research and training programs that will be conducted at Walking Box Ranch Field Research and Training Center and Museum. The report will also include a matrix that aligns predicted future activities with facility, construction, furnishing, and equipment needs.*

- Report no longer needed owing to BLM's change in project scope.

2. *Assist the BLM in developing a Preservation Plan for Existing Structures on the Headquarters Parcel of the Walking Box Ranch.*

- UNLV has worked with project architects by providing information and responses to questions about the facilities to determine how best to renovate the historic buildings for preservation.

3. *Provide a Business Plan detailing anticipated future research, training, and other use goals and a financial plan for reaching those goals. The Business Plan should also describe income and operations and maintenance costs.*

- UNLV has provided BLM with a business plan for the museum and field and research center.

Phase 2 Deliverables:

1. *Prepare a Project Development Plan that reflects UNLV's Business Plan. The Project Development Plan should refine the anticipated research, residential training activities, and Museum use; identify recommended new facilities and renovations; outline construction; and plan center management (print and PDF).*

- UNLV is waiting for BLM to determine what their future direction for the ranch will be, and is ready to assist BLM in achieving their new goals.

2. *Assist the BLM in creating a detailed Work Plans for each aspect of project development such as, but not limited to, existing building use, new construction,*

interpretive programs, and center management, based upon the Comprehensive Master Plan and Preservation Plan.

- Work plans will be prepared when BLM determines the revised scope of the WBR museum.

Phase 3 Deliverables:

1. Assist in the development of Facilities Design Drawings according to the recommendations of the Comprehensive Master Plan generated by the SAT project, in conformance with existing significant architectural features and historical attributes of the property, in a fashion responsive to LEED goals to the extent funding permits, and to meet all property easements.

- The construction documents were completed in September 2012.

2. Assist in the development of Facilities Design Drawings for the preservation of facilities according to the recommendations of the Comprehensive Master Plan and Preservation Plan in conformance with historical and architectural attributes of the buildings and property, and to meet all property easements.

- The construction documents were completed in September 2012.

Phase 4 Deliverables (During Construction):

1. Provide the BLM consultation and advice during construction to help the BLM ensure the construction meets the goals of the project.

- BLM recently decided that no new buildings will be constructed on the property.

2. Provide the BLM consultation and advice as needed during renovation of preserved facilities, to help the BLM ensure that the renovation meets goals of projects and is in accordance with historical restoration requirements and according to approved designs.

- The construction documents for the renovation were completed September 2012.

Phase 5 Deliverables:

1. Assess and identify furnishings and equipment based upon facility needs; provide the BLM information related to furnishings and equipment for new and preserved facilities so that the BLM can procure these items, within project funding under this Cooperative Assistance Agreement. The UNLV may provide

additional furnishings and equipment outside of this Agreement at the UNLV's sole discretion.

- BLM is currently reconsidering what furnishings and equipment will be needed at the ranch, based on the determination of revised project scope.

SUMMARY OF PROJECT PLAN
Walking Box Ranch – Planning and Design

Year One Deliverables	Percent Complete as January 10, 2013	Plan for Completion
Planning and Design:		
1. Provide BLM with consultation and advice in defining the scope of the design of the Science and Training Center.	75%	Continue to consult and advise BLM in the scope of design of the training center
2. Participate in all phases of scoping and planning team meetings for the design and development of WBR as a Science, Research, and Training Center and Museum.	75%	Continue to participate in scoping and planning of the Museum and the training center.
3. Assist BLM in developing the environmental assessment process with technical input and review of drafts.	100%	The Environmental Assessment process has been completed.
4. Provide technical and academic advice to BLM in development of the museum facilities with recommendations of interpretive and environmental programs for presentation at the Ranch.	75%	Continue to provide technical and academic advice for interpretive and environmental programs and to provide interpretation content.
5. Contribute technical and educational-based assistance to the BLM for the BLM's consideration during construction development for the Science and Training Center and Museum as it relates to the future operations of these facilities as education centers.	75%	Continue to contribute technical and educational-based assistance to the BLM for the Science and Training Center and Museum.
6. Provide input and feedback to BLM during the construction of Field Research and Training Center and the Museum.	0%	Project is not under construction.
Phase 1 Deliverables:		
1. Provide a Facility and Future Needs Alignment Report that will identify the types of future research and training programs that will be conducted at Walking Box.	0%	BLM has decided to terminate this part of the project scope.

2. Assist the BLM in developing a Preservation Plan for Existing Structures on the Headquarters Parcel of the Walking Box Ranch.	100%	UNLV worked with BLM and ARG architects to develop preservation for existing structures.
3. Provide a Business Plan detailing anticipated future research, training, and other use goals and a financial plan for reaching those goals.	100%	A business plan has been provided to BLM.
Phase 2 Deliverables:		
1. Prepare a Project Development Plan that reflects UNLV's Business Plan. The Project Development Plan should refine the anticipated research, residential training activities, and Museum use.	0%	BLM has decided to terminate this part of the project
2. Assist the BLM in creating a detailed Work Plans for each aspect of project development based upon the comprehensive master plan and preservation plan.	0%	BLM has decided to not construct the Field and Research Center and is currently deciding what to do regarding the Visitor's Center.
Phase 3 Deliverables:		
1. Assist in the development of Facilities Design Drawings according to recommendations of the comprehensive master plan generated by the SAT projects.	100%	Construction documents are now complete
2. Assist in the development of facilities design drawings for the preservation of facilities according to the recommendations of the Comprehensive Master Plan and Preservation Plan.	100%	Construction documents are now complete
Phase 4 Deliverables (During Construction):		
1. Provide the BLM consultation and advice during construction to help the BLM ensure the construction meets the goals of the project.	0%	The project is not yet in construction.
2. Provide the BLM consultation and advice as needed during renovation of preserved facilities, to meet goals of the project.	0%	The project is not in construction.

Phase 5 Deliverables:		
1. Assess and identify furnishings and equipment based upon facility needs; provide the BLM information related to furnishings and equipment for new and preserved facilities so that the BLM can procure these items, within project funding under this Cooperative Assistance Agreement.	30%	BLM has decided to greatly reduce project scope and UNLV is waiting to learn what BLM intends to do regarding the Museum/Visitor's Center.

Submitted by:

 Margaret N. Rees,

01/08/12

 Date