

## CULTURAL RESOURCES

### A VISION

As trustees, we are protecting and preserving the cultural and historical resources on the Carson. The knowledge of these resources and a sense of their significance is being shared with all.

We conduct surveys throughout the Carson. The information can help us to predict where cultural sites are located. It also enables us to preserve, protect, stabilize, and interpret the cultural and historic resource.

The data is of high quality, comparable, uniform, and accurate. Our work is closely coordinated with individuals and organizations throughout the government and private sector. Care is taken so we can interrelate our data with data of others. We maintain especially close working relationships with the Bureau of Land Management, the New Mexico State Office of Cultural Affairs, Fort Burgwin Research Center and the New Mexico Natural History Museum.

The rich historic record on the Carson has been documented and interpreted for the public. We have a good chronology of the prehistory as it occurred on the Carson. There is a dendrochronological record for the Carson.

We prevent the destruction of our national heritage, for as Abraham Lincoln said, "A country with no regard for its past will have little worth remembering in the future."

This looks into the future, although some may be happening now. It is stated in the "present tense" as if it is already that way. This gives a feel of where we are heading. It paints a general picture with a broad brush.

### MANAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Manage Cultural resources in accordance with existing laws, regulations and policies.
- Locate and protect cultural resources in conjunctions with all surface disturbing activities.
- On a priority basis, stabilize cultural resource sites that have sustained damages or are vulnerable to damage.
- Interpret cultural resources through the use of displays, brochures, signs, presentations and guided site visits.
- Nominate eligible sites to the National Register of Historic Places based on the Forest's priority listing.

This snaps a more detailed picture. It gives a feel of the intent, purpose and goals. It is the framework for the standards and guidelines.

### Setting The Stage

Like a great history book, the Carson holds the record of more than 9,000 years of human history. Most of us know about the major historical events related to early settlement by trappers, ranchers, miners, farmers, and loggers. But most people do not know that over 99 percent of the record of human life in the Southwest was made by countless numbers of people who did not leave a written history -- the Native Americans.

Without a written records, we must look for other evidence of how native Americans and early pioneers encountered and solved the problems of survival that exists on the ground in the form of prehistoric and historic objects and sites -- the physical remains of human behavior. To the uninformed, prehistoric and

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historic artifacts are simply interesting curiosities of objects to sell for personal gain. But artifacts are really tools used to interpret the life and times of the people who made them. A single arrowhead, potsherd or military button may be the only clue to date and determine insights into social, political, and economic relationships.

The Forest will comply with the provisions of the National Historic Preservations Act of 1966, as amended; Executive Order 11593 and the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979. It will undertake active management which recognizes cultural resources as equal in importance to other multiple uses. Cultural resources will be managed in coordination with the State Historic Preservation Plan and planning activities of the State Archeologist, and in accordance with the negotiated settlement to the Save the Jemez, et al./State of New Mexico vs. Forest Service litigation.

A cultural resources overview has been prepared that covers all Forest lands. It is available at the Forest Supervisor's and Regional offices, and at public libraries. A Forest-wide cultural resources management assessment has been prepared, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). The overview will be updated as required by new data and scientific research, by the management situation, and/or by planning needs.

Information from the overview, and from other sources, are used to develop a framework for the identification, classification, and evaluation of known and predicted properties in the cultural resources management assessment, as provided for in the settlement to the Save the Jemez, et al./State of New Mexico vs. Forest Service litigation.

Interactions among cultural and other resources are considered in detail in the cultural resources management planning assessment. These interactions are analyzed by assessing the kind and distribution of cultural resources, and their interaction with other multiple uses within each management area. The interaction between cultural and other resources for any specific undertaking is evaluated in project-level analyses.

## **Standards And Guidelines**

### **LAWS, REGULATIONS, COORDINATION:**

**LAWS...** The Forest will comply with the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; Executive Order 11593; the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979; and the settlement to the Save the Jemez, et al./State of New Mexico litigation.

**COORDINATE WITH THE STATE...** Cultural resource management, including the formulation and evaluation of alternatives, will be coordinated to the extent feasible with the State Cultural Resource Plan and planning activities of the State Historic Preservation Officer and State Archeologist, and with other State and Federal agencies. This will be accomplished as follows: (a) consultation and meetings with such parties, (b) sharing of data, reports, plans, interpretations, and other documents, (c) coordination on National Register nominations, and (d) participation in the State cultural resources planning process.

**SAVE JEMEZ SETTLEMENT...** The standards specified in the settlement to the Save Jemez, et. al. /State of New Mexico litigation have been incorporated in the Forest Service manual and handbook will apply.

### **IMPACTS OF PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES:**

**AVOIDANCE AND PROTECTION...** During the conduct of undertakings, the preferred management of sites listed in, nominated to, eligible for, or potentially eligible for the National Register is avoidance and

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protection. Exceptions may occur in specific cases where consultation with the SHPO indicates that the best use of the resource is data recovery and interpretation.

**PROJECT REDISIGN, RELOCATION, CANCELLATION...** Where preservation in place is important under these conditions, the Forest will give serious consideration to such options as project redesign, relocation, or cancellation. The procedures specified in 36 CFR 800 will be followed in reaching a management decision, and the minimum management standard will be to achieve a "No Adverse Effect" finding.

**SURFACE DISTURBANCE...** Surface disturbing undertakings will be managed to comply with 36 CFR 800. All consultation responsibilities to the SHPO before, during, and after an undertaking will be followed. The area of an undertaking's potential environmental impact will be surveyed for cultural resources and areas of Native American religious use. Inventory standards will be as specified in the Forest Service Handbook, and will be determined in consultation with the SHPO. Native American groups will be consulted as appropriate.

**CONTRACTS, PERMITS, LEASES...** Each Forest contract, permit, or lease that has the potential to affect cultural resources will contain a clause specifying site protection responsibilities and liability for damage. If damage to a cultural resource is found, the procedures specified in the Forest Service manual and handbook, will be followed.

**MINERAL OPERATING PLANS...** Complete the procedural requirements of 36 CFR 800 prior to approval of mineral operating plans. Employ a strategy of avoidance wherever possible without unreasonably or unnecessarily infringing on the rights of the operator. Require the operator to take appropriate mitigation action if the resources cannot be avoided. If mitigation is not possible, consider mineral withdrawal or mineral contest action.

**MINERALS AVOID CULTURAL RESOURCES...** Wherever possible, mineral material pits and access roads will avoid cultural resources. If it is in the public interest, permits may be issued, however, the operator will bear the burden of appropriate mitigation action.

**WATERSHED...** Minimize activities which might cause accelerated erosion and the development of gullies. Provide strategy for watershed improvements that are not visually offensive or impair the cultural significance of the area when gullies threaten sites.

**SPECIAL USES...** Special land uses may be allowed which are, or can be, made compatible with emphasized management practices.

**UTILITY CORRIDORS...** Avoid placement of utility corridors through sites when possible.

### PROTECT & INTERPRET:

**PRESERVATION...** Where resource management conflicts occur, the desirability of in-place preservation of cultural resources will be weighted against the values of the proposed land use. Preservation of cultural resources in place will become increasingly important under the following conditions:

- Where present methods of investigation and data recovery cannot realize the current research potential of the sites;
- Where the sites are likely to have greater importance for addressing future research questions than current ones;
- Where cultural values derive primarily from qualities other than research potential, and where those values are fully realized only when the cultural remains exist undisturbed in their original context(s) (e.g., association with significant historical persons or events, special ethnic or religious values, or unique interpretive values);

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- Where cultural resources are important primarily for the quality of their architecture and the integrity of their setting;
- Where preservation in place is necessary to accomplish the objectives of the State Historic Preservation Plan;
- Where site density would make data recovery economically infeasible, or require unattainable operating conditions.

**PROTECTION...** Measures for the protection of cultural resources from vandalism and natural destruction will include regular inspection and, where necessary, electronic monitoring. Sites listed in or nominated to the National Register will be inspected biennially. Sites determined eligible for the National Register will be inspected periodically, unless previous data recovery has fully documented the characteristics that qualify the site for the Register. All other sites, except those formally determined ineligible for the National Register, will be inspected on a need or opportunity basis, as specified in the Forest Service manual and handbooks. Sites susceptible to rapid deterioration and/or human disturbance will be inspected most frequently.

### **STABILIZATION...**

- Sites known to have sustained unusual damage, beyond minimal levels that normally occur from natural forces, are listed in priority order for stabilization in the cultural resources management planning assessment.

• Rapid natural deterioration, or susceptibility to this, will require planning for appropriate measures, such as stabilization and/or data recovery. Vandalism, collecting, or illicit excavation will require planning for protective measures, such as signing, fencing, administrative closure, remote sensing, increased patrolling, investigations, interpretive signs, District displays, media communications, and stabilization and/or data recovery. Specific sites or areas may be closed to ORV use and withdrawn from mineral entry. Parties known to have damaged cultural resources willfully or through negligence will be held legally and financially liable for the costs of stabilization and repair.

**INTERPRETATION...** The Forest will provide interpretive opportunities which should be pursued as a high priority when opportunities arise, such as:

1. Cultural resources displays in the Supervisor's Office and in District Offices.
2. Preparation of popular literature, brochures, and films regarding the Forest's cultural resources.
3. Presentation of popular talks regarding the Forest's cultural resources.
4. Professional cultural resource interpretation for presentation at meetings and/or dissemination through professional publications.

## **INVENTORY & PLANS:**

**CULTURAL RESOURCES ALLOCATION PLANS...** The Forest will implement or seek to develop or participate in the development of Cultural Resources Allocation Plans. These plans will be available in the Supervisor's and Regional Offices. Data will be collected to implement the plan(s). In consultation with the SHPO, sites will be allocated to management categories and treated accordingly.

**MORE INTENSIVE INVENTORY...** All parts of the Forest not surveyed at the 100% level, and on which there is a likelihood that cultural resources exist, require more intensive inventory. Areas rated as highest priority for survey will be those that either (a) are expected to have high site densities, and/or (b) are important to understanding the historic or prehistoric occupations of the Forest. At a minimum, survey of such areas will be undertaken in conjunction with annual update training for para-professional archeologists.

**RESEARCH PERMITS...** Consider use by permits for research by recognized archeological/paleontological institutes and professional groups.

**INSPECTIONS...** A cultural resources professional will inspect each site that may be affected by an undertaking, and each undertaking with the potential to affect cultural resources. At least one site, and not less than 20% of the sites designated for protection within each undertaking will be inspected by a cultural resources specialist, site administrator, contracting officer's representative, or project inspector. All sites listed in, nominated to, or formally determined eligible for, the National Register will be inspected. Inspection will occur during the course of the undertaking, or at the close of undertakings with total duration of less than 72 hours. Inspection records will be provided to the SHPO.

### **NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES:**

**NO EFFECT FINDING...** Sites listed in, nominated to, eligible for, or potentially eligible for the National Register will be managed during the conduct of undertakings to achieve a "No Effect" finding in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

**PRIORITIZED LIST...** The Forest, through the cultural resources management planning assessment has developed a prioritized list and schedule for nominating eligible properties to the National Register of Historic Places (National Register).

**ELIGIBILITY...** In consultation with the SHPO, identified sites will be evaluated for eligibility for the National Register. Sites considered eligible will be assigned a priority for nomination. Sites not yet evaluated will be managed as if eligible, unless consultation with the SHPO indicates otherwise.

### **NOMINATIONS...**

- The National Register nominating criteria are contained in 36 CFR 60.4. These are further refined through the cultural resources management planning assessment. Nominations will be coordinated with the planning activities of the SHPO and the State Archeologist, and with the Allocation Plan(s). Priorities for nomination will be based on a consideration of these plans and the overall cultural resources program.

- The Forest will nominate at least two individual sites per year for every full-time professional employed in the Forest's cultural resources management program. Alternatively, the Forest will submit at least one District, thematic, or multiple property nomination per year, or may cooperate with other Forests in producing such a nomination. A different submission schedule for specific multiple property nominations may be proposed to the SHPO. Any nomination returned by the Keeper of the National Register for reasons of technical inadequacy will be revised and resubmitted within 90 days, weather permitting.

**MAINTENANCE...** Sites listed in or eligible for the National Register that need maintenance are described in detail in the cultural resources planning assessment.

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YOUR NOTES...