

Site: FOUS

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site desires to celebrate the 100 years of the National Park Service by sharing the lessons learned from peaceful co-existence of the cultures involved in the fur trade during the 19th century. The park intends to use technology to connect with visitors, both young and old, and maintain the historic site in authentic condition.

With our community partners we need to:

-connect with young people in classrooms and via the internet, using technology that will capture their interest.

-facilitate classroom visits from and to area schools.

-improve our connection with the Native Americans whose ancestors traded here.

-aggressively maintain the fort's primarily wooden structures as they naturally weather.

-manage the restored prairie ecosystem to increase plant and animal diversity through improved habitat, and eliminate exotic weeds.

-fully catalog our vast museum collection.

-make full use of the museum collection to tell the park story.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Andy Banta

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STEWARDSHIP

Improve the condition of park resources and assets.

Improve high-priority assets to acceptable condition, as measured by the Facility Condition Index.

Improve Stewardship of Reconstruction through Preventive Maintenance.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Complete all cultural resource inventories for designated priority resources.

Completely catalog the park Museum Collection and provide Conservation treatment for artifacts in the collection.

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ENVIRONMENT

Reduce environmental impacts of park operations.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Monitor encroaching Oil Drilling to minimize impact on park site.

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RECREATION

Focus national, regional, and local tourism efforts to reach diverse audiences and young people and to attract visitors to lesser-known parks.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Increase repeat visitation by redesigning two exhibit cases to allow interpretive display of additional artifacts from museum collection on a rotating basis.

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EDUCATION

Introduce young people and their families to national parks by using exciting media and technology.

Increase the number of web hits through the introduction of advanced, interactive features that attract young people to national parks.

Use creative methods to communicate park significance and interpretive stories to the citizens of the world. New technologies have created unique and dynamic tools to meet address this opportunity. This proposal will partner with our Friends group and Williston State College to create and make available video clips of a wide variety of park interpretive offerings. Video clips will be created in-house and downloaded via the internet and a park based computer. Visitors with handheld video devices will tour the site, while watching their own personal interpretive program. This technology will allow us to offer a full range of living history presentations, especially in the off season.

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Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Develop multi-program push button Audio Visual Facility in the visitor center.

Develop programs that increase Native American visitation and participation at park activities and encourage a sense of ownership of the park by the American Indian population.

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PROFESSIONALISM

Use strategic planning to promote management excellence.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Complete a General Management Plan to guide park management in the future. This will lead to more specific planning needs such as developing a Park Interpretive Plan, Resource Stewardship Plan and Collections Storage Plan.

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