

CHACO CULTURE ARCHEOLOGICAL PROTECTION SITE SYSTEM
JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN

PLAN AMENDMENT
March 1990

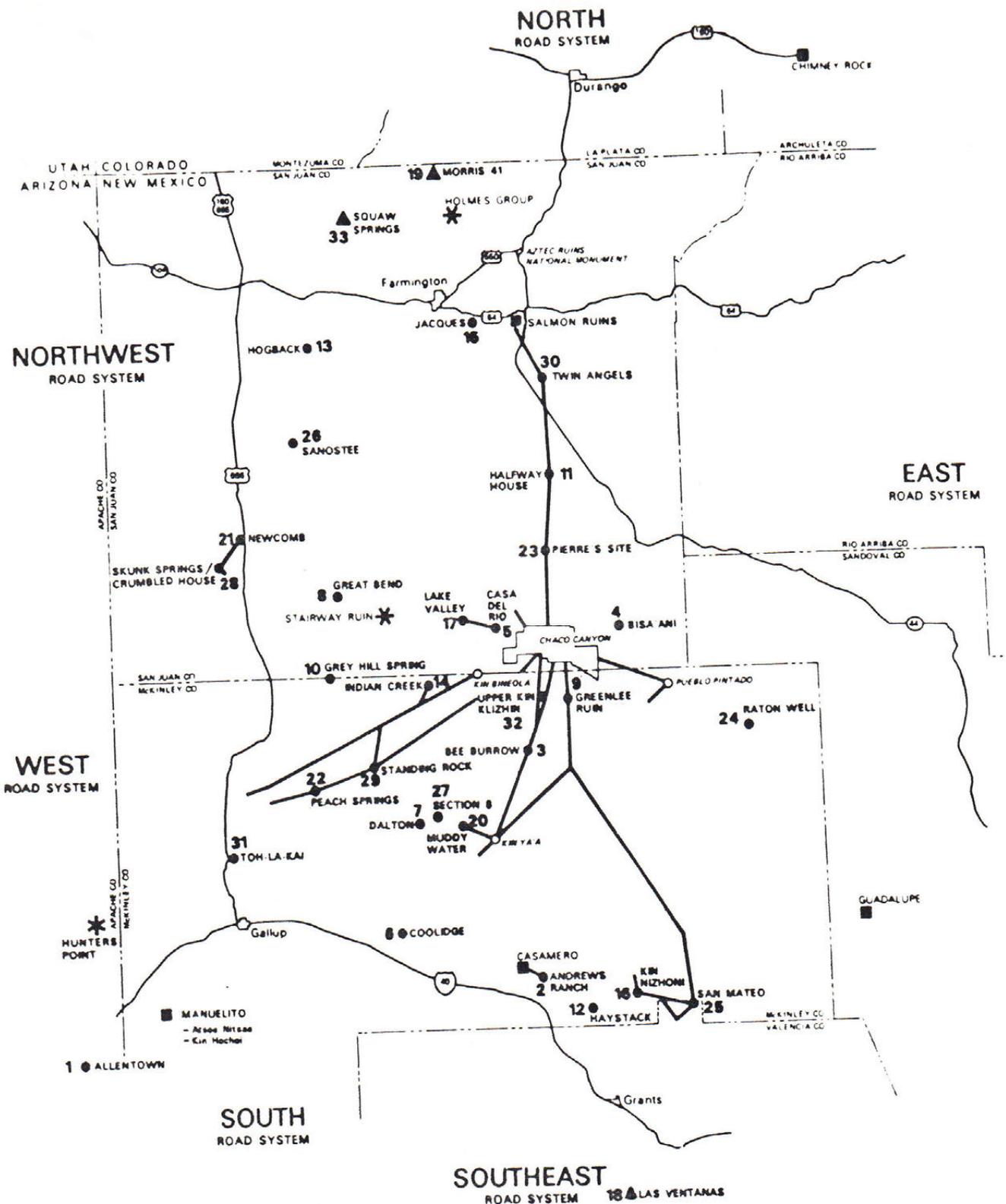


CHACO CULTURE ARCHEOLOGICAL PROTECTION SITE SYSTEM

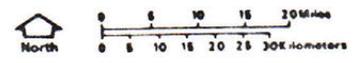
JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN

FINAL PLAN AMENDMENT

MARCH 1990



- DESIGNATED PROTECTION SITE
- PROPOSED ADDITIONS
- ▲ PROPOSED DELETIONS
- * POTENTIAL PROTECTION SITE
- CHACO CULTURE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
- PREHISTORIC ROAD



CHACO ARCHEOLOGICAL PROTECTION SITE SYSTEM

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR / NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PLAN AMENDMENT

JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN CHACO CULTURE ARCHEOLOGICAL PROTECTION SITE SYSTEM NEW MEXICO/ARIZONA/COLORADO

JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN

In December 1980, Congress passed a very important piece of legislation concerning the archeology of the greater San Juan Basin area of northwestern New Mexico. Title V of Public Law 96-550 focused attention on what is called "the Chaco phenomenon" and the need to protect Chacoan cultural resources. More specifically, "the purpose of this title is to recognize the unique archeological resources associated with the prehistoric Chacoan culture in the San Juan Basin; to provide for preservation and interpretation of these resources; and to facilitate research activities associated with these resources." The law provided additional cultural resource protection by enlarging the boundaries of Chaco Canyon National Monument by approximately 13,000 acres and renaming it Chaco Culture National Historical Park, as well as establishing a system of 33 outlying archeological protection sites. With regard to the latter, the law directed preparation of an interagency, or joint plan, under which the protection sites would be managed.

The Joint Management Plan for the Chaco Culture Archeological Protection Site System was completed and approved in July 1983. The joint plan was produced by an interagency planning team composed of representatives from the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Navajo Nation, State of New Mexico, and U.S. Forest Service. The plan provides guidelines for identification, preservation, protection, research, and interpretation of the 33 archeological sites, and also for others that may, from time to time, be added to the site system.

Joint management plan recommendations for managing protection sites included:

Administration - A lead planning/managing entity is designated for each of the protection sites.

Land Protection - In accordance with Public Law 96-550, energy exploration, grazing, and other uses are allowed on the protection sites as long as they do not "endanger the cultural values." Cooperative agreements will be pursued to protect private sites. Acquisition will be sought only when necessary to prevent "direct and material damage to, or destruction of cultural values."

Resource Management - Emergency protection procedures are recommended to direct management of the sites until specific plans are developed. Long-range treatment will be determined through the preparation of specific site plans. Archeological salvage/excavation mitigation is not allowed unless resources are threatened by uncontrollable influences.

Visitor Use/Interpretation - Interpretive services were recommended at two sites. Other sites are to be interpreted if determined feasible in the site plans.

Additions and Deletions - New sites are recommended for addition as listed in the Legislative Support Package for the Joint Management Plan. Boundary modifications are proposed for 17 sites, and 2 sites are proposed for deletion.

An Interagency Management Group (IMG) was established to provide direction for management of the sites. The IMG is composed of representatives from the abovementioned administrative entities and operates according to guidelines in a cooperative agreement signed by all participants. Landownership within the sites is a complex mixture of Federal, state, private, Indian trust, and fee lands. The archeological protection site system is not a unit of the National Park System, nor are any of the sites within it requirements such as land surveys, cooperative agreements, and exchanges. The BLM has been able to obtain some funding for plan implementation; however, the BIA has made no official budget request through its normal budgeting

procedures and no fund have been provided through the BIA to the Navajo Tribe.

JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

This amendment changes the 1983 joint management plan and budget proposal dealing with "Joint Management Plan Implementation," to make the National Park Service responsible for administration of archeological protection sites on Navajo lands, and for requesting and distributing funds to the Navajo Tribe for the management of Navajo-related sites. The National Park Service will request these funds through the Service's budgeting process.

A cooperative agreement will be established with the Navajo Tribe and the Bureau of Indian Affairs that will include guidelines for the use and general administration of funds appropriated for Chacoan sites on Navajo lands. The funds will be requested for: 1) additional identification needs, documentation, and preparation of site-management plans; 2) preparation of interpretive materials and devices, and the design and construction of a Navajo-operated interpretive/operations facility; 3) site protection, including patrolling and monitoring activities; and 4) site stabilization and resource management needs.

Some funding needs will be for a 5-year period, such as site identification, preparation of site-management plans, and emergency stabilization needs. Regular operational funds will be required for some long-term management needs. Chaco Culture Archeological Protection Site funding needs on Navajo lands include:

SITE IDENTIFICATION/RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT PLANNING 5-YEAR NEEDS

\$300,000 per year for additional site surveys and research, resource data base needs, coordination with the public and Indian groups, and preparation of site-management plans.

LAND PROTECTION--5-YEAR NEEDS

\$1,000,000 total for land surveys, easements, cooperative agreements, exchanges, and land purchases.

RUINS STABILIZATION--10-YEAR NEEDS

\$75,000 per year for stabilization and protection of ruins.

INTERPRETIVE PROSPECTUS FOR NAVAJO INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES

\$100,000 for the preparation of an interpretive prospectus and media plan.

SITE PROTECTION AND PATROL

\$250,000 - annual operations cost.

PLANNING AND DESIGN OF THE INTERPRETIVE FACILITY

\$250,000 for the preparation of a design and construction drawings.

CONSTRUCTION OF NAVAJO TRIBAL PARK INTERPRETIVE FACILITY

\$800,000 - 4,000-sq-ft interpretive facility
\$100,000 - 30-car parking facility
\$250,000 - access road
\$250,000 - utilities
\$300,000 - exhibits and audio/visual program
\$50,000 - interpretive waysides
\$150,000 - construction supervision
\$150,000 - site development/landscaping

\$2,050,000 - TOTAL COST FOR FACILITY

INTERAGENCY MANAGEMENT GROUP
for the
CHACO CULTURE ARCHEOLOGICAL PROTECTION SITE SYSTEM

This Joint Management Plan Amendment was approved in July 1989 by the IMG members which include the following:

Regional Director
Southwest Region
National Park Service

Chairman, Navajo Tribal Council
Window Rock, Arizona

Area Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Albuquerque Area Office

Area Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Window Rock, Arizona

State Director
Bureau of Land Management
New Mexico State Office

New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Supervisor
San Juan National Forest
U.S. Forest Service
Durango, Colorado

