



United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MONTEZUMA CASTLE & TUZIGOOT NATIONAL
MONUMENTS
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Memorandum

To: Director, Intermountain Region

From: Superintendent, Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot National Monuments

Subject: Annual Report FY2006 for Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot National Monuments

Following is the annual narrative report of FY2006 for the monuments:

Management

Operations and Partnering

The GPR response was completed on time. We exceeded 14 goals, met 16 goals, and did not meet 3 goals.

We have established relations with the eight affiliated tribes and continue to have more interaction with tribes than any time in the past. Most interaction was with the Hopi, Yavapai-Apache, and Yavapai-Scott with meetings with each group. We met with the Four Southern Tribes, i.e., Gila River Pima-Maricopa, Salt River Pima-Maricopa, Ak Chin, and Tohono O'odham. With the Zunis, our contact is primarily by letter or phone. Following discussions with the Hopi in 2004 we collectively drafted an MOU to facilitate compliance, cultural demonstrations, and other activities. The Yavapai-Apache signed the MOU and Hopi are reviewing it through tribal council. The Yavapai-Scott chose not to have a MOU. We continue to communicate with the other tribes about their interest in the MOU and other topics.

The GMP is moving forward with the draft being prepared. There has been a lapse in completing the GMP, which has been acceptable since during the time we acquired Tavasci Marsh, which is not included. The plan and compliance document will be out for public review in 2007 and finalized by early 2008. DSC has the lead.

Relations with Western National Parks Association (WNPA) are excellent. Sales in the monuments continue to increase and in 2006 Montezuma Castle produced the highest revenue of all 65 sales outlets.

Using the accessibility survey completed in spring 2006, we prepared PMIS funding proposals to bring facilities into standard.

All report and training requirements for law enforcement, fees, and interpretation were met. A activity was celebrating the Antiquities Act with Montezuma Castle Centennial Projects. Centennial activities included numerous special events that are described in the Visitor Services and Resources Protection section below. Year long events gave us outstanding opportunity to connect with affiliated tribes through cultural demonstrations. Visitors were thrilled with the events and they drew many local residents to the monuments. We were major partners in the annual Verde River Days, Verde Birding and Nature Festival, and March Archeological Awareness Month activities with staff participation, exhibits, and donations through WNPA funds. Interpretation and education activities continued to grow overall maintaining a high number of programs and roves. Special programs were given, such as night sky, riparian walks, and bird watching walks.

We are current with FMSS reports and requirements. FMSS is integrated into the PMIS process. Housing repair and rehabilitation work is moving forward. The administration officer, facility manager, and others did the annual housing inspection. Prior to 2004, no inspection had been done for more than six years. Now inspections are done annually. The housing management plan was completed by the deadline and was approved by IMR.

The resource management division, created in October 2005, continued to provide PEPC compliance, proposal writing, research and management, I&M, and projects. With this division, we now have in-house capability to conduct resource activities. The chief of resources management is also VT staffs (historic architect) who helps other VT parks (45 in number). We became part of a joint GIS plan with Flagstaff area parks and Tonto.

We were part of a civic tourism initiative with the Chamber of Commerce of Camp Verde and Sharlot Hall Museum in Prescott participating in regional meetings and as a panel member. In December 2005, we assisted the partners to host a town hall meeting about civic tourism. In March 2006 we participated in the national conference in Prescott and represented NPS in a panel.

Monument staff participated in the Core Ops workshop in April 2006 with other SOAR parks. The four month report including budget cost projections was sent to IMR in September 2006 in coordination with other SOAR parks. No response was received from IMR to date.

Effective October 1, 2006, the Flagstaff Group consisting of Wupatki National Monument, Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument and Walnut Canyon National Monument expanded to include Tuzigoot National Monument and Montezuma Castle National Monument. The superintendent for Tuzigoot and Montezuma Castle began reporting to the Flagstaff Group Superintendent. Over the years, Tuzigoot and Montezuma Castle have received ongoing

assistance from the Southern Arizona Office (SOAR). This reorganization does not preclude using the SOAR in those instances where it is not available within the Group just as it would not preclude access to other sources of support when and as needed.

Personnel, Staffing, and Position Management

Numerous personnel actions were done by administration to hire seasonal ranger and maintenance staff. This year we converted 6 seasonal ranger positions to subject to furlough term positions, which will be more efficient staffing and fair to employees, and much less work advertising and selecting seasonal rangers twice annually to fill year round needs. Background investigations were done within deadlines. Our diversity hires have increased through connections made by the administration officer with the Yavapai-Apache Tribe student employment program and through using the STEP hiring authority with colleges, i.e., Northern Arizona University and Yavapai College. A variety of seasonal staff was hired for maintenance, interpretation, archeology, and biology work. The facility manager transferred in October, and his position has not been refilled at this time.

All performance plans were in place by the deadline. Evaluations were completed on schedule.

Several personnel issues were addressed in close counsel with human resource staff from Southern Arizona Office and IMR staff. The NPS, US Attorney Office, and DOI Office of the Solicitor worked on a civil suit from a long running EO situation. The employee chose to transfer.

All supervisors met the required supervision training, and all staff received diversity training. The superintendent and division chiefs had leadership coaching throughout 2006.

Recreation Fee

The comprehensive plan was completed as a planning tool and later drawn on as a deferred maintenance target. The fee demo deferred maintenance goals were accomplished at 178% at Montezuma Castle and 159% at Tuzigoot. There were 40 projects ongoing with some completed. Most were multi-year projects, which covered work for deferred maintenance, interpretation, and archeological and natural resource preservation.

With completion of the third version of the comprehensive plan, we continued to have more projects than anticipated funds for the five year plan. Staff prepared and prioritized quality PMIS statements for maintenance, safety, interpretation, and resource management. For contrast in 2003 there was no current list of projects, fewer projects than funds, no interpretation or resource projects, inadequate narrative and cost details in statements, no prioritized list, and no strategy to implement the recreation fee program.

In February 2006 admission fees to the monuments increased to \$5 per person, age 16/older, with a combined admission to both monuments for \$8/person.

Lands and Water

In December 2005, the 324 acres encompassing Tavasci Marsh were added to Tuzigoot. This was private lands owned by Phelps Dodge that came to NPS via Bureau of Land Management

exchange. In March 2006, there was a celebration showcasing Tavaschi Marsh, which was one of several parcels transferred between BLM and Phelps Dodge, and considered the gem of the many parcels traded. The second land exchange involving Montezuma Castle is 157 acres adjacent to the north boundary. This exchange between private land owners and US Forest Service is still in process, which has taken four years so far. Both exchanges add archeological sites and valued riparian habitat. The IMR Santa Fe skilled lands staff has been invaluable in the exchange process.

The water rights process continues by the WASO water resources branch and with support from park staff. Gauges were installed and field measurements continue to be taken to assess and monitor water usage.

Administration

Fiscal

The park operating base enacted budget was \$1,181,000.00. These funds were supplemented by a variety of other funding sources including fee demonstration, volunteer in parks, donations, water resources, and Western National Parks Association. The fiscal year budget was closed within the required amount.

Personnel

The FY2006 park staff consisted of 11 permanent employees, 1 SCEP employee who will be converted to permanent subject to furlough positions as soon as he completes the school requirement, 16 seasonal employees, 5 STEP employees, 1 SCA, and 2 term employees. Two permanent employees retired. One of those positions was filled by converting a SCEP from the Alaska Region and one position will be filled with a term appointment. One permanent employee transferred and the Veterans Readjustment Programs was used to fill it. Both of the student programs have utilized one local university and three local community colleges.

Housing

Housing inspections were performed and work was accomplished in priority order to assure that all housing was listed in good condition. The housing plan was updated and signed by the regional director.

Tribal Relationships

Tribal relations continue to be advanced with the Yavapai Apache Unity Group (high school and college youth group) and the Yavapai Community College. One other student from the group will be working in administration as a STEP hire.

Training

We have increased Telnet training being provided to park employees on subjects such as Safety, Interpretation, and Law Enforcement skills. The telnet has been used by other local parks as well as one other government agency. We have taped courses for the use of MOCA employees, and taped courses for three parks that do not have Telnet stations.

Visitor Services and Resource Protection

The chief ranger position was filled in December 2005. For the first three months of the FY, the supervisory park ranger had continued to fill in as the acting chief ranger.

Interpretation

Staff at Montezuma Castle, Montezuma Well, and Tuzigoot contacted 803,450 visitors during all personal services activities offered. Interpretive programs consisted of walks, talks, outreach, demonstrations, exhibits, and the Junior Ranger program. The results of the 2006 Visitor Survey Cards indicated that 95% of monument visitors were satisfied overall with appropriate facilities, services, and recreational opportunities. Additionally, the survey indicated that 91% of monument visitors understood the significance of the sites.

The monuments continued to publish a winter and summer edition of the Visitor Guide newspaper. Additionally, a special Centennial edition newspaper was created and was just beginning to be distributed at the end of the fiscal year. The five site bulletins created in FY'04 by the interpretive staff continued to be well received by visitors. Our Educator's Guide was distributed to 85 schools both within Arizona and out of state. Regularly scheduled programs at all three units totaled 709 formal programs. We offered visitors and local communities a number of special interpretive programs, including riparian hikes, bird watching, and night sky. Our expanded park website was converted to the new NPS system, offering more photographs and multi-media video.

The Antiquities Act and Montezuma Castle NM Centennial Projects for 2006 were continued. Centennial activities included: a lecture series in honor of the Antiquities Act and Montezuma Castle's Centennial, special exhibits, the creation of an official Centennial logo by local artist Dorothy Drum, the development and distribution of a special edition newspaper commemorating the Antiquities Act and our Centennial, a special commemorative cancellation stamp created for use with the National Parks Passports, a junior researcher program for young audiences, and on-site "Saturdays in the Park – A Celebration of Living Culture in Honor of Montezuma Castle's Centennial" involving American Indian demonstrations, storytelling, and dances. Preparation for the official Centennial Day ceremony in December was on track.

Interpretative services are shown from FY'03 through FY'06:

	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06
Talks	MOCA 442	MOCA 498	MOCA 431	MOCA 507
	MOWE 95	MOWE 222	MOWE 94	MOWE 85
	TUZI 260	TUZI 324	TUZI 222	TUZI 117
Roves	MOCA 2278	MOCA 1967	MOCA 1694	MOCA 1968
	MOWE 1103	MOWE 1026	MOWE 631	MOWE 726
	TUZI 624	TUZI 731	TUZI 580	TUZI 468
Schools	MOCA 30	MOCA 37	MOCA 12	MOCA 51
	MOWE 6	MOWE 21	MOWE 22	MOWE na
	TUZI 31	TUZI 31	TUZI 29	TUZI 16
Outreach	MOCA 19	MOCA 17	MOCA 15	MOCA 6
	MOWE na	MOWE na	MOWE na	MOWE na
	TUZI 7	TUZI 13	TUZI 10	TUZI 4

One statistic that decreased substantially this past fiscal year was our Outreach. This was severely affected by the loss of our two permanent Interpreters, one to a transfer and the other to retirement. These numbers should rebound, while others, like Schools, should increase in FY'07, with the filling of one of these positions.

Monument staff participated in three special community-wide events: Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival, Verde River Days, and March Archeological Awareness Month. Staff also participated in two local school career days, providing information about the benefits of a career with the National Park Service.

The monuments began the preparation of their Comprehensive Interpretive Plan (CIP). Two meetings were held with staff and partners to begin discussions on what was important for the monuments to emphasize and how they would go about passing that information on to the public. The Draft Long Range Interpretive Plan was produced. The CIP process will continue into FY'07.

The Tuzigoot Museum Remodeling Project, initiated in FY '04, continued to progress. The project, funded through fee demo, continued to focus on refreshing and updating the museum exhibits. A contract was entered into with Arizona State Museum to assist with the design and fabrication of the exhibits. Scoping meetings were held with staff, partners, and subject matter experts.

Planning for updating the wayside exhibits on the Tuzigoot Ruins Trail and the Montezuma Castle Trail were also begun. Both of these projects will be coordinated with the information gathered during the CIP workshops.

Several other special events and activities occurred within the monuments during the fiscal year. A local professional artist created a one-of-a-kind sculpture of Montezuma Castle and donated the artwork to Montezuma Castle. The artwork was on display for several months. During National Park Week, we sponsored a special guest speaker, biologist Kathy Sullivan from the Arizona Game and Fish Department, who spoke on the efforts of her department, in conjunction with other state and federal agencies, regarding the reintroduction of the California Condor to Arizona. In April, the Tuzigoot Visitor Center was closed for a week while a re-roofing and rodent/bat removal/exclusion project occurred (very successful so far).

Public Use and Fee Collection

In 2004 a re-survey of visitation patterns at both monuments was completed. The persons-per-vehicle (PPV) survey validated the 2.7 PPV at Tuzigoot and reflected a change in PPV from 3.57 to 2.8 for Montezuma Castle. The new PPV of 2.8 for Montezuma Castle became effective January 2005. Visitation totals reflected a decrease in overall visitation.

Visitation figures for each management unit since FY'02 are:

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Montezuma Castle NM	644,066	634,965	656,409	622,912	590,720
Tuzigoot NM	112,167	116,361	115,321	108,830	114,020

Entrance fees are collected from all visitors to the Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot on a per person entry system. In February 2006 admission fees to the monuments increased to \$5 per person, age 16/older, with a combined admission to both monuments for \$8/person. Montezuma Well continued to remain free.

A comparison of fees collected since FY'02 shows the following:

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Montezuma Castle	\$823,149	\$780,597	\$781,811	\$902,599	\$1,240,686
Tuzigoot	<u>\$126,741</u>	<u>\$123,050</u>	<u>\$142,017</u>	<u>\$142,264</u>	<u>\$ 161,588</u>
Total	\$949,890	\$903,647	\$923,828	1,044,863	\$1,402,274

Law Enforcement

The Montezuma Well Ranger continued the PARKWATCH program with neighbors. On several occasions, Monument neighbors, utilizing the PARKWATCH program, notified the Montezuma Well Ranger of incidents occurring within the monument.

Protection workload consisted of parking violations, closure violations, recreation fee violations, vandalism, fire alarms, boundary patrols, archeological resource protection, motor vehicle accidents, and visitor injuries.

Cooperating Associations

Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot NM's are affiliated with the Western National Parks Association, which has a field manager, one full time employee, and five part-time sales clerks working in the park. The field manager and superintendent continued to increase the variety of sales items, adding several new books and other items of interest to the visiting public. The interactive 360 degree virtual tour of Montezuma Castle on DVD, and displayed on a plasma television in the Visitor Center lobby, continues to be a best seller and an excellent interpretive tool for the interpretive staff. The sales for these monuments were the highest of WNPAs 64 areas. Gross sales for each outlet in 2005 were:

Montezuma Castle NM	\$ 599,885.93
Tuzigoot	<u>\$ 78,690.71</u>
Total	\$ 678,576.64

Many park projects and services were completed through the Interpretative Support Account funds. They included the visitor guide newspaper, volunteer support and appreciation, contributions to the Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival, Verde River Days, Educator's Guide, Junior Ranger program, site bulletins, upgrade of website information, hands-on exhibits, research, staff training, and more.

Volunteer In Parks

The Volunteer in Parks program at Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot National Monuments provides much needed help to monument staff, totaling more than 3,300 hours of volunteer assistance. The expertise of our many volunteers is crucial to providing assistance to the

monuments' projects and needs. The monuments continue to encourage and recruit additional volunteers to move the program to further heights.

Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot National Monuments had 20 active volunteers donating 2,500+ hours of time and participating in a wide range of activities including: interpretation, fee collection, administration support, maintenance work, computer support and programming services, water resources monitoring, telephone line repair, and safety inspections at all three sites.

In support of the Visitor Services and Resource Protection division, these volunteers conducted several hundred formal and informal programs of the cultural and natural resources. They provided special programs for tour groups, school groups of all ages, and other special visitors, operated the Visitor Centers during staff meetings, greatly supported the Junior Ranger Program, and made patrols of the trails and "backcountry".

Additional volunteer activity consisted of a number of special events throughout the year. Several projects were completed by Volunteers for Outdoor Arizona (VOAZ), a group that specializes in offering skilled volunteers for selected projects. This group donated over 300 hours on projects that included the maintenance and repair of the pre-historic irrigation ditch at Montezuma Well.

The fourth annual volunteer day with Wal-Mart, Unilever Corporation, and the NPS was a success. 120 volunteers donated 502 hours of service at the three sites. Projects included painting, trash pickup, removing exotic vegetation, and obliterating social trails off the established paths.

Maintenance

All Three Monuments

1. On a daily basis custodial duties were performed.
2. All trails, roads, and parking lots were kept at a maintainable level.
3. Stayed in compliance with ADEQ on water quality.

Montezuma Well

1. The irrigation ditch was maintained by keeping debris off. This included removal of fallen trees, dead branches, weeds, and trash.
2. Picnic area was mowed, and weeded.
3. The well inlet and outlet were maintained.
4. The sewer septic tank and leach field were maintained and kept operational and in compliance.
5. 40 foot long of rock wall was built for ditch leaks.
6. New foot bridges were installed at picnic area.
7. Rock removal along ditch overhangs.

Montezuma Castle

1. Glass was replaced in one of the visitor center entrance doors.

2. An old window type A/C unit was removed from the visitor center office areas.
3. A water fountain was repaired at the visitor center.
4. The wastewater lagoons and lift station were maintained and kept operational and in compliance.
5. Water Leak repair behind Visitor Center (VC)
6. Carpets were Cleaned
7. Split rail fence was installed.
8. Ceiling fan installed in VC

Tuzigoot

1. Repairs were done on the visitor center A/C heating system.
2. The sewer septic tank and leach field were maintained and kept operational and in compliance.
3. Trail railing was repaired.
4. Trail and rock wall was repaired/ section
5. Doors at VC need repair closer and door locks.
6. Replacement of boards and water preserve Marsh Deck

Fee Demo Projects

1. A new sewer lift station unit was installed at Montezuma Castle. Work was done with an 8a contractor.
2. The Montezuma Castle VC, Montezuma Castle old maintenance shop, Tuzigoot VC, Tuzigoot old maintenance shop, and Montezuma Well pithouse received new roofs. Work was done with an 8a contractor.
3. Fire hydrants at Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot were replaced. Work was done with local contractors.
4. Assisted a Denver architect on planning and designing a new maintenance building for Montezuma Well. Soil testing was conducted at the proposed site. Project slated for FY07.
5. All directional road signs throughout the three monuments were replaced with new ones. Work was done in-house.
6. The visitor centers at Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot had minor mold removed. Both visitor centers had their duct work professionally cleaned. Work was done in-house and by a local contractor.
7. Utilizing the Santa Fe preservation crew and 8a contractor, the chief ranger's office building was started with its rehab. New utilities, fire suppression and communication lines are in place. Old paint from window frames and hardware were removed. Numerous rotted beams were replaced. A new membrane roof was installed. Patio has new sandstone flooring. Interior concrete floor was leveled off.
8. A surveyor and mechanical engineer from Denver surveyed and gathered information to plan, design and spec out a project for a new waterline and replacement of lagoon liners at Montezuma Castle. Other areas surveyed included proposed sites for a new maintenance shop at Tuzigoot and Montezuma Castle, leach field at Tuzigoot, and ADA unisex restrooms for Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot.

9. New HVAC system was installed at Montezuma Castle visitor center. It included replacement of three propane fired furnaces and three roof mounted condenser units. Work was done by local contractor.
10. Change requests and new deferred maintenance projects were submitted using PMIS.
11. At the chief ranger office carpet and vinyl was installed

Other Projects

1. Under the HAZMAT funding source, contaminated soil stored in drums was removed from Tuzigoot. Final analysis and assessment of the site will be forthcoming.
2. Fluorescent bulbs and hazmat paint cans were hauled off.

Housing

Inspections were performed in all units. Repair or preventative maintenance was done as described below:

Montezuma Castle Residence # 5

1. Blow roof, leaves, branches, and seal around scupper drain above bedrooms.
2. Work on swamp cooler, service, and put in new pads.
3. New furniture was procured.
4. Installed new water heater elements
5. Work on bathtub and sink drain.
6. Work on back fence.
7. Work on doors.

Montezuma Castle Apartments

1. A new gutter was installed across all three units.
2. Grounds were maintained.
3. Painted apt. B interior
4. Installed new stove.
5. Repaired water leak.

Tuzigoot Residence # 5

1. Install new swamp cooler.
2. Install new window screens.
3. Replace smoke detectors.
4. Grounds were maintained.
5. Installed new water heater elements
6. Installed new skylight.

Tuzigoot Residence # 7

1. Procure and install new stove.
2. Install new swamp cooler.
3. install new window screens.
4. Install new water heater.
5. Install new skylight.
6. Work on furnance

7. Work on Bathtub faucets

Montezuma Well Residence # 12

1. A/C and furnace ducts were professionally cleaned.
2. Repair kitchen fixtures.
3. Waterline shutoffs were installed behind bathtub fixtures.
4. Grounds were maintained.
5. Roof work/ leak

Montezuma Well Residence # 17

1. A/C and furnace ducts were professionally cleaned.
2. Waterline shutoffs were installed behind bathtub fixtures.
3. New furniture, washer and dryer were procured for this seasonal residence.
4. New swamp cooler was installed.
5. Grounds were maintained.
6. Bathtub tile work.
7. Mini blind installation

Safety

1. Purchased personal protective equipment such as vests, back braces, hard hats, latex and leather gloves, safety shoes, and prescription eyewear.
2. Replaced/refilled all first aid kits in all areas.
3. Conducted tailgate safety meetings for maintenance staff.
4. Conducted safety stand-down training sessions for all employees.
5. An ADA survey was conducted on buildings, parking lots and trails.
6. Verified incident information under the SMIS program.

Training/Meetings

1. One employee attended the South Zone maintenance meeting.
2. Two employees attended Grade I Water credit trainings.
3. One employee attended Grade I Wastewater credit training.
4. Two employees attended COR training.
5. One employee attended Structural Pest Control refresher training.
6. One employee attended FMSS QA/QC workshop.
7. One employee attending Utility Water Operations training.
8. Four employees attended diversity training.
9. One employee attended Core-Ops training.
10. Facility Management training.
11. Confine space training for a couple of employees.
12. Two employees attended safety training.

FMSS

1. CAC inspections were conducted.
2. All FMSS requirements were met.
3. Quality Assurance and Quality Control plan was submitted to the Regional FMSS coordinator.

Reports

1. The fleet report was compiled and submitted to the fleet program coordinator.
2. The energy report was compiled and submitted to the energy coordinator.
3. HAZMAT report on soil at Tuzigoot, where oil tanks were.

Administration

1. Positions that were filled; one maintenance worker WG-05 term, one seasonal laborer WG -04, and one permanent STF facilities services assistant GS-06.
2. DI-1 for garbage collection on all three monuments was submitted to the contracting officer in SOAR.
3. Entered data into AFS.
4. Worked on a PD for reclassification.
5. Procured materials, supplies, and tools.
6. Kept track of all purchases made.

PEPC

1. Entered projects information into the system.

Support

1. Provided support to other divisions and WNPA.

Equipment/Vehicles

1. Maintained all vehicles and equipment.
2. Reduced inventory by one vehicle and two pieces of equipment.
3. Took monthly mileage readings on division vehicles.
4. Turned in gas receipts in a timely manner.

Resources Management

Administration

Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot have received base increases through the Vanishing Treasures (VT) program designed to fund three historic preservation specialists. One of these positions is a historical architect who, while stationed at Tuzigoot, serves all 45 Vanishing Treasures parks. Capitalizing on his background and experience the historical architect was called upon to serve as the Resource Management division chief when the division was created in January of 2005. The chief reports directly to the superintendent, and provides administrative and supervisory services to the division staff.

Creation and Evolution of the Resource Management Division

The division was created in October 2005, in accordance with a recommendation made in a 2004 management assistance review. As initially structured, the new division was built around an archaeologist, historical architect, and mason. All of these permanent positions were funded through the Vanishing Treasures program. Natural resources were to have been administered by an ecologist hired in a term position. The division would be rounded out with a seasonal

masonry assistant and a varying number of STEP archaeological technicians all hired through FRLEA funded projects.

One of two VT masons retired just prior to the creation of the division, and the money from the vacated position was used to fund the new archaeologist. At about the same time, the term ecologist position was filled however, that position was vacated in the summer of 2005 after only 10 months. Extraordinary support provided by the SOAR office bridged this gap until October, 2005 when a term biological technician came on-board.

As FY 2006 began, the basic resource team was restored, and the division continued to move aggressively to fill many longstanding gaps in the area of resource management including:

1. Compliance: Our archaeologist continues to functioning as the park compliance coordinator. All new projects are now assigned to a team of specialists to assess and monitor compliance and project execution, and all projects are entered into PEPC assuring full compliance with SHPO, tribal, and NEPA requirements.
2. Collection Management: Collection management for all three units of the park has been consolidated in the resource division. Although still awaiting the completion of the new collection management plan, a number of collections related issues are being addressed through FRLEA funded projects being executed by the Western Archeological and Conservation Center.
3. GPRA: With the revisions made to GPRA this past year, the division carefully reevaluated our existing GPRA goals. This resulted in the abandonment of additional inappropriate goals, the adoption of new goals (some as “tracking” only), and the adjustment of park objectives. Most resource related goals were again met or exceeded.

Tribal Relationships

Productive meetings with the Hopi continued and, working in concert with the superintendents from Tonto and Casa Grande National Monuments, considerable progress has been made in strengthening relationships with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa, Gila River Pima-Maricopa, Ak Chin, Tohono O’odham, Zuni, Yavapai Prescott, and Yavapai Apache.

We have continued to be scrupulous in allowing affiliated tribes the opportunity to review and comment on all proposed projects that have the potential to impact cultural or ethnographic resources. This has gone a long way toward furthering an atmosphere of trust and inclusion on the part of the tribes. In addition, we are continuing conversations regarding a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with our affiliated tribes. The MOU will streamline the compliance process and establish formal cooperating relationships. Last year we signed such an agreement with the local Yavapai Apache Nation, and we are close to signing agreements with two additional tribal organizations. Efforts will continue throughout the coming year to encourage the remaining tribal entities to review and endorse the memorandum.

In addition, we continue to pursue a program to develop ethno-botanical interpretive exhibits that will show tribal names and traditional uses for indigenous plants. A number of tribes responded favorably to our offer to participate and have welcomed the opportunity to share with us literature they have developed for intra-tribal distribution.

Finally, we continued to work with several tribes to begin cultural arts demonstrations within the parks.

Vanishing Treasures/Cultural Resources

The addition of the VT historical architect and staff archaeologist (both Vanishing Treasures funded positions), along with the creation of the Resource Management Division has allowed us to really focus our efforts on our Vanishing Treasures resources. Numerous resource related NRLEA funded projects were funded in FY 2006 (some continuing from previous years) allowing us to maintain up to four STEP archaeological technicians who, working with the staff archaeologist, addressed documentation, assessment and maintenance issues at all three units of the park.

The ongoing project at Tuzigoot National Monument continues to document and record the condition and preservation histories of rooms in the pueblo there. This included recording existing mortar types and identifying areas with basal erosion, voids, rodent or insect damage, and original Sinaguan mortar on additional blocks of rooms. Using AutoCAD, scaled floor plans and wall elevations were produced to further expand our library of current and accurate site documentation.

Documented sections of the pueblo were stabilized by our VT mason and a seasonal masonry assistant. This results in continuing improvement to the site that will both satisfy contemporary standards for preservation documentation and treatment, and provide visitors with a visual experience that is consistent with the site's original, historic appearance.

Also ongoing throughout 2006 was the documentation of a series of 19 cavates, or culturally augmented rock shelters, located within Montezuma Castle National Monument. These rooms contained extraordinary preservation including plastered ceilings and floors, fire pits, storage cists and many other features. This documentation will make way for the site to be stabilized as many of the masonry walls are in need of repointing and repair.

An indefinite quantities contract was negotiated partnering with Tonto National Monument to bring in Western Mapping of Tucson to conduct LiDAR scanning documentation of ruins as well as Ground Penetrating Radar remote sensing in the parks. Two of these projects are slated to begin in early 2007 at Montezuma Castle National Monument.

Many of the completed documentation projects will now make way for the FY 2007 season when additional projects will be executed to further improve the condition of our Vanishing Treasures resources.

Natural Resources

Several natural resource projects were implemented in FY2006. The Montezuma Well fence project was completed which improved the accuracy of the boundary, provided for improved resource protection, and enhanced the look of the park perimeter. The project specifications were developed with the assistance of Doug MacPhee. Materials were purchased and the proposal was sent out for bid. Work was completed by the contractor in September. The

Montezuma Castle boundary was surveyed by BLM Cadastral survey and several site visits occurred to develop the fence specifications. The specifications and materials list were produced by Doug. The implementation of the fencing project for Montezuma Castle was delayed due to funding and the decision to wait for the transfer of the quarter section to the Northeast of the current boundary.

The Schoolhouse Wash project was modified into a more tractable education project with the assistance of Michele Girard. This project went through contracting and was awarded to JE Fuller. The project began to be implemented in the late summer/fall of 2006. Implementation of the first field trip was a great success and the second round of class room instruction and field exercise is for this April.

The first work on the exotic plant management began this year. The Montezuma Well meadow and the riparian area along Wet Beaver Creek were targeted as the first treatment areas. Working with Michele Girard from the SOAR office we coordinated with USFWS and Colorado Plateau EPMT to begin this work. The treatment began in March of 2006 and included herbicide application on Malta starthistle and Bull thistle in the Pasture and cut stump herbicide work on the Tamarisk along the creek. These sites were re-treated again later in the year to knock out any Tamarisk re-sprouts and to treat the summer growth of starthistle. Tuzigoot VC underwent a major rodent exclusion/remediation treatment. This project was a great success that greatly improved the health and well being of visitors and staff here at Tuzigoot. The project was complex and required consultation with many experts in the fields of integrated pest management and public health.

Another major project of the year was the Montezuma Castle gabion protection. This project was completed at the beginning of FY07 but the project development, contracting work, and preliminary implementation work occurred throughout FY06. It involved the protection of our historic gabion which provides flood protection for the visitor use area around the Castle. The result was a massive rock work project that was conducted in an environmentally friendly manner which accomplished all of the project goals. With the acquisition of Tavasci Marsh we were faced with the public health responsibility for one of the largest vector mosquito populations in the county. With the assistance of many IPM professionals, SOAR office, and Yavapai County Community Health Services staff we developed a Mosquito management plan for the Marsh. This was produced in conjunction with a PMIS project and the necessary environmental compliance documentation. The team effort has paid off with a sound plan that manages the public health threat in an environmentally conscious manner in accordance with NPS policy.

During the year park resource staff assisted with water resource monitoring at Montezuma Well and received certification as a licensed pesticide applicator. SODN inventory and monitoring conducted its integrated aquatic monitoring at Montezuma Castle and Montezuma Well. Park staff participated in Technical committee meetings throughout the year. In all it was a busy and productive year for meeting resource management goals and FY 2007 is shaping up similarly thus far.