May 8th, 11:00 AM

Touring The Ancient West: Archaeological Interpretation in Nuwuvi (Southern Paiute) Homelands

Cerinda Survant
Portland State University

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: http://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/studentsymposium

Part of the Archaeological Anthropology Commons

http://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/studentsymposium/2013/Poster/13

This Event is brought to you for free and open access. It has been accepted for inclusion in Student Research Symposium by an authorized administrator of PDXScholar. For more information, please contact pdxscholar@pdx.edu.
TOURING NUWUVI (SOUTHERN PAIUTE) HOMELANDS
Best practices in archaeological interpretation in protected areas

Cerinda Survant
Portland State University

Introduction
Reconciling stewardship and recreational access to public lands is particularly problematic at sites of archaeological and spiritual significance. Petroglyphs and pictographs are particularly valued and vulnerable (Spooner et al. 2012). Interpretive programs aim to connect visitors to resources and guide visitor behavior to safeguard resources (Tilden 2007, Ham 1992). This study details the development of a methodology to assess the interpretation of vulnerable archaeological resources on public lands (Benton 2009, Falk et al. 2008, Falk & Dierking 2000). Using case studies of eleven sites, the project investigates visitorship and visitor satisfaction, the use of signage and landscape design, the presence of traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous history, and the use of cultural demonstrations and performances.

Methodology
Using qualitative and quantitative methods to evaluate strategies for interpreting landscape, environment, and culture to the visiting public

- Participant observation of the full range of information and sense experiences available to the visitor: official websites; visitor centers; trails; guided and self-guided tours; electronic mobile guides; brochures; signage
- Structured site survey instrument
- Semi-structured interviews with staff knowledge holders, interpreters, demonstrators
- Structured visitor interviews

Fieldsites
Developed facilities for the interpretation of archaeological features including petroglyphs and pictographs, vulnerable resources, heavy visitation

Bandelier National Monument
Santa Fe, NM
- Cultural demonstration program
- Guided and self-guided tours
- Summer camp

Grimes Point/Hidden Cave Archaeological Site
Fallon, NV (BLM)
- Designated National Recreation trail
- Signed, self-guided tours
- Cave access limited to guided tours

Petroglyph National Monument
Albuquerque, NM
- Visitor location
- Smartphone audio tours
- 7,244 acres managed by National Park Service and the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division

Mesa Verde National Park
Cortez, CO
- World Heritage Site
- New 23,500 square feet visitors center (2013)
- Guided and self-guided tours
- Use Mountain Tribal Park
- Towaoc, CO
- Access limited to tours led by Use guides

Lincoln County NV
Lincoln County contains over 2,000 petroglyph panels located at more than 125 sites. Many are well-known and regularly visited. This research studies sites managed by the Bureau of Land Management: all have markers and visitors logs; most have trails and interpretive signs as well.

- Ash Springs Rock Art Site
- Crystal Wash Rock Art Site
- Mount Irish Rock Art and Archeological District
- Rainbow Canyon Archaeological Site
- Shooting Gallery Game Drive District
- White River Narrows Archaeological District

Acknowledgments
Funding provided by the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA). Funding administered by The Mountain Institute and Portland State University. Special thanks to my thesis advisor, Jeremy Spoon, PhD, and to Shelby Anderson, PhD, Richard Arnold, Anan Raymond, Wendy Smith, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Maps provided by Christopher Milton and Alta Planning + Design.

Literature cited

Applied outcome
Results of the assessment of physical infrastructure, interpretive content, and quality of visitor experience at sites will be delivered to the US Fish and Wildlife Service to support site planning at Black Canyon Archaeological Site, Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuge, Lincoln County, Nevada. Research begins June 2013; report to be delivered October 2013; thesis completion scheduled for June 2014.

Further information
Please contact the Office of Applied Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, (PO Box 786) Portland OR 97207-0786

THE MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE