



THE WATCH SPRING 2018

"Dedicated to protect and preserve Arizona's heritage and cultural resources."
This is the first edition of "The Watch" to be produced by the new SSP administration team at Arizona State Parks & Trails. We hope you will find it informative and beneficial. We look at it as a start, with more and better things to come throughout the year. Let us know how we can make it better for you.

A Renewed Commitment to the Site Steward Program - Changes to Staff

Hello Site Steward Members and Land Managers,
I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Sean Hammond and I've been with Arizona State Parks & Trails (ASPT) since 2013. There have been changes to the Site Steward Program over the past month – changes designed to make sure you are all receiving the support you and the program deserve.

Earlier this month, a meeting was held with Site Steward staff, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) management, and ASPT section managers to discuss the Site Steward program and current challenges. My name was brought up during the discussion and I was asked if I would want to shift my duties as a Grants coordinator for the Trails Program and become the new Site Steward coordinator. I became familiar with the program my first week at the Central Office (May 2015) after reading the Site Steward brochure – I've always loved the mission of the program and was honored to be asked to take on the position.

My background:
I started as a volunteer at Kartchner Caverns in 2013 and worked as a seasonal ranger-interpretive guide from 2014-2015. As a ranger, I loved teaching cultural and environmental resource protection and using the cave to show youth how exciting science can be. In May 2015, I moved to Phoenix to take the position as a grants coordinator for the trails/outdoor recreation program for ASPT. Another duty I took on was related to improving accessibility at our parks and for the entire state.

I was born in central Pennsylvania and moved to Tucson, where I spent 23 years before moving to Phoenix in May 2015.

I graduated from the University of Arizona with a degree in Political Science and Russian. I spent two summers in St. Petersburg and Moscow, Russia -1995 and 1997, studying the language, arts, and culture.

From 2003-09, I worked as a grants coordinator at the Governor's Office of Highway Safety and coordinated public health and safety programs, including DUI prevention, bicycle and car seat safety.

I have a background in teaching and also worked in the non-profit sector coordinating AmeriCorps and volunteer programs at the Volunteer Center of Southern Arizona.

Prior to working at ASPT, I worked several years as a case manager and caregiver for a disability agency in Tucson. I worked with people with all types of disabilities with a focus on working with children with autism.

SITE STEWARD STAFF CHANGES: Moving forward, I will be the Site Steward coordinator; Will Russell will handle archaeology-specific questions/issues and will provide continued support of the program; Mickey Key will supervise the Site Steward program.

I want to share a few notes on Mickey and what his supervision means for the program: Up to September of 2014, Mickey was a lifelong resident of Maine and worked for Maine State Parks for 42 years where he began his career as a seasonal laborer, was promoted to a park manager and worked at several different state parks for 35 years. He was the supervisor of Outdoor Recreation, and administered the Land and Water Conservation Fund program, the Recreational Trails Program and the Maine Conservation Corps.

For those who haven't met Mickey or know much about him, he is the reason why the Grants/Trails Program at ASPT has become a model for other state outdoor recreation programs. In 2014, the program had been severely hindered due to economic issues that started in 2009. Within a three-year period, Mickey, along with me and the CIS AmeriCorps team he built, completely turned the program around. In 2017, his efforts as a manager and his staff were noticed throughout the U.S. The program was awarded the Outstanding State Trail Program by Federal Highways and the Coalition for Recreational Trails and later that year, Mickey was given several individual awards, including the Grants Administration award – the highest award in the US for management of grant programs. What we want you to know is that we have an exceptional group of people dedicated to the Site Steward program.

Lastly, I want to share with you my feelings about the program and what I've experienced over the past month: I'm simply amazed at your dedication – many of you have been doing this for 20+ years and that's incredible! I've really enjoyed meeting many of you at the annual awards event at Kartchner Caverns State Park and at the RC/ARC and LM meeting in early May.

The protection of archaeological sites is one of the most important responsibilities for all Parks – state, national, and state and federal managed lands, etc. I love American park history – especially stories about the different people and groups that fought to protect natural and cultural places and sites. Thinking about that history, I see all of you as following in the footsteps of those individuals who, in the late 1800s and early 1900s, first started the fight to protect land of cultural significance such as places like Mesa Verde – where vandalism and looters would have destroyed many of the thousands of sites and the hundreds of cliff dwellings. I'm so excited to be part of this program and look forward to meeting all of you at some point, to learn from you, see your sites you protect and to hear your ideas for the program.

Please Note: The RC, ARC and LM workshop was held on May 4th. There were a number of problems solved and great ideas shared from the meeting; notes from the workshop will be sent out shortly.



Arizona Strip Region 20E: Site Stewards Participate in 2017 Kaibab National Forest Passports in Time Program

By Connie Reid, Archaeologist, Kaibab National Forest

Passports in Time Participants
During September, Arizona Strip Region (East and West) Site Stewards participated in the Kaibab National Forest's annual **Passports in Time** program, a week-long event held on the North Kaibab Ranger District. Brad Heap, Region 20E regional coordinator, helped recruit and organize local Site Steward participants.

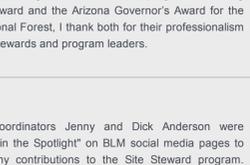
Site Stewards from both units assisted forest archaeologists in survey and site recording in the Saddle Mountain Wilderness area. Sites recorded included multiple Puebloan habitation sites as well as rock art. Participants camped on the forest in Houserock Valley, a beautiful landscape near the north rim of the Grand Canyon. For some Site Stewards, it was their first experience learning archaeological survey methods. For other more seasoned stewards, it was an opportunity to build upon their existing skills.

Site Stewards worked under the direct supervision of Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management archaeologists from the Kanab, Utah area, who joined the Forest Service project as part of a well-established interagency exchange effort.

The Kaibab National Forest Heritage Program would like to publicly thank Brad Heap and the Arizona Strip Site Steward members who made this project a success. We very much appreciate having access to such an enthusiastic group of volunteers, several of whom have been Site Stewards for multiple decades. The mix of new and seasoned Site Stewards made for a great educational event. The forest hopes to do more of these projects in the future.

Hassayampa Region News

By Shelley Rasmussen, Regional Coordinator



L-R: Mike Fikes, Cheryl Remmerde, Bernadine McCollum, Shelley Rasmussen & Bonnie Helten

I would like to thank the Site Stewards who braved the heat of the summer in order to monitor the archaeological sites that are in the area of the Granite Mountain Hotshots Memorial State Parks trail. Arizona State Parks and Trails had the trail built to access the site where the firefighters lost their lives in the Yarnell Fire in 2013. While building the trail, these sites were discovered and immediately brought into the Site Steward program. The trail to the firefighters' memorial is a steep, rocky and rugged 7-mile round trip and is an all-day commitment. Thanks to our Site Stewards, these sites continue to be monitored.

On November 11, the Hassayampa region had its Fall Field trip to the Homestead Ruins. This is a prehistoric as well as an historic site. The weather was perfect and everyone enjoyed viewing the historic petroglyph from the 1800s that was recently discovered. Of course, Bernadine McCollum who has monitored this site for many years has known about this historic petroglyph all along, but she wasn't telling.

Hassayampa Region Steward Passes

The Hassayampa Region has lost one of its most dedicated Site Stewards, Bill Smith. He was a Site Steward for 27 years and was the authority for Camp Date Creek. He gave lectures about the history of the Camp and was always willing to share his expertise. His passing brings great sorrow to his friends and his fellow Site Stewards. He will be truly missed.

The Centralized Admin Dispatch Office

By Trudy Mertens, Asst. RC, Agua Fria Region

With safety and security in mind, BLM has initiated a new policy statewide. Before going out to a site, we are to call the Centralized Admin Dispatch Office (CADO), giving them departure time, destination and expected time of return. CADO's hours are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. with after hour calls being monitored. This is important especially if you have not returned. If an injury occurs, CADO has the documentation that you were performing official volunteer duties. This is necessary for insurance purposes.

The new policy applies to all regions that have BLM sites in the program and also includes BLM volunteers not in the Site Steward program. The BLM Hassayampa Field Office is fortunate to have the Agua Fria National Monument that offers an opportunity for Site Stewards to monitor sites on the monument. If you are interested in monitoring BLM sites both in your region or other BLM lands, contact your RC.

The telephone number for CADO is 602-417-9440.

NOTE: There is a new update on CADO: One of the items discussed during the May 4th meeting was CADO - BLM staff checked with management following the meeting and CADO can now be used for all regions/areas, not just BLM areas. For example, if you are on Coccinello National Forest you can now use CADO as an additional safety feature. The safety of stewards is a priority – additional safety measures will be provided to all stewards, RCs and ARCs this coming month.

Honoring Roger and Leslie McPeck, Arizona Strip Region 20W, Site Steward Coordinators

By Connie Reid, Archaeologist, Kaibab National Forest

Roger and Leslie McPeck joined the Arizona Strip Region Site Steward program in May of 1997 and quickly became integral members of the group. At that time, the Arizona Strip Region included sites on both the Arizona Strip Bureau of Land Management lands and the north Kaibab National Forest. Roger was instrumental in accessing sites on the North Kaibab, and soon thereafter, he and Leslie took on the role of co-regional coordinators for the entire Arizona Strip program, with Roger focusing his efforts on Site Steward training and Leslie serving as chief administrator.

As the program grew, a decision was made in 2016 to separate the Arizona Strip into two regions, with Roger and Leslie retaining leadership of the Arizona Strip BLM sites (Region 20E), and Brad Heap, assuming leadership for the Kaibab National Forest sites (Region 20W). The work load had simply become too great to effectively manage the Strip sites as one unit. Despite the separation of units, Roger and Leslie have continued to coordinate field activities across the Strip, which often includes sharing some of the more active Site Stewards between units.

In addition to leading the Region 20W program, Roger has also participated as an individual of his time and numerous BLM and Forest Service projects, donating hundreds of hours of his volunteer and resources. Though a retired physician, he has become a most adept avocational archaeologist and is quite proficient in his knowledge of area ceramic types, especially local red wares. Both agencies have benefited from Roger's expertise and research pursuits.

Roger and Leslie announced several months ago that they would be resigning as Regional Coordinators for the Arizona Strip BLM lands effective December 31, 2017. Fortunately for the land managers, they will be staying on as Site Stewards for the foreseeable future. Together the McPecks have over 20,000 volunteer hours donated to the program. For this dedication and their excellent leadership, both have been recognized for their contributions at the highest levels of the program, including receiving the Regional Coordinators' Award and the Arizona Governor's Award for the program. On behalf of the Kaibab National Forest, I thank both of their professionalism and outstanding performance as Site Stewards and program leaders.

Volunteer Appreciation

Lake Havasu volunteer Regional Coordinators Jenny and Dick Anderson were highlighted as the October "Volunteer in the Spotlight" on BLM social media pages to acknowledge and celebrate their many contributions to the Site Steward program. Here's a link to the article: <https://www.facebook.com/BLMArizona/posts/1566174263440163>

WARNING! Site Photos Can Reveal Site Location!

It's been said many times, "Don't include the horizon in your site photo. It might help someone figure out where the site is!"

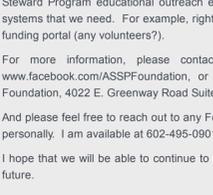
But, did you know that your photo could contain "metadata" which tells the exact location at which the photo was taken? Pot hunters can use that data to lead them right to the site.

Since everyone uses a different camera or phone to take their photos, and everyone has a different type of computer or uses a different app to take or process their photos, it's impossible to include all methods of checking for this. However, as an example...

- On an IOS phone (iPhone), go to Settings – Privacy –> Locations Services. There is a switch there that can be set "on" or "off", depending on whether you want your phone to capture locations.
- Farther on down at Location Services, all your apps will show. Each of them has an option for "never", "while using the app", or "always." You should probably set camera to "never" if you use it in the field to take site photos.
- On your camera, many times there is an option to include or not include location data.
- On your computer, when importing photos from a camera, phone or tablet, there may also be an option to include or not include location data.
- In the apps you use, such as Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat or whatever, there sometimes is also that same option.
- Finally, you're on the computer, you're going to share a photo, and you wonder if it contains location data. Right click on the photo and check the "properties" or "specifications." Many times, you can see the location data, or lack of it, right there.

What if I want to take photos to collect location data?
If you are in the field taking site pictures with your phone and want to collect location data, you can also use an app like "Solocator." It takes the photo for you and places date, time, location, direction you are facing, elevation and tilt angle right on the face of the photo for you. There ARE times when you need that information.

The main thing is to "be aware." Know that it is a possibility to give away locations without meaning to do so, just by sharing a photo.



Indigenous Youth STEM Academy Takes Flight

By Erin O'Keefe

Evelyn Billo, anthropologist, teaches participants about rock art documentation during the afternoon portion of the Indigenous Youth STEM Academy. Photo Credit: Tamara Haste.

This year, the City of Flagstaff Open Space Program implemented an Indigenous Youth STEM Academy at Picture Canyon Natural and Cultural Preserve, one of the City's legally designated open space properties and an important archaeological site monitored by Site Stewards. Picture Canyon is home to the largest concentration of Northern Sinagua petroglyphs and is a significant cultural site in northern Arizona. Fourteen tribal groups have identified affiliation with the cultural resources existing in this area.

In 2012 Arizona State Parks & Trails provided *Growing Smarter* grant funds to the City of Flagstaff to purchase the property in order to permanently protect these sensitive cultural resources and the ancestral heritage and culture of our surrounding tribal communities. Along with preservation, the Open Space Program strives to provide educational opportunities to uphold and enhance cultural resiliency.

The pilot program was designed and implemented by Open Space Events and Outreach Coordinator and AmeriCorps VISTA, Erin O'Keefe. The overarching goal of the Academy program is to provide Indigenous youth in Flagstaff and the surrounding communities an opportunity to learn about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) in connection to culture, community, and stewardship while providing resources for pursuing higher education and professional careers in STEM fields. Erin explains, "As a Diné and Anishinaabe woman, I recognize the need for more Indigenous people within STEM careers as Native Americans are one of the most under-represented groups in those fields. It is crucial to reach Indigenous youth and provide an opportunity to learn about the types of career opportunities that are available to them.

We must also stress the importance of utilizing the knowledge that comes from combining the sciences of our traditional ways with Western science to benefit our tribal communities. The hope for this Academy program would give some motivation for youth to move in that direction."

Each Academy partnered with various existing Indigenous youth programs in the area to participate in a daylong session at the Preserve. Youth participants were middle school to high school age and represented Navajo, Zuni, Acoma, Hopi, Apache and other surrounding tribal communities. The sessions consisted of an interactive tour of the Preserve focusing on the ecological, historical, and cultural aspects, a panel discussion with local STEM professionals, and an interactive learning project including rock art documentation and plant identification. Local anthropologist, Evelyn Billo, led the interactive learning activity introducing participants to rock art documentation during two Academy sessions. Participants learned about the tools used to document rock art, how to identify and catalog various symbols, and the significance of this process within the field of anthropology.

As this was the first year of the Academy, the Open Space Program aims to expand and improve upon the programmatic structure by focusing on building collaboration with a youth group that we can continuously partner with, enhancing on each session rather than providing only one-time sessions with various youth groups. We will also be transitioning our program schedule from summer sessions to sessions taking place during the school year to be able to engage youth more consistently throughout the year. We greatly look forward to continuing this program next year and into the future.

For more information or questions, contact Erin O'Keefe, Open Space Events and Outreach Coordinator, at (928)213-2155 or okeefe@flagstaffaz.gov.

Foundation Focus

By Nicole Armstrong-Best, Chair, Arizona Site Steward Program Foundation

I am sure many of you have heard rumors regarding the development of a non-profit support group for the Arizona Site Steward Program. The Arizona Site Steward Program Foundation is incorporated and we have now received our 501c3 designation from the IRS so we can accept tax deductible donations.

I know many of you are asking "why would I care?" and "how is this different from the Site Steward Program?" So, I'd like to take this opportunity to share the Foundation's mission and to highlight the differences between the role of the Foundation and the role of the Program.

The Program was created to support the preservation of cultural resources on public lands in Arizona. It was developed to coordinate and streamline the recruitment, training and retention of volunteers across land manager boundaries. This forced the different land managers to work together to create a cohesive system, that was then administered through one of the land managers – Arizona State Parks. Funding the program was never a requirement to be part of the program. However, many of the Federal agencies do fund the program through grants to Arizona State Parks, specifically designated for the Arizona Site Steward Program. This funding method has never been truly adequate to support the program.

What are the costs of the program?
1. The salary of the Program Coordinator and all the stuff that they need (computer, phone, travel costs, etc.)
2. The costs of recruiting and training volunteers (room rentals, photocopies, food)
3. The costs of maintaining the database (and developing it in the first place)
4. The costs of volunteer recognition, including the Site Steward Conference
5. Support of RC's
6. Support of Land Managers in the program – for example, the program paid for the development and production of signs that can be placed at sites that are being monitored. Without the program providing this, each archaeologist at each agency, in each area, would have had to figure out how to find the funding within their agency structure.

Although the Land Managers, at the archaeological and even the operational management level, want to be able to financially support the program, the amount of funding available is subject to the whims of Federal, State and Municipal governments. After the recession, this became a big issue and has still not recovered.

The role of the Foundation is to provide a supplemental funding stream to the Program. We will do this through solicitation of individual donations, corporate sponsorships and grant funding from organizations that government entities cannot apply to. A secondary role is to help facilitate the use of funds. For example, State government is prohibited by law from spending money on food. The Foundation can provide funds to supply food for Steward meetings, trainings and conferences. The Foundation will also serve as an advisory council to the Site Steward Program.

The Foundation Board includes representatives from the Land Manager, RC, and Steward levels, as well as other individuals who support the mission of the program, including the State Historic Preservation Office.
How can you be a part of this support organization? You can choose to serve on the Board. You can choose to make a donation. You can pass out our brochures at Site Steward Program educational outreach events. You can help us set up some of the systems that we need. For example, right now we need to create a website and on-line funding portal (any volunteers?).

For more information, please contact us at: assffoundation@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/ASSPFfoundation, or mail us at Arizona Site Steward Program Foundation, 4022 E. Greenway Road Suite 11-157, Phoenix, AZ 85032.
And please feel free to reach out to any Foundation Board members that you may know personally. I am available at 602-495-0901 or Nicole.armstrong-best@phoenix.gov.
I hope that we will be able to continue to update you with articles in THE WATCH in the future.

Kaibab National Forest Video Honors work with Partners

By Margaret Hangan, Forest Archaeologist, Kaibab National Forest

Snake Gulch is located in the Kanab Creek Wilderness on the North Kaibab Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest, just north of the Grand Canyon. For the past three decades, Forest Service archaeologists, with the assistance of volunteers, academic researchers and local tribes, have been documenting, photographing, interpreting and working to preserve thousands of sites over a winding 10-mile stretch within this remarkable canyon. October 2016 marked the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act and began a year-long celebration of archaeological and cultural resources in the Forest Service's Southwestern Region, which manages some of the most important and spectacular sites in the country. As part of that celebration, the Kaibab National Forest developed an extensive photo library of the invaluable images of Snake Gulch that can not only be viewed by the public, but can also serve as a reference source for researchers and a monitoring tool for forest archaeologists. Kaibab National Forest employees also decided to share the treasures of Snake Gulch and the importance of valuing them with a wider audience by producing a video called "Snake Gulch: A Passage Through Time." The video was made in partnership with the Arizona State Site Steward Program and the Kaibab Paiute Tribe. It highlights how important these partnership are in the Forests ability to successfully manage this landscape and the unique cultural resources like Snake Gulch. Please check out the [video](#).

For more information about the video or Snake Gulch, contact the North Kaibab Ranger District at 928-634-7395.

Are you in the Red Rock/Middle Verde Region?

Two important notes for you:

- There currently is no Regional Coordinator (RC) for your region. We need someone to step up and volunteer to fill this position. There are several RCs in other areas who would be happy to help bring you up to speed with responsibilities and get you started – as would those of us here at ASPT. This is an extremely important position in terms of insuring that the functions of Site Stewardship continue to provide their benefits in Central Arizona. Contact Sean Hammond, shammond@azstateparks.gov to volunteer.
- Elaine Zamora, the Prescott NF Archaeologist and Land Manager for the Site Steward Program, indicates that Site Steward agreements with the Prescott NF will soon expire. Any Site Steward operating on Prescott NF lands in your regions must sign a new agreement with the FS prior to the old one expiring. Otherwise, you will be unable to continue functioning as a Site Steward on their land. You can contact Elaine at ezamora@fs.fed.us.

Important Information Links

[Arizona Site Steward Program Reporting System](#)

[Arizona Site Steward Program Foundation](#) (On Facebook)

2018 SSP Annual Conference at Kartchner Caverns State Park

The 2018 Site Steward Annual Conference was held April 14th at the Kartchner Caverns State Park near Benson, Arizona. Over eighty people were in attendance.

Sean Hammond, the new SSP coordinator, (L) and Will Russell, the outgoing SSP Coordinator, (C) present Doug Newton with the Regional Coordinator of the Year award.

Special thanks are extended to The Arizona Site Steward Program Foundation, which volunteered to organize and co-sponsor this year's conference. Nicole Armstrong-Best, Ruthanna Battilana, Dave Salge, and Jeri Meeks were instrumental in the weekend's activities, and every member lent a hand in one way or another. To say this year's event would not have been possible without the Foundation would be a vast understatement.

An outpouring of support came from Jill McCormick, the Coocopah Indian Tribe, and Fort Huachuca's Cultural Resources Management Program and staff. The Kartchner Caverns State Park, Park Manager Miguel Estrada, his staff and their volunteers were exceptional. Being able to hold the conference at Kartchner added immensely to what was a wonderful experience.

Jimi Walker and other locals who guided Sunday tours and presenters Nicole Armstrong-Best (graffiti removal), Bobr Valktus (crime scene management), and the US Border Patrol added color and interest to the meeting.

Will Russell presents John Dawley with the Assistant Regional Coordinator of the Year award.

Annual Awards were presented as follows:

- Land Manager of the Year: **Esther Morgan** with the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest
- Regional Coordinator of the Year: **Doug Newton** of the Tonopah and Central Arizona Regions.
- Assistant Regional Coordinator of the Year: **John Dawley** of the Tonopah and Central Arizona Region
- Outstanding New Site Steward of the Year: **Ron Andolora** of the Tucson Region
- Regional Support Steward of the Year: **Garrit Ringenoldus** of the Flagstaff Region
- Outstanding Site Steward of the Year: **Gail Roper** of the Tucson Region
- Theft of Time Award: **Van Newville** of the Central Arizona Region
- Site Steward Program Team Award: **The Tucson Region's Green Valley Tea**
- Special Appreciation Award: **Allen Gill** of the Tucson Region
- "Inside Man" Award of Appreciation: **Dave Salge**, RC of the Northeast Region

Will Russell presents Doug Salge with the "Inside Man" Award of Appreciation

Prescott Region 22 Holds Annual Meeting

Over 25 people attended the Prescott Region Annual Meeting held at the public library in Prescott Valley on the evening of April 24th. Terry Robbins, Regional Coordinator, presided and passed out literature regarding Site Steward Objectives (taken from the SS Manual) and the Archaeological Site Etiquette Guide from SHPO. He also spent time stressing personal safety while in the field.

Elaine Zamora, Prescott NF Archaeologist, walked all the Site Stewards through completion of new Volunteer Service Agreements and FS Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) forms. Completion of those forms allows the Site Stewards present to continue visiting sites on the Prescott NF as part of their Site Steward duties. She also introduced four or five members of the FS staff working in the area.

During breaks and social time, all those in attendance enjoyed snacks brought in by the Site Stewards present.

What Would You Like?

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- Connie Reid, Archaeologist, Kaibab National Forest
- Erin O'Keefe, Open Space Events and Outreach Coordinator, City of Flagstaff
- Shelley Rasmussen, Regional Coordinator, Hassayampa Region
- Sean Hammond, Site Steward Program Coordinator
- Mike Hoogendyk, Volunteer Asst. Site Steward Program Coordinator
- Nicole Armstrong-Best, Chair, Arizona Site Steward Program Foundation

Elaine Zamora (L) presents Judy Stoycheff (R) with an Award Certificate for her 25 years of service volunteering as Regional Coordinator for the Prescott Region.

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