



UPAC NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE UTAH PROFESSIONAL
ARCHAEOLOGICAL COUNCIL

Timothy Riley, President

Kenneth Cannon, Editor

December 2014

Media Coordinator's Comments

Kenneth Cannon

In the final two newsletters (January and March 2013) under the editorship of Kenny Wintch, the background on the need to redefine and expand the role (and title) of the Newsletter Editor was articulated. As is apparent, the newsletter format is largely the same, and as editor I take responsibility for not being more proactive in redefining the role of Media Coordinator. With the new EC in place, a redefinition of the editor's title and role will move forward. With this in mind the membership can assist in providing me with information I may not be aware for dissemination and comment.

For this edition, I have asked members of the professional community to provide news concerning their organizations. The following is some exciting news from the BLM, SHPO, and the University of Utah Press.

Good bye to Byron

Byron Loosle, ending his tenure as UPAC president, was until August 2013 Bureau of Land Management (BLM) – Utah's state archaeologist. Byron had been in the position since October 2007. Before then he had served as the forest archaeologist on the Ashley National Forest headquartered in Vernal. Last August Byron became the BLM's Division Chief for Cultural, Paleontology, and Tribal Consultation in their Washington Office. Although across the country, he will remain actively involved in Utah archaeology. Byron

Loosle began his graduate career working at Numic sites with Joel Janetski on the shores of Utah Lake. After completing Late Prehistoric work in the central plains while at the University of Kansas, he returned to Utah and began his professional career with the Forest Service.

The UPAC Executive Committee would like to thank Byron for his enthusiastic support in protecting the cultural resources of Utah.

Nate Thomas Named New State Office Archaeologist for the Bureau of Land Management

Nate Thomas is the new Deputy Preservation Officer or "State Office Archaeologist" for the Bureau of Land Management – Utah. Nate began his tenure on May 15th. Prior to moving into this position, Nate worked for the BLM in Richfield, Utah, Ely, Nevada and Cedar City, Utah. Nate also had short stint with the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest in Nevada. Some of the more important projects he has been involved in are: the stabilization of the Belmont Mill, reconstruction of a historic embankment at Treasure Hill, Nevada, restoration of Kachina Cave, White Pine Energy Project, Sigurd to Red Butte Transmission Line Project, Alton Coal Project and Parowan Gap Facilities Improvements (ongoing). Up first on this list of projects for Nate will be to meet many of BLM's partners in the State and to continue the BLM's Tribal consultation responsibilities. Coming up for Nate will be the completion of a statewide Travel and Transportation Management

Programmatic Agreement. We are excited for Nate to start and continue his work on the important projects he's already started.

New BLM Landscape-scale Strategy for Management of Public Lands

Byron Loosle

For decades cultural resource professionals in the United States developed and refined a process to address effects to archaeological sites. Crafted to meet Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), this effort has resulted in a large compliance industry. While years of practice have improved some aspects of the system, it also created a number of unintended consequences. Perhaps the most deleterious of the single minded focus on sites and effects, is that American contract archaeology has lost sight of the broad, big issues in understanding the human past and preserving the vast fabric that makes that understanding possible. There still seems little motivation or interest in moving away from the old models and practice. Using a common metaphor, we have become so focused on the trees and what happens if an individual tree is removed, we have lost track of the forest and the dynamic interplay between soil, plants, wildlife, climate, topography, and other aspects of the ecosystem. Even worse, we struggle to find the tools and techniques to discuss and contemplate the broader landscape.

On April 10, 2014 Department of Interior Secretary Sally Jewel *issued a strategy that will help advance landscape-scale, science-based management of public lands and wildlife. It is an exciting milestone that lays out key principles and actions necessary to successfully shift from a project-by-project method to a broader approach for overseeing lands and resources on behalf of the American people.* The strategy is a culmination of months of concerted effort by a variety of disciplines to adapt to the rapidly

changing circumstances resulting from energy development and delivery, climate change, expanding populations, and regulatory bottlenecks. Heritage preservation has lagged significantly behind other disciplines in adapting to the new world and.

In short, a new paradigm is needed for cultural resource management to adapt to landscape analysis. Information about cultural resources has to be available and used during planning and project development stages, not just after the Class III survey once a preferred alternative has been selected. The discipline needs to develop new techniques and tools, and let go of some sacred cows to move into the 21st century. Some of these cows, include:

Sites: The fundamental unit for Section 106 compliance is an inappropriate measurement for landscapes. We have to start thinking at a different scale. Whether we call them risk assessment maps, areas of resource concern, or some other nomenclature, we have to start identifying and mapping on a broader geographic scale.

Value: Related to sites, we have to drop the notion that all prehistoric sites are of equal value. Some locations have much more value either to professionals or to the public than others. In one ridiculous example, an argument was made that avoiding some lithic scatters was the best historic preservation route, although this alternative route bisected a National Landmark treasured by passionate descendent groups. bisected a National Landmark with passionate descendent groups.

Data: Some in the professional community have an unhealthy obsession with data secrecy. Is it better for cabins to burn during wildfires, which has happened more than once, than allow fire personnel to have access to site information? In

these instances is the archaeologist guilty of an ARPA violation for allowing a site to be destroyed? Not only is it asinine to keep data from planners, GIS personnel, fire crews, law enforcement and other appropriate staff, it endangers our cherished resource. This is also a logical disconnect when we beg volunteers to assist in site monitoring, but will not allow law enforcement and fire crews know where sites are they need to protect. I have been involved in a number of ARPA cases and not once has a looter obtained data from official sources. However, professionals were always eager to acquire the looters' much more extensive information.

Mitigation: The de-emphasis on sites also needs to extend to the mitigation phase. We need to focus on regional mitigation. Excavating a little more of a site that was destroyed by the last two pipelines doesn't make sense. What is the most needed avenue to improve preservation of the resource in the region? Although archaeologists tend to think of additional excavation to address data gaps, we need to be more creative in our mitigation planning. Purchase and preservation of an important site, upgraded curation or research of a museum collection, heritage outreach and education, development of a regional historic context or regional synthesis, and an ethnographic report are just a few examples of innovative mitigation.

In the evolving world cultural resource management needs to become more transparent and less esoteric. As one of the regulatory burdens established by Congress, we need to work hard to maintain our credibility and the support of the public. The professional community can help by improving the quality and content of comprehensive Class I overviews, by developing tools that help understand and display cultural resources at regional scales, and by being creative in mitigation planning. We are preserving one of the most important and non-

renewable resources, our past. This is our story and explains how we can be who we are and only through a collaborative effort can we address the needs of the next generation.

Bureau of Reclamation

Calvin H. Jennings has joined the staff of the Bureau of Reclamation as Provo Area Archaeologist. Jennings has also worked for the BLM in Winnemucca and Billings and for the US Forest Service's Mountain Heritage Associates enterprise team. Prior to entering federal service he was on the Colorado State University faculty where he was Director of the Laboratory of Public Archaeology and was Department Chair for a number of years. Jennings holds a PhD from the University of Colorado. His field experience reaches from the Southern Sierra Nevada and San Joaquin Valley of California to the Yellowstone Valley in eastern Montana to northern Arizona. His primary focus was northern Colorado.

UTAH SHPO AND ANTIQUITIES UPDATE

Lori Hunsaker

Utah State Antiquities Section is on Facebook!
Follow us at Utah State Antiquities Section for updates on hours, procedures, events and more.

The Utah Antiquities Section is constantly changing.

We would like to welcome Rachel Boyack to the Antiquities team. Rachel will be working part-time as our new Data Assistant and will be helping out in Deb Miller's absence. As always, for inquiries regarding literature searches, appointments, and site & project number, please email archrecords@utah.gov.

Have you accessed scanned site forms on Preservation Pro yet? We have scanned approximately 40% of the State and have focused on the most searched Counties. We are currently working on San Juan County and are half way through the 31,200 forms.

Weber State intern Tim Alger Jr. recently completed an analysis and quality control project on Box Elder County's archaeological records. We welcome volunteers and all levels of student interns. For more information, please contact Dr. Chris Merritt.

Recently, the Antiquities Section contracted with Logan Simpson Design to process over 130 bags of sediment recovered from Floating Island Cave in 1986. LSD retrieved over 1,000 artifacts and ecofacts from the bags, and retained bulk samples for future analysis. We are working to prepare this collection for curation at the Natural History Museum of Utah.

Antiquities SHPO activities are constantly increasing. We are engaged in providing funding to Certified Local Governments for archaeological projects. These projects include matching grants for stabilization of Five Kiva Ruin, which was a featured tour at the recent Pecos Conference, and archaeological inventory and recording of sites located on Saint George city parcels. As discussed at the last UPAC business meeting, the Utah SHPOs office is also engaged in a record number of Section 106 agreements and always encourages and appreciates UPACs involvement as a formal consulting party.

Utah Press Announces New Books on Utah

Reba Rauch

New Fall 2014 Titles:

Supplying Custer: The Powder River Supply Depot, 1876

By Gerald R. Clark

A historical and archaeological investigation of a field supply depot at the confluence of the Yellowstone and Powder Rivers used to support Custer's cavalry

Religion on the Rocks: Hohokam Rock Art, Ritual Practice, and Social Transformation

By Aaron M. Wright

Winner of the Don D. and Catherine S. Fowler Prize

Works in Stone: Contemporary Perspectives on Lithic Analysis

Edited by Michael J. Shott

A cross section of recent research in lithic analysis, demonstrating a wide range of theoretical approaches

New Spring 2015 (yet to be released) Titles:

Rivers, Fish, and the People: Tradition, Science, and Historical Ecology of Fisheries in the American West

Edited by Pei-Lin Yu

Presents never-before-published scientific and cultural data about the roles of Native people in river ecosystems throughout the American West

Explorations in Behavioral Archaeology

Edited by William H. Walker and James M. Skibo

A new volume in the Foundations of Archaeological Inquiry series that discusses the impact and contributions of behavioral archaeology to the field of archaeology at large

Native Wills from the Colonial Americas: Dead Giveaways in a New World

Edited by Mark Christensen and Jonathan Truitt

Provides insight into indigenous life under colonial rule as revealed through the matters voiced in these never-before-published wills and testaments

The Paleoarchaic Occupation of the Old River Bed Delta, Anthropological Paper Number 128

By David B. Madsen, Dave N. Schmitt, and David Page

Synthesis and interpretation of ten years of archaeology and paleoecology along the Great Basin's Old River Bed Delta

Migration and Ethnicity in Middle Range Societies: A View from the Southwest

By Tammy Stone

A case study of complex social dynamics of migration and identity

Sushi in Cortez: Interdisciplinary Essays on Mesa Verde

Edited by David Taylor and Steve Wolverton

Six scholars embark on an interdisciplinary exploration of Mesa Verde, seeking a broader understanding of place through sharing their differing perspectives

New in Paperback:

Skeletal Biology and Bioarchaeology of the Northwestern Plains

Edited by George W. Gill and Rick L. Weathermon
Illuminates the emerging picture of Northwestern Plains prehistory and early history as told through skeletal and burial records

**NEW USU CURATOR OF
MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY**

Dr. Molly Boeka Cannon was recently installed as the new Deputy Director/Curator for the USU Museum of Anthropology. Dr. Cannon received her PhD in 2013 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Please follow the museum at
www.anthromuseum.usu.edu.

UPAC OFFICIERS

President

Tim Riley
Curator of Archaeology Prehistoric Museum
Utah State University Eastern
155 East Main Street
Price, Utah 84501
435. 613.5290
tim.riley@usu.edu

Vice President, Membership & Ethics

Laurel H. Glidden
BLM Utah - Color Country District
176 East D.L. Sargent Drive
Cedar City, UT 84721
435-865-3066
lglidden@blm.gov

Treasurer

Suzanne Eskenazi
Environmental Planning Group, LLC
800 South 208 East
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
801.746.4457
seskenazi@epgaz.com

Vice President, Government Affairs & Research

Sonia Hutmacher Cunningham, MA, RPA, PG
1443 Binford Street
Ogden, Utah 84401
Desert West Environmental, LLC
801-690-6506
shutmacher@dwestenv.com

Secretary

Andy Yentsch
Environmental Planning Group, LLC
800 South 208 East
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
801-520-2382
a.yentsch@yahoo.com

Media Coordinator

Kenneth Cannon
USU Archeological Services, Inc.
980 West 1800 South
Logan, Utah 84321
435.213.9258
kenneth.cannon@usu.edu

Webmaster

Rachel Quist
U.S. Army Dugway Proving Ground
IMWE-DUG-PWE MS#1
5330 Valdez Circle
Dugway, Utah 84022-5000
435.831.3587
rachel.quist.civ@mail.mil

Utah Archaeology Journal Editor

Michael Searcy
Department of Anthropology
Brigham Young University
Provo, UT 84602
801.422.5374
msearcy@byu.edu