

Standards and Requirements for Conducting Archaeological Inventory on Canyons of the Ancients National Monument

The following standards, requirements, and definitions have been developed to promote consistency in defining and documenting cultural resources located during archaeological inventories, and to insure that inventories result in complete identification of cultural resources.

Current Colorado “Cultural Resource Use Permits” (CRUP) holders (permittees) for the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument will conduct work according to these standards and requirements. These standards and requirements are *in addition* to the CRUP “Special Conditions,” the *Colorado BLM Handbook of Guidelines and Procedures for Identification, Evaluation, and Mitigation of Cultural Resources*, and the Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation standards.

Definitions of Site and Isolated Finds

Isolated Find: Isolated finds are defined as *10 or fewer artifacts in a 30 meter diameter area* that contribute significant information about culture, time period, or function. Examples include diagnostic lithic tools; unusual ceramic types such as Gobernador Polychrome, Jeddito Yellow Ware, Uncompaghre Brown; and less-portable artifacts such as metates. More common artifacts such as flakes, cores, grayware or whiteware body sherds, that lack contextual association and/or distinctive attributes should not be recorded.

Site: A site is a physical location containing the remains of past human activities or events with a collection of objects, features and/or structures that do not meet the criteria for an IF. Cultural resource sites are extremely variable in size and can range from a cluster of *11 or more artifacts in a 30 meter diameter area* to a feature with or without artifacts to large complex groupings of features, structures, and associated artifacts.

NRHP Eligibility

Consultants are expected to make a well-documented, good-faith recommendation to the BLM on whether or not sites are eligible for nomination to the NRHP. Limited testing is allowed as part of BLM Class III inventory for determining NRHP eligibility but investigations should not exceed (3) three square meters of the site’s surface. The “Need Data” determination should be applied sparingly and only in those cases where both surface evidence and documented limited testing (e.g. soil or trowel probe, shovel testing, etc.) yield ambiguous results.

Inventory Areas and Avoidance Buffers

The scope of the archaeological inventory will be determined by the BLM when the Fieldwork Authorization is submitted by the archaeological permittee. The Fieldwork Authorization will include:

1. A complete description of the undertaking (purpose, nature of activities/disturbance, equipment to be used, staging/stockpiling requirements, access, utilities, land status, etc) with corresponding dimensions, and drawings.
2. The project area(s) plotted to scale on a 1:24,000 scale topographic map, labeled with the quadrangle name.

Standard Minimum Survey Areas for the Monument

Single wellpads: 40 acres.

Linear Survey: will include the width of the proposed undertaking (road or pipeline ROW) plus an additional 100 meters (300 feet) on either side of the proposed undertaking, to ensure the Agency's ability to meet Colorado BLM buffer guidelines.

Avoidance Buffer: 100 meters per the Colorado BLM buffer guidelines. These guidelines acknowledge that avoidance buffers can be modified by the BLM because of environmental and/or other factors.

Miscellaneous Recording Standards

1. Each *Re-visitation* form (OAHF 1405) must include copies of previously completed site forms, as well as an updated site planview map showing the site's proximity to the proposed activities.
2. Site maps will include a measurement scale, detailed sketches/drawings of site features, structures, locations of diagnostic artifacts, artifact concentrations, boundary, topography of the site area, as well as nearby developments or distinctive landforms (fences, roads, powerlines, well pads, canyon rims, etc.). The location and UTM measurement of the site mapping datum will be plotted on the site map.
3. All cultural features with rock art or above-grade architectural elements must be photographed.
- 4.. A Global Positioning System (GPS) unit will be used to delineate survey areas and site locations. Reports and site forms will identify the GPS unit model used to plot project and site areas. At a minimum, the site mapping datum will be recorded by GPS. In the case of irregularly-shaped or large sites, perimeter plots (site boundary) are desirable. Locations will be taken and reported using Universal Transverse Mercator

(UTM) coordinates, NAD 83, Zone 13. A File Geodatabase containing survey areas, site features, and site boundary feature classes, will be provided on a CD with the final report. Additional digital data specifications for BLM Colorado cultural projects can be found at:

http://www.blm.gov/style/medialib/blm/co/programs/cultural_resources.Par.28692.File.dat/Digital_Specs_Guide_2013.pdf

Post-field Check-in

After completion of fieldwork, please email the following information to the Monument archaeologist and you will be supplied with an OAHF documentation number to be included on your written report:

- County or Counties the project occurred in
- Type of finding (positive or negative)
- Working Title Report
- The BLM project number supplied on your Fieldwork Authorization.

Miscellaneous Reporting Requirements

After final BLM review, please submit two paper copies of the final report and forms and one final CD that includes both GIS data and PDFs of the final report and all OAHF forms and figures. Final drafts of all reports must include the BLM project number and the OAHF document number on the title page. All reports and forms must be duplex-printed on archival, acid-free paper.

Additional Guidance for BLM Colorado Cultural Resource Use Permits can be found at:

http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Programs/cultural_resources/cultural_resource.html