

## **Appendix N**

### **Public Use Site Criteria**



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### **Determining Archaeological Site Suitability for Developed Public Use**

1. Determine suitability of the site for interpretation:
  - Does legal public access currently exist and, if not, can a right-of-way be obtained?
  - Can visitor impacts be mitigated or is the site too fragile?
  - Are the tribes amenable to public use?
  - Does the site offer new and/or unique public education opportunities?
  - Can the site be managed within the current financial budgets and staff, including route maintenance?
  - Are visitors going there anyway?
  
2. Complete the following specific steps before opening a site to the public:
  - Consultation with appropriate tribes regarding suitability of site selection and public information content.
  - Determine if additional site documentation is needed in order to complete NEPA analysis and Section 106 compliance with National Historic Preservation Act. Techniques/methods may include all or part of the following: updating the Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation records; completing Historic American Building Survey (HABS) documentation of standing architecture; mapping surface features and artifacts; analyzing 100% of the surface artifacts or appropriate sample(s) in-field; testing/excavation; and preparing a site condition/preservation assessment.
  - Obtain a legal Right-Of-Way if crossing private land is required to access the site.
  - Prepare a site-specific Cultural Resource Management Plan and Interpretation Plan. The Plan(s) would detail how the site would be accessed, developed, physical alterations such as trail development, site areas needing hardening, interpretation methods (signing, brochures, etc.), site monitoring and protection, maintenance, and/or staffing.
  - Complete Section 106 compliance. Note that this could include mitigation recommendations depending upon determination of effect results. Mitigation of effect could include testing/data recovery on all or portions of the site, or more detailed documentation of the site, or other measures determined on a case by case basis.
  - Complete NEPA analysis and incorporate actions identified above.

