

Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative Priorities Round 7

Updated 3/5/13

(1) Toolstone Source Inventory, Evaluation, Protection and Management

Projects proposed under this priority can be submitted as a standalone project, or as part of a broader project which covers multiple priorities. Any toolstone material can be addressed under this priority.

Option (A): Toolstone Sources

Conduct intensive identification, source characterization and chronological evaluation of one or more toolstone sources in Lincoln County. Conduct detailed recording of sources and prepare National Register nominations if appropriate. Prepare a draft management plan to reduce damage at source locations, including recommended physical and administrative protection measures.

Option (B): Analysis of Artifacts

Conduct geochemical analysis of artifacts composed of cryptocrystalline silicate (CCS), obsidian, fine-grained volcanic material or other toolstone. These studies could be conducted on existing collections from Lincoln County sites or on new field data. Comparisons with sources identified in Option (A) are welcome.

Information would add to the geochemical data base to assist in the identification of provenance in Lincoln County. If comparisons were made with artifacts from excavated sites, or documented toolstone sources, the geochemical data could reveal prehistoric patterns of toolstone use, travel and trade routes.

The results of this research would be provided in a final report, reviewed and approved by the federal agency. The agency and the public would benefit through dissemination of the information and its application to the conservation of archaeological resources.

(2) Development and Application of Archaeological Contexts

The purpose of this priority is to organize and understand the current state of the archaeological record in Lincoln County by identifying what is known about its prehistory and history, determine what needs to be known, and develop strategies for gathering the needed information. Through the careful development and application of a historic context, researchers can begin to understand and build the archaeological record. A historic context is made up of three basic elements; Research Theme(s), Research Questions, and Data Requirements. Historic contexts for prehistoric and historic resources are essential to the evaluation of sites for National Register of Historic Places, and for understanding and organizing the archaeological record. The National Park Service has published guidance for developing historic contexts that should be used. Proposals submitted under this priority should work towards clarifying or building the understanding of the archaeological records by identifying a theme, themes or region to be studied and developing a research design to guide the rest of the project. The research design should contain background research, historic context development, fieldwork and artifact analysis (if necessary). Results of project will be provided in a report reviewed, and approved, by the agency. Documentation for projects proposed under this priority will be subject to the current agency guidelines for archaeological inventory.

Themes may include periods, site types, artifact use, at risk resources, or any other theme that you may be interested in studying. The Nevada Comprehensive Preservation Plan, second edition (1991), provides several historic themes that could be addressed. Geographical areas may include watersheds, wilderness areas, archaeological districts, mining districts (must be 100 years or older and on public lands, not privately owned), or any other geographical boundary (real or arbitrary).

Proposals must have a justification for the chosen context and a statement regarding its importance to understanding the archaeological record of Lincoln County. This priority may be combined with any other priority in this round.

(3) Public Outreach and Educational Program Development for Archaeological Resources within Lincoln County, Nevada

Projects proposed under this priority should focus on public outreach and awareness of local cultural resources. This can be accomplished with a systematic presentation of local history and archaeological resources to the public or by focusing on a well-known, publicly accessible, archaeological location in Lincoln County. All projects would deliver archaeological and anthropological information and stress a conservation ethic focusing on awareness, protection, and preservation of the archaeological resources. The proponent is expected to present scientifically sound information based on the most current research and appropriate to the target audience(s). The proposal would make clear how and to whom this information would be conveyed within the public. The proponent would be expected to coordinate with the management agency when developing documents under this priority.

Projects proposed under this priority, which focus on an individual location, should do **one** of the following three things:

A) For the interpretive pamphlet/brochure the successful proponent would research, write, illustrate, and design a pamphlet that describes and interprets the archaeological site in non-technical language or identify existing agency brochures that need to be updated and re-printed. The pamphlet would adhere to the design standards of the agency in which the subject archaeological site occurs. The pamphlet would not exceed two double-sided 8.5 by 11 inch pages and be folded to fit in standard pamphlet dispensers. Upon review and acceptance by the agency that manages the subject archaeological site, the proponent would submit an electronic copy and a hard copy that would be submitted to the Government Printing Office for printing by the agency.

B) For the web page, the proponent would research, write, illustrate, and create web material that may be used by the agency to design a web page that describes and interprets an archaeological site in non-technical language. The web page would adhere to the design standards of the management agency in which the subject archaeological site occurs. The webpage would not exceed the equivalent of four 8.5 by 11 inch pages of text and illustration, but it would contain hotlinks to galleries, maps, reports, and other media. The proponent would consult closely with the web page designers and controllers of the agency in which the archaeological site occurs so

that the web page can be seamlessly incorporated and posted on the agency's website upon completion of the project.

C) For the interpretive and public use site plan, the proponent would research, write, illustrate, map, and design the infrastructure plan and interpretation concepts for a significant, well known, publicly accessible archaeological site. The infrastructure would consider parking, trails, kiosks, media (e.g. signs). The interpretive concepts would present archaeological and environmental information and deliver a conservation ethic focusing on protection and preservation of the archaeological resources. The proponent would prepare the site and interpretive plan in concert with the agency upon which the site occurs with appropriate stakeholders (e.g., Tribes) so that the plan delivers appropriate information and respects the integrity of the cultural resources in the context of public use. The plan should be sufficiently detailed to guide construction of the infrastructure and interpretation at a later date under a separate funding authority.

(4) Areas Designated as Sensitive for Archaeological Resources

Lincoln County contains several National Register Districts (NRD) and BLM Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) that are important for archaeological resources. However, many of the NRDs and ACECs have been inadequately inventoried and evaluated for the archaeological resources they contain. NRDs include the Panaca Summit NRD, White River Narrows NRD and the Sheep Mountain NRD on Desert National Wildlife Refuge, among others. ACECs include Highland Range, Schlessers Pincushion, Condor Canyon, Lower Meadow Valley Wash, Kane Springs, Mormon Mesa, and Beaver Dam Slope.

Projects submitted under this priority should inventory and evaluate the extent, content, and significance of the archaeological resources in the NRD or ACEC. Proposals may focus on intensive or sample inventories for archaeological resources within an NRD or ACEC. Proposals may also focus research on a particular type of archaeological resource or archaeological problem (e.g., toolstone sourcing) within an NRD or ACEC. Research on NRDs should also evaluate how the archaeological resources contribute (or not) to the significance of the district to the National Register of Historic Places. Research on NRDs should evaluate if, and identify how, NRD boundaries and contributing properties should be modified. Proposals that address the Panaca Summit NRD must incorporate existing information available at the Caliente BLM Field Office.

(5) Relocate, Document, and Update Records of Inadequately Documented Archaeological Resources

Many archaeological resources in Lincoln County, including sites listed on or as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, have poor, spotty, incomplete, out-of-date, or inadequate records (including many records prepared prior to 2000). Projects proposed under this priority should mount a program to relocate one or more of these archaeological sites and update the written, photographic, locational, and cartographic records to current standards.

Proposals should justify why the archaeological sites merit an update of their records. Proposals should identify the methods of documentation, analysis, and evaluation to the National Register of Historic Places. Project examples include, but are not limited to, sites in a specific

geographical area, sites of a specific type, sites containing certain types of features or artifacts, sites listed on or as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Project proponents should consult the appropriate land management agency archaeologist to ensure their proposal addresses needs or gaps in data and site records. Project performed under this priority will comply with Section 3.7 of the BLM Guidelines and Standards for Archaeological Inventory, 5th edition (dated January, 2012) and take advantage of, and be compatible with, agency GIS data.