

CASSP

California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program



For more information about the Society for California Archaeology, please visit the SCA web site at www.scanct.org



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The California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program (CASSP) is a network of concerned people committed to protecting California's rich cultural heritage. The program recruits professional archaeologists and trained volunteers as stewards to monitor sites throughout the state. Stewards promote protection through monitoring, education, research, and public awareness. Their presence on site enhances the preservation of California's cultural resources for all.

Our program goals are:

1. To protect and to preserve in perpetuity prehistoric and historic archaeological resources for the purposes of conservation, scientific study, interpretation, and public enjoyment.
2. To increase public knowledge and awareness of the significance and value of cultural resources.
3. To support the understanding of national, state, and local preservation laws.
4. To support the recordation and to provide the ongoing physical record of the site to assist with permanent site management.

Our motto is "Caring, Sharing, and Protecting."

Sponsors and Supporters

Several groups and organizations have agreed to cooperate with the Bureau of Land Management, California State Office to implement the California Archaeological Site Stewardship program. The present partners include California Office of Historic Preservation; California Native American Heritage Commission; Society for California Archaeology; Discovery Works, Inc.; Maturango Museum; Imperial Valley College Desert Museum; and Imperial Valley College Desert Museum Society. These parties also agree to initially start and foster the site stewardship program for sites selected for public visitation on the BLM rock art tour web site with later expansion of the program to other archaeological sites and regions of the state as the program develops. In addition, many other organizations are offering support including the American Rock Art Research Association.

The Society for California Archaeology (SCA) sponsors CASSP. The SCA provides overall support and guidance to implement CASSP, regardless of land ownership. The SCA will serve as the funding repository for CASSP. Discovery Works, Inc. provides the day-to-day operational support for the program, and will coordinate efforts for the CASSP newsletter and for seeking additional funding sources. Members

PROTECTION OF ARCHEOLOGICAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES OF THE CALIFORNIA DESERT; PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

For FY2002-03, the PACRAT Working Group proposes the following action items to enhance agency and public awareness for conservation of cultural and paleontological resources on California public lands.

- ◆ Establish a 'call out' list of agency personnel who have completed 'Archeological Resources Protection' (ARPA) training or paleontological field research to assist law enforcement staff with technical data, damage assessments, and evidence evaluation. The list would be a confidential database for use by lead law enforcement officials and lead agency managers only.
- ◆ Expand California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program to desert agencies who have not yet participated. From May 1999 to present, BLM District Offices have held one-day basic classes which produced 102 trained citizens to work towards the four goals of the Program (see reverse). Additional one-day classes are planned by BLM in 2002. Learning from BLM and State Park's excellent record, other agencies are encouraged to arrange with Stewardship Program facilitators to hold initial meetings and generate local public interest. This Program is sponsored by the Society for California Archeology.
- ◆ Establish co-ordination between lead law enforcement personnel and ARPA-trained CRM and paleontological professionals so that effective involvement can happen when needed. At May 1, 2002 proposed meeting at Barstow, we will begin this task by talking with BLM, NPS, and other lead rangers.
- ◆ Plan a short 'refresher' joint PACRAT-Law enforcement briefing to review relationships, pending case information, and mutual interests.
- ◆ Increase public awareness for conservation by developing a 1-800 number for citizens to report resource crime occurring on desert public lands. Place a preservation message in extant desert information websites. Design an attractive 'paleontological/cultural resources preservation' poster or handout for use in all agencies' public contact places.

PACRAT Proposal
DMG Meeting, April 10-11, 2002