**PROJECT ABSTRACT**

**Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**(Cooperative Agreement # H1200-09-005)**

**Park:** Chaco Culture NHP

**Project Title:** Archeological Site Condition Assessments for FMSS and Visitor Interpretation in New Boundary and on Chacra Mesa, (PMIS#126239; PMIS component ‘A’, PMIS#114680, and PMIS#53808)

**Funding Amount:** 20% Fee = $44,940, CRPP Base = $38,875, 80% Fee = $10,000

 **Total funding:** $93,815.00

**CPCESU Partner Institution:** University of New Mexico

**Principal Investigator:** Dr. Wirt H. Wills, Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131; 505-277-4524, FAX 505-277-0874; wwills@unm.edu

**Co-Investigator:** Dr. Patricia Crown, Distinguished Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131; 505-6689; pcrown@unm.edu

**NPS ATR:** Dabney Ford, Chief of Cultural Resources, Chaco Culture NHP, P.O. Box 220, Nageezi, NM 87037, 505 786-7014 X 242, Fax: 505 786-7061, dabney\_ford@nps.gov.

**NPS Key Official:** Roger Moore, Vanishing Treasures Archaeologist, Chaco Culture NHP, P.O. Box 220, Nageezi, NM 87037, 505 786-7014 X 236 Fax: 505 786-7061, roger\_moore@nps.gov

 **Start Date:**  30 September 2010

**End Date:** 15 June 2012

**Abstract:** The park has a long standing relationship with UNM dating back to the 1920’s. The nature of the relationship has taken the form of partnerships, cooperative agreements and task agreements, as well as research permits. This Task Agreement focuses on updating and compiling condition assessments of the known archaeological sites in the park. Funding received from NPS 20% Fee, 80% Fee, and CRPP Base funds will enable the park to cover the cost of conducting site updates and current condition assessments of several hundred sites and entering the records into the ASMIS and FMSS databases.

The NPS has mandated that all parks update condition information for all known archaeological sites within each park. Chaco Culture NHP has nearly 4000 known archaeological sites, of which only a fraction have recent updates of condition. This task agreement will enable the park to significantly increase in the number of sites with current condition assessments and correct and update the site information to meet professional and NPS standards.

The Drs. Wills and Crown have extensive experience in and near the park conducting excavations, surveys, artifact analyses, residue analysis and related archaeological research work. They will supervise a small group of UNM students engaged in updating site forms, correcting and revising site maps, and completing the various site condition forms used by the park. The park archaeologists, Dabney Ford and Roger Moore, will work closely with them to train, orient, and provide methodological guidelines and instruction in the use of park data gathering forms and the use of the ASMIS and FMSS databases. The products from this project will be the site updates, revised site sketch maps, completed condition assessment forms, and entry of data into the ASMIS and FMSS databases.

**Keywords: Cultural Resources Management, Native American, Historic Sites, Archaeology, Historic Preservation**