**PR Number: R7190120020**

**Award Number: P12AC10869**

**Project Number: CDA-15**

**Park/NPS Unit: El Malpais National Monument**

**Title of Project: Identifying Local and Non Local Pottery Types at Las Ventanas through Neutron Activation Analysis.**

**Administered through the:** Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Cooperative Agreement Number H1200-09-0005

**CESU Partner:** Center for Desert Archaeology

**Project Contacts**

**Principal Investigator:** Paul Reed, Chaco Scholar/Preservation Archaeologist, Archaeology Southwest, C/O Salmon Ruins, P. O. Box 125, Bloomfield, NM 87413, 505-632-0657, preed@cdarc.org

**Partner Administrative Contact:** Linda Pierce, Deputy Director, Archaeology Southwest, 300 N Ash Alley, Tucson, AZ 85701 (520) 882-6946; (520) 882-6948 fax, lpierce@archaeologysouthwest.org

**NPS Certified ATR**: Steve Baumann, Heritage Preservation Chief, El Malpais and El Morro National Monuments, 123 E Roosevelt, Grants, NM 87020, 505-285-4641 ext. 32, 505-285-5661 fax, steve\_baumann@nps.gov

**Funding Information:**

**Amount Funded: $7,500.00**

**Project Dates:**

**Start Date: August 1, 2012**

**Any Other Product Milestone Dates you need to include:** (full dates can go in with the project description)

**End Date:** (please make end date the last day of the month if possible) December 31, 2013

**PROJECT ABSTRACT:**

In 1981 the National Park Service conducted limited archeological excavations and backfilling at the Chaco-style great house community of Las Ventanas (LA 1328) to mitigate damage to the great house from illegal excavations. The analysis of the artifact collections from that 1981 excavation has been at the center of a 2010 partnership project between the NPS and the Center for Desert Archaeology (now Archaeology Southwest). Until now, analyses of the assemblages have focused on understanding the composition and distribution of ceramic and lithic materials across the Las Ventanas community. This new phase of analysis focuses on ceramic sourcing as a key part of the research approach undertaken on the Las Ventanas Project. Approximately 160 ceramics will be submitted for neutron activation analysis to the Archaeometry Laboratory atthe University of Missouri Research Reactor (MURR). Approximately half of the samples will come directly from the Las Ventanas great house site and the remainder is from sites in the extended Las Ventanas community. Several ceramic types will be addressed, including Cebolleta Black-on-white, Socorro Black-on-white, Chaco Black-on-white, and, perhaps, other imported Chacoan types (depending on samples recovered during fieldwork). The results of the NAA sampling will be a report published as an appendix to the final report for the Archaeological Studies at Las Ventanas Project.