

## ABSTRACT

This report details the outcomes of the project “Technical Support for the Learning Center for the American Southwest Website” (Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Cooperative Agreement # H1200-004-0002), phases I and II. The Learning Center of the American Southwest (LCAS) is a virtual learning center dedicated to attaining high quality scholarly and scientific information for National Park Service (NPS) units and protected areas. The primary goal of this learning center is to “Connect Parks, Science, and People.” Although LCAS incorporates NPS resources, the role of Northern Arizona University (NAU) in the development of the site comprised the construction of a cultural resources hierarchy for the website. Phase I consisted of the development and pilot demonstrating and testing how scientific information concerning cultural resources and resource issues can be developed and organized. Products of this phase included a cultural resources category structure, as well as cultural resources factsheets and overviews written and designed for Tonto National Monument as pilot materials. Phase II consisted of the finalization of this hierarchy and associated content in the cultural resources pages of LCAS (<http://www.southwestlearning.org/content/archeology>), and the development and ongoing design and maintenance of a sister site housed at NAU. This sister site is the American Southwest Virtual Museum (<http://swvirtualmuseum.nau.edu>), which provides the public access to high-quality images of cultural resources housed in individual NPS unit collections and museum settings, as well as providing virtual tours, 3-dimensional web-animated interactive explorations of artifacts, and identification guides for the artifacts and cultures of the greater prehistoric Southwest region.