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Park/NPS Unit: CAGR/CHIR/CORO/FOBO/MOCA/ORPI/SAGU/SOAR/TUMA/TUZI/TONT

Title of Project: *Create Virtual Museums and Disseminate Cultural Project Information to the Public for Ten Southern Arizona Parks*

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

CESU Partner: Northern Arizona University

Project Contacts

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Project Dates:

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PROJECT ABSTRACT:

This proposal establishes a cooperative relationship between the National Park Service (NPS) and Northern Arizona University (NAU) for the creation of web-based cultural resources interpretive material. This material will include the development of a virtual museum through photographs, digital documents, and other interpretive materials illustrating and describing museum collections from Montezuma Castle National Monument (MOCA), Tuzigoot National Monument (TUZI), and Tonto National Monument (TONT). In addition to the development of a virtual museum at these parks, NAU will work with the Southern Arizona Office (SOAR) to develop Introductions, Resource Briefs, Overview and Fact Sheets for seven additional SOAR parks. These digital documents will be incorporated into the Learning Center for the American Southwest (LCAS) website, a form of web-based interpretive media. The LCAS consists of a well-established and successful partnership dedicated to providing the public with information on natural and cultural resources protected and preserved on public land managed by the NPS.

Since 2008, the NPS and NAU have worked to develop the LCAS into one of several successful Virtual Learning Centers dedicated to the internet distribution of high quality scholarly and scientific information. The LCAS is an excellent example of a successful CESU partnership that provides university students with practical resource management experience and while producing high quality interpretive material. This project will allow anthropological and archeological collections from SOAR parks to be added to the existing LCAS website. Proven best practices developed at other parks will be used to ensure that the deliverables are of the highest quality.