

## **Completion Report**

RM CESU Agreement for GLCA, Summer 2011

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### **Introduction:**

This summer I was at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (GLCA) as a student assistant in the GLCA Archives through a CESU agreement between GLCA and the University of Colorado at Boulder. I was assigned a variety of tasks to complete during my 7 weeks in Page, AZ, including archiving, re-housing, cataloging, accessioning, filing, inventory, scanning, researching, and odd jobs in the Cultural Resources branch of GLCA. This paper outlines the objectives and work completed for the summer of 2011.

### **Objectives:**

Upon arrival at GLCA I was given a list of tasks to complete. These are listed below:

- Write accession number on each archives box that will be picked up during week of June 6<sup>th</sup>. Then we'll load all the boxes up next week.
  - Boxes in Resource Management: GLCA-00517
  - Boxes in Budget Office: GLCA-00518
  - Boxes in Warehouse: GLCA-00519
- Read GLCA Scope of Collections Statement, Museum Handbook Appendix D, and skim through ICMS/ANCS Manual Appendix F.
- Catalog Paleontology Resource Management Records (Accession GLCA-00520) into both cultural resource directory and archives directory. There are individual notes on each collection for direction.
- Catalog the rest of the archival materials on the desk.
- Catalog the sandstone trackway on the floor in the processing room. The catalog data should be stored right next to it. Catalog the basket on Unit B Shelf 2. Accession and catalog the metal implement, bullet, piece of leather, and bottle on the shelf next to the sink.
- Catalog the rest of the aerial photograph collection (GLCA 23316) that Brian Obenchain worked on last summer.
- Write a finding aid for the Lees Ferry Collection (GLCA 17516) using the finding aid GLCA 23317 as an example. There is a disc in the back that you should be able to use as a template.
- Organize the archeology resource management records into one place and incorporate records into the catalog number GLCA 23317 with each project having a new series number.
- Catalog reports from the book shelf next to the map cabinet. For each of the bound reports check the database to see if it is already cataloged (most probably

are) if they aren't add them to GLCA 23317. For the old books they need to be accessioned and cataloged.

- Conduct searches for researchers.

### **Work Completed:**

All of the above tasks (listed in objectives) were successfully completed. When these tasks were successfully completed, I was asked to help a Ms. Rosemary Sucec with the organization of her personal files (she is the Manager of the Cultural Resources Branch at GLCA). The files I needed to organize are listed below:

- Pipeline Project
- Grazing Allotments in GLCA
- 1776 Inscription
- General Correspondence

After the completion of this organization project, a Ms. Telela Florko (the GLCA Archivist) asked me to catalog and re-house almost 300 archeological artifacts, as well as accessioning and cataloging of more books, removing duplicates of those books, and updating the information in the system. I was also assigned the task of inventorying the archives and recording that information. When these tasks were completed Ms. Florko assigned me to add to the Rainbow Bridge Collection by accessioning, cataloging, and organizing the materials from the centennial ceremony in 2010. I rounded up my stay at the park with the completion of organizing Ms. Sucec's management files, and a final "scrub down" of the archives (vacuuming, removing unnecessary notes, etc).

### **Work to Be Completed:**

Due to the nature of my stay, and the fact that I was able to successfully complete all of the tasks I was assigned, there is no work needed to be done that I am aware of in the archives. However, more filing needs to be completed for Ms. Sucec's benefit, and better organization of the GLCA archives would be beneficial to the National Park Service.

### **Conclusion:**

Overall this seemed to be a very successful summer. The work assigned was completed in a timely manner, and the information that needed to be entered or updated in the database was. I rather enjoyed my time in Glen Canyon as well. Please see Appendix A for more on the housing situation, the Resources personnel, and general GLCA living/working conditions.

## **Appendix A:**

### **NPS – GLCA Housing:**

The housing facilities at GLCA headquarters consist of housing in the town of Page, AZ, as well as housing on the “street”, Scorpion Way, in the park itself. About 5 miles from the Southern Wahweap entrance and fee booths. I was housed in the town of Page. I lived with 2 other people, most of the time, but throughout the summer had a total of 4 different roommates. The cooking facilities were nice, and the house appeared to be recently renovated. The back yard was large and grassy with 3 large shade trees, landscaping, and a fence for privacy. The house contained a kitchen, large living room, garage, 2 bathrooms and 3 bedrooms. There was also a wooden stove (which we never used as it is VERY hot in Page in the summer). The house also had laundry facilities, and AC/Heat. It was very pleasant, located about 2 miles from the GLCA Headquarters building near a golf course which I regularly road my bike or walked up and down to get to work in the morning. It was also located very close to several nice swimming areas on Lake Powell which I elaborate on later.

### **NPS – Resources Personal and Working Conditions:**

The staff and seasonal at GLCA are all very friendly. I didn't run into any problems working with them. People down here are very accommodating of other needs (within reason), and willing to work around the needs/wants of others. I found it to be a pleasant environment to work in. I worked very closely with Ms. Rosemary Sucec as she is the director of Cultural Resources, Chris Hughes, the director of Science and Resources (Ms. Sucec's boss), Thann Baker, the Park Archeologist, and a slew of others. Ms. Sucec was very good about allowing me and the other summer hires to work in the field if we so desired (which I often did). Because of this allowance, I was able to explore other areas of the park (physically) and the park service (from a business standpoint). I learned about the history of the park though trips with Lisa Gilliard (another summer hire) to Lees Ferry, the natural history of the park though John Spence and Lonnie Pilkington the park botanist and terrestrial guru and the invasive and introduced species people respectively. As well as Mark Anderson and Carolyn Hackbarth both aquatic specialists at the park (basically these four people ARE the natural resources division of the park), as well as their crews. Though this I was able to spend a fair amount of time on the lake doing water quality sampling or beetle monitoring, learning about zebra mussels, archeological sites, and believe it or not Buoys (courtesy of Pat Horning (dive team lead and Maintenance Guru) and Lisa Reidel (Rosemary's assistant), both lovely people). This also made for a great working environment for me. Though the archives (as all archives) is windowless and temperature and humidity controlled, I found the work to be more engaging and enjoyable knowing that I would soon have the opportunity to explore new areas of the park. A note to future CESU participants though, Ms. Sucec, can be a joy to work with, and will do almost anything for you, however she can come off as a little intense. I would recommend, in the beginning, setting boundaries, she responds very well to people telling her how they feel and what they need. Also, complete your work in a timely manner with integrity and pride. She will reward you for this. I was given this advice before I met her, and it served me very well.

## **General Things to Do around GLCA:**

Let me preface this section by stating if you are unable to entertain yourself while at GLCA, you aren't trying very hard. I was able to attend a social activity almost every night I was here. First of all, there is often a social gathering on Friday nights for the GLCA staff at the Dam Bar and Grille. Next, the people who work for the park service are more than happy to go camping, trekking off to other states, silly romping around in Page or other parts of AZ, hiking, biking, swimming, kayaking, etc. We had barbecues, culture nights (where we tried foods of different cultures), camping adventures, kayaking adventures on the lake (you can launch at the Coves, a fun swimming and cliff jumping spot (normally not higher than 15ft), or any of the park lunch ramps, including the NPS ramp which we most often used), boating with those who are DOIMACH certified, hiking out to horseshoe bend and watching the tourists, going on picnics, watching free movies in the park on Tuesday and Thursday nights, and having guests over or going to friends houses. Overall there are many activities to do here. Lastly, as previously mentioned, there are several nice places to go swimming. We most often went to the Coves, the Chains, Lone Rock, or Antelope point. All are within a few miles of Page, or in the park. I highly recommend befriending the Aquatics Lab Lead as they will let you know where the water is the cleanest! As well as a dispatcher, then if you are in trouble you know who to call, and where it is *safest* to swim/boat/hike/camp, etc. There are also several other parks and monuments around Page. You are located about 2 hours from both the north and south rims of the Grand Canyon, about 3 from Toroweap/Tuweap, 2 from Zion, 3 from Bryce, Right next to Grand Staircase-Escalante (GSENM) or if you desire, 6 from the other side of GSENM. Also, Canyon Lands, Moab, Monument Valley, Goblin Valley, and Capital Reef are all within 6 hours of Page. In terms of Cities, Flagstaff and St. George are about 2 hours away. Phoenix and Las Vegas are around 4-5 hours, and larger cities are easy to fly to from either of those. Page is a small town of about 8,000 but it has conveniences like a Safeway, Wal-Mart, and several coffee shops, and a movie theater. But as said, large towns aren't too far away. Also, if you don't wish to drive to Flag or St. George, or want to carpool there is normally somebody who goes down every weekend. In terms of hiking, there isn't a lot of "on trail" stuff in Page, but it's mostly slick rock so one can go hiking almost anywhere. The rim trail is a nice run, and is Hanging Gardens. There are many back country roads that lead to beautiful hiking spots in GSENM. One of my favorites is the Wave and Wire Pass Canyon. As well as Buckskin Gulch, Jack Ass canyon and Warm Creek Canyon. Utah Road 12 provides a scenic drive and good running trails as well. Also, the Toadstools in a nice hour hike though a wash. Overall, if you make friends, which you will, there is plenty to do. But whatever you decide to do, bring plenty of water, rain gear, and be aware of you surroundings, especially in monsoon season (July to September)!