Cultural Monitoring Program: FY06 and Beyond

Adaptive Management Work Group Meeting
March 7-8, 2006
Phoenix, AZ
Cultural Resource Monitoring Program Development Process

- August, 2005: AMWG approves funding for redesign of cultural monitoring program in FY06
- October-November 2005: Cultural Resource Ad Hoc Group meets to discuss cultural resource monitoring info needs and potential methods
- January 23-24, 2006: BOR, NPS, and GCMRC meet to discuss roles, responsibilities, and agency needs re: future cultural resource monitoring
General Agreements

NPS-BOR-GCMRC formalized October 2004 agreement re: agency roles and responsibilities for cultural resources.

NPS-BOR-GCMRC agreed to move forward with an integrated approach to assessing treatment and monitoring needs for archaeological sites.

Treatment planning will address the 161 sites previously selected by BOR and NPS.

Monitoring planning will encompass all sites originally considered in the EIS.
FY06 Plan

• USU and MNA will cooperatively assess geomorphic contexts, site attributes, and important archaeological values (site significance) to meet both treatment and monitoring needs for 161 sites
• USU/ZCRE and MNA will cooperatively develop treatment plan, as previously scheduled
• NPS will participate in the decisions re: monitoring and treatment needs for the 161 sites
In addition to completing site assessments for monitoring, in FY06 GCMRC will:

- Evaluate existing data & refine monitoring protocols
  - Explore and characterize site diversity within existing data (this is happening now)
  - Conduct statistical analyses of existing monitoring data
  - Compile/evaluate existing survey data for future applications in treatment and monitoring
  - Evaluate historic aerial photos for measuring erosion rates
  - Initiate study to compare efficiency/accuracy/impacts of conventional survey vs. LiDAR
  - Improve gully thalweg measurement techniques
Draft FY07 Plan

• Continue R & D towards core monitoring
  – Complete legacy monitoring data analysis
  – Continue site assessments for monitoring
  – Evaluate erosion rates via historical photo analysis
  – Continue testing and refinement of monitoring protocols (both field-based and remote sensing methods)

• Continue R & D towards effects monitoring (evaluation of treatments)
FY08-FY11 Conceptual Plan

• Implement redesigned monitoring program, FY08-FY10
  – Remote sensing component
  – Field based component
• Evaluate results via PEP (end of FY10)
• Refine protocols, if necessary
• Implement long-term plan