



Valles Caldera National Preserve

Facilities Maintenance/Upgrade – Preserve Headquarters Water Distribution System
Stewardship Register

Stewardship Action: Facilities Upgrade	File Number: PLAN – 7
Target Start Date: 2004	Responsible Official: Preserve Manager
Target Completion Date: 2005	Signature Date: January 26, 2004
Actual Start Date: 2004	Actual Date of Completion 2006

Proposed Action:

The Valles Caldera Trust is proposing to complete facility maintenance and upgrade in the Preserves Headquarters area. This proposal includes replacing the existing water and gas distribution system supplying the Headquarters Administrative site as well as the installation of vacant conduit to provide for future upgrades or maintenance of electrical or communication lines. This corridor will be clearly marked and mapped to facilitate any future maintenance needs.

Background:

The new distribution system will tie in with the water intake and treatment system that was installed in 2003. The 2003 project revealed that the existing distribution system is sub-standard, made of a variety of materials, is not clearly mapped and located, and will present ongoing problems for maintenance and repair. In addition a complete inspection has revealed a need to upgrade the system that provides propane gas to the site.

This proposal is a part of the Facilities Upgrade/Maintenance Stewardship Action Proposal posted on the Valles Caldera Preserve website on November 26, 2003 and contained in the Trust’s Annual Operating Plan which was presented at the public Board meeting on September 12, 2003 and approved by the Board at the public Board meeting November 14, 2003.

Location:

The entrance to the Valles Caldera National Preserve is located on State Road 4, 39.2 miles north of San Ysidro. The Headquarters area is located approximately 3 miles inside the preserve. Access is controlled via a locked gate. The legal description for the project area is T.18N., R.4E., section 2, New Mexico Principle Meridian.

Purpose and Need:

- To provide a source of safe and potable drinking water to support the administration of the preserve.
- To protect and maintain the integrity of the Preserve facilities.

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- To ensure the safety of the facilities by inspecting, upgrading and maintaining as necessary the systems for delivering water, gas and electricity.
- To define and map the exact location of utilities servicing the Headquarters Administrative site to improve the efficiency of future maintenance and repair.

Performance Requirements:

The following measures provide detail regarding the implementation of the proposed Stewardship Action:

1. The new system will be installed in the general footprint of the old system.
2. An archaeologist will be available to monitor excavation activities.
3. The old system may be removed or may remain in place in portions as to reduce disturbance.
4. Implement standard contract clauses during construction activities to protect resources.
5. Before bringing equipment onto the project site, if it is coming from a known weed infested areas, make sure equipment has been cleaned of all soil and plant parts to prevent spread of noxious weeds.

Prepared by: Marie E. Rodriguez, Natural Resource Coordinator
January 26, 2004

Implementing Decision

It is my decision to implement the proposed Stewardship Action, with all performance requirements as described, without the preparation of an environmental document. This decision is categorically excluded from such documentation under category 101.6 (5) “*Routine repair and maintenance of facilities and administrative sites including but not limited to, buildings, fences, water systems, roads, trails, signs, and ancillary facilities associated with the administration and management of the Preserve...*”

An environmental analysis was conducted by resource specialists in the employ of the Trust to ensure that no extraordinary circumstances are present and are likely to create an outcome of greater significance due to their presence. Extraordinary circumstances include but are not limited to a high level of public interest; extreme weather or climatic conditions; or the potential for effects on critical resources such as cultural resources or threatened or endangered species.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

The Valles Caldera Board of Trustees
Public outreach through the public Board Meetings and web site postings.
(All comments received in response to the proposed replacement of the Water Intake and treatment system were considered.)
Valles Caldera Trust Executive Team
Valles Caldera Trust Resource Management Staff
State Historic Preservation Officer

Valles Caldera National Preserve
Stewardship Action Register

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/s/

January 26, 2004

Dennis Trujillo
Preserve Manager

Date

Monitored Outcomes

This facility upgrade meets or provides the specific metrics towards meeting the following objectives as listed in the 2004 Annual Operating Plan.

Objectives	Metrics
1. A condition inventory of all major facilities, including roads, with associated estimates of cost for upgrading.	Prioritize upgrades and repairs. List and budget upgrades and repair activities for 2004
2. The use of this 5 year facility upgrade plan as a tool in achieving this stewardship action proposals purpose and need	List and budget upgrade and repair activities for out years
3. Presentation of this data on the VCT webpage for the purpose of informing the public on the condition of our current infrastructure and the need to upgrade our facilities annually	
4. Upgrade our facilities to allow the VCT opportunities for the use of our facilities as revenue generating facilities and to insure the public safety	Provide upgrade and repair activities, budget, and time estimate, required to meet this objective.

Evaluation of Monitoring Information

As information from monitoring is evaluated, describe conclusions and any new information as guided by 101.7(b)