



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

BATAAN MEMORIAL BUILDING
407 GALISTEO STREET, SUITE 236
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
PHONE (505) 827-6320 FAX (505) 827-6338

August 7, 2012

Dennis Trujillo
Executive Director
Valles Caldera National Trust
18161 State Highway 4
P.O. Box 359
Jemez Springs, NM 87025

Re: Public Access and Use Plan/Draft EIS for the Valles Caldera National Preserve

Dear Mr. Trujillo:

Thank you for providing the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) with the public access and use plan and draft EIS for the Valles Caldera National Preserve. On behalf of the State Historic Preservation Officer, I have reviewed the information provided and it appears that adverse effects to cultural resources will occur regardless of whether alternative 2, 3, or 4 is selected for development of a visitor center.

The SHPO agrees that a mitigation plan must be developed to address adverse effects to cultural resources if alternative 2, 3 or 4 is selected. Rather than developing an MOA to address adverse effects on cultural resources at the visitor center location and developing a separate PA to address public access, the VCNP may want to consider developing a PA that addresses all phases of the visitor center development and public access. If the VCNP chooses this route, a separate MOA for the visitor center would not be necessary. Alternatively, the VCNP could develop the MOA for the visitor center and consult with the SHPO on an individual project basis as trails, parking, picnic areas, etc. are developed for public access.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached by telephone at (505) 827-4064 or by email at michelle.ensey@state.nm.us.

Sincerely,

Michelle M. Ensey
Archaeologist

Log: 94908
Cc: Norm Nelson, HPD

RECEIVED

AUG 10 2012

VALLES CALDERA TRUST