Managing by Network – 2010 National Landscape Conservation System & Science

A Network Initiative
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Washington Headquarters
Bureau of Land Management
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Focusing Science in the NLCS

Building a network to connect researchers, managers, and citizen scientists – a powerful alliance!!!!

A Network for Science

Network Goal / Vision

Focus the research agenda for the NLCS

Identify the highest research concerns

Maintain an inclusive science approach

Network Objectives

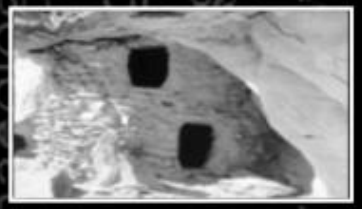
Distill the research needs for NLCS

Identify the top research opportunities

Consider the complete range of sciences

Partners

- **Partners with Volunteers Agreements**
  - Citizen Scientists from individual units – e.g. Friend of the Agua Fria National Monument
  - Grand Staircase-Escalante Partners
- **Partners With Assistance Agreements**
  - Utah Museum of Natural History
  - Nat'l Cave & Karst Institute
  - The Nature Conservancy
  - Southern Utah Oral History Project
  - USGS
  - Partnership for National Trails
  - Northern Arizona University
  - Etc.
- **Partners With MOU**
  - New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science
  - Cochiti Pueblo
- **Intra/Inter Agency Partners**
  - NASA
  - USDOT
- **Informal Partnerships**
  - State of New Mexico
  - National Park Service
  - State Historic Preservation Officers
  - Other BLM Offices
  - Researchers
  - Citizen-Scientists
- **Potential Partners**
  - Other Tribes
  - USFS
  - NPS
  - State Entities
  - NGOs
  - Other BLM Offices
  - USFS



A Decade of Discovery

National Landscape Conservation System
Bureau of Land Management

Conserve **Protect** **Restore** **Discover**

The Bureau of Land Management and its partners
New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science and the Museum Foundation welcome you to
Albuquerque, NM, May 24-28, 2010.

Phase 1: Complete

Network development

- ✓ Visioning – Defining and refining the goal. The original vision was based on the *Decade of Discovery Science Symposium* which formally set the foundation for this network
  - Questions for research morphed into things to consider in determining research priorities for the NLCS
  - Started with a Friends Group (beyond their ability to facilitate the process)
- ✓ Conceptual
  - Focusing the efforts of the NLCS Science program in a more strategic and collaborative way
  - Desire to engage researchers
- ✓ Research and Development
  - Regrouping after initial obstacle
  - Developing an opportunity to engage participants at the *Decade of Discovery Science Symposium,* which itself was a very formal network
  - Designing a process to gather information at two levels
    - Satellite - How can NLCS serve as a venue for looking at BIG science
    - Jet Airliner – How can NLCS units within a region support scientific efforts

Phase 1: Continued

- ✓ Implementation Planning
  - How to facilitate a creative environment to encourage audience participation
  - Worked with planning team to design setting where audience became the focus of the exercise
- ✓ Active
  - Facilitation of sessions with focused questions
  - Full participation
- ✓ Evaluating
  - Evaluation of audience – limited formal response
  - Great ideas

What are you doing at this stage to manage the network and move to the next stage?

Created a summary of the symposium and a white paper that was e-mailed to participants.

Follow through is imperative, you can use all or part of the network again if people see results!

NLCS Summit - November

Decade of Discovery Listening Sessions May 27, 2010

Albuquerque, NM

Marietta Eaton

On the final afternoon of the NLCS Decade of Discovery Science Symposium, participants were asked to join in a dialogue on the next ten years of science in the NLCS. The first focused on the very high level (satellite view) of the overall potential of the NLCS, and the second, a more regional view (jetliner view) that addressed what units in similar environments might want to consider for the next ten years. These discussions allowed participants to use the knowledge gained over the symposium, as well as their own expertise to share ideas. This whitepaper serves to document the two discussions and serve as an enticement for future dialogue. Each of the session discussions are herein organized into science related issues and non-science issues.

Session 1 – Satellite Level

Discussion the participants were broken into three groups to brainstorm ideas for where the NLCS, as a whole, could support the BLM and other agencies at large. The idea was to look at the highest level and discuss ideas of conservation, protection, and restoration. In these sessions several common topics emerged: development of guidance, protocols, collaboration, sharing information and data, research permitting and tracking, and better communication about what the NLCS has

Network Geography
Communities of Place

Where does your network operate?

National network operating on a one time basis

Many network members still communicate with BLM

Many network members received the latest ‘Request for Proposals’ from the NLCS to support research projects with those involved in active agreements.

Who benefits from the development of your network?

Researchers who want to focus and further their efforts on BLM lands

BLM benefits by inviting and encouraging further research on public lands

The public who are beneficiaries of the results of research through programs and interpretation

The public who may have interest in a specific NLCS unit, e.g. Prehistoric Trackways National Monument

Benefits of the Network

Present

- Bringing researchers from diverse disciplines and areas together who might share data and ideas
- Generating discussions between researchers, managers and the public
- Creating a better focus for the science programs in NLCS units
- Supporting national initiatives for NLCS science
- Creating advocacy for NLCS
- Jumping off point for NLCS Summit and ‘Integrating Science and Management” focus group

Future

- Researchers now networking among themselves
- Citizens connecting with researchers for specific projects
- Sounding board (via email) to share and generate new ideas
- Ownership by researchers and citizens of the scientific work undertaken on NLCS units
- Growth of the research within the NLCS
- Expanded use of NLCS units for research
- New discoveries
- Opportunities for Citizen Science

Evaluating Network Potential and Performance

	Evaluation Criteria	Comments
1	Advance strategic priorities of the agency	Supports the agenda of NLCS: Conservation is a multiple use
2	Leverages funding	By leveraging opportunities and funding for science
3	Demonstrates big-picture thinking	Actively engages scientists and citizens in looking at big and small picture concepts
4	Demonstrates entrepreneurship	Looks at using networking to advance science and bridge communication creating multiple opportunities
5	Management of formal agreements and contracts	At the unit levels most research is done through agreements and contracts
6	Demonstrates effective external and internal communication	Encourages citizens, scientists, and managers to communicate in a more formal setting
7	Demonstrates accountability	Highlights existing science and helps focus the agenda for future efforts
8	Potential as a network management model	It started out on one trajectory, derailed, then found another life. Illustration that networks can form in short order.

Lessons Learned About Network Management

- 1. A network does not have to be a drawn out process. Networks can often be useful in the short term and may not always require a huge commitment of time. This could even reduce the amount of time required for a project and result in short term, satisfying products

- 2. People love to share their ideas, and listening without judgment expands the discovery of new approaches, ideas and paths that might not have been considered

- 3. One person doesn't have to think of everything, The group dynamic is exhilarating and results in more creative thinking and unusual ideas

- 4. Why not multiply your brain power?. Using a brain trust in a collaborative way results in more thoughtful and interesting ideas

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Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, Colorado

McKinnis Canyons National Conservation Area, Colorado

Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area, Colorado

Vermilion Cliffs National Monument, Arizona

Vermilion Cliffs National Monument, Arizona

McKinnis Canyons National Conservation Area, Colorado

Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area, Colorado

Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, Nevada

Grand Gulch Wilderness Study Area, Utah

Desolation Canyon Wilderness Study Area, Utah

California Coastal National Monument

Dominguez Canyon Wilderness, Colorado

California Coastal National Monument

Bisti/De-na-zin Wilderness, New Mexico

Honeycomb Wilderness Study Area, Wyoming

California Coastal National Monument

California Coastal National Monument

Yaquina Head Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area, Oregon

California Coastal National Monument

edras Blancas Light Station Outstanding Natural Area, California

California Coastal National Monument

King Range National Conservation Area, California

Cache Creek Wilderness, California

Cascade Siskiyou National Monument, Oregon

Cache Creek Wilderness, Califor

California Coastal National Monument

Cascade Siskiyou National Monument, Oregon

King Range National Conservation Area, Californ

Steens Mountain Conservation Management Protection Area, Oregon

California Coastal National Monum

Organ Mountains Wilderness Study Area, New Mexico

Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness, Colorado/Utah

Sleeping Giant Wilderness Study Area, Montana

California Coastal National Monument

Cascade Siskiyou National Monument, Oregon

Gulkana Wild and Scenic River, Alaska

Ute Mountain, New Mexico

Craters of the Moon National Monument, Idaho

Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area, Colorado

South Fork Owyhee Wilderness and Wild and Scenic River, Idaho

Rocks and Islands, Laguna Beach, California

Iditarod National Historic Trail, Alaska

Fort Stanton – Snowy River Cave National Conservation Area, New Mexico

Bruneau Wilderness and Wild and Scenic River, Idaho

Arizona National Scenic Trail

Lower Deschutes Wild and Scenic River, Oregon

Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails
National Conservation Area, Nevada

Inyo Mountain Wilderness, Califor

North Umpqua Wild and Scenic River, Oregon

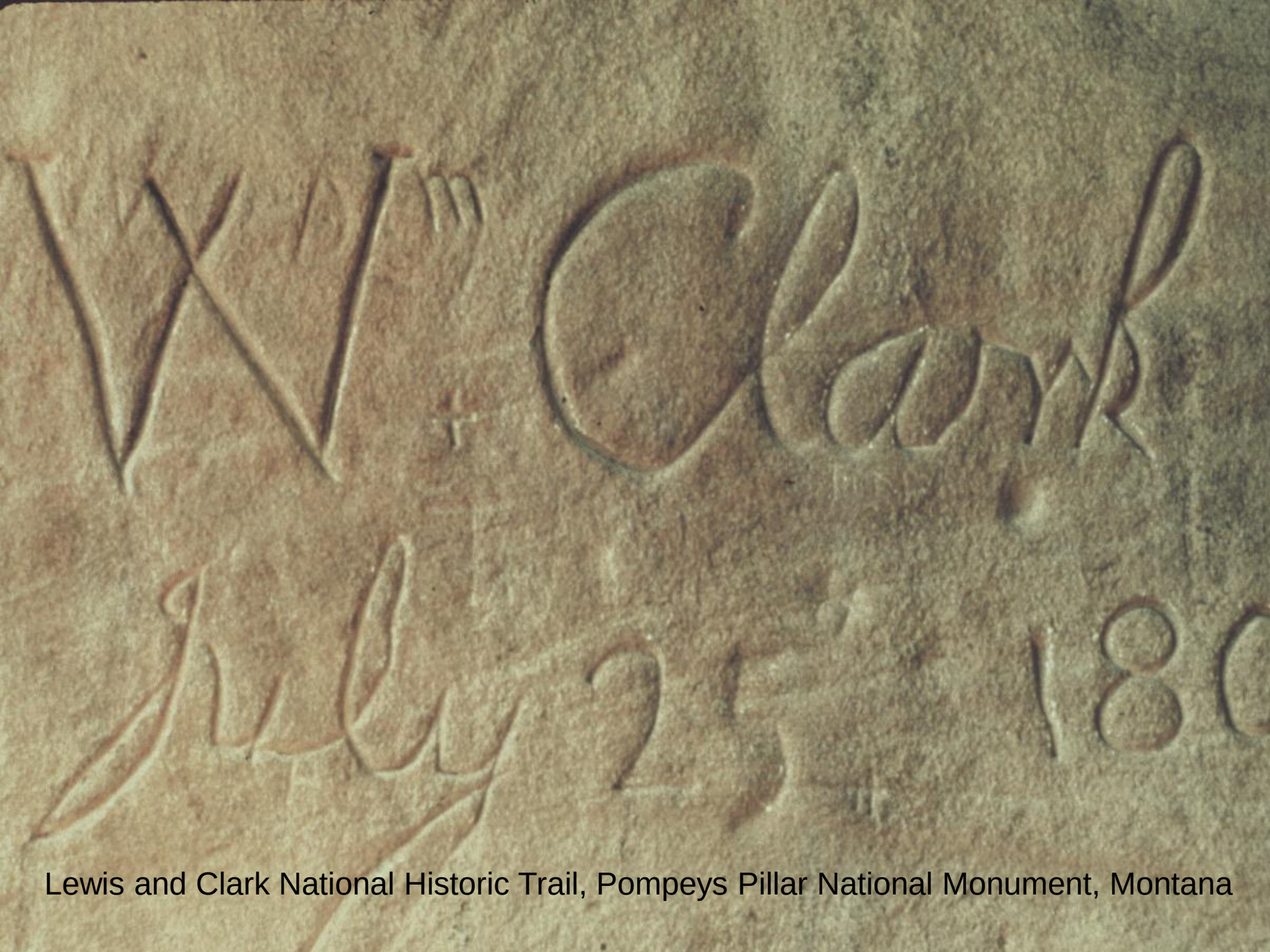
Organ Mountains Wilderness Study Area, New Mexico

Agua Fria National Monument, Arizona

Bodie Wilderness Study Area, California

Skedaddle Wilderness Study Area, California

Black Rock-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area, Nevada



Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, Pompeys Pillar National Monument, Montana

Prehistoric Trackways National Monument, New Mexico

Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, Colorado

Grand Gulch Wilderness Study Area, Utah

Dominguez Canyon Wilderness, Colorado

American Wild and Scenic River, California

Owens Peak Wilderness, California

Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area, Arizona

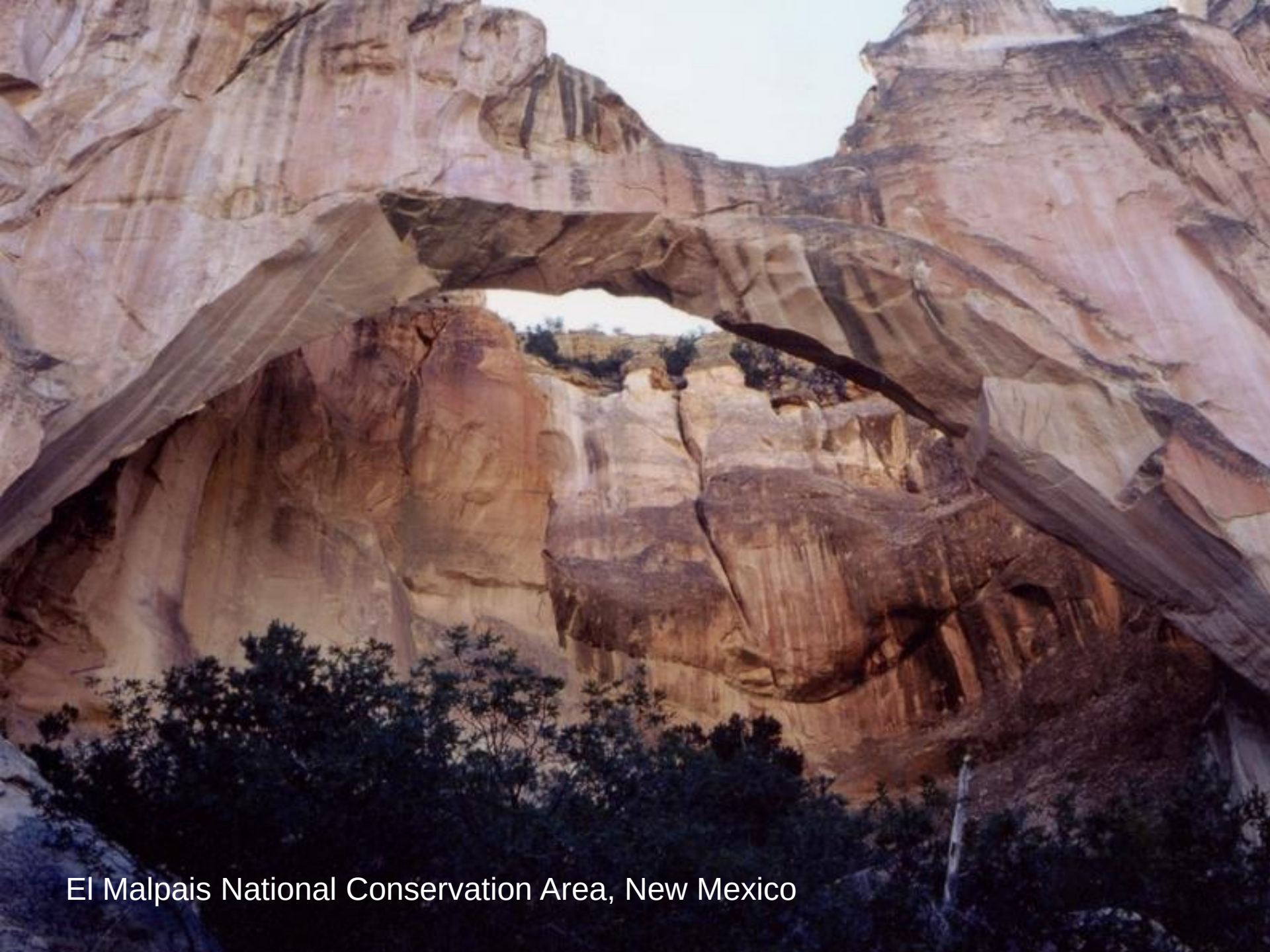
Carrizo Plain National Monument, California

North Algodones Dunes Wilderness, California

King Range, California

Kashe-Katuwe Tent Rocks , New Mexico

Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument



El Malpais National Conservation Area, New Mexico

Kashe-Katuwe Tent Rocks,
New Mexico

Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area, Nevada