



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

Susana Martinez
Governor

BATAAN MEMORIAL BUILDING
407 GALISTEO STREET, SUITE 236
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
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May 6, 2015

D. Jason Lott
Superintendent
Bandelier National Monument
15 Entrance Road
Los Alamos, NM 87544-9508

Re: Follow-up to Consultation
Re-open Upper Alcove House Trail (PEPC 49492)

Dear Superintendent Lott:

Thank you for taking the time to show me the upper Alcove House trail on May 4, 2015. The field visit was very useful in understanding the proposed project.

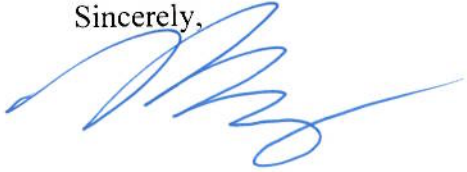
As a result of my observations and our discussions during the field visit, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) supports Alternative #2, Re-open Entire Upper Alcove House Trail. We see the construction of a new trail as proposed in Alternative #3 as being unnecessary and it has the potential to impact buried archaeological deposits. Furthermore, it is our opinion that re-opening the entire trail will not be an adverse effect provided certain conditions are met.

In order to achieve a No Adverse Effect for this project, Bandelier National Monument (BAND) must commit to a monitoring program to assess the number of people using the trail and impacts to cultural resources. Specifically, we will want to know if cavates are being threatened and if the CCC steps along the trail are being impacted. In addition, BAND must install signage on the trail near the cavates to inform visitors of the sensitivity of the area and the importance of staying on the trail. If, after a period of time, and in consultation with SHPO, BAND determines that adverse effects are occurring along the Upper Alcove House Trail because of visitation, we can develop a Memorandum of Agreement to resolve adverse effects. Adverse effects could be resolved by constructing the new trail, by installing railing, etc.

If BAND agrees with this approach, please provide a letter outlining how BAND will implement a monitoring program to address potential impacts to cultural resources along the trail, including unauthorized visitation to cavates. BAND should also propose a period of time for the monitoring program and a time frame for reporting this information to SHPO.

If you disagree with this approach, or there are other alternatives you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached by telephone at (505) 827-4064 or by email at michelle.ensey@state.nm.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Michelle M. Ensey', written in a cursive style.

Michelle M. Ensey
Archaeologist