

THE
FUTURE
OF
AMERICA'S
NATIONAL
PARKS

First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

Tumacacori National Historical Park

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: TUMA

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

Tumacacori National Historical Park preserves the history of the Sonoran desert region through protection and interpretation of three significant Spanish colonial mission sites: Tumacacori, Calabazas and Guevavi. In 2005, approximately 310 acres were added to the Tumacacori site, reuniting the church grounds with historic mission property that included gardens, orchards and irrigation systems. The newly acquired area adds significant size and complexity to the park, increasing its size from 40+ acres to 356+ acres, and encompassing not only mission sites but also significant natural resources with the addition of a one-mile stretch of the Santa Cruz River and riparian area. A section of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historical Trail now lies within park boundaries and offers additional educational and recreational opportunities for park visitors.

The park is located less than 20 miles north of the border with Mexico. The three missions within its boundaries are part of a network of more than 20 missions in the U.S. and Mexico which were established by Father Kino and other Jesuit priests in the late 1600 to early 1700's. Today the park enjoys strong ties with the local communities, native tribes, and with missions in Mexico. Active partners and supporters of the park include Friends of Tumacacori National Historical Park, Western National Parks Association, the Sonoran Institute, the Instituto Nacional de Antropologia e Historia (INAH), Friends of the Santa Cruz River, Cornerstones, the Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance.

The centennial vision for the park and its partners is to foster and build upon collaborative relationships with international and local community groups, native tribes, research institutions, law enforcement agencies, environmental organizations, heritage tourism groups and others to promote education, research, protection and preservation of the resources of Tumacacori and its greater community, in the U.S. and Mexico. One example of on-going collaboration and support is a water quality monitoring, analysis and interpretive project the park has undertaken with the involvement of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, the Center for Disease Control, the Sonoran Institute, Friends of the Santa Cruz River and the University of Arizona. Future efforts include promoting heritage tourism through the re-establishment of historic links among Spanish Colonial Missions, propagation and interpretation of heritage orchards, and ecological restoration of the Santa Cruz River through removal of exotic plant species and management of health and human safety issues related to water quality.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Lisa Carrico

Site: TUMA

STEWARDSHIP

Provide inspiring, safe, and accessible places for people to enjoy - the standard to which all other park systems aspire.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Tumacacori will improve visitor services by maintaining and improving facilities and providing for visitor safety by mitigating hazards. Safety messages will be included in interpretive programs and site bulletins. The park policy for segway use will allow access in the park while at the same time protecting the resources therein.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: TUMA

PROFESSIONALISM

Promote a safety and health culture for all employees and visitors.

Reduce the number of employee lost-time incidents and serious visitor injuries by 20 percent.

Tumacacori National Historical Park will have an active safety program, with the involvement of park management, supervisors and staff. The park will have regular monthly all employee safety meetings, training by staff and safety professionals, and employees will feel valued and responsible for the safety of themselves and their co-workers.

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