



Southwest Region – Annual Report
July 2016 to June 2017

Sara Ayers-Rigsby, MA, RPA, Director
Rachael Kangas, MA, Public Archaeology Coordinator
Victoria Lincoln, Outreach Assistant

Highlight-Increased Role in Assisting with Documentation of Archaeological Sites

This year, FPAN SW partnered with University of Florida, University of Georgia, the Randell Research Center, the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, and many others to volunteer in the region's archaeological sites and assist various groups with identification and documentation of archaeological sites. This will lead to a deeper understanding of the complex archaeological record of southwest Florida and enable staff to engage the general public through real-world experience.

First Quarter July-September 2016:

Heritage Tourism: Archaeology at Pineland/Randell Research Center

- In July 2016, FPAN staff in the southwest partnered with the Randell Research Center and the University of Florida to create meaningful programming based around the archaeological site at Pineland. With this goal in mind, FPAN staff from the SW and SE region toured the area over the summer, conducted sea level rise monitoring, and assisted in management of the area, assisting with clearing and other park improvements in September. The results of FPAN's sea level rise monitoring at Pineland were presented at the first annual Tidally United in St. Augustine, and Ms. Kangas' efforts at the site drew praise from University of Florida and an invitation to speak at the county's sea level rise summit in the fall.

Second Quarter October-December 2016:

Assistance to Local Government and the Division of Historical Resources: ARM Training

- In December, Rachael Kangas and Sara Ayers-Rigsby assisted the FL DHR and Florida State Parks in Archaeological Resource Management (ARM) training for land managers. This course is designed to teach land managers from various agencies throughout the state to recognize and care for archaeological resources at their facility. During this two-day course, Kangas and Ayers-Rigsby assisted DHR staff in presenting information about archaeological resources in southwest Florida, and logging information into FPAN's HMS database.

Third Quarter January-March 2016:

Heritage Tourism: Kayak Tour at Mound Key

- On Saturday, February 4th, the staff members from the region, including Victoria Lincoln, Outreach Assistant, and Rachael Kangas, Public Archaeology Coordinator, partnered with Koreshan State Historic Site and Lovers Key State Park for a kayak adventure tour of Mound Key led by Victor Thompson of University of Georgia and Bill Marquardt from the University of Florida. Mound Key is known as the Calusa Capitol, and is one of the premier sites of southwest Florida. UGA and UF are conducting excavations at the site.

A group of avid kayakers braved the two-hour trip out to the park from Lovers Key State Park, then were brought up to speed on the archaeological excavations at the site by Thompson and

Marquardt. FPAN SW staff also had the opportunity to volunteer on excavations at the site in January of 2017.

Fourth Quarter April-June 2017:

Site Monitoring of State Submerged Lands with Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserve

- The highlight of this quarter was Ms. Kangas' efforts in working with a regional partner, DEP-Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves (CHAP), to monitor cultural sites as part of their management responsibilities. Ms. Kangas met 2 staff members from CHAP at the Archaeological Resource Management (ARM) training in December 2016, and subsequently helped organized the field-monitoring efforts. CHAP staff and Ms. Kangas arranged 3 field days to monitor cultural resources within their management area. Staff received more hands-on training for cultural site monitoring, and made strides towards their management goals of monitoring these sites. These field visits also resulted in one of member of the CHAP team being recognized on the leaderboard of the HMS Florida monthly update.



Kayak Tour to Mound Key (From Left-Victoria Lincoln, Outreach Assistant, FAU graduate students, Dr. Michael Harris, Principal Investigator for FPAN SE/SW and Chair of the Anthropology Department, Valentina Martinez, FAU faculty, FAU graduate student, Dr. Victor Thompson from University of Georgia, Dr. William Marquardt from University of Florida, Rachael Kangas, Public Archaeology Coordinator for SW, and other guests)