

Casa Grande Ruins Boundary Modification Information Sheet



Casa Grande Ruins National Monument (CAGR)

- Preserves portion of ancient Hohokam farming settlement and Great House
- Figures prominently in Native American oral and religious traditions
- Four-story Great House is one of Arizona's most famous and iconic cultural landmarks
- Set aside as Nation's first archaeological preserve by President Benjamin Harrison in 1892; established as National Park Service (NPS) unit in 1918
- Only NPS unit whose mission is to preserve and interpret Hohokam culture for general public
- Large portions of Casa Grande Great House community extend beyond the current CAGR boundary

Casa Grande Ruins and Heritage Tourism

- One of top tourist draws in Pinal County—70,000 to 80,000 visitors a year from all over the world
- CAGR has third highest visitation rate of any NPS unit in southern Arizona
- Intermediate location between Phoenix and Tucson attracts visitors from both metropolitan areas
- Most visitors are non-local; 85% of money spent in local communities originates from more than 15 miles away
- According to recent NPS report, CAGR visitors spent more than \$2,200,000 and supported 32 local jobs in Coolidge and surrounding communities in 2011
- Apart from tribal lands, Hohokam features in Coolidge-Florence area represent one of last opportunities to preserve relatively complete picture of Hohokam irrigation community and provide future visitors and researchers with better understanding of Hohokam culture

HR 2497

- Transfers administrative jurisdiction of 11.21 acres of federal land to NPS (3.8 acres BLM, 7.41 acres BIA) and 3.5 acres of NPS land to BIA for San Carlos Irrigation Project (SCIP)
- Provides authorization for NPS to acquire by donation, exchange, or purchase from willing owners of 400+ acres surrounding CAGR to protect large Pre-Classic and Classic period Hohokam settlements, including the platform mound and ballcourt at Adamsville and portions of the Grewe and Horvath sites
- Monument boundary is not formally changed until additional properties are acquired from willing sellers
- Provides authorization to enter into agreement with State of Arizona to provide cooperative management of approximately 200 acres of State trust lands within Adamsville site
- Current version of bill introduced by Representatives Kirkpatrick, Gosar, Pastor, and Grijalva, reflecting strong bipartisan support
- Strong support for CAGR expansion from all local stakeholders, including City of Coolidge, Town of Florence, Pinal County Board of Supervisors, Gila River Indian Community, Ak Chin Indian Community, Pinal Partnership, Pinal County Historical Society and Museum, Friends of Casa Grande Ruins, Sonoran Institute, Archaeology Southwest, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and National Parks Conservation Association