

CITY OF ROCKS

STATE PARK

**MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
PLAN**

FY-2000 THRU FY-2004

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PREFACE

Each state park administered and managed by the State Parks Division of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department is required to establish a Park Management and Development Plan. [Reference: Title 19, Chapter 5, Part 3 of the New Mexico Administrative Code (19 NMAC 5.3)] The objective of these plans is to provide direction for the management and development of the state parks in a manner that enhances recreational opportunities, protects park resources, provides for public input, and protects the natural environment. In essence, each plan will identify an overall management philosophy, and then outline a specific strategy for achieving management goals at the park over a five-year period. [Reference: Section 13 of the State Parks Division's State Parks Policy and Procedures Manual]

The planning process for Park Management and Development plans consists of: establishing a planning team for each state park; conducting an on-site inspection/assessment of the park, its resources and facilities; analyzing all information compiled on the park; proposing goals and related activities to be completed over the next five years; developing a draft Management and Development Plan for the park; soliciting public input on the draft Plan and revising it as appropriate; approval of the revised Plan by the State Parks Division Director; and implementation of the approved Plan by the Park Manager/Superintendent.

Any and all comments or recommendations concerning the City of Rocks State Park Management and Development Plan should be directed to:

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A. INTRODUCTION

The mission of the State Park's Division is to "protect and enhance natural resources, provide recreational facilities and opportunities, and promote public safety and education to benefit and enrich the lives of visitors". At City of Rocks State Park (CRSP), this mission will be accomplished through the protection of its natural resources while providing the opportunity for an overall quality outdoor experience for our visiting public. These goals will be achieved through the continual upgrading and expansion of park facilities and the promotion and utilization of more extensive education related to our unique geology, wildlife, and history. This plan sets forth the specific objectives, policies, improvements and changes we will strive to implement through fiscal year 2004 (July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2004) to achieve our goals and fulfill the Division's mission.

B. SUMMARY of PROPOSED ACTIONS and POLICIES

1. PROPOSED ACTIONS

Tables 1-5 provide a detailed list of the proposed actions for the FY00 - FY04 planning period. The park has identified four major goals in which major tasks are identified for completion. These tasks are prioritized within each fiscal year.

**TABLE 1
Action Plan Overview**

FY 2000

Goal	Priority	Task	Time Frame (FY)	Estimated Costs (\$)	Funding Source	Page #
1. Public Safety/ADA	1	Install base station radio at park office	FY00	\$1000	AOB/CIP	20
	4	Replace two-way radio in park vehicle	FY00	\$800	CIP	20
	3	Upgrade roads, parking and access areas	FY00-FY04 (Ongoing)	\$1,000	AOB	20
2. Resource Protection	7	Upgrade and delineate campsites	FY00-FY01 (Ongoing)	\$500	AOB	17
	9	Complete Cultural Resource Inventory Survey	FY00	\$25,000	TBD	16
	6	Install chemical and paint storage locker	FY00	\$ 1,000	AOB	19
	2	Install amphitheater and parking area	FY00	\$ 3,500	CIP	18
	5	Construct front and rear decks for park residences	FY00	\$8,000	AOB	19
	8	Landscape exterior of visitor center complex	FY00-FY02	\$ 900	AOB	15
4. Education/ Interpretive	10	Develop plant/wildlife brochure	FY00	\$ 750	AOB	18
		TOTAL FY PROPOSED EXPENDITURES		\$42,450		

AOB (Annual Operating Budget-Parks Division); **CIP** (Capital Improvements Program-Parks Division); **TRAILS** (Federal Highway Administration funds); **PVT** (Private sector/Volunteers/Friends Groups); **YCC** (Youth Conservation Corps program); **TBD** (To Be Determined)

**Table 2
Action Plan Overview**

FY 2001

Goal	Priority	Task	Time Frame (FY)	Estimated Costs (\$)	Funding Source	Page #
1. Public Safety/ADA	1	Install post and rail fence w/ reflectors around outside driveway at visitors center	FY01	\$ 800	CIP	6
	5	Upgrade pay station facility and parking	FY01-FY02	\$1,000	AOB	19
	3	Replace damaged picnic tables	FY00-FY01 (as needed)	\$ 500	AOB	17
2. Resource Protection	4	Upgrade specific sites for erosion protection	FY01-FY04	\$ 750	AOB	17
	6	Install gate at observation point access road	FY01	\$ 200	AOB	19
	11	Upgrade and delineate campsites	FY00-FY01 (ongoing)	\$ 500	AOB	17
	12	Upgrade roads, parking and access areas	FY00-FY04 (ongoing)	\$ 500	AOB	21
3. Develop and Maintain Facilities	8	Landscape visitors center complex and surrounding Area	FY00-FY02	\$ 300	AOB	16
	7	Construct decks on rear of residence mobile homes (2)	FY01-FY02	\$2,400	CIP	19
	2	Construct group shelter: foundation/framing	FY01-FY02	\$15,000	CIP	17
	13	Develop activity area	FY01-FY02	\$ 750	CIP	5
	9	Develop rest area/garden	FY01-FY02	\$ 150	AOB	17
4. Education/ Interpretive	10	Acquire photography and art for interpretive slide shows	FY01-FY04 (ongoing)	\$ 200	AOB	18
	14	Develop plant/wildlife brochure	FY00-FY01	\$ 750	AOB	18
		TOTAL FY PROPOSED EXPENDITURES		\$22,600		

AOB (Annual Operating Budget-Parks Division); **CIP** (Capital Improvements Program-Parks Division); **TRAILS** (Federal Highway Administration funds); **PVT**(Private sector/Volunteers/Friends Groups); **YCC** (Youth Conservation Corps program); **TBD** (To Be Determined)

**Table 3
Action Plan Overview**

FY 2002

Goal	Priority	Task	Time Frame (FY)	Estimated Costs (\$)	Funding Source	Page #
1. Public Safety/ADA	1	Upgrade pay station area	FY01-FY02		AOB	19
2. Resource Protection	2	Upgrade specific sites for erosion protection	FY01-FY04	\$ 750	AOB	17
3. Develop and Maintain Facilities	3	Construct group shelter: rock work	FY01-FY04	\$2,500	CIP	17
	4	Install fence at residences	FY02	\$1,600	CIP	19
	7	Landscape visitors center complex and surrounding	FY00-FY02	\$ 300	AOB	16
	5	Upgrade roads, parking and access areas	FY00-FY04	\$ 500	AOB	21
	6	Construct decks on rear of residence mobile homes (2)	FY01-FY02	\$2,400	CIP	19
	8	Develop activity area	FY01-FY02	\$1,000	AOB	5
	10	Develop rest area/garden	FY01-FY02	\$ 500	AOB	17
4. Education/ Interpretive	9	Acquire art and photography for interpretive slide shows	FY01-FY04	\$ 200 (ongoing)	AOB	18
		TOTAL FY PROPOSED EXPENDITURES		\$9,750		

AOB (Annual Operating Budget-Parks Division); **CIP** (Capital Improvements Program-Parks Division); **TRAILS** (Federal Highway Administration funds); **PVT**(Private sector/Volunteers/Friends Groups); **YCC** (Youth Conservation Corps program); **TBD** (To Be Determined)

**Table 4
Action Plan Overview**

FY 2003

Goal	Priority	Task	Time Frame (FY)	Estimated Costs (\$)	Funding Source	Page #
1. Public Safety/ADA	1	Upgrade roads, parking and access area	FY00-FY04 (ongoing)	\$ 500	AOB	21
2. Resource Protection	2	Upgrade specific sites for erosion protection	FY01-FY04	\$ 750	AOB	17
4. Education/ Interpretive	3	Acquire art and photography for interpretive slide shows	FY04 (ongoing)	\$ 200	AOB	18
		TOTAL FY PROPOSED EXPENDITURES		\$1,450		

AOB (Annual Operating Budget-Parks Division); **CIP** (Capital Improvements Program-Parks Division); **TRAILS** (Federal Highway Administration funds); **PVT** (Private sector/Volunteers/Friends Groups); **YCC** (Youth Conservation Corps program); **TBD** (To Be Determined)

**Table 5
Action Plan Overview**

FY 2004

Goal	Priority	Task	Time Frame (FY)	Estimated Costs (\$)	Funding Source	Page #
1. Public Safety/ADA						
2. Resource Protection	2	Upgrade specific sites for erosion protection	FY04	\$ 750	AOB	17
3. Develop and Maintain Facilities	1	Upgrade roads, parking and access areas	FY04 (ongoing)	\$ 500	AOB	21
4. Education/ Interpretive	3	Acquire art and photography for interpretive slide shows	FY04 (ongoing)	\$ 200	AOB	18
		TOTAL FY PROPOSED EXPENDITURES		\$1,450		

AOB (Annual Operating Budget-Parks Division); **CIP** (Capital Improvements Program-Parks Division); **TRAILS** (Federal Highway Administration funds); **PVT** (Private sector/Volunteers/Friends Groups); **YCC** (Youth Conservation Corps program); **TBD** (To Be Determined)

2. POLICY DIRECTIVES

The policy directives summarized below have been developed to support and carry out the overall mission of City of Rocks State Park during the planning period.

Continue to upgrade and expand physical assets, and the supporting infrastructure, while protecting the natural and cultural resources, to provide a better visitor experience.

Develop a quality and viable interpretive program to maximize interpretive capabilities of the City of Rocks staff.

Adjust hours of operation to accommodate visitors to the exhibit center as growth dictates.

II. PARK DESCRIPTION

A. BACKGROUND

City of Rocks State Park was established on March 20, 1953, under Senate Bill No. 89:

*“Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico”
Section 1. The following described state-owned property, situated in Grant County, New Mexico, is hereby declared to be and is hereby established as a state park to be known as “City of Rocks”.*

CRSP is located midway between Deming and Silver City, New Mexico, approximately three miles north of Highway 180 on New Mexico State Highway 61. It is leased by the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD), State Park Division, from the Commissioner of Public Lands, New Mexico State Land Office for the purpose of a State Park and Recreation Area. (See Appendix B-1: Regional Location)

B. KEY FEATURES

CRSP is a truly geologic monument formed by large sculptured rock columns (pinnacles) or boulders rising as high as 40 feet and separated by paths or lanes resembling city streets. About 34.9 million years ago, a large volcano erupted forming the rocks. Then, erosion over millions of years slowly formed the sculptured columns that now provide a natural playground for children and adults alike. CRSP was established to preserve this geologic wonder.

The primary recreational activities at City of Rocks are hiking, climbing, picnicking, camping, and wildlife observation. The desert wildlife attracts many birdwatchers, herpetologists and naturalists as well as those interested in the study of plants common to the southwestern desert.

Surrounding the “city” are gently rolling hills covered with typical desert vegetation indigenous to the southern deserts

III. VISITATION AND REVENUE
A. VISITATION

Table 6
Annual Visitation

Fiscal Year	Visitation
98	71,827
97	51,294
96	60,407
95	54,282
94	55,223

CRSP receives its highest visitation during the spring and summer months with more day-users than campers. Fall and winter visitation declines in conjunction with the school calendar. Mild winters at CRSP attract more full-time RV’ers. With the addition of 10 electrical sites in the spring of 1998, an even higher winter population is expected.

No formal survey of visitor use trends has been introduced at CRSP, however, through daily camping lists and employee observation the following has been determined. Day use and overnight camping are quite different in regards to the cross-section of visitor make-up. The summer season - from May to September - attracts a larger percentage of young visitors between 16 and 30 years of age. This is influenced by school vacation schedules. The winter season brings the more mature visitor for both day use and camping and includes a larger percentage of travelling senior citizens.

Day use activity in the park is primarily made up of the touring population, with a high percentage from our neighboring states of Texas and Arizona. Nearby attractions, such as the Gila Cliff Dwellings, the Gila Wilderness Area and the proximity to the Mexican border, bring these visitors through our area. The average length of stay for these day use travelers is about one to two hours in the park.

The geology of this area stirs the most interest in the park and brings about the most questions and requests for materials. The desert vegetation and wildlife contribute to the second greatest interest, while general recreational activity such as hiking, climbing and exploration of the rocks make up the final segment. The completion of the electrical sites and the new visitor’s center has certainly attracted more visitors.

B. REVENUE

Table 7
Self Generated Revenues

Fiscal Year	Self Generated Receipts	Total
98	\$55,002	\$55,002
97	\$40,917	\$40,917
96	\$46,107	\$46,107
95	\$42,626	\$42,626
94	\$39,911	\$39,911
AVERAGE	\$44,913	

CRSP generates an average of \$44,913.00 annually, as depicted by Table 7 above. The park's only source of revenue is through self generated fees, which include day use, overnight camping and other services such as the group reservation area and special use permits. Park fees are collected at the self-pay station located at the only entrance to the park, at the visitor's center and by staff field collections.

Most of the revenues collected at CRSP are from day use visitation; however, with the addition of 10 electrical RV sites, camping revenues are increasing. Higher revenues, as a result of increased visitation, can be expected and has already begun occurring with the completion of the visitors center complex and improved facilities and campsites.

IV. EXISTING OPERATIONS/FACILITIES and PROPOSED ACTIONS

A. OPERATIONS and MANAGEMENT

Lands/Realty

The land on which CRSP is located, is owned entirely by the State Land Commission and leased to New Mexico State Parks Division. The park encompasses 680 acres, located in the center of four sections of land owned by private interest. The ownership, location and description of these sections are shown in Appendix B-2.

Grazing rights on these properties are currently the only concern of the park. The necessity of keeping the livestock out of the State Park is a concern. The park boundary is entirely fenced and continually inspected to prevent the intrusion of livestock.

Hours of Operation

CRSP is open year round for overnight camping and day use. Entrance gate closure allows entry into the park between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. for day use activities. The office/visitor center is generally open, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. every day of the year. The restrooms are always available to visitors year round.

The “Suburbs” are closed during the winter months (September through March) because the visitation does not warrant maintaining full operations.

Maintenance

[Reference: Section 11, Parks Policy and Procedures Manual; and Parks Standards of Use and Care Manual]

Emergencies

[Reference: Section 5, Parks Policy and Procedures Manual]

Regional Support Resources

The Region 3 Administrative Office is located at Elephant Butte Lake State Park in Truth or Consequences. An Administrator 2, Plant Operations Specialist, Vehicle Mechanic 3 and a Heavy Equipment Operator 3 support the Regional Manager.

The Regional Office provides administrative support for the park.

The Regional Warehouse stocks park supplies for region-wide distribution. Supplies are purchased in bulk and distributed to the regional parks. In addition, specialized tools and equipment are maintained at the warehouse and are available for use by the parks.

The mechanic’s shop is located at the Regional Warehouse. The regional mechanic will complete repairs on vehicle and equipment that require the mechanic’s specialized experience and tools. Routine maintenance and repairs will be performed at the park level.

Rules and Policies

Hours of operation of the vc and outdoor amphitheater contribute to goals of interpretation

Water conservation efforts?

Water delivery system?

B. NATURAL and CULTURAL RESOURCES

Wildlife

The wildlife at City of Rocks State Park is typical of the Chihuahuan Desert region. Common mammals seen in and around the park are ground squirrel, chipmunks, kangaroo mice, cottontail and jackrabbit, coyote, javalena, deer and antelope. Occasionally, visitors and staff at the park have even reported seeing bobcat, mountain lions and black bear.

Included on the City of Rocks bird list are the red-tailed hawk, northern harrier, golden eagle, great horned owl, turkey vultures, common raven, house and purple finches, canyon towhees, western flycatchers, cactus and canyon wren, mockingbirds, curve-billed thrashers, gambel's and scaled quail, rufous and black-chinned hummingbirds, the greater roadrunner and many other songbirds.

Vegetation and Landscaping

The dominant plant species identified at City of Rocks State Park are emory and black oak trees, soaptree yucca, lechuguilla agave (indigenous to the Chihuahuan Desert), sotol, barrel cactus, cholla, prickly pear, creosote bush, ephedra and a wide variety of grasses and wildflowers. The loss of any trees, shrubs or cacti in or around the park is a serious concern. With adequate controls, most of the fragile desert vegetation can be saved or become re-established. This is highly desirable as the vegetation adds significantly to the beauty of the park and helps anchor the soil which retards the erosion process.

As fragile as the desert is, the plants require very little attention or care. Once established, they thrive. With this in mind, our staff will be using their landscaping talents to show off our unusual surroundings. As an example, the area across from sites #32 and #33 flourishes with the "Bird of Paradise" plant. There, as seen in Table 2 for fiscal year FY01 and FY02, an existing walkway will be augmented with a park bench to offer comfort to the park visitors and a lovely landscaped area from which to view our outstanding sunsets. The estimated total cost for this project is approximately \$650.00 to be funded from the park's Annual Operating Budget.

Geological Resources

Forty-nine of the park's 680 acres are comprised of volcanic rocks. The rocks forming the "city" are predominantly ash-flow tuffs or ignimbrites, part of the Kneeling Nun tuff that erupted 34.9 million years ago. The ash-flow tuff that forms City of Rocks is of rhyolite composition. The rocks reach a maximum height of approximately 40 feet. Weathering of the ash-flow tuff - in part by freeze-thaw action and wind - formed the roads and "alleys" as we now see them.

Cultural Resources

Cultural Resource Management

Cultural resources within the park boundaries are subject to state cultural resource protection laws (See Appendix ?). Development within the park will be coordinated with the State Park Cultural Resources Planner and the New Mexico State Land Office archaeologist to avoid impact to significant cultural resources. State Park personnel will work to preserve and protect cultural resources from impacts from the public or environmental factors.

Cultural Resource Inventory

No systematic cultural resource inventory has been conducted for City of Rocks State Park and thus, it is unclear exactly what lies within the park boundary. Inventory will be necessary in the future as other surveys in the surrounding area have located many significant cultural resources. Inventory will identify significant cultural resources and will be useful for management and interpretive purposes. It is recommended that State Parks and the State Land Office coordinate such an inventory.

Archaeological Sites

There is potential for a wide range of archaeological sites at this park, representative of the diverse cultures who occupied this region throughout time.

Earliest archaeological sites in the area date to the Paleo-Indian period (B.C. 9500 - B.C. 5500). These mobile hunters and gatherers relied upon the large game of the period, including elephant-like mammoths. Archaic period archaeological sites (B.C. 5500 - 200 A.D.) may also be present. The Archaic people were also hunters and gatherers, living in campsites, hunting game and gathering native plants.

Mimbres sites (200 A.D. - 1400 A.D.) are prolific in the region and the potential for such sites at City of Rocks is very high. The Mimbres were more sedentary than their predecessors, first constructing circular pithouses and, later, rectangular stone pueblos. The Mimbres were agriculturalists, planting fields of corn, beans and squash. Mimbres sites can often be identified by projectile points or by unique black on white pottery.

Historic period sites are also possible at the park. The Apache moved into the area in the 1400's and by the 1500's, the Spanish also began to explore this region. Archaeological remnants may consist of Apache or

Spanish campsites or Spanish trails. Potential Spanish-period rock art may also exist in the park.

By 1804, Colonel Manuel Carrasco, a Spanish army officer, began mining copper at Santa Rita, located approximately 20 miles north of City of Rocks. Carrasco's venture led to a boom in mining in this area throughout the 19th century and into the 20th, continuing to this day through Phelps Dodge Corporation. Historic archaeological sites related to the 19th century often include mining related features, villages, camps and trails. One such mining-related trail passes by the park - a mule trail from Santa Rita to Chihuahua from 1804 - 1834.

Other historic trails passed by the park as well. The Butterfield Overland Route was established by Euro-American traders between 1858 - 1861. It passed just south of the park.

The U.S. military also had an impact on the area. Between 1861 - 1886, Fort Cummings was established at Cooke's Spring near the park to protect travelers from the Apache.

Faywood Hot Springs is located south of the park. Colonel Richard Hudson developed these hot springs as a resort in 1862. This resort became one of the most famous spas in the west throughout the 1950's and is open to this day.

Potential archaeological sites from the historic period may also be linked to ranching and homesteading. Sites may include ranching features, such as corrals or pens. Domestic features such as dugouts, house foundations or outbuildings may also exist.

C. FACILITIES/STRUCTURES

Recreation

CRSP now has 50 non-electrical developed campsites situated along the edge of the "city". These sites each have a defined parking and camping area, picnic table and fire grill. Due to erosion and heavy camping use, many of these sites and parking areas are ill defined. Some of the picnic tables are the old concrete-type and will have to be replaced as they deteriorate. As indicated in Tables #1 and #2, this will be done as needed over Fiscal Years 00 and 01 at an estimated cost of \$1,000. This project will be funded through the park's Annual Operating Budget.

Constant effort is required to maintain the roadways. On-going maintenance is required and cost is primarily in time and equipment operations.

The electrical sites are on the East Side of the park. These 10 sites, each have a concrete-based shelter, picnic table, electrical pedestal, water hydrant, and fire grill.

The park has a large reservation area that includes 5 campsites, a large barbecue grill and table. A group shelter is planned for installation in FY 01 and FY02. This structure will house 6 picnic tables under the protection of a single roof. Here, large family or social groups can dine together whatever the weather. This structure will be funded through CIP funds.

Still within the “reservation area” is a communal fire site, commonly used for “sing-alongs” and “ghost stories”. The reservation area is accessed through its own gate.

An activity area is needed for groups wishing to participate together for games and other endeavors. Construction of this activity area is planned for FY01 through FY02 at an estimated cost of \$1750.00 funded through the park’s Annual Operating Budget.

Four modern ADA accessible vault toilets are located around the park’s loop road. The visitor center complex has modern all-accessible restrooms and hot showers open to the public on a 24-hour basis.

Away from the main campground, accessible by its own road, is the park’s observation point where a 360° view is obtainable of the local area as well as a geographical chart showing the nearby points of reference, historical or geological. This is also a favorite location for the many astronomy buffs that visit our park.

Education

The City of Rocks has a newly installed exhibit center within the office/visitors center complex. The interpretive exhibits depict the desert wildlife as we now know it as well as an exhibit from a prehistoric view of the area. An “Early Inhabitants” exhibit shows the tools and pottery of the Mimbres culture living in this area between AD200 and 1150. The largest exhibit is of the geologic wonders which took place millions of years ago forming the City of Rocks. Explanatory charts, brochures, panels and videos clearly illustrate all phases of these exhibits, but most dramatic is that of the birth of the City of Rocks.

Augmenting this indoor exhibit center we plan to construct an outdoor interpretive amphitheater located just beyond our botanical gardens. Here nature has formed a giant parabolic sound reflector from the massive volcanic tuffs. The park plans to have a complete outdoor gathering area including benches, speakers and podiums which will provide visitors an opportunity to take part in educational and interpretive programs. Construction of the amphitheater is scheduled for FY00 at a cost of \$3500.00 and funded through CIP.

Placing CRSP within the local historical and biological context will be an ongoing project bringing about greater understanding through exhibits, discussions and further study of all related topics. Park staff will be continually upgrading our photographic files for use in our slide shows. This will be an ongoing project beginning in FY00 and continuing through FY04 at an estimated total cost of \$2300.00 and funded through the park's Annual Operating Budget. These photographic files will be augmented by the many photographs, which are donated every year by our generous park visitors. Slide shows, lectures and informal on-site discussions will be enhanced because of these joint efforts.

Administration/Staff

The newly constructed visitors center complex located at the entrance to City of Rocks, is basically divided into two sections - one section houses our administrative office, exhibit center and reception area while across the outdoor courtyard are the men's and women's comfort stations.

The maintenance shop is located south and west of the visitors center complex and consists primarily of a two-bay garage and storage area for maintenance equipment. Construction of a chemical and paint locker next to the park shop is planned in FY 00. The structure will be constructed with materials taken from the current entrance pay station building. This project has an estimated cost of \$500 to be funded through the park's AOB.

Two park residences are located in the immediate area of the maintenance shop. Installation 10' x 20' wooden decks for both the front and rear of each residence and privacy fencing is planned in FY00 through FY02 at an estimated cost of \$8,000 and funded by CIP.

The self pay station is located at the main entrance road and currently features the 8-foot informational sign, pay tube and a wooden structure normally used for collections fees one day of the year. This area requires improvements beginning with the removal of the pay station building. The removal of the old pay station is planned in FY00 at an estimated cost of \$500.00 and is to be funded through the park's AOB. Improvements for parking, landscaping, and ADA accessibility are planned in FY01 and

continue through FY02 at an estimated cost of \$1,000 funded through the park's AOB

Near the pay station area is an access road to the park's observation point. A gate is to be installed at the lower entrance for security and safety. This gate would be locked at night. The gate is already constructed and on hand. This project is planned in FY01 at an estimated cost of \$200.00 to be funded through the park's Annual Operating Budget.

D. EQUIPMENT

Communications

The park communications system is comprised of telephones, radios and computer. There is a public pay telephone located at the visitor center. There are telephones in the park office telephones for conducting park business.

Park personnel are equipped with two-way radio communication equipment, which includes radios in the two park vehicles and one hand-held radio with Division frequencies. Installation of a base station at the office is planned in FY00 at an estimated cost of \$2,000.00, to be funded through the park's AOB and CIP. Replacement of a two-way radio for one park vehicle is planned in FY00 at an estimated cost of ?? funded by ??

The park computer offers communication via fax and e-mail directly to Santa Fe, other state parks and the community at large. Internet access is provided by a local service provider. For a complete list of communications equipment located at City of Rocks State Park see Appendix C-1.

Field

The City of Rocks field equipment inventory list is contained in Appendix C-2.

Office

Office equipment on-hand at City of Rocks State Park is identified in Appendix C-3.

Vehicles

City of Rocks has two pickup trucks in use at the present time. One is utilized primarily as an administrative/law enforcement vehicle. The other vehicle is utilized for maintenance. A complete list of vehicles located at City of Rocks State Park is identified in Appendix C-4.

E. TRANSPORTATION and ACCESS

Roads

The roads in the park are adequate to serve the needs of the visitor; however, due to constant erosion, maintenance is an on-going task. Maintaining and upgrading park roads will be an ongoing project beginning in FY00 and continuing through FY04, as indicated in Tables #1 through #5. The new visitor's center entry/exit road requires a guardrail with reflectors for safe night entry and exit, this is planned in FY01 at an estimated cost of \$800.00 and funded through CIP.

Parking

Visitor parking at CRSP meets the current demands under normal use. The initial parking demands are at the visitors center complex. Here, a modest number of vehicles can be accommodated at the front of the building. Additional parking just behind the visitors center wall has proven to be adequate under normal visitation. Currently, the parking area at the Botanical Gardens more than meets the demands placed upon it. However, the installation of an amphitheater adjacent to this area will require more parking. Installation of an additional parking area is planned in FY00 at an estimated cost of \$3,500 funded by CIP.

All campsites have sufficient parking space available. Some are more suited for the larger RVs than others are. Park operations constantly address the parking within site areas as indicated in the project tables. The remaining area of concern with regard to parking is the group shelter area. A small number of vehicles can be accommodated in this area serving a medium-sized group. However, the influx of greater numbers of visitors, as with several of the social groups that attract up to several hundred guests, presents parking problems. Construction of a large parking area below and behind vault toilet #1, just east of the main loop road at the entrance to the park service road is planned. Accommodations for at least 75 vehicles will be required. This will eliminate any vehicles parked along the loop road. This will be an on-going project funded by AOB.

Trails

The core of the trail system at City of Rocks State Park is already in place, starting at the Botanical Gardens area, winding through the gardens south and around our southern-most high point, then returning to the gardens. Another trail can be accessed across the loop road from the gardens. It runs through the center of the City of Rocks northward to the top of the park loop road. The trails area gentle and require no exceptional hiking abilities. All trails are marked with directional signs.

F. UTILITIES

Water

Water for CRSP is currently supplied on site by 2 wells, 1 equipped with an electric submersible pump and 1 windmill. Together they supply the park's needs, this being about 27,000 gallons per month. The windmill behind the visitor's center is an actual working windmill and augments the water supply provided by the west windmill, which is now equipped with an electric submersible pump. The windmill tower on the West Side was preserved primarily for its picturesque quality. A third well with a submersible pump is located at the shop/residential area, but is inoperable due to a collapsed casing.

Electricity

The Texas-New Mexico Power Company provides all the electrical service in the park. This service is extended throughout the park, from the west windmill around the southern loop road, up to the electrical sites, into the visitors center and then down to the maintenance shop and residential area.

Gas

Gas in the park is currently provided under contract with the Ikard-Newsom Gas Company of Deming, New Mexico CRSP utilizes two 500-gallon LP tanks; one at the visitors center complex and the other at the lower shop that stores fuel for park vehicles.

Two additional 500-gallon tanks are in the park that provide service for the two residences.

Sewage

The wastewater provisions in the park are three septic tanks and absorption, or leach field systems. There is one located at the visitor's center and one each at the park residences.

Telephone

The New Western New Mexico Telephone Company provides telephone service in the park. Currently, two telephone lines are provided at the visitor's center/office. One is primarily used for voice communication, the other is used for fax and other data communications. Public telephone service is provided via a pay telephone located at the visitor's center.

Telephone service is also available at the two park residences. Buried telephone cable was installed to the residences and maintenance shop with the expectation of having telephone service available at the shop in the future.

V. STAFFING and BUDGET

A. BUDGET

The approved annual operating budgets and expenditures for CRSP for the past five fiscal years are listed in the table below. The budgets are allocated by the State Park Division to cover annual operating costs.

Table 8

**City of Rocks State Park
Budget/Expenditures - FY 94 through FY98**

Fiscal Year	Allocated Budget	Expenditures
FY 98	\$ 15,365.00	\$ 71,827.00
FY 97	\$ 21,695.00	\$ 84,565.86
FY 96	\$ 16,190.00	\$ 92,319.00
FY 95	\$ 16,460.00	\$ 71,474.00
FY 94	\$ 20,305.00	\$?

B. STAFFING

Permanent employees must be familiar with all the operations and facilities of the park. Here at City of Rocks, each person is able to conduct all operational requirements with the exception of law enforcement, which is provided by certified law enforcement personnel.

Three full-time employees currently staff CRSP: A Park Manager, a Park Ranger II, and a Park Ranger I. There is one seasonal Laborer employed by the park. Volunteers are greatly utilized to staff the exhibit center and reception desk. They also serve as campground hosts in the park's campground CRSP relies very heavily on our volunteer staff and is constantly trying to increase the numbers of volunteers for the variety of tasks required in this park.

The duties and responsibilities of the staff at City of Rocks are identified in Appendix D.

City of Rocks State Park

Appendix A

Current Park Facilities

Recreation:

Quantity: Facility/Description:

- 1 Main campground: 43 developed sites
- 1 Secondary campground: 10 developed sites each with shelter picnic table, electrical pedestal, water hydrant, and fire grill
- 1 Seasonal campground - "The Suburbs": 7 developed sites each with defined parking and access, picnic table and fire grill
- 1 Group reservation site: 5 developed campsites, large barbecue grill and large table
- 1 Communal fire site
- 4 Vault toilets: double-sided, concrete block
- 1 Men's restroom: full-service comfort station with hot showers and handicap-accessible located at visitor center complex
- 1 Women's restroom: full-service comfort station with hot showers and handicap-accessible located at visitor center complex

Education:

Quantity: Facility/Description:

- 1 Exhibit center: located at visitor center complex and depicting historical, cultural and geological murals, geological video display, reception area with counter for public contact and dissemination of park information

Administration/Staff:

Quantity: Facility/Description:

- 1 Administrative office: located in visitor center complex
- 1 Maintenance shop: modern, 2-bay, carport
- 2 Staff residences:
- 1 Pay station: located at entrance to park
- 3 Water wells: 1 actual windmill located behind the visitor center complex, 1 windmill converted to submersible pump located on the west side of the park, and 1 non-operable submersible pump at the shop/residential area

City of Rocks State Park
Appendix B-1
Map of City of Rocks State Park

**City of Rocks State Park
Appendix B-2
Regional Location**

**City of Rocks State Park
Appendix B-3
Lands/Realty**

**City of Rocks State Park
Appendix C-1
List of Equipment - Communication**

Communications Equipment

Quantity:	Item:	Make/Model/Description:
1	Radio, handheld	Midland LMR/Mo. #70-165-16B
1	Radio, handheld	Icom/ Mo.#1CF30LT
1	Charger (for handheld radios)	Mo. #8R 151328
1	Radio, Base	G.E. Desktop Station/Mo. #

**City of Rocks State Park
Appendix C-2
List of Equipment - Field**

Field Equipment (over \$500)

Quantity:	Item:	Make/Model/Description:
1	Tractor	John Deere/#1070
1	Cement mixer	
1	Trash compactor	"Pup"
1	Welder	Lincoln/electric/variable voltage/A/C arc welder
1	Cleaning system	Aladdin/high-pressure
2	Windmills	Chicago Aero-Motor (one conversion)
1	Pump	Submersible/2-hp w/accompanying electrical line (west-side windmill)
1	Pump	Submersible/3/4-hp w/accompanying electrical line (residential pumphouse)
1	Generator	Homelite/#2500 w/carrier

Field Equipment (under \$500)

Quantity:	Item:	Make/Model/Description:
1	Air compressor	Campbell-Hausfield/1-hp/"Power Pal"
1	Bench grinder	Master Mechanic/6"

Field Equipment - Trailers

Quantity:	Item:	Make/Model/Description:
1	Utility	7' x 14'

**City of Rocks State Park
Appendix C-3
List of Equipment - Office**

Office Equipment (over \$500)

Quantity:	Item:	Make/Model/Description:
1	Computer	AST Bravo/386 SX
1	Monitor	AST/Color/VGA
1	Printer	Hewlett-Packard/Laserjet/5L
1	Copier	Sharp/#SF7370/8½ x 11

Office Equipment (under \$500)

Quantity:	Item:	Make/Model/Description:
1	Typewriter	IBM/Selectric II
1	Calculator	Sharp/#FO-365
1	Answering machine	Panasonic/Auto-Logic

**City of Rocks State Park
Appendix C-4
List of Equipment - Vehicles**

Equipment - Vehicles

Quantity:	Item:	Make/Model/Description:
1	Truck, pickup	1994 Ford/F-150
1	Truck, pickup	1995 Ford/F-150
1	Motor scooter	Honda/Passport Deluxe 70

City of Rocks State Park
Appendix D
Authorized Staffing for City of Rocks State Park

A. Park Administration

I. Park Manager

Supervises the operation and maintenance at City of Rocks State Park. Plans and schedules all work projects. Has primary responsibility for purchasing and budgets. Schedules staff to provide visitor services. Serves as the primary law enforcement officer and the primary liaison to other agencies and local communities.

B. Park Operations and Maintenance

I. Park Ranger II

Provides administrative assistance to the Park Manager in park operations and park program applications. Performs park maintenance in accordance with Division Standards. Is accountable for the protection of park visitors and park resources in the areas of public safety, visitor management and law enforcement. Provides supervision for subordinate park personnel including Ranger I's, seasonal laborers and field volunteers.

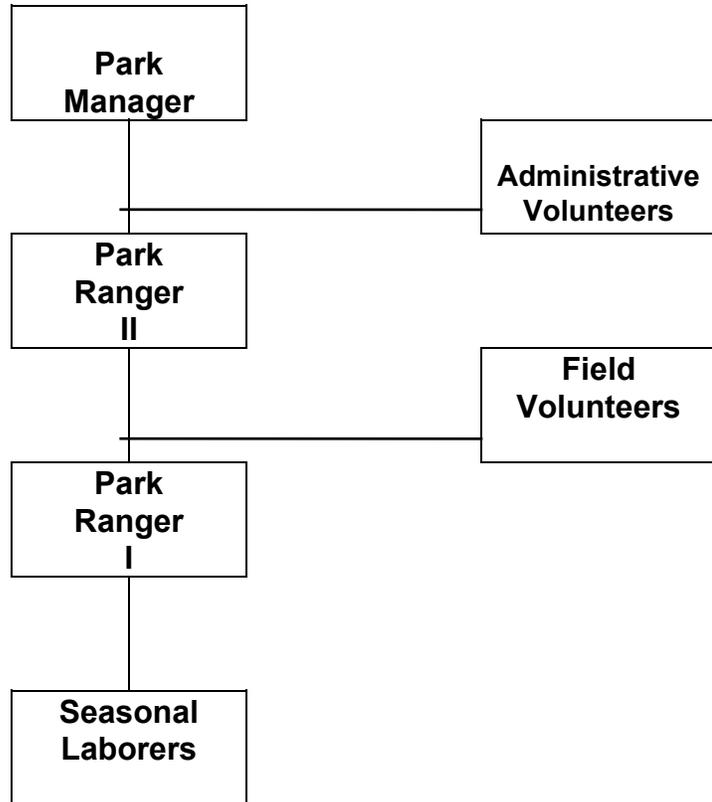
II. Park Ranger I

Maintains park facilities, utilities, equipment and vehicles according to Division Standards. Maintains daily logs for the Standards of Care, monthly vehicle and equipment logs. Assists the Park Ranger II in the operations of the park including visitor safety and management and road and landscape maintenance. Supervises all aspects of equipment use and provides leadership for seasonal laborers and field volunteers.

III. Seasonal Laborer

Customer service and maintenance related.

**City of Rocks State Park
Appendix E
City of Rocks State Park Staff Organization Chart**



City of Rocks State Park

Appendix F

Cultural Resource Protection Laws

The following cultural resource protection laws are applicable to City of Rocks State Park, owned by the New Mexico State Land Office. Each law has a bearing on the management of the park. Personnel should reference the Cultural Resources Guidelines for New Mexico State Parks for more detail regarding the documentation, protection and preservation of cultural resources.

Federal

Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 (25 USC 3001). This act protects Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony. It prohibits the sale, purchase or use or transport for sale or profit, the human remains of a Native American. The law outlines the procedures in the event of an inadvertent discovery of a Native American burial as well as the relinquishment of control of such items to the appropriate Native American group.

National Register of Historic Places, 36 CFR, Part 60. This is the official federal list of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture. These properties must have historic significance and integrity and must meet at least one of the following criteria: Association with significant events; association with important persons; distinctive design or physical characteristics; or potential to yield information important in history or prehistory.

State

New Mexico Cultural Properties Act (18-6-1 to 18-6-17 NMSA 1978). This act recognizes that the historical and cultural heritage of the state as one of the state's most valued and important assets. It indicates that the neglect, desecration and destruction of historical and cultural sites, structures, places and objects result in an irreplaceable loss to the public. It establishes the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division (HPD) to maintain the New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties (similar to the National Register) and the review of state projects to determine effect upon significant historic properties. This law prohibits unauthorized excavation, injury or damage to cultural properties located on state land. It requires excavation and burial permits and assesses criminal and/or civil penalties for unlawful excavation of cultural properties or burials. Finally, this law requires that site location remain confidential.

New Mexico Prehistoric and Historic Sites Preservation Act (18-8-1 to

18-8-8 NMSA 1989). This law states that no public funds of the state shall be spent on any program that requires the use of any portion of land from a significant prehistoric or historic site unless there is no feasible and prudent alternative and unless the project includes all possible planning to preserve and protect the cultural property.

New Mexico Cultural Properties Protection Act (18-16A-1 to 18-6A-6 NMSA1993). This law requires state agencies to establish a system of professional surveys of cultural properties on state lands. State agencies are required to cooperate with the Historic Preservation Division to ensure that cultural properties are not inadvertently damaged or destroyed.

City of Rocks State Park currently has 10 electrical sites and 50 non-electrical developed campsites. Current visitation counts indicate less than 50% occupancy of these sites. Management will promote the natural resources and other attributes of the park in an attempt to increase visitation.

Planned improvements of the park include upgrading the ability to supply water to meet public demands and upgrading the park's communication systems. The problems currently being addressed are the increased use of the new visitors center complex and group reservation site. The increased visitation impacts roads, access areas, parking lots and campsites requires which will require continual monitoring to insure safety and maintenance considerations are met. beautification, and education,. . Over the next five years, the thrust of the park's efforts will be to bring into focus all of these additions and to meet the challenges associated with their continual maintenance and improvements.

Our main effort will be to improve upon the facilities currently in place, for example the visitors center with more elaborate beautification by way of extensive landscaping or, to be more precise, xeriscaping; for the new mobile homes, decks - both front and rear, fencing for safety and beautification; and the entrance pay station for upgrading, landscaping and compliance with A.D.A. accessibility requirements.

Moving deeper into the park, again, the upgrading of our group reservation area with the addition of a large pavilion to help meet the needs of the ever-growing numbers of families, civic groups and fraternal organizations taking part in the outdoor activities here at City of Rocks. This growth has stimulated the need for a non-reservation group activities area catering to all ages of park visitors so that they might gather together for outdoor activities and games, such as volleyball, badminton and horseshoes, just to name a few.

Also planned, construction of a new outdoor amphitheater, a facility for outdoor meetings, discussions and educational programs. This facility will consist of an A.D.A. accessible area with parking allowing visitors to be seated and to partake of the educational resources of the State Park.

Proper care of our resources and prudent utilization of our equipment will be the ongoing theme in order to achieve our goals. Overseeing the safety requirements for the 71,000+ annual visitors to the park is obviously going to require extensive preventative maintenance. The roads in the park, access areas and campsites will need continual addressing. Reflective fencing will be required to safely channel our visitors through the park day and night.

All of this focused on such a small park, requires a highly efficient and well-trained staff, another area to be addressed in the coming years. As with all parks in the state, City of Rocks is required to maintain a high level of proficiency and professionalism. Training enables our staff to meet the challenges and needs of our park as well as addressing the public and the many needs they have in their thirst for knowledge and a quality outdoor experience. It is the desire of this park to produce more exhibits, brochures and audio-visual productions to meet these needs; to answer the questions before they are asked; to send little "Johnny" home with "show and tell" materials he never expected...; to make the visitor want to know...and want to see...; and, hopefully, to volunteer; to make the park visitor want to be a part of the New Mexico State Parks.

The Mimbres, or Mimbreno, Indians settled in the area about 750-1250AD. Arrowheads and pottery shards are still found today. Mortars - small, smooth-sided cylindrical or conical holes - are found in the rocks along the trail in the northern part of the park. These were formed over many years of prehistoric Indians grinding seeds with stone manos. Indian grinding stones are also found along the trails. Later, Apache Indians moved into the area, followed by Spanish explorers and settlers arriving in the 1500's.

. Cacti of many varieties and growth of juniper dot the landscape as well as Emory and black oak. Lechuguilla agave, also called the century plant, or the New Mexico agave, is the one plant indigenous to the Chihuahuan Desert and grows sparingly at City of Rocks.