

Project Name:**Canoa Ranch New Museum/Orientation Center****PRXXX**

1. **Broad Demonstrated Support by Public:** Canoa Ranch has drawn broad public support evidenced by the numerous volunteers who have stepped forward and have donated hundreds of hours to help with restoration work and to serve as tour guides. The two foundations, Friends of Canoa and De La Canoa, are working to raise funds to expand Canoa Ranch and its visitor center and have expressed support of future bonds for Canoa. Canoa Ranch continues to draw interest from the general public as ongoing tours to the ranch are at capacity. Local non-profit groups continue to offer support and have expressed a willingness to partner with Pima County to help increase exposure to Canoa Ranch.
2. **Has Regional Public Benefit:** With Canoa Ranch located in the Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Area, legislation is currently before the U.S. Congress to include Canoa as a key component within the proposed Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area. National recognition will encourage visitation to Canoa as a natural extension of growing public awareness, tourism, coupled with easy access from nearby I-19. Canoa Ranch by many is an important future center for the history of Southern Arizona ranching and ranch life, and an attractive and unique location for civic and private functions. In addition, there will be a variety of educational opportunities ranging from guided tours of the ranch complex, classes on nature watching, to understanding building restoration, art, and more.

Historically, Canoa Ranch was the center of economic, farming, and social life in the Santa Cruz Valley from the 1870s until the 1970s. Public awareness of the importance of Canoa Ranch has been increasing since 1997, including the understanding that Canoa represents a unique collection of resources that embody pre-historic, Spanish, Mexican, and American periods. Above all, Canoa Ranch is recognized as a complete microcosm of history, and offers outstanding natural, conservation, and built resources for the enjoyment of the public. The property was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on May 30, 2007. The new museum/orientation center will prepare visitors before they enter the Ranch Head Quarters complex, and provide suitable support services for individuals and groups visiting the site. It is necessary to construct a new building to house such activities, since the existing buildings cannot be altered without seriously altering their historic integrity.

3. **Partnerships:** Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance, Friends of Canoa Heritage Foundation, Inc., University of Arizona, Empire Ranch Foundation, The Tucson Presidio Trust, Pima County Department of Sustainability and Conservation, The Audubon Society, De la Canoa Foundation, Dawn Morley- Have Some Fun-Tourism Media
4. **Other Funding Sources or Matches:** Other than fiscal O&M funds from NRPR, there are no other funds. Potential funding sources can come from public/private partnerships with the two foundations; Friends of Canoa and De La Canoa and from potential historical/restoration grant monies.
5. **Education and Workforce Training:** Education will primarily be for the benefit of the visiting public, but will have additional draw being part of the Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area (when approved by Congress). Canoa will benefit from also being part of the Pima County's park system, drawing local, seasonal, and traveling visitors.
6. **Advances Board Adopted Principles of Sustainability and Conservation:** The new Canoa Museum/Orientation Center will be built to LEED Silver or Gold standard. Special care will

be given to the design of the new facility to ensure it fits within the context of the historic ranch, its buildings, and environs.

7. Previously Authorized Large-scale Bond Projects or Programs that are Now Short of Funding: 1997 bond (CH-29, \$346,183.23) used for essential emergency repairs, and nomination of the property to the National Register of Historic Places, and begin the planning process for long-term use. 2004 Bonds Funds allowed completion of a Master Plan, and instituted four phases of rehabilitation, completed in 2013. These phases of work were all for rehabilitation of existing buildings, and the ranch was opened to the public in March, 2013.
8. Phasing of Large Projects: This new project will build on the previous phases and continue toward fulfillment of the BOS-approved Canoa Master Plan (2007) with the construction of the new Museum/Orientation Center.
9. Impact on Operating and Maintenance Costs for Governments and Commitment to Fund These Ongoing Costs: O&M would be assumed by NRPR. Estimates for the operation of this building would be approximately \$873,000 (from Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation).
10. Project or Program is a Capital Improvement, Not a Repair or Maintenance Project: This project is a new capital improvement.