

Friends of Bandelier

My name is Brad Traver and I'm thrilled to be the new superintendent at Bandelier National Monument. I have no history in New Mexico, other than as a tourist, so I'm soaking up all I can about the park, the communities around us, and the state.

I've spent the last 22 years in Arizona, primarily at Grand Canyon National Park but the last four years as superintendent of Tonto National Monument, where we rebuilt an archaeological program that had not had a resident archaeologist in over 30 years. We undertook the updating of visitor center exhibits that had remained unchanged for the last 40 years. We also established relationships with the American Indian Tribes who are affiliated with the sites at Tonto, some members of which had never been to the park.

At Grand Canyon, I held various positions in planning and facility development, including taking the lead on implementing that park's 1995 master plan. I participated in the creation of the Grand Canyon Foundation, that park's friends group, and worked closely with the leadership of that group in their earliest years.

My education is in engineering and my experience is in facility planning and development, including a significant dose of historic preservation – something I expect to put to good use at Bandelier.

I look forward to meeting you and working with the staff and the Board of the Friends in the coming months and years.