Highlight- Provide for Long Term Viability of the Network: FPAN SW Facebook Live hits 1 million views

In March of 2020, Rachael Kangas, Public Archaeology Coordinator for FPAN SW began broadcasting weekly Facebook Live events on Thursdays at 3 PM EST featuring a range of topics from how the counties of Southwest Florida got their names to cemetery protection in the region. The talks have also featured guest speakers like Dave Scheidecker, Historian for the Seminole Tribe of Florida, and, more recently, Dr. Justin Dunnavant, who spoke about his upcoming segment on Hulu’s series “Your Attention Please.” By March of 2021, the Facebook Live events had reached a total of one million viewers.

First Quarter July-September 2020:

Education Highlight: Summer Archaeology Activity Hour Kits

Due to Covid-19, in person events from July-September had to be cancelled. FPAN SE/SW staff adapted to challenge by developing an intensive one-week online program to introduce students in south Florida to archaeology.

Students were mailed kits for the experience. Over the week-long staff led program they studied topics related to archaeology like stratigraphy, and learned methodology for how archaeologists analyze sites. Participants also had fun creating maps of archaeological sites, building boats, and making pottery.
Second Quarter October-December 2020:

Thinking Like a Network through collaboration on statewide Heritage Monitoring Scouts (HMS) Grant: Terrestrial Laser Scanning at Calusa Island

In November, FPAN SW staff along with FPAN Regional Director for West Central and Central Regions, Jeff Moates, began terrestrial laser scanning at Calusa Island. This site is included in a list of 12 sites that are part of a deliverable to the Bureau of Archaeological Research for FPAN’s HMS grant.

FPAN staff visited and scanned the site to document the current extent of the deteriorating conditions of the site. These scans will produce a critical snapshot of the deterioration of the site.

Third Quarter January 2021-March 2021:

Thinking Like a Network: Heritage Monitoring Scouts at Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park

As part of FPAN’s Heritage Monitoring Scouts initiative, Rachael Kangas visited 41 archaeological sites within the Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park. Kangas coordinated with park staff for the visits. The extensive archaeological record of Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park is unique in the region and Kangas’ efforts have not only furthered the goals of the HMS program but will also provide valuable insight for park management into prioritizing efforts in the future.

Fourth Quarter April 2021-June 2021

Increase Protection of Archaeological Resources By Working at the Local Level

FPAN SW staff including Sara Ayers-Rigsby and Rachael Kangas assisted National Park Service Staff in shovel testing documentation of archaeological resources within Big Cypress National Preserve.