

Reserve Management



Park management and planning is fundamental to the reserve's future. Informed management designs are based on inventories of the ecological and cultural resources within the protected area. Additionally, identification of the stakeholders in the project, incorporation of public interests, articulation of the overarching mission, and a clear set of objectives for the sustainable maintenance of the park is essential. Finally, the extent of conservation goals, the issues of access and education in the design, and the long-term funding needs must be addressed.

The objectives of the management plan for the El Pilar Archaeological Reserve for Maya Flora and Fauna must incorporate the diverse dimensions of the program. Planning decisions need to address the security of the reserve and its articulation with the surrounding community, including farmers who have used the areas in the recent past. Long-term concerns for conservation of the ancient architecture and the environment need to be integrated into the plan. Educational and interpretive designs for the landscape and the on-site visitor center must also be considered. These aspects are critical to establishing the reserve on a lasting foundation, where the potential of El Pilar as an integrative model incorporates the concerns and desires for both conservation and development.