Project Title: Testing Two Prehistoric Sites at Curecanti National Recreation Area
Discipline: Cultural Resources
Type of Project: Research
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana
Funding Amount: $26,992

Investigators and Agency Representative:
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Project Abstract:
This project proposes limited testing of two multi-component, archeological sites in Curecanti NRA in western Colorado, in order to gather supporting data for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. One site (5GN1277) has been determined eligible for nomination, with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer’s (SHPO) concurrence, but previous investigations at either site have not been substantial enough to support a formal nomination.

The proposed project seeks basic data acquisition by using limited evaluative testing to determine, to the extent possible, 1.) the temporal range of occupation, 2.) seasonality of occupation, 3.) detectible changes in subsistence use of both floral and faunal resources, 4.) detectible changes in stone tool assemblages through time, 5.) inter-regional cultural interaction in the form of trade or migration, and 6.) should ceramics be found at either site, the origin of the ceramics and the regional context of the ceramic technologies. Limited testing of each site has the potential to accomplish these goals. The project will also contribute to broader, regional research questions regarding settlement patterns and seasonal movement.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:
1) Written report of findings from excavations and sample analysis (10 paper copies, 2 electronic copies); 2) National Register Nominations for two prehistoric sites; 3) Automated National Catalog System (ANCS) database for field and lab documentation, and artifacts.

Keywords: prehistoric, archeological sites, National Register of Historic Places, Curecanti National Recreation Area, University of Montana, National Register of Historic Places

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Date Annual Report Received:
Date Final Report Received:
Publications, etc. on file: