

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: University of Montana Archeological Field School Inventory and NR Testing at Bridge Bay-Lake-Fishing Bridge Developed Areas and along the Shore of Yellowstone Lake

Discipline: Cultural
Type of Project: Research
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana
Effective Dates: July 15, 2009 - May 15, 2013
Funding Amount: \$29,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

NPS Contact: Elaine Hale, Yellowstone National Park, Yellowstone Center for Resources
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Investigator: Doug MacDonald, Department of Anthropology, University of Montana,
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Project Abstract: The University of Montana field team will conduct archeological survey and National Register testing within areas defined on the Comprehensive Planning map for the Bridge Bay-Lake-Fishing Bridge developed areas and on the north shore of Yellowstone Lake. The team will define site limits, draw site plan views and maps, and prepare site forms, as well as provide condition assessments as required by YNP personnel. Test excavations will also be conducted at all sites identified to ascertain the presence/absence of subsurface cultural deposits, site stratigraphy, and assess the integrity of the site for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. All work will be performed in conjunction with YNP archeologist Elaine Hale. If not completed in 2009, using site locations provided by the NPS, the University of Montana will document the sites previously identified but inadequately recorded by Wichita State University.

Project work will be completed by the UM field team under the direction of Doug MacDonald and designated graduate student assistants. The remainder of the field crew will consist of 10-15 students enrolled in the University of Montana archeological field school.

In addition to fieldwork, the UM field team will perform artifact analysis, lithic analysis, report preparation, and artifact curation. Artifacts will be entered in to the ANCS+ cataloging program. These activities will be conducted at the University of Montana's Department of Anthropology in Missoula, Montana in Fall 2010 and Spring 2011.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: Due Date for Final Report and/or Project Deliverables: May 15, 2013

List of Products:

- o Pedestrian Inventory of the Bridge Bay-Lake-Fishing Bridge developed areas as identified in the map and possibly some work on the north shore of Yellowstone Lake
- o Wyoming Cultural Sites Forms for all historic and prehistoric archeological sites recorded within survey area
- o Site Condition Assessment Forms for each site, by Sept 7, 2010.
- o National Register Testing, where necessary
- o Inventory report
- o ANCS+ database

Keywords: archeology, field school, artifact curation, Yellowstone Lake, Yellowstone National Park, University of Montana