

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Develop a Digital Asset Management Plan for Little Bighorn

Discipline: Cultural
Type of Project: Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana
Effective Dates: 4/1/2011 - 3/31/2012
Funding Amount: \$10,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

NPS Contact: Melana Stichman, Biological Sciences Technician, Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument P.O. Box 39 Crow Agency, MT 59022-0039; 406-638-3225; Melana_stichman@nps.gov

Investigator: Greg Campbell, Department of Anthropology, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812; (406) 243-2478, Gregory.campbell@mso.umt.edu

Project Abstract: The major aim of the project is to create a Digital Asset Management Plan that will provide a framework and roadmap for managing and making accessible LIBI's digital assets. It will seek as much as practical to leverage resources available to all NPS sites and integrate LIBI digital assets with other NPS and national historical aggregators and databases. LIBI will partner with the University of Montana in collaboration with Denver University to perform the work.

The Digital Asset Management Plan will have three parts: Needs Assessment, Landscape/Gap Analysis, and Management Plan with Action Recommendations.

Needs Analysis:

The Needs Analysis will define the digital access, management, and security, needs for LIBI.

Landscape and Gap Analysis:

The Plan will define Digital Curation/Preservation/Data Archiving and Records Management based on national standards and best practices and compare that with existing infrastructure at LIBI. The resulting "gap analysis" will identify areas where the current system is below standards or desires evaluation.

Management Plan and Action Recommendations:

The Management Plan itself will be developed in conjunction with LIBI and Western Archeological Conservation Center (WACC) staff and can serve as a framework for developing a Data Management Program at LIBI. Drawing on the information in the previous sections for justification, the Data Management Plan will not only provide a roadmap for development, but also provide the justification for those activities and policies so that the program can be implemented and meet current best practices. The goal is to provide a means for LIBI to develop a sustainable data management program within the context of available and potential funding, infrastructure and skills, and for that program to be accessible to WACC and other potential NPS users. This precedent-setting project will also serve as guidance for future efforts at other park units.

The action recommendations will provide a set of specific near-term activities in which LIBI can engage and more general suggestions for where and how to secure additional funding required to fully implement the plan. Already identified near-term activities include identifying and supporting activities required to prepare and/or upgrade collection metadata or digital objects, and developing a migration schedule for existing digital content

Outcomes with Completion Dates: January 1, 2013

The Digital Asset Management Plan report will be the product for this project.

Keywords: Little Bighorn National Battlefield, University of Montana, Digital Asset Management Plan