

## Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

**Project Title:** Archeological Reconnaissance of the Snake and Lewis Rivers in Yellowstone National Park

**Discipline:** Cultural  
**Type of Project:** Technical Assistance  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** University of Montana  
**Effective Dates:** 5/1/2013 - @/28/2016  
**Funding Amount:** \$66,949

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** The Snake River Headwaters, including the entire project area, was designated a National Wild and Scenic River (NWSR) in 2009 (see map below). Yellowstone and other federal agencies are currently developing a Comprehensive River Management Plan due to this designation. Virtually no information exists regarding archeological resources along these river segments. This project will develop an archeological inventory of sites along the Snake and Lewis Rivers within the NWSR, and evaluate sites for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The project area has been barely examined archaeologically, with only three known sites. This is despite the high likelihood that the area was heavily used by prehistoric and historic period peoples due to the extensive riverine resources present. Limited prior archaeology has been conducted in these areas, including one survey of the portion of the Lewis River between Shoshone and Lewis Lakes by Kenneth Cannon of the Midwest Archeological Center in the early 1990s.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: final technical report of 2013-2014 fieldwork is due December 31, 2015

**Keywords:** archeology, technical assistance, Yellowstone National Park, University of Montana