

**Project Summary**  
**Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** Yellowstone Lake Locale Cultural Resource Survey

**Discipline:** Cultural

**Type of Project:** Technical Assistance/Research/Education

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

**Other Partners/Cooperators:** University of Montana

**Student Participation:** Yes

**Effective Dates:** 4/30/2016 - 7/1/2017

**Funding Amount:** \$100,000

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

NPS Contact: Staffan Peterson Park Archeologist National Park Service Yellowstone, NP  
PO Box 168 Yellowstone NP, WY 82190 Phone: 307-344-2290

Investigator: Dr. Douglas MacDonald Department of Anthropology University of Montana  
Missoula, MT 59812 406-243-5814 Douglas.macdonald@umontana.edu

**Project Abstract:** The Recipient (UM) will conduct a cultural resources inventory, evaluation, and condition assessments for a study area at or near the East Entrance Road, from the junction of the Grand Loop Road and the East Entrance Road, east to the Indian Pond vicinity. The study areas will be specified in detail by NPS prior to the start of work. Cultural resource inventory and evaluation to identify cultural resources will be conducted to the standards set by the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification of Historic Properties and the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officers 2003 Guidelines and Standards for Class III Reports. All work will be performed in conjunction with the park archeologist. Project work will be completed by the UM field team under the direction of Principal Investigator Douglas MacDonald and designated graduate student assistants. Among these assistants will be Matt Nelson (Field Director), Justin Pfau, Brandon Bachman, and Cathy Beecher. Each of these individuals has completed M.A. research at the University of Montana on prior projects in and around the Fishing Bridge/Yellowstone Lake area.

Historic and archeological contexts for the study area have been developed by NPS and will be provided prior to field work. Additional archival research may be required.

**Inventory**

UM will conduct archeological inventory of the study area with personnel spaced at 10 meter intervals or less. Sites will be identified on the basis of two or more prehistoric artifacts, or 50 individual historic artifacts, or one or more features within 30 meters of one another. Materials identified by NPS or the Principal Investigator as road trash will not be considered a cultural resource. Surface artifacts, roads, and other pertinent landmarks will be mapped using a GPS, and described. Shovel tests may be conducted where the Crew Chief deems it necessary, such as areas where ground visibility is poor. The team will indicate the area surveyed and any sites inventoried on a USGS topographic quadrangle, will prepare site forms, and will provide site condition assessments as required by YNP personnel. The team will also photograph the project area, site locale, and pertinent historic features for inclusion in the report and site forms as appropriate.

**Evaluation**

UM will conduct test excavations at all sites identified, to ascertain the presence/absence of subsurface cultural deposits, site stratigraphy, and the integrity of the site, or conduct other studies appropriate to determining eligibility of such sites for the National Register of Historic Places.

**Keywords:** Yellowstone Lake, cultural, inventory, Yellowstone National Park, University of Montana