

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

**Project Title:** Inventory/Assess Threats to Archeological Resources on Trail Segments with High Visitor Use, YELL

**Discipline:** Cultural

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

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

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

**Student Participation:** Yes

**Effective Dates:** September 23, 2019 to September 16, 2023

**Funding Amount:** \$85,919

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** All work will be performed in conjunction with the Park Archeologist. The Recipient will inventory portions of the park's trail system to identify as of yet unknown cultural resources, including both pre-contact and historic-period artifacts and features within archaeological contexts. The Recipient will perform archaeological site condition assessments for resources identified within trail segment study areas, and evaluate identified archaeological sites for their eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Recipient will also recommend monitoring strategies and additional site treatments to minimize threats to identified archaeological resources within project study areas.

Historic and archeological contexts for park trail corridors have been developed by NPS and will be provided prior to field work. Additional archival research may be required by the Recipient. Documentation and evaluation of cultural resources, and reporting of findings will be conducted to the standards set by the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification of Historic Properties, the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officers 2003 Guidelines and Standards Cultural Resource Documentation, the Guidelines and Procedures for Cultural Resource Review for the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, and the Guidelines for Documenting Archaeological and Historic Surveys for the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office.

Site treatment activities undertaken during fieldwork will consist of addressing minor site impacts through hands-on actions during fieldwork. This will include, placing matting for soil stabilization, repositioning unrooted vegetation (small fallen tree limbs, or unrooted loose plant materials) to protect sensitive site features and artifact clusters, and mitigating modern impacts (e.g. disperse modern fire rings, remove modern refuse piles). All condition information will be incorporated into GIS data and map showing the location and severity of impacts.