

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: National Register Nomination for the Northeast Entrance Road, Yellowstone National Park, Montana and Wyoming

Discipline: Cultural Resources
Type of Project: Research
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Wyoming
Effective Dates: 12/15/2013- 12/31/2015
Funding Amount: \$50,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The Northeast Entrance Road Historic District, a 28.61 mile road, extends from the Northeast boundary of Yellowstone National park to a point where it meets the Grand Loop Road at Tower Junction. The historic district passes through a variety of unique terrain, has 6 historic bridges that are eligible for the National Register, one listed National Historic Landmark entrance station, five masonry box culverts, three drylaid stone retaining walls and over 200 historic road features that contribute to the character of the road.

The description of the Northeast Entrance Road needs to be expanded to include a cultural landscape component descriptions (including natural systems and features, land use changes, circulation, special organization, and buildings and structures) associated with the road added to the narrative description in Section 7. The nomination needs a discussion of the Baronett Bridge and Cabin site, The Soda Butte Soldier Station site, the former haying operations at the current Lamar Ranger Station and Barn and Lamar Institute site, and other significant historic areas such as the Round Prairie Hotel and the fishing operation at Fish Lake. Expanded access to mining areas outside the park, to recreational areas within the park, to significant paleontological specimens, glacially transformed landscapes, access to significant trail systems, and other areas needs to be expanded.

A new sketch map identifying character defining features of the Northeast Entrance Road needs to be drafted as well as the appropriate 7.5 minute maps as required by the National Register. Historic photographs (from our archives) need to be added to the continuation sheets. Wide format photographs need to be taken, labeled, and mounted on acid free paper (no glue). The National Register Nomination of the West Entrance road is in final draft by YNP cultural resources staff but could benefit by having the maps and photographs prepared professionally under this cooperative agreement.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: By December 31, 2015, the cooperator will complete:

1. Archival Research and Field documentation of the Northeast Entrance Road Historic District
2. Maps with GPS points and wide format photographs of the road
3. Draft National Register Nomination for Montana and Wyoming State Review Committees
4. National Register Nomination to NPS Washington NR Office Historian for final review

Keywords: National Register, Northeast Entrance Road, Yellowstone National Park, University of Wyoming