

Project Summary
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: YPP: Lockhart Right-of-Way Fence

Discipline: Cultural
Type of Project: Technical Assistance/Education
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Wyoming Conservation Corps
Student Participation: Yes
Effective Dates: 6/1/2016 - 9/1/2016
Funding Amount: \$23,000.00

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: Replace Lockhart boundary right-of-way fence which is located in Montana but is overseen by Bighorn Canyon NRA's South District Unit in Wyoming. The current right-of-way fence that borders the historic Lockhart Ranch is in need of replacement. Over the past several years, trailing cattle have been able to break through the existing fence and continue down into the historic ranches. These cattle have caused extreme damage to historic landscape and structures including destroying historic floors in cabins, ripping off historic doors and door jams, and tipping historic retaining walls. These damages are not only extremely expensive to repair, but damage to some of the historic resources are not repairable and the historic fabric is lost. The fence will replace an approximately 15 year old post and barbed wire fence that was installed by youth crews originally. The new fence will stretch for 2.75 miles along the West boundary of the ranch. The old fencing material will be replaced with buck and rail fencing which will more effectively keep the trespassing cows out of the ranch and is more wildlife friendly. The fence will include 12.5' rails, three horizontal and one diagonal in the back and cross bucks on both ends. Over 14,000 linear feet of fence will be removed and replaced with new. PLC crews from the Wyoming or Montana Conservation Corp will be utilized for a determined time frame that will be worked out with organizational leads in the future. End of May, 2016: all project planning and materials purchasing will be completed. Once funding is allocated representatives will be contacted from PLC MCC/WCC organizations to schedule work dates. Crews will work between June and Aug, 2016, and work completed by Sept.30, 2016.

Keywords: Fencing, Lockhart Ranch, right-of-way, Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area, Wyoming Conservation Corps