

**2004 Abstracts
Jackson, Wyoming**

Adams, Richard (Wyoming State Archaeologist's Office)

RECENT HIGH ALTITUDE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN THE TETON, WIND RIVER, AND ABSAROKA MOUNTAINS, WYOMING.

This slide show summarizes collaborative efforts among the Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist, the National Park Service, the Shoshone and Caribou-Targhee National Forests, and Taylor Outfitting of Dubois. In past three years, with the help of Wyoming Archaeological Society (WAS) volunteers and University of Wyoming students, important new sites have been located and recorded that shed light on Wyoming's aboriginal soapstone industry, the Sheepsteater Shoshone, and prehistoric use of the mountains. As a result of these collaborations, we have located more than 60 prehistoric sites, most of which are above 10,000 feet above sea level. While recording these sites we have found dozens of soapstone artifacts, more than 40 chipped stone tools, and two wickiups. More fieldwork with WAS volunteers is planned for this coming summer in the Wind River and Teton Ranges.

Burgess, Cheryl (Black Hills National Forest)

CURRAN'S CABIN: AN ELIGHTENING AND ENRICHING EXPERIENCE IN RESTORATION, RECONSTRUCTION, AND REHABILITATION OR WHAT THEY DID ON THEIR SUMMER VACATIONS

In the summers of 2001 through 2003, a varied group of dedicated volunteers from several states gathered north of Rochford, South Dakota on the Black Hills National Forest to bring a dilapidated miner's cabin back to life. Under the auspices of the Passport in Time Program, three local recruits directed various facets of the work assisting Black Hills National Forest personnel. Their qualifications and capacity for innovation quickly exceeded the capabilities of those of us administering the project. Stabilization, dismantling and reconstruction of the cabin took place over a three year period. Excavations in and around the cabin, as well as detailed plotting at an associated hand dug well, recovered data about the cabin's past and the history of the occupants. Co-operative mapping efforts with the South Dakota Archaeological Research Center produced a detailed site map. A small amount of work remains to address drainage, to finish chinking and windows and to set an interpretive sign. The project will result in a standing cabin and interpretive site for the public to enjoy.

Cannon, Kenneth P. and Molly Boeka Cannon (National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center)

RECENT INVESTIGATIONS AT THE GOETZ SITE, JACKSON HOLE, WYOMING

In 1972 the University of Wyoming excavated what was reported as a bison kill site on the National Elk Refuge, Jackson Hole, Wyoming. A minimum age of the kill was placed at 500 years from a charcoal lens stratigraphically above the bone deposit. Re-analysis of the kill indicates that it dates to ca. 800 years ago. More recent investigations have revealed the bison kill was only one component of a more complicated site history that may extend back 9000 years. Field investigations, sponsored by the Earthwatch Institute and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, have produced evidence of a 1900-year-old processing area and a lithic industry based on the bifacial reduction of local quartzite.

Cheshier, Joe (University of Wyoming)

ADDITIONAL ACTUALISTIC STUDIES ON PROJECTILE POINT DURABILITY

This study addresses the question of how size, specifically thickness-to-length ratio, affects longevity or durability of projectile points. An experiment was conducted to test the hypothesis that points with a larger thickness-to-length ratio would have the capacity to be fired more times than other, thinner points. Five groups of differently sized, obsidian projectile points were fired via a self bow into a white-tailed deer carcass. The points were fired repeatedly until their "penetrative form" was compromised. The points were then compared within and across the five size groups to examine the effect of size on projectile point durability. The ultimate goal of the project is to provide a better understanding of variability in projectile point form.

Eakin, Daniel H. (Wyoming State Archaeologist's Office)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT THE GAME CREEK SITE

The Game Creek Site is located at the confluence of Game and Flat creeks, approximately 13 km south of Jackson, in southern Jackson Hole. Investigations were conducted at the site in 2002 and 2003 by OWSA and WAS (Teton County) during cultural resource management studies related to proposed reconstruction of US Highway 26-89- 191 by the Wyoming Department of Transportation. Test units, shovel tests and backhoe trenches documented prehistoric occupation from late Paleoindian through Late Prehistoric periods. As many as eight suspected Paleoindian occupation levels were documented. Radiocarbon assays from three occupation levels and a hearth range from about 9300 to 8500 RCYBP. Paleoindian projectile points recovered represent styles that are often found in montane or non-Plains settings, but remain poorly understood. Additional radiocarbon assays and diagnostic artifacts document Archaic and Late Prehistoric occupation. Further excavation of the site is expected to yield data pertinent to late Paleoindian subsistence practices, projectile point typology, and the Holocene history of Jackson Hole.

Greer, Mavis and John Greer (Greer Services)

PATTERNS AND OUTLIERS: NOTEWORTHY FEATURES AND ARTIFACTS IN WYOMING

Uncommon features and artifacts in the archeological record always draw attention because they are not what one would expect to see on the typical prehistoric campsite, historic herder camp, or rock art panel. These items sometimes are slighted during data collection and analysis because they do not fit a pattern. As outliers, they are insufficient for a meaningful distributional or comparative study, but their presence enhances a more holistic view of the earlier cultures. Some examples of such features and artifacts include unusual rock art figures, concentrations of historic metal strips and discs, and artifacts indicating peg-held skin lodges.

Lamberson, Kristen (University of Wyoming), Derek Anderson (Pennsylvania State University), Mia Lyren (Hunter College) and Lisa Rogers (University of Central Florida)

THE RE-INVESTIGATION OF HELL GAP B 2003 STUDIES

Located on the Hartville Uplift of southeastern Wyoming, Hell Gap has been occupied for 11,000 years. This site is unique because it provides a continuous Paleoindian stratigraphic record from approximately 13,000 to 7000 years ago. Last year's excavations continued to focus on localities I and II. Excavation at the Locality I block has begun to document the validity of the components recognized by Harvard University's study in the 1960's. More significantly, the excavation is beginning to demonstrate the presence of additional Paleoindian components. The primary artifact classes in the recovered assemblage are chipped stone and bone. However, we

are beginning to document spatial variability of this material that will likely have site formational significance. In addition, the presence of a wider diversity of fauna is being documented by the study, and butchering of canids. Finally, at Locality II, a test unit continues to yield additional data about Paleoindian occupations in the portion of the Hell Gap Valley.

Laughlin, John (University of Wyoming) and Dewey Baars (Wyoming Archaeological Society)

INVESTIGATIONS ON THE ORD RANCH, WYOMING

Portions of the Ord Ranch, located northeast of Guernsey, Wyoming, were surveyed during the summer of 2002. Results of the session included mapping of a stone circle site consisting of around 100 individual circles, and the identification of other stone circle localities. Two non-stone circle localities were also identified which have the potential to produce significant buried deposits. A cut bank profile at one locality contained approximately four meters of deposits with lithics and bison bone found throughout the studied profile. The second locality contained significant numbers of lithics some of which were refit or conjoined during subsequent analysis. Further work on the Ord Ranch has the potential to provide significant information about prehistoric life on the Northern Plains.

Nahas, Barbara (Wyoming Archaeological Society)

SENTINEL'S OF THE LAND

Who are the avocational archaeologists? They are the ones who volunteer their considerable talents, enthusiasm, and energy to organizations that need assistance in preserving the past. They are the soldiers who watch over the land because it is important for archaeological and historical sites to be understood and protected no matter whose land they're on. These are the people who work with the professionals and historians throughout the country on such diverse activities as archaeological excavations and survey, historic structure restoration, and analysis and curation of artifacts. They are the ones the professionals count on.

Schoen, Jamie and Merry Haydon (Bridger-Teton National Forest)

THE RAID LAKE SHEEP MASSACRE

The range wars of the late 1800s and early 1900s were often times a brutal conflict between cattle ranchers and sheep herders. As prime grazing lands became over crowded and over grazed, sheep herds took their flocks deeper into the mountains in search of lush summer pastures. These range wars came to a head in 1902 on the west slopes of the Wind River Mountains when a group of local cattlemen corralled and killed 2000 head of sheep. The incident became known as the Raid Lake Sheep Massacre, and a series of photographs taken in the early 1900s document the massacre and resulting bone bed. The site was revisited in 2001 to map and re-photograph the site, and investigate the status and condition of the bone bed and deposition rates in this high elevation setting.

Tatman, Joshua L. (University of Wyoming)

DIFFERENTIATING HUMAN AND NON-HUMAN IMPACTS ON LEPORID REMAINS-A COMPARISON OF RABBIT BONE CAVE (48PA202) AND WOLF DEN CAVE FAUNAL ASSEMBLAGES

Recent taphonomic research has revealed indicators of human and non-human action on large mammal bone. Largely neglected, taphonomic study of small mammal remains also has a potential to aid in the differentiation of human and non-human impacts on faunal remains in

archaeological assemblages. Two sites from Wyoming, Rabbit Bone Cave (48PA202) and Wolf Den Cave have the potential to reveal taphonomic indicators of human and non-human behavior in leporid remains. Trends in species composition and fracture patterning diverge in these culturally impacted and non-cultural assemblages of leporid remains.