

**2002 Abstracts
Riverton, Wyoming**

SHEEPEATERS AND SOAPSTONE UTILIZATION IN THE GREATER YELLOWSTONE ECOSYSTEM

Richard Adams (Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist, Laramie, Wyoming) and Tory N. Taylor (Taylor Outfitting, Dubois, Wyoming)

At the time of Anglo contact, the Shoshonean people known as Sheepeaters specialized in making a living in the mountains in and near the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Pedestrian bands, accompanied by pack dogs, trapped big horn sheep and pursued bison deep in the mountains. Historic accounts by trappers and mountain men mention soapstone (also known as steatite) bowls among the few possessions of the Sheepeaters. In Wyoming's Wind River Mountains, sources of soapstone occur above tree-line, in prime big horn sheep habitat, and on the forest's edge near bison migration routes. The Sheepeaters (and prehistoric people before them) made pots, bowls, pipes and other artifacts from this soft rock. During a preliminary reconnaissance, we identified previously unknown soapstone sources, a wide variety of artifacts, and information on procurement and manufacturing techniques.

**MAPS, NOTES AND HISTORIC REFERENCE FOR THE STATE OF WYOMING:
INFORMATION DISCOVERED ON GOVERNMENT LAND OFFICE (GLO) OFFICIAL
PLATS AND RELATED HISTORIC SURVEY NOTES**

J. D. "Sam" Drucker (Bureau of Land Management, Cadastral Unit)

Mapping has long been an important part of archaeological methodology. With the emergence of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), the importance of the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) has become evident as a solid base layer for mapping purposes. As interest has grown in the location of the historic trails that cross Wyoming, more attention is being given to the original GLO surveys. While helping the Bureau build the Geographic Coordinate Data Base (GCDB), I have discovered far more information can be found on these plats and in the field notes of these historic surveys than first believed. It is my intent to disseminate some of the more interesting notes and share a few of the more important archaeological locations I have found on GLO plats, thus illustrating the importance of involving GLO surveys into historic research.

**ANALYZING NATURAL AND CULTURAL PATTERNS OF MACROFLORAL REMAINS
FROM THE SAND DRAW DUMP FEATURES (48FR3123) HAS YIELDED INSIGHTS
INTO ADDITIONAL PATTERNS OF HEARTH USE/FUNCTION**

Daniel R. Bach (High Plains Macrobotanical Services)

Twenty-seven features, dating to the Late Prehistoric Period, were excavated and analyzed in five centimeter increments. This was undertaken to see if any patterns were present; be it macrofloral remains, the number of insects per level, charcoal preservation, pH variation, if the presence or absence of FCR affected preservation, and if soil particle size and soil texture influences preservation. The results indicated that there are predictable patterns. When the results are not typical, this sometimes can allow one to see additional patterns into hearth use/function.

FREDERICK: A LATE PALEOINDIAN COMPONENT AT THE HELL GAP SITE, LOCALITY I

Allison Byrnes (Department of Anthropology, University of Wyoming)

In this paper, I will discuss my examination of the flaked stone assemblage from the late Paleoindian Frederick component at the Hell Gap site (48 GO 305), Locality I. As little is currently known of the Frederick complex specifically and of late Paleoindian manifestations in general, a description and characterization of this large assemblage is pertinent to discussions of late Paleoindian adaptations on the Plains and elsewhere. I will clarify some issues concerning the spatial, stratigraphic, and cultural aspects of the Frederick component, with an emphasis on using refitting and Minimum Analytical Nodule Analysis to identify types of tool production activities and the flow of materials and tools into and out of the site.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS OF FAUNAL REMAINS RECOVERED FROM SOUTHSIDER SHELTER, BIGHORN COUNTY, WYOMING

Pamela M. Huter (Department of Anthropology, University of Wyoming)

Preliminary analysis of faunal elements from Southsider Rockshelter in the western foothills of the Big Horn Mountains provides information as to possible animal species used by prehistoric inhabitants of the area. Initial investigations of the assemblage include element and species identification to attain minimum number of individuals and frequency of elements for each species to identify processes leading to presence of species. Additional notation of fetal specimens is addressed to discuss seasonal occupation of the site.

THE FREMONT AND PLANT RESOURCES ALONG THE COLORADO WYOMING BORDER

A. Dudley Gardner and Barbara Clarke (Department of History, Western Wyoming College)

Recent work in Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado is demonstrating the extent of maize agricultural may be extended into the canyons of the Green River. This paper will look at how the Fremont used plant resources along their northern frontier to extend their occupation northward. We will synthesize the results of recent excavations and surveys to explain the nature of Fremont agriculture north of the Gates of Ladore on the Green River.

OVERVIEW OF POWDER RIVER BASIN ROCK ART

Mavis Greer and John Greer (Greer Services)

Rock art sites occur infrequently in the Powder River Basin of Wyoming and Montana and are dominated by petroglyphs on sandstone formations. Sites in the Montana portion of the Basin are dominated by post-horse rock art, which also occurs on the Wyoming side of the line as evidenced by horse prints at the newly recorded SA Creek Petroglyphs. The Daly Petroglyph site at the northern end of the Basin in Wyoming is characterized by large incised figures dating after the bow and arrow, but mostly prior to white contact, and the southern Pinnacle Rocks site is dominated by shield figures of different styles and contexts. Additionally, we recently recorded the first petroglyph boulder in the region during an energy related survey. The general diversity

of kinds of figures within the geographic area suggests no uniformity of style, culture, function, or age.

FREDERICK TO FOLSOM: A FAUNAL ANALYSIS OF THE 1999 AND 2001 HELL GAP EXCAVATIONS

John P. Laughlin (Department of Anthropology, University of Wyoming)

The 1990's saw resumption in excavations at the Hell Gap Site (48GO305). These were designed to gain a better understanding of earlier work conducted in large part by Harvard University. Presented here are the results of a faunal analysis of 171 specimens recovered during excavations at Locality I in the summers of 1999 and 2001. Data from Locality I are analyzed to determine whether or not parallels exist between Harvard's findings and the more recent work conducted at Hell Gap. Results show a heavy reliance on bison throughout all investigated levels with an increase in smaller species (deer etc.) occurring later in the Paleoindian period.

FRESHWATER MUSSELS IN WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

Kerry Lippincott (Consulting Archaeologist, Casper, Wyoming)

Situated at or near the headwaters of both the Atlantic and Pacific Coast drainages, Wyoming streams are not well known for their freshwater mussel diversity. Currently there are two species of mussels recognized in western rivers and three species in eastern rivers. One additional species is reported archaeologically. Mussels have been used for food and their shells for raw material in the production of beads, pendants, and other ornaments through a long span of Wyoming prehistory. Wyoming archaeologists have a "spotty" record of reporting such basic mussel characteristics as the correct species name, numbers of specimens recovered, and identification of left or right valves of the shell. This presentation will describe the natural history of freshwater mussels and catalogue the archaeological time periods and sites where their usage has been most pronounced.

NOTES FROM THE FAR SIDE: PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECTS ON THE BLACK HILLS NATIONAL FOREST

Dave F. McKee (Black Hills National Forest)

The Black Hills National Forest has sponsored several archaeological and historic preservation projects with the goals of learning about the past, retrieving archaeological data at risk, and involving the public in management and preservation of cultural resources. In the summer of 2000 the Forest and the University of Wyoming began a long-term research project at the multi-component Williams Spring site in the northern Black Hills. This open-air site contains evidence of human occupation from Paleoindian to homestead periods. In the summer of 2000 a restoration project was initiated on historic Curran's Cabin with the help of volunteers. Test excavation projects at archaeological and historic sites have been used to expose school students, including American Indian youth, to archaeology.