



2020-2021

Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Biennial Report on the Stewardship of Cultural Resources within State Parks

**Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Hank Worsech, Director**



Gillian Hall and Fraternity Hall, Elkhorn State Park

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Executive Summary

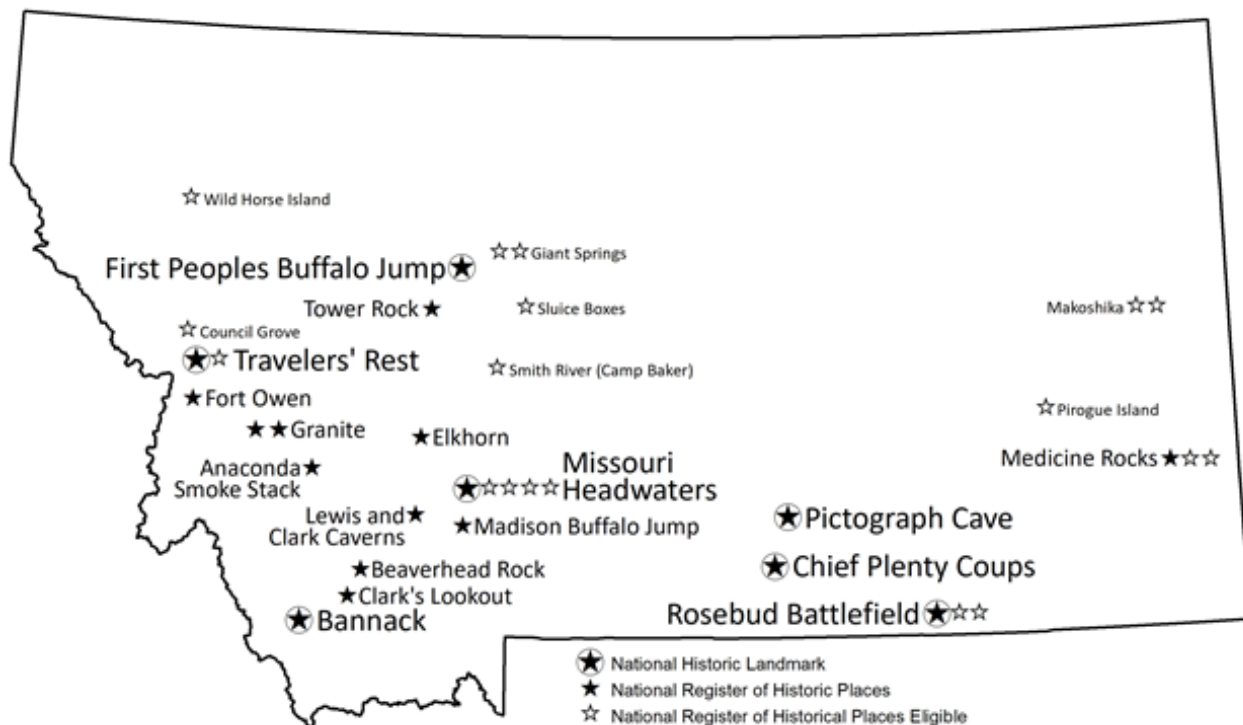
Cultural Resources within Montana's State Parks

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks manages 359 cultural resources within Montana's 55 state parks, including precontact and post contact sites. Precontact sites preserve elements of Indigenous life and culture prior to non-Indigenous colonization, and post contact sites are from the era of non-Indigenous settlement. In compliance with the reporting requirements of MCA 22-3-424(4), enacted in 2011, this report documents the status, condition, stewardship efforts, and maintenance needs of 40 of these cultural resources (details in Table 1) that have been determined significant through a process of documentation and review overseen by the State Historic Preservation Office.



Kobold Bison Jump within Rosebud Battlefield State Park and National Historic Landmark.

Of the 40 cultural resources documented in this report, seven are National Historic Landmarks (NHL) found within state parks. National Historic Landmarks represent our nation's premiere cultural resources; Montana contains 24 NHLs, and there are just over 2,600 nationwide. Eleven cultural resources within state parks are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The NRHP includes cultural resources that are significant at the local, state and national level for their association with important events and/or people, their craftsmanship, and/or their potential to reveal new information about the past. There are over 90,000 NRHP-listed cultural resources nationwide. Twenty-one additional cultural resources within state parks have not formally gone through the extensive process of nomination and listing for the NRHP, but are included in this report because of their established significance. The other 319 sites FWP manages within state parks have not had their eligibility formally evaluated for NRHP listing, meaning FWP needs additional research to determine whether they are significant sites that qualify for NRHP or NHL listing.



State parks containing sites with evaluated NRHP eligibility, NRHP listing and/or NHL listing. The stars show the various numbers and types of sites within each park.

Of the 40 cultural resources with confirmed significance that MSP manages, 28 are post contact and 12 are precontact sites. Several sites, like Travelers' Rest or Medicine Rocks, include both post contact and precontact features. Post contact sites include buildings and structures (like Bannack, which contains over 85 individual buildings), landscape features noted by the Lewis and Clark expedition, a trading post, historic campsites, and one battlefield. Precontact sites include campsites, rockshelter occupations, buffalo jumps, and pictographs or petroglyphs.

The Condition and Status of Cultural Resources

In Table 2, we summarize the integrity or condition of each cultural resource, listing whether it is presently in “good,” “fair”, or “poor” condition. The table also summarizes the status of each property as “satisfactory,” “watch”, or “threatened”; the status category is intended to project potential future threats or risks to the property. Threatened sites are those with imminent danger to the features that make them significant, and sites in poor condition have already sustained significant damage to the features that make them significant. Prioritization of cultural resources for stewardship, either in the form of management changes, preservation, stabilization, or other interventions, is indicated in Table 2, as well.



Erosion at Camp Baker on the Smith River threatens precontact campsite 24ME0075.

Cultural Resources that are Threatened or in Poor Condition

Six cultural resources managed by state parks are considered threatened, and five are in poor condition:

- Three sites within Rosebud Battlefield are considered threatened though they are in good or fair condition because the state does not own the mineral rights beneath the park’s surface. Energy development within the park could destroy important features of the battlefield, the bison jump and petroglyphs, or the homestead.
- The precontact campsite 24ME0075, located at the Camp Baker boat launch on the Smith River, is threatened by high numbers of visitors and erosion, though it is currently in fair condition.
- The Gallatin City II Hotel in Missouri Headwaters State Park is listed as threatened and in poor condition as it is without a roof and in imminent danger of complete collapse despite stabilization efforts in 2015.

- The Belt Creek Railway in Sluice Boxes State Park is listed as threatened and in poor condition because the railroad grade and constructed features that the park has long used as a hiking route are failing, and their remote location and complex engineering makes stabilization expensive.
- The Miner's Union Hall within Granite Ghost Town State Park is threatened and in poor condition; it has already lost its roof and upper story, and the side walls of the structure, its final standing substantive component, are not well supported.
- The other two sites in poor condition are the Campbell Homestead and Madison Mill at Missouri Headwaters, as there are very few remaining features within these two sites.



Remains of the threatened Miner's Union Hall at Granite Ghost Town State Park.

Heritage Stewardship Highlights

Table 3 shows the estimated funding expended on heritage stewardship within Montana's State Parks in the 2020-2021 biennium. In total, FWP spent approximately \$3,331,668 on a variety of stewardship efforts for significant cultural resources in our state parks. Highlights include:

Region 1:

- 1) A new management plan is in development for the Flathead Lake Islands, including Cedar Island and the Logan Marshall Homestead. This plan will help FWP balance management of natural and cultural resources and recreational demands on these islands originally intended for preservation as wildlife habitat areas.

Region 2:

- 2) In partnership with the State Parks Foundation and the Friends of Fort Owen, NRHP-listed Fort Owen State Park has received \$623,000 in grant funding in the past two years from the Rapp Family Foundation, the Montana Historic Preservation Grant Program, the Montana History Foundation and the Helmsley Family Trust. These funds have been used to acquire 0.9 acres of land, create a new parking area to deal with access problems, redesign and improve the park's interpretation, and preserve Fort Owen's historic structures, which are some of the oldest in Montana.



Portion of the new parking lot at Fort Owen State Park, opened in summer 2021 to improve public access.

Region 3:

- 3) Bannack State Park and NHL continues to provide some of the nation's finest opportunities for public engagement in historic preservation. In the past two years "Adventures in Preservation" brought volunteers to the townsite to learn about preservation of historic plaster and wallpaper, and "A Year to Volunteer" helped replace extensive sections of failing boardwalk while learning preservation carpentry skills.
- 4) A new Master Plan under development for Missouri Headwaters State Park and NHL is intended to provide guidance for the park's future as visitation and demands on its resources continue to grow. As part of this effort, FWP received a \$6,800 grant in 2021 to begin studying the park's archaeology and precontact use by Indigenous peoples.

Region 4:

- 5) At NRHP-listed Elkhorn State Park, FWP received \$30,000 from the Steele-Reese Foundation to undertake a formal engineering assessment of the foundations of both Fraternity and Gillian Halls. FWP also replaced the failing roofs of both structures.



Gillian Hall and Fraternity Hall, which make up Elkhorn State Park.

- 6) The acquisition of a DNRC lease for a new section of land to the west of First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park offers the opportunity to study and preserve a new component of this NHL.
- 7) In collaboration with nonprofit Preserve Montana, and with funding from the Montana History Foundation, FWP is systematically recording cultural resources within Sluice Boxes State Park for the first time, including the limestone mining ghost town of Albright.



Remains of a thirty-foot high lime kiln, part of Albright ghost town in Sluice Boxes State Park.

Region 5:

- 8) Chief Plenty Coups State Park and NHL received \$140,537 from the National Park Service's 2021 Save America's Treasures Program for preservation of the Chief's House and Store, to include foundation repairs, new chinking, a new roof, and various other repairs.

- 9) In January 2021, a large rockfall event occurred within and immediately outside Pictograph Cave State Park and NHL that damaged the entrance road and the trail to Ghost Cave, and caused the park's temporary closure for safety. As a result, FWP staff had an informal assessment of the park's geology and safety completed by GeoEngineers and NPS specialists; a more formal assessment with safety recommendations is needed for the future.



An aerial view of a major rockfall event at Pictograph Cave State Park in January 2021. The entrance road is on the left, the visitor center in lower left, and the switchbacking tourist trail leads to Ghost Cave.

Region 7:

- 10) FWP continues to partner with Montana State University's Museum of the Rockies on the paleontological resources found within our State Parks, including the remarkable fossils of Makoshika. Fossils recovered from state park lands in 2020-2021 included components from triceratops, pachycephalosaur, and a small raptor whose species is yet to be determined.
- 11) In 2021, using a \$50,000 donation from the Lee and Donna Metcalf Charitable Trust, FWP partnered with Colorado Mesa University to search at Rosebud Battlefield State Park and NHL for the remains of nine U.S. Army soldiers who died during the battle. Indigenous oral histories and later written accounts suggest that all of the Indigenous warriors were removed from the battlefield with the exception of a single Shoshone scout, who may be buried on adjacent private land. According to U.S. Army official accounts, soldiers' letters, newspapers, and oral histories, the U.S. Army soldiers were buried in a mass grave, and that grave has never been found.

- 12) The \$50,000 donation from the Lee and Donna Metcalf Charitable Trust is also financing an archaeological overview of Rosebud Battlefield, prepared by Dr. Doug Scott of Colorado Mesa University. Dr. Scott is combining Indigenous oral histories, U.S. Army accounts, and the results of all previous artifact collection and formal archaeology in the park to provide FWP with our clearest-ever image of the events of the battle, and where they occurred on the landscape. Longer-term, we plan to adapt this research into high-quality, digital interpretive materials that could virtually walk visitors through the site with Indigenous oral histories, soldiers' accounts, and archaeology.



Researchers with metal detectors searching for the lost grave of U.S. Army soldiers in Rosebud Battlefield State Park.

FWP has been working toward the development of improved tools and frameworks to facilitate compliance with heritage laws and regulation at its state parks, and to incorporate heritage concerns more fully into FWP's management and decision-making processes. These efforts resulted in the following new tools:

- 1) Tribal Consultation Guidelines that provide FWP with agency-wide guidance on when to consult with tribes, and how that consultation should occur;
- 2) a simplified flowchart of the process of considering heritage resources in FWP projects in accordance with heritage laws; and
- 3) a spreadsheet summarizing heritage grants and funding opportunities and their requirements.

Table 1: Montana State Parks Cultural Resources List for 2020-2021

Park Name	Year Property Became Park	Region/ Area	Site Number	Site Type	Significance Status
Anaconda Smoke Stack	1986	R-3/Anaconda	24DL0290	Historic/brick smoke stack	Listed in NRHP
Bannack	1954	R-3/Dillon	24BE0169	Historic/townsite	NHL
Beaverhead Rock	1975	R-3/Dillon	24MA0259	Landscape Feature	Listed in NRHP
Chief Plenty Coups	1965	R-5/Pryor	24BH2179	Historic/Log house and log store	NHL
Clark's Lookout	1985	R-3/Dillon	24BE1708	Landscape Feature	Listed in NRHP
Council Grove	1978	R-2/Missoula	24MO0151	Historic/Council Site	NRHP-eligible
Elkhorn	1980	R-3/Boulder	24JF0477	Historic/Fraternity Hall	Listed in NRHP
Elkhorn	1980	R-3/Boulder	24JF2109	Historic/Gillian Hall	NRHP-eligible
First Peoples Buffalo Jump	1972	R-4/Ulm	24CA1012	Precontact/Buffalo Jump	NHL
Flathead Lake Islands	1954	R-1/Rollins	24LA0269	Historic/Logan Marshall Homestead on Cedar Island	NRHP-eligible
Fort Owen	1956	R-2/Stevensville	24RA0148	Historic/Trading post	Listed in NRHP
Granite	1975	R-3/Philipsburg	24GN0365	Historic/ Miner's Union Hall	Listed in NRHP
Granite	1975	R-3/Philipsburg	24GN0366	Historic/ Superintendent's House	Listed in NRHP
Giant Springs	1972	R-4/Great Falls	24CA0289	Historic/Morony Dam Construction Camp	NRHP-eligible
Giant Springs	1972	R-4/Great Falls	24CA0620	Historic/1930s CCC structures	NRHP-eligible
Lake Elmo	1983	R-5/Billings	24YL2275	Historic/Reservoir	NRHP-eligible
Lewis and Clark Caverns	1938	R-3/LaHood	24JF2081	Historic/CCC structures	Listed in NRHP
Madison Buffalo Jump	1966	R-3/Three Forks	24GA0314	Precontact/Buffalo Jump	Listed in NRHP
Makoshika	1953	R-5/Glendive	24DW0079	Precontact/Paleoindian campsite	NRHP-eligible
Makoshika	1953	R-5/Glendive	24DW0564	Historic/McCarty Cabin	NRHP-eligible
Medicine Rocks	1957	R-6&7/Ekalaka	24CT0022	Historic & Precontact/Inscriptions	Listed in NRHP
Medicine Rocks	1957	R-6&7/Ekalaka	24CT0844	Precontact/Buried campsite	NRHP-eligible
Medicine Rocks	1957	R-6&7/Ekalaka	24CT0845	Precontact/Stone	NRHP-eligible

				circles	
Missouri Headwaters	1947	R-3/Three Forks	24GA0212	Historic/Corps of Discovery	NHL
Missouri Headwaters	1947	R-3/Three Forks	24GA0402	Precontact /Pictograph	NRHP-eligible
Missouri Headwaters	1947	R-3/Three Forks	24GA0355	Historic/Gallatin City II	NRHP-eligible
Missouri Headwaters	1947	R-3/Three Forks	24GA1839	Historic/Campbell Homestead	NRHP-eligible
Missouri Headwaters	1947	R-3/Three Forks	24GA1841	Historic/Madison Mill	NRHP-eligible
Pictograph Cave	1969	R-5/Billings	24YL0001	Precontact/Pictograph Cave	NHL
Pictograph Cave	1969	R-5/Billings	24YL0002	Precontact/Ghost Cave	Part of NHL
Pirogue Island	1982	R-6&7/Miles City	24CR1045	Historic/Corps of Discovery	NRHP-eligible
Rosebud Battlefield	1978	R-6&7/Decker	24BH2461	Historic/Battlefield	NHL
Rosebud Battlefield	1978	R-6&7/Decker	24BH0406	Precontact/Buffalo jump and petroglyphs	NRHP-eligible
Rosebud Battlefield	1978	R-6&7/Decker	24BH3773	Historic/Kobold Homestead	NRHP-eligible
Sluice Boxes	1970	R-4/Belt	24CA1315	Historic/Belt Creek Railroad	NRHP-eligible
Smith River	1970	R-4/White Sulphur Springs	24ME0075	Precontact/campsite at Camp Baker	NRHP-eligible
Tower Rock	2004	R-4/Cascade	24CA0643	Landscape Feature	Listed in NRHP
Travelers' Rest	2001	R-2/Lolo	24MO0176	Historic/Corps of Discovery Campsite	NHL
Travelers' Rest	2001	R-2/Lolo	24MO1572	Historic/Rice Thompson Farmstead	NRHP-eligible
Wild Horse Island	1978	R-1/Dayton	24LA0278	Precontact/Culturally-Peeled Trees	NRHP-eligible

Table 2: 2020-2021 State Parks Historic Property Summary Table for Site Condition, Status, Maintenance Priorities and Site Needs

Park Name/Site Name	Site Number	NHL or NRHP Status	Property Status	Property Condition/ Integrity	Priority for Maintenance (1-5)	Future Maintenance Priorities/Site Needs
<u>Region 1/Kalispell</u>						
Wild Horse Island/Culturally-Peeled Trees	24LA0278	NRHP-eligible	Satisfactory	Good	3	-Working to record culturally-peeled trees along with a historic homestead and orchard as a historic district -Monitor site
Flathead Lake Islands/Logan Marshall Homestead	24LA0269	NRHP-eligible	Watch	Fair	2	-Determine future plans for house and outbuildings, whether to remove, monitor, or preserve -Monitor for vandalism and damage
<u>Region 2/Missoula</u>						
Council Grove	24MO0151	NRHP-eligible	Satisfactory	Good	2	- Update interpretive exhibits - Implement plans to create fencing for off-leash dog area - Trail network delineation and enhancement - Riverbank stabilization/ grassland restoration -Research site history for potential NRHP nomination
Fort Owen	24RA0148	NRHP	Satisfactory	Fair	1	- Implement historic preservation funded by Helmsley Family Trust and the Montana Historic Preservation Grant Program - Complete new Interpretive Plan funded by Helmsley Family Trust - Implement new Interpretive Plan, including updating exhibits and events funded by Helmsley Family Trust

Park Name/Site Name	Site Number	NHL or NRHP Status	Property Status	Property Condition/ Integrity	Priority for Maintenance (1-5)	Future Maintenance Priorities/Site Needs
						- Nominate Fort Owen and St Mary's Mission together as an NHL District
Travelers' Rest/Corps of Discovery Campsite	24MO0176	NHL	Satisfactory	Good	3	- Implement vegetative screening along the east and southeast fence lines - Upgrade South Nature Trail to improve visitor experience
Travelers' Rest/Rice Thompson Homestead	24MO1572	NRHP-eligible	Satisfactory	Fair	4	- Develop preservation plan for historic barn structure
<u>Region 3/Bozeman</u>						
Anaconda Smoke Stack	24DL0290	NRHP	Watch	Fair	2	- Explore funding options for full engineering assessment of structure
Bannack	24BE0169	NHL	Satisfactory	Good	1	- Implement historic preservation priorities, including new roofs, siding, etc. - Pursue funding for wildfire protection system for Bannack (sprinklers?) - Complete study of Chinese Americans in Bannack - Update NHL listing with more thorough documentation of history and structures
Beaverhead Rock	24MA0259	NRHP	Satisfactory	Fair	5	-Monitor landscape feature
Clark's Lookout	24BE1708	NRHP	Satisfactory	Good	5	-Monitor landscape feature
Granite/Miner's Union Hall	24GN0365	NRHP	Threatened	Poor	5	-Monitor building
Granite/Superintendent's House	24GN0366	NRHP	Watch	Fair	4	-Monitor building -Replace roof with fire-retardant cedar shingles
Lewis and Clark Caverns/ CCC Historic District	24JF2081	NRHP	Satisfactory	Good	4	-Monitor all buildings and structures -Ongoing maintenance
Madison Buffalo Jump	24GA0314	NRHP	Watch	Fair	2	-Monitor site for looting and vandalism - Update interpretive materials, including

Park Name/Site Name	Site Number	NHL or NRHP Status	Property Status	Property Condition/ Integrity	Priority for Maintenance (1-5)	Future Maintenance Priorities/Site Needs
						digital interpretation
Missouri Headwaters/ Corps of Discovery	24GA0212	NHL	Satisfactory	Fair	2	-Develop ethnographic study to document tribal histories - Use new geoarchaeological data to search for precontact archaeology within park - Update NHL listing to reflect precontact importance as well as Corps of Discovery
Missouri Headwaters/ Pictograph	24GA0402	NRHP-eligible	Watch	Fair	3	-Monitor site
Missouri Headwaters/Gallatin City II	24GA0355	NRHP-eligible	Threatened	Poor	3	- Complete full engineering assessment of standing structure, and create plans for potential rehabilitation -Further research into whether standing structure was actually the Gallatin City II Hotel or Campbell's Store
Missouri Headwaters/ Campbell Homestead	24GA1839	NRHP-eligible	Watch	Poor	5	-Monitor site
Missouri Headwaters/ Madison Mill	24GA1841	NRHP-eligible	Watch	Poor	5	-Monitor site
<u>Region 4/Great Falls</u>						
Smith River/Camp Baker precontact campsite	24ME0075	NRHP-eligible	Watch	Fair	3	-Implement bank stabilization to prevent further site loss -Consider alternative management strategies at Camp Baker through planning process to reduce site impacts
Elkhorn/ Fraternity Hall	24JF0477	NRHP	Watch	Good	3	-Complete grant-funded engineering assessment of foundations and development of construction plans -Implement needed foundation repairs

Park Name/Site Name	Site Number	NHL or NRHP Status	Property Status	Property Condition/ Integrity	Priority for Maintenance (1-5)	Future Maintenance Priorities/Site Needs
Elkhorn/ Gillian Hall	24JF2107	NRHP-eligible	Watch	Good	3	-See Fraternity Hall above
First Peoples Buffalo Jump	24CA1012	NHL	Satisfactory	Fair	1	-Continue to monitor site features per cultural resources preservation plan -Update interpretation with tribal partners
Giant Springs/Morony Dam Construction Camp	24CA0289	NRHP-eligible	Watch	Fair	5	-Monitor site
Giant Springs/Historic rock walls and structures	24CA0620	NRHP-eligible	Watch	Good	5	-Continue rock wall rehab on spring and river
Sluice Boxes/Belt Creek Railroad	24CA1315	NRHP-eligible	Threatened	Poor	2	-Monitor site, particularly failing railroad features and Albright structures -Continue to inventory cultural resources through grant funding
Tower Rock	24CA0643	NRHP	Satisfactory	Good	4	-Monitor landscape feature
<u>Region 5/Billings</u>						
Chief Plenty Coups	24BH2179	NHL	Satisfactory	Good	1	-Implement preservation on Chief's House and Store using capital funds and matching grant funds from Save America's Treasures program (foundation repairs, new roof, new chinking, miscellaneous repairs)
Lake Elmo Reservoir	24YL2275	NRHP-eligible	Satisfactory	Good	5	- Complete reservoir draining and site improvements in keeping with historic character
Pictograph Cave	24YL0001	NHL	Satisfactory	Good	1	-Complete full safety/engineering assessment of site for public safety and cultural resource preservation
Pictograph Cave/Ghost Cave	24YL0002	NHL	Satisfactory	Good	1	-See Pictograph Cave above
<u>Region 7/Miles City</u>						

Park Name/Site Name	Site Number	NHL or NRHP Status	Property Status	Property Condition/ Integrity	Priority for Maintenance (1-5)	Future Maintenance Priorities/Site Needs
Makoshika/ Paleoindian Campsite	24DW0079	NRHP-eligible	Satisfactory	Good	3	-Monitor site -Pursue archaeological research through university partners
Makoshika/ McCarthy Cabin	24DW0564	NRHP-eligible	Satisfactory	Fair	3	-Monitor site
Medicine Rocks/ Inscriptions	24CT0022	NRHP	Satisfactory	Good	2	-Monitor site -Consider updated, digital interpretation
Medicine Rocks/ Buried campsite	24CT0844	NRHP	Satisfactory	Good	3	-Monitor site
Medicine Rocks/ Stone circles	24CT0845	NRHP	Satisfactory	Fair	3	-Monitor site
Pirogue Island	24CR1045	NRHP-eligible	Watch	Fair	4	-Monitor site -Undertake additional research into specific Corps of Discovery relationship to site
Rosebud Battlefield	24BH2461	NHL	Threatened	Good	1	-Complete donation-funded research into location of soldiers' mass grave -Complete archaeological overview document -Pursue funding for updated park interpretation -Complete study of fuel reduction, and consider prescribed fire use -Further investigate mineral rights
Rosebud Battlefield/ Kobold Bison Jump	24BH0406	NRHP-eligible	Threatened	Good	2	-Monitor condition of petroglyphs -See above, under Rosebud Battlefield
Rosebud Battlefield/ Kobold Homestead	24BH3773	NRHP-eligible	Threatened	Fair	2	-See above, under Rosebud Battlefield

Table 3: 2020-2021 State Parks Summary Table for Heritage Site Stewardship Costs

Park Name/Site Number	Admin. Cost	Building Restora., Repair, Preserva.	Research/ Documenta. Preserva./ Protection	Interp. and Education	Site Maintena nce/ Access	Site Monitori ng	Marketing/ Tourism Promotion	Projects to Avoid Adverse Effect	Outside Funding/ Grant/In-kind Match	Total Stewardship Cost
<u>Region 1/Kalispell</u>										
Wild Horse Island/24LA0278	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$720	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,120
Flathead Lake Islands/24LA0269	\$0	\$640	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$640
Region 1 Total Costs	\$0	\$640	\$0	\$720	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,760
<u>Region 2/Missoula</u>										
Council Grove/24MO0151	\$38,130	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$803	\$0	\$94	\$0	\$0	\$39,027
Fort Owen/ 24RA0148	\$9,120	\$56,925	\$29,348	\$9,500	\$180,636	\$2,000	\$282	\$0	\$250,947*	\$287,803
Travelers' Rest/ 24MO0176	\$223,391	\$0	\$0	\$8,363	\$16,915	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$103,750	\$354,419
Travelers' Rest/ 24MO1572	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,000
Region 2 Total Costs	\$272,141	\$56,925	\$29,348	\$17,863	\$200,854	\$6,000	\$376	\$0	\$354,697	\$687,249
<u>Region 3/Bozeman</u>										
Anaconda Smoke Stack/24DL0290	\$350	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$54,369	\$350	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$700
Bannack/24BE0169	\$362,525	\$139,000	\$800	\$39,921	\$125,552	\$16,726	\$6,500	\$0	\$1,000	\$692,024
Beaverhead Rock/ 24MA0259	\$350	\$0	\$0	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,750

Park Name/Site Number	Admin. Cost	Building Restora., Repair, Preserva.	Research/ Documenta. Preserva./ Protection	Interp. and Education	Site Maintena nce/ Access	Site Monitori ng	Marketing/ Tourism Promotion	Projects to Avoid Adverse Effect	Outside Funding/ Grant/In-kind Match	Total Steward-ship Cost
Clark's Lookout/ 24BE1708	\$12,656	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$1,800	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,956
Granite/24GN036 5,24GN366	\$300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300
Lewis and Clark Caverns/24JF2081	\$2,300	\$330,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$332,300
Madison Buffalo Jump/24GA0314	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,700	\$26,115	\$750	\$3,294	\$0	\$6,841	\$58,700
Missouri Headwaters/ 24GA0212	\$117,000	\$3,200	See outside funding	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$500	\$2,666	\$0	\$6,800	\$137,366
Missouri Headwaters/ 24GA0402	\$1,750	\$0	\$0	\$2,500	\$200	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,950
Missouri Headwaters/ 24GA0355	\$1,750	\$700	\$0	\$750	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,400
Missouri Headwaters/ 24GA1839	\$550	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$750
Missouri Headwaters/ 24GA1841	\$1,750	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,250
Region 3 Total Costs	\$521,281	\$472,900	\$800	\$53,171	\$212,436	\$19,926	\$12,460	\$0	\$14,641	\$1,253,446
<u>Region 4/Great Falls</u>										
Camp Baker/24ME0075	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000
Sluice	\$1,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,000

Park Name/Site Number	Admin. Cost	Building Restora., Repair, Preserva.	Research/ Documenta. Preserva./ Protection	Interp. and Education	Site Maintena nce/ Access	Site Monitori ng	Marketing/ Tourism Promotion	Projects to Avoid Adverse Effect	Outside Funding/ Grant/In-kind Match	Total Stewardship Cost
Boxes/24CA1315										
Elkhorn/24JF0477 and 24JF2407	\$2,000	\$98,180	\$0	\$0	\$800	\$800	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$131,780
First Peoples Buffalo Jump/24CA1012	\$388,478	\$0	\$0	\$3,500	\$3,000	\$1,200	\$2,800	\$0	\$0	\$398,978
Giant Springs/ 24CA0289	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000
Giant Springs/ 24CA0620	\$1,000	See outside funding	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$6,670	\$10,670
Tower Rock/24CA0643	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,000
Region 4 Total Costs	\$399,478	\$98,180	\$5,000	\$3,500	\$7,800	\$7,000	\$2,800	\$0	\$36,670	\$560,428
<u>Region 5/Billings</u>										
Chief Plenty Coups/24BH2179	\$135,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$250	\$3,200	\$5,140	\$150	\$0	\$0	\$144,740
Lake Elmo/24YL2275	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,250
Pictograph Cave/24YL0001	\$209,000	\$0	\$0	\$716	\$4,356	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$217,072
Pictograph Cave-- Ghost Cave/24YL0002	\$11,000	\$0	\$0	\$716	\$1,243	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,959
Region 5 Total Costs	\$355,750	\$1,000	\$0	\$2,182	\$8,799	\$9,140	\$150	\$0	\$0	\$377,021
<u>Region 7/Miles City</u>										
Makoshika/24DW	\$150	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150	See	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,300

Park Name/Site Number	Admin. Cost	Building Restora., Repair, Preserva.	Research/ Documenta. Preserva./ Protection	Interp. and Education	Site Maintena nce/ Access	Site Monitori ng	Marketing/ Tourism Promotion	Projects to Avoid Adverse Effect	Outside Funding/ Grant/In-kind Match	Total Stewardship Cost
0079						outside funding				
McCarty Cabin/24DW0564	\$600	\$350	\$0	\$1,500	\$200	\$900	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$5,550
Medicine Rocks/24CT0022	\$750	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$150	\$5,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,650
Medicine Rocks/24CT0844	\$150	\$0	\$80	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$630
Medicine Rocks/24CT0845	\$0	\$0	\$60	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$460
Pirogue Island/ 24CR1045	\$250	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,050
Rosebud Battlefield/ 24BH2461, 24BH3773	\$34,000	\$25,000	See outside funding	\$1,000	\$10,000	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$120,750
Rosebud Battlefield/ 24BH0406	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$250	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$7,250
Region 7 Total Costs	\$36,900	\$25,350	\$1,140	\$3,750	\$11,500	\$9,000	\$0	\$0	\$59,000	\$146,640
Total State Parks Costs	\$1,585,550	\$654,995	\$36,288	\$81,186	\$441,389	\$51,466	\$15,786	\$0	\$465,008	\$3,331,668

* Because of the large amount of outside funding applied to Fort Owen, those costs are broken down in each column and totaled in the Outside Funding column. Therefore the Outside Funding column is not included in the Total Stewardship Cost for Fort Owen.

APPENDIX A

Detailed Report

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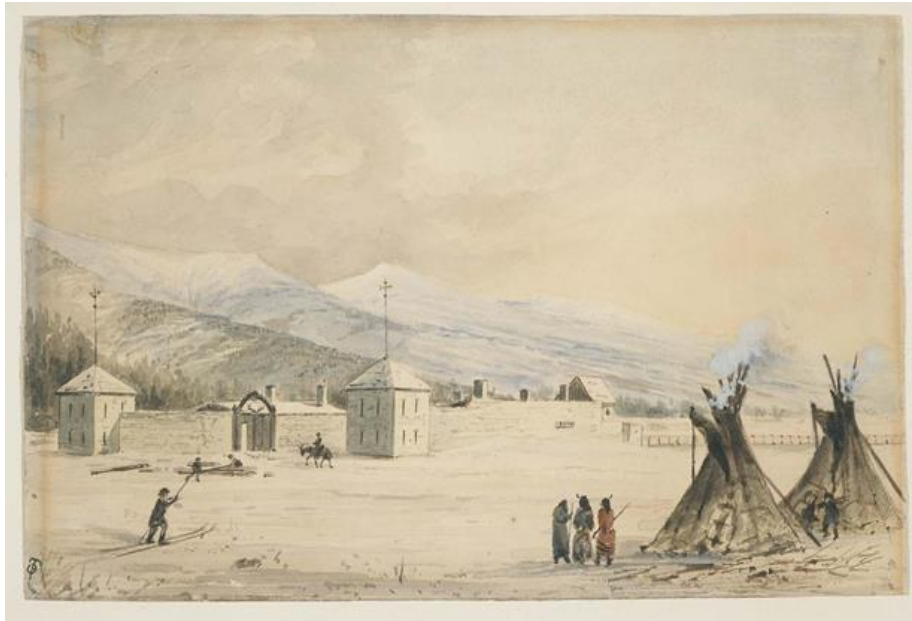


Figure 1: Painting of Fort Owen completed in 1865 by visitor to the fort, Peter Toftt.

Introduction

This report reviews cultural resource stewardship efforts within Montana’s 55 state parks over the last biennium. Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks has been divided into Fisheries, Wildlife, and Parks Divisions, and this report focuses on lands and cultural resources managed by the Parks Division. We estimate, based on GIS data compiled for state parks, that approximately 60 percent of the state park land base has been inventoried for cultural resources, though much of that inventory occurred in the 1970s and 1980s. In compliance with the reporting requirements of MCA 22-3-424(4), enacted in 2011, we document the status, condition, stewardship efforts, and maintenance needs of 40 cultural resources in this summary report (Table 1). In total, there are 359 cultural resources recorded within State Parks, but we do not report on 319 of those sites here because their National Register eligibility has yet to be determined. As funding and time allows, these resources will be evaluated for their archaeological and historical significance and if they are determined eligible for the NRHP, they will be included in future reports.

This is the sixth cycle for our required biennial report, and all five previous reports have identified a significant need for additional qualified heritage staff and funding within FWP. This need continues, and we also continue to work diligently with the resources we have toward the best possible stewardship, using dedicated park staff, community partnerships, broad-based funding efforts and increased interpretation and education to build an invested and aware public. We welcome ongoing advocacy from heritage partners and organizations as FWP continues to seek improvement in our stewardship of the remarkable cultural resources we manage on behalf of the state of Montana.

State Parks Strategic Planning and Visitation

State Parks continues to operate under the 2020-2024 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), completed in December 2019. This document is a vital guide for statewide recreation planning, providing an updated roadmap for the enhancement of Montana’s ongoing outdoor recreation legacy through our public and private partners. To that end, it identifies six overarching goals, one of which is to “Honor Montana’s Outdoor Legacy.” That goal

includes the following recommendation: “Protect and preserve historic sites and heritage resources.” With this specific goal, the SCORP is clearly acknowledging the important role that cultural resources play in Montana’s outdoor recreation legacy and in our modern recreation industry.

In 2020-2021, State Parks created “Foundation Documents” for each of its parks, designed to build on previous strategic planning efforts and provide a clear backbone for each park that focuses on its primary purpose and goals. For our identified “heritage” parks (listed in Table 4), the primary among these goals continues to be cultural resource preservation and interpretation for the public.

The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic have been clearly felt in State Parks in 2020 and 2021, particularly regarding increased visitation, and the management challenges that result. For those of our parks known and marketed for their heritage value, visitation over the past two years is summarized in Table 4. In 2020, over 3.4 million people visited one of Montana’s State Parks, which is a 29.5% increase over 2019. Visitation was higher every month in comparison with 2019 despite temporary closures at some parks and sharp declines in events, school field trips and other group activities. However, many of our heritage parks saw decreases in visitation during this period thanks to closed visitors’ centers (Chief Plenty Coups, First Peoples, Pictograph Cave) and/or overall park closures, as occurred at Bannack (Table 4). 2.63 million people have visited Montana’s State Parks in 2021 as of August, the most recent period for which data are available. In previous years, Bannack and Pictograph Cave have consistently been the most-visited of our heritage parks, but in 2020 temporary closures of Bannack overall and of Pictograph Cave’s visitor center meant that Missouri Headwaters, Travelers’ Rest and Council Grove became the state’s most visited heritage parks, as summarized in Table 4. Indeed, it appears that trend may be continuing in 2021, likely the result of ongoing population increases in and around Bozeman and Missoula. Other notable leaps in visitation have been occurring at Madison Buffalo Jump and at Chief Plenty Coups State Park, which are both on track to break their visitation records in 2021. These visitation data offer us a vital management perspective on human impacts and on future planning for these parks. Clearly demand for heritage tourism in Montana continues to increase, and creating sustainable trails, facilities and interpretive opportunities will be vital in upcoming years.

**Table 4: 2019-2021 Visitation Summary for Heritage Parks,
sorted by highest 2020 visitation**

Park Name	2019	2020	% increase comparing 2019 and 2020	January-June 2020	January-June 2021	% increase comparing January-June 2020 and January-June 2021
Missouri Headwaters	51,898	70,917	36.6	29,541	29,942	1.4
Travelers’ Rest	39,851	49,545	24.3	21,084	35,358	67.7
Council Grove	35,868	46,757	30.4	21,652	21,813	0.7
Pictograph Cave	54,273	42,870	-21.0	22,083 (closed visitor center)	N/A	Park closed for rockslide from Jan - Mar

Bannack	43,804	38,085	-13.1	9,071 (park closed March-June)	16,376	80.5
Tower Rock	14,777	29,172	97.4	14,090	13,435	-4.6
Madison Buffalo Jump	15,649	24,715	57.9	12,103	13,525	11.7
Anaconda Smoke Stack	16,309	16,787	2.9	5,260	4,338	-17.5
First Peoples Buffalo Jump	16,202	15,376	-5.1	5,343 (closed visitor center)	8,317	55.7
Chief Plenty Coups	15,907	13,017	-18.2	5,491 (closed visitor center)	13,383	143.7
Rosebud Battlefield	6,563	5,973	-9.0	1,871	2,153	15.1
Clark's Lookout	5,630	5,559	-1.3	1,531	1,366	-10.8
Fort Owen	4,796	4,495	-6.3	2,310	Park closed for construction	N/A

NOTE: We do not have high quality visitation data for Granite Ghost Town, Elkhorn or Beaverhead Rock State Parks.

State Parks Heritage Resource Program Components

Heritage Program Manager responsibilities (see Figure 2) most prominently include ensuring all projects within State Parks proceed in compliance with cultural resource law. This includes surveying for and recording cultural resources and hiring consultants to complete appropriate surveys when they are larger or more complex than can be accomplished by the Heritage Program Manager alone. We consult on the results of these surveys and the significance of sites we may find with the State Historic Preservation Office and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices. Because Montana's Antiquities Act includes paleontological and cultural resources together, the Heritage Program manages the paleontological resources of State Parks, as well. The Heritage Program Manager also applies for and manages grants for historic preservation and heritage stewardship, collaborates on FWP strategic planning efforts, develops and manages agreements and partnerships with friends groups, tribal partners, other agencies and universities, manages our artifact and paleontological collections, oversees site monitoring programs, and collaborates with park staff on interpretive signs, exhibits and materials.



Figure 2: Program components and duties within the State Parks Heritage Program.

Heritage Compliance

Fish, Wildlife and Parks developed and approved Administrative Rules in 1996 to comply with the Montana State Antiquities Act (ARM 12.8.501 to 12.8.510). To facilitate compliance and to help educate park managers on heritage responsibilities, the Heritage Program Manager developed a State Parks Heritage Resource Manual in 2010 and distributed it to all heritage parks and to all regional offices. The manual, which has been updated in intervening years, includes chapters on heritage resource laws, proper artifact care, emergency site discovery procedures, and survey and excavation protocols. State Parks has also adopted policies on artifact collection and artifact deaccessioning. In 2020, the Heritage Program developed and disseminated a streamlined flowchart of the heritage compliance process for all park staff, particularly park managers and maintenance personnel.

The Heritage Program developed a heritage compliance request form in 2014, which is sent to all regional park managers and park managers in an annual call for projects proposed within state parks with the potential to impact cultural resources. This call has generally gone out in the early spring. Park managers then fill out the project request form, which includes project location, project description and a map of planned activities. The form is submitted by mid-March before the field season begins, and the Heritage Program Manager then reviews and prioritizes projects in terms of schedule, funding, and need. The Heritage Program Manager maintains an ongoing status spreadsheet of compliance projects underway in each calendar year, documenting fieldwork, SHPO and THPO consultation, and any monitoring needs.

For projects where large scale surveys or test excavations are required, FWP typically hires private consultants. These firms have the workforce capacity, technical equipment and laboratory space to process, analyze and document large archaeological sites or evaluate complex historic structures. Smaller projects that can be completed by the

Heritage Program Manager are done in-house. For surveys completed in-house, we prepare and submit reports to the regional park office, the park, the Montana SHPO and relevant THPOs. Consultants follow the same process, with the Heritage Program Manager having the first opportunity to review their work. FWP currently maintains an open services contract with nine heritage consultants, which lessens the time and energy associated with the contracting process and provides FWP with a variety of expert consultants to choose from.

For most projects, the Heritage Program Manager consults with the Montana SHPO after cultural resource inventories are complete and prior to project implementation, to ask for concurrence with the amount and type of survey, and any recommendations of eligibility for the NRHP. If a National Historic Landmark or an NRHP-listed property could be impacted by a proposed project, the Heritage Program Manager consults with SHPO on the proposed inventory design or contractor scope of work prior to hiring a contractor or completing any fieldwork. Then consultation occurs again once the inventory is complete. This helps ensure that FWP is managing our NHL and NRHP-listed cultural resources appropriately. FWP also commonly consults with SHPO during the planning stages of complex projects, when questions arise concerning site testing, mitigation or building preservation strategies.

In 2020, FWP adopted its first formal Tribal Consultation Guidelines, developed by the Heritage Program. These guidelines ask FWP to consult with relevant Tribal Historic Preservation Offices on all projects with the potential to impact cultural resources, planning efforts and interpretive materials involving Indigenous peoples. Within State Parks, the Heritage Program Manager consults with THPOs generally at the same time as SHPO consultation occurs, as outlined above. In addition, FWP has created a Tribal Relations and Diversity Coordinator position that assists with tribal consultation for larger-scale, complex planning efforts or other types of projects across the agency.

Research and Site Evaluations

As part of FWP's stewardship of our cultural resources within State Parks, we seek to facilitate meaningful research into the resources we manage that may illuminate aspects of Montana's past, improve our interpretive offerings, and allow us to better steward the resources we manage. In the last biennium, notable research efforts have included donation-funded research into Rosebud Battlefield's missing U.S. Army soldiers' mass grave, paleontological research at Makoshika by Museum of the Rockies and Stonybrook University, magnetometry research in search of Fort Owen's Indigenous heritage and a partnership with SHPO to source Bannack's precontact obsidian artifacts to better understand the people who occupied the area prior to the gold rush.



Figure 3: Obsidian projectile point from Bannack that is at least 3,000 years old, making it the oldest artifact ever found within Bannack. It is made of obsidian that originally came from Bear Gulch, just south of the Idaho border.

The Heritage Program also continues in our goal to record unrecorded cultural resources and evaluate cultural resources possibly eligible for the NRHP or for NHL status to better understand the significance of the cultural resources

we manage, and more effectively prioritize their stewardship needs. In the last biennium, the most significant of these efforts included two years of survey at Sluice Boxes State Park, systematically recording its significant cultural resources, including the ghost town of Albright. We also recorded Lake Elmo itself as a heritage property, expanded the boundaries of Fort Owen's NRHP-listed trading post, and formally recorded Elkhorn's Gillian Hall as its own site.

In addition, many of our cultural resources currently listed on the NRHP or as NHLs were listed in the 1960s and 1970s, and their documentation is insufficient to their significance. Missouri Headwaters' NHL listing, for example, is based entirely on the Corps of Discovery's passage through the park rather than the thousands of years of Indigenous history the park represents as one of North America's major crossroads. To work toward updating this listing, we have begun a multi-year effort to better understand the park's ethnographic significance and its precontact archaeology, beginning with NPS-funded geoarchaeological research undertaken in 2021. In addition, we have begun the process of considering Fort Owen for listing as a National Historic Landmark district along with adjacent St. Mary's Mission. Fort Owen and St. Mary's Mission together are nationally significant as a tightly-linked, culturally-diverse secular and religious community that shaped each phase of the Inland Northwest's mid-to-late nineteenth century history.

Collections and Records Management

The largest collections of artifacts and paleontological resources from State Parks are held at the Bureau of Land Management's Billings Curation Center, the University of Montana, the Museum of the Rockies, the Montana Historical Society and the McFarland Curation Center in Virginia City. A few of our most complex heritage parks manage their own collections, as well; these include Bannack (24BE0169), Chief Plenty Coups (24BH2179), First Peoples (24CA1012), Makoshika (24DW0079), and Pictograph Cave (24YL0001, 24YL0002). These parks all use PastPerfect museum software and continue to work toward entering their full collections into this system. AmeriCorps members at parks like Bannack and Makoshika have assisted with artifact data entry.

In 2021, the large collection of artifacts from First Peoples Buffalo Jump that resulted from excavations at the park in the 1990s was permanently curated with the Billings Curation Center after being fully cataloged through a partnership with MSU and the NPS. In addition, the 2020 AmeriCorps member at Missouri Headwaters State Park partnered with the local Headwaters Museum to catalog all of the museum's artifacts that came from the Headwaters during its time in private ownership. Most of these artifacts were precontact stone tools.

All information related to site location and heritage resource surveys within each park is contained in a GIS database. Our GIS database was updated in 2019 through a contract with the University of Montana, which will greatly facilitate future compliance work. Site forms for all sites and survey reports for each park are kept in notebooks in the heritage program office. In the future, having these site forms digitally either through subscription to the SHPO statewide database or scanning the files locally will be vital.

Property Status and Condition

Information concerning the status and condition of cultural resources within Montana's State Parks is provided in Table 2. SHPO now requires condition assessment forms for any new site added or if a site's status and condition changes. As a result, we are including three Heritage Property Reporting Forms as an appendix to this report (Appendix B) for three cultural resources on which we have not previously reported: Gillian Hall, in Elkhorn State Park (24JF2109), the Logan Marshall Homestead (24LA0269) on Cedar Island, managed as part of Flathead Lake State Park, and Lake Elmo

Reservoir (24YL2275), within Lake Elmo State Park. FWP staff's limited capacity to monitor sites threatens the integrity and condition of all 40 sites discussed here. Increasing park visitation at almost all parks makes the threat of site damage more likely as illegal trespass, ATV use and camping continues to rise. FWP is attempting to meet that need through AmeriCorps volunteers, the site stewardship program, friends groups and other invested local partners who want to see our parks protected.



Figure 4: The main house of the Logan Marshall Homestead (24LA0269) on Cedar Island in Flathead Lake. The house is a fine example of 1920s craftsman architecture in an isolated island setting.

Of the 40 evaluated state park sites, 21 maintain a satisfactory status, 13 are listed in a watch status, and six are in a threatened status. Sites with a “satisfactory” status are those that have limited threats of vandalism, infringement from development or pending construction nearby. Cultural resources in a “watch” status include sites at Missouri Headwaters (24GA0212 and 24GA0402), where infringing development around the site and a highway running through it damage the site’s visual integrity. Other “watch” cultural resources include the isolated Superintendent’s House at Granite (24GN0366), the Morony Dam construction camp within Giant Springs (24CA0289), the Logan Marshall Homestead (24LA0269) on Cedar Island, and Fraternity (24JF0477) and Gillian Halls (24JF2109) at Elkhorn. Vandalism and decay due to building age are problematic at all five sites. The Anaconda Smoke Stack (24DL0290) is in “watch” status because an increasing number of bricks become dislodged each year. Madison Buffalo Jump (24GA0314) has seen years of illegal artifact collecting that began in the 1930s, and social trails are causing damage that parks is seeking to remedy with a recent reclamation project.

In terms of overall site integrity and condition, 19 of the 40 cultural resources included here are in “good” condition (see Table 2). These sites maintain their integrity and remain undamaged by incompatible landscape development or other damage. Sixteen sites are in “fair” condition and have witnessed some change or alteration, but maintain their basic integrity. Five sites are in “poor” condition, meaning they have lost many of the basic features that gave them significance.

Of the 40 cultural resources we report on here, six cultural resources managed by state parks are considered “threatened” and five are in “poor” condition. Three sites within Rosebud Battlefield are considered threatened though they are in good or fair condition because the state does not own the mineral rights beneath the park’s surface. Energy development within the park could destroy important features of the battlefield, the bison jump and petroglyphs, and the homestead. Archaeological site 24ME0075, located at the Camp Baker boat launch on the Smith River, is threatened by high numbers of visitors and erosion, though it is currently in fair condition. A 2021 cultural resource inventory revealed that artifacts are eroding into the river; proposed plans for stream bank armoring and repair in 2022 will help protect the site from further erosional loss. The Gallatin City II Hotel (24GA0355) in Missouri Headwaters State Park is listed as threatened and in poor condition as it is without a roof and in imminent danger of complete collapse despite stabilization efforts in 2015. The Belt Creek Railroad (24CA1315) in Sluice Boxes State Park is listed as threatened and in poor condition because the railroad grade and constructed features that the park has long used as a hiking route are failing, and their remote location and complex engineering makes stabilization difficult and expensive. The Miner’s Union Hall within Granite Ghost Town (24GN0365) is threatened and in poor condition; it has already lost its roof and upper story, and the side walls of the structure, its final standing substantive component, are not well supported. The other two sites in poor condition are the Campbell Homestead (24GA1839) and Madison Mill (24GA1841) at Missouri Headwaters, as there are very few remaining features of these post contact cultural resources.



Figure 5: The last standing structure from Gallatin City, located within Missouri Headwaters State Park. This structure is considered threatened.

Heritage Stewardship

Table 3 lists the efforts of Montana State Parks regarding the administration, stewardship and preservation of our 40 evaluated sites. Sites are listed by region and alphabetically by park name. Table 3 shows state park expenditures for categories including staff time, operations and maintenance costs, heritage preservation and research efforts. The sections below elaborate on our stewardship efforts for 2020-2021, organized by region.

Heritage Program Accomplishments

FWP released a strategic plan for the State Parks Heritage Program in 2017. The plan lays out tasks and goals for improving and enhancing the heritage program from 2017 to 2024, with set tasks to be accomplished each year. Plan

goals focus on four areas: funding and partnerships, management and protection of resources, artifact collections and data management, and interpretation of heritage sites. Table 5 summarizes Heritage Program goals and their current status, including those outlined in the strategic plan.

The Montana State Parks Heritage Program has been developing improved tools and frameworks to facilitate compliance with heritage laws and regulation, and to incorporate heritage concerns more fully into FWP's management and decision-making processes. From 2020-2021 these efforts resulted in the following new tools:

- 1) Tribal Consultation Guidelines that provide FWP with agency-wide guidance on when to consult with tribes, and how that consultation should occur;
- 2) a simplified flowchart of the process of considering heritage resources in FWP projects in accordance with heritage laws; and
- 3) a spreadsheet summarizing heritage grants and funding opportunities and their requirements.

Region 1 Stewardship

Flathead Lake Islands

The State Parks Division of FWP is taking over management of three islands in Flathead Lake that are designated as Wildlife Habitat Protection Areas primarily intended to offer nesting habitat for Canada Geese. These islands are experiencing ever-increasing recreational use, and the Parks Division is best-suited to manage that recreational activity. Therefore a new management plan is under development for these islands, intended to clarify goals and guidance for future use of the islands. Cedar Island contains a NRHP-eligible series of cultural resources collectively recorded as the Logan Marshall Homestead (24LA0269). This site includes six outbuildings, the remains of a historic orchard, a boulder pier and a substantial, craftsman-style main house built in 1928. These cultural resources are being considered in the planning process.

Region 1 continues to focus on events interpreting the region's heritage, as well; in 2021 Salish cultural expert Tim Ryan led an event at Lone Pine State Park, and parks like Wayfarers on Flathead Lake continue to hold history walks.

Region 2 Stewardship

Council Grove State Park

Council Grove State Park memorializes the 1855 Hellgate Treaty, a seminal moment in Montana history when the Salish, Kootenai and Pend d'Oreille met in treaty council with Washington Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens. The park is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2019, park management obtained a \$5,000 grant from the U.S. Forest Service to pursue updated interpretation in the park through partnership with the Selis-Qlispe Culture Committee, and this process is ongoing. The goal is to align the park experience more fully with the significance and the deeper history of the campsite, including its traditional use by Indigenous peoples well before the Hellgate Treaty.

Table 5: Heritage Program Goals, Progress and Prioritization

Goal	Status	2020-2021 progress	Next Steps for 2022-2023	Priority	Original Year for Completion	Proposed Year of Completion	Still an Appropriate Goal?
Develop an internal Heritage Leadership Team comprising heritage program staff and regional field representation to identify needs for heritage resources policy, best practices, inventory, and staff training	Ongoing	Charter drafted; members approached; plans upset by Covid and FWP reorganization	Finalize charter and membership, hold first meetings	1	2017	2022	Yes
Consolidate collections data into a centralized platform that is accessible to all parks and develop inventory procedures to better enable tracking, curation, and exhibit development	Ongoing	All PastPerfect data gathered, conversations with FWP IT and PastPerfect reps underway	Work with FWP IT and PastPerfect reps on implementation; ensure adequate funding	2	2019	2022	Yes
Develop site-specific emergency protocols for Bannack, Chief Plenty Coups, First Peoples Buffalo Jump, Giant Springs, Makoshika, Missouri Headwaters, Pictograph Cave, Travelers' Rest, Madison Buffalo Jump, Medicine Rocks, Milltown and Rosebud Battlefield	Ongoing	Developed enhanced fire protocols at Bannack; flood protocols for Plenty Coups in place; initial Pictograph rockfall safety study complete	Formal Pictograph rockfall safety and preservation assessment; complete MSU Rosebud fuel reduction study	3	2018	2025	Yes
Work with heritage partners and universities to develop new and enhance existing training for heritage park staff	Ongoing	Enhanced cultural resource AmeriCorps training implemented in 2020 and 2021	Continue developing paleontology training w/MoR; Encourage staff participation in SHPO trainings	4	2020	Ongoing	Yes

Conduct professional-level heritage resource inventories for cultural resources that have not been studied or inventoried, focusing first on suspected NHLs or NRHPs. Work towards documenting known sites that have yet to be fully recorded in state park cultural resources	Ongoing	Phases 1 and 2 of Sluice Boxes survey complete in 2020 and 2021; geophysical survey at Rosebud in 2021; survey of new Fort Owen parcel in 2020-2021; Missouri Headwaters geoarchaeology in 2021	Implement Sluice Boxes Phase 3 survey; Implement archaeological inventory at Missouri Headwaters; Prioritize major inventory needs across park system	5	2024	Ongoing	Yes
Update and expand NHL and NRHP nominations, where needed and appropriate, to document Montana's diversity, past and present	Ongoing	Ongoing research with SHPO on Chinese Americans and Indigenous people at Bannack; drafted NHL Letter of Inquiry for Fort Owen; geoarchaeological research at Missouri Headwaters	Finalize NHL Letter of Inquiry for Fort Owen and St. Mary's Mission emphasizing cultural diversity; consider Bannack NHL update; archaeological fieldwork at Missouri Headwaters for NHL update	6	N/A	Ongoing	Yes
Prepare alternative management solutions and partnerships for ongoing management and maintenance of the Anaconda Stack, Beaverhead Rock, Clark's Lookout, Council Grove, Elkhorn, Fort Owen, Granite, and Tower Rock	Ongoing	Significant 2020-2021 progress on Fort Owen with Parks Foundation, Friends of Fort Owen, Helmsley Grant and Dept of Commerce grant, etc.; Steele-Reese funding for Elkhorn engineering assessment	Pursue funding for complete engineering assessment of the Anaconda Stack	7	2019	Ongoing	Yes

Formalize a site monitoring program for significant cultural resources	Ongoing	Site monitors active in several parks	Develop a formal program to integrate monitors with BLM/Project Archaeology site stewardship program	8	2021	2025	Yes
Identify innovative, culturally sensitive, and relevant methods to enhance visitor connections with heritage resources that promote stewardship ethics and expand appreciation of the resource	Ongoing	Ongoing work with staff at various parks, particularly Fort Owen, Rosebud, Elkhorn and Bannack	Continue interpretive updates at Fort Owen and Rosebud; identify parks where AmeriCorps can assist	9	2021	Ongoing	Yes
Develop web-based “museum” for heritage parks to make artifacts and photograph collections accessible to the public and cultural resource professionals	Ongoing	All PastPerfect data gathered, conversations with FWP IT and PastPerfect reps underway	Once all data is in PastPerfect Online, develop process to avoid displaying sensitive items before activating online museum	10	2021	2024	Yes
Develop protocols to enhance recruitment of managers with knowledge, skills, and abilities specific to heritage resources	Ongoing	N/A	Pursue hiring committee involvement; position description updates	11	2019	Ongoing	Yes
Pursue and establish partnerships for interagency heritage programming with other related heritage sites on city, county, and federal lands	Ongoing	2020 Beaverhead Deerlodge National Forest partnership for interpretation at Elkhorn; 2020 online event with MSU on First	Continue working with adjacent BLM and USFS to update Granite and Elkhorn interpretation	12	2020	Ongoing	Yes

		Peoples; partnership with St Mary's Mission and Salish Culture Committee on updated Fort Owen interpretation					
Develop protocols to display collections with security and temperature-control equipment at visitor centers for public enjoyment and education	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2018	N/A	No; most parks do not have appropriate curatorial infrastructure and/or staff expertise
Conduct a status audit of existing documentation of cultural resources, including research and investigations, operations, management and protection concerns and protocols.	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	N/A	2019	N/A	Yes
Upon completion of protocols at visitor centers and as part of consolidating collection data, establish lending agreements with other facilities to improve staff access to artifacts for park-based use	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2019	None	No; most parks do not have appropriate curatorial infrastructure and/or staff expertise

Develop standards of care for historic buildings and cultural resources based on the Secretary of the Interior's standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2020	None	No; the Secretary's Standards and related NPS bulletins are sufficient.
Develop a solution and schedule for maintaining heritage resource spatial data that is consistent and compatible with the facility management system and SHPO standards	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	N/A	2020	N/A	Yes
Complete interpretive plans for Bannack and Makoshika. Prioritize other cultural resources that need interpretive plans developed or updated.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2022	None	No; This is not a Heritage Program-specific goal.

Fort Owen State Park

Fort Owen State Park (24RA0148) encompasses the remains of a trading post that was a commercial and agricultural hub for the Inland Northwest from the 1850s through the 1870s. In 2020, in partnership with the State Parks Foundation, the Helmsley Family Trust awarded Fort Owen \$507,500 to acquire 0.9 acres of land, create a new parking area to deal with access problems, preserve Fort Owen's remaining historic structures, and redesign and improve the park's interpretation. Fort Owen is located in the middle of a private ranch, and formerly visitors had very limited parking and were frequently trespassing on private land unawares.



Figure 6: Kelly Casias of Western Cultural, Inc. collecting data with the magnetometer in the newly-acquired field south of Fort Owen before parking lot construction.

To build the new parking area, FWP undertook extensive archaeological inventory and research into the newly-acquired parcel, which lies immediately to the south of what were Fort Owen's main gates. All of this archaeological work occurred in close consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office. Historic paintings and photographs show Indigenous camps in this area, including tipis and fires. In fall 2020, FWP hired Western Cultural, Inc. to undertake surface survey and archaeological testing to search for any artifacts or features of significance in the area of the proposed parking lot. Western Cultural recovered numerous artifacts that appear to date to Fort Owen's active period (1850-1900). These include blacksmithed nails and other pieces of metal, window glass, melted glass, glass bottle fragments, wagon parts, and the frizzen from a flintlock rifle manufactured between 1835 and 1840. These artifacts were scattered throughout the newly-acquired 0.9 acres, with two significant clusters of building-related materials (nails, window glass, burned glass) that may indicate the locations of historic structures. Thanks to these archaeological findings, the parking lot was carefully designed for construction on top of fill material to avoid damaging or compacting the native ground surface and the significant artifacts and features it contains.

In spring 2021, in a best-practices effort to understand as much as possible about the archaeology of the new 0.9 acre parcel before it was buried beneath a new parking lot, FWP again hired Western Cultural to undertake additional archaeological research using a magnetometer to search specifically for evidence of hearths that may confirm

Indigenous encampment in the area. A magnetometer measures the effect that buried features or artifacts have on the geomagnetic field, which allows archaeologists to see anomalies underground. Most importantly in this context, magnetometers are very good at identifying buried hearths, as the heat from the fire creates magnetic anomalies. Western Cultural identified at least two hearths using the magnetometer; radiocarbon dating of the hearths was not possible as the charcoal was contaminated by later plowing of the field in question, but they strongly suggest Indigenous use of the field both during Fort Owen’s heyday and before. This inventory also found a hand-forged gun hammer that likely dates to Fort Owen’s period of significance.

In 2020, FWP replaced the roofs of the East Barracks, one of Montana’s oldest structures built in 1857, and the Wagner Cabin, a later addition to the park, with \$25,000 from the Rapp Family Foundation, procured by the Friends of Fort Owen. Plans are underway in preparation for major historic preservation work at Fort Owen in 2022, funded by both the Helmsley Family Trust and the Montana Department of Commerce’s Montana Historic Preservation Grant, which awarded FWP \$81,000 for Fort Owen in 2021. This work will include preservation of the original 1857 adobe walls on the East Barracks, repair of windows and doors, and preservation of interior features including the fireplaces and original 1850s plasterwork.



Figure 7: Friends of Fort Owen Mud Party visitors mixing adobe with the historic East Barracks in the background.

In support of this upcoming preservation work, the Friends of Fort Owen received \$9,500 from the Montana History Foundation to study the makeup of the fort’s original adobe, and search for an accessible source for that adobe to be used in historic preservation work. They also hosted a “Mud Party” in fall 2021 that provided hands-on public education on the manufacture of adobe and the process of repairing historic adobe structures.

FWP will hire a contractor by the end of 2021 to create a new interpretive plan for Fort Owen, which will endeavor to tell a deeper story of the park’s history through consultations with community stakeholders and tribal partners, particularly the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. This work will also be funded by the Helmsley Charitable Trust in partnership with the State Parks Foundation.

Travelers' Rest State Park

Travelers' Rest State Park (24MO0176) is home to the first archaeologically-verified Lewis and Clark campsite, and was a crossroads for Indigenous peoples including the Salish, Pend d'Oreille, Kootenai and Nez Perce for thousands of years. It is one of 24 National Historic Landmarks in Montana. In fall 2021, the park began planting a vegetative screen between the area of the recorded Lewis and Clark campsite and adjacent private land to minimize the visibility of modern structures and improve the viewshed for the visitor. The park is also seeking to fully obliterate the remains of a service road that continues to be visible through the Lewis and Clark campsite through plantings in fill material to avoid damaging the site's archaeology.

Travelers' Rest continues to be one of the state's premiere parks for heritage interpretive programming, including events celebrating Indigenous art, Indigenous games for kids, and demonstrations of traditional skills by Indigenous experts like Billy Maxwell and Buck Morigeau. Many of these events occur in coordination with the Travelers' Rest Connection, which is the very active friends group for the park. On Saturdays through the winter months, the park hosts storytelling events that include topics like the region's archaeological record, Salish storytelling and local ecology. Expedition Days, held in June 2021, commemorated the 215th anniversary of the Corps of Discovery's camp in the park with guided tours, living history demonstrations and kids' events.



Figure 8: Corps of Discovery reenactor with a period firearm at Travelers' Rest.

Region 3 Stewardship

Anaconda Smelter Stack State Park

The Anaconda Smelter Stack (24DL0290) is one of the world's largest free-standing brick structures, at 585 feet tall, and a vital landmark of Montana's mining heritage. In 2020, FWP partnered with Northwestern Energy and ARCO Environmental Remediation, LLC to install 4,900 feet of new powerline and 17 new power poles to power the stack's FAA lighting, required for air travel safety given the stack's height.

Bannack State Park

Bannack State Park (24BE0169) is home to one of the West's best-preserved ghost towns and Montana's first territorial capital, and includes more than 100 historic structures. Bannack is a National Historic Landmark. Some of State Parks's flagship interpretive events occur at Bannack each year, including Bannack Days, the Living History Program, and Bannack Ghost Walks. Each of these events offers visitors a remarkable opportunity to meaningfully engage with Montana history through interactive activities, reenactments, storytelling, and historic demonstrations. All of these events occur in close partnership with friends group the Bannack Association, who also help State Parks fund an important Park Ranger position at Bannack. Due to Covid-19, many of Bannack's various events were cancelled in 2020, but proceeded in 2021. Visitation numbers for Bannack generally were low in 2020 because the park itself was closed for several months during the spring months with Covid lockdowns, as staff were concerned about the park's many indoor spaces and implementing Covid cleaning protocols while accounting for historic preservation concerns.

In 2020, FWP was awarded a technical assistance grant from the National Park Service's Heritage Partnership Programs to assist with an archaeological assessment of one of Bannack's historic horse barns, work that is necessary before FWP embarks on a significant stabilization project for the barn that would involve ground disturbance several feet deep to address issues with its sill logs. The technical assistance grant, with a value of approximately \$8,000, involves an NPS archaeologist coming to Bannack to assist FWP's Heritage Program Manager with excavations. Execution of this project was delayed by Covid in 2020 and 2021, and is planned to proceed in 2022.

Bannack also received \$600 from the State Historic Preservation Office in 2021 to study the park's Indigenous heritage, particularly related to the artifacts that have been found in the park that predate its mining and territorial history. FWP sent 13 obsidian artifacts from Bannack to a lab for geochemical source analysis, which can determine which flow of lava created the obsidian that was then used to create the artifact. Such data can help us learn about Indigenous travel patterns and trade routes. The results of this research indicate that the most obsidian came from two of Bannack's closest high-quality sources: three artifacts from Obsidian Cliff, in Yellowstone, and four artifacts from Bear Gulch, just south of the Idaho border. In a large-scale overview summarizing where obsidian used for stone tool manufacture in Southwest Montana originates, Laura Schreiber and Judson Finley (2011) found that Bear Gulch was the most common source in the region, and Obsidian Cliff the next most common. Bannack's results, therefore, align with regional patterns. A dart point from Bannack that is at least 3,000 years old is one of the artifacts made from Bear Gulch obsidian. Unusually, two of the obsidian artifacts from Bannack come from much further away, one from Timber Butte, Idaho, which is north of Boise, and one from Gregory Creek, which is northeast of Burns, Oregon. Artifacts made of Gregory Creek obsidian are exceedingly unusual in the region, making this artifact a rare and exciting find that suggests cultural connections between the Bannack area and the northern Great Basin deep in the past.

Ongoing, vital historic preservation at Bannack in 2020 and 2021 included new fire-retardant cedar shingle roofs at the Turner House, Bessette House, Decker House and Gibson House. The use of shingles impregnated with fire retardant continues our efforts to make Bannack more defensible and resistant to wildfire. In spring 2021, "A Year to Volunteer," a group that organizes people who travel in RVs to perform service in communities around the country, brought 23 people to Bannack for over 1,000 hours of volunteer labor. They reconstructed 500 feet of Bannack's wooden boardwalks that had become uneven and unsafe for visitors, repaired 2013 flood damage to the front porch of Ovitt's Store, repaired the front steps of the iconic Hotel Meade, cleaned 253 windows, deep-cleaned 35 buildings, and

removed graffiti in 10 buildings. This work occurred with the financial support of the Bannack Association and the Home Depot.



Figure 9: 2021 Volunteers with “A Year to Volunteer” work on the Ovitt’s Store Porch in Bannack State Park.



Figure 10: Volunteers with “A Year to Volunteer” work on replacing deteriorated boardwalk at Bannack.

In 2021, FWP continued our partnership with Adventures in Preservation for the Bannack Preservation Institute, which had to be cancelled in 2020 due to Covid. Led by preservation specialists, this weeklong preservation vacation allows volunteers to learn techniques of historic masonry, plaster and woodworking while completing needed historic preservation work at Bannack. In 2021, participants removed non-historic wallpaper and repaired historic lath and plaster walls in the Jackson House that were damaged by Bannack’s major 2013 flood.



Figure 11: “Adventures in Preservation” volunteer restoring the interior of Bannack’s Jackson House.

Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park

Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park is home to a variety of cultural resources, including the National Register of Historic Places-listed historic district (24JF2081) of Civilian Conservation Corps structures and buildings that gave the park its first tourism infrastructure. In 2021, FWP replaced the roofs of the historic concessions building and visitor center with fire-retardant cedar shingles, and undertook a major preservation effort inside the concessions building.

Madison Buffalo Jump State Park

Madison Buffalo Jump State Park preserves one of only a handful of publicly-accessible buffalo jumps in Montana (24GA0314), vital cultural places where Indigenous peoples gathered to communally harvest buffalo. In 2021, FWP received a Montana Trail Stewardship Grant for \$26,115 to rehabilitate social trails and delineate a sustainable trail system at the park. The trail system at Madison Buffalo Jump largely developed as a series of social trails, meaning they often do not adhere to an appropriate grade, and many parallel one another, causing erosion and unnecessary resource damage to natural and cultural resources. One social trail in particular, called the “Jump Base Trail”, has created a vertical scar up the face of the jump, causing significant damage to archaeological resources and the visual landscape. With help from Montana Conservation Corps crews, FWP rehabilitated the Jump Base Trail and several others within the park, re-routed damaging trails and created signage to clarify the new trail system.



Figure 12: The “Jump Base Trail” at Madison Buffalo Jump, which has now been decommissioned. This trail was causing significant damage to archaeological deposits on the jump’s face, and was a visual scar on the landscape.

Missouri Headwaters State Park

Missouri Headwaters State Park is listed as a National Historic Landmark for its association with Lewis and Clark’s Corps of Discovery (24GA0212), and was a precontact crossroads for thousands of years prior (24GA0402). A planning effort is currently underway to update the Master Plan for Missouri Headwaters, to gather community input and chart a path forward for the park as its visitation continues to increase.

In addition, in 2021 the National Park Service’s Heritage Partnerships Program awarded \$6,800 to the park for a geoarchaeological study intended to identify promising locations to search for Indigenous archaeology. Geoarchaeology studies natural physical processes that contribute to the burial and preservation of archaeological sites. FWP has not previously made a concerted effort to identify precontact archaeological materials within Missouri Headwaters that may be subsurface, or under thick vegetation. Previous cultural resource inventories within the park have focused on historic features visible on the ground surface. Given the placement of the park at one of North America’s greatest crossroads, it is highly likely there are precontact archaeological sites within the park that have yet to be identified.

In 2021 the park also received \$2,919 from the Missouri-Madison River Fund to add approximately ½ acre of native plantings at the confluence of the Jefferson and Madison Rivers, which have been experiencing catastrophic bank failure resulting in the loss of approximately 7,500 square feet of land to ongoing erosion. The project entailed planting native grasses and trees along the bank and in the “terrace zone” to assist with bank stabilization and rebuild the natural riparian environment.



Figure 13: Major bank failure and slumping at the confluence of the Madison and Jefferson Rivers. The jackleg fencing has been placed for public safety.

Region 4 Stewardship

Elkhorn State Park

Elkhorn State Park is made up of two historic buildings, Gillian Hall (24JF2109) and Fraternity Hall (24JF477), which sit side-by-side as the largest remaining structures from Elkhorn's late 19th and early 20th century mining heyday. Both structures are tall and architecturally striking, with ornamented false fronts and large windows. In 2021, FWP replaced the dilapidated roofs on both Fraternity and Gillian Halls with fire-retardant cedar shingles, intended to reduce the risk of wildfire. We also hired a mason to repair Gillian Hall's historic brick chimney.

Also in 2021, FWP was awarded \$30,000 from the Steele-Reese Foundation to undertake a formal engineering assessment of the foundations of both Fraternity and Gillian Halls. Both structures have rubble foundations that are settling unevenly, causing damage to floors and walls, and likely making the structures unstable in the long term. This formal contracted assessment is proceeding in fall 2021 and will result in construction plans for needed foundational repairs by spring 2022.

First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park

First Peoples Buffalo Jump (24CA1012) is one of North America's largest buffalo jumps, where Indigenous peoples harvested buffalo for thousands of years in a sacred landscape. This site is a National Historic Landmark. In 2018, FWP completed the organization and curation of excavated artifacts from First Peoples Buffalo Jump with the assistance of Montana State University, students from the University of Montana and a \$12,000 National Park Service grant (awarded in 2016). MSU originally recovered the artifacts as part of archaeological excavations conducted in 1992-1995, and the generous quantity of buffalo bones alone made curation a considerable undertaking. In 2021, the Heritage Program Manager transferred these artifacts from MSU to the Billings Curation Center for permanent curation. With the collection now curated to professional standards, future research becomes far more feasible.

In collaboration with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, FWP has acquired an additional lease at First Peoples Buffalo Jump that expands the park to include a significant area to the west, allowing for preservation of an extended portion of the cultural landscape.

Interpretive and educational work at First Peoples includes Ranger-guided hikes and walks, cultural presentations, school field trips, a major Junior Ranger program, and special events like the annual “Mammoth Hunt,” which includes opportunities for people to try atlatls and bows as well as a stone tool workshop and demonstrations. The Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians has held a major annual pow wow at the park in August for many years, which had to be canceled in 2020 for Covid.

Giant Springs State Park

Giant Springs State Park contains historic rock walls built in the 1930s along the edge of the spring itself, the Roe River and the man-made Roe Island. They are a contributing feature to National Register of Historic Places-eligible 24CA0620. Parks has been working over several years through River Fund grants offered by Northwestern Energy to rehabilitate these walls, and in 2020 and 2021 FWP worked to rehabilitate one of the final sections.

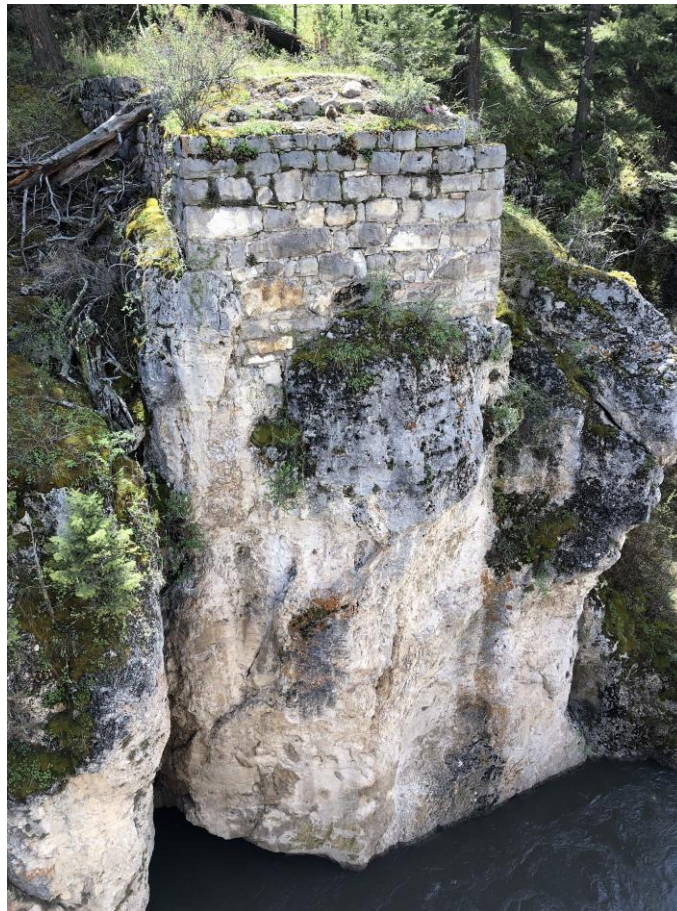


Figure 14: Striking historic stonework associated with a long-vanished bridge within Sluice Boxes State Park.

Sluice Boxes State Park

Sluice Boxes State Park contains precontact and post contact cultural resources, most prominently the remains of the limestone-quarrying town of Albright, and the Belt Creek Railway (24CA1315). In 2020, Montana Preservation Alliance completed an FWP-funded preliminary survey of unrecorded historic features in Sluice Boxes State Park, focusing on the remains of Albright. Through this work, MPA recorded 31 historic features like barns, 30-foot-high lime kilns (Figure 14), and cabins. For 2021, FWP was awarded \$5,000 from the Montana History Foundation to continue this survey effort from the north end of the park, recording the remains of the historic town of Riceville, additional lime kilns and other historic features.

Smith River State Park

FWP manages both state-owned and federal land as Smith River State Park, which includes numerous precontact and post contact resources, particularly rock art and precontact campsites like the one at Camp Baker (24ME0075). FWP is in the midst of updating the Smith River's Management Plan, focusing on human waste management, management of Camp Baker, the permitting system and resource damage within the boat camps. The Heritage Program Manager is part of this planning process, ensuring that impacts to cultural resources are considered alongside other factors.

FWP has also completed planning and design for a project to stabilize the bank at Camp Baker where the confluence of the Smith River and Sheep Creek is causing ongoing erosion to the lower boat launch and to the archaeological resources at 24ME0075. This project will be implemented in spring 2022, and will install a new boat ramp and armor the bank to prevent ongoing bank failure where artifacts including flakes that are the byproducts of stone tool manufacture are eroding into the river.

Region 5 Stewardship

Chief Plenty Coups State Park

Chief Plenty Coups State Park is a National Historic Landmark (24BH2179) preserving the homestead of one of the seminal Indigenous leaders of the late 19th and early 20th Century: Chief Plenty Coups of the Crow Tribe. In 2021, FWP was awarded \$140,537 from the National Park Service's Save America's Treasures Program to match \$148,000 of in-hand capital funds for historic preservation of the Chief's House and Store. Preservation work will commence in 2022, and will include repairing the foundations of both structures, full re-chinking and re-daubing, replacing the roof of the Chief's House, rebuilding windows, and repairing the House's south porch.

Each year, Chief Plenty Coups State Park holds the Day of Honor in partnership with the Crow Tribe, which includes speakers, artists, drummers, dancers and a feast. Another parade and pow wow occurs in September, hosted by the park and St. Charles Mission School. In 2021, the Day of Honor was part of the park's ongoing celebration of the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, as Chief Plenty Coups himself played a significant role in the original dedication in Washington, DC. Many of the park's other usual interpretive events were curtailed in 2020 and 2021 thanks to Covid.



Figure 15: South elevation of the Chief's House at Chief Plenty Coups State Park. The uneven settling caused by foundation issues is clearly visible in the crooked gable end.

Lake Elmo State Park

Lake Elmo itself, including the reservoir, headgate and other historic features, was recorded in 2021 as a cultural resource (24YL2275) eligible for the NRHP. It is locally-significant for its contribution to Billings's recreational and agricultural history. In 2020-2021, FWP embarked on a project to fully drain Lake Elmo to kill invasive Asian clams and prevent them from reaching the Yellowstone River.

Pictograph Cave State Park

Pictograph Cave State Park is a National Historic Landmark containing one of the most important archaeological sites in the Great Plains (24YL0001, 24YL0002), two rockshelters occupied for more than 8,000 years that illuminate the lives of Indigenous peoples in the region. In January 2021 a very large rockfall occurred within and immediately outside the park that damaged the entrance road and the trail to Ghost Cave, and caused the park's closure for safety. As a result, FWP staff arranged for National Park Service geology specialist James Mason to review the park remotely using drone footage and other imagery; he advised that the park have a more formal engineering assessment performed of the sandstone cliff's integrity to protect public safety and the cultural resources. FWP arranged for GeoEngineer Dr. Lee Petersen of Itasca Consulting Group, who has worked extensively with the type of sandstone in the Pictograph Cave formation and with cultural resource concerns, to visit the park for a preliminary walk-through. In the future, FWP plans to hire a specialist contractor like Dr. Petersen to complete a formal assessment of the integrity of the caves and cliffs, and provide recommendations for safety and cultural resource mitigations.



Figure 16: January 2021 rockfall at Pictograph Cave.

Region 7 Stewardship

Makoshika State Park

FWP continues to partner with Montana State University's Museum of the Rockies on the paleontological resources found within our State Parks, including the remarkable fossils of Makoshika. The Museum of the Rockies undertook limited fieldwork at Makoshika in 2020 thanks to Covid, but still recorded multiple paleontological localities and collected a rare pachycephalosaur dome. Pachycephalosaurs were herbivorous dinosaurs with notoriously thick, domed skulls. In 2021, Dr. Dan Lawver with Stony Brook University of New York began excavating a Triceratops skeleton found during 2019 fieldwork. The fossil will be curated with Museum of the Rockies.



Figure 17: Americorps member Adam Winfield working to recover a pachycephalosaur dome.

Makoshika continues to host paleontology interns, who are organizing the park's paleontology and geology collections, leading interpretive hikes, helping with new exhibits and supporting paleontology education programs. The Friends of Makoshika help to fund this important work, and have purchased professional cabinets to host Makoshika's extraordinary fossils through a grant from the Montana History Foundation. All the fossils in Makoshika's collection have now been identified and are in the process of being stored properly in the park's collection cabinets.

Medicine Rocks State Park

Medicine Rocks State Park is listed on the NRHP for its remarkable post contact inscriptions and precontact petroglyphs, which record the importance of this landscape through thousands of years of local history. In December 2020, Medicine Rocks was recognized as a Dark Sky Sanctuary by the International Dark Skies Association (IDA). As a result, in partnership with the IDA and the Carter County Museum, State Parks held a series of events celebrating the park's dark skies and its natural and cultural history in 2021.

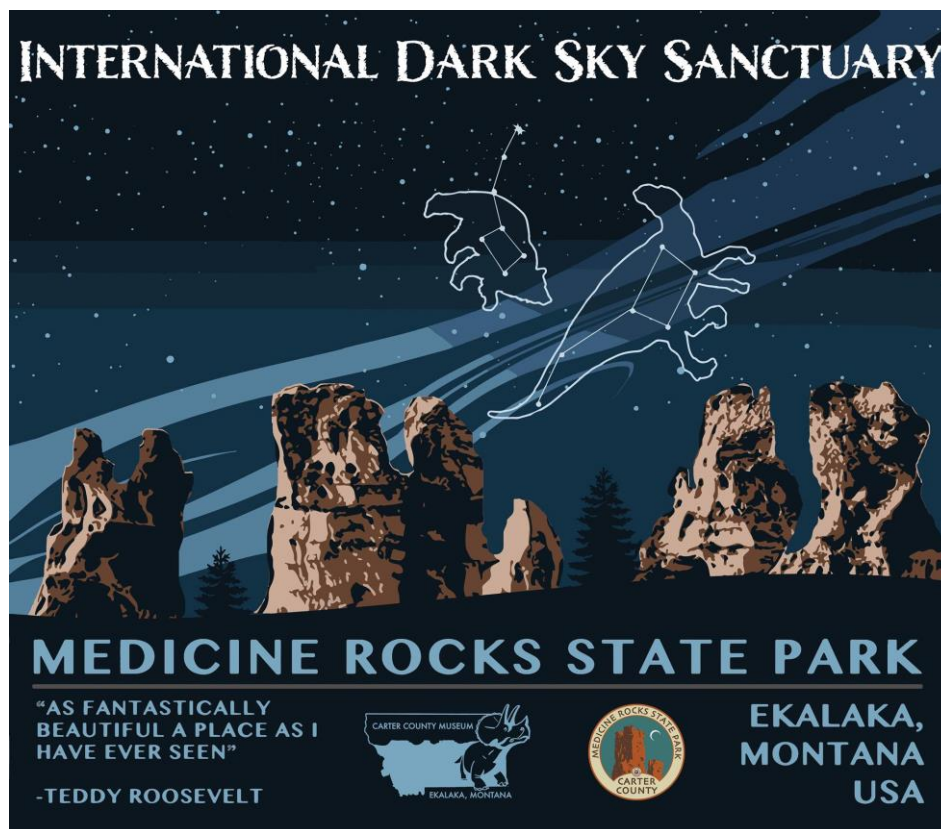


Figure 18: Graphic from the Carter County Museum celebrating Medicine Rocks's Dark Sky Sanctuary Status.

Rosebud Battlefield State Park

Rosebud Battlefield, or Where the Girl Saved Her Brother (24BH2461) is a National Historic Landmark commemorating the first major battle of the Great Sioux War, fought in 1876 between the US Army and a coalition of Lakota and Cheyenne warriors. In 2021, FWP partnered with Colorado Mesa University to search for the remains of nine U.S. Army soldiers who died during the Battle of the Rosebud. According to U.S. Army official accounts, soldiers' letters, newspapers, and oral histories, they were buried in a mass grave, and that grave has never been found. Indigenous oral histories and later written accounts suggest that all the fallen Indigenous warriors were removed from the battlefield

with the exception of a single Shoshone scout, who may be buried on adjacent private land. Using a generous \$50,000 donation from the Lee and Donna Metcalf Charitable Trust, we searched for the grave using archaeological methods that do not disturb the ground surface, including examining the soil's magnetic signature and searching for voids in the ground using ground-penetrating radar. Postprocessing of this data and reporting for this fieldwork is ongoing. Use of a metal detector in the area found some exciting battlefield artifacts, including almost all the parts to a disassembled Model 1851 Colt Navy revolver, with a still-loaded cylinder. It's likely this gun was purposefully disassembled "so as to render it unserviceable to the enemy." We also found a concentration of 53 lead bullets in an area not previously examined, likely representing the Lakota and Cheyenne warriors shooting at General Crook's U.S. Army soldiers in the very first moments of the battle, when Crook's men were resting and having breakfast by the creek.

The \$50,000 donation from the Lee and Donna Metcalf Charitable trust is also financing an archaeological overview of Rosebud Battlefield, prepared by Dr. Doug Scott of Colorado Mesa University. Dr. Scott is combining Indigenous oral histories, historic U.S. Army accounts, and the results of all previous artifact collection and formal archaeology in the park to provide FWP with our clearest-ever image of the events of the battle, and where they occurred on the landscape. Longer-term, we plan to adapt this research into high-quality, possibly digital interpretive materials that could virtually walk visitors through the site with Indigenous oral histories, soldiers' accounts, and archaeology.

In 2021, FWP replaced the roof of the Kobold Ranch House within Rosebud Battlefield State Park, part of NRHP-eligible site 24BH3773, with fire-retardant cedar shingles to preserve the house's historic character and make it more resistant to potential wildfire.



Figure 19: Equipment pulled by a UTV within Rosebud Battlefield State Park searched for magnetic anomalies in the soil that may indicate the location of the U.S. Army soldiers' mass grave.

Stewardship Cost Summary

Overall, MSP spent approximately \$3,331,668 on heritage stewardship efforts including administration, preservation, research, interpretation, maintenance, monitoring, marketing, and avoiding adverse effects. These numbers are summarized in Table 3. Park Managers and Regional Park Managers submit these costs for reporting using their records, though it can be difficult to summarize the exact cost of periodic site monitoring, for example, or interpretive efforts. For parks whose primary classification is heritage, we include all administrative costs for the park in our stewardship dollars. As in the past, the most expensive stewardship park for the 2020-2021 period was Bannack (24BE0169), whose 100 historic structures require constant and expensive maintenance and repair. Overall, the top sites for heritage stewardship spending include the following:

- 1) Bannack (24BD0169): \$692,024
- 2) First Peoples Buffalo Jump (24CA1012): \$398,978
- 3) Travelers' Rest (24MO0176): \$360,419
- 4) Lewis and Clark Caverns (24JF2081): \$332,300
- 5) Fort Owen (24RA0148): \$287,803
- 6) Pictograph Cave (24YL0001, 24YL0002): \$231,031
- 7) Chief Plenty Coups (24BH2179): \$144,740
- 8) Missouri Headwaters (24GA0212): \$150,716
- 9) Elkhorn (24JF0477, 24JF2109): \$131,780
- 10) Rosebud Battlefield (24BH2461, 24BH3773): \$128,000

Seven of these sites are National Historic Landmarks, and it is good to see that the dollars spent by FWP on stewardship align with the heritage significance of our parks. The additional non-NHL parks on the list, Lewis and Clark Caverns, Fort Owen and Elkhorn, each had particularly significant expenditures on historic preservation and maintenance efforts in 2020-2021. Moving forward, our ongoing challenge will be to maintain our investment in our seven NHLs while also providing stewardship for our important NRHP-listed and eligible sites and working toward ongoing evaluations of eligibility for other sites.

Historic preservation and restoration costs include work on historic structures and any stabilization efforts on archaeological sites, as well. Site research and documentation costs include non-compliance heritage surveys, detailed site recordation, facility condition inventories, artifact analysis and cataloguing, and site assessment studies. Interpretation and education costs can be difficult to parse from general administration costs at many of our heritage parks, where interpretation and education are primary duties for park staff, including seasonal interpretive staff and AmeriCorps members. These employees commit considerable time to developing new interpretive programming, providing daily interpretive experiences, and preparing for educational events. Site monitoring efforts are also difficult

to estimate for heritage parks where staff, volunteers and AmeriCorps members are constantly on-site, monitoring the status of the cultural resources.

Site maintenance and access costs listed in Table 3 do not represent complete maintenance expenditures for our parks, as expenses like new bathrooms, paved sidewalks, regulation signs, interpretive sign replacement, and road paving and grading, are not generally included. Marketing efforts tracked in Table 3 are mostly related to staff time, website and social media work, printing and advertising in local and regional newspapers and magazines and in television spots.

A total of \$465,008 of the heritage stewardship funding expended on Montana State Parks in 2020-2021 came from outside funds, including grant funding, donations, volunteer time, and in-kind match of staff time. Not all funds awarded to FWP for heritage stewardship work in 2020-2021 were included here, as some of the projects with awarded funding discussed in this report have not yet been completed. Fort Owen, for example, in partnership with the State Parks Foundation and the Friends of Fort Owen, has received \$623,000 in grant funding in the past two years from the Rapp Family Foundation, the Montana Historic Preservation Grant Program, the Montana History Foundation and the Helmsley Family Trust. Just \$250,947 of these total funds have been expended so far, and are accounted for in this report. The remaining funding will be spent during the 2022-2023 biennium. Additional notable influxes of outside funding include a donation from the Lee and Donna Metcalf Charitable Trust for \$50,000 for research at Rosebud Battlefield, and \$30,000 for a formal engineering assessment of the foundations of Elkhorn's Gillian and Fraternity Halls. In 2022-2023 we will also be investing \$288,537 in historic preservation at Chief Plenty Coups State Park, using internal capital funds and a matching National Park Service grant. Moving forward, these kinds of partnerships and creative solutions to secure funding from granting entities, private donors, friends groups and other partners will be key as we continue to seek to diversify our revenue streams and build strong partnerships, as recommended by the Parks in Focus effort and the Heritage Program Strategic Plan. In addition, the interest of universities and researchers in working within our heritage parks is ongoing, and field schools or other educational opportunities allow us to complete important work for the parks, facilitate educational opportunity and build an invested, informed constituency.

APPENDIX B

Montana State-Owned Heritage Property Reporting Forms

MONTANA STATE-OWNED HERITAGE PROPERTY REPORTING FORM

Property Number (e.g 24YL0001): _____ (Smithsonian Trinomial)

Property Name:

Property Town/Vicinity of:

Property Date (Year of Origin/Construction or "Precontact):

State Agency (Choose One):

Reporting Year: _____ (e.g. 2014; 2016; 2018, etc)

Property Type (Choose One):

Property Count (#): ____ District ____ Building(s) ____ Structure(s) ____ Site(s) ____ Object(s)

Historic Significance and Property Description:

Comment:

Historic Integrity: (Choose One):

Comment (Explain):

Use:

Historic Use:

Current Use:

Comment: (issues, if any, regarding use/functionality)

Status (Choose one):

Comment:

Condition (Choose One):

Comment:

Stewardship Effort and Cost (Enter all that apply in past 2 years; do not duplicate costs)

If activity, but no calculated/estimated cost available, enter "+". If no activity, enter "0" or leave blank.

- \$___ Heritage Property Administration/Operations (property-specific)
- \$___ Heritage Restoration/Rehabilitation/Repair project activity (SOI standards)
- \$___ Heritage Preservation/Protection project activity
- \$___ Heritage Research/Documentation project activity
- \$___ Heritage Interpretation/Education/Awareness project activity
- \$___ Heritage Promotion/Tourism/Marketing project activity
- \$___ Heritage Preservation/Conservation Plan Development
- \$___ Regular/routine maintenance
- \$___ Monitoring (documented/reported upon)
- \$___ Cost to redesign project to avoid adverse effect to property's heritage values
- \$___ Other heritage stewardship effort/activity (Explain)

Comment:

Prioritized Maintenance & Stewardship Needs

Rank property for agency priority addressing need among all agency's heritage properties:

Highest (1 = top 20%) to Lowest (5 = bottom 20%) = ____ (1-5)

Comment: List prioritized property-specific preservation maintenance & stewardship needs -

Other Comment # _____ :

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Reported by (Name): _____

Date (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

Use Submit button to submit completed form to SHPO database

MONTANA STATE-OWNED HERITAGE PROPERTY REPORTING FORM

Property Number (e.g 24YL0001): _____ (Smithsonian Trinomial)

Property Name:

Property Town/Vicinity of:

Property Date (Year of Origin/Construction or "Precontact):

State Agency (Choose One):

Reporting Year: _____ (e.g. 2014; 2016; 2018, etc)

Property Type (Choose One):

Property Count (#): ____ District ____ Building(s) ____ Structure(s) ____ Site(s) ____ Object(s)

Historic Significance and Property Description:

Comment:

Historic Integrity: (Choose One):

Comment (Explain):

Use:

Historic Use:

Current Use:

Comment: (issues, if any, regarding use/functionality)

Status (Choose one):

Comment:

Condition (Choose One):

Comment:

Stewardship Effort and Cost (Enter all that apply in past 2 years; do not duplicate costs)

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- \$___ Other heritage stewardship effort/activity (Explain)

Comment:

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Highest (1 = top 20%) to Lowest (5 = bottom 20%) = ____ (1-5)

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Other Comment # _____ :

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Reported by (Name): _____

Date (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

Use Submit button to submit completed form to SHPO database

MONTANA STATE-OWNED HERITAGE PROPERTY REPORTING FORM

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Historic Significance and Property Description:

Comment:

Historic Integrity: (Choose One):

Comment (Explain):

Use:

Historic Use:

Current Use:

Comment: (issues, if any, regarding use/functionality)

Status (Choose one):

Comment:

Condition (Choose One):

Comment:

Stewardship Effort and Cost (Enter all that apply in past 2 years; do not duplicate costs)

If activity, but no calculated/estimated cost available, enter "+". If no activity, enter "0" or leave blank.

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Prioritized Maintenance & Stewardship Needs

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Other Comment # _____ :

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Reported by (Name): _____

Date (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

Use Submit button to submit completed form to SHPO database