

**STATEMENT OF PROGRAMMATIC INVOLVEMENT
FOR A PROPOSED ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT (AA)**

1. Title and Description:

A. Proposed Name or Title of Project/Program:

Montana Site Stewardship

B. Description of Project/Program:

The Montana Site Stewardship program consists of volunteers chosen, trained, educated, and appointed by the Montana State University through Project Archaeology. This program is sponsored by the Bureau of Land Management. Site Stewards are individuals committed to cultural resource preservation, particularly monitoring cultural resources for damage caused by vandalism, theft, or nature.

C. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number and title?

15.224 Cultural Resource Management

2. Legislative Authority that authorizes BLM to enter into this AA:

A. Specific legislative authority for this project/program?

Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (PL 90; Stat. 2743, 43 U.S.C. 1701, 1711, 1737) as amended by PL 98-540 of 1984 (98 Stat. 2718). Authorizes investigations and studies in cooperation with other parties involving the management, protection, and development of public lands, as subject to provisions of applicable law. It instructs the Secretary to coordinate land use planning and management activities with other agencies.

Volunteers for the Public Lands, Section 2 of PL 98-540, included in a 1984 amendment to Section 307 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1737). PL 98-540 authorizes the Bureau of Land Management to provide for services or costs incidental to the use of volunteers, including transportation, supplies, lodging, subsistence, recruiting, training, and supervision.

Public Land Administration Act (PL 860649; 74 Stat. 506; 43 U.S.C. 1361). Authorizes cooperation in investigations, studies or experiments involving management of public lands.

Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (PL 95-96; 93 Stat. 721; 16 U.S.C. 470aa-470ee). Provides for the protection of archaeological resources on public lands and encourages cooperation and exchange of information among governmental authorities, professional archaeologists, and private owners of archaeological materials.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 16 U.S.C. section 470 *et seq.*

Historic Sites Act of 1935 (PL 74-292; 49 Stat. 666; 16 U.S.C. 461-467). Authorizes, among other things, the Secretary of the Interior through the National Park Service to "...make cooperative agreements with States...to protect and preserve, maintain...any historic or archaeological building, site..."

B. How does the legislative authority apply?

This program would protect public resources through the regular monitoring and documentation

of historic, prehistoric, and paleontological resources on public lands. Public volunteers would coordinate with federal contacts and law enforcement, documenting site conditions and reporting acts of vandalism and looting.

3. **Principle Purpose:**

A. What is the principle purpose of this proposed project/program?

The Site Stewardship Program advocates the following:

1. To permanently preserve vital historic, prehistoric, and paleontological sites in order to conserve, study, and interpret them scientifically.
2. To expand the public's understanding of the importance of cultural resources and the disorder left by vandals, thieves, and artifact hunters.
3. To promote the acceptance and reinforcement of national, state, and local preservation laws and regulations.
4. To dissuade site vandalism as well as the illegal trafficking of antiquities and scientifically crucial paleontological materials.
5. To enhance communication, understanding, and collaboration among organizations, agencies, tribes, and individuals concerned with the protection of cultural and natural resources.
6. To broaden the archaeological and paleontological inventory and increase understanding of those inventories.
7. To advocate and perpetuate exceptional criteria for cultural resource examination throughout the state.

B. How does the principle purpose of this proposed agreement support or stimulate a public purpose?

Volunteers attend a two-day training workshop before they become site stewards. Site stewards work in their local areas, in teams coordinated by a professional archaeologist who works for the land management agency responsible for the sites. In this first year the point of contact will be the BLM LFO Archaeologist.

Volunteers regularly visit assigned sites on public lands and report on their conditions to their local coordinating archaeologist, who works for the land management agency responsible for the sites. By consistently monitoring the sites, problems are detected early, when they can more easily be corrected.

C. Identify the BLM Performance Measure(s) and number that apply to this project/program.

[1.3.01](#) Percent of archaeological sites on DOI inventory in good condition. (SP)

[1.3.02](#) Percent of historic structures on DOI inventory in good condition. (SP)

[1.3.07](#) Heritage Resources: Number of heritage resources conserved for public benefit. (Bureau Measure)

4. **Funding:**

A. Estimate the total Federal funding amount and any other assistance to be provided to the recipient during the term of the agreement.

FY08 \$46,000. Up to \$246,000 over five years (\$50,000/ subsequent year)

B. Estimate the total commitment by the recipient(s) during the term of the agreement if known. Recipient commitments could be in the form of cash expenditures for supplies or services, the value of contributed services, etc. List third party commitments below.

Unknown.

C. Is there a requirement for matching funds for this project/program? If yes, what amount?

No.

D. Estimate the total amount a third party(s) will commit to the program/project if known.

Unknown.

E. Estimate the number of awards to be made for this project/program.

5 – One Annually

5. Involvement:

A. Describe the nature of the relationship between the recipient and BLM during performance of the agreement if known. Will the BLM be substantially involved?

The BLM will work with the recipient to develop the training manual and module, identify the monitoring standards required, select the volunteers, and match them with the archaeological sites, and assist in the reporting requirements of the Montana SHPO and Archaeological Records.

B. Who will be the BLM program office point of contact (POC) before and after award?

LFO Archaeologist Zane Fulbright

6. List any special issues to be considered in selection of the appropriate instrument.

None.

7. Does the legislative authority restrict the type(s) of recipient(s) for this project/program?

No.

8. Provide the name(s) of potential eligible recipients if known.

Montana State University – Bozeman, Project Archaeology

Program Officer Signature: /s/Zane L. Fulbright . Date: 2/28/08 .

Program Officer Name: Zane L. Fulbright . Title: Archeologist .

INSTRUMENT SELECTION DETERMINATION

1. Title and Description:

A. Proposed Name or Title of Project:

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A. Specific Legislative Authority for this project/program?

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B. How does this authority apply?

This program would protect public resources through the regular monitoring and documentation of historic, prehistoric, and paleontological resources on public lands. Public volunteers would coordinate with federal contacts and law enforcement, documenting site conditions and reporting acts of vandalism and looting.

3. Principle Purpose:

A. What is the principle purpose of this project/program?

The Site Stewardship Program advocates the following:

1. To permanently preserve vital historic, prehistoric, and paleontological sites in order to conserve, study, and interpret them scientifically.
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6. To broaden the archaeological and paleontological inventory and increase understanding of those inventories.
7. To advocate and perpetuate exceptional criteria for cultural resource examination throughout the state.

B. Identify the BLM Performance Measure and number that apply to this project/program.

[1.3.01](#) Percent of archaeological sites on DOI inventory in good condition. (SP)

[1.3.02](#) Percent of historic structures on DOI inventory in good condition. (SP)

[1.3.07](#) Heritage Resources: Number of heritage resources conserved for public benefit. (Bureau Measure)

4. Funding:

A. Estimate the total Federal funding amount and any other assistance to be provided to the recipient during the term of the project/program.

FY08 \$46,000. Up to \$246,000 over five years.

B. Estimate the total amount of cost share or matching and any other types of contributions by the recipient(s) during the term of the project/program. Are there required matching requirements?

0. No

C. Estimate the total amount any third parties will provide or contribute to the project/program.

0

D. Estimate the number of awards to be made.

1 award for 5 years.

5. Involvement:

A. What will the nature of the relationship be between the BLM and the recipient after award?

The BLM will work with the recipient to develop the training manual and module, identify the monitoring standards required, select the volunteers, and match them with the archaeological sites, and assist in the reporting requirements of the Montana SHPO and Archaeological Records.

B. Is the BLM POC, nominated above, technically qualified to become the PO for this program/project?

Yes.

6. List any special issues to be considered in selection of the appropriate instrument.

This agreement falls within the scope of the CESU-RM between Montana State University and the BLM.

7. Is the legislative authority for this project/program restricted to a specific type(s) of recipient(s)?

No.

8. Determination and Certification:

Based upon the above findings, I have determined that a financial assistance agreement is the appropriate instrument that most accurately reflects the nature of the proposed relationship between the Bureau of Land Management and a recipient. Final determination will be made on the type of assistance agreement (grant agreement or cooperative agreement) at time of award. At time of award, if it is determined that the award will be a cooperative agreement, an explicit statement of Federal programmatic involvement will state the nature, character, and extent of the anticipated Federal involvement. This statement will be included in the official agreement file.

I hereby certify that the above project/program will be or announced as a Notice of Intent in Grants.gov and will follow the procedures as required in the Department of the Interior Manual 505 DM 2, Grants Administration, Procurement Contracts, Grant Agreements and Cooperative Agreements and BLM Instruction Memorandum No. 2006-151, Assistance Agreements.

Approved By: /s/ Lori J. Anderson 2/28/2008
Grants Management Officer Date

Approved/Concurrence By: _____
Procurement Analyst/Chief of the Contracting Office Date

9. Washington Office (WO-850) Approval:

If Required

Approved: _____
Procurement Analyst (WO-850) Date