



## **Yellowstone National Park**

### **Native American Student Resource Management Internship Summer 2024**

#### **Archeology Program Internship - Position Description**

Yellowstone is the world's first National Park, and is the crown jewel of the National Park Service. It is the core of one of the last nearly intact natural ecosystems in the Earth's temperate zone with 2.2 million acres of highly diverse environments and terrain, including high altitude lakes, plateaus, mountains ranges, river valleys, canyons, lodge pole forests, and active tectonic and thermal areas.

Greater Yellowstone's location at the convergence of the Great Plains, Great Basin, and Plateau Indian cultures means that many tribes have a traditional connection to the land and its resources. For thousands of years before Yellowstone became a national park, it was a place where people hunted, fished, gathered plants, quarried tool stone, and used the thermal waters for religious and medicinal purposes. The relationship the Tribes have with this area has sustained since time immemorial and will continue for future generations to come.

Cultural resources at the park include one of the West's most pristine archaeological records. Over 2,000 archaeological sites document the over 11,000-year presence of Precontact and historic period Native Americans, and historic period explorers, trappers, U.S. military personnel, and tourists. The Archeology Program manages the park's archaeological heritage and provides technical guidance on its preservation and protection.

For more information about Yellowstone NP, please visit <http://www.nps.gov/yell>

We are looking for a motivated individual to complete a 10-week internship with the Archeology Program at Yellowstone National Park. The archaeology intern will work with the Park Archeologist and archeological technicians as part of a team responsible for inventory, monitoring, evaluation, and management of cultural resources within the park, and will gain experience in fieldwork, laboratory work, and data management. We anticipate that 50-70% of time will be outdoor/fieldwork, and 30-50% of time will be indoor/office work.

Specific duties include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- a. Taking field notes, creating field maps, taking photos, operating a handheld GPS unit, and assisting with delineating site boundaries and completing site condition assessments.
- b. Field duties may also include excavating shovel test units, screening soil matrix, recording/collecting artifacts, and recording soils data.
- c. Pre-fieldwork preparatory duties include collecting information for planning new fieldwork using maps and site files housed onsite in the park.
- d. Office duties include preparing site condition assessment forms and assisting with database management and official site file records.
- e. Additional duties may include preparing official archaeological site forms and drafting site maps using ArcPro.
- f. Lab duties also include analyzing and cataloguing artifacts, as well as preparing those collected for final curation.

While the intern will be based at the Heritage Research Center (HRC) in Gardiner, Montana for office work, overnight stays involving campground or backcountry camping, as well as use of cabins in the park's interior are anticipated. Survey areas can be as close as one mile or as far as 75 miles from the HRC, and often significant time is spent hiking and/or driving in a government vehicle. The archaeology team generally hikes up to ten miles daily at high elevations (between 5,500 and 10,000+ feet AMSL), carrying loads up to 30 lbs. on a routine basis. Loads of up to 50 lbs. may be carried when traveling to a backcountry site for overnight stays.

Preference is given for applicants who have completed formal archaeological fieldwork training and/or coursework in archaeological methods, and prehistory and/or history of North America. Knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and ArcPro is recommended.

The intern will be required to work onsite for 40 hours per week during the internship, and a salary will be paid at the University of Montana's internship wage rates. Housing at Yellowstone NP may be provided by the National Park Service.

The internship position anticipated to run for 10 weeks between June 10, 2024 and August 16, 2024. Dates are flexible based on student's home institution academic calendar. Our work schedule is generally Monday through Thursday 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM. While in the backcountry, we work 4 to 10 consecutive days. We do not work on federal holidays.

## **Logistics of Living and Working in Yellowstone National Park:**

**Background Investigation** - The selected individual will be required to pass a NACI (National Agency Check with Inquiries) background investigation prior to beginning work with the NPS. This is a standard background check for federal employees, interns, and volunteers who will not have access to classified information.

**Housing** – Park housing may be available in Mammoth Hot Springs, WY or Gardiner, MT. No family housing is available for this position. Housing assignments are in a shared setting with common living room, kitchen and bathroom facilities, with laundry facilities onsite. Each resident is responsible for cleaning their own space and common areas, as well as removal of all trash and recycling. Pets are not allowed in shared government housing.

**Internet** – During business hours the intern will be granted internet access through the NPS network in the Archeology Program office once the individual completes a required training and receives the appropriate security clearance. The NPS internet is monitored and certain restrictions will apply in accordance with government policy. Wireless internet service is not guaranteed in shared housing units. Free wi-fi is available at the Albright Community Center in Mammoth Hot Springs, WY, the Heritage and Research Center in Gardiner, MT where the Archeology Program office is located, or at the Gardiner Community Library in Gardiner, MT.

**Location** – Yellowstone National Park is located in the Rocky Mountains. The Yellowstone Archeology Program Office is located at the Heritage and Research Center in Gardiner, MT. Elevation at Gardiner, MT is at 5,259 feet AMSL (above mean sea level) and at Mammoth, WY is 6,735 feet AMSL, and fieldwork is performed in the park interior at elevations up to 11,000+ feet AMSL. The central portion of the park is situated between 7,000 and 8,500 feet AMSL. Temperatures vary from below freezing to 90+ degrees F, with an average of 70/85 degrees F in July and August. During the summer months the weather can change drastically and quickly. It is best to be prepared for hot, cold, wind, rain, snow, etc. at all times. A layering system of clothing is recommended.

Many community facilities, such as grocery stores, a drugstore, motels, and restaurants, are available in Gardiner, Montana just 5 miles north of park headquarters. All other services are available within 55 to 75 miles from Mammoth. A medical clinic is available in Mammoth (year-round). For more information, visit <https://www.nps.gov/yell/index.htm>.

**YNP Entry (Vehicle Registration)** – There will be no charge for entry into Yellowstone National Park for the intern. A temporary vehicle entry pass will be set up for the intern prior to arrival for the first day of work. Upon arrival, the intern will then register their vehicle with the NPS and receive an entry sticker for their vehicle which will allow unlimited entry and exit from the Park free of charge. To obtain an entry permit (sticker) the intern must provide **current driver's license, current proof of insurance and current vehicle registration.**

**Uniform** – The intern will be provided a uniform shirt to wear for the duration of the internship. Sturdy hiking boots are required while performing fieldwork but not provided. Full length pants are required for this position while performing fieldwork.

**Application deadline: February 16, 2024.**

Applicants must include:

- 1) A short statement of purpose
- 2) A Resume or CV
- 3) Contact information for two references
- 4) Tribal Affiliation

Application materials are submitted to: [jennifer.harrington@umontana.edu](mailto:jennifer.harrington@umontana.edu)