

**GEORGE C. FRISON INSTITUTE  
OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY - GoFrI  
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING**



**BULLETIN No. 13**

Director: Marcel Korfeld  
Associate Director and Editor: Mary Lou Larson  
George C. Frison Institute  
University of Wyoming  
Department of Anthropology

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Production: Lynda Payne  
Dept. 3431  
1000 East University  
Laramie, WY 82071

Web.: <http://uwacadweb.uwyo.edu/FRISONINSTITUTE/>

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD GOES TO  
PROFESSOR EMERITUS GEORGE C. FRISON**

Professor George Frison received the 2005 Society of American Archaeology Lifetime Achievement Award at the society's annual meeting in Salt Lake City. The award ceremony was held at the annual business meeting on April 1. Dr. Lynn Sebastian, president of the SAA presented the award. The presentation, accompanied by a standing ovation from a large audience was followed by a short speech in which Frison recounted his origins as an avocational archeologist and the origins of the SAA as a society with both professional and avocational membership. Frison specifically commented on the events of the society in the mid 1980s, acknowledging many individuals that enabled his successful leadership of the society, including his wife June. The award ceremony was followed by a reception attended by numerous University of Wyoming anthropology alumni, current students, faculty, and numerous friends and colleagues. (See below and photo pages)

**AN UNBROKEN CIRCLE**, the 2004 Wyoming archaeology month poster wins 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Society of American Archaeology Public Education Poster contest. The contest is cosponsored by the Council of Affiliated Societies. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> time in eight years that Wyoming has won 1<sup>st</sup> place. In the other three years Wyoming posters have placed in the top three. The Wyoming posters are created by the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in cooperation with the Wyoming Archaeological Society, Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists, and numerous other supporters. Judy Wolf of the Wyoming SHPO spearheads the effort. This year over 20 posters were entered into the contest. The winning poster is shown on the left below.

**HELL GAP SITE, WYOMING** is the 2005 Wyoming Archaeology Month poster. The 2005 poster is shown on the right above. The poster and brochure were produced by Wyoming SHPO in cooperation with WAS, WAPA, GoFrIAA, and numerous others. The Frison Institute provided much of the documentary material and the text for the brochure. The poster shows the Hell Gap Site during the last few weeks of excavation in 1966 and the field camp. The associated brochure highlights the significance of the site to North American prehistory.

**FRISON INSTITUTE GRANTS**

Two Frison Institute Grant recipients were in residence last fall, Dr. Ruthann Knudson and Chris Widga. Widga, a graduate student from the University of Kansas received a zooarchaeology grant to analyze the Vore site bison assemblage, while Knudson's interest was the James Allen Site. During their residency Widga and Knudson presented brown bag lectures attended by students and faculty.

Next year's grant recipients are Jun Hazisume of Tokyo Metropolitan University, Japan and Cheryl Fogel of the University of New Mexico. Mr. Hazisume was at the Institute last September and will return this summer to participate at the Hell Gap investigation after which he will spend a month at the Institute analyzing Paleoindian assemblages. Ms. Fogel plans to visit the Institute in the fall of 2005 analyzing Cody materials from the Carter/Kerr-McGee, Horner, Finley and Hell Gap sites. Both recipients are working towards their Ph.D. dissertation.

**FELLOWS, LECTURERS and VISITORS**

Last semester the Institute had several short term visitors including Jeb Taylor, Shane and Stan Kloberdanz, Mike Toft, Tony Baker, Sarah Moore, and Matt Root. All except Matt Root and Sarah Moore visited the Institute to photograph selected projectile point collections. Matt Root, one of the members of Ed Knell's doctoral dissertation committee at Washington State University accompanied Ed to assist him in reexamining a selected sample of artifacts for his dissertation. While in residence Matt consulted with us on the Barger Gulch assemblage as well as presented a brown bag lecture on his Folsom investigations at Lake Ilo, North Dakota. Sarah Moore drew selected Hell Gap artifacts.

Wendy A.S. Sutton, a visiting junior fellow from 1996 completed her Ph.D. at Columbia University. Her dissertation *Economic and Social Change during a Critical Transition: The Protohistoric in the Powder River Basin and Big Horn Mountains* provides a fresh look at the archaeological record of this time period for the first time since George Frison's dissertation.

**2005 INSTITUTE FIELD PROJECTS**

***Bighorn Rockshelters* by Robert Kelly**

The Institute will continue investigating rockshelters in the central Bighorn Mountains with continued survey in Paint Rock Canyon and test excavations at several sites. We will be based somewhere near Hyattville, probably in the National Forest as in past years. The work will occasionally entail long hikes

through rugged terrain — and through some of Wyoming's most spectacular scenery!

### **BARGER GULCH LOCALITY B** *by Nicole Waguespack and Todd Surovell*

Intensive excavations are planned for the 2005 field season at Locality B of Barger Gulch, a 10,500 year old Folsom campsite in Middle Park, Colorado. Previous excavation and analysis have revealed an unusually high density of artifacts, with over 28,000 pieces of chipped stone including more than 200 cores, flake tools, bifaces, and projectile points from 59m<sup>2</sup>. Technological attributes indicate that the majority of the assemblage was manufactured, utilized, and discarded at the site— indicating a lengthy, at least by Folsom standards, period of site occupation. The spatial integrity of the cultural deposit, established through detailed spatial analysis and artifact refitting, suggests activities at the site were organized around hearths and perhaps architectural features. With new funding from the National Science Foundation, the 2005 field season at Barger Gulch will be spent dramatically expanding the excavation area, continuing our geological investigations of the site, and conducting a magnetometry survey.

### **Hell Gap 2005** *by Mary Lou Larson*

One of the major Institute projects this summer will be fieldwork at the Hell Gap Site. The site, located north east of Guernsey, Wyoming, contains rich deposits of Paleoindian cultural material that range in age from 11,000-8000 radiocarbon years ago. Past studies have revealed deposits of Clovis, Goshen, Folsom, Agate Basin, Hell Gap, Eden-Scottsbluff, Frederick, and Lusk complexes, as well as evidence of post Paleoindian occupation.

This summer's work at the Hell Gap site will include high resolution excavations at the witness block - Locality I, testing in Paleoindian deposits in the Locality IIW area – a location not known to exist prior to the year 2001, and further investigation of the newly discovered Baars locality that contains Clovis material. This goal of this summer's investigations include continued geoarchaeological investigations directed by C. Vance Haynes to better understand the formation and paleoenvironment of the Paleoindian deposits and continuing investigation of the archaeological deposits to more fully understand the Paleoindian occupation of the Hell Gap valley. We will also host the Advanced Archaeological Field Studies course for UW graduate credit and probably, a meeting or two of regional archaeological societies. Our time at Hell Gap always includes the opportunity for tours to local archaeological sites such as the Spanish Diggings quartzite quarry. Outside of work hours, Hell Gap is less than 30 miles away from historic Fort Laramie, Register Cliff, and the Oregon Trail ruts.

### **PROJECT RESULTS**

#### **Fish Springs National Wildlife Refuge** *by Derek Anderson*

In March 2005, a crew from the University of Wyoming traveled to western Utah to reinvestigate two caves on the Fish Springs National Wildlife Refuge in Juab County. Fish Springs Cave (42JB24) and Barn Owl Cave (42JB25) are both located on the shore of Pleistocene Lake Bonneville and were briefly visited and documented in 1960, 1982, and 2001. Installation of gates by the Fish and Wildlife Service at both sites also resulted in the recovery of a small amount of artifacts in 1983.

Efforts during the four day visit by the University of Wyoming at Barn Owl Cave resulted in the screening of a small amount of looter backdirt, the straightening and profiling of a wall in a large looter pit, mapping of the site and immediately surrounding areas, and the recovery of thousands of lithic, faunal, and floral remains. Artifacts recovered from disturbed contexts at both sites include a well preserved arrow shaft from Fish Springs Cave, along with other perishable items and five projectile points from Barn Owl Cave. Their presence suggests that the intact and relatively undisturbed deposits at both sites have major research potential for archaeological studies in the Great Basin.

### **Black Mountain Archaeological District** *by Marcel Kornfeld*

Fieldwork at the Black Mountain Archaeological District will continue this season with testing at Two Moon Shelter and BA Cave and survey and recording of additional shelters that could be part of the district. The goal this year will be to excavate through late Paleoindian components and reach the Folsom layer in one or two more units and better define the distribution and configuration of the Folsom occupation at Two Moon Shelter. In BA Cave the goal will be to expose a larger portion of what may be the Early Plains Archaic component discovered last season in a small test pit in the corner of one unit.

### **OFFICE OF WYOMING STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST NEWS**

Several Native American campsites have been found in close proximity to high altitude animal procurement features in a remote back-country location within the Wahsachie Wilderness of northwest Wyoming. The discoveries were made by a Northwest College field school team during a post-wildfire assessment of the animal procurement features. The campsites have the potential to provide new information on Protohistoric/Historic communal mountain sheep procurement. Additional fieldwork is planned for the 2005 season.

Last year, Richard Adams (Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist), Tory Taylor (Taylor Outfitting of Dubois), and a dozen interested volunteers recorded over 30 sites (most above 10,000 feet) and found three soapstone quarries (above 11,000 feet!), several soapstone bowl preforms, and hundreds of chipped stone tools on surveys conducted on three national forests in northwestern Wyoming.

This summer, thanks to support from the Caribou-Targhee National Forest and the Shoshone National Forest, we will be surveying and recording high altitude quarries, drive lines, sheep traps, wickiups, and prehistoric campsites on west side of the Tetons and the east side of the Wind River. In addition to our ongoing work, we will be expanding our surveys into the rugged Fitzpatrick Wilderness of the southern Absarokas.

### **DONORS AND APPRECIATIONS**

We would like to thank the following for contributions made to the George C. Frison Institute in 2004/2005

#### **PALEOINDIAN SPONSORS** *(gifts under \$100)*

Mark Howe  
Alan and Terry Korell

***GOSHEN SPONSORS*** (*gifts of \$100-\$999*):

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Dear Volunteer/Visitor,

This letter is to inform you about conditions, schedules and directions for Hell Gap, Barger Gulch, Black Mountain, and Paint Rock field projects. For directions to campsites please contact the principal investigator or Lynda Payne (307) 766-6920. Work is broken down into approximately 10-day sessions with four-day breaks. The work dates for each ten-day session of the projects are:

**2005 Frison Institute Project Dates**

- Hell Gap: 5/23-5/27, 5/30-6/8, 6/13-6/22, 6/25-6/28
- Barger Gulch: 6/13-6/22, 6/27-7/6, 7/11-7/20, 7/25-8/3
- Paint Rock: 6/27-7/6, 7/11-7/20 (for directions contact Dr. Robert Kelly 307-766-3135, or email [rlkelly@uwyo.edu](mailto:rlkelly@uwyo.edu))
- Black Mountain: 7/25-8/3, 8/8-8/17

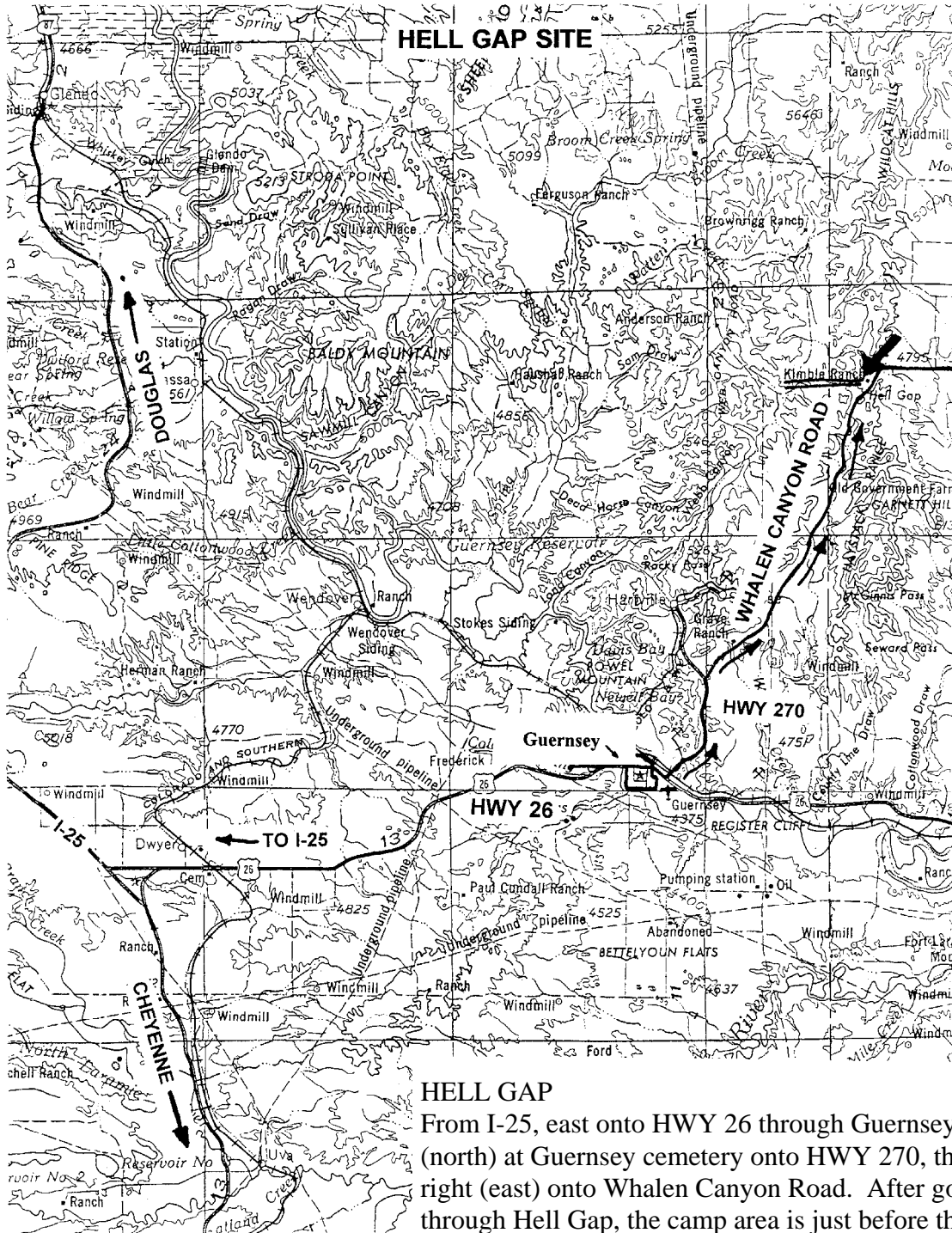
If you intend to spend an entire ten-day session at any of the projects, please arrive at camp on the day before work begins. Also, you may be asked to return to Laramie at the close of the project to help unload equipment.

Some sites are at relatively high altitudes (about 8,000 ft) and cold, near freezing temperatures are possible. In addition to being cold, it may also be wet, so cold and wet weather clothing is a must. That means a good sleeping bag, long underwear, warm parka, poncho, waterproof shoes, and a tent that will keep you and your equipment dry. Of course, it is just as likely that the weather will be warm/hot and dry, so plan for both and you'll be safe. Exposure to the elements at high altitudes also requires plenty of water, sunscreen, hats, etc. Hot weather may require salt pills and definitely water containers that can hold at least 2 quarts of water. Mosquitoes, gnats, and ants are frequent visitors so be sure to bring insect repellent. Small tents get old after a while, so if you can spring for a tent you can stand up in and put a cot in, it's a good idea, but keep in mind that it had to be able to stand up to extreme winds and storms. Think of your comfort while camping. After working all day, a little comfort will be desirable. Other odd items that are a good idea include: solar shower (we will try to provide a shower enclosure for privacy), flashlight, extra batteries, large 3-gallon water container, etc. Most camps are dry camps; we haul water in but conservations is a must. Contact Marcel Kornfeld at (307) 766-3548 or Lynda Payne at (307) 766-6920 for conditions specific to each camp and project.

\* We will have a University vehicle in the field and you may have to drive it in an emergency situation. The University is self-insured and it is a good idea to put an "Un-owned Vehicle" coverage rider on your current car insurance. These are fairly inexpensive, but check with your insurance company. Otherwise in case of an accident you may be liable for up to \$100,000.



DIRECTIONS TO PROJECTS

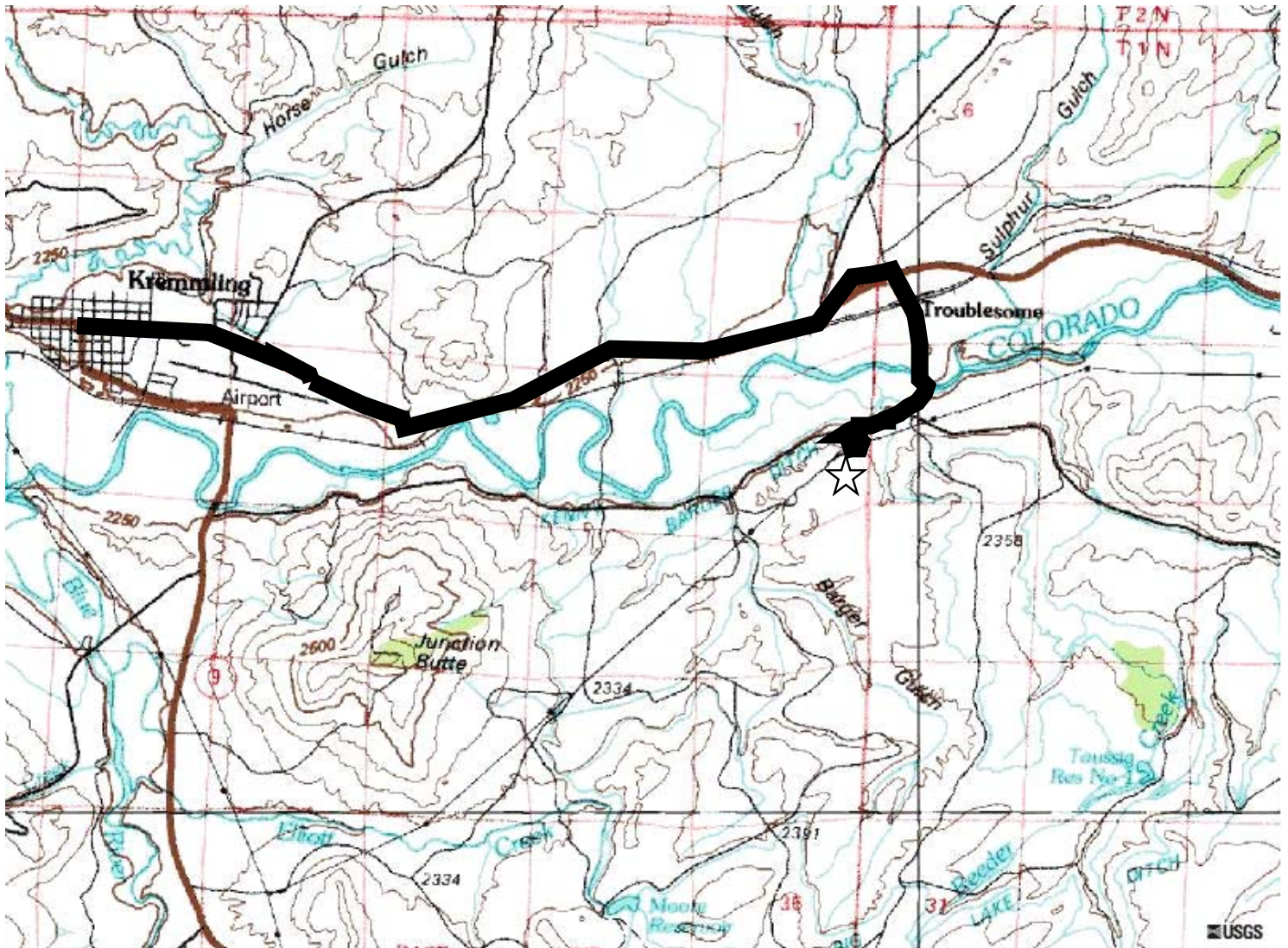


HELL GAP

From I-25, east onto HWY 26 through Guernsey, left (north) at Guernsey cemetery onto HWY 270, then right (east) onto Whalen Canyon Road. After going through Hell Gap, the camp area is just before the 90 degree turn in the road. Look for a yellow house (Kimble Ranch on the map) on the left hand side of the road. This is the location of the Hell Gap base camp.



## Barger Gulch



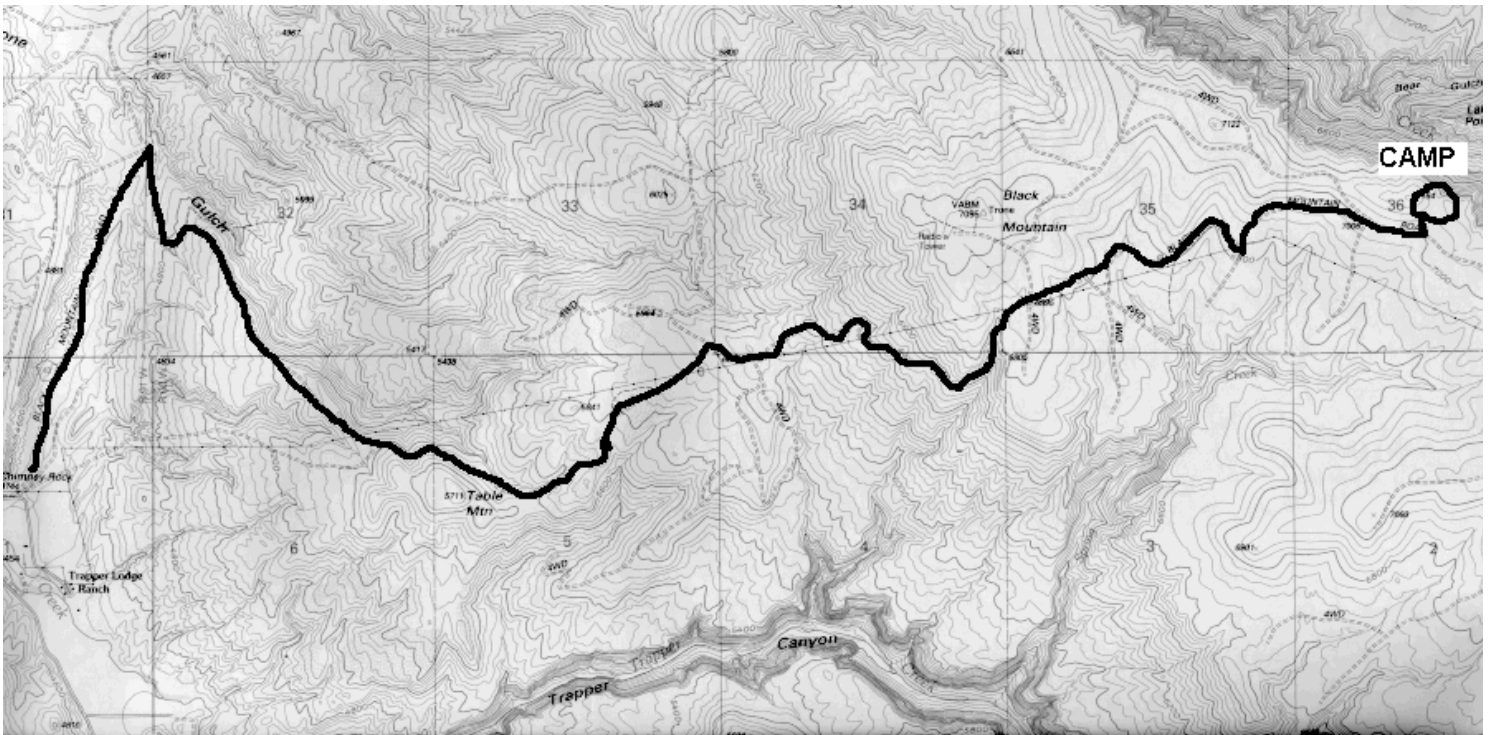
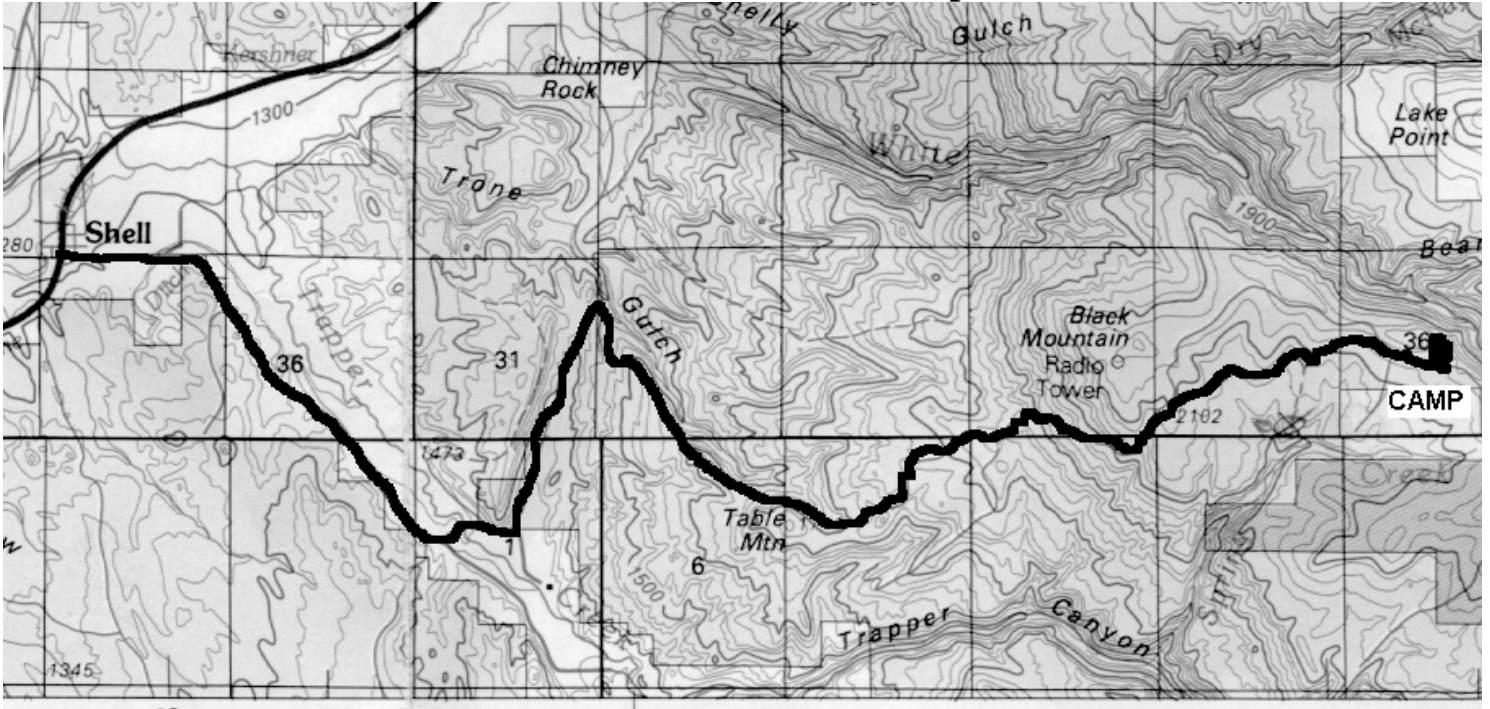
### Directions to Barger Gulch Camp:

From Kremmling, CO go east on Rt. 40 for 6 to 7 miles. Shortly after crossing Troublesome creek, you will rise up a small hill. Turn right on Grand County Rt. 39 at an intersection marked by 6 or 7 mailboxes. You will then drop onto the floodplain of the Colorado River and pass by the Palmer ranch house. Cross the railroad tracks and the Colorado River. At a second ranch house, the road forks. Turn right. Go approximately ¼ of a mile and turn left. You will rise up onto a high terrace above the Colorado River. We will be camping just beyond electrical substation.

If you have a GPS, the lat/long for the camp is:  
N40.04 W106.31



### Black Mountain Field Camp



#### Directions to Black Mountain Field Camp:

Find Shell Wyoming on Wyoming highway map. From Shell (top map), follow the Trapper Creek road for about 3 mi. At the end of the pavement turn left across the creek and around chimney Rock. From this point on you will need a **4-wheel drive** (bottom map). Follow the Black Mountain Road for about 7 mi. The turn off from the Black Mountain Road will be flagged. The road is quite rough in places even for a 4-wheel drive and **following a guide vehicle is recommended.**