PiRL Summer – 2017

Paleoindian Research Lab, Department of Anthropology, University of Wyoming
(Department 3431, 1000 East University Avenue, Laramie, WY 82071)

Dear Crew/Volunteer/Visitor/Other,

This letter is to inform you about general conditions, arrangements, and schedules at the sites that will be investigated in the summer of 2017.

As usual, if you are a volunteer, part of the crew, or in field school we have camping arrangements at all sites; if you are visiting, you are welcome to camp with us as well. We normally leave camp by 6:30 am, so if you want to go to the sites with us, please arrive before 6:30 am or the evening before (you can arrive at Hell Gap at any time). We return to camp around 6 pm. If you plan to use your own vehicle the Hell Gap camp is accessible with a conventional 2-wheel drive.

We meet at the loading dock behind the Anthropology Building at UW, in Laramie, Wyoming prior to each session. The Anthropology Building is on the corner of Lewis and 12th streets on the north side of the University. ALWAYS CONTACT US PRIOR TO THE DEPARTURE DATES IN CASE WE NEED TO LEAVE EARLY.

Expect to be loading and unloading equipment and supplies on the first and last day of each major project. There may also be a few minor things to unload and load each session break at the dock. We will leave immediately after loading any personal or project gear and will not wait at the dock past that point. So if you are late expect to drive yourself to camp! If you will not be able to be at the dock at the expected time, you must let us know well in advance (phone, email, etc., does not work in many places where we are going to or through, so don’t count on this technique of communication). For those of you driving your own vehicles or leaving them in Laramie please let us know who you are so we can figure out project drivers, parking your personal vehicle, etc. If you are coming in from outside of Laramie, we strongly recommend you arrive in Laramie on the day BEFORE we leave.

Some people will have to drive University vehicles and everyone should expect to drive them in case of an emergency. The University is self-insured and as long as you follow the proper rules and procedures there should be no problem. Please sign on (http://www.uwyo.edu/administration/operations/risk-management/vehicle-use-policy-information.html) and apply for UW driving privileges. However, for your own peace of mind we recommend that your purchase a non-owned motor vehicle rider from your own auto insurance policy. For 3 months (the usual minimum) this insurance is usually relatively
inexpensive (about $30 or so) and will give you protection should there be a problem with the university coverage.

Exposure to the elements at high altitudes (although Hell Gap is just at 5000’ – 1500 m, this is still high altitude as far as solar insolation is concerned) requires plenty of sunscreen, lip gloss, hats, etc. Hot weather may require salt pills and definitely a water container (a 1 gal. bottle or canteen is recommended). Mosquitoes, gnats, ants, and other more insidious creatures are frequent visitors so be sure to bring insect repellent if desired. Small tents get tiresome 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 has to be wind worthy (very large tents are not wind worthy). And by all means get real stakes for your tent – the stakes that come with your tent (any tent!) from the store are worse than WORTHLESS, get 12” stakes even for small tents. Think of your comfort while camping. After working all day, a little comfort may be desirable. Other odd items that are a good idea include: solar shower bag (we will provide a shower enclosure for privacy at all camps, but you must bring a solar shower bag if you intend to take showers), flashlight, extra batteries, water container (about 3 gallons). We have running water at Last Canyon/Pryor and Hell Gap camps, but the wells are not bottomless and conservation is a must.

Please fill out the PiRL Volunteer Application Form (next page or on PiRL web page - http://www.uwyo.edu/pirl) and mail as well as email it to us as soon as possible, if you have not yet done so. Directions to the loading dock at the University of Wyoming and to the field camps for this season are included in this letter. If you have any questions please contact Marcel Kornfeld (307-399-2158, anpro1@uwyo.edu) or Mary Lou Larson (307-399-0176, mlarson@uwyo.edu). Otherwise we’ll see you on 20 May (or the first project that you’ll be participating in)! If you are coming from overseas we’ll make special arrangements for your travel, so please coordinate your arrangements closely with us. See you in the field!
PIRL VOLUNTEER and CREW APPLICATION FORM*
(One per applicant for each project, please)

____ Volunteer  ____ Crew (check one)

Name: _________________________________________
Address: Street ____________________________
City __________________ State ________________ Zip ________________
Phone: ___________________  Cell Phone______________________  E-mail: __________________

I am interested in the ____________________________ project (Please indicate the project in which you wish to participate), between ________ month ____ day and ________ month ____ day, _______ (year).

Volunteers are asked to participate for at least five days. If you wish to volunteer for multiple projects please copy this form and fill out a separate form for each project.

Will you need transportation from Laramie to the field site? Y___ N___
Do you have medical insurance?  Y___ N___
Do you have any medical problems we should be aware of? Y___ N___

We may be in some isolated places without access to emergency services and it is critical for us to plan as much as possible; please describe your medical problems below or on additional pages:

If you have an expected medical condition that might require immediate treatment (for example allergic reaction to bees), please describe in detail below and on the back of this sheet what we need to do:

Would you be willing to pay $15/day for the time you spent as a volunteer to help support our projects? Y__ N__

Food, transportation, camping facilities and other amenities are provided for everyone in the field.

* This application form is required for your participation in our projects. Volunteers and crew applicants please mail or email this form at least two weeks before the beginning of any project to:
Marcel Kornfeld
Department 3431
1000 East University Avenue
Laramie, WY  82071-3431
Email: Anpro1@uwyo.edu
Phone: 307-766-5136

By submitting this form you authorize the University of Wyoming, its agents, successors, and assigns, to use and reproduce photograph(s) in which you appear in official UW publications, and I waive any right that I may have to inspect and approve said photograph (or any copy that may be used in connection therewith) or to receive compensation for the use of said photograph.

You are welcome and encouraged to take photographs in the field, but you must leave a copy of all your photographs (with file names meaningfully labeled and a photo log) with the principal investigator, project director, or senior project personnel before leaving the field. By signing this form you extend to the University of Wyoming and any of its agents full copyright privileges to the said photographs.

Because you may have to drive a University vehicle in an emergency we strongly recommend that you acquire an ADDITIONAL USE OF NON-OWNED VEHICLE COVERAGE from your automobile insurance carrier.

Name: __________________ Signature: __________________ Date: ____________
Directions to the Anthropology Building, University of Wyoming, Laramie  
Corner of 12th & Lewis Streets  
*loading dock & parking lot on north side of building, access from Bradley Street

Coming into Laramie on I-80 from the east:  
Take Grand Avenue exit and follow Grand Avenue into town towards University. Turn right on 15th Street (at stoplights). Turn left onto Bradley Street. Anthropology Building loading dock and parking lot will be on your left the third block after turning onto Bradley.

Coming into Laramie on I-80 from the west:  
Take 3rd Street/287 exit; turn left/north onto 3rd Street. Follow 3rd Street through the downtown area. Turn right onto Bradley Street and follow Bradley for 10 blocks- Anthropology Building loading dock and parking lot will be on your right the tenth block after turning onto Bradley.
From I-25, turn east onto HWY 26 through Guernsey, then left (north) at Guernsey cemetery onto HWY 270, then right (northeast) 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 basecamp.