

SPRING 2011



THE TRAIL COMPANION

A NEWSLETTER OF THE LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Undaunted Anglers

From the Superintendent What's New?



Mark Weekley, Superintendent

Now and again someone in the National Park Service Midwest Regional Office will greet me in the hall by asking, “What’s new?” While I am often tempted to respond with a detailed, enthusiastic answer, I never really answer their question. I know they are just greeting me and they’re not actually inviting me to tell them all that’s new. But the fact is change is constant and never ending, not just at the NPS, but everywhere. Each month,

week, and day brings new issues, challenges, and opportunities to all of us. While I may not share all that’s new with my Omaha co-workers, I will give you the highlights to keep you updated on news at Trail headquarters.

Recently I spent two days in New Orleans with the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Board of Directors and a number of chapter members from around the country. The meeting was held at the very impressive National World War II Museum. This location provided a fantastic opportunity to learn and reflect on the war and the sacrifices made by millions. It also offered a chance to learn about the profound level of change that was needed to respond to a world at war and a chance to see how the organization that operates the museum has embraced change and achieved incredible results in only 10 years. In both cases, changes that were made led to profound success. At our office in Omaha, the changes we are dealing with

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**Visitor Center
Trail Headquarters**

Summer Hours

Memorial Day through
Labor Day

Monday - Friday
8 am to 5 pm

Saturday - Sunday
9 am to 5 pm

Winter Hours

Labor Day through
Memorial Day

Monday - Friday
8 am to 4:30 pm

Saturday - Sunday
Closed

are less monumental, but how we respond to them will make a difference in our success. In just the past few weeks several changes have occurred. After very careful thought and consideration, we successfully filled two vacant positions. Bringing new people with new ideas and fresh energy helps us avoid getting stuck in our ways. I also learned that we have had a substantial number of strong applications for our new Partner Support Program. This program ensures that when we offer staff assistance and trail funds it is done so in a fair and competitive manner to all our partners.

The comprehensive management planning process, which slowed down due a national rescission of planning funds, is once again underway. As part of this effort, we are working with partners to develop a short video with public service announcements that will highlight the Trail and the outstanding partners who are dedicated to it. Staff members continue to work with volunteers

on educational projects designed to serve professional educators as well, the public and trail visitors. The effort to map the historic trail route using the most up-to-date technologies is moving along very well. Effective methods to assess the visual quality of the Trail are also being developed. The list goes on and on.

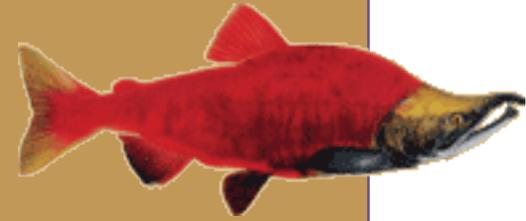
Some of the most interesting events each day are the spontaneous calls we get from members of the public. The nature of these calls ranges from basic questions about the Trail to concerns about a whole host of issues. I especially enjoy these calls because I learn a great deal and gain a better understanding about what is happening on the ground.

As you are well aware, it has been a very busy and event-filled spring so far at the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Headquarters. When I hear the question, "What's new?" My response should be, "What's NOT new!"

Undaunted Anglers

Undaunted Anglers

by Jill Hamilton-Anderson, Education Specialist



Fishing for sustenance is as ancient as humanity itself. The one who fishes must know a bit about fish to be successful. They must be part fish behaviorist, part meteorologist, and part fish dietician, and... part gambler. Successful fishing can mean bounty for many; unsuccessful fishing can mean hard times, to be dependent on fishing as a way of life is a precarious existence nowadays as fish resources in many areas dwindle. Fishing to the Corp of Discovery Expedition was their constant, when big game was sparse; it was the fish that provided.

Cat fish is verry Common and easy taken in any part of this river. Some are nearly white perticulary above the Platte River.

- 23rd July 1804,
Capt. William Clark

Capt Lewis took 12 men & went to the Pond & Creek between Camp and the old Village and Caught upwards of 800 fine fish, 79 Pike, [WC: resembling Trout & fish resembg Salmon Trout] [7] 8 Salmon, 1 Rock, 1 flat Back, 127 Buffalow & red horse 4 Bass & 490 Catt. with many Small Silver fish [WC: & Scrimp] I had a Mast made & fixed to the Boat to day, the Party Sent to the Ottoes not yet joined us— the wind Shifted arround to the S. E. everry evening a Breeze rises which blows off the Musquitors & Cools the atmispere.

-16th August Thursday 1804,
Capt. William Clark

Along the journey route the expedition encountered many different species of fish not known to them in the East. Since preserving the fish as specimens was not logical, Captain Lewis painstakingly documented fish species with detailed



Undaunted Anglers



descriptions and sketches. He also documented the numbers of fish caught and how the fish were caught. Arriving in the Columbia River area, the journals depict the unique ways native peoples, whose entire cultures revolved around fish, captured fish using weirs and large nets and how fish was preserved for use throughout the year. Recently the Federation of Fly Fishers, a non-profit organization dedicated to conserving fish habitat and restoring fish populations through education, has completed an on-line exhibit entitled *Undaunted Anglers* that shares all aspects of fishing on the Lewis and Clark Expedition. It boasts over 100 beautifully illustrated panels with detailed information regarding fish species, methods used to catch fish and the interactions with Native Americans who shared their fish and ways of fishing with the expedition members. Originally created

in 2005, *Undaunted Anglers* was on physical display at the Federation of Fly Fishers Fly Fishing Discovery Center in Livingston, MT. After downsizing their physical operations, the Federation of Fly Fishers found a new home for the exhibit with the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Center in Nebraska City, Nebraska. The Missouri River Basin Center focuses on the scientific and biological aspects of the Expedition and serves as an ideal location for the physical exhibit.

Go fishing with Lewis and Clark and learn how expedition member Silas Goodrich and local tribes provided for the expedition. Discover the means used and the types of fish caught over the course of the journey. Visit www.undauntedanglers.org for a fascinating fishing trip.



The Trailhead

by Neal Bedlan, *Outdoor Recreation Planner*

Over the years, many different types of Lewis and Clark signs across the 11 Trail states have served us well. These signs direct us to historical markers and sites, interpretive centers, tribal lands, and let us know when we are driving on the auto tour route. In an effort to geographically locate the auto tour route and all signage linked to the auto tour route, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail formed a partnership with the Wyoming Geographic Information Science Center at the University of Wyoming.

Together, a new geographical information database of all auto tour route signs was developed.

The University of Wyoming team set out on the Trail with GPS cameras and GPS receivers to collect all the information needed. The team documented over 1,800 signs; the location and condition of each was collected. By the time the crew was done with their work they had captured over 10,000 images. In the

process, they determined the auto tour route to be 6,885 miles long. What makes it so unique is that it typically includes two routes, one on each side of the historical route or existing river.

The current signs along the auto tour route are the result of the hard work of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, and each State Department of Transportation and various federal agencies. Now the Lewis and Clark NHT staff can review this data in GIS software and determine which signs need to be replaced and if the signs are located in the best location to assist the traveling visitor. In future newsletters, I plan to write about the importance of how the auto tour route signs provide wayshowing to the traveling public. In the near future we plan to have the sign data available to the public.

The National Park Service would like to thank the University of Wyoming team for the hard work on this project. This data will be used to better serve the many traveling visitors of the Lewis and Clark auto tour route.





University of Wyoming team collecting GPS data.



GPS Camera and Trimble GPS receiver used to collect data.

Trailscape

*by Rachel Lantz, GIS Technician and
Ryan M. Cooper, Geographer/GIS Specialist*

A
viewshed
is a
landscape
that is
visible
to the
human
eye from
one or
more
vantage

As the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) staff of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail it is our duty to help protect and preserve the Trail, its resources, and the story of the Corps of Discovery Expedition, as well as support fellow Resources Stewardship staff through graphic representation and data analysis.

Because the Trail is so large, we are not always able to focus on it in its entirety but instead must concentrate our time and efforts on site specific projects that may threaten Trail resources. In recent years the primary threats to the Trail have been energy development projects. Such projects have the potential to dramatically alter landscapes and degrade the visitor experience along the Trail.

We are utilizing GIS technology to perform viewshed analyses in order to visually represent the Trail, its resources, and any potential impacts of proposed development. Viewshed analysis can help show us what is visible from a specific point or set of points within a certain area.

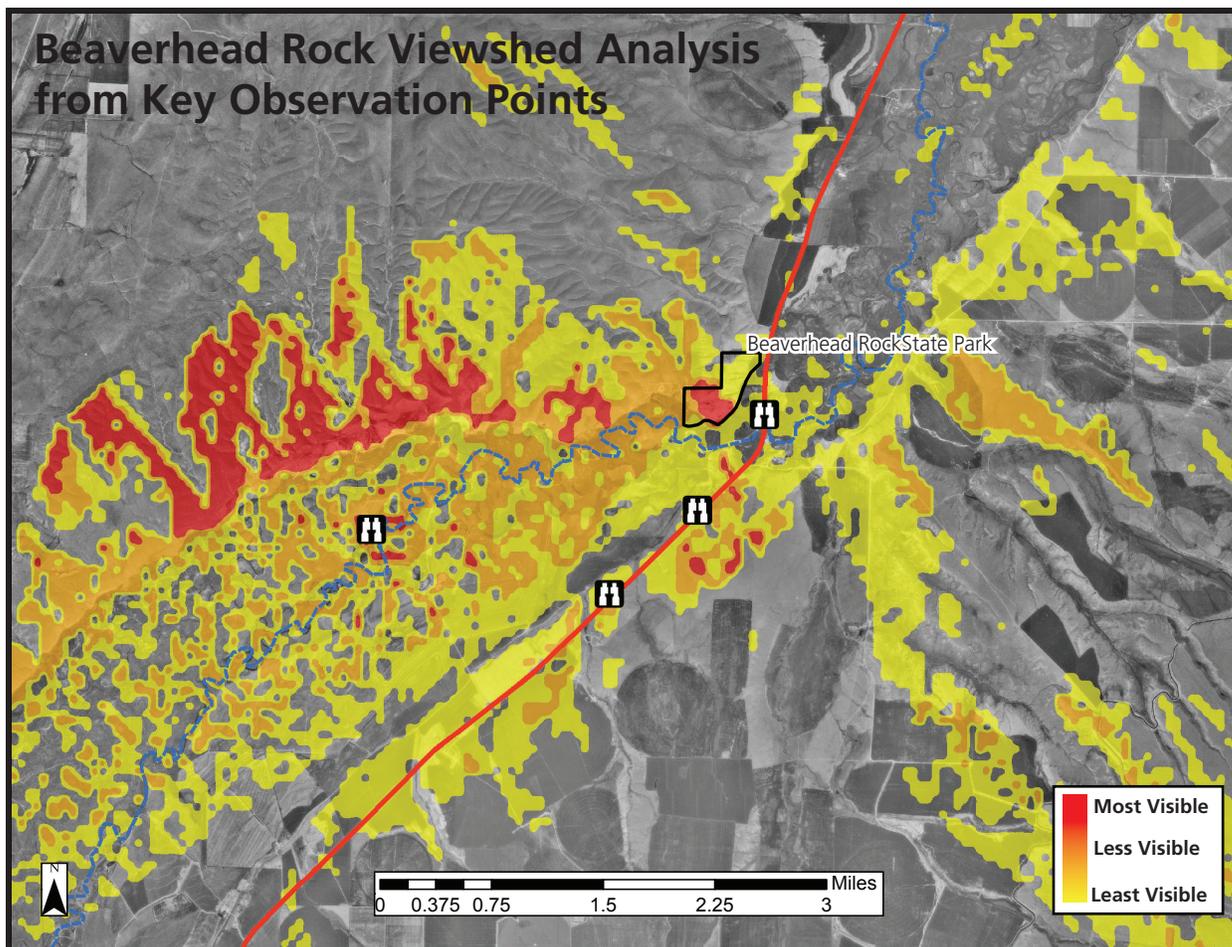
We are currently conducting viewshed analyses from both the historic trail route as well as the auto tour route. While the historic route is our most prized remnant from the Expedition, the auto tour route is also very important to our mission because it provides opportunities for the modern traveler to experience the story along the Trail.

Through collaboration of the Resources Stewardship professionals and resulting data from viewshed analyses, we are able to determine what Trail resources and assets, such as landmarks or visitor centers, may or may not be affected by proposed development projects. We may run subsequent viewshed analyses on those resources and assets that are deemed to be at high risk for substantial impacts.

Acquiring this information grants us the ability to accurately and effectively comment on proposals that may have an adverse effect on Trail resources.

As we continue to make technological advances, we continue to fight for protection of the Trail in new, creative ways.

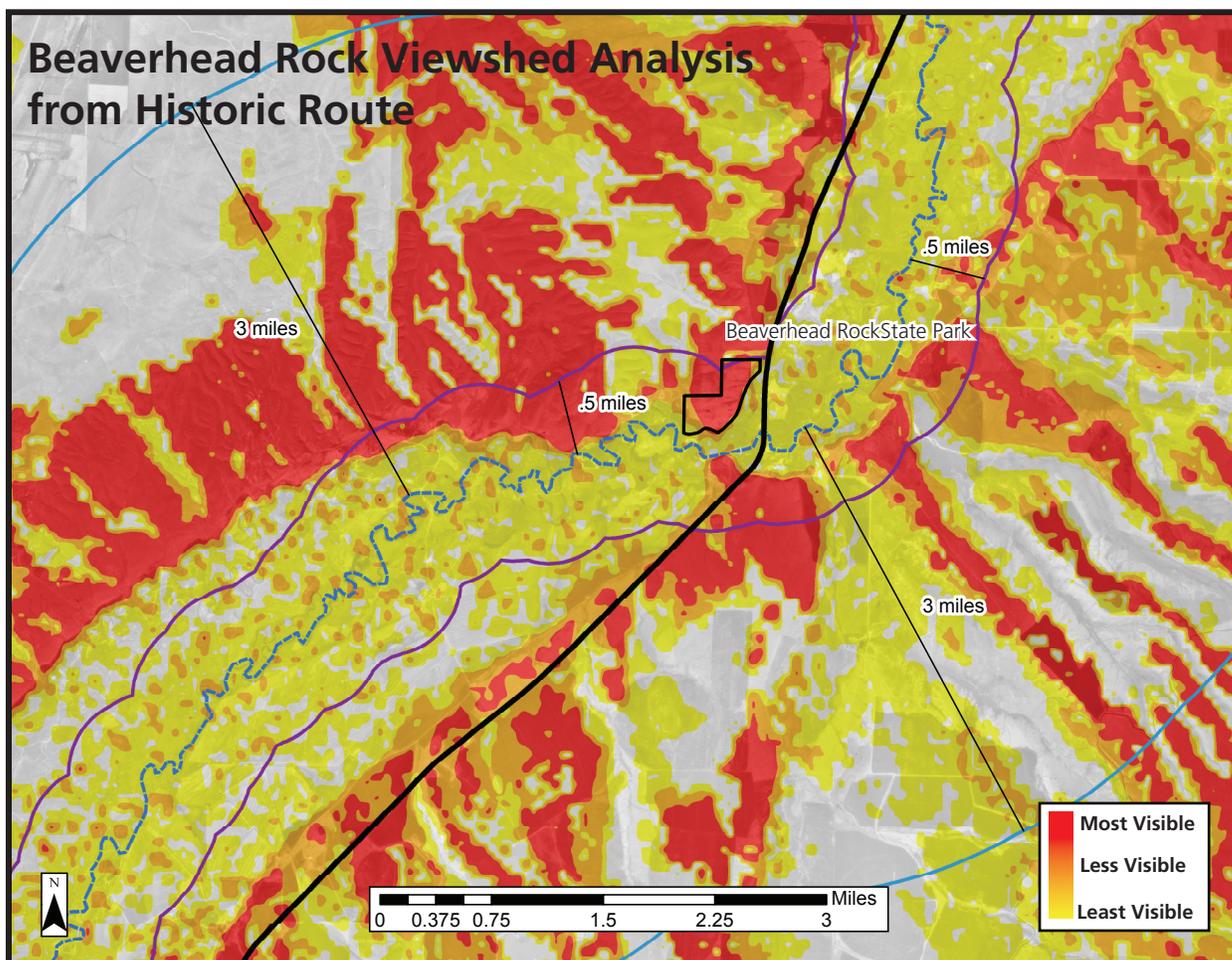
Beaverhead Rock Viewshed Analysis from Key Observation Points



This map shows the vicinity of Beaverhead Rock, an important landmark in the story of Lewis and Clark's journey.

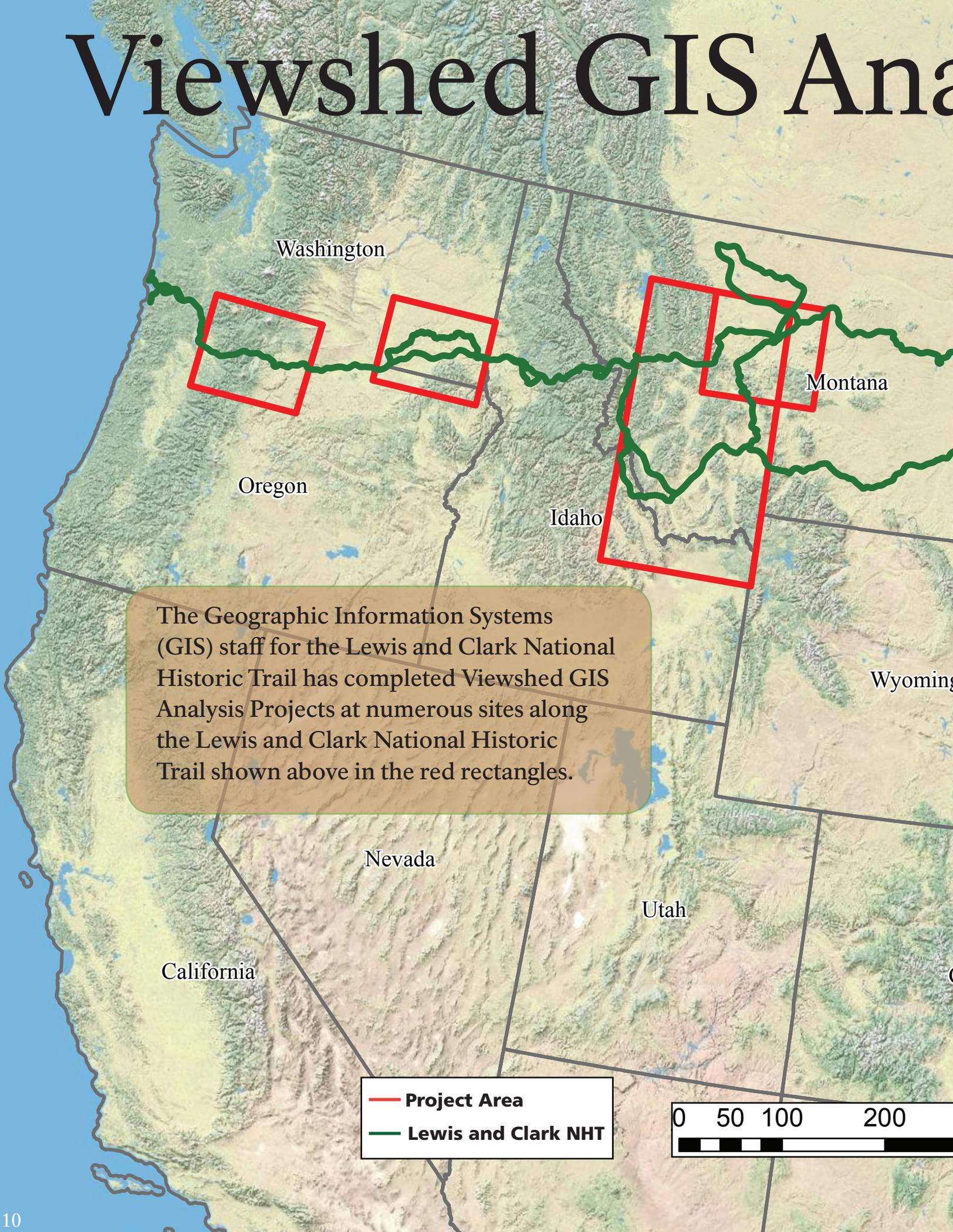
GIS viewshed analysis was conducted in response to the proposed Mountain States Transmission Intertie (MSTI). The public has expressed great concern about this project to the National Park Service because of its potential impacts to the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

Beaverhead Rock Viewshed Analysis from Historic Route



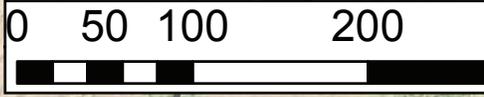
This map is displaying the same area as shown above with GIS viewshed analysis ran on the historic route of Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery. Distance zones of .5 miles and 3 miles have been overlaid to demonstrate visibility in relation to the location of the Trail. Viewshed results illustrate the degree of visibility ranging from less visible (yellow) to more visible (red).

Viewshed GIS Analysis

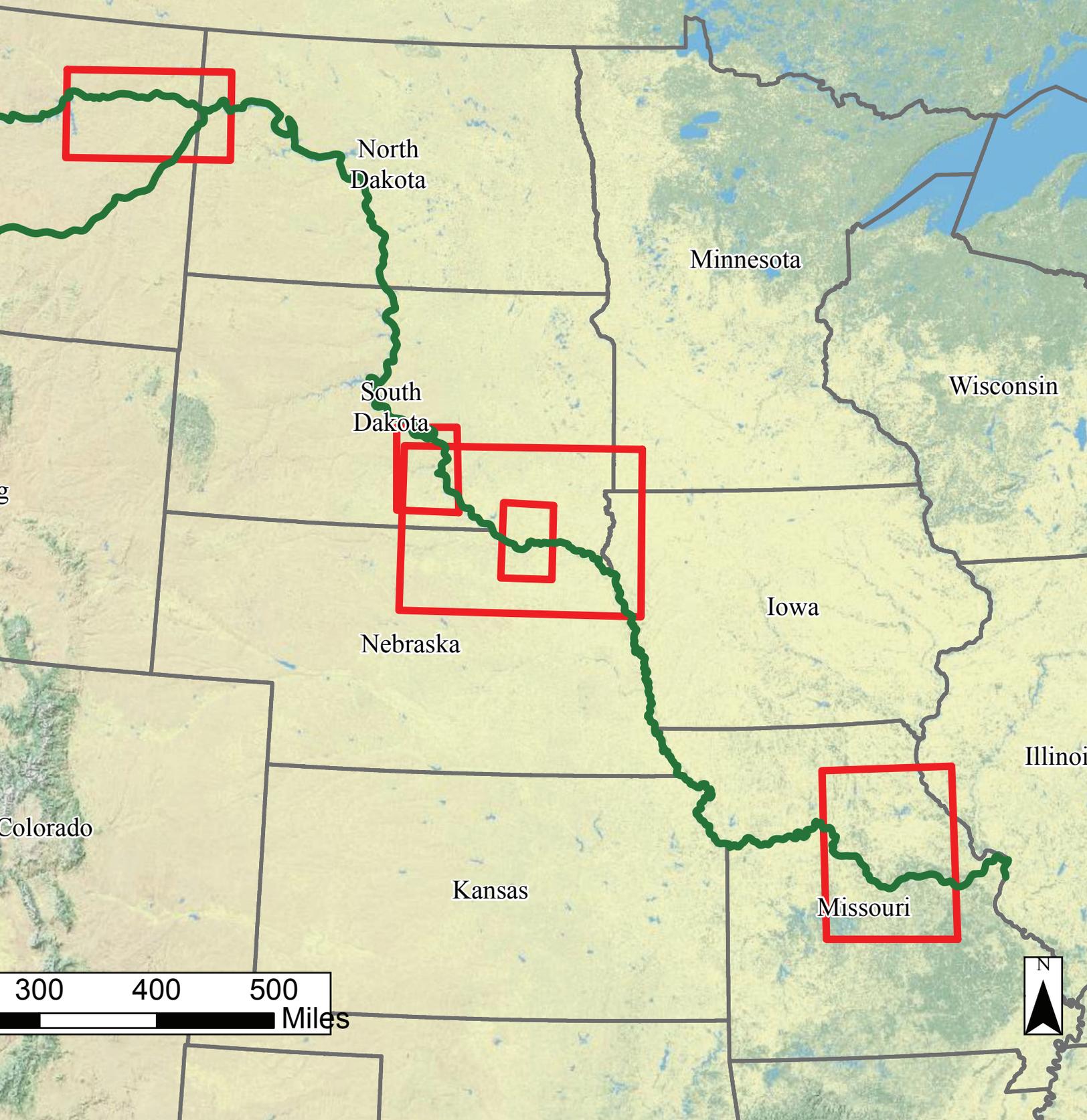


The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) staff for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail has completed Viewshed GIS Analysis Projects at numerous sites along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail shown above in the red rectangles.

- Project Area
- Lewis and Clark NHT



Analysis Projects



Beaverhead Rock

... the Indian woman recognized the point of a high plain to which she informed us was not very distant from the summer retreat on a river beyond the mountains which runs to the west. this her nation calls the beaver's head from a conceived resemblance of the figure to the head of that animal. -Meriwether Lewis, August

BEAVERHEAD ROCK STATE PARK
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

*our right which
t of her nation
hill she says
ance of it's
t 8th, 1805*



Social Networking: A New Trend in Volunteer Recruitment

by Nichole McHenry, Volunteer Program Manger

Today, more people are turning to the internet as a tool to access information. Now more than ever social networking is becoming the way to help people stay connected.

With the popularity of the smart phone, people are able to connect, more often and to more places. Utilizing this technology can help get the word out faster and wider about the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and partner sites. In a study by mobiThinking, it was found that mobile users spend more time on social networking sites than do pc users. With the vastness of the Trail, social networking could be a great way for partner sites to communicate to a larger audience about current events and volunteer opportunities.

Is this something you may have considered for your site? This could be a new and exciting way to get more people involved with the Trail.

Successful volunteer programs can be broken down into three parts: recruitment, retention and recognition. Each one of these steps can be accelerated with the use of social media.

Recruiting people using social media is an effective way to get the word out about your volunteer program; you can post volunteer opportunities on nonprofit sites,

to quickly get people interested in your site. Once volunteers have been recruited, creating a blog can be a great way to build a community around your volunteer program, inviting volunteers to share stories, post photos and ask for their opinions. Shared experiences have a huge impact on the success of volunteer programs. There are a number of ways to recognize volunteers using social media. Post statistics about volunteers on sites and write notes about the great work volunteers are doing on a Facebook wall.

There are a several sites along the Trail who have Facebook and Twitter sites, but these are not the only sites. There are social blogging sites and group sites like ning.com. Fans of these sites can follow to get the latest up-to date volunteer opportunities. Because the Trail is 3,700 miles long, it can sometimes be difficult to share information with the many Lewis and Clark enthusiasts. People are travelling more and more to national and state parks, museums and cultural centers. And for some, volunteering is on their 'to do' list. Social networking sites are a great place to share this information with our public. Not only will this help target a new untapped audience, but it could also increase the number of volunteer hours donated.





A few other Facebook pages to check out:
 Lewis and Clark Society of America + Lewis and Clark Foundation
 Western Historic Trails Center

Dear Trail Volunteer Managers,
 Are you looking for a place to advertise
 volunteer opportunities in your community?
 Would you like some assistance?

Volunteer.gov/gov is a web-based electronic
 tool for government administered volunteer
 programs. It's a place where volunteer
 opportunities can be posted, edited, deleted
 and archived quickly and easily. Potential
 volunteers can search, select and apply for
 opportunities online. The applications are
 then stored in a secure, online database and

made available
 to authorized
 volunteer
 administrators.
 This is a
 great way for
 partner sites to
 advertise current
 volunteer
 opportunities and reach wider audiences.
 If you have any questions or are interested
 in learning more about this database please
 contact:



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Staff and partner support

Welcome

Bonnie Nicholson



Bonnie Nicholson is our new Administrative Assistant. Her duties include travel, purchasing, and the many other tasks that keep our office running smoothly. Bonnie joined the trail staff in January 2011 and comes directly from Bandelier National Monument in New Mexico. She has worked at several other NPS sites including Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Colonial National Historic Park (Historic Jamestown), and Lincoln Home National Historic Site.

Bonnie was born in Illinois and has spent most of her life in Indiana where she worked for thirty years as a secretary and payroll clerk

for her father's electrical contracting business before joining the National Park Service in 2005. She is an avid reader and her favorite books are mysteries. Outside the trail office you can find Bonnie camping, hiking, bicycling, traveling, and bird watching. Please join us in giving Bonnie a warm welcome to the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail team!

Gail Gladstone



Gail Gladstone is our new Cultural Resources Specialist in the Integrated Resources Stewardship program area. Gail has undergraduate degrees in Photography from New York University and Nursing from Johns Hopkins University. In addition Gail holds a Masters Degree in Landscape Architecture from University of Texas. For the last three years Gail has been a Historical Landscape Architect, identifying, documenting, researching and evaluating cultural landscapes for the NPS Cultural Landscape Inventory program in the Midwest Region of the National Park Service.

Gail's perspectives are already benefitting the Trail as she dives into all aspects of her new position. Her experience with cultural landscapes will serve all of us who care for the Trail well. Feel free to contact Gail with cultural resources concerns or just to introduce yourself at 402-661-1854 or gail_gladstone@nps.gov. Welcome Gail!

Byrony Forbes



Byrony Forbes joined the Trail in November of 2009 as a Volunteer-In-Parks. And we now welcome her as our new Park Guide. Byrony holds an undergraduate degree in Psychology from Bryan College in Dayton, Tennessee and is currently working on a master's degree in History at the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

Byrony previously worked with at-risk youth at Boys Town teaching proper social behaviors, coping and critical thinking skills, and life skills.

Byrony is a great asset to the interpretive operation, disseminating information about the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and the National Park Service and by conducting outreach programs at schools and community events. Please join us in welcoming Byrony to our team!