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**Ancient Indians of the Wasatch Front**

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***Key Points for Resource Management***

- Cultural resources such as archaeological sites and human remains are nonrenewable and harbor historic, scientific, educational, and humanistic values. State and federal statutes protect cultural resources.
- The protection of human graves is of particular significance. They are of the utmost importance to Native American tribes and to science. Human remains motivate political and moral feelings and can invite media, government, and public scrutiny. Utah law requires any person finding human remains to notify law enforcement (prehistoric or recent, public or private land). Statute requires that remains not be disturbed until directed by the Division of Indian Affairs and the Division of State History.
- Agencies should develop means to know the location of their cultural resources. Agencies are required to protect them from natural destruction and vandalism by humans. Agencies are responsible for consulting with Native American tribes in the case of human remains.
- The Antiquities Section, Utah Division of State History archives site records for the state, including the locations and information on hundreds of sites on the Great Salt Lake bed.
- Archaeological sites and burials are most vulnerable to erosion where lake levels lead to an annual cycle of inundation and exposure in a particular elevation range. Not only will the range of lake fluctuation and hence impact zone change each year, but the location of these cycles changes over the years as the zones of annual fluctuation vary.
- Sites and burials are most vulnerable to vandalism when areas are exposed and access routes by either ATV or foot are passable. Prior to and during the annual waterfowl hunt is the period when the greatest desecration of human graves, and the purposeful and inadvertent damage to archaeological sites (such as digging duck blinds, ATVs) occur.
- The above points imply that management is feasible if areas of high site density are known and the location of erosion-causing lake "fluctuation zone" is known. When there is danger of damage to cultural resources in particular zones, reconnaissance can be done, Native American tribes and the Division of State History can be contacted, and solutions can be achieved to manage this non-renewable resource.
- A significant amount of cultural resource management can be accomplished by providing awareness and minimal training to existing agency personnel. Professional archaeologists are not required for agencies to have an expanded attention to cultural resources.
- The best way to manage for discoveries is through awareness and preparation. Once exposed, cultural resources on the GSL bed degrade rapidly.

### **Selected Readings**

Janetski, J. C.

- 1991 *The Ute of Utah Lake*. University of Utah Anthropological Papers Number 116.  
Professional, but highly readable ethnohistory.

Madsen, D. B.

- 1989 *Exploring the Fremont*. University of Utah Press.  
Written for lay audience. Covers entire Fremont region.

Madsen, D. B. and S. R. Simms

- 1998 The Fremont Complex: A Behavioral Perspective. *Journal of World Prehistory* 12:255-336.  
Detailed review of the status of Fremont archaeology. Professional audience.

Simms, S. R.

- 1999 Farmers, Foragers, and Adaptive Diversity: The Great Salt Lake Wetlands Project. In *Understanding Prehistoric Lifeways in the Great Basin Wetlands: Bioarchaeological Reconstruction and Interpretation*, edited by B. E. Hemphill and C. S. Larsen. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.  
Findings of specialized analyses on GSL skeleton assemblage.

Simms, S. R. and A. Raymond

- 1999 No One Owns the Deceased! The Treatment of Human Remains From Three Great Basin Cases. In *Understanding Prehistoric Lifeways in the Great Basin Wetlands: Bioarchaeological Reconstruction and Interpretation*, edited by B. E. Hemphill and C. S. Larsen, University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.  
Implication of human remains discoveries: dilemmas and solutions.

Simms, S. R. and M. E. Stuart

- 2002 Ancient American Indian Life in the Great Salt Lake Wetlands: Archaeological and Biological Evidence. In *Great Salt Lake, Utah 1980 Through 1998*, edited by J. Wallace Gwynn. Utah Geological Survey, Salt Lake City.  
Specific to GSL wetlands and written for lay audience.