United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Great Basin National Park

SNPLMA Round 16
Capital Improvement Program

Reconstruct and Restore the Historic Wheeler Peak Campground

Project location
N 39° 0’ 40.63”
W 114° 18’ 12.00”

Amount Requested $4,438,406

Project Manager: Tod Williams
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Nomination reviewed and approved by: /s/ April 27, 2016

Manager nameSteven Mietz Date
Superintendent

Executive Summary

The Wheeler Peak Campground was the show piece of the Forest Service's 1950's Operation Outdoors initiative. Now located within Great Basin National Park, the campground is eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Nestled in the forest below the crags of Wheeler Peak, the campground is an outstanding example of blending recreational development into the natural environment. In the 50 years since construction, the campground has fallen into a state of deterioration. The Park Service proposes to reconstruct the 37 unit Wheeler Peak Campground to extend the useful life while restoring the historic integrity of campground features to their original appearance. This project will ensure that the Wheeler Peak campground will continue to provide outstanding outdoor recreational opportunities that improve the quality of life for the visiting public. The campground sits in the center of the most concentrated and used recreational developed area of the park. The upper 2 miles of the Lehman Creek trail will be reconstructed to improve access by minimizing step grades and correcting numerous drainage issues that are impacting natural resources. This proposal corrects several impacts to natural resource. The project conserves and restores cultural resources all while enhancing recreational opportunities that connect visitors with the outdoor environment.

Purpose Statement

Who: Great Basin National Park (GRBA)

What: GRBA proposes to reconstruct the historic Wheeler Peak Campground to extend its useful life while restoring the historic integrity of campground features to their original appearance. In addition, the park proposes to restore and install components that connect visitors to the natural and historic environment.

Where: Within Great Basin National Park, in White Pine County, Nevada. The project area is located at the end of the Wheeler Peak Scenic drive T14N, R68E, Sec. 10

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Why: The campground constructed in 1966, is an outstanding example of blending recreational development into the natural landscape. In the years since construction, the campground and its historic features have fallen into a state of deterioration. The rustic flagstone walls are rapidly deteriorating and now mostly gone. The hardened stone perimeter campsite pads while still in place are in a state of decay. The restrooms are from a bygone era and need to be replaced with newer technology. The roadway asphalt has cracked and crumbled needing to be repaved. Fire rings, grills, picnic tables and other recreational amenities within the campground are all in need of replacement. Accessibility improvements and multilingual signing are also needed to better serve a changing park visitor demographic.

Phases

This project is not phased. This project is a one time, stand-alone action.

Background and Need

The U.S. Forest Service began a nationwide effort to improve outdoor recreation facilities in the late 1950's called "Operation Outdoors". The Wheeler Peak Scenic Area, now Great Basin National Park, was the prize of the U.S. Forest Service Intermountain Region and included campgrounds, trails, interpretive signs, and the Wheeler Peak Scenic Drive. The 1963 design for the Wheeler Peak campground was to be the show piece of the Operation Outdoors development initiative and it appears that no expense was spared.

Upon completion, the campground was truly the showpiece of "Operations Outdoors" centered in the Wheeler Peak Scenic Area. The 37 unit campground is an outstanding example of blending recreational development into the natural landscape. Utilizing a mix of standard 1960 Forest Service designs and innovative landscape architecture, the planners relied heavily on the use of stone materials from local quarries. Nestled in spruce and aspen forest just 3000 feet below the rocky crags of Wheeler Peak, the campground design was created to take advantage of the grandeur of the surrounding environment, using over 4000 feet of curbside flagstone walls along the roadside, stone accented cement pad campsites and a large rough cut log bridge to access cross stream campsites and trails to blend recreation development into nature. The campground incorporated the towering mountains and lush alpine riparian meadows

beaconing visitors to spend cool summer nights with nature far above the desert valley floor. Each of the campsites was designed on site with a cement center pad, large stone perimeters on three sides and a small stone retaining wall placed into the backing grade. Meandering trails began in the campground beckoning visitors out to explore the splendors of high alpine lakes and ancient bristlecone pine groves where trees sculpted by forces of nature cling to stone for over 4000 years. The Lehman Creek trail connected the Wheeler campground with the Upper Lehman campground 3.5 miles below. It offered visitor a forested canyon experience with fishing and outstanding views. Clean restrooms, campfire rings and picnic tables finished off the design and rewarded visitors seeking out nature and an escape from the city experience. See pictures at the end of document.

The goals of this project are to: ensure that the Wheeler Peak campground will continue to provide outstanding outdoor recreational opportunities; reconstruct the campground to extend its useful life; conserve and restore cultural resources; stabilize and restore the historic integrity of the campsite pads; stabilize the remaining flagstone walls and reconstruct a limited few to recreate and interpret the intent of the rustic nature for which they were created; correct impacts to natural resources; bring restrooms and waterlines up to current standards; and eliminate barriers by adding features to connect to a changing visitor demographic such as improving accessibility and multilingual informational/educational signing. In the 50 years since construction, the campground is in a state of deterioration. The historic features are in need of restoration. The rustic flagstone walls are now mostly gone. The hardened campsite pads while still in place are in a state of decay. The restrooms are from a bygone era and in need of being replaced with newer technology. Fire rings, grills, picnic tables are all in need of replacement. The combination of frost heaving and 50 years of use has rendered the asphalt roadway cracked and broken needing to be repaved. The original drinking water delivery system is still in place consisting of galvanized metal pipe. The system is currently not in compliance with Nevada State Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) standards. While the pristine spring waters that feed the system have yet not failed State drinking water quality standards, DEQ has put the park on notice that the galvanized pipeline is out of compliance and needs replacement. The upper 2 miles Lehman Creek trail is extremely steep and has numerous drainages issues. See pictures at the end of document.

Historical Context

Based upon NPS policies, Wheeler Peak Campground became a historic resource in 2016. The park has completed preliminary archeological investigation of the campground and determined it is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places and eligible for nomination as a historic landscape. These determinations are based upon the fact that campground is an outstanding example of the nationwide 1950's effort of the Forest Service's Operations Outdoors in the development of recreational facilities and its location in the first designated National Forest Scenic Area. It will be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places on the national, state, and local levels. It is an exemplary piece of the national efforts to meet the growing need for recreation as Baby Boomer families stepped out of the cities and into the forests and parks. Rehabilitating the campground to repair original features, restoring

elements utilizing materials from the same local quarries, as well as following the original Forest Service designs will provide opportunity to interpret and educate the public about the efforts of Federal land management agencies to promote recreational opportunities on a national scale.

Project Area Location/Description

The project area is within Great Basin National Park, White Pine County, Nevada at the following Latitude and Longitude: 39° 0'40.63"N /114°18'12.00"W. See figures for a map of the project area, map of the campground and map of the area in relation to adjacent surrounding communities served at the end of the document. At 9,886 feet in elevation, the 37 unit Wheeler Peak campground is the highest elevation developed campground in the National Park Service system. It is the only campground located in the hub of recreational opportunities and developments within Great Basin National Park. The campground receives over 25,000 campers each season and is the most sought out camping location by visitors to Great Basin National Park.

Proposed Action

The park, utilizing the original 1960's Forest Service Wheeler Peak Campground Plan combined with newer technology, proposes to:

- Refurbish 37 campsites with new low maintenance/long life cement picnic tables, fire rings and free standing grills. An emphasis will be placed on utilizing sustainable low maintenance products.
- Stabilize and restore the original appearance of the 37 campsites to include preserving the historic integrity of the campsite pads. While the 1963 Forest Service plans show the locations of each campsite, the campsites themselves with their stone perimeters and back retaining walls were designed on site to fit the terrain. To maintain the historic integrity, a Historic Architect will develop a restoration plan with conceptual drawings for each site. The plans prescriptions will guide the restoration process and development of contracting specifications.
- The Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 did not exist during the 1963 design for the campground. Undulating terrain rendered few of the campsites ADA compliant. Three campsites will be made ADA wheelchair compliant with the construction of access ramps. An accessible cement picnic table and fire ring will finish off the reconstruction. Ten additional campsites will have the access paths redesigned so that the cross slope of the walking surfaces will not be steeper than 1:48 improving accessibility to the challenged level.
- Replace 4 restrooms with new CXT sweet smelling technology with green energy interior solar lighting. The original restrooms have been rebuilt and/or manipulated numerous times over the last 50 years and were found to have no historic integrity. The new restroom will be placed near the Forest Service design plan locations but accessibility will be a key consideration.

- Reconstruct a total of 410 linear feet or 10 percent of the original flagstone walls along the roadway in 4 locations for interpretive purposes. Stabilize the 2 remaining flagstone walls. The 1963 Forest Service's design plans will guide this process.
- Rebuild one rough cut large diameter wooden foot bridge to access cross stream campsites and trails.
- Repave the campground road and campsite spurs. Approximately 90,000 sq. ft. of roadway and campsite spurs will require repaving. All old asphalt materials will be re used in this process and none will be discarded.
- Upgrade and replace the water pipeline to meet Nevada State DEQ standards. The new waterline will be placed within the road shoulder to allow ease of maintenance. The old system cut across meadows turning repair of resource damaging endeavors. Recycle materials will be the choice for materials.
- Construct a new entry sign for the campground. Recycle materials will be the choice for this and all sign materials as described below.
- Install a new fee station with multilingual signing.
- Install a multi - panel, multilingual educational kiosk connecting visitor to the historic significances of the campground, Scenic Area and Forest Service's Operation Outdoors.
- Install a multi - panel, multilingual educational kiosk that connects visitor to the recreational opportunities awaiting them within the Wheeler Peak area.
- Design and install 3 interpretive multilingual signs educating and connecting visitors to the natural resource surrounding them within the campground.
- Reconstruct the Lehman Creek Trailhead located within the campground.
- Reconstruct the upper 2 miles of the Lehman Creek trail. Reduce steep grades to improve accessibility and visitor experience by adding a series of switchbacks. Correct numerous drainage issues impacting water quality, soul stability and fisheries by installing rolling dips and water bars.
- Preform restoration and weed control resulting from site disturbance from reconstruction activities.

Timeframe

Year 1: Project awarded. Initiate campsite design plan that maintains and restore the historic integrity of the sites. Complete NEPA and NHPA Section 106 compliance. Identify components that are to be contracted for, that are outside of regular Park maintenance staff activities. Develop Scope(s) of Work and firmer timeline for these discrete components and elements. Initiate demolition and removal of existing non historic campground infrastructure. Complete standard deliverables and reporting. Purchase supplies and materials for year 2 activities.

Year 2: Finalize campsite design plan that maintains and restore the historic integrity of the sites. Contracting activities for implementation of discrete components (walls & campsites). Continue demolition and removal of existing non historic campground infrastructure. Initiate sign design and development. Layout and design for contacted flagstone wall construction based upon original 1963 Forest Service design plan. Complete design and layout for

reconstruction work on the Lehman Creek Trail. Contract and have new restrooms installed. Complete any needed disturbed site restoration. Complete standard deliverables and reporting. Purchase supplies and materials for year 3 activities.

Year 3: Oversee contracted activities of discrete components (walls & campsites). Finalize 10 or more campsites with tables, etc. Continue sign design and development. Reconstruction Upper Lehman Creek Trailhead will begin. Work on Lehman Creek trail will begin. Construct and install wooden foot bridges. Contract all sign production. Complete any needed disturbed site restoration. Complete standard deliverables and reporting. Purchase supplies and materials for year 4 activities.

Year 4: Oversee contracted activities of discrete components. Finalize 10 or more campsites with tables, etc. Install all signing and kiosks. Install new water line and valve components. Complete reconstruction of Upper Lehman Creek Trailhead. Complete work on Lehman Creek trail. Install new fee stations. Complete any needed disturbed site restoration. Complete standard deliverables and reporting.

Year 5: Pave road and campsite spurs. Finalize work on remaining campsites. Complete any needed disturbed site restoration. At an elevation of 9,886 feet, winter will be the driving force in yearly project completion. In year 5 of this project, all work delayed by snow will be completed. Final touches will be completed. All contracts will be closed out. Project closeout will be initiated and completed.

Deliverables

Primary Deliverables

- Complete reconstruction of the 20 acre Wheeler Peak campground.
- Restore the historic integrity of those campground features that best represent the 1950's Forest Service's initiative Operation Outdoors. Restoration will be based on a preservation plan created by a historic landscape architect. Materials will be salvaged and reused from on site as possible as much as possible.
- Rehabilitate 37 campsites to include: restoring the historic integrity of the campsite pads, adding new low maintenance/long life cement picnic tables, fire rings and free standing grills.
- Repave approximately 90,000 sq. ft. of road and campsite spur or 4800 linear feet of 14 foot roadway and 1,425 linear equivalent feet of campground spurs. Existing asphalt will all be reutilized.

- Make three campsites ADA wheelchair compliant by constructing ramps to access the camp pads. Improve accessibility to a minimum of 10 sites where terrain does not limit, by redesigning access paths to meet ADA Challenged standards.
- Replace 4 antiquated restrooms with new CXT sweet smelling technology restrooms with green solar lighting.

- Reconstruct approximately 410 linear feet of 18" high flagstone walls in the original locations.
- Rebuild and replace one rough cut large dimension wooden foot bridge to access cross stream campsites and trails following the original 1960's Forest Service design.
- Upgrade and replace the drinking water delivery system pipeline to meet Nevada State DEQ standards.
- Reconstruct the Lehman Creek Trailhead located within the campground.
- Install a new fee station with multilingual signing. Recycle materials will be the choice for sign materials
- Reconstruct upper 2 miles of the Lehman Creek trails
- Construct and install multilingual educational/information kiosks and multilingual educational /information signing. Recycle materials will be the choice for sign materials.

Anticipated Deliverables

- Preform restoration of any site disturbance from reconstruction activities.
- Inventory and remove hazard trees from campground. Wood will to bucked and provided to local elders of the Ely Shoshone Tribe, a common park practice.
- Inventory and monitor disturbed sites from reconstruction for the presence of any nonnative plants.
- Treat any nonnative plants that germinate within disturbed sites.

Standard Deliverables

- Complete NEPA compliance
- Complete NHPA Section 106 compliance with accompanying archeological inventory.
- Develop implementation plan and enter into SNPLMA access database.
- Quarterly budget request and budget tracking.
- Project administration and oversight.
- Contract preparation and oversite.
- Quarterly and annual reporting will be completed.
- Final project report will be prepared and submitted.

SNPLMA Performance Measures

SNPLMA Strategic Plan Goal: Conserve and restore the quality of the outdoor environment by preserving natural and cultural resources and enhancing recreational opportunities.

Objective: 2.3 Enhance Recreational opportunities.

a) R2 – Acres of New Parks or Natural Areas Constructed or Improved. **Project Goals = 20 acres.** Primary deliverable.
b) R3 – Number of New Recreational Facilities/Structures Constructed or Improved. **Project Goals = 44 Units** to include: 37 campsites with tables, grills and fire rings; 4 restrooms; 1 trailhead; 1 fee station and, 1 foot bridge. Primary deliverable.

c) R4 – Miles of New Recreational Roads / Trails Constructed or Existing Routes Improved. **Project Goals = 3 miles.** 1 road and campsite spurs improved by repaving. And 2 miles of trail reconstructed.

Objective 2.2: Preserve Cultural Resources – Document, preserve, and interpret cultural resources.

a) C1 – Number of Cultural or Historic Sites or Structures Stabilized or Protected Restore at-risk resources. **Project Goal = 43 Units** to include: 37 camping pads and 6 rock walls. Primary deliverables.
b) C3 – Acres of Cultural / Paleontological Resources Surveyed, Inventoried or Monitored. **Project Goal = 20 acres** inventoried as part of Section 106 compliance. Standard deliverable.
c) C4 – Number of Cultural Plans Completed or Revised . **Project Goals = 1 Unit** to include: development of preservation plan created by a historic architect.

Objective 2.1: Maintain or increase the quality of natural resources.

a) H4 – Acres of Upland Habitat Treated, Enhanced, or Restored. **Project Goal = 5 acres** of disturbed sites restored. Anticipated deliverable.
b) H9 – Acres of Invasive Plant Species Treated or Restored. **Project Goal = 5 acres** of invasive plants treated. Anticipated deliverable.
c) H10 –Acres of Invasive Plant Species Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored. **Project Goal = 20 acres** of invasive plants inventoried. Anticipated deliverable.

Other Performance Measures.

a) O1 - Number of Hazardous Sites Remediated – **Project Goals = 1 Unit** to include hazard tress inventoried and removed from campground. Anticipated deliverable.
b) O2 – Number of Buildings, Facilities and/or Amenities Constructed or Refurbished. **Project Goals = 11** Units to include 4 new restroom, 6 retaining walls and 1 new water line to meet Nevada DEQ standards. Primary deliverable.
c) O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Educational Signs/Kiosk/Displays etc. **Project Goals = 12 Units** to include: 2 multi panel (3 sign) multilingual educational Kiosks (6 sign total + 2 Kiosks); 3 multilingual interpretive signs; and 1 trailhead informational sign. Primary deliverable.

<u>Project Implementation Process</u>

In order to determine a level of successful implementation, minimum benchmarks of 80% of planned components are to be contracted, constructed and completed following along the timeline established within this proposal and agreed to within the approved SNPLMA work plan.

<u>Level of Readiness</u>

The park has the capability to plan, design, engineer, initiate and complete the project within the
period of performance. Upon project approval and release of funds, park staff is ready to implement the action as proposed. The park's Management Team constitute the SNPLMA Capital Improvement project oversite committee that meets bi monthly to address project status and resolve any issues thus keeping projects moving along the scheduled timeline. The park has formed a project management team, which has been specifically organized for implementing SNPLMA-related Capital Improvement projects. The team consists of a SNPLMA program manager, recreational planner, and though recently vacated, a landscape architect. If this proposal is funded, this position fill be filled as a historic architect. The position is essential for initial site design, contact development and oversite of contractors to assure accuracy of the restoration of historic features. The park has COR's on staff. Maintenance staff is ready and available to supply oversight and oversee local hire seasonal staff to complete any non-contracted work. Resource staff is available to complete and/or guide any restoration work and assure all work is completed in an environmentally sensitive manner. Cultural Resource staff is available to assist any additional assistance as necessary. Park has to capacity to complete all compliance as needed.

Operations & Maintenance

With the reconstruction and stabilization of the campground it is anticipated that annual maintenance costs will be greatly reduced. Adding Cement tables and other long life/low maintenance amenities will reduce replacement costs. Stabilizing the campsite pads will eliminate the annual replacement of rocks and cement patching. A new water line will stop the need to find and fix leaks and patches. These are just some of the reductions in maintenance costs that will occur for several decades.

The park is committed to ensuring that the Wheeler Peak Campground provides outstanding outdoor recreational opportunities that connect visitors to the outdoor environment while improving the quality of life. The campground lies in the most developed recreational area of the park. Over 100,000 day use visitors and 25,000 campers enjoy the area each season. Use is only expected to increase. Maintenance has been performed yearly now for 35 years but as with any infrastructure development, over 50 years, complete reconstruction is warranted to restart another life cycle. Through the RecFee program, a considerable amount of revenue is collected annually from this site. Unfortunately, these funds cannot be used for complete rehabilitation/reconstruction. If this proposal is funded, the park is committed to: daily maintenance and cleaning during the visitor season; performing yearly preopening seasonal inspections and infrastructure maintenance; and, implementation of a scheduled cyclic maintenance program utilizing RecFee revenues under the definition of deferred maintenance and other NPS cyclic maintenance fund sources. By doing so, it is our intention to keep the historic Wheeler Peak Campground and all its features well maintained during this cycle of its life.

Budget

Estimated needs are for the construction of these facilities, together with anticipated temporary staff increase for program management. No non SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contributions will be utilized. Per Appendix B-2 of the SNPLMA Implementation Agreement, the park will pursue contracting with the private sector for completion of the project as the first choice of action, when doing so is the most efficient and cost effective way to complete the project. The surrounding communities have been classified by the State of Nevada as economically disadvantaged and underserved. Any non- contracted work will be completed by local seasonal hires utilizing the park's local hiring authority. The leasing of equipment will also be the guiding principle in providing best value overall. A multidisciplinary team of GRBA senior staff, met and developed the budget for the project. Members all had multiple years of experience implementing the three categories of SNPLMA projects the park is eligible for.

The budget represents the best estimate of cost, based on Park-specific, construction costs from numerous recently implemented Capital Improvement SNPLMA projects with similar components.

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Capital Improvement Project Proposal
Estimated Necessary Expenses

Project Name:	Rehabilitate and Restore the Historic Wheeler Peak Campground.	Date:	4/22/2016
Agency:	National Park Service - GRBA		
Project #:	GRBA - WCG1	Priority #	
Prepared by:	T. Williams		
Phone #	775 234-7560		%

1	**Planning, Environmental Compliance & Preconstruction Engineering and Design** ***(Not to exceed 27% of total project costs)******	$91,320	2.1%
	(pre-design sketches and conceptual drawings; environmental assessment and permitting, specialist surveys/reports for archaeology, wildlife, biology, etc.; architectural and engineering analysis, design survey & field investigations; construction drawing, specifications, cost estimates, and engineering technical reports.)		
2	**Construction Contract Costs**	$2,191,250	49.4%
	(including labor, supplies & materials, construction management, etc.; sampling/testing; site restoration; and government furnished supplies and materials.		
3	**Project Equipment**	$197,800	4.5%
	(pg. 89 of the Implementation Agreement) SNPLMA funds can only be used for "project related necessary expenses" and SNPLMA can reimburse only for those equipment costs directly associated with completion of the approved project. Does not include office furnishings or equipment necessary for operations or maintenance of the project).		
4	**Travel**	$13,000	0.3%
	(including per diem where official travel status is required to carry out the project, such as to serve as COR, experts to review reports, etc.)		
5	**Official Vehicle Use**	$225,050	5.1%
	(pro rata cost for use of Official Vehicles when required to carry out the project)		
6	**Other Direct and Contracted Labor**	$1,014,686	22.9%
	Agency payroll for the Contracting Officer to do project procurements, COR Project Inspector, Section 106 Consultation, NEPA Lead, Project Manager, Project Supervisor, and subject experts to review contracted surveys, design/drawings, plans, reports, etc.; Also covered is the cost to contract for a Project Manager and/or Project Supervisor if contracted separately from other project costs.		
7	**FWS Consultation - Endangered Species Act**	$0	
8	**Federal Direct Labor** *(direct angency labor for construction, PI, CO, and COR work)*	$705,300	15.9%
9	**Other Necessary Expenses** (See IA Appendix B-3)	$0	
	Total Requested/Estimated Budget	**$4,438,406**	**100.00%**
10	**Total Estimated contributed funds**	$0	
	Total Estimated Project Value (*Requested funding plus contributed funds*)	**$4,438,406**	

1	Estimated project start date:	> 1 year from approval
2	Planning, NEPA, and design phase complete	2 years from approval
3	Construction and build-out complete	5 years from approval
4	Project close-out (allow 120 days to process)	5 years 3 months from approval

1	Estimated costs for Planning, Conceptual Design, Environmental Compliance and Field Work/Surveys, NEPA & Pre-construction Architectural and Engineering Design Services				
	Description	**Units**	**Unit of measure**	**Unit Cost**	**Est. Cost**
Professional Contracts and Services	Contract for environmental assessment and FONSI	1	Job	$20,000	**$20,000**
			Job		**$0**
			Job		**$0**
			Job		**$0**
A&E Services	Waterline design & specifications report	1	Job	$25,000	**$25,000**
	Construction specifications	1	Job	$8,000	**$8,000**
	Construction design development	1	Job	$12,000	**$12,000**
Permitting	State Water Permitting	1	ea	$6,000	**$6,000**
	Dust Permits		ea		**$0**
					$0
					$0
NEPA compliance	Archaeological surveys and reports	245	hrs.	$32	**$7,840**
	SHPO consultation and coordination	160	hrs.	$39	**$6,240**
	Biological/wildlife surveys and reports	240	hrs.	$26	**$6,240**
					$0
				Estimated total	**$91,320**

2 Estimated Costs for Construction Contracts (Agency costs)

	Description	Units	Unit of measure	Unit Cost	Est. Cost
Construction Management Contract Services	Contract - installation of restroom(s)	4	ea	$47,500	**$190,000**
	Contract for demolition				
	Contract fabrication of interpretive displays/panels	1	ea	$28,525	**$28,525**
	Contract for construction - Historic Camp Pads	1	ea	$270,000	**$270,000**
	Contract for construction - Flagstone Walls	1	ea	$235,000	**$235,000**
	Contract for construction -Paving	1	ea	$985,000	**$985,000**
	Contract for GBI Trail Crew	1	ea	$55,000	**$55,000**
	Contract for construction -Water Line/Culverts	1	ea	$240,000	**$240,000**
Materials and Supplies	Cement Picnic Tables	40	ea	$2,850	**$114,000**
	Fire Rings	37	ea	$385	**$14,245**
	Garbage - Recycle Containers - Pads	10	ea	$1,050	**$10,500**
	Group Free Standing Grills	3	ea	$810	**$2,430**
	Fee Station	1	ea	$7,500	**$7,500**
	Licenses and Subscriptions and Office Supplies	1	ea	$11,825	**$11,825**
	ADA Ramp Materials	3	ea	$4,875	**$14,625**
	Benches	3	ea	$1,200	**$3,600**
	Restoration Materials	1	ea	$1,500	**$1,500**
	Bridge Materials	1	ea	$7,500	**$7,500**
					$0
				Estimated total	**$2,191,250.00**

3 Estimated costs for Equipment necessary to complete the project (purchased or leased)

Lease of equipment for the period necessary to complete the project is the preferred alternative. Purchase of heavy equipment requires justification that purchase is more cost effective over leasing over the period the equipment is needed. See the Implementation Agreement for justificatio. Justification must be submitted for written approval prior to purchase of equipment.

Does not include equipment that is built in as part of a facility or a necessary expense for the funciton of a building or facility, i.e. projectors, LED displays for interpretation, etc.

	Description	Units	Unit of measure	Unit Cost	Est. Cost
Equipment	Rental Skid Steer	20	Months	$3,700	**$74,000**
	Rental Excavator	3	Months	$4,800	**$14,400**
	Rental Backhoe	20	Months	$3,700	**$74,000**
	Rental Compactor	10	Months	$3,300	**$33,000**
	Computer for Temporary Exhibit Design Specialist	1	ea	$1,200	**$1,200**
	Computer for Temporary Historic Architect	1	ea	$1,200	**$1,200**
			ea		**$0**
				Estimated total	**$197,800**

4. Estimated travel (not associated with construction contract administration)

Identify by title/position and purpose of travel

	Description	Units	Unit of measure	Unit Cost	Est. Cost
Government Travel	NPS Design Advisory Board meetings	2	ea	$2,700	**$5,400**
	Management oversight and coordination	1	ea	$2,500	**$2,500**
	Historic Architect - Historic research	3	ea	$1,200	**$3,600**
	Cultural Resource Chief - SHPO Consultation	2	ea	$750	**$1,500**
					$0
				Estimated total	**$13,000**

5 Estimated costs for use of Government vehicles and equipment (FOR or hourly rate)

	Description	Units	Unit of measure	Unit Cost	Est. Cost
Heavy Equipment and government vehicles	GSA Vehicles	240	month	$495	**$118,800**
	Dump truck	50	month	$1,200	**$60,000**
	Bobcat	25	month	$325	**$8,125**
	Tractor trailer	25	month	$1,200	**$30,000**
	Backhoe	25	month	$325	**$8,125**
					$0
				Estimated total	**$225,050**

6	Labor costs for developing, managing and implementing contracts to complete the project.				
	This is an estimate of the total hours. Identify by Specialist title and role. Recommend use of Reimbursable Project Log to monitor and track agency labor charged to the project				
	Description	**Units**	**Units of measure**	**Unit Cost**	**Est. Cost**
Federal and contract personnel involved with developing and executing contracts	Level 3 COR - Level 3 COR, position lacking from park, for large construction contracts. Detail position.	8	months	$7,123	**$56,984**
	Project Manager (GS-11) - Manager assigned to project. Assures timely completion of all deliverables. Term position.	60	months	$7,084	**$425,040**
	Exhibit Design Specialist (GS-7) - Project lead on development, design and completion of project interpretive components. Term position.	30	months	$4,800	**$144,000**
	SNPLMA CIP Project Supervisor (GS-12) - Park SNPLMA CIP program administer. Term position.	30	months	$8,705	**$261,150**
	Historic Architect (GS-11) - prepares report for construction specs. & designs to restore campsite pads while maintaining historic ingetrity. Prepares contacting specs. for restoration work. Term position.	18	months	$7,084	**$127,512**
					$0
				Estimated total	**$1,014,686**

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<u>Capital Improvements Ranking Criteria</u>

1) SUSTAINABILITY: Will the project provide benefits in the near & long term by emphasizing health and resilient landscapes?

A. Conserves the quality of the outdoor environment & mitigates future potential negative impacts by conserving, preserving, and protecting project area resources.

This project ensures that the Wheeler Peak campground will continue to provide outstanding outdoor recreational opportunities that improve the quality of life for the visiting public. The campground is located in the center of the most visited recreational developed area of the park. This proposal corrects and eliminates several impacts to natural and cultural resource. Impacts to water quality, fisheries and subalpine meadows will be corrected and prevented from reoccurring. The project in particular conserves and restores cultural resources while enhancing recreational opportunities that connect visitors with the outdoor environment.

B. Restores the quality of the outdoor environment by reducing or eliminating existing impacts to the natural and/or cultural resources.

The campground is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places and eligible for nomination as a historic landscape. The project will stabilize and restore the original appearance of the 37 campsites to include preserving the historic integrity of the campsite pads. It will reconstruct a total of 410 linear feet or 10 percent of the original flagstone walls along the roadway in 4 locations for interpretive purposes. Stabilize the 2 remaining flagstone walls. The 1963 Forest Service's design plans will guide this process.

The action as proposed, corrects several impacts natural resource. A large number of the camp pads are being undermined by run off resulting in soil loss and sediment input into the Lehman Creek. Correcting numerous drainage problems on the Lehman Creek trail will reduce soil loss and sedimentation into Lehman Creek. Restoring and stabilizing the campsites and the trail work will eliminate this impact improving water quality and fisheries habitat. The current water system pipeline was buried straight line across subalpine meadows. It is now over topped by these same meadows and mature aspen groves. Simple leaks and breaks cause extensive resource damage to just find and fix today. Please picture heavy equipment driving across mountain meadows, trenching and trenching until the break is found. By abandoning the current system in place and installing a new water pipeline along the road shoulder, all of these resource impacts will be eliminated forever in time.

C. Demonstrates shared support for the operations and maintenance over the life.

The campground lies in the most developed recreational area of the park. Over 100,000 day use visitors and 25,000 campers enjoy the area each season. Visitor use has been projected to continue increase on a yearly basis. The park is fully committed to: daily

maintenance and cleaning during the visitor season; performing yearly preopening seasonal inspections and infrastructure maintenance; and, implementation of a scheduled cyclic maintenance program utilizing RecFee revenues under the definition of deferred maintenance. By doing so, it is our intention to keep the historic Wheeler Peak Campground and all its features well maintained during this cycle of its life.

D. Employs sustainable or "green construction" practices using recycled or renewable materials, improves energy efficiency or utilizes low-maintenance products in construction. Conserves resources during the manufacture and life-cycle of the project

GRBA proposes to evaluate the components against sustainable benchmarks like the LEED certification evaluation checklist, recycle products will be emphasized and Buy-Green programs. As practical as possible in construction, local sources will be sought and sustainable construction practices will be outlined in contracting documents, and used in project implementation. All old material removed from the campground will be recycled were possible. All asphalt will be reground and reused on site to eliminate the need of disposal and minimize the amount of new product to use on site. Recycling containers are included in the proposal as a new addition to the campground.

2) CONNECTIVITY: Will the project promote connecting people to nature & recreation opportunities, & important places on the public lands?

Yes.

A**. Will this project provide access to previously undeveloped recreation areas and/or new recreation opportunities to enjoy the public lands**.

The campground sits in the center of the most concentrated and used recreational developed area of the park. The Wheeler Peak area currently receives approximately 100,000 day use visitors and an average of 25,000 campers each season. With the historic landscape designation and inclusion on the National Register combined with the historic educational kiosk, the campground will become a new interpretive site and will see an increase in new day use visitation. Several interpretive displays are proposed to connect visitors to the natural resource and environmental processes surrounding them. The kiosk containing the historic context of the area will educate the public about the efforts of Federal land management agencies to promote recreational opportunities on a national scale.

B. Does this project improve access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on the public lands.

The project improves access for Americans with disabilities. This proposal eliminates barriers and improves accessibility within the campground. It also provides educational signing. This is all readily adjacent to the park's premier accessible Island Forest Trail. It greatly assists those with disabilities to connect with nature. Reconstructing the Lehman Creek trail will improve visitor access to experience the canyon below the campground.

Fishing opportunities, forested environments, wildlife viewing and outstanding scenic views are all provided. The trail connects the Wheeler Peak campground to the Upper Lehman Creek campground.

Does this project contain an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (information signage, kiosks, educational programs etc.).

The project contains the following components to improve public awareness: Install a multi - panel, multilingual educational kiosk connecting visitor to the historic significances of the campground, Scenic Area and Forest Service's Operation Outdoors; Install a multi - panel, multilingual educational kiosk that connects visitor to the recreational opportunities awaiting them within the Wheeler Peak area; and, design and install 3 interpretive multilingual signs educating and connecting visitors to the natural resource surrounding them within the campground.

4) COMMUNITY: Will this project improve the quality of life for the human community & protects the integrity of biological communities?

Will the project provide new or enhances existing recreation opportunities for under-served or under-represented communities that cannot be addressed or met with current funding.

The park has seen an increase in visitor ethnic diversity from the Las Vegas, Salt Lake and Reno areas in the last few years. This proposal will help to break down language barriers by providing multilingual signing. This will better help visitors from underserved communities connect with nature; find recreational opportunities of interest; and give a feeling of acceptance and ownership to their National Park.

Another underserved community showing a noticeable visitor increase has been Americans with disabilities. This community is found in all towns across our nation. This proposal eliminates barriers and improves accessibility within the campground. It also provides educational signing. This is all readily adjacent to the park's premier accessible Island Forest Trail. It greatly assists those with disabilities to connect with nature.

The surrounding communities have been classified by the State of Nevada as economically disadvantaged and underserved. Any non- contracted work will be completed by local seasonal hires utilizing the park's local hiring authority. The action will bring 6 to 8 seasonal jobs to the local community each year during its 5 year construction period.

B. Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the development of the project.

There are no non-SNPLMA sources of funding for this project.

Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the implementation of the project.

There are no non-SNPLMA sources of funding for this project.

4) OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE: Has the project addressed current and future operation and maintenance (O&M) costs?

Will operations and Maintenance costs will be increased, reduced or stay the same?

With the reconstruction and stabilization of the campground, it is anticipated that annual maintenance costs will be greatly reduced. Adding Cement tables and other long life/low maintenance amenities will reduce replacement costs. Stabilizing the campsite pads will eliminate the replacement of rocks and cement patching. A new water line will stop the need to find and fix leaks and patches. These are just some of the reductions in maintenance costs that will occur for several decades.

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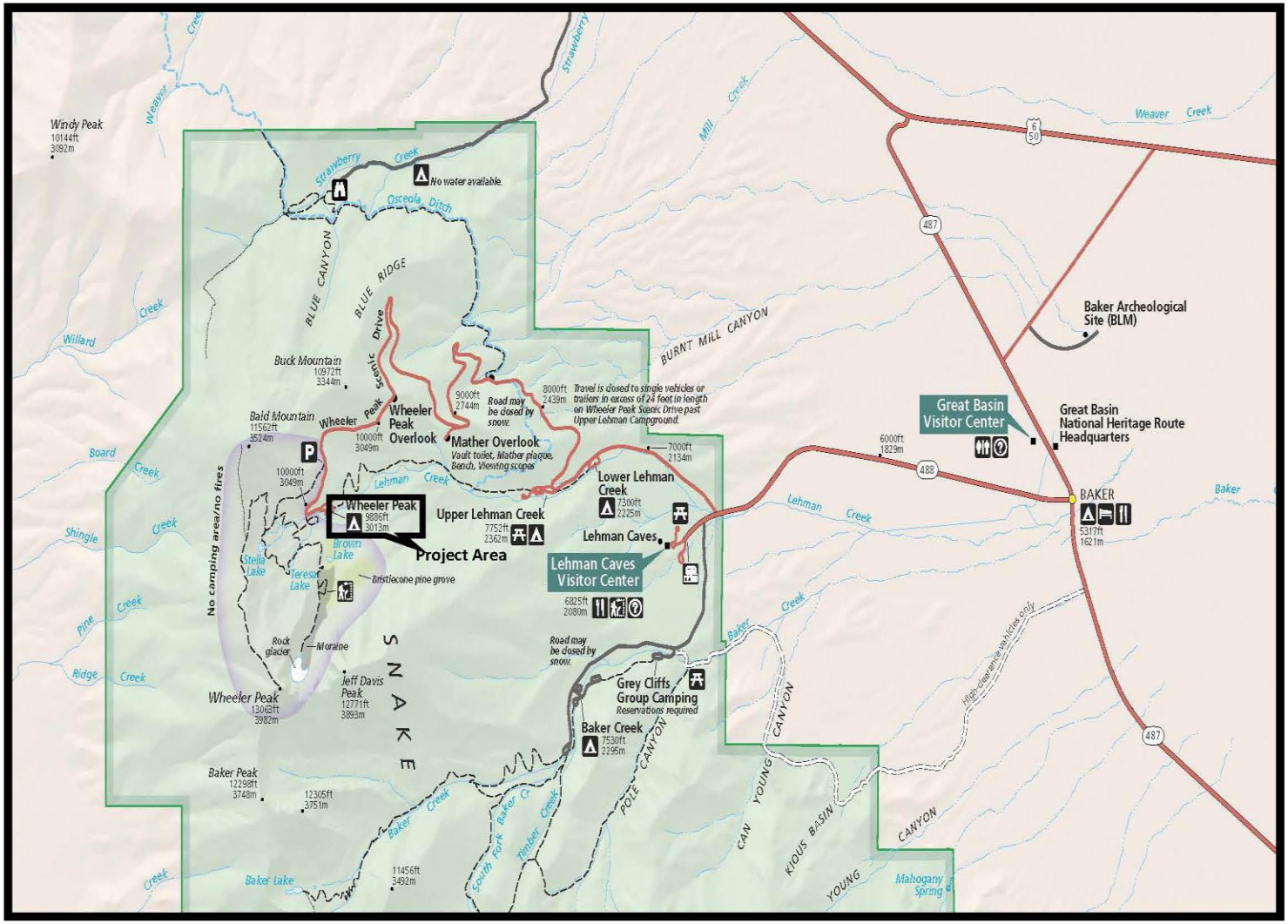
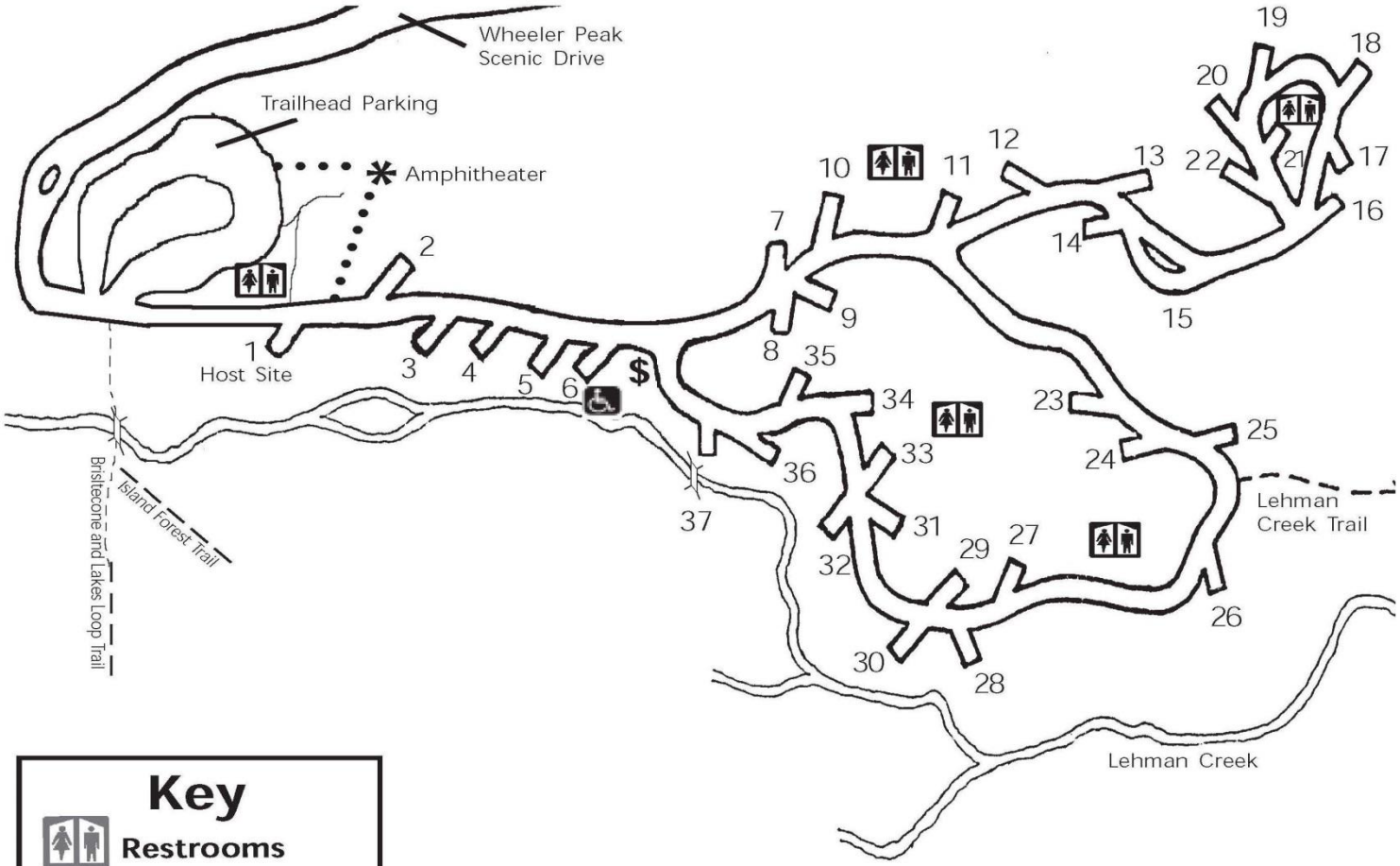


The project area is within Great Basin National Park, White Pine County, Nevada at the following Latitude and Longitude:

39° 0'40.63"N /114°18'12.00"W.

Project with adjacent communities and arrows pointing to larger communities served



Key

Restrooms

$ Fee Station

Accessible Site

Wheeler Peak Campground

Elevation: 9,886 feet (3,013 meters)

Newly Constructed Campsite Pads in 1966 Forest Service Photo.

Crumbling Campsite Pad Conditions in Photo taken 2015

Crumbling Campsite Pad Conditions in Photos taken 2015

Crumbling Campsite Pad Conditions in Photo taken 2015

Asphalt Conditions in Photos taken 2015

Non-Accessible Older Style Restrooms needing Replacement

Example Replacement Restroom

GREAT BASIN HERITAGE AREA PARTNERSHIP
Post Office Box 78; Baker, Nevada 89311
(775) 234-7171

April 25, 2016

Robert Wandel
Acting Conservation Initiatives Program Manager
Bureau of Land Management – Southern Nevada District Office
Division of SNPLMA Acquisition, Improvement and Conservation Programs
4710 N. Torrey Pines Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89130

Dear Mr. Wandel,

I would like to express my support for Great Basin National Park's Round 16 Capitol Improvement Project, "Rehabilitate and Restore the Historic Wheeler Peak Campground." This project hits on several of the goals of the Great Basin National Heritage Area including:

1. Heritage Resource Conservation & Enhancement
2. Heritage Education & Interpretation
3. Heritage Tourism & Recreation

These goals were identified through an extensive community engagement process following the designation of the Great Basin National Heritage Area in 2006. As the coordinating entity of the GBNHA, the Great Basin Heritage Area Partnership is extremely pleased that the Park has chosen to prioritize the rehabilitation and interpretation of Wheeler Peak Campground.

Wheeler Peak Campground is unique within the NPS system for its design and location and is the campground most sought out by Great Basin National Park visitors, including many locals. Its historic roots in the Forest Service's "Operation Outdoors" initiative add another layer of significance and an opportunity for interpretation that links natural and cultural resources with our national pastime of camping and enjoying our national parks and forests. The Great Basin Heritage Area Partnership is excited by the opportunity to partner with the park on this project in the development of the interpretive signs. Following the rehabilitation, we are committed to promoting the Historic Wheeler Peak Campground in our social media, publications, and through our regional tourism partners.

Sincerely,

Brandi E Roberts

Brandi Roberts, Executive Director
Great Basin Heritage Area Partnership