

## What Are Cultural Resources?

Cultural resources are the physical remains left behind by people, which archeologists study to try to interpret how people lived in the past. These remains help us to understand different cultures, appreciate architecture and engineering, and learn about past accomplishments. They can offer educational opportunities and provide links to our nation's past. They are a non-renewable resource. They should be left in place and treated with respect.

## They Are Irreplaceable Once Removed or Damaged.



What do these things have in common?  
They are all part of our nation's cultural heritage.

Help us protect the irreplaceable past. Report any activities that may damage these important pieces of history. The more eyes watching, the better chance we all have of preserving the past. If you notice any damage or potential damage, please contact:  
USACE Albeni Falls Dam  
(208)437-3133



## Cultural Resources Belong To Everyone



They Should Be Left Alone For All to Enjoy

## *Our Region Has a Long and Very Rich History...*

From time immemorial Native American tribes have lived along the lakes and rivers of our region, hunting, fishing and living in large and small groups. In more recent times, non-Natives also moved into the area, building towns and railroads, mining in the mountains and farming in the valleys. Today, archaeologists find the remains of these times past, and from them learn where people lived, what they ate, what tools they used, and places they considered sacred.

*Unfortunately, there is a problem in our region threatening to limit our understanding of the past.*

### **Did You Know?**

Every day, people are removing and damaging our cultural resources located on public lands.

Often times, people believe they are doing no harm when they collect artifacts from beaches to share with their children and friends or apply chalk or other substances to enhance petroglyph designs. Activities such as these can damage and even destroy cultural resources. Many Native American tribes find these acts offensive to their beliefs and cultural heritage, and many of these actions are illegal.

### Examples of Illegal Acts

- ☞ Removing or defacing a pictograph or petroglyph
- ☞ Digging or probing the ground for historic or prehistoric artifacts
- ☞ Using tools to remove artifacts from the ground (including sticks)
- ☞ Digging for or removing old bottles
- ☞ Vandalizing old buildings
- ☞ Possessing human remains

Collecting cultural resources such as stone points and old bottles from public lands is prohibited by the 1906 Antiquities Act and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1974, and can result in fines and incarceration.

### How You Can Help

- ☞ Notify authorities if you see any of the illegal acts listed in this brochure.
- ☞ Share the information you have learned in this brochure with family and friends.
- ☞ Respect these special sites and teach your children the same.
- ☞ Do not touch or pick up any cultural resources, and report it when others do.



*The past is important to all of us and belongs to all of us. For all the people that come after us, the protection of cultural resources is everyone's responsibility.*

