



Emily K. Ragsdale

CRM Division Manager & Principal Archaeologist



Emily Ragsdale leads HRA's Cultural Resources Management (CRM) division and is responsible for strategic and financial operations of the division, staff development and supervision, and project implementation. She acts as project manager, principal investigator, and/or quality control and technical editor on a wide variety of projects, from small municipal developments to complex, multiyear federal undertakings. Emily has extensive experience working on energy sector projects subject to state and federal laws and regulations, including transmission, hydroelectric, natural gas, and wind. Since joining HRA in 2006, Emily has worked in nearly every level of HRA's corporate hierarchy, starting as an archaeological field technician and working her way up as a Research, Project, Senior, and now Principal Archaeologist; this experience gives her a unique perspective into understanding and successfully executing HRA's broad range of technical expertise. Her cultural resources credentials include completing precontact and historic-period archaeological research, survey, evaluation, and data recovery; archaeological monitoring, monitoring plans, and inadvertent discovery plans; government agency and tribal communications and coordination; National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility evaluations and project effects recommendations; compliance documents such as Historic Properties Management Plans (HPMP), memorandums of agreements, and treatment plans; GIS data management; and more. Over the last two decades, Emily has authored, prepared, and/or edited several hundred cultural resources reports and documents. In the last few years, she has also been pursuing intensive training in human osteology in order to support HRA in identification and protection of potential inadvertent discoveries during field projects.

Education

MA, Anthropology, 2005,
Northern Arizona
University

BA, Anthropology, 2001,
University of Nevada,
Reno

Qualifications

Meets the Secretary of the
Interior's Professional
Qualification Standards in
Archaeology

Register of Professional
Archaeologists No. 15710

Oregon Department of
Transportation Qualified
Cultural Resources
Consultant

Professional Affiliations

Society for American
Archaeology, since 2003

Association of Oregon
Archaeologists, since 2015

Association of
Washington
Archaeologists, since 2015

Specialized Training

Comparative Osteology,
Forensic Anthropology
Center, University of
Tennessee, Knoxville,
2023

Forensic Anthropology
and Archaeological
Excavation, Odyssey
Fieldschool, Cyprus, 2022

Human Osteology,
Oregon State University,
Corvallis, 2020

First Aid/CPR expires
2024

Select Project Examples

Goodnoe Hills Wind Project

Senior Archaeologist and Project Manager for cultural resources support to PacifiCorp for upgrades to their Goodnoe Hills Wind Facility in Klickitat County, Washington. As part of the project, HRA completed background research and determined that eight archaeological sites were situated within the project boundary, and as such, the project would require permits from the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) in order to complete construction. HRA drafted research designs, developed a monitoring and unanticipated discovery plan, secured permits, assisted PacifiCorp with DAHP and tribal consultation, and completed construction monitoring and provided a monitoring report.

Goldendale Pumped Storage Project

Principal Archaeologist and Project Manager for cultural resources support for the Goldendale Pumped Storage Project in Klickitat County, Washington. HRA completed archaeological testing and evaluation of six sites in support of Rye Development's application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to construct a pumped storage facility near the John Day Dam on the Columbia River. HRA drafted a testing plan in consultation with DAHP and Tribes, conducted background research, complete field and laboratory investigations, curated artifacts, and drafted a technical report evaluating the sites for the NRHP and making project management recommendations. HRA also employed Yakama Nation Ethnographer Jon Shellenberger to complete a traditional cultural property evaluation for the project and worked closely with him to incorporate the findings into HRA's archaeological report.

North Bonneville–
Midway No. 1
Project, Phase II
and IV

Principal Archaeologist and Project Manager overseeing cultural resources survey for Bonneville Power Administration’s North Bonneville–Midway No. 1 Insulator Replacement and Access Road Repair Project in Klickitat, Benton, and Yakama Counties, Washington. The project involved replacement of insulators, correction of impairments, and improvements to access roads along 76 miles of transmission line. HRA’s work included completing background research and literature review, securing permits from federal land managers, conducting intensive pedestrian survey, identifying high probability areas (HPAs), excavating shovel probes in HPAs, and producing a report, including a Historic Resources Baseline Report. HRA also generated GIS shapefiles and completed extensive GIS based mapping for the project.

Ringold Russian
Knapweed Project

Senior Archaeologist and Project Manager for Ringold Russian Knapweed Spray, Burn and Seed Project, Franklin County, Washington. Investigations included a cultural resources study for a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service project to restore 291 acres of sagebrush steppe habitat within the Hanford Reach National Monument. HRA conducted archival research, completed a pedestrian survey, recorded archaeological resources, and prepared a report with the findings.

Baseline Wind
Energy Project

Project Archaeologist for Baseline Wind Energy Project in north-central Oregon (Gilliam County). HRA completed cultural resources investigations in support of project environmental review by the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council for a 200–500 MW wind energy project. Work included archival and historic map research and archaeological survey of approximately 20,000 acres of project facilities in support of the project’s Application for a Site Certificate. HRA recorded 42 archaeological resources and 3 historic-period architectural resources, evaluated 16 resources for listing in the NRHP, assessed the project’s potential to impact the resources, and developed resources avoidance plans.

Wallowa Falls
Tailrace
Hydroelectric
Project Tailrace

Principal Archaeologist and Project Manager overseeing monitoring of tailrace realignment and fish passage barrier construction at the Pacific Park Campground along the West Fork Wallowa River in Wallowa County, Oregon. On behalf of PacifiCorp, HRA conducted archaeological monitoring of ground-disturbing activities in accordance with a license issued to PacifiCorp for the Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project by FERC. The effort was coordinated with the Nez Perce Tribe, who also provided a monitor under subcontract to HRA.

Lewis River
Hydroelectric
Projects HPMP
Implementation
2011-2023

Principal Archaeologist and former Project Manager for ongoing support to the PacifiCorp Cultural Resources Coordinator in implementing the HPMP for the Swift No. 1 (FERC No. 2111), Yale (FERC No. 2071) and Merwin (FERC No. 935) Hydroelectric Projects in Clark, Cowlitz, and Skamania Counties, Washington. The HPMP is the result of conditions specified in the renewal of licenses by FERC for the three projects. Historic properties are defined as archaeological, historical, and cultural resources listed in or eligible for listing in the NRHP. HRA project staff worked with PacifiCorp’s Cultural Resources Coordinator on a variety of implementation tasks, including new project review, archaeological and historical architecture surveys, reservoir erosion studies, site patrolling and monitoring plans, tribal and agency consultation, artifact curation, management of specific sites of concern to the Cowlitz and Yakama Nation Tribes and cultural awareness training for PacifiCorp staff and contractors.

Catherine Creek
State Park Fish
Habitat
Restoration Project

Senior Archaeologist and Project Manager for cultural resources investigations in support of creek restoration work within the state park in Union County, Oregon, in order to enhance water and habitat quality for fish. Under subcontract to Inter-Fluve, HRA completed subsurface archaeological survey and recorded historic architectural resources within the area of potential effects (APE). HRA completed background research, drafted research designs, obtained permits from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Oregon Recreation and Parks Department, completed fieldwork, and reported on the findings.

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| <u>BPA John Day– Big Eddy Re- Conductoring</u> | Senior Archaeologist for the John Day–Big Eddy Re-Conductoring Project in Wasco and Sherman Counties, Oregon. HRA completed cultural resources studies for Bonneville Power Administration’s (BPA’s) re-conductoring project. Investigations included background research, field survey, and evaluation of historic aboveground structures. HRA also conducted archaeological testing and evaluation of one site in the APE and made recommendations regarding project effects. |
| <u>BPA Olympia– Grand Coulee Phase II & III</u> | Senior Archaeologist and Project Manager for Olympia–Grand Coulee Insulator Replacement Phase II & III, King and Kittitas Counties, Washington. HRA conducted investigations for a BPA project to replace insulators on 277 structures along a 60-mile stretch of transmission line. HRA completed a literature review, secured permits with the U.S Forest Service, surveyed 383 acres, identified 17 resources, and authored a report that included NRHP evaluations (or preliminary evaluations) and project effects assessments. |
| <u>Little Sheep Creek Project</u> | Senior Archaeologist and Project Manager for Little Sheep Creek Fish Passage Restoration Project, Wallowa County, Oregon. Work entailed cultural resources inventory for a proposed project to restore fish passage at an acclimation facility. HRA conducted background research, an archaeological pedestrian survey, and excavated shovel probes within the APE, and produced a technical report. |
| <u>BPA Celilo Uprate</u> | Senior Archaeologist and Project Manager for cultural resources survey for the Pacific Direct Current Intertie (PDCI) Uprate Project, Lake, Jefferson, Crook, Deschutes, and Wasco Counties, Oregon, which consisted of upgrades to a 264-mile-long segment of the Celilo–Sylmar No. 1 transmission line in central Oregon. Work included a literature review, permitting, intensive survey, identification of HPAs and subsurface testing, resources recordation, site delineation, evaluation testing of 22 sites, laboratory analysis, reporting, site forms completion, curation, and archaeological construction monitoring. The goal of the investigations was to identify resources eligible for listing in the NRHP and to assess potential project effects. Throughout the life of the project, HRA coordinated work and the subsequent results with BPA, multiple federal and non-federal land managers, various private landowners, SHPO, and tribal representatives. |
| <u>BPA John Day No. 1–4 Project</u> | Project Archaeologist and Project Manager for survey for the John Day Power House–John Day No. 1–4 Conductor Replacement Project. HRA conducted a cultural resources assessment for the existing BPA John Day No. 1–4 transmission lines in Sherman County, Oregon. The project was 4 miles long and was located on the south side of the Columbia River near Rufus, Oregon. HRA completed background research, conducted a pedestrian survey of the project APE, evaluated the transmission lines for inclusion in the NRHP and drafted a technical report. Being a federal undertaking, the project was subject to Section 106. HRA completed background research, field survey, and evaluation of the transmission lines. |
| <u>Bravo Bentonite Mine Project</u> | Project Archaeologist for a cultural resources assessment for the Bravo Bentonite Mine Project, Wasco County, Oregon. The project occupies 765 acres of land west of the John Day River near Clarno. It is situated entirely on land owned by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Working in coordination with the BLM, HRA completed background research, conducted a pedestrian survey of the project APE, and drafted a technical report. |
| <u>BPA Tri-Cities Headquarters Maintenance</u> | Project Archaeologist for cultural resources field survey for the Tri-Cities Maintenance Headquarters Project, Franklin County, Washington. HRA conducted an inventory for BPA’s maintenance headquarters facility and storage yard development project. HRA completed background research, produced a general review of the archaeology and history of the project area, conducted a cultural resources survey, and documented one transmission line. |