PURSUING AN ARPA VIOLATION:

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?
A recent success story crediting the BLM Challis Idaho District Office and BLM archaeologist, Julie Rodman, with following through on an ARPA violation, with the support of the Shoshone Bannack Indian Tribe.

Presenter: Carolynne Merrell, ARCHAEOGRAPHICS
DISPLACED ROCK ART OR ROCK ART REMOVED FROM ITS ORIGINAL SITE IS APT TO TURN UP ANYWHERE.

In both cases, the original locations are unknown.

Found in Craig, AK classroom, used as door stop.

Idaho Hwy. right of way relocation.
CHALKING

DAMAGE CAUSED BY POOR RECORDING PRACTICES

Chalk becomes imbedded in surface preventing future analysis and C-14 Dating.
SPRAY PAINTED SITE NUMBER OVER FADED PICTOGRAPHS!
SCRUBBING SOFT ROCK TO REMOVE LICHEN

BEFORE

AFTER
Red Elk Rock Shelter, Snake River, outside Lewiston Idaho
Devil's Canyon
Facing Southeast into cave

Devi's Canyon
Left-Pictograph Shelter
Right-Graffiti Shelter
Taking an inventory of all graffiti via labeling, notes and photography.
Removal of Black Markings

BEFORE

AFTER
“These archeological resources are of particular significance to tribal communities. The looting of these resources is especially harmful,” said Mary D’Aversa, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Idaho Falls District Manager. “We aggressively pursue those individuals who commit these violations of law.”

“My office is dedicated to protecting archaeological resources on public and tribal lands,” U.S. Attorney Davis said. “I commend the BLM and the Custer County Sheriff’s Office for their work on this important case.”
"Chairman Nathan Small states, “We are pleased with the court case and prosecution and hope that the public understands how important these cultural sites are to my people. We are grateful to our partnership with BLM and the local law enforcement for enforcing ARPA.”

"The Shoshone and Bannock people have resided and utilized these lands through the Western United States for thousands of years. What remains today are physical artifacts such as stone tools, rock writing, pottery and other indications of Native American use. The importance of preserving and protecting valuable non-replaceable cultural sites cannot be overstated.

"Chairman Small further states, “Loss of history occurs when these archaeological sites are disturbed, damaged, removed, or defaced. We are all stewards of the land and we urge the public to learn more about our local history and understand the importance of preserving archeological sites.”
THANK YOU TO THE BLM CHALLIS DISTRICT AND ITS ARCHAEOLOGIST FOR HAVING WHAT IT TAKES!!

MESSAGE RECEIVED?