



The Importance of Tribal Involvement in Cultural Resource Management

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Important To Remember

The Idaho National Laboratory
resides on the traditional lands of the
Shoshone and Bannock people who
have been stewards of the lands
from time immemorial.

A Need For Change

- In the 1900s Western archaeological scientists were claiming sole ownership of the past
- National Museum of the American Indian Act (NMAI)
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
- Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO)
- Heritage Tribal Office (HeTO)
- It is our responsibility to build a partnership with tribal communities





Partnership





Precontact Context

This year the CRMO had been focusing on gaining better insights toward how the ancestral Bannock and Shoshone people may have responded to the dynamic climate and landscape of the Eastern Snake River Plain.



Filling in the gap with Cultural Transmission

- People retain cultural practices passed along from generation to generation through cultural transmission
- Native Peoples perpetuate their own cultural transmission, as is the case for all of us in our own distinct cultural worlds.
- How western scientists view a site may be different then how Native People view a site, and it is important that we blend these two views.

Tribal Knowledge

Tribal members contribute detailed knowledge to Cultural Resource Management and help answer important questions about the Precontact Context sites we are studying.

These questions include:

- WHO were using the site?
- WHAT activities were taking place at the site?
- WHEN did these activities take place?
- WHERE within a site did each activity happen?
- WHY were these activities happening and why are they important?
- HOW were artifacts made and used?
- HOW are different sites connected?





The Quest Site

- CRMO and Shoshone-Bannock collaboration
- First record in 1992 by Air Force contractor archaeologists.
- In 2021 the CRMO successfully relocated the site.

Why is this important?

- Get a better record and understanding of the site
- Not initially recorded with tribes
- The Shoshone and Bannock people provide a deeper understanding of the importance of the site
- Few cultural resource management offices collaborate with tribes everyday and on every site



East Butte

Middle Butte

Big Southern Butte

Waha ye ye gwiide

Bia gadeede

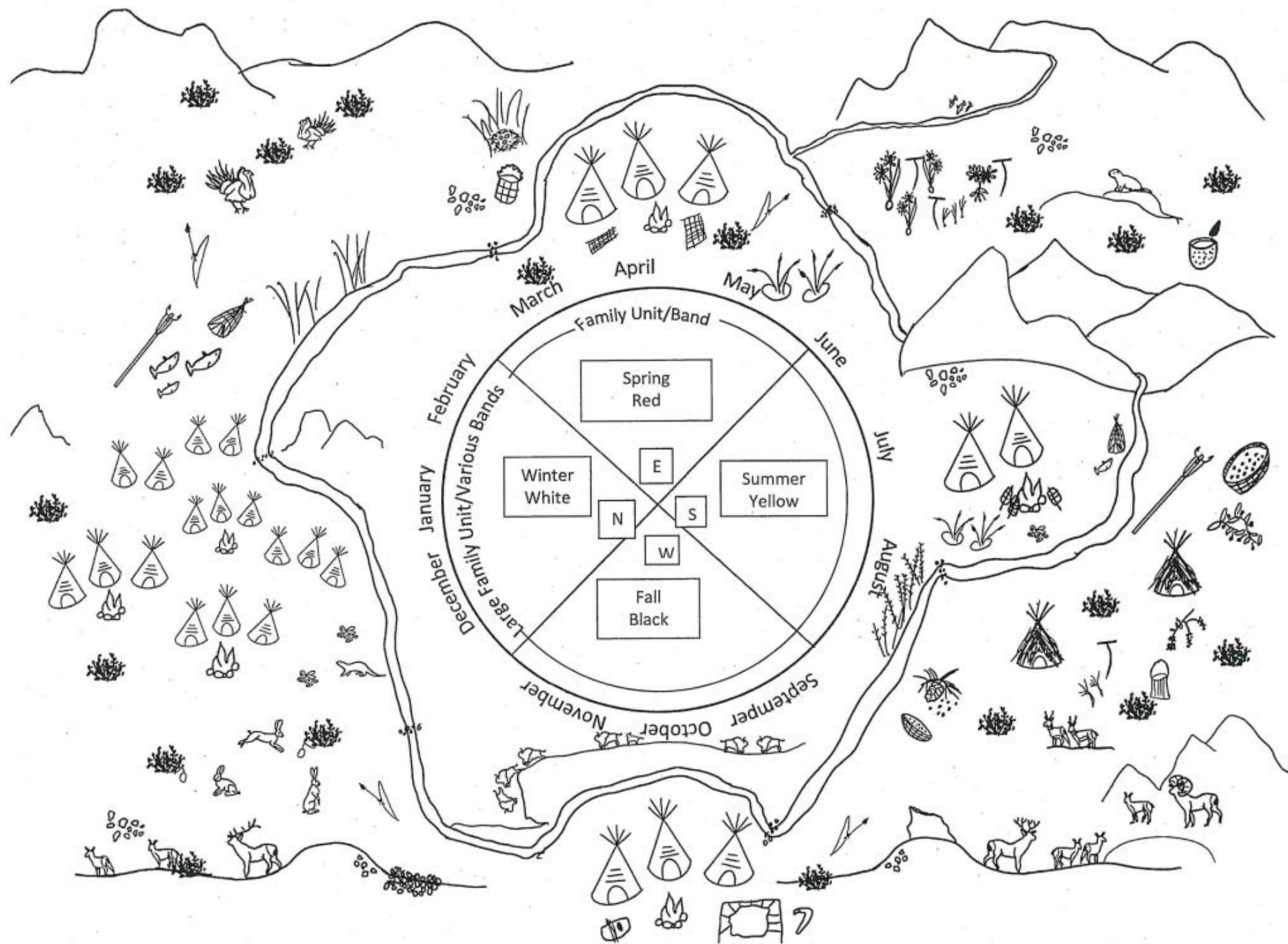


Lost River Range

Lemhi Range

Beaverhead Mountains





Quest Site



Buttes



Mountain Ranges



Features

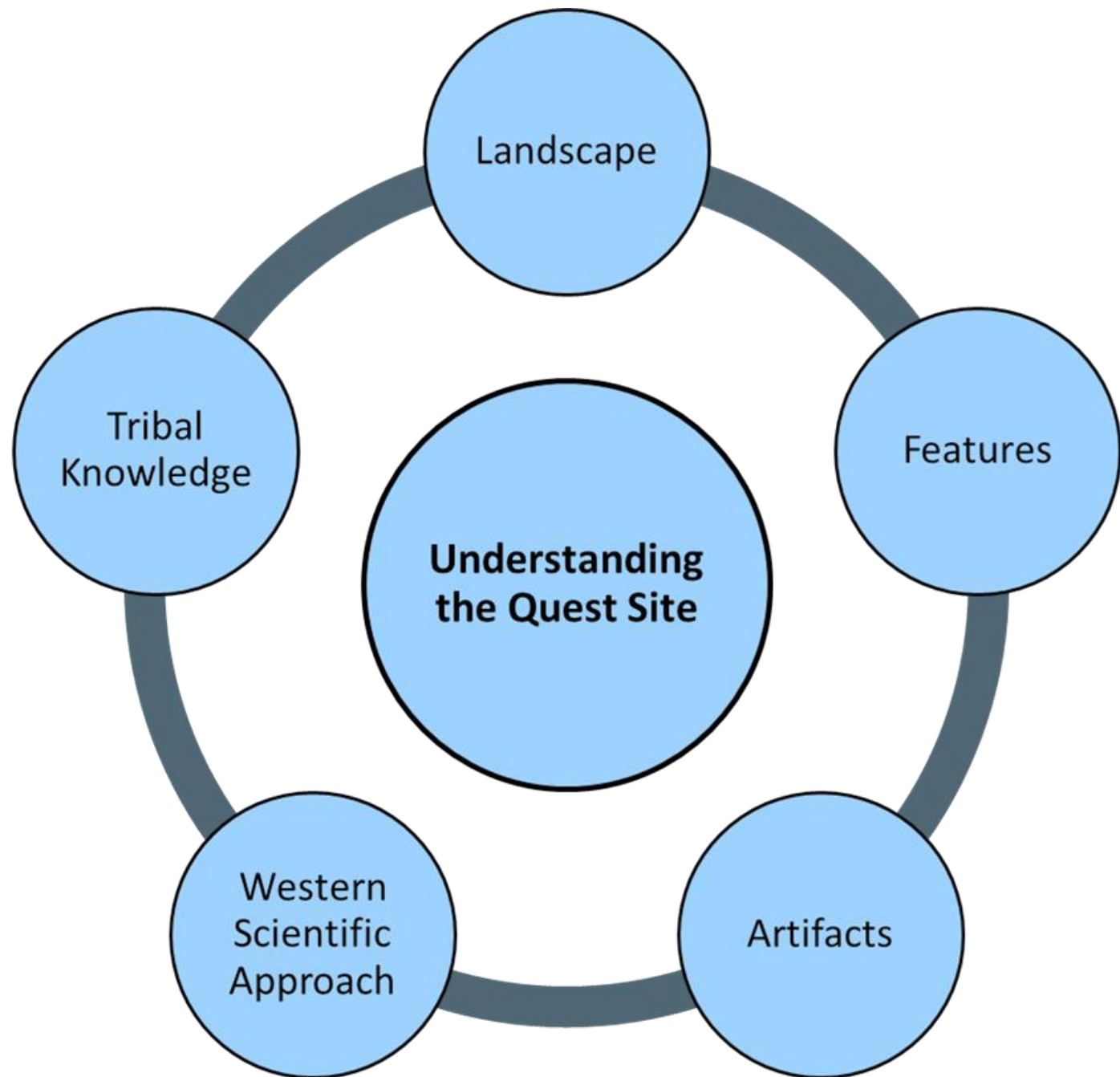
- Hunting blind
- Rock wall
- Cairn
- Hearth
- Rock Circle
- Fire Cracked Rock Cluster



Artifacts

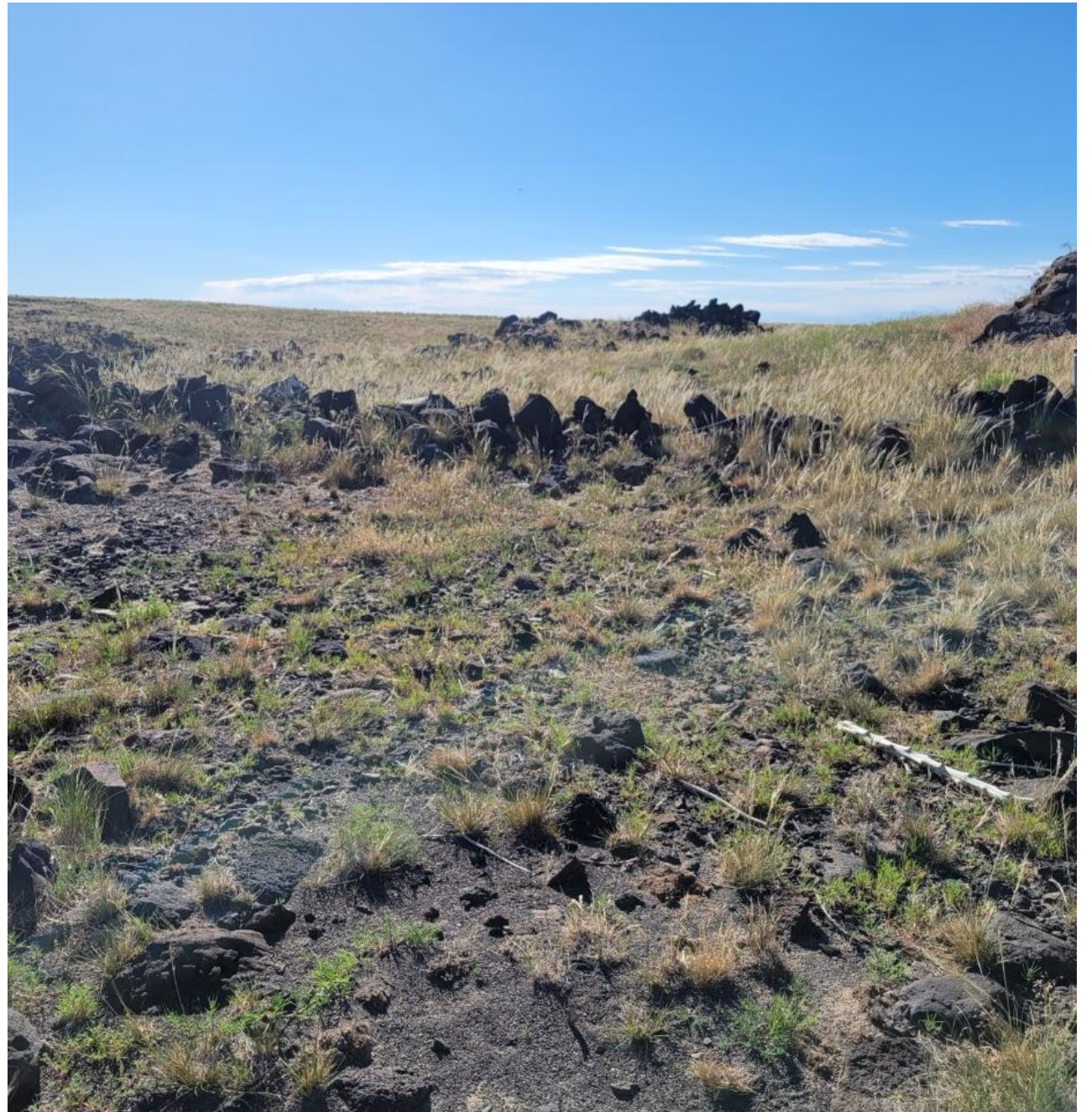
- Projectile point
- Ceramic
- Scraper
- Knife
- Hammerstone
- Grinding stone
- Animal bone





What does all this information tell us?

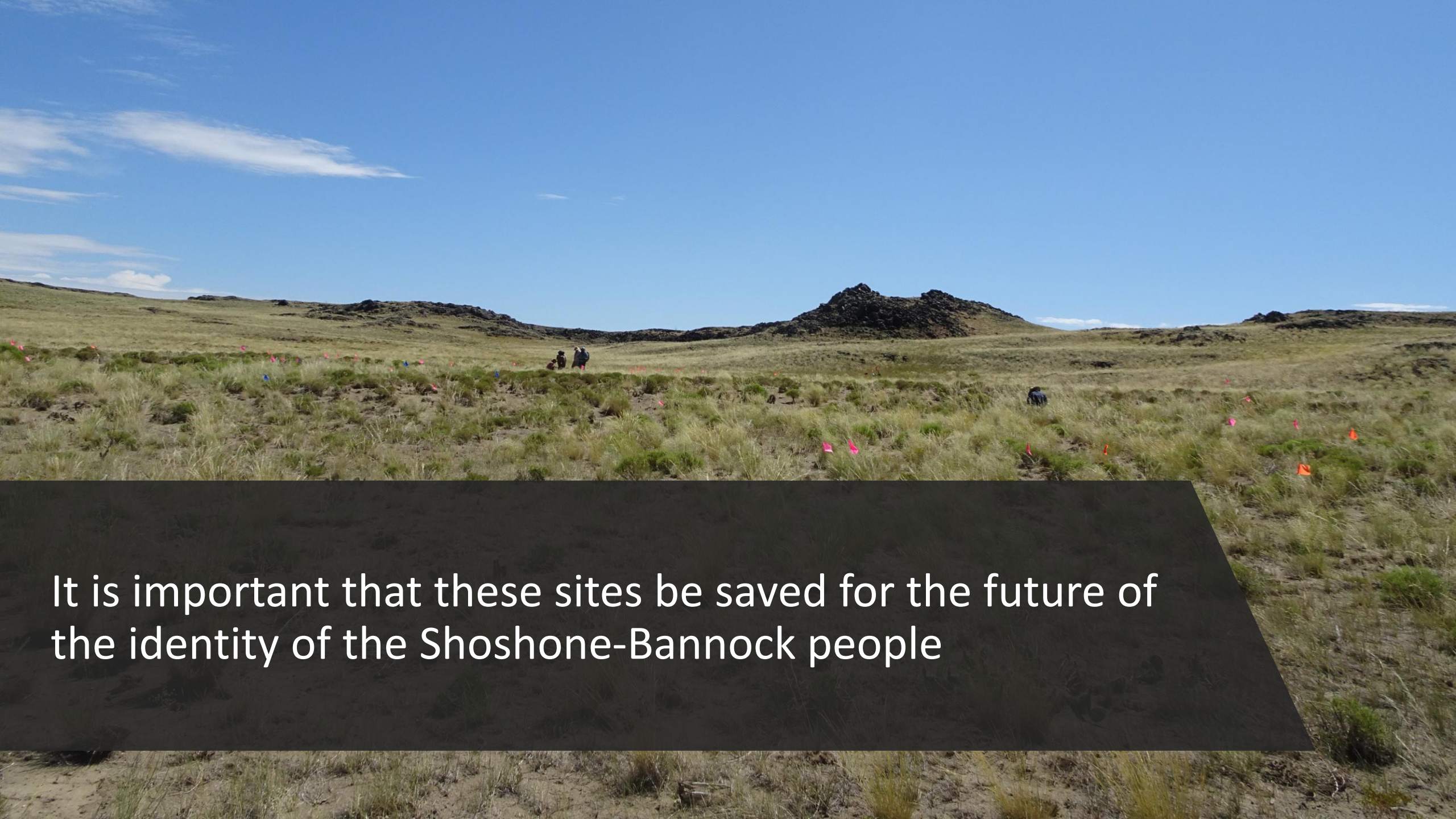
- Tribal members indicated the Quest Site was a seasonal camp where everyone would use the site
- This included men, women, and children
- The Quest Site would have been a late summer – early fall camp



What was happening at the site?

- Activities taken place at the site would include tool manufacturing, hunting, gathering, processing, feasting, and many social activities
- The Shoshone and Bannock identified that Great Hunters would have been at the top of the Quest Site utilizing the lookouts and hunting builds and in the “bowls” or down below the women and children would have been engaging in daily activities





It is important that these sites be saved for the future of the identity of the Shoshone-Bannock people



Conclusion
