
Statement of Qualifications

Whitebark, Inc. (Whitebark) is a private consulting company specializing in environmental and technical services. Together, our professional team brings a combined experience of over fifty years in natural and cultural resource science. We apply technical expertise with a practical understanding of environmental issues to provide our clients with safe, creative, and cost-effective solutions to their environmental service needs. Whitebark is an 8(a), SDB, HUBZone-certified, woman-owned business with employees in Idaho and Wyoming.

Services: Our resource specialists draw on extensive and diverse experience extending throughout the western United States and Alaska. Whitebark's interdisciplinary team provides the following services:

- Project Management,
- Rangeland health assessment and monitoring,
- Wildlife and fisheries survey,
- Wetland delineation,
- Ecological research,
- NEPA services and public involvement,
- Noxious weed inventory and herbicide application,
- Cultural resource inventory,
- Offsite mitigation and monitoring,
- Fire Management Planning,
- Document preparation, writer/editor services, data entry,
- Global positioning system (GPS) services, and
- Geographic information systems (GIS) services.

The skilled professionals at Whitebark have conducted field projects across the United States, ranging from the tundra ecosystems of Alaska to the sagebrush steppe, forests, and riparian areas of Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Nevada, and Florida. We bring careful experience to every project we work on and specialize in project design, assessment and monitoring techniques, effective data collection, information management and analysis, and report presentation. Our management and writing team is results-oriented and produces comprehensive and concise reports.

Clients: Our clients include federal, state, and private organizations such as the Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, US Forest Service, Idaho Fish and Game, and private corporations in the consulting service and oil/gas sectors.

Whitebark, Inc.

Address: 117 N. Daisy/P.O. Box 1072
Salmon, Idaho 83467

Contact: Kyra Povirk, President
kpovirk@whitebarkinc.com

Phone/Fax: (208) 756-1456

Mobile: (208) 940-1027

Web: <http://www.whitebarkinc.com>

EIN: 11-3686497

DUNS Number: 137050063

SBA 8(a) Contact: Irene Gonzalez

Irene.gonzalez@sba.gov



Providing environmental
and technical services.



Field Experience

National Resource Inventory (NRI)

Client: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Idaho, Montana, and Oregon State Offices

Location: Southwestern Idaho, Central and Western Montana, and Northeast Oregon

Contact: Janis Stanton, Contracting Officer, NRCS Idaho State Office, (208) 378-5710

Marsha Harris, Contracting Officer, NRCS Montana State Office, (406) 587-6859

Christopher Martin, Contracting Officer, NRCS Oregon State Office, (503) 414-3213

Whitebark staff conducted NRI Rangeland Field studies across Southwestern Idaho, Central and Western Montana, and Northeast Oregon, evaluating land use status, condition, and trends of rangeland, soil, water, and related resources. Rangeland data was collected at a number of Primary Sampling Units by applying NRCS sampling protocol that assessed the following parameters:

- Landcover/use
- Landscape and soils
- Ecological site information
- Rangeland health
- Invasive/noxious plant presence
- Disturbance indicators
- Conservation practices and resource concerns
- Plant composition and patterns
- Plant production, cover, density, and height

Information collected contributed to a nationwide statistical survey of land use and natural resource conditions and trends on U.S., non-Federal lands. The data is used to evaluate natural resource trends over time.

Rangeland Health Assessment; Juel Reservoir Offsite Mitigation Project

Client: EnCana Oil & Gas and Wyoming Wildlife Consultants, LLC

Location: Juel Reservoir, Pinedale, Wyoming area

Contact: Tim Lingle, Spatial Ecologist, Wyoming Wildlife Consultants, LLC, (307) 367-2765

Whitebark conducted a rangeland health assessment to provide an estimate of the value, or functional status, of rangelands in the Juel Reservoir area near Pinedale, Wyoming. Interpreting and Measuring Indicators of Rangeland Health methodology applied nationwide by the NRCS were used to:

- Provide a preliminary evaluation of the three attributes of rangeland health (degree of soil/site stability, hydrologic function, and integrity of the biotic community).
- Identify areas (early warning) that are potentially at risk of crossing a threshold.
- Assist in the process of selecting monitoring sites

Additional data collected at each point included Line Point Intercept data to reflect vegetative cover and bare ground, soil stability, line intercept/belt transect (shrub cover specific), and Daubenmire frame (herbaceous cover specific).



Fuels Survey and Sage-Grouse Habitat Assessment

Client: BLM, Salmon Field Office

Location: Leadore, Idaho

Contact: Vince Guyer, Wildlife Biologist/Natural Resource Specialist, (208) 756-5400

Combined with the Fuels Survey performed for the BLM, Whitebark staff conducted a sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) habitat assessment at selected sites throughout the fuels inventory project area. In addition to site information collected for the fuels component, sage-grouse preferred food forb and grass species presence was recorded. Sage-grouse sightings were marked by GPS coordinate and habitat information noted. Data points were added to the Statewide Sage-Grouse Lek Database, which compiles sage-grouse activity data across the state of Idaho with the intent to identify population trends.

Ryegrass Sage-Grouse Summer Habitat Delineation

Client: Wyoming Wildlife Consultants, LLC

Location: Pinedale, Wyoming

Contact: Tim Lingle, Spatial Ecologist, Wyoming Wildlife Consultants, LLC, (307) 367-2765

A data dictionary was developed to assess sage-grouse summer habitat suitability in the Ryegrass area, located northwest of Daniel, WY. The survey was performed along seeps, springs, draws, and stock ponds on BLM lands. Data collected at each site include: a GPS polygon of each water feature; the primary, secondary, tertiary, and quaternary forb species and their relative abundance; wildlife and stock utilization rating; wildlife and stock presence/absence; presence, distance to, and type of cover; and extent of succulent vegetation from the water source. These baseline datasets will be used to identify potential offsite mitigation projects and to assess future gas development effects on wildlife and water availability.

Cultural Resource Inventory

Client: North Wind, Inc. (subcontractor to North Wind on BLM/USFS cultural resources surveys)

Location: Salmon, Idaho; Eastern Oregon; Black Hills Region of South Dakota and Wyoming

Contact: Bill Harding, Technical/Project Manager, North Wind, Inc., (208) 557-7843

Whitebark cultural crews performed a systematic survey of areas identified to contain known and potential sites of cultural significance. Previously documented sites were confirmed and relevant site information collected. New sites were surveyed for inclusion in the region's cultural database.

Publication and Research

Sage-Grouse Data Compilation Project

Client: Challis Sage-Grouse Local Working Group

Location: Challis, Idaho

Contact: Greg Painter, Project Manager, Idaho Fish and Game, (208) 756-2271

Whitebark compiled a comprehensive document addressing greater sage-grouse population conservation and restoration within Custer and Lemhi counties, north-central Idaho. Incorporating GIS applications, data was collected from a variety of sources focusing on sage-grouse population numbers, their distribution and habitat requirements, associated predator community, and human harvest. A long-term dataset was created that summarizes the grazing history within the project area. The Challis Sage-Grouse



Local Working Group used the report implementing habitat restoration programs that aim to recover the species and maintain habitat quality.

Herd Creek-3 Project Biological Assessment, FCRPS ESA Habitat Improvement Project

Client: Bureau of Reclamation

Location: Salmon, Idaho

Contact: Al Simpson, Project Manager, Bureau of Reclamation, (208) 756-1064

The Herd Creek-3 Project was a cooperative effort between National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries), Shoshone-Bannock Tribe and Bureau of Reclamation and the local irrigator. The Shoshone-Bannock Tribe requested Reclamation assistance with Project design and preparation of environmental compliance documents. The purpose of this Project was to correct and mitigate fish passage and instream flow problems created by agricultural irrigation and associated irrigation facilities. The Project involved the redesign and replacement of a headgate and push-up irrigation diversion structure. The scope and emphasis of the contracted BA was the assessment of Project design and construction impacts on federally listed species including fish, and terrestrial plants and animal species.

Based on the field-inspection, preliminary design, and other information provided by the BOR, the BA was prepared the written Proposed Action to be included in the BA. Whitebark was responsible for updating and incorporating design changes or other pertinent information into the Proposed Action description. Based on field site visits, the BA included an assessment of current aquatic and riparian habitat, and channel conditions.

L-3AO Biological Assessment, FCRPS ESA Habitat Improvement Project

Client: Bureau of Reclamation

Location: Salmon, Idaho

Contact: Al Simpson, Project Manager, Bureau of Reclamation, (208) 756-1064

Whitebark staff completed a Biological Assessment for the replacement of the L-3AO irrigation diversion on the Lower Lemhi River near Salmon, Idaho. The scope and emphasis was the assessment of project design and construction impacts on federally listed species including fish and terrestrial and animal species. This project eliminated the need for semi-annual reconstruction of the diversion as well as risk of injury to fish by ensuring passage for bull trout, and migrating salmon and steelhead. This project meets the requirements of RPA 149 for screening and passage

Stehekin Valley Road, Environmental Assessment

Client: North Cascades National Park Service Complex

Location: Lake Chelan National Recreation Area, Stehekin Valley, Washington

Contact: Sarah Welch, Contracting Officer, National Park Service, (360) 873-4590 x11.

Whitebark developed an Environmental Assessment, which the National Park Service utilized for the evaluation of management options for a flood-damaged portion of Stehekin Valley Road within the North Cascades National Park. Record flooding of the Stehekin River in 1995 and again in 2003 caused severe damage to the upper Stehekin Valley Road. The EA was prepared in accordance with the 1969 National Environmental Policy Act and implementing regulations, 40 CFR Parts 15500-15081; NPS Director's Order #12 and Handbook Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision-making; and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended, and implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.