

# White Grass Dude Ranch

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## 100 Years of White Grass History Part Three of Three

Created in 2015 by  
Roger Butterbaugh, Ph.D.

Coordinator, the White Grass Heritage Project  
2013-2022

White Grass Resident Caretaker, 2011-2018

# White Grass Dude Ranch

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And More, White Grass Agents of Change . . .



Numerous Volunteer Groups  
Who Affirmed to the Park,  
that Cultural Resources  
Matter and Need to be  
Preserved.



# White Grass Dude Ranch

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And More, White Grass Agents of Change . . .



New Park Superintendent (2002), Steve Martin; Karen Wade, NPS Regional Office (Denver); Pam Holtman, Cultural Resource Specialist and Many Other NPS Officials Represented a Change in NPS Policy, i.e., Cultural Resources do have a Place Along Side All the Natural Beauty in the Grand Teton National Park.

# White Grass Dude Ranch

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In 2003 . . .



NPS Partnered with  
the National Trust for  
Historic Preservation




To 'Repurpose' the White Grass Dude Ranch  
into a NPS Training Facility to Teach Historic  
Preservation Skills. And the Western Center  
for Historic Preservation was Created.



# White Grass Dude Ranch

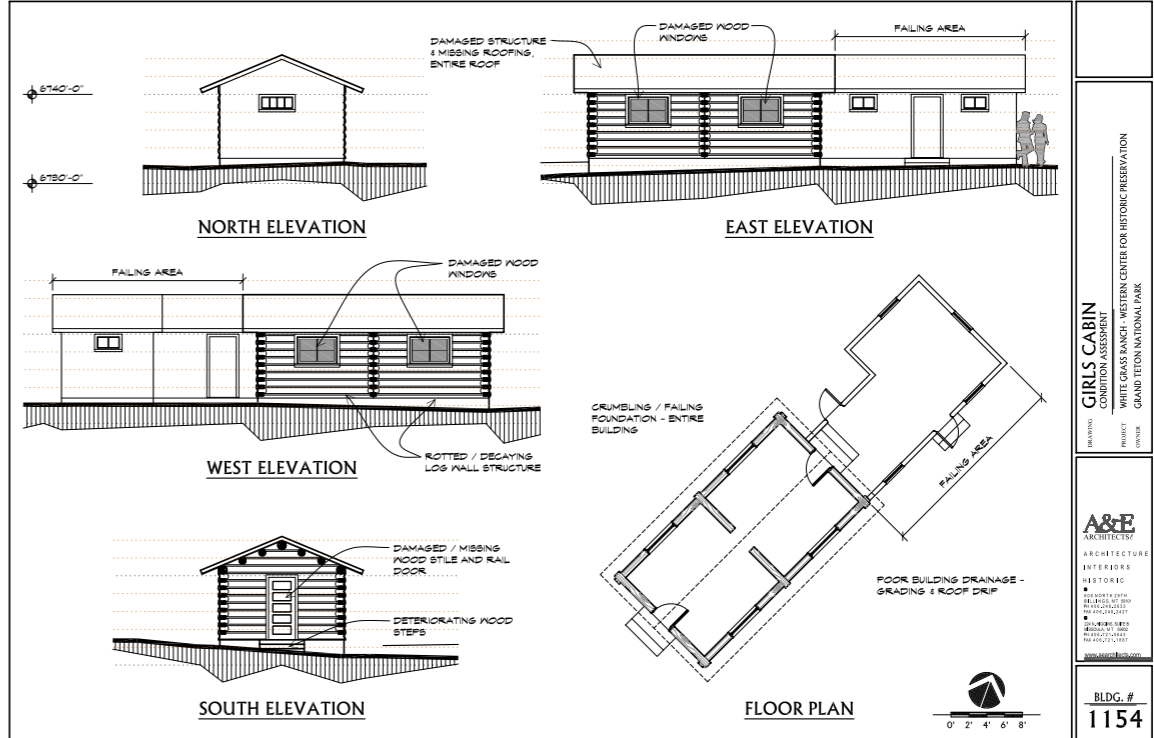
White Grass Ranch  
Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming  
August, 2008



Cultural Landscape / Historic Structures Report

Janene M. Caywood, Principal  
Cultural Resources Consulting Service  
PO. Box 8753  
Missoula, Montana 59807

James R. McDonald, AIA, Principal  
A&E Architects, PC.  
222 North Higgins Ave.  
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**NORTH ELEVATION**  
DAMAGED STRUCTURE & MISSING ROOFING, ENTIRE ROOF

**EAST ELEVATION**  
DAMAGED WOOD WINDOWS  
FALLING AREA

**WEST ELEVATION**  
DAMAGED WOOD WINDOWS  
FALLING AREA  
ROTTED / DECAYING LOG WALL STRUCTURE

**SOUTH ELEVATION**  
DAMAGED / MISSING WOOD STILE AND RAIL DOOR  
DETERIORATING WOOD STEPS

**FLOOR PLAN**  
CRUMBLING / FALLING FOUNDATION - ENTIRE BUILDING  
FALLING AREA  
POOR BUILDING DRAINAGE - GRADING & ROOF DRIP

0' 2' 4' 6' 8'

**GIRLS CABIN**  
CONDITION ASSESSMENT  
PROJECT: WHITE GRASS RANCH - WESTERN CENTER FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
OWNER: GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK

**A&E ARCHITECTS**  
ARCHITECTURE  
INTERIORS  
HISTORIC

BLDG. #  
**1154**

## Drawings - Historic Architects

## Historical Survey Report

# White Grass Dude Ranch

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In 2007. . .



The Western Center for  
Historic Preservation  
began Work  
Rehabilitating  
the 13 Remaining  
Original Log Structures  
at White Grass

Expected Completion 2016



# White Grass Dude Ranch

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Most Structures were  
Lifted, Moved of Site, New  
Foundations Built & then  
Moved Back to Their  
Original Location





# White Grass Dude Ranch

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Main Cabin Kitchen –  
Concrete Floor Removed  
Crawl Space Created for  
Utilities





# White Grass Dude Ranch

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Main Cabin Kitchen -  
Roof was Raised using  
Screw Jacks so the  
Rotted Wall Logs could  
be Removed





# White Grass Dude Ranch

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Main Cabin Kitchen - A New Foundation was Poured and Log Walls Rebuilt





# White Grass Dude Ranch

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## Main Cabin Kitchen - Finished



# White Grass Dude Ranch

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Restoring the Main Cabin to Its Defined Period of Significance (1950's), meant Removing the Deck & Sliding Door and Rebuilding the Exterior Wall





# White Grass Dude Ranch

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1155 Before



After

# White Grass Dude Ranch

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Cabin Interiors



# Other Western Center Projects

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Since 2007, the Western Center for Historic Preservation has done Preservation Projects in/for:

Grand Teton NP — Grand Canyon NP — Capitol Reef NP — LBJ National Monument — Zion NP — Joshua Tree NP — Dinosaur National Monument — Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument — Great Basin NP — Klondike National Historic Site — Sequoia NP — Kings Canyon NP — Cains River Creole — Walnut Canyon Historic Site — Lake Meade/Hoover Dam Historic District — Fossil Butte National Monument — Chicamocha National Historic Site — Minidoka Internment Camp/National Historical Site — Lassen Volcano NP — Yellowstone NP — Bent's Old Fort — Rocky Mountain NP — Bridger Teton National Forest (5 Projects) — Big Bend NP — Custer Battle Field— Guadalupe Mountain NP — Russian Orthodox Church AK — Regional NP Office in Anchorage AK — Death Valley NP — Colorado Monument — Timpinogos Cave National Monument — Golden Gate National Recreation Area — Delaware Water Gap — Pinnacles NP — Marysville Pony Express Barn NP — Cumberland Gap National Historic Park — Navajo National Monument

# Western Center For Historic Preservation

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**WCHP/Vanishing Treasures Began Workshop Teaching  
Historic Preservation Skills in 2014.**

**In 2015, White Grass Hosted 8 Workshops & Served  
97 Trainees.**



# Western Center For Historic Preservation



Shop & Training  
Area in Moose



# Western Center For Historic Preservation

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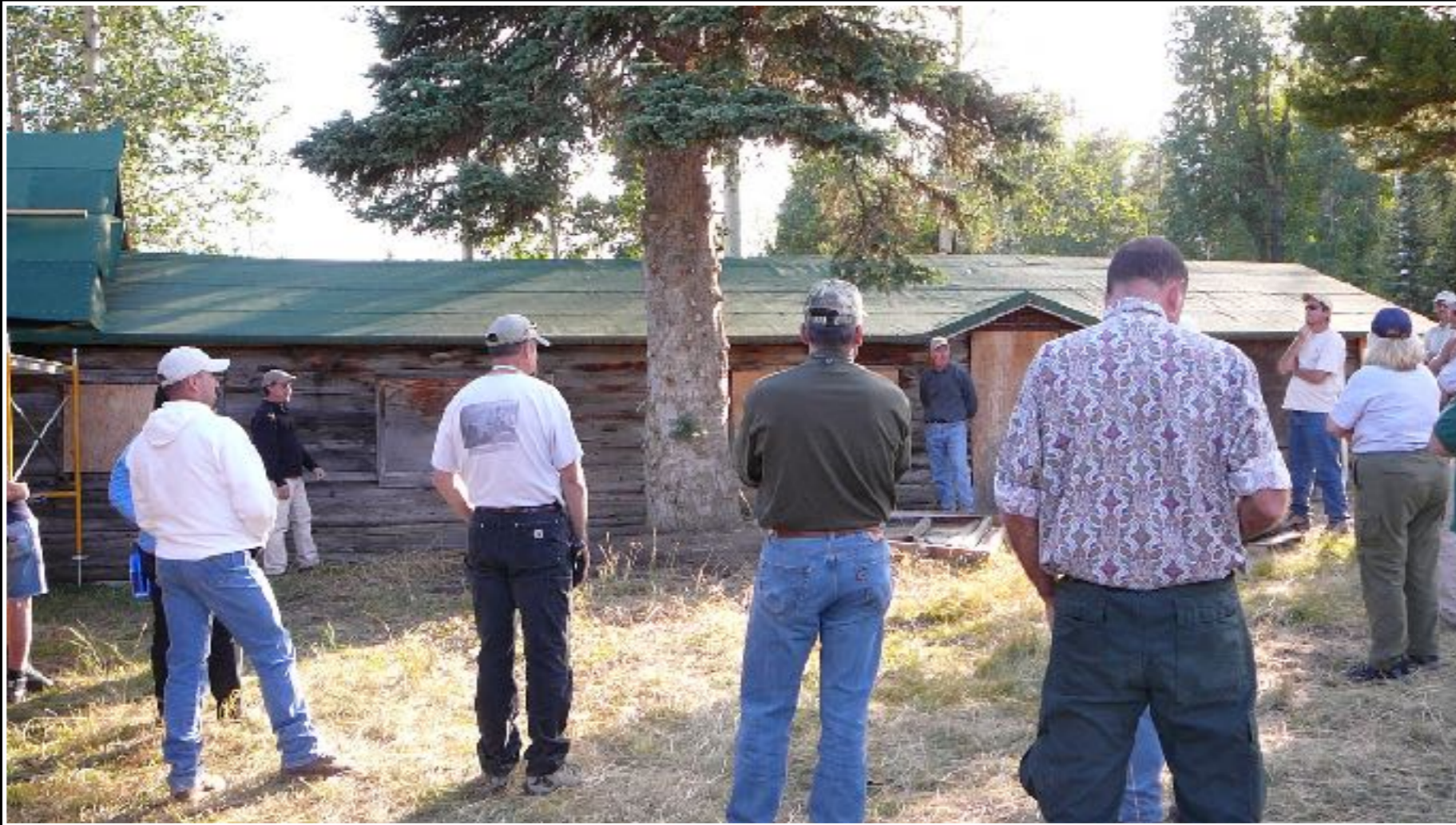
Training at  
White Grass





# White Grass Dude Ranch

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Historic Survey Question – Is this Tree of Historic Significance or a Building Hazard to be Removed?

# White Grass Dude Ranch

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- DUDE RANCH 1913-1985
- NPS & THE WESTERN CENTER FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
  - 1985 - 2003
  - 2003 - PRESENT
- WHITE GRASS HERITAGE PROJECT
  - Established 2013



# White Grass Dude Ranch

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Heritage Project Beginnings . . .



“A Building is Made of Wood, etc but is Remains Empty without the Stories of the People who Lived and Used the Building.”

Craig Struble, First Director of Western Center for Historic Preservation.

# White Grass Dude Ranch

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Heritage Project Beginnings . . .



Judith Schmitt & Rachel Trahern  
Long Term White Grassers  
1950's & 1960's

"We Should Write Down Our  
White Grass Stories"

Circa, 2000



# White Grass Dude Ranch

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Heritage Project Beginnings . . .



“I Hope We’re Going to Record Some of Their Stories (at the White Grass Reunion, 2011)”

Roger Butterbaugh, Caretaker from 2011  
Coordinator, White Grass Heritage Project

# White Grass Dude Ranch

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## Those Who Signed On & Agreed to a Heritage Project Plan

- Craig Struble, NPS  
Retired, Director of WCHP
- Al Williams, NPS, WCHP
- Katherine Wonson, NPS,  
Cultural Resources &  
Director of WCHP
- Lauren Meyer, NPS,  
Vanishing Treasure
- Tom Lincoln, Intermountain  
Region, Cultural Resources,
- Sam Tamburro, NPS,  
Vanishing Treasures
- Bridgette Guild, NPS,  
Curator/Archivist
- Greg Dodson, NPS, WCHP
- Sharon Kahin, Director of  
Jackson Hole Historical  
Society & Museum
- Rachel Trahern & Judith  
Schmitt, White Grass  
Reunion Leadership
- Matt Heiss, Volunteer Oral  
Historian & Bill Slaughter,  
Volunteer, Photo Archivist



# White Grass Dude Ranch

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Planning for the 2014 Reunion began in 2012; with  
Intense Activity the 12 Months Prior to the Reunion

Former White Grass Dudes & Wranglers

Leadership of White Grass Reunion

Western Center for Historic Preservation

Grand Teton National Park

NPS Regional Office

Jackson Hole Historical Society

& Museum

Team of Volunteers with

Oral History Experience

Redd Center for Western Studies

# White Grass Dude Ranch

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White Grass Oral History Team 2014  
Bill, Harriet, Roger, Emily, Brittany,  
Matt & Becky (Not Pictured) Desiree,  
Samantha & Others . . .



# White Grass Dude Ranch

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We Scanned Photos,  
Scheduled Interviews,  
Oriented Narrators,  
& Processed Consents



And Recorded  
And Recorded  
And Recorded

# White Grass Dude Ranch

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To Date, the White Grass Heritage Project has collected:

- Over 95+ Hours of Oral History from 45+ Individuals
- Edited/Produced 9 Videos
- Collected over 3,400 Historical Photos
- Archived Original White Grass Documents & Artifacts

Data Above Updated, 2022



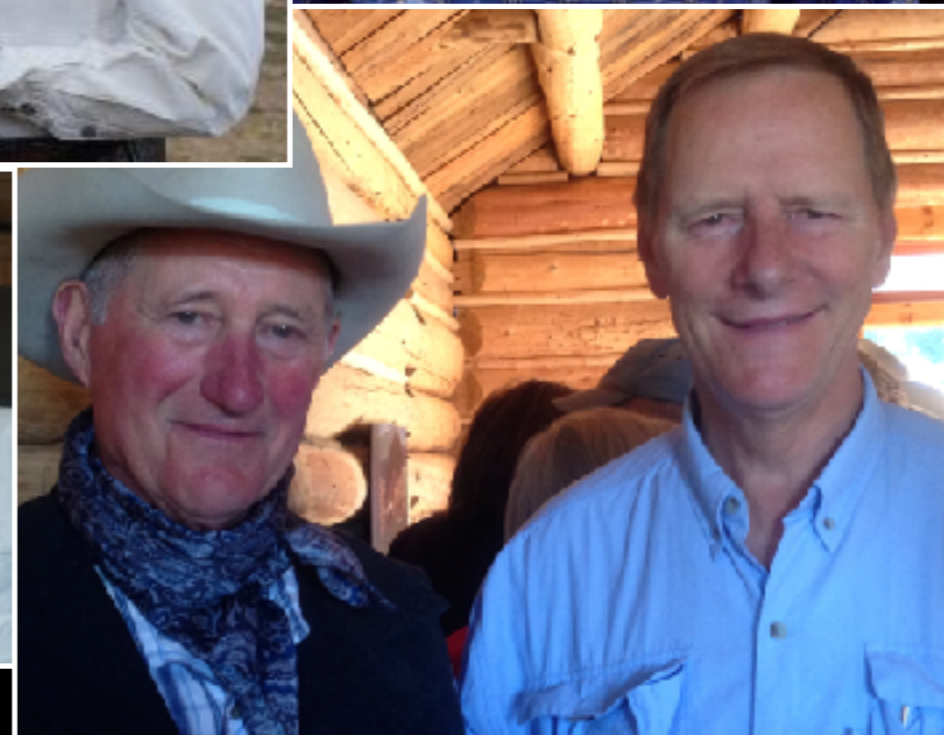
# White Grass Dude Ranch

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MANY THANKS to the 2014 White Grass Reunion Attendees for all their support.





Alumni - Great Storytellers!



# White Grass Dude Ranch

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100 Years of White Grass History

End of Part Three of Three

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