

Erika Blecha MA, RPA# 55948400

Curriculum Vitae 10/10/23

Office:
Sul Ross State University - Box C-71
Alpine, TX 79832
(o) 432-837-8179

EDUCATION

The University of Kansas (January 2023–present)

Ph.D. Anthropology Student
Advisor: Dr. Rolfe Mandel

The University of Montana, Missoula (August 2013–December 2015)

Master of Arts in Anthropology
Advisor: Dr. Kelly Dixon

Thesis: *Into the Wild: A Case Study of the Intersection of Archaeology and Federal Wilderness Policy*

The University of California, Berkeley (August 2005–May 2009)

Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology
NCAA Division I Scholarship Athlete, 2005–2007: Women's Crew

The University of Texas, Austin (Summer 2007)

Archaeological Field School – Programme for Belize Archaeological Project

PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Blecha, Erika S.

2023 *The Marks They Left: Indigenous Biographic Rock Art and Early Ranching Boulder Glyphs Along the Rio Grande of Southwest Texas*. Occasional Papers No. 14. Center for Big Bend Studies at Sul Ross State University, Alpine Texas (publication est. 2023)

Blecha, Erika S.

2021 Transitional Paleo-Archaic Earth Oven Facility at the Genevieve Lykes Duncan Site (41BS2615), Brewster County, Texas. *Journal of Big Bend Studies* 33:67-101

Blecha, Erika S. and Robert J. Mallouf

2020 *Prehistory in the Calamity Creek Valley, Brewster County, Texas*. Papers of the Trans-Pecos Archaeological Program No. 7. Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Center for Big Bend Studies (November 2016 – Present)

Sul Ross State University
Ferguson Hall, Suite 114 Box C-71
Alpine, TX 79832
(432)837-8179

– Project Archaeologist (2018-Present)

- Lead and assist in ongoing excavations at the Genevieve Lykes Duncan site (41BS2615)
- Assist in excavations at San Esteban Rockshelter (41PS20)

- Led boulder petroglyph recording and research project, Presidio Co, TX
 - Draft reports on various fieldwork projects conducted on private ranches
 - Manager of GIS database and CBBS website
 - Co-social media coordinator
 - Write CBBS E-Newsletter
 - Work on legacy projects
 - Create maps and GIS analysis for projects
 - Survey and record cultural sites in Brewster and Presidio Counties, TX
 - Assist in field and site tours for donors and potential donors
 - Public outreach for student programs
- **Temporary Archaeologist (2016-2018)**
- Analyze and record artifact assemblages from past CBBS projects
 - Synthesize and research data from a mortuary cairn
 - Survey and record cultural sites in Brewster and Presidio Counties, Texas.
 - Drafted 1996 Elephant Mountain Wildlife Management Area field school publication

Applied Earthworks, Inc. (*October 2015- June 2016*)
811 El Capitan Way, Suite 100
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 594-1590

- **Staff Archaeologist**
- Crew Chief – Phase II and III testing for site CA-MNT-2362 for the California Flats Solar Project
 - Crew Chief – Phase II and III testing for site CA-MNT-2360 for the California Flats Solar Project
 - Assessed cultural resource sensitivity in multiple counties throughout California for Pacific Gas and Electric distribution line projects
 - GIS Specialist – developed site and project area maps for all company projects

Lolo National Forest (consultant through Express Professionals) (*June 2015 – September 2015*)
24 Fort Missoula Rd.
Missoula, MT 59804
(406) 329-3750

- **Crew Chief (GS-07)**
- Crew Chief – pedestrian archaeological survey of the 12 Tamarack Proposed Timber Sale Project in Mineral County, MT
 - Crew Chief – pedestrian archaeological survey of the Jam Cracker Timber Sale Project in Mineral County, MT
 - Crew Chief – pedestrian archaeological survey of the Swamp Eddy Timber Sale Project in Sanders County, MT

Western Cultural Inc. (*August 2013 to April 2014*)
Building 30, Suite 3 Fort Missoula Road
Missoula, MT 59804
406-829-0301

- **Archaeologist**
- Field Crew – Phase I Archaeological survey for fiber optic cable installation project for 3 Rivers Communication, Fairfield, MT.

- Drafted Class I technical reports.
- Drafted technical reports for Phase I archaeological surveys: Fort Shaw Exchange, Pendroy Exchange, Dupuyer Exchange, for 3 Rivers Communication, Fairfield, MT.
- Drafted Class I technical reports for: Ennis Exchange; Virginia City Exchange, Witherspoon Exchange, for 3 Rivers Communication, Fairfield, MT.

Applied Earthworks, Inc. (July 2009 – May 2013)
811 El Capitan Way, Suite 100
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 594-1590

–Crew Archaeologist

- Pre-project native American Consultations
- Floradale Bridge Expansion Project; for Cal Trans, Lompoc, CA. Extended Phase I Archaeological Investigation (2013)
- Possible Solar Farm; for Hearst Family, California Valley, CA. Phase I, II and III (2012)
- Las Flores Ranch, for city of Santa Maria, CA. Monitoring (2012)
- Copelands Parking Lot; for Copelands Co. San Luis Obispo, CA. Phase III (2012)
- Halter Ranch Winery, for Mitigation, Adelaide, CA. Phase III and Monitoring (2012)
- Jalama Bridge Expansion; for the City of Lompoc, CA. Phase III (2012)
- Seismic Testing; for PG&E Diablo Power Plant, Avila Beach, CA. Phase I and Monitoring (2012)
- California Midway Station, for PG&E, Carizo Plains, CA. Phase III (2012)
- Power Line Project; for PG&E. San Luis Obispo, CA. Phase I, II, III and Monitoring (2012)
- Public Safety Complex Project; for Alan Hancock College. Lompoc, CA. Extended Phase I, II and III Archaeological investigation, testing and excavation (2012)
- US Highway 101 pipeline project; for Venoco Inc. Santa Barbara, CA. Phase II Archaeological excavation (2011)
- West San Antonio Creek Project; for Vandenberg Air Force Base. Lompoc, CA. Phase II Archaeological testing (2010)
- Lompoc Wind Farm; for Acciona Wind Energy USA. Lompoc, CA. Phase II Archaeological testing (2010)
- Avila Culvert Testing Project; for the County of San Luis Obispo, CA. Phase II Archaeological testing (2010)
- Soda Lake Project; for Magma Energy, Inc.; Fallon, NV. Phase I Archaeological survey, site documentation and extended Phase I subsurface investigation (2009)
- Mesa Substation Project; for PG&E. Nipomo CA. Extended Phase I subsurface investigation (2009)
- Moss Landing Bank Replacement Project; for PG&E. Moss Landing, CA. Phase II Archeological testing and artifact cataloguing (2009)
- Harris Grade Road Improvements Project; Orcutt, CA. for the County of Santa Barbara Department of Public Works. Extended Phase I subsurface investigation (2009)

- Dana Adobe Nipomo Amigos (DANA); Nipomo, CA. Drafted the Code of Ethics and Museum Policies

Cultural Resource Management Services (2012-2013)

829 Paso Robles St

Paso Robles, CA 93446

(805) 237-3838

– Crew Archaeologist

- Tonini Ranch Reservoir Project; for the Tonini Family, San Luis Obispo, CA. Phase II Archaeological testing (2013)
- San Luis Bay Inn Project; for The Gas Company (CRMS was contracted through LSA Associates, Irvine CA), Avila Beach, CA. Phase II (2012)
- Tonini Ranch Reservoir Project; for the Tonini Family, San Luis Obispo, CA. Phase II Archaeological testing (2013)

CyArk (2007-2009)

449 15th St, Suite 304

Oakland, CA 94612

(510) 832-5440

– Intern

- Created, uploaded & prepared photos, panoramas, laser models, videos, & maps of archaeological sites for release on website
- Communicated with our international partners
- Conducted background research on over 1,000 future projects, financial supporters, and website programs

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Montana (2013- 2014)

Social Science 235

The University of Montana

Missoula, MT 59812

(406) 243-2693

- Teaching assistant for Anthropology of Museology (404) taught by Dr. Gregory Campbell (2014)
- Teaching assistant for the Archaeological Landscape field school taught by Dr. Kelly Dixon (2013)

STUDENT RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2023-2024: Graduate Research Assistant for the Odyssey Archaeological Research Fund, at University of Kansas.
- Fall 2014: Field Crew: Pedestrian Survey and data collection of historic Birney Day School village on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation, MT.
- Summer 2014: Field Crew: Excavation of the Shirley Basin Lodge site, Wyoming funded by the WCTF.
- Summer 2014: Field Crew: High altitude archaeological survey in the Washakie Wilderness under the direction of Dr. Lawrence Todd, Grey Bull River Sustainable Landscape Ecology.
- Fall 2011: Field Crew: Excavation of human and camelid sacrifices at Las Llamas site and excavation of a 4,000 year old fishermen village, Gramalote in Huanchaquito, Peru under direction of Dr. Gabriel Prieto.
- Summer 2009: Field Crew: Excavation of Curruste National Park, San Pector Sula, Honduras, under the direction of Dr. Jeanne Lopiparo of Rhodes College.
- Fall 2008 – Spring 2009: Apprentice: Identified economic/dietary/edible plants from Curruste National Park, Honduras under the direction of Dr. Christine Hastorf as part of the Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program.
- Summer 2008: Field Crew: Programme for Belize Archaeological Projects under the direction of graduate students at the University of Texas, Austin.
- Spring 2006: Apprentice: Hands-on training in the laboratory methods of pottery analysis (pot sherd inking), and the identification and quantification of faunal and floral remains under the direction of Dr. Junko Habu as part of the Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program.

GRANTS

	Funding Organization	Project	Award Amount
2009	Academic Opportunity Fund	Travel to conduct research at Curruste National Park, Honduras	1000.00

ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS

Blecha, Erika

2022 Through Hail and High Water. *La Vista de la Frontera* 32:7.

Blecha, Erika

2021 What Can Plants in a Pit Tell Us? *La Vista de la Frontera* 31: 12-13.

<https://cbbs.sulross.edu/wp-content/uploads/Volume-31.pdf>

Blecha, Erika

2020 Hot Days, Hot Rocks, Hot Discoveries at GLD Site. *La Vista de la Frontera* 30: 6-7.

https://cbbs.sulross.edu/wp-content/uploads/Volume_30_-_2020.pdf

Blecha, Erika

- 2019 Boulder Glyphs: Evolving Hypotheses about the Boulder Glyphs of the Sierra Viejas. *La Vista de la Frontera* 29: 1-2, 14.
https://cbbs.sulross.edu/docs/lavista/Volume_29_-_2019.pdf

Blecha, Erika

- 2017 Fool Me Once, But Not Twice! *La Vista de la Frontera* 27:3.
http://cbbs.sulross.edu/docs/lavista/Volume_27_-_2017.pdf

TECHNICAL REPORTS

Blecha, Erika S.

- 2020 Preliminary Results of the 2020 Excavation on the Northwest Bank of the Genevieve Lykes Duncan (GLD) Site (41BS2615), Brewster County, Texas. Submitted to the Lykes Brothers Inc. Tampa, Florida, and the Odyssey Archaeological Research Fund. Lawrence, Kansas.

Schroeder, Bryon A., David Keller, and Erika Blecha

- 2019 An Introductory Field Guide to the Archaeology of Pinto Canyon Ranch in the Big Bend of Texas. Sul Ross State University. Alpine, Texas.

Cloud, William A., Erika Blecha, and Robert J. Mallouf

- 2019 *Archaeological and Historical Research on the 02 Ranch, Brewster and Presidio Counties, Texas*. A report prepared for the Lykes Brothers Inc. Tampa, Florida

Blecha, Erika S. and Kelly J. Dixon

- 2015 *Early Reservation Era Survey Results for 24RB0164: Birney Day School Village*. A report prepared for Chief Dull Knife College and the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Lame Deer, MT.

Hall, Daniel S., Erika S. Blecha

- 2014 *Ennis Exchange Cultural Resource Inventory: 3 Rivers Communications Fiber Optic Installation*. A report prepared for 3 Rivers Communication. Fairfield, Montana.
- 2014 *Virginia Exchange Cultural Resource Inventory: 3 Rivers Communications Fiber Optic Installation*. A report prepared for 3 Rivers Communication. Fairfield, Montana.
- 2014 *Whitherspoon Exchange Cultural Resource Inventory: 3 Rivers Communications Fiber Optic Installation*. A report prepared for 3 Rivers Communication. Fairfield, Montana.
- 2013 *Fort Shaw Exchange Cultural Resource Inventory: 3 Rivers Communications Fiber Optic Installation Cascade, Lewis and Clark, and Teton Counties, Montana*. A report prepared for 3 Rivers Communication. Fairfield, Montana.
- 2013 *Pendroy Exchange Cultural Resource Inventory: 3 Rivers Communications Fiber Optic Installation Pondera and Teton Counties, Montana*. A report prepared for 3 Rivers Communication. Fairfield, Montana.
- 2013 *Dupuyer Exchange Cultural Resource Inventory: 3 Rivers Communications Fiber Optic Installation Pondera and Teton Counties, Montana*. A report prepared for 3 Rivers Communication. Fairfield, Montana.

Norman, William, Daniel S. Hall and Erika S. Blecha

- 2013 *Bannack Flood Event; Bannack National Historic Landmark*. A Report for Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bannack National Historic Landmark, MT.

PAPERS/TOPICS PRESENTED

October 2023	<i>Indigenous Occupation of the Big Bend During the Terminal Pleistocene and the Broader Implications.</i> Paper presented at the Texas Archaeological Society 94th Annual Meeting. San Marcos, TX
October 2022	<i>Biographic Rock Art and Indigenous Violence in the Big Bend.</i> Paper presented at the Texas Archaeological Society 93rd Annual Meeting. Tyler, TX
March 2022	<i>The Boulder Glyphs: A preliminary Analysis of Violence and Aping along the Rio Grande.</i> Paper presented at the West Texas Historical Association 97 th Annual Meeting. Lubbock, TX
November 2021	<i>Now That's Unusual: A Preliminary Analysis of 5 Botanical Artifacts and Features from the Big Bend.</i> Paper presented at a 27 th Annual Center for Big Bend Studies Conference. Alpine, TX
April 2021	<i>The Boulder Glyphs: An Analysis of Conflict and Historic Ranching Lifeways along the Big Bend of the Rio Grande.</i> Poster presented at 86th Annual SAA Conference. Online Meeting.
April 2019	<i>Black Rock Mortuary Cairn: A Case Study of Archaeologist–Collector Collaboration.</i> Paper presented at 84 th Annual SAA Conference. Albuquerque, NM
October 2019	<i>The Boulder Glyphs: A preliminary Analysis of Violence and Aping along the Rio Grande.</i> Paper presented at a 26 th Annual Center for Big Bend Studies Conference. Alpine, TX
October 2018	<i>Current and Future Archaeological Investigations on the 02 Ranch.</i> Paper presented at a 25 th Annual Center for Big Bend Studies Conference. Alpine, TX
April 2014	<i>Settlement and Landscape Transformations Oévemanâhéno: Northern Cheyenne Nation, Montana.</i> Poster presented at 79 th Annual SAA Conference. Austin, TX

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/EDUCATION

September 2022	Lecturer for Trans-Pecos Music Festival Event, Marfa, Texas
August 2022	Lecturer for Girl Scouts Camp Miter Alumni Event, Brewster County, Texas.
July 2022	Taught 12 Girl Scouts ages 11-13 how to make Yucca cordage. Girl Scouts Camp Miter Alumni Event, Brewster County, Texas.
December 2021	Lecturer for Sibley Nature Center's Brown Bag Lecture Series, Midland, Texas.
October 2021	Lecturer for Sul Ross State University's First Year Seminar Course, Alpine, Texas. Introduction to Archaeology and the Center for Big Bend Studies.
August 2021	Taught children ages 8-12 about radiocarbon dating and how to collect a sample from a Yucca sandal in their collection. The Magic Around Us, Marfa, Texas.
August 2019	Lecturer for Master Naturalists, Tierra Grande Chapter, Elephant Mountain Wildlife Management Area, Brewster County, Texas.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2018-present	Texas Archaeological Society
2016-present	Register of Professional Archaeologists
2013-present	Society for American Archaeologists (SAA)
2016-2018	Archaeological Institute of America
2016	Society for California Archaeology