Most of the archaeological sites found along the Greybull River drainage system in northwestern Wyoming are prehistoric lithic scatters. Given the site settings are at elevations ranging from 2400-3400m, it is probable that many of these sites are related to hunting related activities rather than the exploration of plants. Supposing that game animals have roughly similar movements now as they have protextually it is possible to find out where hunting activities may have taken place based on information from current game animal movements. A wide variety of data, including internal triangulation and present-day hunters, game harvest records, and documentation of contemporary hunting camp locations have been collected to evaluate the correlation between present day and prehistoric hunting-related sites. These data are valuable to understanding human behavior patterns and hunting movement patterns concerning hunting patterns of both past and present. Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) of present-day hunters is key to this study because present-day hunters understand both game animal movement patterns and the logic involved with game hunting, both of which are useful pieces of information in analyzing hunting patterns of prehistoric peoples.

References:

Two main factors that may interest researchers are the large numbers of prehistoric sites, confirming that humans of all cultures and time periods are harder to understand because they are not under direct observation. They are easy to be concerned about the integrity of the prehistoric sites because of the potential of damage due to modern human activities.

Conclusion:
The ecological knowledge of the area is helpful in finding sites and understanding game movement patterns. The local land stewards can help researchers by sharing their knowledge of the landscape throughout the entire year. This is helpful because researchers may not be in the area long enough to observe ecological variations of the area. The local land stewardship can improve good relations between researchers and the people who live in the area as well as good relations with the researchers from other disciplines. Getting out into the field (Schiffer et al., 2003, 277). This approach can also be used in many other fields of study as well; it is not limited to archaeology.

This approach allows for more informed recording because it accounts for the way a people lived on a land by finding patterns to "why" and "how" things were practiced ethnoarchaeologically. A useful way to integrate this approach is by using cultural anthropological methods to interact with local land stewards to expose their Traditional Ecological Knowledge. The traditional knowledge can also be functional in implementing multi-disciplinary approach in resource management.

Overview of this study:
This study is an attempt to understand the land-use patterns over time of the people residing in and around the Greybull watershed. The study’s design came about while researching the place names of many of the landmarks and near the study area. In researching the landmarks, there were many informal conversations with the local land stewards in regards to their history in the area and their relationship with the land. This led to the interest in how prehistoric cultures related to the land. One way to study the possibilities of past land use is by researching land-use patterns throughout the different stages of occupation in order to see if there are any correlations between groups. Currently, the occupants are farmers, ranchers, and hunters, who live intimately with the land. They may hold valuable information in understanding the land-use patterns over time.

Variables:
- Land use patterns over time
- Slow/Low Term (Prehistoric)
- Land use over time
- Background

Figure 1. This is a site that has a prehistoric lithic scatter and evidence of a historic sheepherders camp. Figure 2. This figure shows the relationship of time variables in Archaeology. On the left side of the drawing, there is a box labeled "Ethnoarchaeology / Archaeology." This box represents that ethnoarchaeology and archaeology span over three time variables, fast, medium, and slow. Fast variables can be seen on a yearly basis, medium variables can be measured over approximately a lifetime, and long variables are seen along the entire archaeological record. If the ultimate goal of archaeology is to understand how people lived in an area, it is necessary to understand the interaction between the landscape and the people, or how they affect each other. Landscape-use patterns are a direct corollary of the landscape itself. In order to get the fuller picture of landscape-use, we need to time over a lifetime, time is necessary to understand all the variables of change (Fast, Medium, Slow) in a system. Researchers can measure the fast and medium variables now as a way to understand the land-use patterns of the past. The slow variables are harder to understand because they are not under direct observation. They must be interpreted with the help of understanding the other variables.

Figure 3. This is an example of one site where there are both historic and prehistoric information. This is modern recreational area as well as one of the main hunting camp locations in the river drainage. The picture is shown in the picture the small oil tractors and the recreational camp items are labeled. It is reasonable to be concerned about the integrity of the prehistoric sites because of the potential of damage due to modern human activities. Figure 4. This figure shows the overlap of archaeology, Ethnoarchaeology, and ethnoarchaeological. It shows the interrelated relationship (in order to account for the large numbers) between variables in the x-axis and years on the y-axis. Because ethnoarchaeology and TEK can be measured in at least about 100 years, they can be used in the top layer of the archaeological record. Ethnoarchaeology can be confirmed via the actual archaeological record.

References:

This book was published by Dr. Peter. The book is available in the public library. For further information, please contact the Colorado State University Anthropology Department or Faculty.

All the good people of the Meeteetse, WY area for sharing their knowledge and a few beers; Dr. Annie Ross, Dr. John Brett, Liz Jackson & my fellow computer junkies.