

South Park Site Stewards, Inc. 2023 Highlights

In 2023 the SPSS focused our efforts on –

Site Monitoring – 28 site visits; 5 new BLM sites “adopted”; new discoveries of features and diagnostic artifacts while on site visits.

The Site Stewards contributed 3,926 volunteer hours and drove 27,017 volunteer miles in 2023.

Steward Training and Education – Season kick-off with in-door training on lithics; training of 5 new stewards; 8 site visits with archaeologists; recordation of a tipi ring with a consulting archaeologist; Colorado College conducted a GIS workshop for our site visit leaders; expansion of our website “classroom” with more articles, videos, and resources for stewards.

Special Projects – Contributed to the Coal Creek Research state-wide database of Colorado Projectile Points; explored the use of 3D photogrammetry in the field for features and artifacts; continued work on soil flotation for paleobotanist analysis.

Community Education – Sponsored our 2nd annual Archaeology Day for the public with displays and demonstrations in Fairplay, CO (over 200 guests); set up and operated a display for International Archaeology Day at Red Rocks, Denver, CO (over 900 guests).

Collaborations – Worked with the Assistant Colorado State Archaeologist and presented the 1st statewide stewardship course; collaborated with Community Connections in developing public presentations; meetings with like minded organizations such as the Utah and Arizona State Stewardship and the National Partners for Site Stewardship

Technology – SPSS continued updating and improving the use of our in-the-field Samsung tablets with Field Maps, Arc GIS Pro, Survey 123 and steward reporting systems.

Outlook for 2024 –

Continuation of our ongoing monitoring and programs from past years.

Special Projects FOR 2024 –

Development of a long-range Strategic Plan and Data Management Plan.

Increased Collaborations with like-minded and professional organizations.

Continued work/training for and with the **Colorado Office of the State Archaeologist** and the Colorado Archaeological Society.

Research/Development of a public oriented preservation and education messaging program.