

# WORKING WITH WHAT WE HAVE

Building a **Digital Preservation**  
Program without a Digital  
Archivist

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# Montana State University Digital Preservation Group

Sara Mannheimer, Brandon Watson, Heather Hultman, Ben Hager, Jakob Schultz, Sophia Phillips, Jason A. Clark, and Doralyn Rossmann



1.

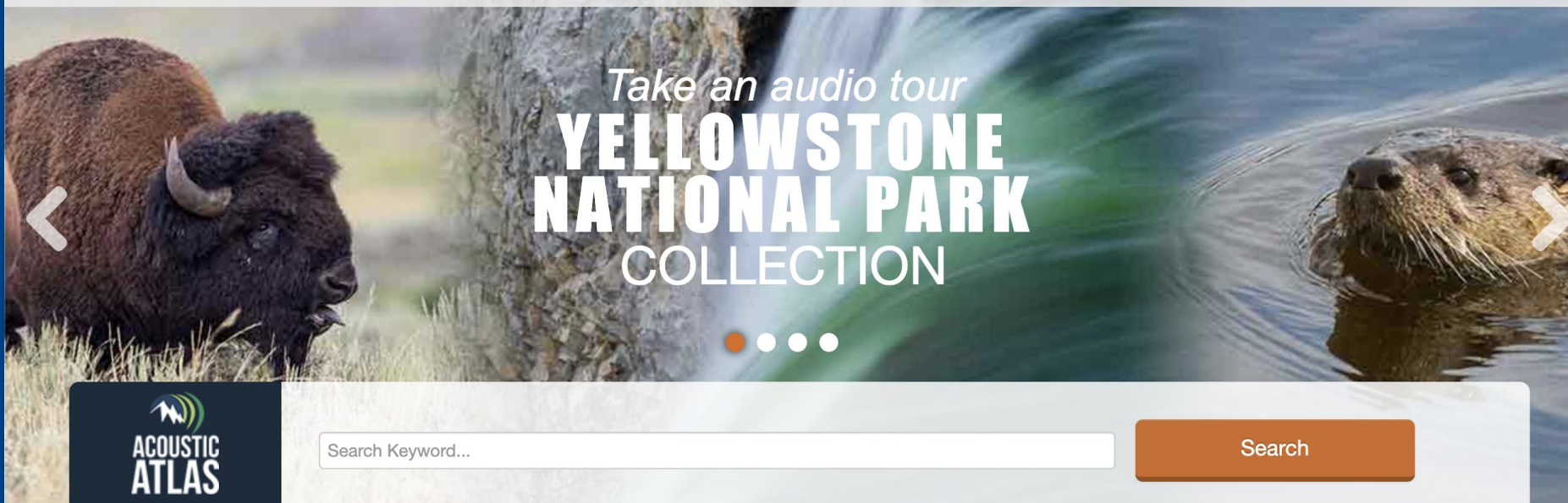
# MSU DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

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Glacier National Park, ca. 1920

<http://www.lib.montana.edu/digital/>



## Every ecosystem has its voice

The Acoustic Atlas collects the sounds of Montana and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, along with habitats and species from throughout the Western United States. Browse by [species](#), explore a soundscape in our [ambient recordings](#), or learn about the significance of sound through our [featured interviews](#).

[➤ Yellowstone National Park](#)[➤ Soundscapes of Ivan Doig](#)[➤ Ringtones](#)

# Ivan Doig Archive

The Collection

Biography and Bibliography

Books and Other Writings

Projects and Exhibitions



<http://ivandoig.montana.edu/>



## Trout & Salmonid Collection

The Collection

Lecture Series

Oral Histories

Press and Awards

## Special Collections and Archives

Montana State University  
P.O. Box 173320  
Bozeman, MT 59717

## Special Collections Librarian

James Thull  
jjthull@montana.edu

 Make a Gift

MSU Library / The Trout and Salmonid Collection / Angling Oral History Project

# Angling Oral History Project

Our Angling Oral History Project collects, preserves, and disseminates the histories, opinions, and stories of politicians, artists, guides, authors, and anglers from all walks of life. Interviews are freely available and searchable to anyone online through our MSU created database.

[A](#) | [B](#) | [C](#) | [D](#) | [E](#) | [F](#) | [G](#) | [H](#) | [I](#) | [J](#) | [K](#) | [L](#) | [M](#) | [N](#) | [O](#) | [P](#) | [Q](#) | [R](#) | [S](#) | [T](#) | [U](#) | [V](#) | [W](#) | [XYZ](#)

[A](#) ^

**Lourens  
Ackermann**



Lourens is an

**Jim Adams**



I met Jim in Berkely,

**Grant Adkins**



Grant is a longtime

**Pierre Affre**



Pierre is one of the

<http://www.lib.montana.edu/trout/oral-histories/index.html>

2.

# FROM ACCESS TO PRESERVATION

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# From Theory to Action:

## “Good Enough” Digital Preservation Solutions for Under-Resourced Cultural Heritage Institutions

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**A Digital POWRR White Paper for the  
Institute of Museum and Library Services**

*August 2014*

### **AUTHORS**

**Jaime Schumacher**

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<http://hdl.handle.net/10843/13610>

# Montana State University

## Digital Preservation Group

Sara Mannheimer, Data Librarian

Brandon Watson, Digital Operations Manager

Heather Hultman, Curator

Ben Hager, Systems Administrator

Jakob Schultz, Application Developer

Sophia Phillips, Political Papers Archivist

Jason A. Clark, Head of Special Collections & Archival Informatics

Doralyn Rossmann, Head of Digital Library Initiatives



# 3. SETTING THE FOUNDATION

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# LITERATURE REVIEW

Digital POWRR publications

# LITERATURE REVIEW

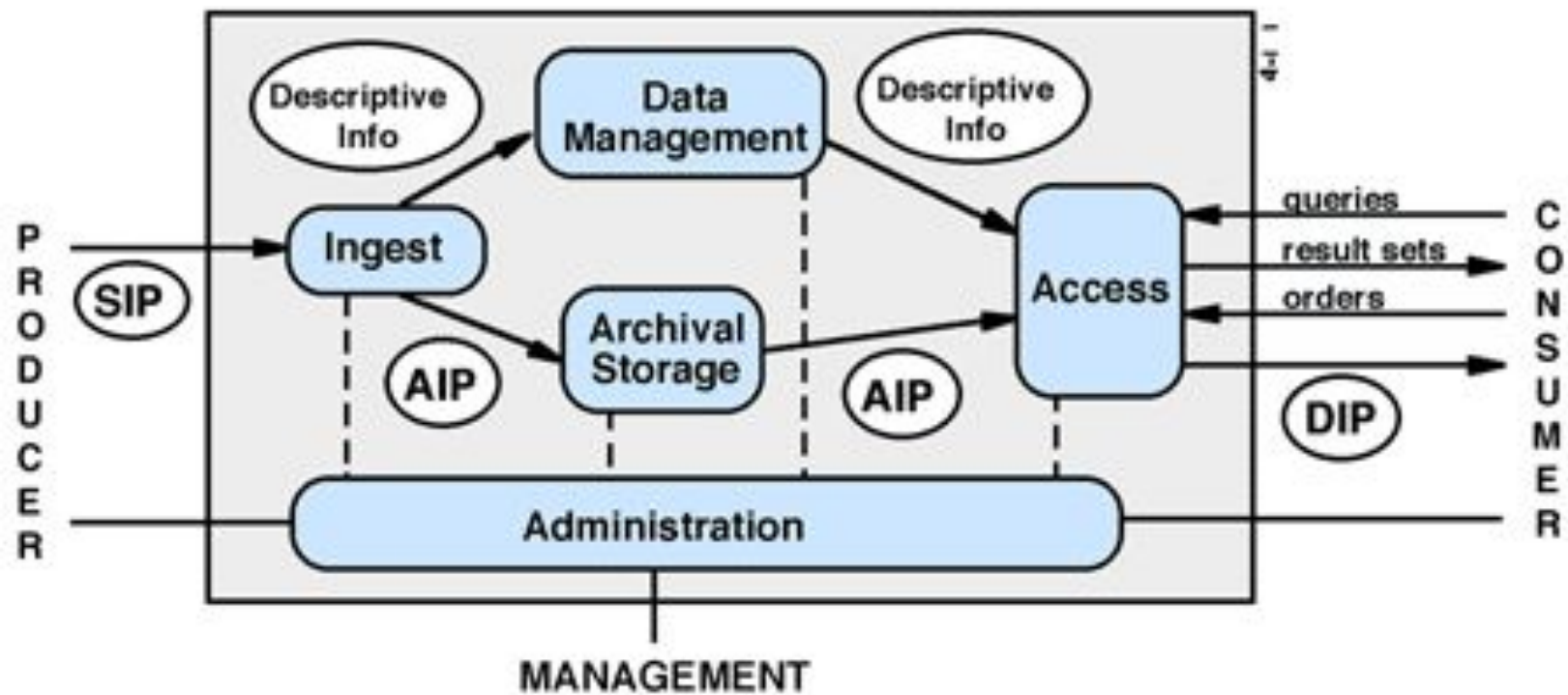
Digital POWRR publications  
Digital preservation case studies

# LITERATURE REVIEW

Digital POWRR publications  
Digital preservation case studies



*Digital Preservation Essentials*  
by Erin O'Meara and Kate Stratton



# ■ Q & A WITH PEER INSTITUTIONS

Tawnya Keller, U of Utah

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Erin Baucom & John Greer, U of Montana

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Michael Boock & Brian Davis, Oregon State U<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See their helpful report: Boock, M. & Davis, B.E. (2017). Next Steps for Building a Flexible and Robust Digital Preservation Infrastructure at Oregon State University Libraries & Press. [https://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/concern/technical\\_reports/73666904w](https://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/concern/technical_reports/73666904w)

# ■ Q & A WITH PEER INSTITUTIONS

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What is your process for doing backups?

What preservation metadata do you create and/or maintain for your digital objects?

# DIGITAL POWRR INSTITUTE



<https://digitalpowrr.niu.edu/>



4.

# “FROM THEORY TO ACTION”

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# INITIAL CHALLENGES

Adding work to already-full workloads

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Adding work to already-full workloads

Learning curve for digital preservation concepts

# NDSA LEVEL 1

Storage and Geographic Location	File Fixity and Data Integrity	Information Security	Metadata	File Formats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Two complete copies that are not collocated</li><li>- For data on heterogeneous media (optical discs, hard drives, etc.) get the content off the medium and into your storage system</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Check file fixity on ingest if it has been provided with the content</li><li>- Create fixity info if it wasn't provided with the content</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Identify who has read, write, move and delete authorization to individual files</li><li>- Restrict who has those authorizations to individual files</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Inventory of content and its storage location</li><li>- Ensure backup and non-collocation of inventory</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- When you can give input into the creation of digital files, encourage use of a limited set of known open formats and codecs</li></ul>

<https://ndsa.org/activities/levels-of-digital-preservation/>



# ACTIONS

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Create collection-level machine-readable (JSON) readme files

## ACTIONS (cont.)

Mint ARK permanent identifiers for all digital objects in our collections

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Document our practices in a Digital Preservation Procedures document, to be updated regularly to reflect continuing changes

**5.**

# **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PRACTICE**

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# RECOMMENDATIONS



Bring together existing expertise in the library

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Ask peers for help

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Take small actions to be “good enough”

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Take small actions to be “good enough”



Continually learn and improve

# THANKS!

+ questions

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Thanks to former DPG member Michelle Gollehon, now at University of Utah.



Natalie Bond joined DPG in Spring 2019.



The design of this presentation is based on the Mercutio template from [Slides Carnival](#).