Using Projectile Technology to Infer Aboriginal Land-Use Strategies in Western North America

7:30 PM, Thursday 17th February, 2011
Finkel Lecture Theatre, The John Curtin School of Medical Research, ANU

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Projectile Points have long been used by North American archaeologists as markers for culture, historical and temporal periods. A projectile point is an object that was part of a projectile such as a spear or arrow and is an excellent indicator of the function that the artefact had. For instance, we know that damaged points show that the tool was used as a projectile. We also know from micro-wear analysis that these tools were used as cutting and sawing utensils. In this lecture, Professor Andrefsky Jr. will show how projectile points can reveal information about human land-use practices and how, technologically, we know this.

Professor William Andrefsky Jr. is the Edward R Meyer Distinguished Professor of Anthropology at Washington State University. In 2008, he received the Society for American Archaeology’s Excellence in Archaeological Analysis Award. He has published widely in journals and written four books, including Lithic Technology: Measures of Production, Use and Curation and Lithics: Macroscopic Approaches to Analysis. His primary research interest is in the ways that human populations use technology to adapt to various environmental and social changes. He is a world leader in developing methods for studying stone tools and how they were used.

All Welcome!

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