The Intermountain Antiquities Computer System is the result of interaction among many state and federal agencies, institutions, and private individuals. Initial attempts at developing a cooperative data base were made in the late 1970's by the University of Utah and the Bureau of Land Management.

With these early efforts, and later in conjunction with the Forest Service, IMACS was created in 1981. Since then, it has grown steadily. With over 50,000 encoded archaeological sites throughout the intermountain west, it is one of the largest cultural resource data bases in the country. Many of the sites presently in the system were recorded prior to the inception of IMACS, with the rest encoded through contracts with the University of Utah, Idaho and Utah State Historic Preservation Offices, and the Nevada State Museum.

Many people have contributed to the development and growth of IMACS. As it is impossible to mention everyone, we would like to thank all the individuals who have worked to make the system a success.