



## Elko Eared?

### Description Of A Projectile Point For Type Identification

Here is a progression of questions which will lead us to a description of this particular projectile point:

- Is it oval?
- Is it parallel/convex sided?
- Is it triangular?
- Is it a biface?
- Is it shouldered?
- Is it "eared" and long?
- Is it base thinned?
- Is it "fluted"?
- Is it ground on the sides?
- Is it concave based?
- Is it deeply split base?
- Is it large?
- Is it small?
- Is it wide necked?
- Is it narrow necked?
- Is it side notched?
- Is it base notched?
- Is it corner notched?
- Is it barbed?
- Is it square cornered?
- Is it split based?
- Is it stemmed?
- Is it rectangular stemmed?
- Is it expanding based?
- Is it contracting stemmed?
- Is it serrated?

The marked answers produce a description of this projectile point:

*It is a triangular, bifacial, small, wide necked, corner notched, barbed, split based, expanding based projectile point.*

Actual size of this  
projectile point:  
1-1/16" x 7/8"



In the Pacific Northwest, we find many samples of just a few types of corner notched projectile points with split or bifurcated bases. Among them are the small *Eastgate* and *Rose Springs* arrowheads, the *Elko series* dart and arrow points and the *Pinto Basin* dart point.

The *Pinto Basin* is more of a shouldered, oval form, barbed, with a very deeply split, parallel sided base. *Eastgate* and *Rose Springs* points are usually small, true arrowhead forms, with narrow necks. That leaves the small to middle sized dart and arrowhead forms of the *Elko series*: the *Elko Split Stem* and *Elko Eared*. Of these, the *Elko Eared* features the deep corner notches and the expanding, widely divided base which we see here. Thus, the type identification for this wide necked, small obsidian projectile point is an *Elko Eared* dart or arrow point.