



## FCRPS Cultural Resources Sub-Committee (CRSC) Spring Quarterly Meeting Notes, 2017

Date: March 14 - 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Pacific Time  
March 15 - 8:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., Pacific Time

Place: Courtyard Marriott Hotel  
550 West Rose St., Walla Walla, WA  
Room- The Blues 2

### MEETING PARTICIPANTS:

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### March 14, 2017

#### Introductions & Announcements

This is Lawr’s last CRSC Meeting. He has been involved in FCRPS and the SOR since 1992 and has worked for the Corps since 1976. Robin Michel is a new Archaeologist and member of the FCRPS Program with the Walla Walla District Corps and has been working there since November.

## FY16 Annual Report

The annual report for FY16 was completed on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Reclamation will be handling distribution shortly. CRSC group members agree that for next year, the report size may be reduced by deleting redundant information. Nevertheless, the Systemwide Programmatic Agreement (SWPA) specifies that the Annual Report needs to have certain elements which will be maintained, including reference to use of the Systemwide Research Design.

## FY17 Program Goals & Measures

1. **Define the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for each Project** - The Corps continues to work with consulting parties to revise Areas of Potential Effect for nine dams within the Portland and Walla Walla Districts.
2. **Complete Inventory** - Survey goals are on track to be completed within the next two years for all 14 projects. After the end up FY17, all accessible lands should be surveyed. A more long-term Survey Plan is being established for Grand Coulee. A TCP/HPRCSIT Inventory is supposed to be completed by end of FY18, however, it will more likely be that a baseline for each reservoir will be established by then but that the TCP surveys will continue.
3. **Complete Determinations of Eligibility for Top Ten Priority Sites at Each Project** - This long term goal has been exceeded for all 14 projects. The Corps and Reclamation continue to complete eligibility determinations for two to three sites per project per year.
4. **Plan One and Implement One Mitigation at Each Project Annually.** This goal includes that the five highest priority sites at each of the 14 projects are mitigated or treated by 9/30/2020 – We are on track with these. We have not met this high priority site goal for Hungry Horse due to lack of completion of the traditional trail multiple property documentation form.
- 5 & 6. **Progressive and Productive Program Products and Relationships** – A research article will be posted on the FCRPS website by the end of FY17. The entire FCRPS website will be revamped to become more visually appealing, interactive, informative, and to highlight interesting projects/facts and program accomplishments.

## FY17 Performance Indicators – Status Update

The following performance indicators justify our funding each year. These are what we report our progress on to the Joint Operating Committee (JOC).

- PI 1. **Corps/BPA Complete DOE and Treatment Plan for one TCP/HPRCSIT or Archaeological Site in each Cooperating Group** – All Draft DOE and Treatment Plan Forms need to be done by March 31st. PI 2. **Corps/BPA Program Execution and Planning** - We are on-track with these milestones. All FY17 SOWs have been drafted and shared with BPA for review and FY18 Annual Work Plans have been drafted.

PI 3. **Complete One Mitigation Project at Grand Coulee** – Draft treatment plan forms are in the works and currently under internal review for stabilizations to take place at Cayuse Cove and Mill Creek.

PI 4 **Reclamation/BPA Program Execution and Planning** – We are on-track with these milestones. FY18 Annual Work Plans have been drafted.

### **Creative Mitigations- Benefitting a Living Community & Large-Scale Mitigations**

Now that we are wrapping up with inventory at most of the projects and are moving forward with TCP surveys, many of the tribes are looking more at large-scale creative or alternative mitigations that address multiple sites, a TCP, or even districts. Some of the tribes prefer this in place of site stabilization because it benefits the living community. As the Lead Agencies, we need to make sure we are in alignment on the types and scale of mitigations allowable under Federal laws and policies..

The CRSC group confirmed that the Treatment Plan Forms need to discuss each NRHP Criteria and how adverse effects are being treated. Minimally, the Lead Agencies, SHPOs/THPOs should sign the form..

### **Project Round Robin**

The CRSC group shared on-going and planned projects for FY17.

**Payos Kuus Cuukwe:** The Group recently held a workshop that focused on looking at the effects to and possible treatments for a large TCP that is also an archaeological district. The tribes are now tasked to provide lists with possible creative or alternative mitigation ideas and to also prioritize other TCPs that they wish to treat. Two stabilization projects in McNary are being planned, and include Columbia Point South and Columbia Park. **Chief Joseph Dam:** The Group is working on two contracts that will be awarded for annual services which include regular inventory, site evaluation, and mostly TCP work. The curation contract is also being amended. The Group is finishing up revisions on the HPMP, including getting the site list and GIS database layer finalized. There will also be a Treatment Plan for Rock Art, which may include doing a thematic DOE of Rock Art. An alternative mitigation item includes archival research for the Military occupation at Foster Creek.

**Wana Pa Koot Koot:** The Group is prioritizing getting FY17 contracts out. Maryhill Petroglyph will be assessed for relocation to Horsethief Lake at Columbia Hills State Park. The Plymouth Shoreline Stabilization is being planned for FY17 with some shovel testing planned prior to construction. An elder tour is planned for this year. The John Day and The Dalles HPMPs need to be finalized. A fence project is planned for John Day but a DOE for the site needs to be done first. An IDIQ contract is in place for doing 3-D Rock Image Scans.

**Albeni Falls Dam:** FY17 contracts are being finalized and the Group is waiting on some pending deliverables from previous years. A contract for Bear Paw Rock is in progress. Now that the inventory of Corps lands is complete, the Group is interested in surveying private lands or fee lands with easements. A GIS layers with realty data is being looked at for this during these beginning stages. The next Cooperating Group meeting will also focus sites that were determined eligible 15 years ago to see if any have changed significantly.

**Grand Coulee Dam:** Stabilization at a site near the town of Grand Coulee is taking place likely in May. Stabilization at a cove on the Spokane Arm will also take place and is quite large; including over a quarter-mile long of stabilization. Construction for this will likely be late FY18 and early FY19 considering the intensive design and vegetation plantings. The next stabilization project will be at a site near the upper end of Lake Roosevelt on the Mainstem.

Reclamation's burial and monitoring contracts continue. A longer-term Survey Plan will be written for Grand Coulee throughout FY17 and FY18. Surveys this year will focus on cleaning up survey of all remaining federal project lands. The HPMP is nearing completion. NPS Rangers are engaging in ARPA violations and identification of looters.

**Hungry Horse Dam:** This should be the last year of survey efforts at conventionally accessible lands at Hungry Horse. A historic logging-use study will be done for previously identified logging remnant sites which will assist National Register determinations of eligibility. BPA and Reclamation representatives will attend a meeting with the Salish and Kootenai culture committee at some point in the coming year. It is difficult to move forward with additional tasks until the Multiple Property Documentation Form for the traditional trail system is completed.

**Libby Dam:** Due to retirement, the Corps has an interim plan for managing the Cooperating Group. The Blackwell Flats stabilization project is planned for March. The Group is optimistic about moving forward on contracts with the CSKT and USFS. A new curation contract will be developed for FY18.

## March 15

### Columbia River System Operations EIS/Cultural Resources – Update

At present, the framework and teams for the EIS are being established. Rolla is the Technical Manager for the Cultural Resources Team and cultural resource-related issues. Vanessa van der Borg (Portland), Leah Bonstead (Walla Walla), and Stephen Roberts (Walla Walla) are also assigned to the internal Corps cultural resources team. Previous work completed for the Columbia River Treaty (CRT) will help inform the process but the CRSO EIS is a separate and distinct effort from CRT and FCRPS. The public meeting and commenting period has ended. Approximately 400,000 comments have been received and are currently being reviewed in order to inform the development of alternatives. Draft alternatives are currently being formulated and are expected to be finalized this summer. The Tribal Liaison team is formulating a tribal consultation strategy and has coordinated with the Cultural Resources team to ensure consideration and integration of Cultural Resources and Section 106 into the strategy. NEPA leads are currently meeting with tribes and agencies that have expressed an interest in participating in the EIS as a Cooperating Agency. Cultural resources team members have also been participating in those meetings. Nineteen tribes have been engaged in consultation on the EIS, in addition to several tribal organizations. The Cultural Resources team will also be engaging the SHPOs of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana to brief them on the EIS and begin to get their thoughts on the Section 106 process, as well as the relationship of the CRSO effort and the existing FCRPS Programmatic Agreement.

The GIS Team Lead will be Sean Redar. He has designated Lawrence Lin in Seattle District as the GIS POC for Cultural Resources. In the absence of alternatives, the team is moving forward with identifying our current capability and data gaps with GIS cultural resources information. We are currently assessing the current state of GIS data and identifying areas where we need to do digitizing, data clean up, or data acquisition. It is assumed that GIS analysis will be a major tool in the analysis of alternatives.