FCRPS Cultural Resources Sub-Committee (CRSC) Quarterly Meeting Notes
March 9-10, 2016

Date: March 9 - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Pacific Time
March 10 - 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Pacific Time

Place: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District Office
201 North Third Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876

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Announcements & Staff Changes

- LO is moving to Portland District Army Corps of Engineers at the end of March. Will announce contract position to backfill position.
- DK will be taking Lydia Grimm’s position in Environmental Planning and Analysis.
- Posting for GS14 CRM manager to hit the street soon.
- Michael Flowers (USACE) is in route to forensic archeology work in Vietnam.

Action Item Review and Discussions

- The group reviewed the status of action items from the previous meeting and updated the status of the ones that were still in progress.
- After review of over 40 action items, discussion followed about reducing / organizing Action Item List. Recommendation to institute High, Medium, Low ranked prioritization. CRSC members should let SH know when Action Items are done by sending an email, and the completed action items will not be discussed at the June meeting.

Review of FCRPS Cultural Resource Program Performance Indicators (PIs)

- Agencies generally on schedule with meeting the interim deadlines for PIs.
- USACE and BPA on track.
- Hungry Horse monitoring and survey effort to be contracted out to private contractors. Other Reclamation PIs are on track for completion.
- Next Executive Briefing set for May.

Program Goals

The CRSC then reviewed the status of work on the six major goals of the Program.

1) APE for projects defined
- APEs have been defined for each of the Projects, but USACE is providing some additional clarification for the projects within the Portland and Walla Walla districts.
2) Inventory
   • Once APE is revised in some of the USACE districts, survey needs will need to be clarified.
   • Each of the Projects then reviewed the status of their survey work. USACE is likely to complete archaeological survey within Project lands by end of FY2017. Reclamation is making steady progress at both Grand Coulee and Hungry Horse. At Grand Coulee, the participating tribes are encouraging private land access for survey. There are approximately 3,000 private land parcels. Process for access is evolving; test program for private land access will start in 2017. USBR has project managers with experience in private lands access. BPA has a system for powerline construction that may provide a model for accessing private lands with some adaptation.

3) Evaluation
   • Most Projects are ahead of schedule on this. The multiple property determination for the South Fork Trail system at Hungry Horse Reservoir still needs to be completed.

4) Resolution of Adverse Effects
   • Several mitigation efforts are delayed due to operating projects and contracting problems.
   • Travelling exhibit is moving. Poster is being printed; may design brochure. Draft exhibit to be presented at NWAC, will need revision for visitor center installation.

5) Communications and Relationships Outside the Program
   • Client survey will be on web site by end of April.

6) Communications and Relationships Inside the Program
   • No big issues to cover at present.

Agency Commitments Under the SWPA
   • All commitments under the agreement are being addressed in one way or another.
   • Chief Joseph PA and Hungry Horse HPMPs will be the two that are updated this year to meet the schedule in Attachment 2 to the SWPA.

FCRPS Annual Report
   • Report is at 95% completion. Some small questions remain, but everything seems to be on track for on-time completion.
   • Grand Coulee Power Office Manager to sign first, and then to USACE, and finally to BPA.
Systemwide Conference Planning

- First two planning meetings have been held. Site narrowed down to three choices: Northern Quest, Coeur D’Alene, or Wild Horse. Date set for week of October 26, with elders’ dinner on October 25. USBR getting conference paperwork in order. Some questions about travel funds availability after start of fiscal year.

- Possibility of separating catering and facility rental discussed, but there were concerns that this would increase costs. Facilities are willing and able to handle conference and elders’ dinner.

- GA and KM working on potential funding for the Elders’ Dinner, but BPA is not likely to be able to cover the entire cost.

- The group discussed the possibility that the Elders’ Dinner might be a different format this time such as an open house poster session the first night with luncheon the next day. This may be a way to get better executive level participation and bring the price down to something that might be possible given existing Federal policy restrictions.

- Discussion on presentation sessions. Some ideas:
  
  o monitoring techniques discussion led by S. Jenevein
  
  o NR Bulletin 38
  
  o Non-invasive techniques resource identification techniques, including human remains detection with dogs, although this idea may be shelved out of respect for tribal concerns
  
  o Fish
  
  o Water level managers, dam operations, river management (Last session was not well attended, maybe river managers can come back)
  
  o 50th anniversary NHPA
  
  o NPS Centennial
  
  o Cool projects
  
  o Scarred trees
  
  o Quartzite analysis
  
  o Sacred sites MOU
  
  o TCP mitigation

- DB suggested perhaps having only one session per time slot rather than multiple topics to reduce competition between sessions. Consider holding several big sessions. People seem to enjoy more interactive sessions. It was also suggested that conflict resolution be a potential session topic.
• There will need to be smaller meeting spaces for break-out sessions with cooperative working groups.

• DB also sought field trip ideas.

TCP Subcommittee
• Scheduling challenges prevented last meeting. KM will set date for next teleconference ASAP.


Major 106 Issues

APE
• AR discussed APE clarification for Payos and WPKK groups. August 2015 tribal caucus and agreement on viewshed approach. Discussed varying levels of effort within the APE. The USACE will be finishing maps and distributing to SHPOs and tribes.

Inventory
• Permission for contractor survey on private lands. Moving forward with Lake Roosevelt private lands access with Spokane tribe in 2017. This will be a testing year, and the lessons from this experience will be applied to other parts of the reservoir. USBR has entry permission letter on file from ’09 – ’10, and this might be a source of some information about how to approach this.

• Include program information with contact letter; the large format brochures prepared recently might be a good tool for this public outreach effort.

Resolving Adverse Effects – Parameters for “creative mitigation”
• AR: ACHP spelled out creative mitigation w/ USFS in 2009.

• The group discussed some of the recent examples of creative mitigation that have been well-received (e.g., Skolaskin Church rehabilitation). Other creative mitigation projects are under development, including support for various kinds of camps or events designed to perpetuate traditional knowledge. The group reiterated that Determinations of Eligibility need to be in place to document that adverse effects are being resolved a particular historic properties. Mitigation should be focused on specific impacts to resource values.
Treatment Plan Form

- The group asked that the title be changed back to “Treatment Plan Form” from “Resolution of Adverse Effects”. GC: “Resolution sounded too final.” SH will follow up on this as the "keeper" of the form, and a new version will be loaded up on the FCRPS Cultural Resources Program Sharepoint site.
- SH called out need to fill out form for past projects, probably back to the beginning of the SWPA.
- Group discussion of pros and cons of retroactively filling out form: What will the time requirements be? How will the information be used? Are activities not related to a specific resource or location to be considered mitigation, e.g. Grand Coulee sign placement plan. Some of these actions are funded and carried out without MOAs. Is it worthwhile to go back and fill out forms for generic actions? AR suggested that we fill out a summary table rather than having to go back and fill out the more detailed form. She will bring an example for consideration to the September CRSC for discussion.

Integrated Program Review

- KM: Everything moving on schedule. BPA has to explain costs to customers. The cultural resources personnel may have to give testimony during the summer.

Project Round Robin

Grand Coulee

- DB: Discussed major issues yesterday. Recently installed log booms are working well, calming water coming off Main Stem. There have been some complaints that the log booms have been interfering with recreation, but the project followed a full permitting process including EA and public comment. May see more complaints as fishing season warms up.
- A project proposed for construction in FY 16 is facing delays. This project included paving 200 – 300 feet of gravel road and installing drainage improvements to protect a site. Monitoring for inadvertent discovery and going to great lengths to avoid ground disturbance.
- CCT and Spokane tribes are gearing up for a major survey effort. ARPA permit process went well and is complete. Most field work will be survey, some monitoring, a little testing.
- NPS wants to conduct testing at historic period mill site.
- GA: HPMP is complete and final will be out end of March.
Hungry Horse

- **GA:** Reviewed draft of the FY15 survey contract; Mary Rogers has been reviewing; FY16 contracts moving forward; 2nd draft for HPMP for review by the end of May; final should be complete by the end of the fiscal year, allowing us to meet the SWPA commitments; finished up our FY17 plans; Clarinda Burke is still the acting THPO. MPD is held up, once complete it will open up additional work. Follow up call on MPD set for 3/21, and meetings with culture committees scheduled in April.

Libby

- **BG:** Finished up one major stabilization project, and now moving onto another one. Price range may be $100k to $150k. BG is working to develop a project delivery team during FY16; probably end up implementing in FY17; kept curation contract with SK College; annual Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request (MIPR) with the Kootenai Nat. Forest; do task orders under the agreement with KNF; will be trying to contract for inventory; has been trying to get a contract in place with CSKT; After March 31st, he should have a better idea of work;

- Pictographs near one of the projects are the main TCP of concern to CSKT at Libby. **GC:** CSKT has proposed a language program as possible treatment for adverse effects to the pictographs; there have already been steps taken to physically protect the site; DB: curious about what the language program should really look like, as there is already a language program that has Salish taught in schools; we would need to understand exactly what we are purchasing.

Albeni Falls

- **KK:** Just finished one large stabilization project. Challenging site conditions. Ground did not freeze, so this meant that things were much more muddy; problem with filling sink holes. $840,000 project; rock work is “pretty”; willows planted on rocks. Trying to get a curation contract in place.

- Rock art monitoring; looking at doing a MIPR with the USFS; have had some problems with contracting; curation contract is going out to bid; Idaho and E. Washington; temporary contract at this point; AFD has never had a curation contract; Idaho SHPO has said that artifacts should not leave Idaho; AR - UI does not have rate structure, Eastern Washington a possibility; GC – CCT has excellent curation facility and is working with USACE Veterans Curation Program to kick off curation training program for tribal vets; starting up soon; facility will be expanding.
Chief Joseph

- **RQ:** LS working on curation IDIQ with CCT in May; GC - Moving forward with determination of eligibility with CCT; DB - First Salmon Ceremony with CCT last year in June was a good time; highly recommended, tribes appreciative of agency presence; Ashley has been working on some technical stuff at CHJ, but she has not been working on this in depth; still no schedule for LS retirement; Ashley is moving into a history master’s program.

Payos

- **AR:** March workshop last week; went smoothly; recent stabilization project is holding well. Planning for other stabilization projects are underway, and LIDAR topographic survey being done at selected sites to measure erosion through time. Noted that it has proven important to plan erosion treatments holistically.
- **USACE** has also been considering closure of some areas to prevent damage to cultural resources. However, this is likely to be a big public relations issue given the recent incident at Malheur. The USACE has a law enforcement contract with Franklin Co. to patrol important sites. Violations of federal law referred to USACE rangers.
- Other work being done in the Payos group includes analysis of collections that were not subjected to detailed analysis in the past, site monitoring (especially for cattle impacts), and even a small in-house excavation project.

WPKK

- **VV:** USACE has been working with the cooperating group regarding petroglyphs management projects at two locations, including discussion of how to treat a petroglyphs that has collapsed. Other work includes completing the environmental compliance process for a stabilization project in the John Day pool. A desire to reopen one of the existing parks may mean some more survey work, and USACE continues to handle an ARPA violation along with CRTFE.

FCRPS Handbook

- **SH:** Just recently, we concluded a 30-day review by JOC and agency counsels on March 4. The Handbook is designed to brief new members and management on program. The comments were not extensive and have been generally positive. The group asked SH to finalize the document. It will be posted on the FCRPS Cultural Resources Program website hosted by BPA, and hard copies will be sent to program participants.
SWRD

- KM and Catherine Dickson had a long conversation about comments and the revision process, and it was suggested that there be a comment page established on the Program web site. A comment tracking spreadsheet could also be posted on Sharepoint. Recommended to share list of comments that team was unable to address and discuss with cooperating groups to get broader base of feedback.

Next Meeting – June 1, 2016, The Dalles Dam