FCRPS Cultural Resources Sub-Committee (CRSC) Quarterly Meeting Notes

March 19 - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Pacific Time
March 20 - 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Pacific Time

Place: USACE Walla Walla District Office
Harvest Room
201 North Third Avenue
Walla Walla, Washington 99362-1876

Attendees
- Greg Anderson (GA), BPA
- Derek Beery (DB), Reclamation
- Jennifer Bertolani (JB), BPA Contractor
- Leah Bonstead (LB), USACE
- Kevin Cannell (KC), BPA
- Ashley Dailide (AD), USACE
- Michael Flowers (MF), USACE
- Scott Hall (SHall), USACE
- Sean Hess (SHess), Reclamation
- Kara Kanaby (KK), USACE
- Celia Moret Crockett (CMC), BPA Contractor
- Aaron Nauman (AN), BPA
- Liz Oliver (LO), USACE
- Kelly Phillips (KP), BPA Contractor
- Matt Punke (MP), USACE

Introductions & Announcements
- KC – The Hungry Horse position remains open, as Amy Holman is moving back to BPA’s Transmission Program.
- JB – Accepted Corps position to work with the Seattle District on the Chief Joseph Project.

Notes from Previous Meetings
- Approval of December 2018 Mtg. Notes (Group) – Notes approved pending two corrections
Decisions Arising from Action Item Review

- Recordings from the previous Systemwide Meeting will be destroyed now that the meetings notes have been finalized.
- Treatment Plan Forms will be regarded as being good for the life of the Program, but they need to be reviewed at least every five years.

Review of Program Status

Performance Indicators – FY19 Milestones (Group)

- All are reportedly “going green”.
- Corps status & progress toward March 31st interim milestone – Walla Walla group side is looking pretty good, and Portland is on target, as is Seattle District.
- Seattle District cultural contracts has been moved to the Corps contracting folks at Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM).

Program Goals & Measures - FY19 Tasks (Group)

#1 - APE

- APE for the Portland District Projects – BPA staff needs to do more briefing up to their chain-of-command.
- APE for the Walla Walla District Projects (Payos Kuus Cuukwe [PKC]) – This process has been completed and it was reported in the in the FY18 Annual Report.

#2 – Inventory

- Chief Joe is mostly done (500 acres remaining) and will be finalized in FY2021. There was a delay due to a contracting issue.
- At Albeni, inventory of TCPs handed on a case-by-case basis at Albeni. If something comes up, then they look at it.
- Grand Coulee Mainstem is close, with 1500 remaining unsurveyed acres of accessible federal lands.
- Grand Coulee Spokane Arm is close too, but it might be FY20 before it is all done.
- Libby – TCP inventory process will be discussed in the next meeting. Libby has a TCP inventory plan. There have not been any deliverables submitted, but CSKT is working on it. There is a desire to get a five year plan in place.

#3 - Evaluation

- Grand Coulee Mainstem is adding sites to districts, as there are new sites in the boundaries. Kettle Falls Archaeological District is listed in the National Register and it will require serious tweaking, but could be complicated, as a district has not been revised before.
Grand Coulee Spokane Arm – Looking at doing a determination for the Cayuse Mt. District.

#4 - Mitigation
- The 10BR575 and 10BR471 stabilization. The use of wetland mats worked great, and they are highly recommended. Photos, drone footage and maybe some information to share. The point here is basically are we getting close to doing one mitigation per year.
- Albeni Falls looking at 10BR91 next, but it could be very expensive. So, maybe data recovery. They are starting to look at other options, but creative mitigation is not really something the group has done before.
- Chief Joseph – Collections review, sites, GIS story maps, tribal education programs, language programs, etc. are some ideas for off-site mitigation.
- PKC is looking at several ideas for both small treatments and larger creative mitigations for adverse of affects

Systemwide PA – FY19 Commitments & Schedule (Group)
- Chief Joseph is going to revise their HPMP and make it shorter. They are moving toward developing a kind of standardization, which then may be used as a model.
- The three Program Managers should get together and figure out what the schedule is for all the PSPAs and HPMPs for the projects.
- The Portland District projects will need the APE determined before the HPMP can move forward.

- BPA and BOR have signed. Corps will sign on March 25th.
- Tabling lessons learned until after the process is over.

Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA)
The agencies need to re-issue the FACA letter because it has been awhile.

SW Meeting
- Notes were finalized and given to BPA staff to put on the website.

Major Program Issues and Challenges
CRSO EIS cultural resources technical leads update
- The co lead agencies have determined not to amend the SWPA but to ask the newly identified consulting parties to sign the document via attachment 7.
The NEPA study area for cultural resources may end up similar as to the identified APEs for this program.

The co-lead agencies have sent out NEPA consultation letters to the 19 tribes regarding knowledge they have of Sacred Sites in the study area. Two tribes have responded, and one tribe has asked for more information.

Future of Funding for the FCRPS Cultural Resources Program / BPA Strategic Plan

- BPA’s current goal is to keep costs level until 2028. And, the current five-year budget is in place until 2023, after which we will get another plan. For more information, see: https://www.bpa.gov/StrategicPlan/Pages/Strategic-Plan.aspx
- Everyone should push to have updated 1 to 5 yr. plans, signed TPFs and otherwise have things lined up. In short, be ready to expend 100% of the funds by the end of the fiscal year.

Five Year Review of the SWPA

Schedule

- This process needs to start in the fall of 2019 and be wrapped up in time for the FY2019 Annual Report, which comes out in March 2020.

Agency ideas for amending the SWPA

- There was some discussion of revisions to Attachment 6.

Upcoming Program Meetings

- Executive Briefing – postponed until October/November 2019
- Combined Joint Operating Committee – May 21-22, 2019

Project Round Robin (Group)

Wana Pa Koot Koot (USACE Portland District Projects)

- Three stabilizations are moving forward: 45KL219, 35WS217, 35WS218.
  - Wind erosion is a problem on the island.
  - The 45KL219 mitigation design should reach 90% this week.
- Fencing along the Narrows should be going up to stop the trampling of the sites in this area.
- The WPKK group is focusing on DOEs for TCPs. Information listing eligible properties should fit in the annual report, but we should change this language from “sites” to “properties”.
• John Day Dam Determination of Eligibility indicates the dam is National Register eligible under criteria A & C. Because this Program covers expenses related to the O&M of the dams and reservoirs, FCRPS has been paying for this project in addition to the work on the reservoirs. The Portland District discussed this project as something that needed to be done, but the use of programs funds to support it was not well received, as John Day Dam is not considered a priority for some cooperating group participants.

PKC (USACE Walla Walla District Projects)
• The 45BN52 stabilization project was put on hiatus since January and the only thing they have left is to put the geofabric down and have plantings installed. In addition, there is another project along the Snake River where some gravel is needed. They are working on the TPF forms and the CCT has worked through all of their capacity. Working on protecting a rock art site where a game camera was installed, documenting people recreating in this area. Law enforcement is no longer being contracted.
• At the Spring Workshop, spent one day developing a site monitoring frequency and priority plan. They went over pointed questions with the four participating tribes to gain consensus on a plan. The Corps has been able to monitor about 80 sites per year in-house, but this year monitoring is going back to being contracted through the tribes. They are doing a contract for monitoring and erosion, 3D imagery, and working on trying to resurrect the rock image MPD. The Oregon SHPO requested a fundamental rewrite of the Rock Image MPD. Cattle grazing continues to be a problem.

Chief Joseph
• The cooperating group started moving through the five-year plan and they came to consensus on plans for the next few years. They are moving forward with the plant study and the brochure. Once those are done, they will look forward to next steps.
• They are working on a rock image MPD and focusing on sites that have not been looked at for 40-50 years. The CCT is also trying to develop a rock image monitoring form. They will start this work by looking at groupings of sites 10 at a time. There are problems with cow rubbing up against the rock art sites, but some sites are in a jurisdictionally difficult place. The site monitoring plan developed by GeoVisions may be useful in this monitoring.

Hungry Horse
• BPA needs to reassign Project Management at this group to someone.
• Since inventory at HH is complete, the CG is discussing a synthesis report to culminate the years of inventory and monitoring.
• The CSKT has been doing work with TCPs and ethnobotany.
• The Forest Service is looking forward to starting monitoring efforts and eager to engage with the CSKT.

Grand Coulee Mainstem
• The Marble stabilization Request for Quotation (RFQ) was released for bidding. It is projected to be roughly $1.5M. Work is expected to occur in the spring and fall.
• The inventory effort is ending. There is a little bit more GIS data polishing to do. The cooperating groups hopes the next big push in workload will be monitoring with rapid response. This will require additional NPS involvement.
• There is some hope that mitigation will swing back toward data recovery as some of the stabilizations are expensive and difficult to install.
• There was a new project last year that synthesized the full work history of work from a single site. It is almost like a HABS/HAER of the site. It has been very useful and the cooperating group is discussing what site to synthesize next.

Grand Coulee Spokane Arm
• A four-year, four phase, $4M stabilization is being designed by Reclamation to address O&M erosion at 45LI377. It is a ½ mile long site cut and due to its size and estimated cost-it might be the last big site stabilization on the Spokane Arm for a long time.
• Spokane Arm CG doing more data recovery and other creative mitigation projects are moving forward.
• The human remains detection dogs seem to be able to detect subsurface burials and those that have been recently exposed. The field tests seem to be playing this out well. The CCT are considering using them this year too.
• Reclamation is putting together a group to study stabilization effectiveness in the FCRPS Program. This groups would select a sample of different types of stabilizations in the Grand Coulee Project. The main goal will be to answer the question of futility versus utility and address and ongoing maintenance needs at the finished stabilization structures.

Albeni Falls
• 10BR575 and 10BR471 stabilization is now done, and a bunch of plantings are going in soon. Idaho Fish & Game is also involved, and they are pushing for work in other wildlife areas, but it will be important to keep the focus on protection of historic properties. A site visit to Bear Paw Rock is coming up during the next meeting.
• The temporary curation contract is now in place.
• At Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, Tracey Shottanana has taken over the CR program.
• A search is being conducted to try and find a panel from the 10BR671 site.
• 10BR91 is eroding, and the group is looking at mitigation measures.
Libby

- Facing several challenges such as legacy problems, contracts and lack of deliverables, curation problems, and reduced program funding.
- Grey Johnson (CSKT) is working with the agencies to develop signage for 24LN1025 and 24LN1020, which will be Libby’s FY19 treatment.
- Additional treatment for 24LN1016 that was planned in FY18 has been shelved. It has been added to the 5-YR plan for future consideration.
- The group is still trying to work through the ownership of the collection issue between the USACE and USFS, and there are some missing artifacts from 24LN1054. The Corps’ Mandatory Center of Expertise (MCX) in St. Louis is trying to help figure this out.

Determinations of Eligibility

- A general discussion about consensus determinations vs. Keeper approved determinations of eligibility and National Register nominations based on the NPS 10-900s forms occurred. The CRSC is trying to find the appropriate level of documentation for each process and then moving forward as quickly as possible.

Systemwide Research Design

- STI uses it.