Help us protect the HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES OF LAKE ROOSEVELT

REPORT THE VIOLATION
If you suspect a violation do not get involved or approach the scene! Report the violation immediately to local law enforcement at one of the following numbers:

- 1-800-324-4344 FERRY COUNTY DISPATCH
- 509-725-3501 LINCOLN COUNTY DISPATCH
- 509-684-5296 STEVENS COUNTY DISPATCH
- 509-634-2472 COWLILLE TRIBAL POLICE DISPATCH
- 1-888-258-6899 SPOKANE TRIBAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Archaeological resources are not the property of looters and vandals. We need your help in protecting these invaluable resources!

If you see someone engaged in any of the activities listed in this brochure, they are breaking the law and you can help by reporting it to local law enforcement.

PLEASE CALL. WE NEED YOUR HELP.

Archaeological resources are non-renewable resources that should be left in place and honored.

The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Spokane Tribe of Indians, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation, the Bonneville Power Administration and Washington state law enforcement agencies are serious about enforcing the laws that protect archaeological resources and human remains.

June 2020

Detillion area prior to inundation

Fishing at Kettle Falls prior to inundation
Protecting our heritage
Since time immemorial, local tribes have lived on the Columbia River and its tributaries and they continue to do so: gathering food, hunting, fishing, practicing religion, caring for their departed family and friends, and continuing to practice their traditions. In the 1800s, European explorers, settlers, miners, farmers, and ranchers entered the area. Together, human history tells the story of America’s ancestors.

Evidence of peoples’ lives are on and around these rivers. These remnants inform the history of our country and cannot be restored once they are damaged or removed. Yet, there are people on the river every day destroying and removing human remains and archaeological resources. Archaeological resources are any material remains of past human life, activities and occupation.

It’s a crime
Did you know it’s against the law to remove or vandalize archaeological resources and human remains and deface or destroy government property? There are laws protecting these resources on federal, state, and tribal lands. Such acts may be felonies and are punishable with fines and prison terms!

- ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE PROTECTION ACT (ARPRA), (16 USC 470aa–470mm)
- NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT (NAGPRA), (PL 101-601)
- NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (54 USC 300101)
- WASHINGTON STATE RCW 27.53 and RCW 27.44
- COLVILLE TRIBAL ORDINANCE CTC 4-4
- SPOKANE TRIBAL ORDINANCE 1 996-001B

Examples of Illegal Acts
- Damaging a rock image.
- Digging, probing, or using a tool to remove any artifact from the ground (a tool being any instrument, even a stick).
- Digging for or possessing human remains.
- Digging for bottles.
- Removing any artifacts from the surface in plain sight.
- Vandalizing historic buildings.
- Driving a vehicle in the drawdown zone.
- Using a metal detector.
- Possessing artifacts or human remains originating from federal and tribal land is illegal and steals from our history. Collections of artifacts should be reported the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP), so they may provide historical, scientific, and cultural value to the public. If you are interested in donating an artifact collection or would like advice locating a local land managing agency, please contact DAHP at (360) 586-3065.

PHOTO CREDIT: Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area

How can I help?
- You can help by immediately notifying law enforcement if you see any of the illegal acts listed.
- Share the information in this brochure with family members and friends.
- Respect special places and teach your children to do the same.
- Do not touch or pick up artifacts or human remains, and report it when others do.

When you suspect a violation do not get involved or approach the scene! Make note of information such as the location, time and date, license plate numbers, and a description of the vandals, and contact law enforcement authorities as soon as possible.