

# PLAN AND PROCEDURES FOR THE UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES AND HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS

PROJECT, COUNTY WASHINGTON

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The plans to construct the project. The purpose of this project is to . The following Unanticipated Discovery Plan (UDP) outlines procedures to follow, in accordance with state and federal laws, if archaeological materials or human remains are discovered.

## 2. RECOGNIZING CULTURAL RESOURCES

A cultural resource discovery could be prehistoric or historic. Examples include:

- An accumulation of shell, burned rocks, or other food related materials
- Bones or small pieces of bone,
- An area of charcoal or very dark stained soil with artifacts,
- Stone tools or waste flakes (i.e. an arrowhead, or stone chips),
- Clusters of tin cans or bottles, logging or agricultural equipment that appears to be older than 50 years,
- Buried railroad tracks, decking, or other industrial materials.

When in doubt, assume the material is a cultural resource.

## 3. ON-SITE RESPONSIBILITIES

STEP 1: STOP WORK. If any employee, contractor or subcontractor believes that he or she has uncovered any cultural resource at any point in the project, all work adjacent to the discovery must stop. The discovery location should not be left unsecured at any time.

STEP 2: NOTIFY MONITOR. If there is an archaeological monitor for the project, notify that person. If there is a monitoring plan in place, the monitor will follow its provisions.

STEP 3: NOTIFY PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND WSDOT LOCAL PROGRAMS OFFICE. Contact the Project Manager and the Local Programs Archaeologist:



- If the find may be human remains or funerary objects, the Local Programs Archaeologist will ensure that a qualified individual examines the find. If it is determined to be human remains, the procedure described in Section 5 will be followed.
- Notify DAHP: The Local Programs Archaeologist will contact the involved federal agency(s) and the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP).
- Notify Tribes: If the discovery may relate to Native American interests, the Local Programs Archaeologist will notify the affected Indian tribes.

Federal Agencies:

Federal Highway Administration  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Area Engineer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation:

Dr. Allyson Brooks  
 Washington State Historic  
 Preservation Officer  
 360-586-3066

or  
 Dennis Wardlaw  
 Transportation Archaeologist  
 360-586-3085

Tribes consulted on this project are:

Tribe: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number \_\_\_\_\_  
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## 5. SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR THE DISCOVERY OF HUMAN SKELETAL MATERIAL

Any human skeletal remains, regardless of ethnic origin, will at all times be treated with dignity and respect.

If the project occurs on federal lands (e.g., National Forest or Park, military reservation) the provisions of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 apply, and the responsible federal agency will follow its provisions. Note that state highways that cross federal lands are on an easement and are not owned by the state.

If the project occurs on non-federal lands, the \_\_\_\_\_ will comply with applicable state and federal laws, and the following procedure:

### A. Notify Law Enforcement Agency or Coroner's Office:

In addition to the actions described in Sections 3 and 4, the Project Manager will immediately notify the local law enforcement agency or coroner's office.

The coroner (with assistance of law enforcement personnel) will determine if the remains are human, whether the discovery site constitutes a crime scene, and will notify DAHP.

Agency \_\_\_\_\_  
Number \_\_\_\_\_

### B. Participate in Consultation:

Per RCW 27.53.030, RCW 68.50, and RCW 68.60, DAHP will have jurisdiction over non-forensic human remains. The Local Programs Archaeologist will participate in consultation.

If ground disturbing activities encounter human skeletal remains during the course of construction, then all activity will cease that may cause further disturbance to those remains. The area of the find will be secured and protected from further disturbance until the State provides notice to proceed. The finding of human skeletal remains will be reported to the county medical examiner/coroner and local law enforcement in the most expeditious manner possible. The remains will not be touched, moved, or further disturbed. The county medical examiner/coroner will assume jurisdiction over the human skeletal remains and make a determination of whether those remains are forensic or non-forensic. If the county medical examiner/coroner determines the remains are non-forensic, then they will report that finding to the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) who will then take jurisdiction over the remains. The DAHP will notify any appropriate cemeteries and all affected tribes of the find. The State Physical Anthropologist will make a determination of whether the remains are Indian or Non-Indian and report that finding to any appropriate cemeteries and the affected tribes. The DAHP will then handle all consultation with the affected parties as to the future preservation, excavation, and disposition of the remains.

## **6. DOCUMENTATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL MATERIALS**

Archaeological deposits discovered during construction will be assumed eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D.

The Local Programs Archaeologist will ensure the proper documentation and assessment of any discovered cultural resources in cooperation with the federal agency(s), DAHP, affected tribes, and a contracted consultant (if any).

All prehistoric and historic cultural material discovered during project construction will be recorded by a professional archaeologist on State of Washington cultural resource site or isolate form using standard techniques. Site overviews, features, and artifacts will be photographed; stratigraphic profiles and soil/sediment descriptions will be prepared for subsurface exposures. Discovery locations will be documented on scaled site plans and site location maps.

Cultural features, horizons and artifacts detected in buried sediments may require further evaluation using hand-dug test units. Units may be dug in controlled fashion to expose features, collect samples from undisturbed contexts, or interpret complex stratigraphy. A test excavation unit or small trench might also be used to determine if an intact occupation surface is present. Test units will be used only when necessary to gather information on the nature, extent, and integrity of subsurface cultural deposits to evaluate the site's significance. Excavations will be conducted using state-of-the-art techniques for controlling provenience.

Spatial information, depth of excavation levels, natural and cultural stratigraphy, presence or absence of cultural material, and depth to sterile soil, regolith, or bedrock will be recorded for each probe on a standard form. Test excavation units will be recorded on unit-level forms, which include plan maps for each excavated level, and material type, number, and vertical provenience (depth below surface and stratum association where applicable) for all artifacts recovered from the level. A stratigraphic profile will be drawn for at least one wall of each test excavation unit.

Sediments excavated for purposes of cultural resources investigation will be screened through 1/8-inch mesh, unless soil conditions warrant 1/4-inch mesh.

All prehistoric and historic artifacts collected from the surface and from probes and excavation units will be analyzed, catalogued, and temporarily curated. Ultimate disposition of cultural materials will be determined in consultation with the federal agency(s), DAHP, and the affected tribes.

Within 90 days of concluding fieldwork, a technical report describing any and all monitoring and resultant archaeological excavations will be provided to the Project Manager, who will

forward the report to the Local Programs Archaeologist for review and delivery to the federal agency(s), SHPO, and the affected tribe(s).

If assessment activity exposes human remains (burials, isolated teeth, or bones), the process described in Section 7 below will be followed.

## **7. PROCEEDING WITH CONSTRUCTION**

Project construction outside the discovery location may continue while documentation and assessment of the cultural resources proceed. The Local Programs Archaeologist must determine the boundaries of the discovery location. In consultation with DAHP and affected tribes, Project Manager and the Local Programs Archaeologist will determine the appropriate level of documentation and treatment of the resource. The federal agency(s) will make the final determinations about treatment and documentation.

Construction may continue at the discovery location only after the process outlined in this plan is followed and the Local Programs Archaeologist (and the federal agency(s)) determines that compliance with state and federal laws is complete.