

Baker Project Cultural and Historic Resources Working Group
Issues Discussion Meeting
Suggested Agenda: December 9, 2002

Purpose of this meeting: To prepare for cross resource meetings in March by discussing resource issues, impacts & potential solutions so that the Cultural Group will be better able to:

- Explain its concerns to other resource working groups;
- Review, for cultural concerns, the PME's being developed by the other working groups; and
- Focus its discussions about the development of a Cultural Resources Management Plan, per Section 106.

Desired Outcomes:

- A list of the resource issues and impacts of concern to working group members
- Thoughts on protection, mitigation, and/or enhancement of resources of concern
- Ideas about cross resource implications regarding resource issues of concern
- Thoughts on what needs to be communicated to other working groups & the Solution Team
- A plan for next steps

Time	Topic
	Welcome, agenda review and introductions
	Facilitator Feedback: Here's what we understand of the issues so far
1:30 p.m.	Introduction to dialogue on resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will information from this dialogue be used? • This is a dialogue about ideas—no one is committing their tribe, agency or company to any specific outcome
1:45 p.m.	Dialogue on resources: What kind of impacts are we concerned about? On: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archeological sites • Historic buildings and structures • Traditional Cultural Property and sacred sites
2:30 p.m.	Break
2:40 p.m.	Impacts (continued)
3:00 p.m.	Dialogue on resources: What can we do about these potential impacts? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can we protect the resources? • What are possible mitigation measures? • How might we enhance the resources?
4:00 p.m.	Break
4:10 p.m.	Where do we go from here? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing up the results of today's discussion • Communicating with other groups • Action plan
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn

BAKER RIVER PROJECT RELICENSE

Cultural & Historical Working Group PME Meeting

December 9, 2002

12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Baker Lodge

MEETING NOTES

Mission: *“To develop alternatives and recommendations addressing cultural, historical and archeological resources for the Baker River Project relicensing process.”*

Team Leader: Jessie Piper (425) 462-3609, jpiper@puget.com

PRESENT: Jessie Piper (Puget Sound Energy), Connie Freeland (Puget Sound Energy), Bruce Freet and Dee Endelman (Agreement Dynamics), Scott Schuyler and Cliff Edwards (Upper Skagit Tribe), Frank Winchell by phone (FERC), Rob Whitlam (WA Office Archaeology & Historic Preservation), Jan Hollenbeck (US Forest Service), Bob Mierendorf and Ryan Booth (National Park Service), Lyn Wiltse, notetaker (PDSA Consulting, Inc.)

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be a cross-working group meeting during the first week in March 2003. Part of our purpose in meeting today is to prepare for the cross resource meeting so we will be able to articulate our interests clearly to other working groups. The meeting in March will also provide us an opportunity to review (from a cultural perspective) the preliminary PMEs being proposed by other Working Groups.

AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 9 - BAKER LODGE

1. Review agenda and introductions
2. Facilitator feedback: Understanding of issues so far
3. Introduction to dialogue on resources
 - How will this information be used?
 - This is a dialogue about ideas- no one is committing their organization to any specific outcome.
4. Dialogue on resources
 - Archaeological sites

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- Historic buildings
 - TCPs and sacred sites
5. Dialogue on resources
- How can we protect/mitigate/enhance the resources
6. Where do we go from here?
- Writing up results from today's discussions
 - Communicating with other groups
 - Action Plan

NEW ACTION ITEMS

- Lyn: Type up notes and send to Dee.
- Jessie: Pull descriptions of legal context for the work of this group and send to Dee.
- Dee: Revise list of issues, etc. based on notes from today's meeting, incorporate legal references from Jessie.
- Jessie: Send out notes from this meeting to working group members to review prior to next working group meeting on January 14 (with revised list of issues, other handouts, legal references, etc.).
- Scott: Pull together list of tribal issues associated with PME (to present at January 14 Working Group Meeting.).
- Bruce and Dee: At January 14 meeting brief group on PME of interest from other working group.

INTRODUCTIONS

We welcomed Cliff Edwards, member of Upper Skagit Tribal Council.

LIST OF ISSUES

We reviewed/revised a preliminary list of issues put together by Dee with input from Ardis and Jessie. We added:

- Resources to Protect: Wildlife (including mountain goats which are considered sacred to the Sauk-Suattle. Scott noted that all wildlife including also elk, deer, and bears are considered sacred to the Upper Skagit Tribe.
- Plan Development: Monitoring in the future (comprehensive).
- Resources to Protect: Preservation of historic properties.
- Treaty resources: On USFS lands interested in protecting/enhancing these.
- Cultural associations with wildlife, fish, vegetation (Scott would like to define more for the group).
- Organize to explain how we're different and how what we do fits in with other working groups.
- Effects of reservoirs: Chemical alterations (saturation, etc.), physical displacement/transportation, erosion and deposition, physical alteration (water wear) of artifacts (dependent on material type), seasonal access to cultural sites, changing the defining features or characteristics of historic places and TCPs
- Impacts: TCP introduces a whole range of impacts we can't capture at this point (awaiting survey results) e.g., sites whose values include solitude- recreationists, etc. could disturb.
- Vision site- changes in view shed
- Hot springs - increase in visitors (example of impacts to culturally-important areas).

RESOURCES: ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

- Stabilize sites
- Restrict accessibility (physical, re-route, educate, etc.)
- Data recovery (excavation, detailed descriptions, photo documentation)
- Decide improvement through consultation process
- Confidentiality of sites
- Re-design/alter project (for avoidance)
- Engineer an armoring/protection
- Education/public awareness
- Patrolling sites
- Monitoring (video surveillance)
- Scheduled visits/record
- Develop GIS database (erosion)
- Curation (long-term, permanent preservation)
- Training (staff, tribes)

RESOURCES: HISTORIC BUILDINGS/STRUCTURES (ARCHITECTURE)

- Move them
- Adaptive re-use (e.g., school to community, etc.)

RESOURCES: TCPS/SACRED SITES

- Confidentiality
- Enhancing resources (e.g., planting certain plants, prescribed burning, habitat improvements)
- Restricting access/enhancing access
- Maintaining tribal access
- Ongoing consultation with tribes
- Redesign projects (scheduling timing to not impact cultural rite)
- Public awareness/education – e.g., cultural aspects of plants and goats
- Financial remuneration to tribes

TRAILS, ETC.

- Maintain historic trails with significant design characteristics
- Replacing/reconstructing footbridge
- Enhancing species (e.g., re-establishing huckleberry fields)
- Land acquisition for habitat
- Unanticipated discoveries /plan (being done)
 - Monitoring
 - Training of staff
 - Protocol
 - Ongoing consultation with tribes

COMPLIANCE

- Forest laws (Mt. Baker/Snoqualmie Forest Plan as amended)

PLAN DEVELOPMENT

- Dispute resolution procedure
- Implementation Group
- Repatriation
- Curation Plan
 - We need to develop a curation plan
 - It needs to consider tribal facilities
 - Adherence to NAGPRA procedures for federal lands

HANDOUTS

- Agenda
- Draft list of issues from Cultural/Historic Resources Working Group Discussions (put together by Dee from input from Jessie and Ardis)
- List of Baker River Operations and Maintenance activities that would be of concern from a cultural resources standpoint (put together by Jessie)

**Cultural/Historical Resources Working Group
Draft List of Issues Drawn from Group Discussions
December 2002**

Compliance with Laws and Regulations

- Compliance with federal cultural resource laws & regulations
- Consistency with Forest Service laws and regulations
- Meet FERC responsibility regarding tribal consultations

Plan Development

- Develop Cultural Resources Management Plan (Historic Properties Management Plan)
- Create PSE/USFS agreement on cultural resources so tribes know who has authority
- Develop curation plan
- Include repatriation clause in curation plan
- Develop historic buildings & structures district
- Impacts and use of future technologies

Project Activities

- Concern about effects of general Project O&M activities on cultural resources
- Development of training for Baker River Project personnel
- Unanticipated discoveries

Types of Impacts

- Concern about erosion and deposition (effects of reservoir drawdown)
- Concern about vandalism to cultural sites
- Concerns about damage to archaeological sites from off-road vehicles and other recreational activity
- Concerns about future recreational developments
- Concerns about disturbance of burials

Resources to Protect

- Protect, mitigate, and enhance cultural resources
- Protect sacred sites and ceremonial bathing sites
- Protect cedar, berries, baskets making sites and medicinal plants that are current as well as traditional cultural properties

- Protect mountain goats
- Protect resources from prehistoric & early historic (contact) periods
- Other sites, artifacts that may be there that we don't know about yet
- Other tribal interests expressed: use of downed cedar, firewood, native plants, controlled burning to enhance berries

Relationships

- Coordinate with other working groups
- Helping other working groups to understand cultural implications
- Be sure that Tribes are heard and develop & maintain open and ongoing communication and relationships
- Resolving conflicts when they come up

Education

- Develop education and interpretation opportunities to develop public respect & appreciation for culture/history of area
- Telling the history of the valley
- Offsite education (e.g., websites)

Cultural/Historical Resources Working Group
Outline of Issues Drawn from Group Discussions
Draft # 2
December 9, 2002

Compliance with Laws and Regulations—Our work must:

- 1) Be in compliance with federal cultural resource laws & regulations
 - a) NHPA – National Historic Preservation Act
 - b) ARPA- Archaeological Resources Protection Act
 - c) NEPA – National Environmental Protection Act
 - d) AIRFA – American Indian Religious Freedom Act
 - e) NAGPRA – Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act
- 2) Be consistent with Forest Service laws and regulations (Mt. Baker/Snoqualmie Forest Plan as amended)
- 3) Meet FERC responsibility regarding tribal consultations

Resource Management plan—We need to:

- 1) Develop a Cultural Resources Management Plan (Historic Properties Management Plan)
- 2) Create PSE/USFS agreement on cultural resources so tribes know who has authority
- 3) Develop a curation plan that:
 - a) Complies with NHPA & ARPA
 - b) Adheres to NAGPRA procedures for federal land
 - c) Includes repatriation clause in curation plan
 - d) Considers possible future tribal facilities
- 4) Consider the impacts and use of future technologies
- 5) Include monitoring plan
- 6) Provide for conflict resolution

Project Activities—We are concerned about:

- 1) Effects of general Project O&M activities on cultural resources
- 2) Development of training for Baker River Project personnel
- 3) Unanticipated discoveries

Types of Impacts—Following are the types of impacts that might require protection and/or mitigation of cultural resources:

- 1) Effects of reservoirs
 - a) Chemical alterations (saturation, etc.)
 - b) Physical displacement/transportation
 - c) Erosion and deposition (effects of reservoir drawdown)
 - d) Physical alteration (water wear) of artifacts
 - e) Seasonal access to cultural sites
 - f) Changing the defining features or characteristics of historic places and TCPs
- 2) Vandalism to cultural sites
- 3) Damage to archaeological sites from off-road vehicles and other recreational activity
- 4) Impacts of future recreational developments
- 5) Disturbance of burials
- 6) Disturbance of TCP (Traditional Cultural Properties)

- a) Introduces a range of impacts we cannot capture at this point (awaiting survey results)
- b) E.G., sites whose values include solitude—recreationists, etc., could disturb
- c) E.G., changing view shed at a Vision site

Resources to Protect

Examples of Resources we are concerned about

- 1) Sacred sites and ceremonial bathing sites
- 2) Cedar, berries, baskets making sites and medicinal plants that are current as well as traditional cultural properties
- 3) Wildlife (including mountain goat, elk, deer, bears and others sacred to the tribes)
- 4) Archeological sites/artifacts from prehistoric & early historic (contact) periods
- 5) Historic properties
- 6) Treaty resources (on USFS lands)
- 7) Other sites, artifacts that may be there that we don't know about yet

Possible Protection, Mitigation and/or Enhancements

1) For Archeological Sites

- a) Stabilize
- b) Restrict accessibility (physical, re-route, educate, etc.)
- c) Data recovery (excavation, detailed descriptions, photo documentation)
- d) Decide improvement through consultation process
- e) Keep sites confidential
- f) Re-design/alter project (to avoid sites)
- g) Engineer an armoring/protection
- h) Education/public awareness
- i) Patrol sites
- j) Monitor (e.g., video surveillance)
- k) Scheduled visits/maintain a record
- l) Develop GIS data base (erosion)
- m) Curation (long-term, permanent preservation)
- n) Training (of staff and tribes)

2) For Historic Buildings/Structures (Architecture)

- a) Many of the strategies listed above
- b) Move buildings/structures
- c) Adaptive re-use
- d) Consider relationship to City of Concrete historic district.

3) For TCPS/Sacred Sites

- a) Confidentiality
- b) Privacy
- c) Enhancing resources (e.g., planting certain plants, prescribed burning, habitat improvements)
- d) Restricting access/enhancing access
- e) Maintaining tribal access
- f) Ongoing consultation with tribes
- g) Redesign projects (scheduling timing to not impact cultural rites)
- h) Public awareness/education—e.g., cultural aspects of plants and goats

- i) Financial remuneration to tribes

4) For Trails, Etc.

- a) Maintain historic trails with significant design characteristics
- b) Replacing/reconstructing footbridge
- c) Enhancing species (e.g., re-establishing huckleberry fields)
- d) Land acquisition for habitat
- e) Unanticipated discoveries/plan (being done)
 - i) Monitoring
 - ii) Training of staff
 - iii) Protocol
 - iv) Ongoing consultation with tribes

5) Education

- a) Develop education and interpretation opportunities to develop public respect & appreciation for culture/history of area
- b) Find ways to tell the history of the valley

Baker River Project General O&M Activities

Road Building.

This is relatively uncommon however it does occur occasionally (Blue Tarp fish release site, Lake Shannon Boat Launch Extension in recent years). No new road building planned in the near future.

Road Grading and Maintenance

This is a common practice around the project. Main roads are typically graded once or twice a year. Roads are snow plowed as needed in the winter. Vegetation is kept cut (or sprayed) back and heavily leaning trees are removed as needed.

Vegetation Clearing

This is generally performed on a seasonal basis in areas such as Kulshan Campground, the two dikes, along the abutments of the dams, road edges, inside the compounds, etc. Vegetation clearing is also performed around structures to limit fire hazards and mitigate against trees falling and striking buildings.

Ditch Clearing

This is generally done on an annual basis to prepare for the fall and winter rains. It may be worth mentioning the area behind Kulshan Campground where natural spoils from jobs such as ditch clearing are deposited.

Snag Clearing

This was done during the winter of 2000-2001 during the extreme low level of Lake Shannon. With the reservoir drawn down to approximately 370' (and the understanding that it may become a more common practice in future years), it was decided to cut tree tops down to the waterline, effectively removing an average of 20' of tree protruding out of the water and posing a large hazard to boaters. There are no plans to do this again in the near future.

New Construction

There are plans to construct a residential building within the UB compound, probably at the site of the old double wide mobile that was demolished. In addition, there may be some fisheries raceways installed at the new spawning beach for fish rearing. Engineering was budgeted for 2003 and construction in 2004.

Any Maintenance Involving Heavy Equipment

Heavy equipment is typically used to maintain the roads (graders, backhoes, excavators, etc), load on and off the barge to support work on the dam, dozers to level the spoil dump site, etc.

Vehicle Turnouts and Turnarounds

Vehicle turnout and are maintained at the same time and same manner as the roadways. No new ones planned here.