

Lake Chelan/Rocky Reach Meeting Minutes

To: Distribution List
From: Scott Kreiter
Date: June 16, 2000
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Subject: Lake Chelan & Rocky Reach Cultural Resource Issues
Attendees: Refer to Sign-Up Sheet
Location: Materials Management Conference Room, Chelan PUD, Wenatchee, WA

PURPOSE

- 1) To provide the group with an update from issues from previous meeting issues
- 2) To discuss cumulative impacts of relicensing on cultural resources
- 3) To review prehistoric site forms for Lake Chelan
- 4) To review and comment on Rocky Reach Study Plan

Updates – FERC Letter

Scott Kreiter (PUD) stated that FERC sent a letter to both the Yakama Nation and the Colville Confederate Tribes authorizing Chelan PUD Section 106 consultation authority for the Lake Chelan and Rocky Reach relicensing projects. Scott asked Guy Moura (CCT) if he or Adeline Fredin (who was not present) had any comments on the letter. Guy (CCT) mentioned that Adeline didn't have any specific comments. He commented that this letter was different than the first in the way that the first letter acknowledged FERC's involvement in the alternative relicensing process, where this letter doesn't indicate any participation until the application. Frank Winchell (FERC) responded by saying that although the letter doesn't make a distinction between official involvement, through the alternative process, FERC is available upon request. Scott added that FERC did include an offer to send a representative to discuss the Projects with the tribes. Chris Landreau (Yakama Nation) mentioned he is pleased with the letter and it said exactly what they wanted it to say. Guy (CCT) feels that the letter is only giving the PUD the authority to establish consultation with the tribes, but the PUD has not actually established the relationship yet. He said that the PUD needs to send a letter to the tribes stating Chelan PUD is initiating consultation. Chelan PUD indicated that they had met with Jerry Marco on March 10, 1998, and the tribal council on March 16, 1999.

Lake Chelan Background Overview

Scott reviewed the status of the overview. At the last working group meeting, the group decided to hire a consultant to complete the whole overview. Hemisphere Field Services from Bainbridge Island has been selected for the overview. Chris (Yakama Nation) recommended sending out their background and resume for working group review. Scott (PUD) agreed and he will send that information to the working group members. It is anticipated that a draft overview will be completed in September 2000.

TCP

TCP bids have been awarded to Camas Contracting (for CCT) and Archeological Frontiers (for Yakama Nation), and the studies are currently underway.

Section 106 Steps

The working group reviewed the Steps for Section 106 handout. Scott mentioned the background overview is being completed in order to do "Step 9." The goal is to begin writing the study plan in September 2000 in order to begin fieldwork in 2001.

Frank (FERC) provided a comment handout regarding the background overview. His idea is that the overview could serve as an outline for a good Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP). Guy (CCT) acknowledged his idea; however, he suggested using the fieldwork to guide the group through Section 106. Vera Morgan (Western Historical Society) mentioned she would be hesitant to refer to the overview as a CRMP because there is no formal research design and there is not enough information without a complete evaluation of the resources. Frank concluded by suggesting the working group keep in mind that parts of the overview could be used in the CRMP instead of starting from scratch.

Determination of Eligibility (DOE) of Lake Chelan Pictographs

The group discussed the best way to determine eligibility of the Lake Chelan pictographs. Chris (Yakama Nation) suggested Jim Henderson who uses a sophisticated photography technique. Rob Whitlam (Historic Preservation Office) mentioned the photography of the sites along with archeological and cultural context would provide good documentation. Vera (WHS) indicated there are existing photos for two of the pictograph panels and those could be used for determination of eligibility along with existing information. She continued by saying that Jim Henderson's work could be used in a management effort and mitigation of the sites. Powys Gadd (USFS) mentioned that there is a possibility that DOE of the Domke Falls site has already been completed by USFS and she will check into the issue further. After further discussion, the group agreed that Vera (WHS) would be a good candidate to complete the DOE and recommended moving forward in order to get the sites submitted. Scott stated that once a draft DOE is completed the working group members would have an opportunity to review and comment.

Cumulative Impacts

Gregg Carrington (PUD) explained that a Cumulative Impact Assessment is one of the requirements for the NEPA analysis and a requirement for relicensing. He continued by saying that cumulative impacts include any activities that would affect the cultural resources, such as timber harvest, project operations, etc.

A copy of the Leaburg-Waterville Hydroelectric Project Final EIS was distributed as an example of what FERC has done on other projects. Gregg used this project as an example because it recently went through a court appeal, was reviewed by the 9th Circuit Court and, by court standards, was determined to be acceptable for an EA. He pointed out that no cultural resources were mentioned in this cumulative analysis and that any cultural resource enhancements for Lake Chelan can be done at the project-specific level.

The working group agreed that all cultural resource issues could be addressed at the project-specific level.

Prehistoric Site Forms

Ethnoscience completed the site forms; however, Vera (WHS) made some edits to the text and added some narrative. Chris (Yakama Nation) reviewed and approved Vera's edits. Bob Mierendorf (NPS) and Powys (USFS) both mentioned they would provide written comments. Vera mentioned that she would not submit the site forms until comments from the working group were submitted. She discussed some of the concerns that had arisen following a visit to a few sites with Scott, Powys, and Bob. Chris (Yakama Nation) agreed that he would want to do field checking as well to all the sites to check for other issues. Scott (PUD) added that it would be difficult for the group to make management decisions without visiting the sites and recommended the working group members plan a trip to visit the sites. Guy (CCT) also suggested trying to get the informants' names from Ethnoscience to include on the pertinent site forms.

Vera pointed out that Ethnoscience did not provide explicit reporting for Lake Chelan and stated that some additional survey may need to be done as part of the next phase of fieldwork in the project. The working group suggested Vera review Ethnoscience's field notes in depth to clarify any questions in the reporting. Vera (WHS) stated she would first have to seek permission from Chelan PUD regarding her current scope of work in order to review those in depth. Vera will then provide the group with a short list of concerns of the Ethnoscience survey. Guy (CCT) suggested that rather than taking a step back that additional work could be written into the CRMP.

Rocky Reach Study Plan

The working group reviewed and discussed the study plan. Scott (PUD) stated that written comments are due by July 10, 2000.

Powys (USFS) commented that the area of potential effect (APE) needs to be determined and should be discussed with the tribes to determine what is appropriate. Guy (CCT) agreed and stated the APE will be an interest of the CCT. Scott (PUD) and Vera (WHS) will draw up a "draft" APE and present it to the tribes and working group for review and comment.

At the last meeting the working group discussed using the existing reports (Schalk and Mierendorf 1983) and (Galm 1990) as a sufficient overview; however, it was decided that additional survey and some re-survey work should be done. The group discussed testing methodologies. Chris (Yakama Nation) stated the Yakama Nation recommends keeping subsurface testing to a bare minimum and only on occasion do they approve of shovel testing. Scott (PUD) suggested the working group review the field inventory methods and provide comments.

Guy (CCT) said that he thought the working group could come up with field survey methods that everyone could agree to. Vera said that she would work with the members of the group to complete a very detailed scope of work. It was also suggested that private landholders on the Rocky Reach project be contacted regarding survey on or near their lands. Regarding private property, Guy (CCT) stated that Chelan PUD is not exempt from impact on cultural resources on private property.

Working Group Member Roles

Scott (PUD) mentioned that at the last working group meeting Adeline (CCT) mentioned the need to establish the roles of the working group members. Until she is present to provide a better explanation of her request, the group put the issue on hold.

Next Meeting

To be determined.

Action Items

Lake Chelan

- ✓ Powys will check on DOE for Domke Falls pictograph.
- ✓ PUD and Vera will initiate DOE for rock art.
- ✓ Scott will send copies of photographs of rock art to CCT and Yakama Nation.
- ✓ Scott will look into getting informants' names from Ethnoscience.
- ✓ CRWG will review site forms and send any written comments to Scott.
- ✓ PUD will make presentation to tribes for initiating consultation for Lake Chelan and Rocky Reach.
- ✓ Vera will review Ethnoscience field notes and make a list of any questions.
- ✓ Scott will send working group members copies of Hemisphere Field Services resume and background.

Rocky Reach

- ✓ CRWG will review study plan and provide written comments to Scott by July 10, 2000.

Reference materials are posted on the web site, www.chelanpud.org/relicense.

Please contact Rosana Sokolowski, (888)663-8121, Ext. 6371, if hard copies are needed.

- Sign-up Sheet
- Distribution List
- FERC letter to Yakama Nation and Colville Confederate Tribe
- Rocky Reach Cultural Resources Field Investigations Study Plan (first draft)
- Lake Chelan Cultural and Historical Resources Study Plan Comments (from Frank Winchell)
- EWEB Case handout
- Cumulative Impact Analysis Flow Chart