



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
**Natural Resources**  
Peter Goldmark - Commissioner of Public Lands

April 30, 2013

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Subject: Cultural Resource Review for Whiskey Dick wildlife fence project

Dear Rob,

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is proposing a new fenceline on the edge of the Whiskey Dick wildlife area in Kittitas County at T18N/R21E, in or along the boundaries of Sections 9, 10, 14-16, 22 and 23. Since DNR owns Sections 10 and 16, which could be affected by this action, and because state funds are being used, I performed cultural resource review under Executive Order 0505; DFW as project manager is doing tribal consultation.

Nearby areas have been surveyed in recent years pursuant to wind power development, but this project area has not. Only one known site (45-KT-2485) is reported in close proximity to the fence, but regional patterns and the statewide predictive model indicated a fairly high potential for prehistoric lithic sites along the ridge tops, and so I did survey on March 20, 2013.

The ground was snowy and did not allow direct access to the northwesternmost portion of the fence in Section 9, but other areas were melted enough to allow access and good soil visibility, since vegetation growth had not yet taken off in earnest.

Survey consisted of pedestrian transects on ridge-tops along fencelines that were already marked in the field, and binocular examination of the intervening steep slopes and the portion in Section 9. Binoculars provided excellent visibility of the ridgelines and talus slopes, more than sufficient to identify cairns and talus pits (the latter of which are often highlighted at this time of year because they occur near the bottoms of ravines and retain snow longer than the surrounding talus). The walking transects generally covered either side of the marked fenceline, resulting in an overall 20-m wide area of intensive coverage, and allowing for minor adjustments in the line string construction.

Dr. Robert Whitlam  
April 130, 2013  
Page 2 of 2

No archaeological or historical properties were encountered during survey. Each of the ridge tops is dominated by lithosols, and Lomatium species of known cultural value as food were observed in varying abundance on each ridge. Tribal consultation, rather than archaeological survey, should determine whether these root areas are of interest to contemporary tribes, but the absence of sites means that the project does not have potential to affect resources that are archaeological or historical.

No further action is recommended.

I would appreciate a letter of concurrence with these recommendations. If you have any questions or comments, do not hesitate to contact me at 360-902-1298 or by email at [maurice.major@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:maurice.major@dnr.wa.gov). My contact at DFW has been Shana Winegart, Manager L.T. Murray Wildlife Area:  
201 N. Pearl St, Ellensburg WA 98926  
Office: 509-925-6746 Cell: 509-899-3427

Thank you,

Maurice Major, MA  
Cultural Resource Specialist  
Department of Natural Resources

c. Shana Winegart, L. T. Murray Wildlife Area Manager

