From: Kinsel, Clayton W (DFW)
To: Kaehler, Gretchen (DAHP)
Cc: Kelly, Katherine M (DFW); Wood, Lisa (DFW)
Subject: DNS 14-035: Big Beef Creek Weir Maintenance
Date: Monday, July 21, 2014 10:52:18 AM

Thank you for your concerns regarding maintenance of WDFW's salmon monitoring weir on Big Beef Creek. We are sensitive to the importance of archaeological resources of the area; however we do not believe that this particular project poses a risk of destroying such resources.

The primary focus of the project is to monitor long-term population trends of salmon that live in the Creek. This weir has been operating since 1978 and occasionally needs maintenance as the stream deposits substrate (gravel, sand) on the upstream side and the area directly downstream of the weir. In order to maintain function of the weir we must occasionally remove some of the materials deposited by the stream. The material that will be moved under the scope of this project are materials (sands, gravels) that have only recently been deposited by the stream since we last did maintenance on the weir during the summer of 2012. We will not remove or disturb any previously undisturbed ground or stream banks.

The project was reviewed by the WDFW archaeologist, who found there to be no potential for the project to impact intact cultural resources. An Inadvertent Discovery Plan has been created to provide guidance, in the unlikely instance that the project encounters archaeological materials. WDFW's archaeologist consulted with DAHP staff following the project review. The result of consultation was DAHP's concurrence with WDFW's recommendation that the project proceed with no further archaeological oversight. WDFW sent out tribal consultation letters to the Squaxin Island Tribe, Skokomish Tribe, and the Suquamish Tribe and to date have received only a response of "no interest" from the Squaxin Island Tribe.

If during the course of the project we encounter anything resembling archaeological artifacts we will immediately stop our activities and consult with DAHP or any other concerned parties. I would be glad to coordinate a site visit if you would like to come look at the project area to verify that this project will not be a risk to archaeological resources.

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