



The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

History/Archaeology Program
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1 March 2019

Lisa Wood
SEPA/NEPA Coordinator
WDFW Habitat Program, Protection Division
P.O. Box 43200
Olympia, WA 98504-3200

HA# U19-086
19.0098

RE: DNS/Adoption 19-017 Road 12 Partial Closure within Columbia Basin Wildlife Area

Dear Lisa Wood:

We have received the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW's) Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS) regarding the proposed closure of a ½ mile segment of Road 12 within the Columbia Basin Wildlife Area, along with the SEPA Checklist for the project and associated maps. Please be advised that your proposed undertaking lies within the traditional territories of the Moses Columbia Tribe, one of the twelve constituent tribes of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (Colville Confederated Tribes [CCT]), which is governed by the Colville Business Council (CBC). The CBC has delegated to the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) the responsibility of representing the CCT with regard to cultural resources management issues throughout the traditional territories of all of the constituent tribes under Resolution 1996-29. This area includes parts of eastern Washington, northeastern Oregon, the Palus (Palouse) territory in Idaho, and south central British Columbia.

We concur with the issuance of the DNS, but we caution both WDFW and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), who performed a Class I Cultural resources Inventory of the proposed project, that prior disturbance of an area does not preclude the existence of significant cultural resources within that area, nor does automatically justify a determination of No Potential to Cause Effects to Historic Properties.

Thank you for consulting with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. Please note that these comments are based on information available to us at the time of the project review. We reserve the right to revise our comments as information becomes available. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Karen Capuder at (509) 634-2876 or karen.capuder@colvilletribes.com. If you wish to speak with me, contact me at (509) 634-2695.

Sincerely,

Guy Moura, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Cc: Chron;
File (KMC);
Stephanie Jolivette, Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation