

## Cultural Resources

### Developed by Washington Department of Natural Resources

What are Cultural Resources?

- historic sites (such as docks or buildings, 50 - 220 years old)
- archaeological sites (deposits of artifacts one or in the soil, 50 – 15,000 years old)
- traditional cultural places (locations with traditional importance related to tribes)
- cultural materials (natural resources traditionally used by tribes)

Who is responsible for Cultural resource review and compliance?

- Project proponents, unless funding agency has agreed to cover it
- Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) maintains the inventory of archaeological and historic sites and consults with state and local agencies whose projects may encounter or affect those sites
- Review, inventory, and mitigation of cultural resources may be contracted to qualified professionals

When should review occur?

- As early in the planning as possible, consultation with DAHP and Tribes should be initiated.
- If archaeological inventory is required, doing so before design and construction can save time and money
- An MOA or binding commitment to mitigation is sought by DAHP prior to construction

What are the ‘off-ramps’ for cultural resource compliance?

- If your project lacks potential to affect historic structures or disturb the ground, DAHP concurrence should be simple.
- If ground disturbance can be conditioned to avoid archaeology, concurrence should be simple.
- If a site is found and recorded, but evaluation and consultation results in a determination that it is not eligible for National register of Historic Places listing, the project can go ahead.
- If a site is found to be eligible for such listing, an MOA with DAHP and interested parties that specifies site protection measures or mitigation for adverse effects will be necessary.

### CR Links and Resources

- DAHP lists laws relating to historic preservation review
- <http://www.dahp.wa.gov/pages/EnvironmentalReview/Laws.htm>
- WISAARD is an online GIS providing information about known historic sites
- <http://www.dahp.wa.gov/pages/wisaardIntro.htm>
- DAHP has recently released a statewide archaeological predictive model to data sharing partners, check with your GIS staff

- DAHP staff include specialists in architecture and archaeology, local government projects, Section 106 compliance, and transportation projects. Find the appropriate staff member at <http://www.dahp.wa.gov/pages/AboutUs/Staff.htm>
- USACE Historic Preservation Manager is Lauren McCroskey ([lauren.l.mccroskey@usace.army.mil](mailto:lauren.l.mccroskey@usace.army.mil))
- On State-Owned Aquatic Lands, talk to your DNR liaison or to the Aquatics Archaeologist, Maurice Major at [maurice.major@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:maurice.major@dnr.wa.gov)