



**INADVERTENT DISCOVERY PLAN (IDP)**  
**PLAN AND PROCEDURES FOR THE INADVERTENT DISCOVERY OF**  
**CULTURAL RESOURCES AND HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS**

Project Number:	Applicant:
Project Name:	Project Location:

As the project proponent, I have read this document in full and understand that:

1. I will follow the actions in the IDP in the event that site crew uncover any archaeological object or other cultural resource as a result of project actions, including but not limited to ground-disturbing activities such as excavation, boring, and concrete removal. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
2. It is my responsibility to ensure that all site crew on all phases of project excavation and construction understand the requirements of this IDP. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
3. A complete copy of this signed document will be maintained on site at all times for the duration of the project for site crew training. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
4. The PSE Cultural Resources Program strongly encourages that all personnel on my crew watch the Washington Department of Ecology's (2019) [Short Version Inadvertent Discovery video](#). \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials

Signature of On-Site Supervisor	Name (Printed)	Date

## 1. Introduction

The following IDP outlines the procedures to be implemented in the event of a discovery of archaeological materials or human remains, in accordance with applicable state and federal laws. An IDP is required for any project that creates disturbance above or below ground surface. An IDP is not a substitute for a formal cultural resource review. Once completed, **the IDP should always be kept at the project site** during all project activities. All staff, contractors, and volunteers should be familiar with its contents and know where to find it.

In the event that archaeological deposits are inadvertently discovered during project activities in any portion of the project area, ground-disturbing activities should be halted immediately, and the PSE site representative and PSE archaeologist should be notified. PSE will then contact the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) and the affected Tribes, as appropriate.

A separate protocol for discovery of human skeletal remains is described below in *Section 4. Protocol for Discovery of Human Skeletal Remains*.

## 2. Recognizing Cultural Resources

A cultural resource is an item of historical, traditional, or cultural importance. The item could be precontact or historic. Examples include:

- a) Buried layers of black soil with a multi-species accumulation of shell (shell-midden) and associated charcoal, mammal bone, antler, or burned rocks;
- b) An area of charcoal or very dark stained soil with associated artifacts;
- c) Non-natural sediment or stone deposits that may be related to activity areas of people;
- d) Stone, bone, shell, horn, or antler tools that may include projectile points (arrowheads), scrapers, cutting tools, wood working wedges or axes, and grinding stones;
- e) Artifacts made of chipped or ground stone (i.e. an arrowhead, adze or maul) or an accumulation (more than one) of cryptocrystalline stone flakes (lithic debitage);
- f) Basketry, cedar garments, fish weir stakes or items made of botanical materials;
- g) Buried cobbles that may indicate a hearth feature;
- h) Old ceramic pieces, metal pieces, tools and bottles;
- i) Clusters of tin cans or bottles, logging or agricultural equipment that appear to be older than 50 years;
- j) Old munitions casings (always assume these are live and never touch or move);
- k) Buried railroad tracks, decking, or other industrial materials; or
- l) Old building materials and foundations.

The above list does not cover every potential cultural resource. When in doubt, assume the material is a cultural resource.

### 3. On-Site Responsibilities

#### a) Stop Work

If any contractor or subcontractor believes that he or she has uncovered any cultural resource during construction of the project, all work adjacent to the discovery must stop. No vehicles, equipment, and unauthorized personnel will be permitted to traverse the discovery. Work in the immediate area will not resume until treatment of the discovery has been completed following provisions for treating archaeological/ cultural materials as set forth in this document.

#### b) Protect the Discovery

The discovery location should not be left unsecured at any time. Protect and ensure integrity of the discovery until cleared by DAHP or a licensed, professional archaeologist. The project manager is responsible to taking appropriate steps to protect the discovery. The project manager may direct work away from the cultural resources prior to contacting the PSE archaeologists.

#### c) Notify PSE archaeologist and project lead

##### PSE Archaeologists:

Elizabeth Dubreuil

Mobile: 425.691.7095

Email: Elizabeth.Dubreuil@pse.com

Jessica Morris

Mobile: 360.951.4518

Email: Jessica.Morris@pse.com

##### PSE Project Lead:

Primary Contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

##### On-Site Contractor:

Primary Contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

d) **PSE will notify DAHP**

Once notified, the PSE archaeologist will contact DAHP to report the discovery. To avoid delay, the project manager may contact DAHP if they are not able to reach a PSE archaeologist.

**Rob Whitlam, Ph.D.**  
State Archaeologist  
Email: Rob.Whitlam@dahp.wa.gov  
Desk: 360.586.3080  
Mobile: 360.890.2615

**Lance Wollwage, Ph.D.**  
State Archaeologist  
Email: Lance.Wollwage@dahp.wa.gov  
Phone: 360.890.2616

**James Macrae**  
Assistant State Archaeologist  
Email: James.Macrae@dahp.wa.gov  
Phone: 564.669.0899

The DAHP will review the information about the discovery and assist with identification. DAHP may also inform the project proponent and PSE of additional steps to further protect the discovery.

#### **4. Protocol for Discovery of Human Skeletal Remains**

Any human skeletal remains discovered during project-related ground disturbance, construction, maintenance, or operation activities will be treated with dignity and respect.

In the event that human remains are discovered during ground disturbance, construction, maintenance, or operation of the project, follow steps 3.a through 3.c above as well as the steps described below to ensure compliance with RCW 27.44: Indian Graves and Records, RCW 68.60: Abandoned and Historic Cemeteries and Historic Graves, and RCW 68.50.645: Skeletal Human Remains – Duty to Notify.

Washington State law requires immediate notification of known or suspected human remains whenever they are uncovered by investigation or construction activities to county and/or municipal law enforcement agencies, county medical examiner or coroner's offices, DAHP, and federal and local agencies involved directly with the project or having jurisdiction over the subject properties.

If human remains are discovered or exposed in backhoe trench spoils or sidewalls, and/or any other excavations performed during the excavation of the project **all excavation will cease** and the site will be secured. The remains will be covered with a tarp or other materials (not soil or rocks) temporarily. The finding of human skeletal remains **will be reported to the County Coroner / Medical Examiner and local law enforcement** in the most expeditious manner possible. **The remains will not be touched, moved, photographed, or further disturbed.**

The Coroner/ Medical Examiner will assume jurisdiction over the remains and determine if the remains are human and whether those remains are non-forensic. The Coroner/ Medical Examiner will report their findings to DAHP. The DAHP will be responsible for informing the affiliated tribes regarding the discovery. The State Physical Anthropologist will make a determination of whether the remains are Native American or non-Native American and report that finding to any appropriate cemeteries and the affected Tribes.

Construction may continue at the discovery location only **after the DAHP determines the boundaries** of the discovery location and compliance with state and federal law requirements are complete.

## 5. Discovery Protocol Contact Information

<b><u>Coroner/ Medical Examiner:</u></b> Name: _____ Title: _____ Address: _____ _____ Phone: _____	<b><u>Local Sheriff's Office:</u></b> Name: _____ Title: _____ Address: _____ _____ Phone: _____
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### **State Physical Anthropologist:**

Guy Tasa, Ph.D.  
 Email: Guy.Tasa@dahp.wa.gov  
 Phone: 360.790.1633  
 PO Box 48343  
 Olympia, WA 98504-8343

### **Assistant State Physical Anthropologist:**

Jackie Berger, Ph.D.  
 Email: Jackie.Berger@dahp.wa.gov  
 Phone: 360.890.2633  
 PO Box 48343  
 Olympia, WA 98504-8343



## Examples of Archaeological Artifacts Addressed in this IDP



### Chipped Stone Artifacts

- Glass-like material
- Angular
- Unusual material for area
- Unusual shape
- Regularity of flaking
- Variability of size





**Ground Stone  
Artifacts**



- Unusual or unnatural shapes
- Unusual stone
- Striations or scratching
- Etching, perforations, or pecking
- Regularity in modifications
- Variability of size, function, or complexity





## Bone or Shell Artifacts

- Often smooth
- Unusual shape
- Carved or pointed as if used as a tool
- Often wedge shape like a “shoe horn”



- Carved, tubular, or bead-like shapes





## Shell Midden

- Heavy concentration of shell or shell hash (crushed and compacted shell fragments)
- Often associated with black or greasy soil
- Often in a layered appearance





### Historic foundations or remnants of structures

- Concentrations of brick
- Railroad and trolley tracks
- Structural features
- Wood or iron pipes
- Layers of brick or wood





## Historic-Period Artifacts

- Concentrations of buried ceramics, metal, or glass
- Rusted or crumbling metal
- Purple or “milky” white glass
- Unusually-shaped glass bottles
- Bottles or ceramics with markings on bottom







*CMT in Gifford Pinchot National Forest (USFS).*



*CMT on Makah Indian Reservation (NativePlantsPNW.com)*



*CMT in Puget Sound (inspiremore.com).*

## Culturally Modified Trees

- Trees with stripped or peeled bark, carvings, axe cuts, or limb manipulation.
- Bent limbs with nodes and scarring at manipulation sites.