



Allyson Brooks Ph.D., Director  
State Historic Preservation Officer

Kelly Bacon  
Planner I  
Kittitas County  
411 N. Ruby Street, Ste. 2  
Ellensburg, WA 98926

March 17, 2021

In future correspondence please refer to:  
Project Tracking Code: 2021-03-01608  
Property: Kittitas County\_Sweetwater Ranch Event Facility (CU-21-00002)  
Re: Survey Requested

Dear Kelly Bacon:

Thank you for contacting the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) and providing documentation regarding the above referenced project. Our statewide predictive model indicates that there is a high probability of encountering cultural resources within the proposed project area. This is due, in part, to the proximity of the proposed project area to Naneum Creek, a resource that may have been historically important to Native American groups and/or settlers in the area. Further, there are multiple archaeological sites recorded near the proposed project area, suggesting that additional archaeological resources may be present. Finally, the scale of the proposed ground disturbing actions would destroy any archaeological resources present. Identification during construction is not a recommended detection method because inadvertent discoveries often result in costly construction delays and damage to the resource. Therefore, we recommend a professional archaeological survey of the project area be conducted prior to ground disturbing activities. We also recommend consultation with the concerned Tribes' cultural committees and staff regarding cultural resource issues.

These comments are based on the information available at the time of this review and on behalf of the SHPO in conformance with Washington State law. Should additional information become available, our assessment may be revised.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project and we look forward to receiving the survey report. Please ensure that the DAHP Project Number (a.k.a. Project Tracking Code) is shared with any hired cultural resource consultants and is attached to any communications or submitted reports. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sydney Hanson  
Transportation Archaeologist  
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Sydney.Hanson@dahp.wa.gov

