

Jeff Watson

From: Kaehler, Gretchen (DAHP) <Gretchen.Kaehler@DAHP.wa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 2:57 PM
To: Jeff Watson
Cc: johnson@yakama.com; Kate Valdez (kate@yakama.com); Jon Shellenberger
Subject: re: SP-15-00007 Riste Short Plat
Attachments: 2016-01-00417_SP-15-00007 Riste Short Plat.pdf

Hi Jeff,

Please see attached for this project. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Best,

Gretchen

Gretchen Kaehler
Assistant State Archaeologist, Local Governments
Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP)
Office: 360-586-3088
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January 28, 2016

Mr. Jeff Watson
Staff Planner
Kittitas County
411 N Ruby St, Suite 2
Ellensburg, WA98926

In future correspondence please refer to:
Project Tracking Code: 2016-01-00417
Property: SP-15-00007 Riste Short Plat
Re: Archaeology - Survey Requested

Dear Mr. Watson:

We have reviewed the materials forwarded to our office for the proposed project referenced above. The area has a high potential for archaeological resources. There are multiple precontact archaeological resources and sites within approximately 5,000 feet. The project area has not been surveyed for archaeological resources. Please be aware that archaeological sites are protected from knowing disturbance on both public and private lands in Washington States. Both RCW 27.44 and RCW 27.53.060 require that a person obtain a permit from our Department before excavating, removing, or altering Native American human remains or archaeological resources in Washington. Failure to obtain a permit is punishable by civil fines and other penalties under RCW 27.53.095, and by criminal prosecution under RCW 27.53.090.

Chapter 27.53.095 RCW allows the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation to issue civil penalties for the violation of this statute in an amount up to five thousand dollars, in addition to site restoration costs and investigative costs. Also, these remedies do not prevent concerned tribes from undertaking civil action in state or federal court, or law enforcement agencies from undertaking criminal investigation or prosecution. Chapter 27.44.050 RCW allows the affected Indian Tribe to undertake civil action apart from any criminal prosecution if burials are disturbed

Identification of archaeological resources during construction is not a recommended detection method because inadvertent discoveries often result in costly construction delays and damage to the resource. We realize that short-platting does not cause ground disturbance so we request a professional archaeological survey of the project area be conducted prior to any ground disturbing activities. The completed survey should be sent to DAHP and the interested Tribes for review prior to permitting ground disturbing activities. We also recommend consultation with the concerned Tribes' cultural committees and staff regarding cultural resource issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project and we look forward to receiving the survey report. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (360) 586-3088 or Gretchen.Kaehler@dahp.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Kaehler
Assistant State Archaeologist, Local Governments
(360) 586-3088
gretchen.kaehler@dahp.wa.gov

cc. Johnson Meninick, Cultural Resources, Yakama Nation
Kate Valdez, THPO, Yakama Nation
Jon Shellenberger, Archaeologist, Yakama Nation

