

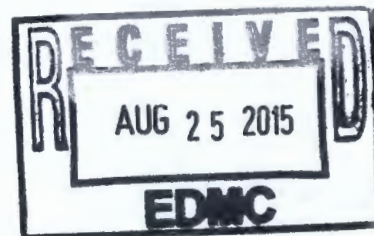


Department of Energy
 Richland Operations Office
 P.O. Box 550
 Richland, Washington 99352

15-OCE-0064

AUG 21 2015

Dr. A. Brooks
 State Historic Preservation Officer
 Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
 1110 S. Capitol Way, Suite 30
 Olympia, Washington 98501



Dear Dr. Brooks:

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC (NRHP) PLACES ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION FOR FOUR ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES AND OYKALA AYN WÉETES TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PROPERTY IDENTIFIED WITHIN THE LAND CONVEYANCE FINAL AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT (APE) (HCRC#2012-600-042)

The U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office (RL) is transmitting the referenced NRHP eligibility determination for your review. The APE for the Land Conveyance project was transmitted to your office and Tribes on September 24, 2012. Dr. Whitlam of your office concurred with the APE on September 24, 2012 (Log No. 092412-04-DOE).

RL conducted archaeological field investigations and funded tribal studies to identify historic properties within the land conveyance APE. Subsequently four archaeological features were identified as Nez Perce Tribe places of religious and cultural significance that are located within the APE. In accordance with 36 CFR 800.4(c), RL acknowledges Indian tribes possess special expertise in assessing the eligibility of historic properties that may possess religious and cultural significance to them and has consulted with the Nez Perce Tribe regarding NHRP eligibility. As a result of these consultations, RL finds the four archaeological features and the associated Oykala ayn wéetes Traditional Cultural Property are eligible for listing in the NHRP under Criterion A due to association with significant patterns of events in Nez Perce Tribe traditional history and culture. A determination of eligibility statement and NRHP Registration Form signature form is enclosed for your review and signature should you agree.

The Nez Perce Tribe respectfully request information about the four archaeological features and the Traditional Cultural Property not be converted into an electronic record of any sort and that hardcopies are kept to a maximum of two.

We ask for your review of the enclosed information and signature on the registration form before August 26, 2015. A copy of this correspondence is also being provided to the Nez Perce Tribe representatives. If you have any questions, please contact me on (509) 376-4069 or mona.wright@rl.doe.gov.

Sincerely,

Mona K. Wright
 Cultural Resources Program Manager

Enclosure
 cc: see page 2

Dr. A. Brooks
15-OCE-0064

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AUG 21 2015

cc w/o encl:

M. Sobotta, NPT

J. Pinkham, NPT

D. Jackson, NPT

L. Samuels, NPT

R. Whitlam, DAHP

Administrative Record