



MacNaughton, James (DAHP)

to me ▾

Wed, Mar 5, 1:29 PM (7 days ago)



Good Morning Yannick

The email finds me well, if extremely busy. And because of my ADHD brain, I am compelled to tell you about a man named “Smokey” Yunick, son of Ukrainian immigrants who grew up on a farm near my home town who built the Hudson Hornets that Marshall Teague raced after WWII. That’s what it’s like living with my brain. Anyway...

So, the archaeological concern about your project is only very generally concerned with your proximity to the lake. Snoqualmie Pass and the entire Cle Elum valley served as a major travel corridor that was central to the lifestyle of Native Americans dating back to the population of North America. The entire Valley is littered with the remains of pre-contact villages, cemeteries, activity/hunting/fishing locales.

My job is really two-fold. The primary responsibility is the preservation of Washington’s cultural heritage, in its various forms. But, I’m also tasked with helping keep municipalities and proponents out of legal trouble. One of the facets of Washington State law is that all pre-Contact artifacts, features, and sites are protected by law; whether they are in-situ or have been moved from their place of deposition. So, even if DOT bulldozers had spread a pre-Contact site all over the banks of the Lake, that site is still protected by law.

We at DAHP work closely with the Tribes and Municipalities to protect resources and keep folks out of court; lawsuits cost money and time. So, the only thing that could make us change our decision is a reduced concern for the archaeological resources. If you contact the Cultural Resources department of one of the Affected Tribes – primarily the Yakama, but if the Yakama and Colville (CTUIR) both wrote an email stating they have no concerns with your project I would be able to reassess the project (and likely go with an IDP). I know that Noah Oliver (noah_oliver@yakama.com) has done a great deal of work in the Valley, and the contact with the Colville would be Connor Armi (connor.armi.hsy@colvilletribes.com).

As for the quote from RLR, they do excellent work and I have never had a major problem with one of their reports. We always recommend getting three quotes, because prices vary based on workloads, season and so forth. The website we refer proponents to is: <https://www.archaeologyinwashington.com/consultant-list.html>, in the middle of the page is a link that says “go to the list” after you read the disclaimer. All of the CRM firms on the list are licensed in WA (and most are licensed in neighboring states as well).

Thank you again for reaching out about your project, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or comments.