



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

November 15, 2019

Chelsea Benner
Planner I
Kittitas County Community Development Services
411 N Ruby St, Ste 2
Ellensburg, WA 98926

In future correspondence please refer to:
Project Tracking Code: 2019-11-08668
Property: Kittitas County_Easton Love's Travel Stop Construction Project
Re: Survey Requested

Dear Chelsea Benner:

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. A desktop review of our Statewide Predictive Model has identified the proposed project area as having high potential for archaeological resources. This is due, in part, to the proposed project location's proximity to a fresh water source (the Yakima River). Additionally, several previously recorded archaeological sites and historic trails are in close proximity to the proposed project area. Further, 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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