

Cultural Resources Investigation

Study Summary

In accordance with applicable FERC regulations, 18 C.F.R. § 5.2(c) (2008), the results of the Cultural Resources Investigation are not being distributed to the general public due to the sensitive nature of information regarding archaeological and historic resources.

The Cultural Resource Investigation identified and revisited all previously recorded archaeological resources within the study area in order to better define their location and condition. New site forms were created for each site, documenting the current condition, ongoing impacts, and recommendations for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. Some segments of the study area required new survey, including the 230 kV transmission corridor and the Okanogan River portion of the reservoir. The study was conducted by the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation.

The goal of the study was to establish sound baseline information about cultural resources within the Wells Project for the development of a Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP). Specific objectives were to:

- Update the current location and condition of all known cultural resource locations within the study area;
- Update site forms for all sites identified within the study area;
- Conduct archaeological surveys within high priority areas;
- Develop a list of priority sites for Determinations of Eligibility (DOE);
- Complete DOEs for priority sites; and
- Evaluate the Project's effects on historic properties identified within the Area of Potential Effect (APE).

No changes in the proposed study plan or schedule were required. On September 3, 2008, the Cultural Resources Work Group (CRWG) determined that the study results, along with the Traditional Cultural Properties (TCP) study¹, will provide sufficient information for developing the HPMP, and that no further ILP studies are needed to address cultural resources. Douglas PUD and the CRWG will further pursue DOE recommendations as part of the ongoing Section 106 process and/or as part of the HPMP which will be filed with FERC along with the final license application in May 2010.

¹ A TCP study was initiated prior to development of the Revised Study Plan in 2007. The TCP study was conducted by the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and finalized in July 2008.

In accordance with 18 C.F.R. § 5.2(c), the Cultural Resources Investigation has been removed because the report contains specific site or property locations, the disclosure of which would create a risk of harm or destruction of archeological or native American cultural resources.