



Summer Archaeological Field Work - Tongue River Railroad Construction Project

Catherine Nadals

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Cc:

Vicki Rutson, Richard.Starzak, Danielle Gosselin, Kenneth Blodgett, Evelyn Kitay, Theodore Hunt, David Coburn, Alan.Summerville, brhodd1, swilmoth, cvaughn, ngabriel
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1 Attachment



2013_monthly_Archaeology_Schedule_withD.rtf

Dear Tribes,

Soon, we plan to begin the archaeological surveys to identify sites within each of the alternatives under consideration in the Tongue River Railroad Construction (TRRC) Project. The survey work will be conducted between mid-July and September.

The archaeological surveys will be lead by ICF International, our third-party contractor for this project. Rick Starzak, of ICF, is the overall project director for the cultural resources portion of the TRRC Project and is currently organizing the field effort.

I know that ICF has already contacted some of you regarding the summer field work. But there will be a total of four survey teams, each of which will be working during 10-day periods. I have attached a schedule of the work plan for your review. To ensure parity, each crew will consist of four ICF staff archaeologists and four tribal participants. The crews will be lead by senior ICF archaeologists.

We have 16 potential slots for paid tribal representatives (4 field sessions and 4 tribal participants per session). This would be the case in the event we have different tribes make up each of the 16 tribal slots (unlikely, I know). To begin though, we are asking for one participant from each tribe to ensure that each interested tribe has an opportunity to provide at least one representative. Once we give each tribe an option to send one person, we will then look at our remaining needs and fill those based on an approach that all the tribes agree to.

As you probably already know, the survey members will need to be fit and able to walk across sometimes rugged terrain. There will also be limited access to health care as the project area is relatively remote. This part of the survey (completed to collect information to compare the NEPA alternatives) will be conducted quickly. If the Board licenses an alternative, we will be conducting much more detailed data collection for the selected alternative. At that point, we will be conducting a full Section 106 assessment for the then defined "undertaking," including definitive National Register assessments of any identified sites in the area(s) of potential effect. The specific details of our approach still needs to be spelled out in a programmatic agreement that we will be developing for this project (the sooner, the better!). However, there will be additional opportunities at that time for tribal involvement including the participation of tribal elders and other tribal experts.

If interested in participating in the upcoming field surveys, please review the attached schedule and let Rick know which team you are available to join. It is important that you contact him soon so we can schedule all of the tribal participants before the beginning of the field season.

Rick will go into much more detail regarding the archaeological survey work during our call on Monday. He is also available via phone or email any other time if you want to talk over the details with him. You can also always call me if you have any questions. My work number is 202-245-0293 and my cell is 240-446-5086 (I'm working from home today).

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Hope you have a lovely weekend!

-Cathy

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July 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 HOLIDAY	5 NO WORK	6
7	8 Prepare for fieldwork/ Prep (forms, supplies, crew, notifications etc)	9	10 Pre-load appropriate GIS maps to iPad for Team A	11	12	13
14	15 Travel Day Team A	16 Day 1 Team A (TR alt)	17 Day 2 Team A (TR alt)	18 Day 3 Team A (TR alt)	19 Day 4 Team A (TR alt)	20 Day 5 Team A (TR alt)
21 Day 6 Team A (TR alt)	22 Day 7 Team A (TR alt)	23 Day 7 Team A (TR alt)	24 Travel Day Home Team A	25 Download data/forms/map /photos from Fieldwork	25 Pre-load appropriate GIS maps to iPad for Team B	27
28	29 Travel Day Team B	30 Day 1 Team B (TR alt)	31 Day 2 Team B (TR alt)			

August 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Day 3 Team B (TR Road alt)	2 Day 4 Team B (TR Road alt)	3 Day 5 Team B (Ashland alt)
4 Day 6 Team B (Ashland alt)	5 Day 7 Team B (Colestrip alt)	6 Day 8 Team B (Terminus I Var alt)	7 Travel Day Home Team B	25 Download data/forms/map /photos from Fieldwork	25 Pre-load appropriate GIS maps to iPad for Team C	10
11	12 Travel Day Team C (Moon Creek alt)	13 Day 1 Team C (Moon Creek alt)	14 Day 2 Team C (Moon Creek alt)	15 Day 3 Team C (Moon Creek alt)	16 Day 4 Team C (Decker I alt)	17 Day 5 Team C (Decker I alt)
18 Day 6 Team C (Decker I alt)	19 Day 7 Team C (Decker I alt)	20 Day 8 Team C (Decker I alt)	21 Travel Day Home Team C	25 Download data/forms/map /photos from Fieldwork	25 Pre-load appropriate GIS maps to iPad for Team D	24
25	26 Travel Day Team D	27 Day 1 Team D (Decker I alt)	28 Day 2 Team D (Decker I alt)	29 Day 3 Team D (catch up missed areas/revisit)	30 Day 4 Team D (catch up missed areas/revisit)	31 Day 5 Team D (catch up missed areas/revisit)

September 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Day 6 Team D <i>(If Necessary)</i>	2 Day 7 Team D Labor Day <i>(If Necessary)</i>	3 Day 8 Team D <i>(If Necessary)</i>	4 Travel Day Home Team D	5 Download data/forms/map /photos from Fieldwork	6 Download data/forms/map /photos from Fieldwork	7
8	9 Prepare Site Forms	10 Prepare Site Forms	11 Prepare Site Forms	12 Prepare Site Forms	13 Prepare Site Forms	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Halloween		

November 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day	29	30

December 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
29	30	31				

