

WSDOT Maintenance Program Guidance For Avoiding Impacts to Cultural Resources

This checklist applies to state funded highway maintenance to clarify Cultural Resource notification procedures for maintenance work. RCW 27-44 and 27-53, and WSDOT Executive Order 1025.01 (2/19/09), and the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement have special considerations relating to impacts to cultural resources and tribal consultation. Executive Order 05-05 does not apply to highway maintenance.

***If you answer Yes, to any boxes under the YES column, you need to consult with your Region Maintenance Environmental Coordinator (RMEC). RMEC will notify the appropriate cultural resource staff accordingly – see contact information on page 2.**

<u>FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES:</u>	YES	NO
<p>(1) <u>Are you excavating below the previously constructed grade of the roadway profile (including pavement, shoulder, drainage features and embankment) OR Outside of this area (e.g. previously undisturbed soil) are you digging anything greater than 18 inches in diameter (e.g. sign post)?</u> If YES, notify RMEC. RMEC will work with the DOT Cultural Resources Specialists to insure no impacts.</p>		
<p>(2) <u>Is the work being performed on a Tribal Reservation?</u> If YES, follow any region specific tribal agreement that covers the proposed work <u>or</u> notify the RMEC and the RMEC will work with DOT and Tribes Cultural Resources Specialists to insure no impacts.</p>		
<p>(3) <u>Is the work being performed on Federal Lands (National Park, National Forest, etc) outside our R/W or roadway easement?</u> If YES, notify RMEC. RMEC will work with the DOT and Federal Cultural Resources Specialist for that area to identify the potential of impacts <u>or</u> follow any applicable region specific agreement.</p>		
<p>(4) <u>If the work involves the use of a Corps Nationwide Permit?</u> If YES, notify RMEC. RMEC will review the work and determine if it is listed in Exhibit A (page 3). If not, RMEC will notify the DOT Cultural Resources Specialist.</p>		

FOR HISTORIC STRUCTURES:

	YES	NO
(1) <u>Are you working on a structure (bridge or building) 50 years or more old -</u> Will the work modify or add anything that <u>may</u> change the existing historical elements? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If NO, no review is required and work may proceed.• If YES, notify RMEC. RMEC will contact DOT's Cultural Resource Specialist before proceeding. *See contact below		

IMPORTANT NOTES

If you encounter any objects that are historic in nature or Native American, or any human skeletal remains you must STOP WORK and immediately contact your region RMEC and Cultural Resources Specialist or the Headquarters Cultural Resource Program.

You will need to document the process you went through for determining if there was the potential for cultural resource impacts associated with your project and keep that information on file.

CONTACT INFORMATION

WSDOT Cultural Resource Program
Scott Williams Cultural Resource Manager (HQ)
360-570-6651

Dean Weaver, Archaeologist (ER, NCR, and SCR)
509-324-6509

Jason Cooper, Archaeologist (NWR)
206-440-4525

Roger Kiers, Archaeologist (OR and SWR)
360-570-6638

Historic Bridge Structures
Stephen Austin, Historian (HQ)
360-570-6657

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information on the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement, and a list of inventoried bridge structures is available online at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/environment/technical/disciplines/cultural-resources>.

SECTION 106 PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

The Seattle District Corps of Engineers has established a streamlined process to address Sec. 106 compliance for state-funded only projects and activities with no potential to cause effects, which can apply to WSDOT maintenance activities that require a COE §404 permit. The process is documented in a *Memorandum for Record* dated 6 November 2008. The Cultural Resources Program or your region's Cultural Resources Specialist can help you determine the applicability of this process to your activity or project.

Exempted Activities- If the proposed maintenance falls under the “A” category exemptions included under Exhibit B of the Statewide Section 106 Programmatic Agreement (<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2017/08/08/Env-CultRes-Section106PA.pdf>), the activity is presumed to have minimal impact to cultural resources and no review is required.