Consideration of Cultural Resources in Freshwater Oil Spills

Susan Lynn White, M.A., RPA
Assistant State Archaeologist
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
Oregon Archaeology
Shell Middens are archaeological sites typically found in riverine and coastal areas in Oregon.
Occurrence of Archaeological Sites

- Archaeological sites typically occur on well-drained land near freshwater resources.
- Archaeological sites may also occur further inland, where older freshwater resources may have existed.
What is the State Historic Preservation Office?

- The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) administers the national historic preservation program at the State level, reviews National Register of Historic Places nominations, maintains data on historic properties that have been identified but not yet nominated, and consults with Federal agencies during Section 106 review. The State Historic Preservation Officer is designated by the governor of their respective State or territory.

- Federal agencies seek the views of the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer when identifying historic properties and assessing effects of an undertaking on historic properties. Agencies also consult with them when developing Memoranda of Agreement.
What does SHPO do?

- Locate and record historic resources;
- Nominate significant historic resources to the National Register of Historic Places;
- Foster historic preservation programs at the local government level and the creation of preservation ordinances;
- Provide funds for preservation activities;
- Comment on projects under consideration for the federal historic preservation tax incentive;
- Review all federal projects for their impact on historic properties in accordance with Section 106 of the Act and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; and
- Provide technical assistance on rehabilitation projects and other preservation activities to federal agencies, state and local governments, and the private sector.
Where are the SHPOs located?

You can discover where your state’s SHPO is located by accessing:

http://www.ncshpo.org/stateinfolist/

State Information and SHPO List

Click on any of the states below to view information on the State Preservation Offices or click here to view the entire list.
When would you contact SHPO?

- Any emergency response/clean up action involving ground-disturbing activities along major rivers.
- When the clean up area, including temporary placement of contaminated soils, staging areas, and areas with heavy equipment traffic extends onto land.
- When the emergency response/clean up action involves ground-disturbing activities of a reasonable amount (e.g., not just one shovel full of dirt)
How do you contact SHPO?

National Conference of Historic Preservation Officers

http://www.neshpo.org/

http://www.uiowa.edu/~osa/nasa/
EMERGENCY RESPONSE FOR
OREGON STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICE (SHPO)

WHEN TO CALL?

• When the emergency response/clean up action involves ground-disturbing activities of a reasonable amount
  (e.g., not just one shovel full of dirt)
• Any emergency response/clean up action involving ground-disturbing activities along major rivers, especially
  the Columbia River.

WHO TO CALL?

**NOTE:  Emails are not accepted as notification, only phone calls are accepted.**

Primary contact:  Dennis Griffin, State Archaeologist
Office phone (503) 986-0674 M-F 7:30-4:30  Email: Dennis.Griffin@state.or.us
Home phone (541) 738-2125 after hours  Fax (503) 986-0793

Secondary contact:  Susan Lynn White, Asst. State Archaeologist
Office phone (503) 986-0675 M-F 7:30-4:30  Email: Susan.White@state.or.us
Home phone (503) 286-3263 and Cell phone (971) 322-5975 after hours  Fax (503) 986-0793

INFORMATION NEEDED FOR NOTIFICATION CALL

1. Area of Emergency- Township, Range, and Section (from USGS topographic maps) or Latitude and Longitude coordinates. As much information about the emergency area, e.g., terrain, size of spill area, etc.
2. Type of Emergency/Contamination- Type of contaminant (e.g., type of solid, chemical, or gas, toxic vs. non-toxic), amount of contaminant spilt, how much ground disturbance will occur for spill and staging areas.
3. Time Estimate for Emergency Response- Will the emergency response occur in minutes, hours, or days. How soon will the spill be cleaned up?
4. All Agencies involved and one Contact Person
Why would you contact SHPO?

- Case Study-

  Emergency Response at the Crates Point Archaeological Site (35WS221)
The Crates Point Derailment
January 9, 2003 - Columbia River Gorge NSA
Crates Point - 3 mi. NW of The Dalles
59 cars derailed
5,000 ft. of track destroyed
Hazardous Substance - Phenol Car
Forest Service authority: Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area
Emergency/Disaster Response guidelines

Jan. 10 - Denied access to site
Telephoto view - Fri. January 10th
Pulling Derailed Cars From Track
Prehistoric cemetery dated to 560 +/- 180 yrs BP
36+ individuals - secondary interments
Heavily damaged by looting activity

"Area D" - Task-specific campsite
"Primarily late prehistoric in age"
"earlier occupation may also be represented"
Sat. Jan. 11
Initial site inspection
Soybean oil spill - 12,000 gallons
Sat. Jan. 11
Excavation of contaminated soil
We call this “site in a dump truck”
Sat. Jan. 11
Access road construction
Edward Crate
Cabin Site
1851 DLC
Tractor disturbance - Crate homestead site
Mon. Jan. 13
All work suspended following on-site meeting
Unified Command Established Jan. 14
On-Site Tribal Representation:

Maralee Wernz, Archaeologist
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

Clifford Cassewa
Cultural Resources Specialist
Yakama Nation
Ken Karzmiski
Center Director
Agreement Document
For
Removal of Derailed Tank Cars
Area D, Crates Point Archaeological Site (35WS221)
January 22, 2003

In compliance with the Emergency/Disaster Response Plan Amendment to the Management Plan, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, and to meet the overall incident goals, the signatory parties agree to the following as emergency mitigation measures to protect significant archaeological resources during recovery operations:

Placement of barrier filter cloth and protective fill over the surface of the archaeological site adjacent to derailed and leaking tank cars. Depth of fill shall be sufficient to effectively distribute the weight of mobile cranes and/or other transfer equipment and to prevent, to the extent possible, further damage to the archaeological site. Interlocking and portable mats may be used over the fill, as appropriate, to assist in weight distribution. Protective fill composition shall be compatible with specifications in the 1/17/2003 backfill plan.

Marc Callaghan, EPA
Michael Rentz, Oregon DEQ
Randy Kearl, Union Pacific RR
Dennis Griffin, Ph.D, State Archaeologist
Marge Dryden, Archaeologist
Columbia River Gorge NSA
Todd Cornett, Planning Director
Wasco County Planning & Development
Programmatic Agreement on Protection Of Historic Properties During Emergency Response Under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (1998)
Summary of Federal and Oregon State Cultural Resources Regulations

- Federal laws require agencies to take into account the effects of their activities and programs on archaeological and cultural sites.
- Tribal consultation is considered part of most project’s review process for both state and federal laws.
- Oregon law provides protection for archaeological sites on both public and private lands.
- Oregon law requires a permit to excavate a known site or conduct exploratory excavation on public lands.
- In Oregon an excavation permit is required on private land only in known site.
Oregon State Cultural Resources Regulations

- Indian Graves and Protected Objects (ORS 97.740-97.760)
- Archaeological Objects and Sites (ORS 358.905-358.955)
- Permit and Conditions for Archaeological Excavation (ORS 390.235)
- Administrative Rules for Applying for an Archaeological Permit to Excavate a Site (OAR 736-051-0080 to -0090)
Primary Federal Cultural Resources Regulations

- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, amended through 2000
- Archeological and Resource Protection Act (ARPA)
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 (NAGPRA)
Oregon SHPO Review Process

- SHPO houses a statewide GIS database of known archaeological sites in Oregon (30,000+).
- Library of approximately 20,000 previous investigations on file and accessible to qualified researchers.
- Reviews state and federal projects for potential effects on proposed projects (>3,000 annually).
Arc GIS database showing Master Digitized data & New data being entered.
Oregon SHPO Archaeological Services Website

- **Arch. Records mgmt.** - databases for reports, obsidian sources, and radiocarbon databases
- **Policies and procedures** for Cultural Resource Mgmt., Arch. Sites and isolates, Excavation Permits, and Laws/rules/regulations
- **Laws/rules/regulations** includes both state and federal regulations regarding archaeological resources
- **Tribal Contacts**
- **SHPO Contact Information**