UPRR Mosier Derailment Cultural Response Plan (6-04-16)

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Participants

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs (CTWS)

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR)

Bands and Tribes of the Yakama Nation (YIN)

Nez Perce Tribe

Incident

On June 3, 2016 at approximately 12:15 pm a UPRR train derailed at Mosier, Oregon. Fifteen oil tanker railcars derailed east of Rock Creek RR bridge for approximately 150 meters. Three of the cars ruptured. Cars were carrying Bakken crude and burned until approximately 2:00 a.m. 6-04-16. A small 1 acre wildfire was ignited by the burning cars on the south side of Rock Creek Park Road.

Previous Cultural Surveys

The Area of Effect has been surveyed for cultural resources in the past on at least two occasions. No cultural resources were identified in those surveys. The nearest recorded archaeological sites are 35WS581, a historic railroad siding, and 35WS242 (Mosier Mounds). Both sites are over 300 meters from the Area of Effect.

Plan of Action

No cultural resource oversight is required of the following actions:

* Pumping of cars (transfer of material)
* Removal of cars and misc. train debris (ties, track, etc.)
* Removal of contaminated soils, ballast, and other materials
* Rail and ballast replacement

**The on-site archaeologist will be allowed to inspect the Area of Effect as removal of cars and debris occurs and again after excavation and removal of contaminated materials. The archaeologist will be informed of the final destination of all contaminated materials. The archaeologist will conduct a surface survey of the one acre wildfire area. Archaeologist will assess any shoreline clean-up efforts to determine the type of cultural review needed. Should the extent of the situation change this cultural plan will be reevaluated.**

At the conclusion of the project the archaeologist will prepare a monitoring report that includes observations including volumes, extent, and types of materials removed from the Area of Effect.

Incidental Discovery of Human Remains

The Incident Commander, the Oregon SHPO, the County Coroner, and the CTWS, the CTUIR, the YIN, and the Nez Perce Tribe will be immediately notified. The site will not be disturbed until it has been examined and consultations area completed with the above parties.

Incidental Discovery of Cultural Resources During Monitoring

Any post incident discoveries will be recorded per Oregon SHPO guidelines, including evaluation, damage assessment, and possible mitigation plan.