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December 1, 2020

Mr. Nick Vann
Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 48343
Olympia, Washington 98504-8343

Re: 2020 Salmon Recovery Funding --Capital Budget Funded Projects

Dear Mr. Vann,

I am writing to initiate formal consultation as described in the Governor's Executive Order 05-05 (EO 05-05) for the grant funded projects listed in the attached tables.

Background:

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is a small state agency that manages grant programs to create outdoor recreation opportunities, protect the best of the state's wildlife habitat and farmland, and help return salmon from near extinction. Grant funding awarded to recipients includes project types such as acquisition, development, restoration, planning or a combination of these types.

Grants depicted on the attached tables were approved for funding in December of 2019 by our Salmon Recovery Funding Board and/or our Agency Director. Funding for these projects is primarily derived in part through the State's 2019-2021 Capital Budget appropriations. Salmon recovery projects tend to be complex in regard to scope and regulatory context. When reviewing these projects, RCO attempts to group projects into regulatory categories or "cultural resources pathways" based upon information available at the time of the review. As projects proceed through the active phase of grant management, it is not uncommon for the cultural resources pathway to require an update. RCO strives to work with all project partners, permitting agencies and other funders to ensure all grant funded projects are reviewed appropriately.

RCO's Cultural Resources Review Process:

Through an Interagency Agreement, The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), on behalf of RCO, reviewed these funded projects for potential impacts to cultural and historic resources as required by EO 05-05. The review was conducted by WSDOT staff



meeting the Secretary of the Interior's qualifications for professional archaeologists. The archaeologist reviewed the Department of Archeological and Historical Preservation (DAHP) database to identify any known cultural resources, or previous cultural resources studies. General Land Office survey maps and Puget Sound LiDAR Consortium data, where available, were also evaluated.

For the 2020 projects, RCO and WSDOT staff have developed recommendations for the attached project list. The documents attached to this email provide detailed information about each of the projects. Our goal is to facilitate a comprehensive consultation process that provides you a thorough and holistic view of our agency's projects. Hyperlinks to screening forms, APE maps and project details housed on our data system are included in the attached table.

Attached, you will find tables that include:

Our internal cultural resources staff review all projects funded by RCO. Some projects do not require further consultation at this time and are monitored by our contract managers. Standard IDP language is also included in all RCO grant contracts. The following types of projects are not included in this transmittal but are available if you wish to review them:

- **Project requiring a survey:**

Given the risk analysis provided by the DAHP predicative mode, the location of the projects on the landform and the scope of work, the WSDOT archaeologist has recommended a cultural resources survey be conducted for these projects. Preliminary background research included a site file search of DAHP records, review of previously conducted cultural resources reports and review of pertinent published literature and ethnographies. Grant recipients will be required to commission a cultural resources survey. Once complete, RCO will transmit the survey to DAHP and the affected Tribes for review and comment.

- **Projects requiring an Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP) or other action:**

Projects on this list may be occurring within areas that have been previously surveyed or have project activities that have a low likelihood to affect cultural or historic resources. In addition, WSDOT has developed an IDP template, which RCO will provide to the grant recipient.

- **Projects requiring no survey or further action:**

Based upon the results of the background research and the review of the scope and nature of the project, the WSDOT archaeologist has found that these projects are unlikely to impact cultural resources, or are not subject to EO 05-05 or Section 106, and should proceed as planned without further archaeological oversight. *Most of these projects have already completed a survey under a previous phase of the project, or have no ground disturbing activities included in their project.*

- **Projects that have identified a Federal Nexus:** RCO is not initiating consultation for these projects, we defer to the lead federal agency.

These projects have indicated in their application that they may be subject to review under Section 106 of the NHPA; either through a federal permit, federal

funding, or they lie on federal land. Sponsors have been notified that if the regulatory context changes for their project, they must notify RCO so we may initiate consultation under EO 05-05.

- **Projects sponsored by or occurring on land owned or managed by another state agency:** RCO is not initiating consultation for these projects, we defer to the lead state agency.

Consultation for these projects is transferred to the respective cultural resources staff at Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Natural Resources. Per our DAHP programmatic agreement, it is the responsibility of those respective state agencies to conduct whatever level of review they deem appropriate.

WSDOT and RCO are aware that not all information is contained within published sources. Should DAHP have any additional information to update RCO's review of this project, we would very much like to include it in our project planning.

This letter invites you to comment on the proposed projects as provided for in EO 05-05. Upon completion of any survey, the materials will be submitted to both affected Tribe(s) and DAHP. For projects requiring additional cultural resources work, RCO will consult independently with each of these projects as the materials (surveys, monitoring reports, etc.) become available. Each independent project that requires additional work will receive its own DAHP project log number. RCO appreciates your attention to these projects. If you would like further information on any of the projects listed or have concerns, please contact Sarah Thirtyacre at 360-764-9841 (cell) or sarah.thirtyacre@rco.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Sarah Thirtyacre
Cultural Resources Program Coordinator

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Rob Whitlam Ph.D., DAHP
Ms. Holly Borth, DAHP