

Steve Landino
NOAA—National Marine Fisheries Service
510 Desmond Dr.
Lacey, WA 98503

Re: Historic and Cultural Resources -Peshastin Irrigation Pipeline Project (SRFB# 07-1865R)

Dear Steve:

The purpose of this letter is to notify National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the federal agency responsible for the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF), of a PCSRF-funded salmon recovery project which will have an adverse effect on a site which qualifies for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Peshastin Irrigation District Pipeline project was funded in 2007 by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, with pass through funds provided by NOAA. The goal of this project is to improve the efficiency of a 9,900 foot-long open canal irrigation ditch by converting the system to a closed pipeline, thus saving water and supplementing low flows for ESA listed salmonids in Peshastin Creek, a tributary to the Wenatchee River. A recent archaeological investigation (enclosed) found the irrigation ditch, which was constructed in the late 1800's, to be "associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history".

As the project has a federal nexus via NOAA's funding, we believe the federal agency is required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act to begin consultation as per 36 CFR Part 800. I know you have a different internal interpretation of federal consultation requirements, but I just wanted to make you aware of this issue and to alert you that no matter how beneficial to salmon this project appears to be, it still will have an impact on an historical property. We have also been told that the Colville Tribe may raise additional cultural issues with this project. We intend to cover our responsibilities under the Governor Executive Order 05-05, but this does not substitute for Section 106 consultation, should anyone raise this issue to you. If you would like to talk to us about this notice or have questions, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached by phone 360.902.3005, or by email Rachael.Langen@rco.wa.gov.

Thank you,

Rachael Langen

Enclosures: Archaeological Investigation for the Peshastin Pipeline Project

Cc: Barry Thom, Acting Regional Administrator, NOAA
Allison Brooks, Director, Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Kaleen Cottingham, Director, Recreation and Conservation Office
Robert Whitlam, State Archaeologist, Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Jason Lundgren, Grant Manager, RCO/Salmon Recovery Funding Board