

TURTLE MOUNTAIN BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS/THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES TCP STUDY FOR DEWEY-BURDOCK

The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and Three Affiliated Tribes of the MHA Nation, in cooperation with KLJ, will assemble a team of tribal cultural resource experts and practitioners to help with the identification of traditional cultural properties at the Dewey-Burdock Project. Along with KLJ, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and Three Affiliated Tribes have successfully completed numerous key traditional cultural property projects – including several large-scale studies along the Missouri River and across the region.

PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

The team will utilize a variety of methods to identify and evaluate potential traditional cultural properties within the proposed 2,637-acre area of potential effect (APE) of the Dewey-Burdock Project.

1. LITERATURE REVIEW OF PREVIOUSLY RECORDED SITES AND STUDIES

Researchers will review data on previously recorded archaeological sites and surveys conducted within the Dewey-Burdock Project APE. The purpose of this review will be to assess the potential of each recorded site to possess sensitive cultural features that would qualify the site as a TCP, or that would warrant additional fieldwork at a specific site location.

This review will allow project personnel to also provide additional input that could help in the eventual development of site mitigation plans, avoidance plans, or other information that can help to protect and/or mitigate adverse effects.

2. FIELD SURVEY

As outlined in the Revised Scope of Work, researchers will conduct a field survey to help in the identification of traditional cultural properties within the established 2,637-acre APE. Further, as established by the NRC through ongoing consultation with participating Indian Tribes, the team understands that the desired method for identifying places of religious and cultural significance is through an examination (survey) of the ground surface by knowledgeable representatives from the interested tribes. The team will undertake this through the following process:

Based on the results of the evaluation of the literature review, the team will revisit sites determined to have potential as TCPs to assess site features, site boundaries, and other “tells” that would be evaluated by tribal participants. The end-result of these revisits will be additional data and site interpretation that can help in the evaluation of these sites for the National Register of Historic Places, help in the eventual development of site mitigation plans, avoidance plans, or other information that can help to protect and/or mitigate adverse effects.

In addition to revisiting previously recorded sites, the team will conduct a detailed field study of other areas within the APE to identify any TCP sites and features that were not previously recorded by archaeologists as part of an established archaeological site.

This survey effort will be conducted using a combination of techniques, including such methods as:

- a. visually assessing the landscape to identify any landforms or geographic features that could indicate a focus of cultural activity;

- b. conducting a detailed pedestrian inventory of the project APE using transects less than 30 meters in spacing (as outlined in the scope of work);
 - c. utilizing LIDAR to provide an overview of features that may be indistinguishable on the ground; and
 - d. using other means to collect necessary data on possible TCPs.
3. **REPORTING**

As outlined in the scope of work, the team will provide a letter report within 14 working days after completion of fieldwork. This report will be a non-confidential written summary of the fieldwork completed and a synopsis of the number and types of properties identified. This report will be made available to the NRC, BLM, and Powertech (USA). This summary will include 7.5 minute USGS maps showing survey coverage (i.e. specific areas where ground examination took place), but will not show specific site locations of any identified properties of religious and cultural significance. It is understood that this information will be disclosed to the public through NRC's NEPA compliance process, and the information will be tailored to facilitate the preparation of the NEPA document.

It is also understood that within 40 working days after completion of fieldwork, the team will provide a detailed, professional report to the NRC. This report will contain sufficient information about identified properties of religious and cultural significance, to allow the NRC to adequately consult with the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and interested Indian tribes about NRHP eligibility of these properties.

SCHEDULING

Upon notice to proceed, the team anticipates that it will take approximately 7 days to review literature (previously recorded sites and surveys), 21 working days to complete fieldwork, 14 days to complete the letter report, and an additional 28 days to complete the draft report for submission to NRC.

It is assumed that it will take an additional 7 working days for the draft report to be reviewed by the NRC.

Upon receipt of comments, the team will submit a revised final report to the NRC within an additional 7 days.

QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL

To ensure efficacy, project management tasks will be provided by KLJ.

KLJ is a company of engineers, surveyors, planners, and cultural resource specialists. KLJ has a history of successfully completing projects on the Northern Great Plains, Midwest, and Intermountain West. KLJ holds our employees to the highest ethical and professional standards to ensure that projects are consistently completed to the highest quality, are on time, and are under budget. KLJ is uniquely positioned to continue to supply expert services for any cultural resource project.

KLJ will handle logistics, billing, report preparation, and other tasks for the project. KLJ holds all necessary insurance and professional liability as required by the NRC and Powertech.