

## CBRMarslandPEm Resource

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**From:** Trefethen, Jean  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 9:00 AM  
**To:** Shoemaker, Mirabelle  
**Subject:** RE: Paul's report on MEA (follow up from phone call)

Good morning Mirabelle,

I think the abstract is good and helps set the stage for the document that follows and how NRC came to create this report. I think that the word "important" should be changed. Instead of attaching a value to the sites would it work to just say "To provide additional documentation of the sites identified during the tribal field visit..."

I also think that "additional information" is a better characterization of the information that was provided. I have yet to come up with better phraseology but if something perks out I will share it ☺

Jean

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**From:** Shoemaker, Mirabelle  
**Sent:** Monday, February 24, 2014 5:21 PM  
**To:** Trefethen, Jean  
**Subject:** Paul's report on MEA (follow up from phone call)

Jean,

As discussed, I'm sending a snippet of the language from Paul's report. I suggest revising "Alternative Interpretation" to "Additional Details." I revised a paragraph of the abstract that will justify this format for the reader:

**{taken from the abstract}** To provide the necessary documentation of these potentially **important** Tribal places, the NRC tasked SC&A to complete a field visit to the Crow Butte project areas, locate each of the 13 places identified by the Crow and Santee Nations, and complete standard cultural site documentation for each one. SC&A was present during the initial tribal survey with the Crown Nation and the Santee Sioux Nation and was able to easily relocate the 13 places identified by the tribes. SC&A completed the field visit in July 2013 and provided additional details to accompany the Tribes' interpretation of each identified site.

**{snippet from body of report}**

### 1.1.1 Tribal Site No. 4

Tribal Site No. 4 (Site No. 10 in SSN 2013) is located just east of the Squaw Mound County Road on another hilltop marked by the presence of eroding Arikaree sandstone cobbles. The feature is located in the [REDACTED], Township 29N, Range 51W (Figure 4.6; Appendix D). It was identified by the Tribal field crews as a stone feature, possibly a lone tipi ring. At the location of the pin flag in Figure 4.6, there is a short alignment of five sandstone cobbles. This stone feature is located about 13 m west/northwest of the stone feature identified as Tribal Site No. 5 (described in Section 4.1.5).

**Tribal Interpretation:** The Tribal field crews interpreted the alignment of stones comprising Tribal Site No. 4 as a possible remnant from a stone circle associated with a single tipi structure.

**Alternative Interpretation-Additional Details:** When using a GPS instrument to relocate this tribal site, a CBR geologist observed that this is the precise spot of a reclaimed and vegetated former mud pit that was adjacent to a former drill site. All former CBR drill site locations at the MEA are programmed into the GPS software for

use in the field when siting new drill sites. The possible alignment of cobbles lies at the northwest border of this reclaimed area and thus is a byproduct of the previous exploration activity, during which some cobbles were pushed to the edge of the reclaimed area. As is the case elsewhere in the MEA, no cultural artifacts were encountered on this hilltop.

For comparison with the reclaimed mud pit at Tribal Site No. 4, Figure 4.7 shows another nearby drill site and mud pit, recently filled in (completed during the week preceding the field visit) but not yet fully claimed and revegetated.

**Mirabelle O. Shoemaker**

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission

301-415-6423

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