



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
FORT WINGATE DEPOT ACTIVITY  
P.O. BOX 288  
FORT WINGATE, NM 87316

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March 12, 2009

Ms. Katherine Slick  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
New Mexico State Historic Preservation Bureau  
228 East Palace Avenue, Room 320  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Ms. Slick:

The Army will soon implement the Fort Wingate Parcel 11 RFI Work Plan field sampling, and we need to seek SHPO comment to comply with the Programmatic Agreement regarding cultural resources sites. Soil samples proposed at Parcel 11 are mostly surface samples at depths of 1 foot or less. A few soil borings are planned near the former gas station. Geophysical surveys will be conducted in several areas and some of the existing groundwater monitoring wells will be sampled. Other samples proposed are soil samples beneath piping, pits and electrical vaults, soil samples along a ditch and manhole sediment samples. Additional details of proposed sampling are in the February 28, 2008 Parcel 11 RFI Work Plan. A figure is enclosed that shows the locations of the areas to be sampled (encircled by heavy green line) and known cultural sites (green dots inside blue circle). As evident from the figure, no known cultural resource sites have been recorded in this heavily developed and disturbed parcel. The Army met with the Zuni and Navajo for a site visit on April 4, 2007 to look at all of the sample locations. No issues regarding the sample locations arose at that time. We are concurrently sending letters for comment on this action to the Zuni and Navajo.

The Army is seeking SHPO comments pursuant to the Programmatic Agreement. We seek the SHPO concurrence of "No Effect" for this action based on the operating procedures outlined below. We propose the following options:

a. Based on review of the Parcel 11 RFI Work Plan, April 2007 site visit, and review of the attached figure, the Tribes are comfortable to make a determination that no known cultural sites exist in Parcel 11 and it is unlikely that cultural resources would be encountered during the field work. If cultural resources are inadvertently encountered during the investigation, the Army will immediately notify the Tribal cultural points of contact for consultation per section 1.8 of the PA. As stated in Section 1.4 of the PA, avoidance of historic properties and potential NAGPRA cultural items will be the first choice for RCRA permit activities.

b. The Army Contractor can place flags to identify the sampling locations. Then, the Tribal representative(s) can visit the locations pursuant to Programmatic Agreement Sections 1.4 & 1.6 prior to sampling to inspect, then accept the sample location, or move the sample point to a nearby alternate location if this does not impact the investigation approved by NMED. This would require coordination between the Army Contractor and the Tribal cultural contact. A

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written report/letter of any Zuni & Navajo cultural resources monitoring/work will be required by our Prime contractor within 2 weeks of the conclusion of the project for submittal to us.

Because the Parcel 11 sample locations are in a highly disturbed area altered by construction of buildings and many years of work activities, we feel that either Option a or b would be reasonable, with a preference for Option a.

Please provide the SHPO concurrence on this proposed action or comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter or the Army shall assume your concurrence. A copy of this letter is also being furnished to Ms. Jan Biella, 228 East Palace Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.


Should you have any questions, or require any further information concerning the above, please contact Dr. Jay R. Newman (Fort Wingate Project Archaeologist) of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, at (817) 886-1721, or by email at [jay.r.newman@us.army.mil](mailto:jay.r.newman@us.army.mil).

Sincerely,



Mark Patterson  
BRAC Environmental Coordinator  
Fort Wingate Depot Activity

Enclosure

**No Historic Properties Affected.**  
  
for NM State Historic Preservation Officer 4/15/09