

## **cBLM Study Review of Hells Canyon Complex Studies**

Archaeological Inventory in the Oxbow and Hells Canyon Reservoirs, Hells Canyon Complex

*Technical Report Appendix E.4-2*

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### **1.INTRODUCTION**

Idaho Power Company contracted Science Applications Corporation to conduct a cultural resource survey along the Hells Canyon and Oxbow Reservoirs to identify any cultural resources, to make an initial evaluation of those resources for the National Register of Historic Places, and to assess possible impacts to those cultural resources.

### **2.CONCLUSION**

The contractor completed a Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of the reservoir shorelines. They discussed known nearby sites and newly discovered resources. They made preliminary evaluations about site significance and discussed possible impacts related to relicensing the Hells Canyon Complex.

### **3.STUDY ADEQUACY**

Initial review indicates that the study meets BLM and State Historic Preservation Office standards,

The report addressed goals set in *Study Plan 8.4.2*.

### **4.BLM CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **CONCLUSIONS:**

The survey was adequate, but minor typographical errors could be corrected. Additional coordination between BLM, SHPO and Idaho Power Company will be required to evaluate sites, assess impacts and consider possible mitigation.

The report was well done with good background research, some analyses and discussions. The impacts assessments were presented and well organized. The tables were useful methods to display an array of information to aid in understanding the issues. The photographs were informative. The bibliography was extensive. The document could stand as an updated overview of the Hells Canyon Reservoir Area.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The significance of sites needs to be determined with input from the BLM, the SHPOs and from affected Tribes. Once significance is decided, then protection, mitigation or enhancement may need to take place. The BLM agrees with the contractor that sites HC18, 20, 21, 22 and 25 are not eligible to the National Register and that site HC19 is potentially eligible.

The maps that indicated areas surveyed were gray and fuzzy, a different graphic or the use of color could make these maps more useful and legible.

A review of the "areas surveyed" as indicated on a map may indicate that additional inventory may be required in areas that were not surveyed.