

**Native American Oral History Study -- Hells Canyon, Oxbow, and Brownlee Area
(Warm Springs Oral History Archival Report).**

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Technical Report Appendix E.4-13, Chapter 2.**

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1. INTRODUCTION: The purpose of the study was to establish "historic and modern day use", "record the meaning and locations of significant features within this area thus providing context and meaning to the cultural landscape....(The) Culture and Heritage Committee researched the background information and traveled to the Hells Canyon project area to view the landscape, identify cultural plants and survey for possible traditional cultural properties" (Whipple 2001). Eight elders were interviewed, archives were researched and field tours were conducted.

2. CONCLUSIONS: "During the field trips and interviews, forty-one cultural resources were identified within the Hells Canyon study area. General acknowledgement of the project area have been noted on USGS topographic maps in order to provide a visual means of identifying cultural features along the Snake River Landscape and for use as a tool to solicit additional information in the future" (Whipple 2001). Traditional cultural resources identified in the study report are a list of 41 cultural plant species (Whipple 2001: 3-6). Location information will only be disclosed by permission of the Culture & Heritage Committee and Tribal Council (Whipple 2001: 8).

Study Adequacy: Stated goals of the study were accomplished. The archival search, interviews, and tours were completed. The list of traditional cultural plants is helpful information, but it is not clear whether or not the traditional cultural plants are found at specific gathering locations that should be given special protection measures. It is not clear whether the survey resulted in the identification of any traditional cultural properties (National Register Bulletin 38). No evaluations are provided for National Register eligibility of potential traditional cultural properties.

BLM Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions: Without additional information, BLM is unable to identify protection, mitigation, and enhancement measures or assess project impacts on BLM lands. Eligibility determinations are needed to fulfill the requirements of 18 CFR 4.51(f)(4) and 36 CFR 800. Study plan 8.4.5 is incomplete.

Recommendations:

To fulfill the requirements of 18 CFR 4.51(f)(4) and 36 CFR 800, the E.4 "Report on Historical and Archaeological Resources" should provide evaluations of eligibility to the National Register for potential or known traditional cultural properties (as defined by

National Register Bulletin 38). Study Plan 8.4.5 (November 1999) acknowledged the need to identify and evaluate eligibility of traditional cultural properties.