

Appendix M-3

Cultural Resources Record Search
Update

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Ms. Coleen Shade, Senior Planner
Planning Department
County of Nevada
950 Maidu Ave. Suite 170
Nevada City, CA 95959

Subject: Cultural Resource Record Search Update, Boca Quarry Expansion Project, Nevada County

Dear Ms. Shade:

HELIX Environmental Planning, Inc. (HELIX) has conducted an updated cultural resource records search for the Boca Quarry Expansion Project in eastern Nevada County, California. The proposed project consists of expanding the currently permitted mining operation at the Boca Quarry and associated improvements to the haul route. The Boca Quarry is an approximately 230-acre site with an approximately 40-acre permitted mining operation on the site. The proposed project would increase the existing extraction area by approximately 118 acres to achieve a total of 158 acres in the quarry.

The project includes improvements along an approximately 1.3-mile long segment of Stampede Meadows Road to address concerns regarding bicyclist safety that were expressed by the public during the public review process for the previously circulated EIR (September 2012), and to address existing sight-distance deficiencies at the intersection of Stampede Meadows Road with West Hinton Road.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

Vierra & Associates 2006

In February 2006, R.K. Vierra & Associates conducted a cultural resource inventory for the 168-acre Boca Quarry Expansion Project for Teichert Aggregates. The inventory included a records check at the Tahoe National Forest in Truckee and an intensive field survey of the 168 acre project area. The records check indicted one survey (Forest Service #05-17-1484) and one previous site (Forest Service # 05-17-57-315), a multi-component site associated with the town of Boca, were recorded within one mile of the 2006 project area; but neither were within the mine expansion area boundaries. The 2006 field survey utilized 5-20 meter transect intervals and was negative for pre-contact or historic age resources or sites.

Parus Consulting Inc. 2013

In November 2013, Parus Consulting Inc. (PCI) conducted an investigation for an approximately 1.29-mile roadway and sight distance improvements project for the proposed Boca Quarry Expansion Project. The investigation included a record search at the North Central Information Center (NCIC), a Native American

Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search, and a field survey. The record search indicted 10 studies have been completed within a 0.25-mile radius; three included parts of the project area, the other seven were outside the project area boundaries. Two resources - a multi-component site (P-29-000627) not eligible for listing on the National or California registers, and Boca Town and Boca Brewery site (P-29-000662) recommended as eligible for both the National and California registers – were recorded within the project boundaries. Nine additional resources were recorded outside the project area.

Parus concluded that the proposed project would have no adverse effect on Boca Town and Boca Brewery (P-29-000662) as it will not alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics that qualify the resource for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NR) or the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). In addition, multi-component site (P-29-000627) was previously tested and considered not eligible for listing on the NR or CRHR. Parus recommended that no further work be conducted for either of these sites.

The response from the NAHC indicated their search failed to indicate the presence of Native American sacred lands or traditional cultural properties within the immediate project vicinity.

The field survey conducted for the proposed project determined that the roadway improvements would not have an adverse effect on or cause a substantial adverse change to the Boca Town and Boca Brewery site. The recommendations for the proposed project did not include construction monitoring but did provide procedures for inadvertent discoveries during ground disturbance activities.

CURRENT INVESTIGATION

HELIX Environmental Planning, Inc. 2018

For the current project, HELIX conducted a records search at the NCIC and has provided conclusions and recommendations based solely on the record search results. No pedestrian survey was conducted for this study.

RECORD SEARCH RESULTS

North Central Information Center Results

On October 26, 2017, HELIX conducted a cultural resource records search to identify resources/sites within a 0.25-mile radius of the project boundaries. The search included current inventories of the National Register of Historic Places (NR), the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), the California Historical Landmarks listings (CHL), and the California Points of Historical Interest list. The California State Historic Property Data File (HPDF) for Nevada County was also reviewed to determine if any local resources have been previously evaluated for historic significance within the search radius.

Results from the NCIC record search indicate that 15 resources (Table 1) and 17 reports (Table 2) have been recorded within 0.25 mile of the project area.

Table 1: Resources within 0.25-Mile of Project

Resource #	Period	Description	Author/Year Recorded	Within Project Area?
P-29-000084	Historic/Pre-contact	Lithic Scatter and Privy/Dump/Trash Scatter	A. Elsasser, S. C. Way/1954	No
P-29-000138	Historic/Pre-contact	Lithic Scatter and Privy/Dump/Trash Scatter	Alvine McLane, et al./1981	No
P-29-000613	Historic	Central Pacific Railroad Company of California	Susan Lindstrom/1995	Crosses Project Area
P-29-000627	Historic/Pre-contact	Multi-component site: pre-contact lithic scatter; 1930s-1950 debris scatter; 1900 water conveyance system	Crittenden, L./1981; Sutherland/1990; Budd and Edwards/1994; Waechter and McCabe 2007	Yes
P-29-000651	Historic	Boca & Loyalton Railroad	Michael Baldrice, Jennifer Sigler/2002	Crosses Project Area
P-29-000662	Historic	Boca Townsite and Boca Brewery	Paul Wilford/1977	Yes
P-29-002967	Historic	Boca Bridge	O.M. Uhi/1951	No
P-29-003020	Historic	West Hinton Road	McCabe, A./2007	Yes
P-29-003283	Historic	Water Conveyance System; Boca Dam	Wilbur E. Wieprecht, et al/1980	No
P-29-004316	Historic	CCC Camp Boca remnants	Carrie E. Smith/2009	No
P-29-004317	Historic	Historic debris	Carrie E. Smith/2009	No
P-29-004364	Historic	Single Story cabin	LSA/2012	No
P-29-004365	Historic	Dynamited quarry depressions	LSA/2012	Yes
P-29-004500	Historic	Roads/trails	Heather Norby & Steven Melvin/2015	No
P-29-004506	Historic	Roads/trails	Heather Norby & Steven Melvin/2015	No

North Central Information Center NEV-17-78 October 26, 2017

Table 2: Surveys Conducted within 0.25-Mile of Project

Report #	Author, Year	Title
000067	Weigel, Lawrence/1983	Archaeological Survey for the Widening & Redecking of the Boca Bridges on Interstate 80, Nevada County
008181	O'Connell, Keith/2002	Cellular Communications Tower Site-Boca, Stampede Meadows Road URS Project No.:64-48000001.000 133
008190	Brown, Jody/1999	Historic Property Survey Report and Finding of Effect for proposed Interstate 80 Rehabilitation Project Between

		Union Mills Overcrossing and Hinton Road (03-NEV-80, PM 20.3/23.6, KP 32.7/38.0, EA 03-366100)
008192	Bass, Henry/1984	Archaeological Survey Report for the Proposed Interstate 80 Westbound Chain-on Lane Project in Boca
008193	Sutherland, Barbara/1990	Cultural Resource Inventory of the Boca Borrow Pit Project, Report Number 05-17-906
008194	Budd, Jon/1994	Archaeological Reconnaissance of the Federal Highway Administration Road Improvements on Stampede-Smithneck Road Federal Highway 126
008267	Smith, Carrie/1993	Cultural Resource Survey and Evaluation for the Boca America's Great Outdoors Recreation Proposals
008270	Villiard, Perette, et al. /1981 Markley, Richard	Cultural Resources Report Boca Bridge
008619	Arrington, Cindy et al./2006	Cultural Resources Final Report of Monitoring and Findings for the Qwest Network Construction Project, State of California
008959	Waechter, Sharon A. /2007 and Lindstrom, Susan G.	A Cultural Resources Study for the Proposed Teichert Aggregates Quarry Development near Boca Reservoir, Nevada County, California
009404	Lindstrom, Susan/1998	Reno Flood Warning System Heritage Resource Inventory
010166	Nepstad, Michael/2007	Boca Dam Geologic Testing
010434	Snyder, Jon W./1997	Central Pacific Transcontinental Railroad, Sacramento to Nevada State Line – HAER CA-196
010621	Duke, Darren, et al./2010 Sharon and Garner, Albert	Cultural Resources Inventory of NV Energy Transmission Line Assets on the Tahoe National Forest, Truckee and Sierraville Ranger Districts, California Forest Service Report Number: TNF01555/R2009051700058
011359	Sikes, Nancy E., et al./2013 Cindy J. and Rodman, Tobin	Cultural Resources Inventory for the Boca Quarry Expansion Project Nevada County, California
011976	Waechter, Sharon A., et al./2015	Archaeological and Historical Investigations for the US Bureau of Reclamation Boca Safety of Dams Modification Project, Nevada County
012221	Bos, Sydney and Leonard, Megan E./2015	Archaeological & Historic Architecture Records Preview for the Union Pacific Railroad Roseville Subdivision Positive Train Control Mile Posts 176, 177, 214.1, & 219.1 TCNS# 134209

North Central Information Center NEV-17-78 October 26, 2017

Conclusions and Recommendations

In accordance with State CEQA Guidelines, HELIX has conducted a record search for the proposed project and a 0.25-mile radius. The record search indicates that six resources are within the proposed project area. The resources include the Boca & Loyalton Railroad (P-29-000651) and the Central Pacific Railroad (P-29-000613) which both cross through the project. West Hinton Road (P-29-003020) which is within a portion of the project area. In addition, a dynamited quarry depression (P-29-004365), a multi-component site (P-29-000627) and the Boca town and Boca Brewery site (P-29-000662) are within the project area.

Although portions of both railroads, (P-29-000651) and (P-29-000613), are within the proposed project area, they will not be impacted by any of the project activities and therefore require no further study. West Hinton Road (P-29-003020) was evaluated for NR and CRHR eligibility and was found not to meet the requirements for listing on either one and therefore requires no further study. The dynamited quarry depression (P-29-004365) has not been evaluated for listing on the NR or CRHR but has been recorded on Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) forms. The forms note that the quarry does not appear on historical maps, is not represented in reviewed literature and is unknown to local informants. Its age is unknown, and the photographs do not depict more than a random pile of dynamited rocks apparently associated with construction of local roads. The lack of uniqueness, and the probability that it is not over 45 years old, leads to the conclusion that the quarry does not meet any of the four eligibility criteria for listing on the NR or CRHR and therefore requires no further study.

According to the 2013 Parus Report, the “multi-component site (P-29-000627) remains in poor condition.” The main body of this multi-component site is being impacted by recreation activities, debris discard, and by the traffic generated by the Boca Reservoir shooting area, as well as by natural erosional processes. Modern trash, including a variety of bullet shell casings, paper and plastic, was found scattered throughout the site boundaries. As a result of the prior testing, site P-29-000627 was recommended as not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D since it has no potential to yield any additional information important in local, regional, or state prehistory or history, and it does not pertain to other criteria. This site is also recommended not eligible for listing in the CRHR under any criteria. No further work or protection is recommended for this NR- and CRHR-ineligible resource.”

In addition, the 2013 Parus Report notes that the “Boca Townsite (P-29-000662) was first evaluated for NRHP inclusion in 1975 and was recommended as being eligible under [NR] Criteria A and D. In agreement with the prior assessments, P-29-000662 is also recommended eligible for the CRHR under Criteria 1 and 4. As defined under PRC Section 21084.1 and California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064.5(b) of CEQA Title 14, the proposed project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of P-29-000662. The project will not demolish, destroy, relocate, or alter the resource such that it or its immediate surroundings impair the significance of the resource. The physical characteristics of the resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for, inclusion in the CRHR will not be demolished or materially altered by the proposed project. Further, the proposed project will have no adverse effect on P-29-000662 pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(b). The proposed project will not alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of this historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the NRHP in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property’s location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. The project will not, for example,

physically damage the property or introduce elements that diminish the integrity of the property's significant features." Therefore, no additional study or protection is recommended for P-29-000662.

The proposed improvements to the existing roadways (Stampede Meadows Road, West Hinton Road, and Hirschdale Road) would occur in narrow, discreet areas adjacent to the roads. These areas have been previously disturbed for decades by grading, repairs, and construction of the railroad tracks (ca. 1920), Boca Dam (ca. 1930) and the Truckee River bridge (1928 and its modern replacement). These improvement areas have also been disturbed by the additions of modern pullouts, parking areas, as well as the Boca Townsite Trail and associated parking area. Therefore, it is highly unlikely that intact pre-contact or historic age resources would be identified within the narrow corridors adjacent to the existing roadways and no construction monitoring is recommended.

Inadvertent Discoveries

If human remains are encountered during excavations associated with this project, all work will stop within 50 feet of the find, and the County Coroner will be notified (Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code). If the coroner determines that the remains are of Native American origin, he or she will contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The NAHC will be responsible for designating the most likely descendant (MLD), who will be responsible for the ultimate disposition of the remains, as required by Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The MLD will make his or her recommendations within 48 hours of having been notified by the NAHC.

If cultural resources are encountered within the project area, work within 50 feet of the resource should be stopped and a qualified archaeologist notified. The archaeologist will assess the significance of the find and provide recommendations for treatment, if warranted.

References

R. K. Vierra and Associates. 2006. A Cultural Resource Inventory of 168 Acres for Teichert Aggregates Boca Quarry Expansion Project, Nevada County, California.

Parus Consulting, Inc. 2013. Cultural Resources Inventory Boca Quarry Expansion Project.

We at HELIX appreciate the opportunity to assist you on this project. If I can be of any further assistance, or if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 925.788.9097.

Sincerely,



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