

Cultural Resources Sites On P-MRNRD Project Sites

When the P-MRNRD determines that there is, or may be a Cultural Resources Site located on a planned District project site, and that the location of the cultural resources may have an impact on the District project, a cultural resources survey will be done. If a professional consulting firm is providing professional services for the project, it can be part of their contract with the District to provide for a cultural resources investigation. They may contract with an entity such as the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Anthropology, Division of Cultural Management (DCRM) to do a cultural resources inventory and cultural resources impact assessment of the area. This is what was done at the Pigeon/Jones Site #15 project area. It was determined that a cultural resources site existed and that it was listed by the Nebraska Historical Society as a historic native burial site. Because the P/J project site is under review for a 404 permit, the Corps of Engineers contacted Tribal Representatives of five Tribes requesting their comments or recommendations for further evaluation of the site and additional methods proposed for further evaluation. The District will determine how best to further evaluate the site using methods that will minimize disturbance at the site. Among possible methods are the Resistivity Method, Magnetometry, Ground-Penetrating Radar or other methods. Depending on the results of the investigation, if for example cultural resources are present, eg. burial sites, the District will compare various methods to avoid minimize or mitigate adverse effects. This will be done in consultation with the Tribes.