Cultural resources are an important part of our history and heritage. Often, cultural resources are difficult to identify and determine their purpose.
Cultural resources help define human history, remind us of our interdependence with the land, and show how cultures change over time. Cultural resources are in locations where people lived everyday life, leaving structures and objects as evidence of how they lived, where important events occurred, and where traditional, religious, ceremonial, and social activities took place. Protecting cultural resources preserves human tradition, culture, and history.
The Forest Practices Rules’ definition of cultural resources includes archaeological sites and objects; historic sites and objects; as well as traditional sites and objects used by Native Americans. Archaeological sites contain artifacts of prehistoric, indigenous human activity as well as historic human activity. Washington State law defines and provides for protection of archaeological sites and resources on all non-federal lands.

Cultural resources can be found in all counties of the state, both above and below ground and at water level. Therefore, when planning and conducting your forest practices activity such as road building or creating landings, look for physical evidence that may indicate a past use of the area. Some sites date back thousands of years and might not be visible to the unknowing eye.

If cultural resources are found on or adjacent to the area where your forest practices activities are taking place, it does not necessarily mean that you cannot harvest or build roads. Decisions are based upon what the cultural resource is and its location in relationship to your forest practices activity, and whether your activity will disturb the cultural resource.

CULTURALLY MODIFIED TREE
Cedar trees were often stripped of their bark for clothing and baskets.

When filing an FPA/N, you will be asked whether you have reviewed the proposed forest practices activity area for potential archaeological or historic sites. If a proposed timber harvest is in an area of particular interest to local Tribes, landowners will be notified and will be required to meet with the Tribes to determine their area of interest. The meeting typically results in a mutually beneficial plan to protect cultural resources.
When disturbing the ground for road building or creating landings, look for physical evidence that may indicate a past use of the area.

HOW DO I KNOW IF IT’S A CULTURAL RESOURCE?

To help determine whether you have known cultural resources on your property or if you find cultural resources after starting your forest practices activity, contact the following for assistance:

**FOREST PRACTICES OFFICE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

Contact the region office where your forest land is located at www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/forest-practices.

See the inside front cover of this book for contact information.

**DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION (DAHP)**

www.dahp.wa.gov
360-586-3065

**LOCAL TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS**

www.goia.wa.gov

OTHER LAWS

Even if cultural resources on your property are not listed with the federal, state or local government, there are other laws and rules that require their protection and/or additional permits. Please refer to the Resource guide located on page 136 for a list of some of the other laws that may apply.
Examples of Cultural Resources

Graves
Human remains
Settlement and traditional sites
Camps
Cave/rock shelters
Culturally modified trees
Fishing sites
Shell middens
Quarries
Hearths
Cracked rock
Tools
Huckleberry trenches
Weapons
Trade beads

Shells
Bones
Fish traps
Drying racks
Rock Art
Villages
Pit Houses

EXAMPLES OF NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURAL RESOURCES

Some sites date back thousands of years and might not be visible to the unknowing eye.

Tribal Governments would pry wood pieces out of trees to be used as building materials.

Midden deposits that contain high frequencies of shellfish remains.

This may have been a Native American directional marker to a traditional fishing site, ceremonial site, or shallow river crossing.

Native American fishing weight

Midden deposits that contain high frequencies of shellfish remains.

Shells
Bones
Fish traps
Drying racks
Rock Art
Villages
Pit Houses

Cave/rock shelters
Culturally modified trees
Fishing sites
Shell middens
Quarries
Hearths
Cracked rock
Tools
Huckleberry trenches
Weapons
Trade beads

Graves
Human remains
Settlement and traditional sites
Camps
Cave/rock shelters
Culturally modified trees

THIS MAY HAVE BEEN A NATIVE AMERICAN DIRECTIONAL MARKER TO A TRADITIONAL FISHING SITE, CEREMONIAL SITE, OR SHALLOW RIVER CROSSING.
HISTORIC SITES

Historic sites include areas and structures or other evidence of human activities that identify the origins, evolution and/or development of the nation, state or locality. They can also be places associated with an individual important in history or places where significant historical events occurred, even though no physical evidence of the event remains.

EXAMPLES OF HISTORIC SITES AND ARTIFACTS

Religious missions
Graves/Cemeteries
Military forts
Battle sites
Pioneer homesteads
Cabins
Barns
Fences
Tunnels

Mining camps
Logging camps
Saw mills
Flumes
Highways
Roads
Railroad grades
and trestles

Logging equipment
Cable
Weapons
Tools
Cooking utensils
Wagons
Farming
Mining

Splashdams
Mill towns
Rails
Pottery
Bottles
Cans
Coins

Ink vessel used by the Hudson Bay Company
Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I find out if there are any known cultural resources on my property?
Contact the following:
- The local DNR region office where your forest land is located at www.dnr.wa.gov/about/dnr-regions-and-districts
- Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation (DAHP)
  www.dahp.wa.gov/ or 360-586-3065
- Local Tribal government www.goia.wa.gov/

Will someone come out to my property to help identify the cultural resources?
Contact the DNR region office where your forest land is located and ask for assistance. The local Tribe may assist private landowners with identification.

How do I find out which local Tribal government I should contact?
Contact the DNR region office where your forest land is located. You can also find information (directory and maps) on the Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs website at http://www.goia.wa.gov/

If cultural resources are found on or adjacent to my forest practices activity does that mean I can’t harvest my timber or build any roads?
Not necessarily. It will depend upon what the cultural resource is and its location in relationship to your forest practices activity, and whether your activity will disturb the cultural resource.

Do I have to protect cultural resources on my property if they are not listed with DAHP or are of concern to the affected Indian Tribe?
Yes, if federal, state, or local government laws or rules require protection.

What do I do if I find cultural resources after starting my forest practices activity?
Stop the activity and contact your local DNR region office for assistance.

Cultural Resources Protection and Management Plan

The Cultural Resources Protection and Management Plan (Plan), an addendum to the Forests & Fish Report, is a consensus agreement among Tribes, forest landowners, and state agencies.

The Plan was collaboratively developed by the Timber Fish & Wildlife (TFW) Cultural Resources Committee to fulfill commitments to cultural resources protection in the 1987 TFW Agreement and in the 1999 Forests & Fish Report. Committee participants included representatives from Tribes, Washington Forest Protection Association, Washington Farm Forestry Association, DNR Forest Practices, DNR State Lands, and the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

The Plan emphasizes non-regulatory approaches to enhance cooperative relationships between landowners and Tribes to resolve cultural resources concerns in forest practices planning and permitting:
- Increased communication and mutual respect between landowners and Tribes.
- Development of cooperative processes to protect and manage cultural resources.
- Educational opportunities to foster trust, commitment, and a common understanding of cultural resources issues relating to forest management.

The Plan’s effectiveness in achieving cultural resources protection is reviewed biennially by the Committee and annually by the Forest Practices Board.
Suggestions for Success

The following list has suggestions to help you work through cultural resources issues while protecting long-term investments and public resources. These suggestions may exceed Forest Practices Rules.

- I have read the Cultural Resources Chapter.
- Check specific rules for requirements.
- In the early stages of planning any forest practices activity, contact the following for any information about cultural resources that may be on or adjacent to your activity site:
  - Local Washington Tribal Governments’ cultural resources contact (there may be more than one Tribe in your area of concern)
  - DNR region office (see page 2 for region contact information)
  - Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) at http://www.dahp.wa.gov/
  - Local historic societies
- When you are walking and reviewing your forest practice activity area, be aware of the potential for finding cultural resources in your project area.
- Meet with DNR, DAHP, and local Tribal governments if you know of or find any cultural resources in the forest practices project area or adjacent to the forest practices activity.
- If Affected Tribes request a plan, develop the plan specifications with the local Tribal representative to protect the cultural value.
- Prior to any harvest or road building activity, review the cultural resources protection plan with the timber purchaser and operator to ensure the plan is understood and operationally followed on the ground.
- Follow up to ensure harvest occurred according to your plan.