

APPENDIX F

CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROCESS

The BLM may require a cultural survey of a proposed project area. The survey is conducted by either BLM personnel or an outside contractor. A survey report is produced and copies provided to BLM and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). The BLM uses the report to assess National Register eligibility of sites located, determining the effect of the project on any eligible resources, and the need to mitigate any impacts to eligible resources.

The BLM specialist or cultural resource contractor plans the survey project, conducts background research on the project area, reviews regional overviews and other documents for pertinent previous research and terrain and field conditions in the project area. Before beginning fieldwork, the contractor conducts a site file search at the SHPO records office, and if necessary, at the local BLM office.

If the file search reveals that the project area has been adequately surveyed, or if the project area is one of demonstrably low site potential, a resurvey may not be warranted. The responsibility for determining the need for a survey rests with the BLM in consultation with the SHPO.

The results of the file search are documented in a report that should contain a complete bibliographic reference of the previous surveys and summary of previous sites located.

The BLM or contractor conducts the field survey of the project area. If standard inventory requirements would not apply, the overall field methodology, including survey intensity and aerial limits, would be determined by the BLM in consultation with the SHPO.

If no sites are discovered during the survey, and if no previously recorded sites are located in the survey area, the negative results of the survey are documented in a Class III report. Cultural resource clearance is obtained and the project proceeds, subject to other resource considerations, as applicable.

If sites are discovered during the survey, or if previously recorded sites are located in the survey area, Steps 4 through 9 are followed.

Each site located is recorded on an InterMountain Antiquities Computer System (IMACS) site form.

Each new site and each previously recorded site is evaluated for National Register eligibility. Limited testing should be conducted as necessary.

If a site is obviously not eligible, no further work (i.e., testing, monitoring, excavation, or avoidance) is required. If the site contains information significant enough to warrant data recovery efforts, the site should be evaluated as eligible (see Step 7). The evaluation of

noneligibility is documented and a recommendation of "no further work" is made in the report.

If a site is evaluated as eligible for the National Register, the reasons for its eligibility must be documented, with a detailed description of how the site meets the Criteria of Eligibility (36 CFR 60.4). If a site is eligible because of its research potential or information content (36 CFR 60.4(d)) the report must document and discuss the site information content in terms of pertinent research questions which may be addressed.

The effect of the project on each eligible site is evaluated and documented. "Effect" is determined by applying the criteria in 36 CFR 800.3.

If there will be no effect, no further work at the site is warranted. This is documented in the Class III report (see Step 9).

If the impacts to the site will result in adverse effects, this is also documented in the Class III report (see Step 9).

Recommendations to mitigate adverse effects should be directed at reducing or eliminating impacts to those qualities which make the site eligible for the National Register. Avoidance or in situ preservation are the preferred options. Data recovery is appropriate if avoidance or in situ preservation are not feasible or cost effective. Monitoring of construction may also be used under certain conditions.

A report is prepared documenting the results of Steps 1 through 8A2 and(or) 8B2 and copies of the report submitted to the BLM, the SHPO, and the applicant/land user.

The BLM, in consultation with the SHPO, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation use the information provided in Step 9 to carry the "106" review process to completion.

After the above process is completed, the proposed land use may be permitted with appropriate resource stipulations.