

4.6 CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

4.6.1 ALTERNATIVE A – PREFERRED CASINO-RESORT PROJECT

CULTURAL RESOURCES

An archaeological study of the La Center Interchange Site was conducted on November 20-21, 2003, by Heritage Resources Associates, Inc. (HRA, 2003) (DEIS Vol. II, **Appendix Q**). According to that study, no cultural resources sites have been recorded on the La Center Interchange Site (HRA, 2003) and the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) (also known as the State Historic Preservation Office [SHPO]) has provided concurrence that a finding of *No Historic Properties Affected* is appropriate for the site (DEIS Vol. II, **Appendix Q**). An architectural analysis and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluation of the properties in the La Center Interchange site is located in **Appendix J** of the FEIS. The purpose of these studies was to identify and evaluate potential historic and prehistoric resources on the alternative project sites. The historic architectural evaluation found no buildings eligible for the NRHP. On March 3, 2008, the DAHP provided a letter to the BIA concurring with the professional recommendations and finding of *No Historic Properties Affected* for the project at the La Center Interchange Site. Therefore, development proposed under Alternative A would not affect known historic properties.

The ethnographic village of Cathlapotle is located within the Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge, approximately 4 miles southwest of the La Center Interchange Site. There will be no impacts to this archaeological resource.

There is always the possibility that previously unknown archaeological resources will be encountered during construction activities. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation measures are presented in **Section 5.2.5** for the treatment of unanticipated archaeological discoveries to reduce potential project impacts to a less than significant level.

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

No paleontological resources have been reported or observed on or in the vicinity of the La Center Interchange Site. Therefore, no known paleontological resources would be affected under Alternative A.

There is a potential for the discovery of unrecorded, subsurface paleontological resources during heavy ground-disturbing activity. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation measures are presented in **Section 5.2.5** for the treatment of unanticipated paleontological discoveries to reduce potential project impacts to a less than significant level.

4.6.2 ALTERNATIVE B – PREFERRED PROJECT WITHOUT REROUTING NW 319TH STREET

CULTURAL RESOURCES

As with Alternative A, a finding of *No Historic Properties Affected* has been concurred with by the DAHP (DEIS Vol. II, **Appendix Q**). An architectural analysis and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluation of the properties in the La Center Interchange site is located in **Appendix J** of the FEIS. The historic architectural evaluation found no buildings eligible for the NRHP. On March 3, 2008, the DAHP provided a letter to the BIA concurring with the professional recommendations and finding of *No Historic Properties Affected* for the project at the La Center Interchange Site. Therefore, development proposed under Alternative B would not affect known historic properties.

The ethnographic village of Cathlapotle is located within the Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge, approximately 4 miles southwest of the La Center Interchange Site. There will be no impacts to this archaeological resource.

There is always the possibility that previously unknown archaeological resources will be encountered during construction activities. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation measures are presented in **Section 5.2.5** for the treatment of unanticipated archaeological discoveries to reduce potential project impacts to a less than significant level.

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

As with Alternative A, no paleontological resources have been reported or observed on or in the vicinity of the La Center Interchange Site. Therefore, no known paleontological resources would be affected under Alternative B.

There is a potential for unrecorded, subsurface paleontological resources to be discovered during heavy ground-disturbing activity. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation measures are presented in **Section 5.2.5** for the treatment of unanticipated paleontological discoveries to reduce potential project impacts to a less than significant level.

4.6.3 ALTERNATIVE C – REDUCED INTENSITY

CULTURAL RESOURCES

As with Alternative A, a finding of *No Historic Properties Affected* has been concurred with by the DAHP (DEIS Vol. II, **Appendix Q**). An architectural analysis and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluation of the properties in the La Center Interchange site is located in **Appendix J** of the FEIS. The historic architectural evaluation found no buildings eligible for the NRHP. On

March 3, 2008, the DAHP provided a letter to the BIA concurring with the professional recommendations and finding of *No Historic Properties Affected* for the project at the La Center Interchange Site. Therefore, development proposed under Alternative C would not affect known historic properties.

The ethnographic village of Cathlapotle is located within the Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge, approximately 4 miles southwest of the La Center Interchange Site. There will be no impacts to this archaeological resource.

There is always the possibility that previously unknown archaeological resources will be encountered during construction activities. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation measures are presented in **Section 5.2.5** for the treatment of unanticipated archaeological discoveries to reduce potential project impacts to a less than significant level.

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

As with Alternative A, no paleontological resources have been reported or observed on or in the vicinity of the site. Therefore, no known paleontological resources would be affected under Alternative C.

There is a potential for unrecorded, subsurface paleontological resources to be discovered during heavy ground-disturbing activity. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation measures are presented in **Section 5.2.5** for the treatment of unanticipated paleontological discoveries to reduce potential project impacts to a less than significant level.

4.6.4 ALTERNATIVE D – BUSINESS PARK

CULTURAL RESOURCES

As with Alternative A, a finding of *No Historic Properties Affected* has been concurred with by the DAHP (DEIS Vol. II, **Appendix Q**). An architectural analysis and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluation of the properties in the La Center Interchange site is located in **Appendix J** of the FEIS. The historic architectural evaluation found no buildings eligible for the NRHP. On March 3, 2008, the DAHP provided a letter to the BIA concurring with the professional recommendations and finding of *No Historic Properties Affected* for the project at the La Center Interchange Site. Therefore, development proposed under Alternative D would not affect known historic properties.

The ethnographic village of Cathlapotle is located within the Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge, approximately 4 miles southwest of the La Center Interchange Site. There will be no impacts to this archaeological resource.

There is always the possibility that previously unknown archaeological resources will be encountered during construction activities. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation measures are presented in **Section 5.2.5** for the treatment of unanticipated archaeological discoveries to reduce potential project impacts to a less than significant level.

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

As with Alternative A, no paleontological resources have been reported or observed on or in the vicinity of the site. Therefore, no known paleontological resources would be affected under Alternative D.

There is a potential for unrecorded, subsurface paleontological resources to be discovered during heavy ground-disturbing activity. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation measures are presented in **Section 5.2.5** for the treatment of unanticipated paleontological discoveries to reduce potential project impacts to a less than significant level.

4.6.5 ALTERNATIVE E – RIDGEFIELD INTERCHANGE SITE

CULTURAL RESOURCES

A cultural resources study and field survey were conducted for the Ridgefield Interchange Site in early 2005 by AES archaeologists Kelly Heidecker and Gary S. Arnold, and was revised in April 2007. The revised report is presented within **Appendix J** of the FEIS. No previously known archaeological or historical resources were identified pursuant to the archival research and no significant historical properties or site indicators were encountered during the course of the field survey. Therefore, development proposed under Alternative E would not affect known historic properties.

The ethnographic village of Cathlapotle is located within the Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge, approximately 4 miles west of the Ridgefield Interchange Site. There will be no impacts to this archaeological resource.

There is always the possibility that previously unknown archaeological resources will be encountered during construction activities. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation measures are presented in **Section 5.2.5** for the treatment of unanticipated archaeological discoveries to reduce potential project impacts to a less than significant level.

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

As with Alternative A, no paleontological resources have been reported or observed on or in the vicinity of the Ridgefield Interchange Site. Therefore, no known paleontological resources would be affected under Alternative E.

There is a potential for unrecorded, subsurface paleontological resources to be discovered during heavy ground-disturbing activity. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation measures are presented in **Section 5.2.5** for the treatment of unanticipated paleontological discoveries to reduce potential project impacts to a less than significant level.

4.6.6 ALTERNATIVE F – NO ACTION

No new development is proposed under Alternative F. Under this alternative, there would be no impacts to cultural or paleontological resources on the alternative project sites.