

## NASA SSFL Section 106 Consulting Party Meeting

**ATTENDEES:**

|                                      |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Carla Bollinger/Consulting Party     | Merrilee Fellows/NASA           |
| Bill Bowling/Consulting Party        | Pete Zorba/NASA                 |
| Gary Brown/Consulting Party          | Randy Dean/CH2MHILL             |
| Wayne Fishback/Consulting Party      | <b>Via Teleconference:</b>      |
| Elizabeth Harris/Consulting Party    | James Biederman/GSA             |
| Nancy Kidd/Consulting Party          | Rebecca Carbaugh/GSA            |
| Christian Kiillkkaa/Consulting Party | Luhui Isha/Consulting Party     |
| Al Knight/Consulting Party           | Dan Larson/Consulting Party     |
| Mark Osokow/Consulting Party         | Wendy Lowe/P2 Solutions         |
| Bruce Rowe/Consulting Party          | John Luker/Consulting Party     |
| Chris Rowe/Consulting Party          | Tom McCulloch/ACHP              |
| Susan Stratton/SHPO                  | Trisha Meyer/Consulting Party   |
| Christina Walsh/Consulting Party     | Susan Santos/Focus Group        |
| Mary Wiesbrock/Consulting Party      | Margie Steigerwald/NPS          |
| Ronald Ziman/Consulting Party        | Clark Stevens/Consulting Party  |
| Stephanie Jennings/DOE               | Barbara Tejada/Consulting Party |
| Jazmin Bell/DOE                      | Mati Waya/Consulting Party      |
| John Wondolleck/CDM                  |                                 |
| Jennifer Groman/NASA, host           |                                 |

**PREPARED BY:** CH2M HILL

**DATE:** May 15, 2013

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) held a Section 106 Consulting Party meeting on March 15, 2013, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) in NASA's large conference room. Consulting parties attended in person and via teleconference.

### Welcome

Jennifer Groman/NASA began the meeting with an introduction and welcome to the attending parties. She gave an introduction to the meeting, described the meeting objectives, and went over the ground rules of the meeting. She stated that notes from the meeting would be posted on NASA's webpage.

### Traditional Cultural Property and Cultural Landscape Study

Ms. Groman described NASA's upcoming Traditional Cultural Property (TCP) study at SSFL. She stated that as part of the study, NASA will be contacting and interviewing Native American Tribes and individuals in March/April 2013. She distributed a brochure describing TCPs and NASA's upcoming TCP study. She described NASA's approach to the TCP, given SSFL's significant history. NASA will be seeking input from the consulting parties to generate a list of interviewees of ethnographers, Native Americans, traditional religious folks, and others as part of the TCP study.

Ms. Groman presented a slide show from the National Park Service (NPS) describing the TCP process; TCP studies do not have to be focused only on Native Americans. TCP studies at other sites have included Amish, Chinatown(s), and a historical beer hall. The study at SSFL will be focused on Native American values associated with the site, as well as the significance of the landscape to the groups interviewed. Susan Stratton/State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) explained what a Cultural Landscape Assessment (CLA) is intended to investigate and evaluate.

## Open Topics

The consulting parties discussed concerns about how the TCP study would be implemented. Questions were asked about conflicts that might arise regarding features onsite between the TCP and CLA and whether the scope of the CLA would include other parties (The Boeing Company [Boeing], U.S. Department of Energy [DOE], and those outside SSFL). The consulting parties discussed the potential schedule of the TCP and CLA and whether the two studies needed to be conducted separately or at the same time. Ms. Groman informed the group that the TCP and CLA can occur simultaneously. Questions also were asked about whether the Santa Ynez tribe had announced its position regarding completing a TCP or CLA. Ms. Groman explained that she could not disclose the Santa Ynez position to the other consulting parties, but that NASA's intent was to conduct the studies simultaneously.

Ms. Groman described the TCP further by saying a TCP is more protective than a sacred site because TCPs can be determined eligible for listing in the National Register, and this TCP investigation allows NASA to interview tribes and religious practitioners. The consulting parties continued a discussion about NASA's consideration of the cultural landscape in addition to the TCP at SSFL. The consulting parties discussed whether the TCP study would be used only in the areas requiring cleanup under the Administrative Order on Consent (AOC), and whether the results of the study would affect future use of the property and what types of places might be excluded from the CLA. Some of the consulting parties agreed that Native American cultural resources at SSFL are not just a single site, but that there are many discontinuous but related sites over a much larger (regional) area. Ms. Groman explained that future uses of the property would consider the results of the TCP study, that the limits of the study were not defined, and that the results of the investigation would drive what is included for consideration. The decisions of federal organizations would be based on all of the available data and information gathered during the process and would not be a consensus decision. The consulting parties expressed the importance of NASA conducting personal interviews with a wide range of tribes, not just the federally recognized tribe, to obtain as much information as possible about prior land use.

The SHPO clarified that a property placed on the NRHP is automatically placed on the California Register of Historical Resources. Anyone can nominate a property for the NRHP. If the property is privately owned, the owner is notified of the nomination. If the private owner objects, the property is considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

The SHPO stated that the decisions presented in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should consider avoidance and minimization of effects, rather than mitigation.

## Consulting Parties' Presentations

Two consulting parties, Christina Walsh and Wayne Fishback, made presentations to the group. Ms. Walsh's presentation focused on the impacts of groundwater "pump and treat" on the cultural resource areas of NASA-administered property at SSFL. Mr. Fishback's presentation focused on the historical significance of SSFL and compared the types of NASA features and structures to other types of structures that historically have been preserved on federal, regional, and local levels.

## Next Steps

- Ms. Groman described the relevance of the Section 106 process to the EIS and explained to the group that it is important to express their concerns during the EIS public comment period so their views will be preserved in the EIS public record.
- The group expressed a desire to hear directly from federally recognized tribes regarding their interest in SSFL. Ms. Groman said she would pass on the group's concerns to the tribe and ask if the tribe would make a presentation at the next consulting party meeting.
- Ms. Groman reminded the participants to forward names and contact information for individuals to be interviewed as part of the TCP and CLA.

**SSFL Section 106 Consulting Parties Meeting March 15, 2013**

**Attendance Sheet**

| First Name | Last Name   | Organization  |  | Present | Via Phone                             |
|------------|-------------|---|--|---------|---------------------------------------|
| Jazmin     | Bell        | DOE   |  | YES     |                                       |
| James      | Biederman   | GSA   |  |         | YES                                   |
| Carla      | Bollinger   | Santa Susana Mountain Park Association                              |  | YES     |                                       |
| Bill       | Bowling     | Aerospace Contamination Museum of Education                         |  | YES     |                                       |
| Gary       | Brown       | Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area                     |  | YES     |                                       |
| Randy      | Dean        | CH2MHILL  |  | YES     |                                       |
| Nicole     | Doner       | Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board                              |  |         | YES*<br>Trisha Meyer representing     |
| Merrilee   | Fellows     | NASA  |  | YES     |                                       |
| Wayne      | Fishback    | self, neighboring property owners                                   |  | YES     |                                       |
| Jennifer   | Groman      | NASA  |  | Host    |                                       |
| Elizabeth  | Harris      | self; Research Psychologist on Govt' Funded Public Health Contracts |  | YES     |                                       |
| Luhui      | Isha        |   |  |         | YES                                   |
| Stephanie  | Jennings    | DOE   |  | YES     |                                       |
| Nancy      | Kidd        | Simi Valley Historical Society                                      |  | YES     |                                       |
| Christian  | Kiillkkaa   | self  |  | YES     |                                       |
| Albert     | Knight      |   |  | YES     |                                       |
| Dan        | Larson      | Compass Rose Archaeological   |  |         | YES                                   |
| Jane       | Lehman      | GSA   |  |         | YES*<br>Rebecca Carbaugh representing |
| Wendy      | Lowe        | DOE/P2  |  |         | YES                                   |
| John       | Luker       | Santa Susana Mountain Park Association                              |  |         | YES                                   |
| Tom        | McCulloch   | ACHP  |  |         | YES                                   |
| Mark       | Osokow      | San Fernando Valley Audubon Society                                 |  | YES     |                                       |
| Bruce      | Rowe        |   |  | YES     |                                       |
| Chris      | Rowe        |   |  | YES     |                                       |
| Susan      | Santos      | Focus Group   |  |         | YES                                   |
| Margie     | Steigerwald | National Park Service   |  |         | YES                                   |
| Clark      | Stevens     | Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains        |  |         | YES                                   |
| Susan      | Stratton    | SHPO  |  | YES     |                                       |
| Barbara    | Tejada      | self, Ventura County Archaeological Society                         |  |         | YES                                   |
| Mati       | Waiya       |   |  |         | YES                                   |
| Christina  | Walsh       | cleanuprocketdyne.org   |  | YES     |                                       |
| Mary       | Wiesbrock   | Save Open Space   |  | YES     |                                       |
| John       | Wondolleck  | DOE/CDM   |  | YES     |                                       |
| Ronald     | Ziman       | self  |  | YES     |                                       |

*NASA's large conference room at SSFL*

*Call in number for the meeting: 1-866-203-7023*

*Conference Code: 185 1315 594#*

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Meeting Agenda and Meeting Objectives
- 3) Roll Call
- 4) Status of S106 consultation and EIS
- 5) Introduction to the Traditional Cultural Property Study and Cultural Landscape Study for SSFL
- 6) Open Topics from the consulting parties
  - a. Consulting Parties may notify NASA in advance ( by March 13<sup>th</sup>) of a wish to present issues or a topic to the meeting.
  - b. Presentations are strictly limited to 5 minutes.
  - c. Questions will be permitted at the end of the presentation and limited to one question per person until every member has a chance to ask a question before a second question will be permitted. (Recommend writing down your questions during the presentation and picking your most important first)
- 7) Next steps in the consultation process
- 8) Closing

**NOTE: Consulting Party Meeting Ground Rules**

- a. Mute phone unless speaking
- b. Notes being taken and will be distributed (no court reporter or transcript)
- c. Short presentation, so try to keep questions to the end, there will be plenty of time for comments
- d. Questions/Comments procedures: After each presentation we will open the floor to questions. Either Jennifer or Merrilee will rotate between comments on the phone or in the room.
- e. Limit comments to 3 minutes
- f. Want to make sure everyone gets a chance to speak. We will call on people who were identified in roll call.
- g. Please be courteous and patient, this process might be a bit challenging

**NASA's aim is to identify traditional cultural properties or places of traditional religious and cultural importance to the communities historically associated with Santa Susana Field Laboratory**

A **traditional cultural property** can be defined generally as one that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community that are rooted in that community's history, and are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community. However, TCPs are not a distinct and separate National Register property type but rather, they are an overlay of traditional cultural significance that may be associated with a property otherwise listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register such as a building, structure, district, object, or archeological site such as Burro Flats Painted Cave.

TCP recognition is not limited to properties associated with Native Americans or Native Hawaiians and has included many cultural backgrounds across the United States such as Chinatown in Honolulu, Hawaii.

For the purposes of the TCP study for Santa Susana Field Laboratory, NASA is focusing our inventory on Native American values associated with the site as identified by consulting parties.



*Medicine Wheel (Big Horn Mountains, Wyoming)*

### NASA's TCP study

NASA's researchers will conduct oral interviews over the phone in March and April of 2013 with Native Americans and others who ascribe traditional cultural value to the Santa Susana Field Laboratory and its environs. This TCP study is consistent with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservations regulations under 36 CFR 800 to identify historic properties of traditional religious and cultural importance. NASA invites all interested parties who would like to be interviewed to contact our office through our email [hq-crm@mail.nasa.gov](mailto:hq-crm@mail.nasa.gov).

### Questions

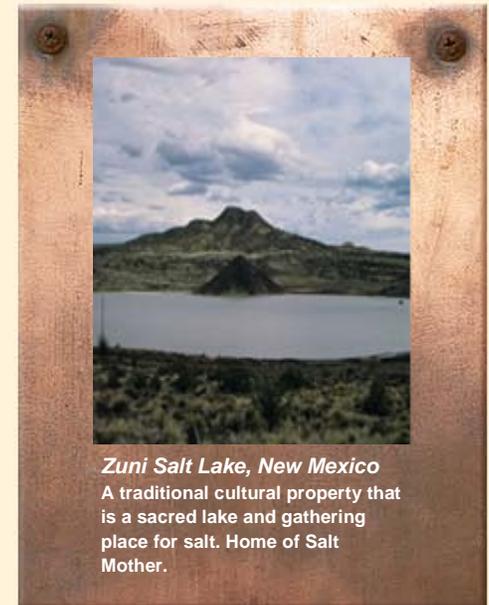
Please forward any questions about the TCP study to our email address [hq-crm@mail.nasa.gov](mailto:hq-crm@mail.nasa.gov)

*The photos and information in this brochure are from material produced by the National Register of Historic Places Program, National Park Service.*

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300 E Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20546-0001

| [hq-crm@mail.nasa.gov](mailto:hq-crm@mail.nasa.gov) | <http://www.nasa.gov/green/crm/>

## Traditional Cultural Property



**Zuni Salt Lake, New Mexico**  
A traditional cultural property that is a sacred lake and gathering place for salt. Home of Salt Mother.

Introduction to Traditional Cultural Properties



*Bear Butte, TCP in Meade County, South Dakota.*



*Medicine Mountain (Big Horn Mountains, Wyoming)*

## What is a TCP?

A Traditional Cultural Property (commonly referred to as TCP) is a National Register of Historic Places overlay designation associated with an existing National Register property. A TCP is significant when it is associated with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community that:

- are rooted in that community's history,
- are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community,
- constitute a location associated with the traditional beliefs of a Native American group about the group's origins, cultural history, or the nature of the world,
- are a location where Native American or Native Hawaiian religious practitioners have historically gone or thought to go today, to perform traditional ceremonial activities; and

- a location where a community has traditionally carried out economic, artistic, or other cultural practices important in maintaining its historic identity.

## The importance of TCPs

Traditional cultural values are often central to the way a community or group defines itself, and maintaining such values is often vital to maintaining the group's sense of identity and self-respect.

Properties to which traditional cultural value is ascribed often take on this kind of vital significance, so that any damage to or infringement upon them is perceived to be deeply offensive to, and even destructive of, the group that values them. As a result, it is extremely important that traditional cultural properties be considered carefully in planning; hence it is important that such properties, when they are eligible for inclusion in the National Register, be nominated to the Register or otherwise identified in inventories for planning purposes.

***Santa Susana is a special place to many Native Americans in the area and NASA would like to capture this in a study to identify if Santa Susana Field Laboratory meets the National Register criteria as a TCP***

## Identifying TCPs

Traditional cultural properties are often hard to recognize. A traditional ceremonial location may look like a mountaintop, a lake, or a stretch of river. A culturally important neighborhood may look like any other aggregation of houses. And area where culturally important economic or artistic activities have been carried out may look like any other building, field of grass, or piece of forest in the area. As a result, such places may not necessarily come to light through the conduct of archeological, historical, or architectural surveys. The existence and significance of such locations often can be ascertained only through interviews with knowledgeable users of the area, or through other forms of ethnographic research. Please see photo examples of TCPs in this brochure.

NASA researchers will conduct a Traditional Cultural Property inventory following the National Park Service's (NPS) *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties* also known as *Bulletin No. 38*. Researchers will also conduct a cultural landscape study focused on an ethnographic landscape in accordance with NPS

National Park Service Bulletin 38:  
*Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties*

<http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/pdfs/nrb38.pdf>

National Park Service Preservation Brief 36: *Protecting Cultural Landscapes*

<http://www.nps.gov/hps/tps/briefs/brief36.htm>