



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Hanford Site Cultural Resources

*Preserving and Protecting Hanford's Cultural
Resources*

| *An Overview* |



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

**Richland
Operations Office**

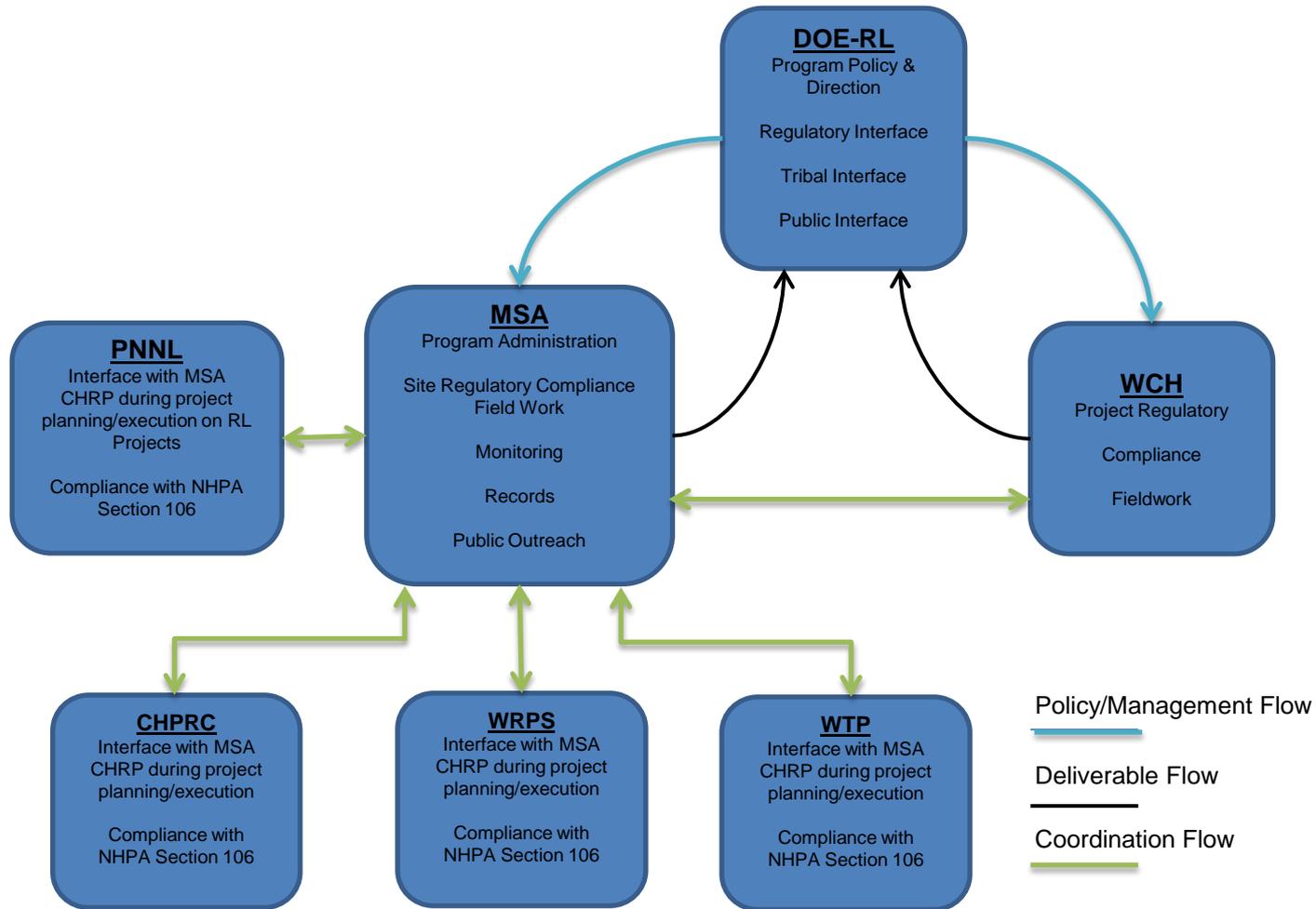
Program Overview

U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office Cultural Resources Program

- Tribal staffs are regularly consulted at the earliest opportunity for recommendations and advice on DOE-RL activities potentially affecting tribal rights and interests.
- The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Nez Perce Tribe, the Colville and the Wanapum are involved in DOE-RL Tribal Affairs and the Cultural Resources Program to assess cultural resources and issues at the Hanford Site.
- Interactions among DOE, contractor and tribal staffs occur in a collegial atmosphere. Tribal people routinely access portions of the Hanford Site for cultural resource reviews, monitoring cleanup activities and traditional religious practices.
- The DOE and the Tribes view the interactions between the DOE-RL and individual tribes as an appropriate government-to-government relationship.



DOE-RL Cultural Resources Program Structure



Cultural Resource Compliance

- The protection and preservation of cultural resources is governed by federal laws, statutes and executive orders.
- Hanford cultural resources staff work closely with project personnel to assure that cultural resources are protected and preserved.
- DOE-RL and cultural resources staff work closely with Tribes and other interested parties to consider effects and address potential impacts that projects may have on cultural resources.



Hanford Cultural Landscapes

The Hanford Site has been continuously occupied for the last 11,000 years and provides a unique and important window into the past.

The Hanford site can be broken down into four cultural landscapes:

Pre-Contact: 11,000 BP-Today

- Prehistoric Artifacts and Features
- Traditional Cultural Properties

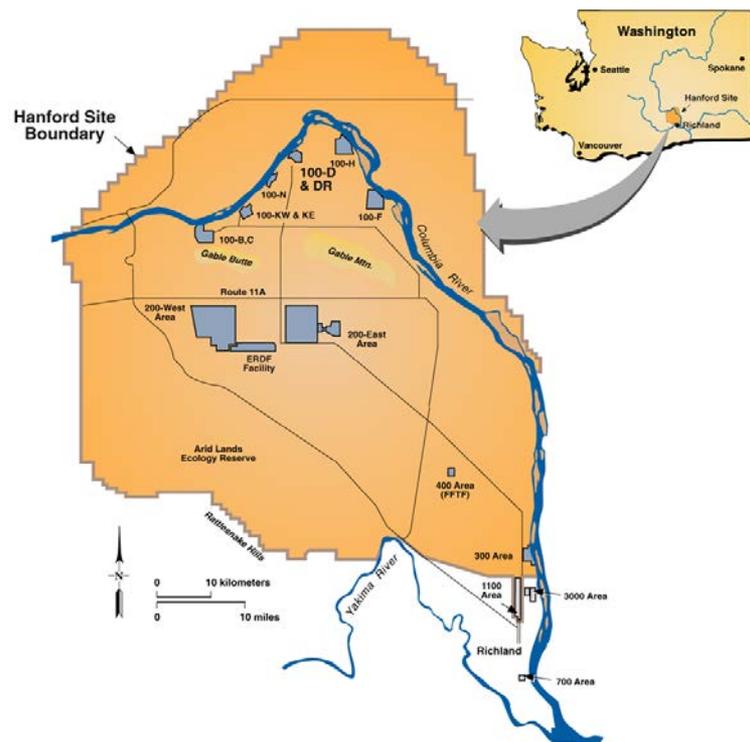
Historic Pre-Hanford: 1805-1943

- Early Explorers, Traders, Travelers, and Settlers
- Historic Farmsteads, Ranches, and Homesteads
- Transportation
- Town Sites and Communities
- Irrigation

Manhattan Project & Cold War Era: 1943-1990

- Hanford Construction Camp
- Manhattan Project
- Cold War

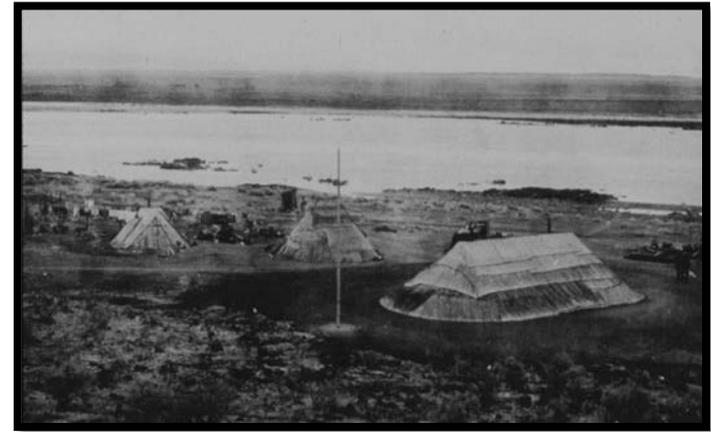
Modern Day Hanford: 1990-Present



Pre-Contact Landscape

11,000 B.P. - Present

- For thousands of years, American Indians have used the land both within and around the Hanford Site
- When explorers and settlers began arriving in this area during the early 1800's, Native American groups were observed inhabiting numerous villages and fishing camps scattered through this segment of the mid-Columbia River Basin
- Many of the Native groups in the area retain traditional, cultural and religious ties to Hanford Site places and resources



Historic Wanapum Fishing Village ca. 1940



Cultural Resources staff performing archaeological testing near Gable Mountain.



Pre-Contact Landscape

11,000 B.P. – Present

The record of Native American use and history is reflected in the archaeological sites and important cultural places that are located across the Hanford Site.

Archaeological sites from this landscape typically reflect traditional and past life ways.

Typical site types include:

- ❖ Campsites
- ❖ Hunting blinds
- ❖ Artifact scatters (chipped stone tools, shell, faunal bone, fire cracked rock, grinding stones and net weights)



Hopper Mortar - Used for plant processing



Projectile Point (Frenchman Springs 4500-2500 BP)



Net Weight – used for fishing



Fire Cracked Rock Feature



Shell concentration



Historic Pre-Hanford Landscape

1805 - 1943

- Non-Native American Presence in the mid-Columbia began during 1805 with the arrival of the Lewis and Clark expedition which ushered in the initial group of explorers, traders, and travelers to the southern Columbia Plateau.
 - Their travels began the exploration and subsequent settlement of the region and ultimately, the Hanford Reach.
 - The explorers sought trade items from the Native Americans and trade routes for goods.
- They were later followed by gold miners and settlers.
 - As increasing numbers of farmers moved into the region, it became apparent that more water, other than the small amounts supplied by rain, was needed to produce higher yields.
 - By the early 1900's, land speculators began constructing large-scale, privately funded irrigation canals to supply water to thousands of acres in the towns of White Bluffs, Hanford, Fruitvale and Richland.



Historic Pre-Hanford Landscape

1805-1943

The record of early settler use and history is reflected in the archaeological sites, buildings and structures located throughout the Hanford Site.

Typical site types include:

- ❖ Historic farmsteads
- ❖ Historic homesteads
- ❖ Historic town site remnants
- ❖ Orchards
- ❖ Irrigation components
- ❖ Historic debris scatters



Historic Farmstead/Homestead



Wood stave irrigation pipe



Historic building foundations



Historic metal artifacts



Hanford High School



Bruggeman's Warehouse



Manhattan Project & Cold War Landscape

1943-1990

- The Manhattan Project and Cold War era landscape is an industrial landscape comprised predominantly of buildings and structures associated with plutonium production, military operations, research and development, waste management, and environmental monitoring activities that took place beginning with the establishment of the Hanford Site (Hanford Engineer Works) from 1943 to the end of the Cold War during 1990.



Manhattan Project & Cold War Landscape

1943-1990

The record for Manhattan Project and Cold War Era use is reflected in the buildings, industrial complexes and archaeological sites located throughout the Hanford Site.



Anti-Aircraft Artillery Site



Tool Board located at one of Hanford's Anti-Aircraft Artillery Sites

Site types from this landscape include:

- ❖ Manhattan Project Buildings
- ❖ Military Installations (ex. Anti-Aircraft Artillery Sites, NIKE Missile Facilities, etc.)
- ❖ Hanford Construction Camp



Hanford Site B-Reactor, ca. 1946



Hanford Site B-Reactor, ca. 1990's



Hanford Construction Camp

- In 1943, the US Army Corps of Engineers built the Hanford Construction Camp adjacent to the Hanford town-site.
- The construction camp started with tents, but later included more than 800 barracks, a 4300 person trailer camp, an auditorium that would hold more than 4,000 dancers and 8 mess halls which served more than 50 tons of food per meal.
- In 1943, the Hanford Construction Camp became the state's 4th largest city with a population of more than 51,000 people and workers.



Dining Hall at the Hanford Construction Camp



Auditorium at the Hanford Construction Camp



Shoe shiner at the Hanford Construction Camp



Hanford Construction Camp (1944)

Preserving our Past...

“

...archaeological sites are a nonrenewable resource that contribute to our sense of history and place and define our collective shared heritage. The wise stewardship of these sites is our collective responsibility.”

<http://www.dahp.wa.gov/programs/archaeology>

- All past peoples have left their mark on the landscape. These remnants of past lifeways are the heritage of all people and their protection and consideration is mandated under federal law.
- It is illegal to remove or vandalize archaeological sites, cultural resources and artifacts.
 - Defacement and/or looting are punishable by law and may carry fines and even prison terms
- What can you do to help?
 - Immediately notify authorities if you see any illegal act
 - Respect cultural resources and educate those around you to do the same
 - Do not touch or pick up archaeological or cultural resources, and be sure to report it when others do



Additional Information

- [Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation \(CTUIR\)](#)
- [Yakama Nation](#)
- [Nez Perce Tribe](#)
- [Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation](#)
- [Wanapum Heritage Center](#)
- [East Benton County Historical Society](#)
- [Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science & Technology \(CREHST\)](#)
- [B-Reactor Museum Association](#)

