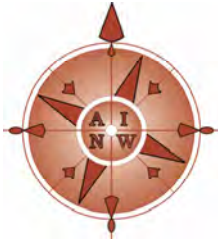

EXHIBIT 26
ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT



Archaeological Investigations Northwest, Inc.

3510 N.E. 122nd Ave. • Portland, Oregon 97230
Phone (503) 761-6605 • Fax (503) 761-6620

Vancouver Phone (360) 696-7473
E-mail: ainw@ainw.com
Web: www.ainw.com

MEMO

Date: December 19, 2023

To: Jeff Shepherd, P.E., Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.

From: Eva Hulse, Ph.D., R.P.A., Senior PM/Senior Geoarchaeologist
Kristen Heasley, Ph.D., R.P.A., Assistant PM/Supervising Archaeologist

Re: Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion Project
Benton County, Oregon
Cultural Resource Survey and Archaeological Testing and Evaluation
AINW Report No. 5127

Archaeological Investigations Northwest, Inc. (AINW), has conducted a cultural resource survey and archaeological testing and evaluation of 85 acres on behalf of Valley Landfills, Inc., for proposed landfill expansion. The Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion project study involved background review, pedestrian survey, excavation of 76 shovel tests, and excavation of five quarter test units. The survey was conducted to comply with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) standards, with Benton County land use conditions, and with Section 106, as amended, for the portion of the project that will be subject to review by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. A portion of the archaeological shovel testing and all of the quarter test unit excavations were conducted under SHPO permit AP-3341.

As a result of the survey, AINW identified and recorded twelve archaeological resources.

- The project area does not overlap any recorded elements of the former 1941 Camp Adair/Adair Air Force Station, and no archaeological deposits pertaining to the Camp Adair site were encountered. No historic-period buildings or structures are within the project area.
- There are eight pre-contact (Native American) isolates consisting of between one and nine artifacts.
- There are two multi-component isolates with both historic-period and pre-contact artifacts. The sparse historic-age artifacts are from casual debris disposal, as well as from municipal compost spread in portions of the project area.
- There are two pre-contact archaeological sites composed primarily of stone fragments that were left behind when Native people made stone tools.

AINW excavated quarter test units at the two archaeological sites to evaluate their significance and integrity. The archaeological findings suggest that the area was used as long as 3,000 years ago by Native people, for making stone tools and possibly for plant gathering.

Jeff Shepherd, Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.

Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion Project

Cultural Resource Survey and Archaeological Testing and Evaluation

AINW Report No. 5127

Project Recommendations

AINW recommends a finding of No Adverse Effect on Historic Properties as long as conditions are met.

- AINW recommends that the 10 isolates identified during survey are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and no further work is needed at those locations.
- AINW's excavations found that one of the archaeological sites is disturbed and lacks integrity, and AINW recommends that it is not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Inadvertent discoveries are likely at this location, and AINW recommends construction monitoring to the depth of the archaeological deposit, which is up to 20 inches (in) below the surface.
- AINW's excavations found that the other archaeological site is disturbed to a depth of 12 in, below which are artifacts in intact soil. The portion of the archaeological site below 12 in is eligible for listing in the NRHP due to its potential to retain important information about the past. AINW recommends that the project avoid grading below a depth of 12 in below the surface at this location. AINW recommends monitoring of organic topsoil grading at this location to the depth of project impacts, which is anticipated to a depth of 12 in below the current surface.
- AINW recommends that a monitoring plan and Inadvertent Discovery Plan be developed for the project.
- AINW recommends that graded archaeological soils not be taken offsite for disposal, to avoid creation of a new archaeological deposit at another location.