

Revised

NOTE TO ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT: Customer requests that the headline/subject line of this public notice be in larger and bold type than the body copy.

Notice of intent to repatriate human remains in the possession of the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Notice is hereby given under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3005 (a), of the intent to repatriate human remains in the possession of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District. These human remains were inadvertently discovered on federal property after they were exposed by shoreline erosion in Columbia Park, Kennewick, Washington. The human remains were collected from two areas within the park. They were subsequently removed from the ground by representatives of the Benton County Coroner's Office.

The first remains are of one individual discovered in July 1996. In the course of the coroner's investigation, a carbon date test indicated that the remains are in the vicinity of 9,000 years old.

The second set of remains are those of at least five individuals discovered in August 1996. These remains give no indication of comparable antiquity. Available forensic information indicates that the remains from the second "find" are consistent with Native American ethnicity and culture.

Based on the above-mentioned information, officials of the Walla Walla District have determined, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.6, the human remains listed above represent the remains of at least six individuals of Native American ancestry. The stated remains were discovered inadvertently on Federal land recognized by judgment under claims litigation as the aboriginal land of an Indian tribe. Officials of the Walla Walla District have also determined that, pursuant to 25 USC 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between the human remains and five (5) Columbia River basin tribes and bands.

This notice has been sent to officials of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Nez Perce Tribe, and the Wanapum Band. Representatives of any other Native American Tribe which believes itself to be culturally affiliated with these human remains should contact Lee Turner, Executive Assistant, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 201 N. 3rd. Avenue, Walla Walla, Washington 99362-1876; phone 509-527-7701; fax 509-527-7804 before October, 23, 1996. Repatriation may begin after this date if no additional claimants come forward.