

E2018-108 (DEIS - Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe Atoma Area Expansion Project - Washoe County)

The Nevada SHPO reviewed the subject document and does not recommend any changes. However, in searching through our Section 106 compliance correspondence for this project there appears that the U.S. Forest Service has not completed their consultation with this office. Attached is a scan of the last correspondence we have for the subject undertaking.

Regards,

Rebecca Lynn Palmer
State Historic Preservation Officer
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 5004
Carson City NV 89701
(phone) 775.684.3443



NEVADA
**STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICE**

PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE

2016-4104

Julie Ernstein

From: Branigan, Alyce A -FS [aabranigan@fs.fed.us] # 21063
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2015 1:55 PM
To: Julie Ernstein
Cc: Crews, Kalie -FS; Jessica Axsom
Subject: RE: Can We Have a Call Regarding the Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe Atoma EIS

I am sure one of those many options will work, but will not no until Kalie returns. I do understand that you do not have a reviewable submission and appreciate your holding it back.



Alyce Branigan, MA
Archeologist
Forest Service
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Supervisor's Office

p: 775-352-1255
c: 775-813-8493
f: 775-355-5399
aabranigan@fs.fed.us

1200 Franklin Way
Sparks, NV 89431
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Caring for the land and serving people

From: Julie Ernstein [mailto:jernstein@shpo.nv.gov]
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2015 1:52 PM
To: Branigan, Alyce A -FS
Cc: Crews, Kalie -FS; Jessica Axsom
Subject: RE: Can We Have a Call Regarding the Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe Atoma EIS

Dear Alyce--I understand. Looking at our calendar for the week of Mon. 11/30/15, Jessica and I would be available for a call on any of the following dates/times

- Mon. 11/30/15--anytime between 9:30 a.m. and noon and between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m.,
- Tues. 12/1/15--at 9:00 a.m. and anytime between 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.,
- Wed. 12/2/15--anytime between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m.,

Hopefully one of these slots will work.

Just so that everyone is clear on this, until we chat and can get some USFS clarification, we do not have a reviewable submission.

Best,

Julie

Julie H. Ernstein, Ph.D., RPA
Deputy SHPO
State Historic Preservation Office
901 S. Stewart St., Suite 5004
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jernstein@shpo.nv.gov

tel: 775.684.3437
fax: 775.684.3442

From: Branigan, Alyce A -FS [<mailto:aabranigan@fs.fed.us>]
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2015 12:48 PM
To: Julie Ernstein; Crews, Kalie -FS
Cc: Jessica Axsom
Subject: RE: Can We Have a Call Regarding the Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe Atoma EIS

Hi Julie. Both Kalie and I inherited this project half way through and also jumped in midstream, I believe it was started back in 2011 or 12 with no previous records of what was done with SHPO before us and maybe nothing was, so I see the need for a rudder. I crafted the letter, and Kalie reviewed it, so this will be good for both of us. I know Kalie will not be back into the office until 11/30. I will be here a partial day on the 23rd, but have to answer the phone all day for Christmas tree permits, so it would not be a good day. I do believe there is an explanation of why the APE is defined as it was explained in the report, I ran off the fact that it sounded as though the APE definition had been agreed to sometime in the past. We do appreciate the willingness to address this in the manner you have offered. Kalie is down there, and I would be glad to come down and talk to you in person if it would be easier. I like seeing you guys anyway. We will do what we can to clean this up.



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Caring for the land and serving people

From: Julie Ernstein [<mailto:jernstein@shpo.nv.gov>]
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2015 12:37 PM
To: Branigan, Alyce A -FS
Cc: Crews, Kalie -FS; Jessica Axsom
Subject: FW: Can We Have a Call Regarding the Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe Atoma EIS

Dear Alyce,

As you, too, are identified as an "if you have any questions..." person in the Forest Service transmittal letter for this document, I am writing to see if you might be available for a call next week (see below).

Best,

Julie

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From: Julie Ernstein
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2015 12:33 PM
To: 'Crews, Kalie -FS'
Cc: Jessica Axsom
Subject: Can We Have a Call Regarding the Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe Atoma EIS

Dear Kalie,

We received in our office the *Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe - Atoma Area EIS* (USFS Report R2014041702432) and are a bit confused as it and the letter seem to be something of a mashup between NEPA and NHPA and, given that there is no consultation on the APE, it's a bit as though we're jumping in mid-stream. To avoid any otherwise avoidable delays or confusion, I hoped we might schedule a short phone call for early next week.

Here are some times Jessica Axsom and I are available next week:\

- Mon. 11/23/15--11:00 a.m., anytime between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. (when Jessica leaves for the day),
- Tues. 11/24/15--anytime between 8:30 and 10:00 a.m., and anytime between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m.,
- Wed. 11/25/15--anytime between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

I am hopeful that there's something here that might prove convenient for you. Of course, if not let's shoot for something right after Thanksgiving.

Best,

Julie

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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

1200 Franklin Way
Sparks, NV 89431
775-331-6444

2016-4104

12/12

File Code: 2360

Date:

NOV 09 2015

#21063

Ms. Rebecca Palmer
State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
901 South Stewart Street Ste. 5004
Carson City, NV 89701

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STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICE

Dear Ms. Palmer:

Enclosed for your review is the "Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe Atoma" report (R2014041702432) prepared for the Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest (HTNF) Carson City Ranger District by Susan Lindstrom, Consulting Archaeologist. As part of the 2010 Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe Master Plan, the project sponsor (Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe) is proposing to develop a 112-acre parcel of National Forest System (NSF) lands located across State Route 431 from the main base facility. Plans include a new intermediate ski "pod" (i.e., a new chairlift and associated trails) accessed by a skier bridge over the highway.

This report presents the results of the effort to consult, identify and evaluate historic resources, and avoid adverse effects to heritage properties following 36CFR regulations. Archaeological field work was carried out in three phases. An initial reconnaissance of the Atoma Pod was conducted in July 2011, at which time the project area was inspected using a mixed survey strategy and resources were briefly described and mapped. A supplemental survey was performed in August 2011, with the addition of proposed water tank area in August 2011. This work was followed in 2014 by a more intensive examination of selected areas within the project area and full recordation of all heritage resources. Combined, the three phases are considered to be a Class III intensive field survey.

Archival research and field survey disclosed nine archaeological sites or site complexes and four isolated finds: the Old Mt. Rose Highway linear complex (WA-8383/04170104445) with five branching roads (26WA8383/04170104445-1 through 5); a 19th-century wood camp (26WA-3250/04170104359), four arborglyph sites (26WA-3249/04170104358, 26WA9875/04170104008, WA-9876/04170104009, and WA-9877/04170114010); a 19th-century debris scatter and prehistoric lithic scatter (26WA-9879/04170114012); a prehistoric lithic scatter and 20th-century historic debris scatter (26WA-9880/04170114013); a downed and abandoned utility (telephone) line (26WA-9878/04170114011); and four isolates, to include two projectile points (MRA-IF-1 and IF-2), a single arborglyph (MRA-IF-3), and a rock cairn (MRA IF-4).

With the exception of two unevaluated heritage properties (WA-3250/04170104359 and WA-9879/04170114012), all other resources inventoried within the project APE are recommended ineligible for listing in the National Register (WA-3249/04170104358, WA-8383/04170104445, WA-9875/04170114008, WA-9876/04170114009, WA-9877/04170114010, WA-9878/04170114011, WA-9880/04170114013). Although these ineligible resources may be directly



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or indirectly impacted by the project, a finding of "no adverse effect to historic properties" is recommended due to their ineligibility.

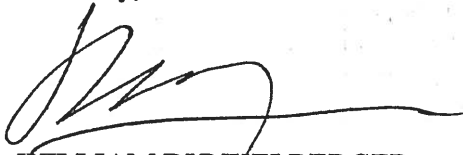
WA-9879/04170114012 and WA-3250/04170114359 are left unevaluated for listing on the NRHP and a finding of "no effect to historic properties" is recommended with the following conditions: The project sponsor will be required to avoid these two unevaluated resources. Design criteria will be added stating that the sites will be avoided in the field. The sites will be fenced prior to construction and a qualified archaeologist will be in the field when any construction occurs within or near the two areas. No indirect impacts to site setting will occur, as the immediate surroundings will remain an open and gladed forest environment with no modern intrusions. Although the project may introduce increased public access into the general area, the low profile and low visibility of surface manifestations at both sites serves to conceal them from public view, as well, the use of the area is during ski season, and they will be snow covered.

Consultation with the Washoe tribe, including site visits, was initiated during the scoping phase of the project starting in 2011. Regular contact as the project advanced has been maintained, and the consultation is ongoing which includes meetings and site visits

If undocumented historic and/or prehistoric properties are located, project activities will cease in the area of the find and the project sponsor should consult a qualified archaeologist for recommended procedures.

We ask for your concurrence of NRHP eligibility determinations, and comment on avoidance measures proposed for sites WA-9879/4170114012 and WA-3250/4170104359. If you have any questions, please contact Kalie Crews 775-884-8108 at kcrews@fs.fed.us, or Alyce Branigan 775-352-1255 at aabranigan@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,



WILLIAM DUNKELBERGER
Forest Supervisor

cc: Tim Marshall, Marnie Bonesteel

Enclosures

Corrections were made by the USFS for FS site numbers in Report R2014041702432. Maps within the reports were inserted as .jpegs and could only be hand corrected in the hard copies. Electronic copies could not be changed. GIS shapefiles were received as points, lines and polygons. Points and lines were buffered to five meters. The following two tables provide corrected FS site number information.

Previously Documented Heritage Resources Within the Project APE

<i>State No/FS No.</i>	<i>Description/Correction</i>	<i>Other IDs</i>
26WA3249/ 4170104358	Basque arborglyphs (130 trees, most with multiple carvings)/Photographs for this site form are labeled 26WA9878 in Volume 2. Hand corrections were made in the report. The electronic copy and the GIS were corrected.	--
26WA3250/ 4170104359	Cabin foundation, hearth, artifact scatter (19th century) Wood Camp/this number is correct throughout.	--
26WA8383/ 4170104445	Old Mt. Rose Highway/This site number has been hyphenated throughout report to differentiate branch roads. Number 4170104445 is applied to the road, branches of the road, and features.	USFS-LTBMU 05-19-663

Newly Documented Heritage Resources Within the Project APE

<i>State No/FS No.</i>	<i>Description/Corrections</i>
26WA9875/4170114008	Arborglyphs/This number appears as 4170104008 throughout the report. It is hand corrected in the hard copy, the electronic copy has been corrected
26WA9876/4170114009	Arborglyphs/ This number appears as 4170104009 throughout the report. It is hand corrected in the hard copy, the electronic copy has been corrected
26WA9877/4170114010	Arborglyphs/ This number appears as 4170104010 throughout the report. It is hand corrected in the hard copy, the electronic copy has been corrected
26WA9878/4170114011	Abandoned Utility Line/ This number appears as 4170104011 throughout the report. It is hand corrected in the hard copy, the electronic copy has been corrected
26WA9879/4170114012	19 th Century Wood Camp /This number appears as 4170104012 throughout the report. It is hand corrected in the hard copy, the electronic copy has been corrected
26WA9980/4170114013	Prehistoric Lithic Scatter-20 th century historic debris/ This number appears as 4170104013 throughout the report. It is hand corrected in the hard copy, the electronic copy has been corrected