

Sunny Oaks Heritage Presentation Transcript

A note about the transcripts. These transcripts contain the raw closed captioning that was captured real-time while the presentation was being given. They were typed by a person at the pace that the presenter was speaking. As such, they contain grammatical and spelling errors. More major errors that could potentially change the meaning or understanding of the material were corrected by the Sunny Oaks planning team to reflect what was actually stated; however, less major errors were left in place.

Hello. I am Chris Euler, Assistant Forest Archaeologists for Wayne National Forest . I will be discussing the Sunny Oaks Effects Analysis I conducted for Heritage Resources in the project area.

First of all I used section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act which is also referred to as section 106. Talks about federal projects on or off federal lands be accountable for effects to historic properties specifically those that are in or eligible for the national register of historic places. I also used 36 CFR 800 as amended in 2004. Describes how federal agencies are to carry out their responsibilities under section 106. In paragraph 800.3 it asks if it is an undertaking, Will it have an effect on historic properties? 800.4 (a) (1) says the federal agency must document areas of potential effects. 800.4(b)(1) tells the the agency official they must be making a reasonable and good faith effort to find and identify through field research, background research, consultation et cetera historic properties. The official shall also take into account Past planning studies et cetera , along with magnitude in times of undertaking how it will affect historic properties. 800.4 b-2, where projects are being considered and they are large and land area they may use a phased approach to identify and evaluate historic properties. This has to be provided for in a programmatic agreement with all consulting parties. The tribal governments and state office et cetera. This I would like to pay close attention to because this is the approach we are using in the Sunny Oaks project. National register bulletin 15, how to apply it the national register criteria for evaluation. This is the basis of a lot of this analysis. The criteria number one , associated with the events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. Two, lives of persons significant in our past. Three, it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method or a high artistic value area. Or significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. This is more of a visual criteria. Pay a close attention to this. This is for the determination of the evaluation of the site. This is the historic site. Number four is common for most archaeological sites. That will yield or likely yield important history or prehistory. You will hear this or these criteria used a lot whether they are eligible or ineligible and that all comes from this national register bulletin.

The next one we use is the Ohio archaeological guideline of 1994. This guides us in the methods we use to conduct all levels of archaeological research for the state of Ohio. These are the guides of what we use in the field. This is not an exhaustive list of the laws we use but

the primary ones for this analysis. Here's a list of quick definitions that will help in understanding language used in analysis. I would like to give you a moment to read over this. I would also like to draw your attention to the term pre-contact instead of the word prehistoric which tells the era of which these take place .

The scope of the analysis. For the Sunny Oaks project we found 3812 acres have already been surveyed for cultural resources using the phase 1 cultural resource survey standards for Ohio. This is shoveled testing which is subsurface testing along with visual surveying at specific intervals and distances to identify cultural resources. This leaves 506.2 acres that will need a phase 1 cultural resource survey. The project area was analyzed temporally for to identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects . Sites within a three kilometer or 1.9 mile radius of the proposed treatment area were analyzed as well to determine any and all effects to them.

Here's a quick map of the survey status of the proposed projects within the sunny Oaks project area. You will notice different colors. The purple is the Sunny Oaks area. The yellow is the un-surveyed Sunny Oaks area. You will notice the border surrounding the area.

The methodology that we use for this analysis as this project is implemented in phases, all treatment areas will have a phase 1 cultural resource survey before the implementation of the project. All cultural resource sites that have not been evaluated for eligible for or listed on the national register will be protected from ground disturbing activity through avoidance. Non-harvest treatments will receive a visual survey, except in those areas where ground disturbing activity will occur, those areas will receive a full phase I survey.

Moving on to adverse and beneficial effects. The potential adverse effects and I emphasize potential would be from timber harvest. These are effects from ground disturbing activities and skid trails and access roads or log landings road construction and maintenance or prescribed fires with heavy loading, line construction or buildup of fuels around the surface sites. The good news is that there are some potential benefits that may come from the effects of treatment. They would be beneficial effects. The clearing of the heavy fuel pockets may help in reducing hazardous fire effects to any cultural resources. Also the reduction of insect and disease threats .

For sites that we found within the analysis area there is one that really stood out that is eligible for the national register. It is located along Cambria Creek in Jackson County in the northern end of the project area and it is Cambria iron furnace.

It is the remains of a 19th century iron furnace that contributed to the iron production of the Hanging Rock Iron Region. And it will be protected during the duration of the project. Also the sites within the project area are representative of a variety of sites found on the forest and really in the Ironton Ranger District .

Sites within the analysis. We have site numbers and distribution of sites. The historic period along with national register statuses.

For mitigations and designs of the project for use of this analysis, the forest will use the standard phase I survey for timber harvest that is outlined in the Ohio archaeological standards. Prescribed fire as previously stated, will be surveyed using visual surveys on all areas except mechanically constructed fire line. They will receive full phase I survey. Sites that are found to be ineligible for inclusion on the national register will not be managed for future preservation. All other sites that are eligible, unknown or on the national register will be flagged for avoidance with the 15 meter buffer which is approximately 50 feet.

For alternative two we found that it may minimize ground disturbance and some disturbance for cultural resources. That is minimal. We found there would be no change from alternative one.

The current status and next steps for our programmatic agreement, a legal document that says we shall do such things in agreement with all of the parties stated as before. We are currently working on a programmatic agreement with the Ohio historic preservation office for the phased approach of this project. We are developing currently with the OHPO for a different method of the survey. They will be more informative and appropriate for portions of this project and only be carried out when we have consultations with them and other tribes and they all believe we are okay with altering these methods. Some possibilities might be a focus use of light detection and ranging. It is like sonar from the air also known as LiDAR. Ground penetrating radar and other devices using magnetics and soil testing for past use. And basically analysis of condition based on records, historic records are archival records -- records like tribal, Also from multiple sources. The OHPO suggested ways in which the forest could improve archaeological understanding beyond phase 1 documentation if we use these methods. We will get more information back than if we simply don't do all of this.

I would like to conclude with the research I used to conduct this analysis. This is a primary work that I used to reference fire and other activity. If you want to take a look this will be available with the documents.

With that, I would like to conclude and say thank you very much and I hope you found this informative. Thank you.