

**From:** [Meitl, Sarah J \(DNR\)](#)  
**To:** [Owen, Samantha](#)  
**Cc:** [Meitl, Sarah J \(DNR\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Eklutna Hydroelectric Project - Draft Year 2 Study Plans  
**Date:** Friday, March 11, 2022 5:04:25 PM

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3130-4R Eklutna Hydro / 2020-00409

Good afternoon,

Following review of the cultural study plan I put together the following comments for your consideration.

- 1 – A lot of decisions have been pushed out, such as consultation about the APE, survey areas, and the sensitivity model. If all of these things are going to be discussed and need decisions during the meeting on 3/22 then I recommend that materials be sent out as soon as possible for the TWG to review prior to the meeting.
- 2 – How will TEK be incorporated into the cultural resources study? It is great that an assessment is being done, but at what point will TEK inform the fieldwork, analysis, and conclusions of the cultural resources study?
- 3 – Artifact collection needs to be done consistent with the land owner/manager's policy(ies). The collection methods outlined on page 99 may need to be modified to accommodate subsequent permitting requirements.
- 4 – Subsurface testing collection will need to be consistent with the land owner/manager's policy(ies). The State of Alaska requires that artifacts discovered during sub-surface testing be collected.
- 5 – Most of the field methods described address the archaeological component. What methods will be used for the survey of the built environment, especially for the known resources associated with the Eklutna Hydro Project?
- 6 – Confidential information: information about archaeological sites is considered restricted rather than confidential. What is the scope of the information to be kept confidential? The cultural resources report needs to be shared with OHA as it will have information about inventory on state lands. Will TEK information relevant to the identification of cultural resources and assessment of effects be shared with the cultural working group? Will there need to be a confidential appendix to the cultural report to address TEK information?

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the cultural study plan. Please contact me if you have any questions or if the office can be of further assistance.

Best,  
Sarah

***Sarah Meitl***

Review and Compliance Coordinator  
Alaska State Historic Preservation Office  
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**From:** Owen, Samantha <owen@mcmjac.com>

**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2022 3:15 PM

**To:** Marc Lamoreaux <marcl@eklutna.org>; Aaron Leggett <aleggett@anchoragemuseum.org>; Maria Coleman <maria.nve@eklutna.us>; Meitl, Sarah J (DNR) <sarah.meitl@alaska.gov>; Foley, Kevin <kevin\_foley@fws.gov>; Douglass Cooper <douglass\_cooper@fws.gov>

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**Subject:** Eklutna Hydroelectric Project - Draft Year 2 Study Plans

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Hello Cultural TWG,

See attached for the draft year 2 study plans for the Eklutna Hydroelectric Project. Please review and provide any comments you may have to myself via email at [owen@mcmjac.com](mailto:owen@mcmjac.com). The deadline to submit written comments is **March 11, 2022**. You'll notice that the draft year 2 study plans include ALL of the study plans for next year. Since this is the Cultural TWG, we request that you focus your review on the cultural study plan.

A virtual Cultural TWG meeting will be scheduled for the **week of March 21, 2022** to review and address any substantive comments on the draft year 2 study plans that warrant further discussion. I will send out a doodle poll early next week with potential dates/times for the meeting. Hopefully we can find a date/time that works for everyone. If not, we will pick the date/time that works for most.

Thank you for your continued participation in the Cultural TWG! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Cheers,

**Samantha Owen**

Senior Regulatory and Licensing Consultant

**McMillen Jacobs Associates**

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