

February 14, 2022

RE: Museum Fire Emergency Watershed Protection Project
Natural Resources Conservation Service Section 106 Responsibilities

Dear Property Owner,

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Coconino County Flood Control District (District) invites landowners within the Museum Fire Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWPP) project area to attend a virtual meeting (meeting information is below) to learn about cultural resources and NRCS's responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This meeting is intended only for landowners that have land within the area of potential effects (APE) that has been defined for the EWPP undertaking. The APE is the "geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist." A map of this area is attached.

Survey of the APE by NRCS archaeologists identified a segment of the Beale Wagon Road, a historic property that has been determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). An approximate 1,000-ft-long segment of the 165-year-old wagon road on land owned by the City of Flagstaff (a small parcel north of Linda Vista and shown on the map) cannot be avoided and will be destroyed by the project. This meeting serves as a notice of "Adverse Effect" to the historic property within the APE and as an opportunity for NRCS and the District to educate owners about Section 106 of the NHPA for the undertaking.

Because of the Adverse Effect determination for the undertaking, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is currently being developed amongst NRCS, the Arizona State Museum, City of Flagstaff, and the District. NRCS will be responsible for distributing this MOA to consulting parties, tribes, private landowners within the APE, and any other interested parties that notify NRCS that they would like to participate in the Section 106 process.

Museum Fire EWPP Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act Meeting

Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Time: 6:30 p.m. (AZ Time)

Meeting Information: For information on how to join the meeting please visit www.coconino.az.gov/MuseumFire/FloodArea/EWPPMeeting.

This meeting will exclusively discuss the Section 106 process and will **not** discuss the details of the actual project. A virtual meeting with all property owners in the area to review the 30% plans will occur after this Section 106 meeting **and** after individual meetings take place with property owners whose properties will be directly impacted by the project. The individual meetings will serve as the opportunity for property owners to review the proposed design and provide input.

If you have questions concerning the Section 106 process or the meeting, then please contact Scott Courtright, NRCS State Archaeologist at scott.courtright2@usda.gov. I hope you can join us at the meeting.

Sincerely,



Scott Courtright
NRCS State Archaeologist



Lucinda Andreani
Administrator
Coconino County Flood Control District

Enclosure