

## Graham Daneluz

---

**From:** Lake, Cynthia TCA:EX [Cynthia.R.Lake@gov.bc.ca]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2010 11:17 AM  
**To:** Graham Daneluz  
**Subject:** OCP Electoral Area F - Archaeology Branch comments  
**Attachments:** FVRD AOA mapping.JPG

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good morning Graham,

Thank you for giving the Archaeology Branch the opportunity to comment on the OCP for Hatzic Valley, Electoral Area F, Bylaw No. 0999, 2010. I have reviewed Section 7.3 (First Nations Cultural Resources) and it contains all of the archaeology-specific elements that we normally recommend for local government OCPs. It clearly informs property owners of their responsibilities with regard to archaeological sites.

The only change that the Archaeology Branch requires is removal of archaeological site locations from Map 4 Cultural Resources. We do not permit the general release of protected archaeological site locations into the public domain in order to protect the sites from looting and vandalism. However, we do encourage the inclusion of Archaeological Overview Assessment models, or potential/predictive mapping, in local government OCPs. The archaeological site locations can then be included on a map of archaeological potential as long as the archaeological sites are "masked" by buffering them and giving them the same color as the areas of archaeological potential.

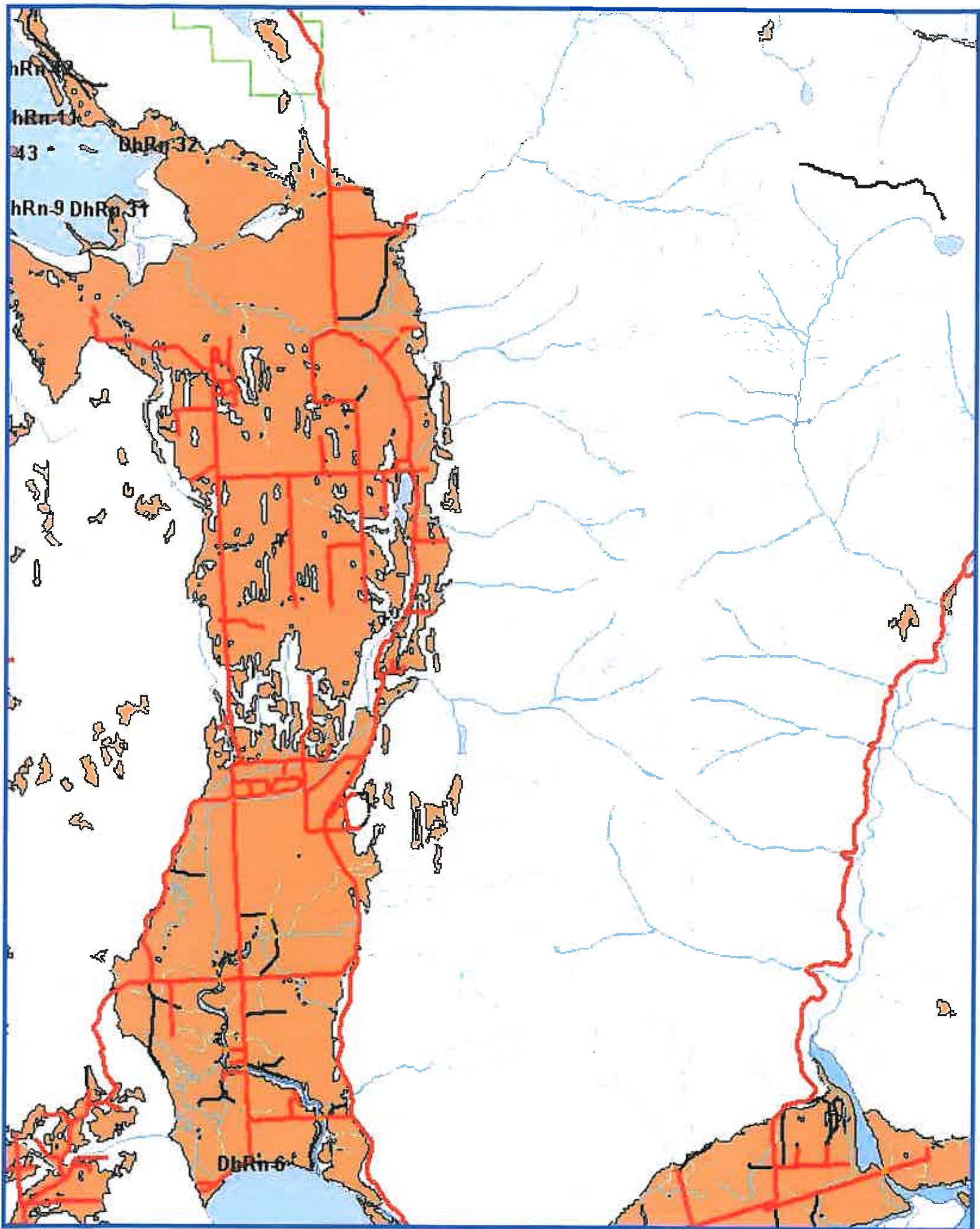
I am attaching a quick screenshot of the archaeological potential mapping that we currently have for Electoral Area F. The brown areas are the areas of significant archaeological potential. Let me know if you would like the GIS shapefile data for this.

Regards,

Cynthia

Cynthia R. Lake  
Archaeological Inventory Officer  
Archaeology Branch  
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts  
(250) 953-3301

<<FVRD AOA mapping.JPG>>



## Official Community Plans (OCP) and Archaeology

The Archaeology Branch recommends that archaeological resource management be included in OCPs to help land owners and developers understand their responsibilities surrounding provincially protected archaeological sites. Given the rapid pace of development in the province, protected archaeological sites are being accidentally damaged with increasing frequency. This is usually due to a lack of knowledge about archaeological sites and the legislation that protects them. By raising the profile of these sites within OCPs, we can alert people to archaeology at the earliest stages of development planning and avoid or reduce damage to archaeological sites in the future. By managing site damage, we also avoid the potential for increased development costs and delays, negative press, and conflict within the community.

We recommend that the OCP contain a discrete section pertaining to archaeological resource management, or that archaeology be addressed in a distinct subsection within the Heritage section. An OCP section on archaeology should embody the following concepts:

1. Archaeological sites contain unique information about the province's past. These sites are protected by the *Heritage Conservation Act*, and a provincial heritage permit is required before development within a site may take place.

Example OCP wording:

*Part of the plan area's heritage includes archaeological sites—the physical evidence of how and where people lived in the past. For 98% of the time people have lived in this area, no written records were made. Archaeological sites and oral tradition are the only vestiges of this rich history extending back many thousands of years.*

*The plan area contains XX\* recorded archaeological sites and has the potential to contain more. The Province protects these sites, whether known or unrecorded, through the Heritage Conservation Act. This protection applies to both private and Crown land and means that you must have a heritage permit to alter or develop within an archaeological site.*

\* Note: The Archaeology Branch can supply these numbers.

2. Local governments can gain online access to the Provincial database of recorded archaeological sites via the Remote Access to Archaeological Data (RAAD) application, and local governments

should check for overlaps between these sites and proposed development. If an overlap is identified, the proponent is notified using a standard Provincial notification letter. In the letter, the Province requires that a qualified archaeologist be engaged by the proponent to determine if further archaeological studies are required prior to development. Information on accessing RAAD can be found here: [http://www.tsa.gov.bc.ca/archaeology/accessing\\_archaeological\\_data/RAAD.htm](http://www.tsa.gov.bc.ca/archaeology/accessing_archaeological_data/RAAD.htm).

Example OCP wording:

*Development permit applicants will be notified if the subject property overlaps with a recorded protected archaeological site. Notification will include direction to engage a professional consulting archaeologist. The archaeologist will determine if an archaeological impact assessment is necessary to manage development related impacts to an archaeological site. Altering a protected archaeological site will require a Provincial Heritage Alteration Permit prior to land altering activities.*


3. Since the legislation also protects unrecorded archaeological sites, we recommend using archaeological potential mapping to identify areas where archaeological sites are likely to occur. Archaeological potential mapping may not have been produced for your area; however, the Archaeology Branch can assist with its development, and funding for local governments to pursue this work is available through the Heritage Branch. Funding information can be found here: [Community Heritage Context Planning - Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts](#). Archaeological potential mapping can be included within the OCP, and if planned development falls within a potential zone, the local government should forward a notification letter to the proponent as described above.

Example OCP wording:

*This Official Community Plan refers to a map showing areas where it is likely that development will encounter protected archaeological sites (Appendix XX). Development permit applicants will be notified if the subject property overlaps with one of these areas. Notification will include direction to engage a professional consulting archaeologist. The archaeologist will determine if an archaeological impact assessment is necessary to manage development related impacts to an archaeological site. Altering a protected archaeological site will require a Provincial Heritage Alteration Permit prior to land altering activities.*

OCPs can be forwarded to the Archaeology Branch for review to ensure the wording suits the needs and goals of the local government.

For additional discussion of these concepts, see the Local Government section of the Archaeology Branch website: [Local Governments - Archaeology - Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts](#)

You can also view the British Columbia Archaeological Resource Management Handbook for Local Governments at:  
[http://www.tsa.gov.bc.ca/archaeology/docs/handbook\\_for\\_local\\_governments.pdf](http://www.tsa.gov.bc.ca/archaeology/docs/handbook_for_local_governments.pdf)  [1675kb]

For further information, please contact the Archaeology Branch at 953-3334.