TK'EMLÚPS TE SECWÉPEMC ARCHAEOLOGICAL CHANCE FIND PROCEDURE

Contact List of Important Names & Telephone Numbers

Knúcwmens le Sxwixwéytemc Archaeology Services Ltd.	250-828-9813 (Front Desk) 236-597-1605 (Operations Manager) 250-319-2018 (General Manager) ksas@ttes.ca
Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc Lands Department	250-828-9784 (Front Desk) 250-828-9547 (Environmental Specialist)
Tk'emlups te Secwepemc Bylaws	250-828-9708 (bylaw@ttes.ca)
Tk'emlups te Secwepemc Natural Resources Department	250-214-6727 (Operations Coordinator) 250-318-7055 (Manager)
BC Archaeology Branch	250-953-3334
Police/RCMP local non-emergency number	250-314-1800
Chief Coroner's Office	1-888-991-2111

If you discover what you suspect may be a possible archaeological site:

- Stop work in the area to avoid damaging the site.
- Do not disturb any archaeological remains that you may encounter.
- Report your discovery to the appropriate contacts listed above.

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1 Introduction

This document is a tool to help ensure the protection of unidentified archaeological artifacts and cultural sites or features that outlines procedures for managing potential heritage finds, in accordance with the *Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Heritage Conservation Bylaw 2025* and the *BC Heritage Conservation Act (HCA)1997*. The primary purpose of the Chance Find Procedure is to raise awareness as well as inform all personnel living and working within TteS ancestral lands of the potential for the discovery of archaeological materials or cultural heritage sites and establish protocols for the protection of these sites, as legally required under the *HCA* and the Tk'emlúps Heritage Bylaw.

Archaeological and cultural sites may be discovered by members of the public while conducting recreational or home renovation activities. If you think you have discovered an archaeological site or artifact **please do not disturb or collect any finds** that you may encounter. Instead contact the appropriate authorities listed on the front page of this guide.

Developments that involve excavation, soil movement, or soil disturbance have the potential to impact cultural materials, if present. Activities such as road construction, land clearing, and excavation are all examples of activities that may adversely affect cultural sites. The development proponent and contractor should become familiar with the processes described. Information regarding how archaeological sites may be expressed in-field is provided. If archaeological sites or artifacts are encountered the developer must stop work immediately and contact the appropriate authorities.

All cultural materials and landscapes within Tk'emlups reserve lands are protected under the *Tk'emlups te Secwepemc Heritage Conservation By-law*. Any cultural materials found on provincial or private lands which pre-date A.D. 1846 are protected by the *Heritage Conservation Act (HCA)* of British Columbia. Ancestral remains and rock art sites are legally protected regardless of age.

It is illegal to collect/remove any heritage object from an archaeological site unless authorized to do so by a permit issued under the *Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc Heritage Conservation By-law* and/or Section 12 of the *Heritage Conservation Act*. Disturbance and/or removal of archaeological artifacts from any archaeological site may result in penalties. A breach of bylaw or the HCA could result in monetary fines, restorative justice or other civil remedies.

The *Heritage Conservation Act* (HCA) provides for heritage inspection or investigation orders, temporary protection orders, civil remedies and penalties to limit contraventions. These powers provide:

- the Province with the ability to inspect a site or halt work to prevent site alteration, and
- the Courts with the ability to issue an injunction to restrain contravention of the Act or, where there has been a breach of the *Act*, impose penalties of not more than:
    - A fine of $50,000 and 2 years imprisonment for an individual;
    - a fine of not more than $1,000,000 for a corporation; and
    - a fine of $50,000 or 2 years imprisonment for an employee, officer, director or agent of the corporation.

An emergency contact sheet is provided on the cover page so that the appropriate people can be quickly contacted if necessary.

2 What to Look For

Archaeological remains can be found in either a disturbed or intact context. Artifacts to watch for include stone tools, as well as bone, antler and tooth artifacts. Fire-altered rock, hearth features and cultural depressions can also represent archaeological sites. Detailed characteristics of archaeological sites typical to the region are described and illustrated in the *Archaeological Site Identification Guide* presented as Appendix A.

Any discovery of bones that constitute possible ancestral remains demands attention. The *Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc Ancestral Remain Policy* must be followed as presented in Appendix B.

An outline of what to do if possible artifacts or ancestral remains are encountered is provided in following sections.

3 Possible Archaeological Materials Identified

For fortuitous discoveries or land-altering activities **outside** of known archaeological site areas it is important to note that disturbance or work in the area of the discovery must stop immediately no matter what type of archaeological material or feature has been encountered by the proponent or their contractors as per the *Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc Heritage Conservation By-law 2025 or BC Heritage Conservation Act 1997.*

3.1 Initial Action by Private Citizen, Proponent or Contractors

1) Stop Work

If archaeological materials are believed to have been encountered, all disturbance or work in the area of the discovery must cease immediately and the site area safely secured.

2) Contact Archaeologist

An archaeologist should be contacted as soon as possible.

3) Seek Guidance from the Archaeologist

The archaeologist will provide guidance on further action. If the archaeologist cannot determine the exact nature of the discovery, and/or it cannot be satisfactorily resolved over the telephone or by e-mail, a visit will be arranged so the site can be assessed and mapped.

3.2 Archaeological Site Management Options

If the archaeologist confirms that an archaeological site has been discovered, there are several management options. If a *Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc Heritage Conservation Bylaw (THCB)* or *Heritage Conservation Act (HCA)* inspection, investigation, or alteration permit is not in place either for the development, or in connection with a known archaeological site, this must first be applied for and obtained. The archaeologist can prepare the application for the appropriate permit which must be signed by an individual representing the development prior to submission.

Site protection under the THCB or the HCA does not necessarily negate impact; in some cases, a development can proceed following an impact assessment or other mitigating actions. Any altercation to a heritage object requires a permit under the THCB or the HCA.

All applications for a THCB permit are submitted to the Knúcwmens le Sxwixwéytemc Archaeology Services Ltd. and Section 12 HCA permits are forwarded to the BC Archaeology Branch for review. Once the application is processed, a 30-day review period is provided for comments regarding the proposed methodology. In total, it can take up to 60-100 days for a permit to be issued.

In emergent situations permits may be issued directly depending on the nature of the find and associated circumstances.

Once the permit has been granted by Tk'emlúps and/or the Archaeology Branch there are three main archaeological site management options:

Avoid	Mitigate	Protect
If the boundaries of the site have been delineated, an attempt will be made to redesign the proposed development to avoid the site. It will likely be necessary to have a Heritage Inspection Permit in place to properly delineate site boundaries. Site avoidance is normally the fastest and most cost-effective management option for archaeological sites.	If it is not feasible to avoid the site through development re-design, it will be necessary to effectively sample it utilizing a systematic data collection program prior to its loss. This could include a systematic surface collection and/or excavation. Mitigative work is normally the most expensive and time-consuming management option.	It may be possible to protect the site through the installation of barriers during the time of the development and possibly for a longer term. This could include the erection of high visibility fencing around the site or covering the site area with a geotextile and then capping it with fill. The exact prescription would be site-specific.

4 Possible Ancestral Remains Identified

Procedures in the event of the discovery of ancestral remains during development are covered in depth by an the Tk'emlups te Secwepemc Ancestral Remains Policy (see Appendix B). A summary of these procedures is presented below.

4.1 Initial Action by Private Citizen, Archaeologist, Proponent or Contractors

The following procedures will normally apply in cases where human remains are discovered fortuitously through various land altering activities such as house renovations, road construction or natural erosion; or during archaeological studies conducted under a TteS or HCA permit:

1) Stop Work

Immediately cease all activities in the area of the suspected ancestral remains and secure the scene if necessary. **Do Not Disturb or Take Any Photos.**

2) Contact Authorities

Contact municipal police or RCMP. The local policing authority will contact the Coroners Office to confirm whether the matter is of contemporary forensic concern.

3) Contact Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc (TteS)

If the Coroner's Office determines that the remains are not of forensic concern, then TteS should be contacted as soon as possible.

4) Seek Guidance from the TteS Archaeologist & Knowledge Keepers

The TteS archaeologist and Knowledge Keepers will provide guidance regarding further action.

Disturbing human remains is also a punishable offence under ***Section 182 of the Criminal Code of Canada (R.S.C. 1985, c-46).***

Appendix A: Site Identification Guide

A number of site types may occur in the area.

Artifact Scatters
- **Lithic (Stone) Artifacts**
- **Bone, Antler and Tooth Artifacts**

Fire-altered Rock and Hearth Features
- **Fire-altered Rock**
- **Hearth Features**
- **Cultural Depressions**

Rock Carins
- **Rock piles marking a trail/route**
- **Boundary markers**
- **Burial markers**
- **Ceremonial site markers**
- **Spiritual site markers**
- **Transformer sites**

Culturally Modified Trees
- **Bark stripped trees**
- **Marker trees**
- **Warming trees**

Characteristics typical of each type are provided in the text and figures on following pages.

Artifact Scatters

Lithic (stone) scatters from the production and maintenance of stone tools are the most common archaeological site type found in the region. Other materials which may be represented in artifact scatters include **bone**, **antler**, and **tooth**. Descriptions and illustrations are provided below and on following pages.

Lithic Artifacts – What to look for:

- Small, thin, sharp pieces of stone that appear to be out of place with natural stone
- Glassy stone
- Stone that appears to have been chipped or formed
- An obvious bulb and curve on a thin piece of stone
- Stress ripples along the faces of flakes and scars
- Parallel striations from intentional grinding
- Intentional pecking

Figure 1: Four views of a typical lithic flake

Figure 2: Lithic scatter uncovered during development.

Figure 3: Formed flaked lithic artifacts

Figure 4: Pecked and ground stone artifacts

Bone, Antler and Tooth Artifacts – What to look for:

- Obvious shaping
- Striations
- Graving/incising
- Unnatural perforations

Figure 5: Bone, antler and tooth artifacts.

Fire-altered Rock, Hearth Features & Cultural Depressions

Fire-altered rock (FAR) results from the cultural use of fire during cooking, heating, and processing activities. FAR is often associated with other features including hearths and cultural depressions, but can also be thinly scattered due to taphonomic processes, or concentrated from dumping events away from the features from which they were first associated.

Fire-altered Rock – What to look for:

- Concentrations of roughly fractured rock from rapid heating and cooling
- Rock showing signs of burning or oxidation
- Reddening or blackening of surrounding matrix

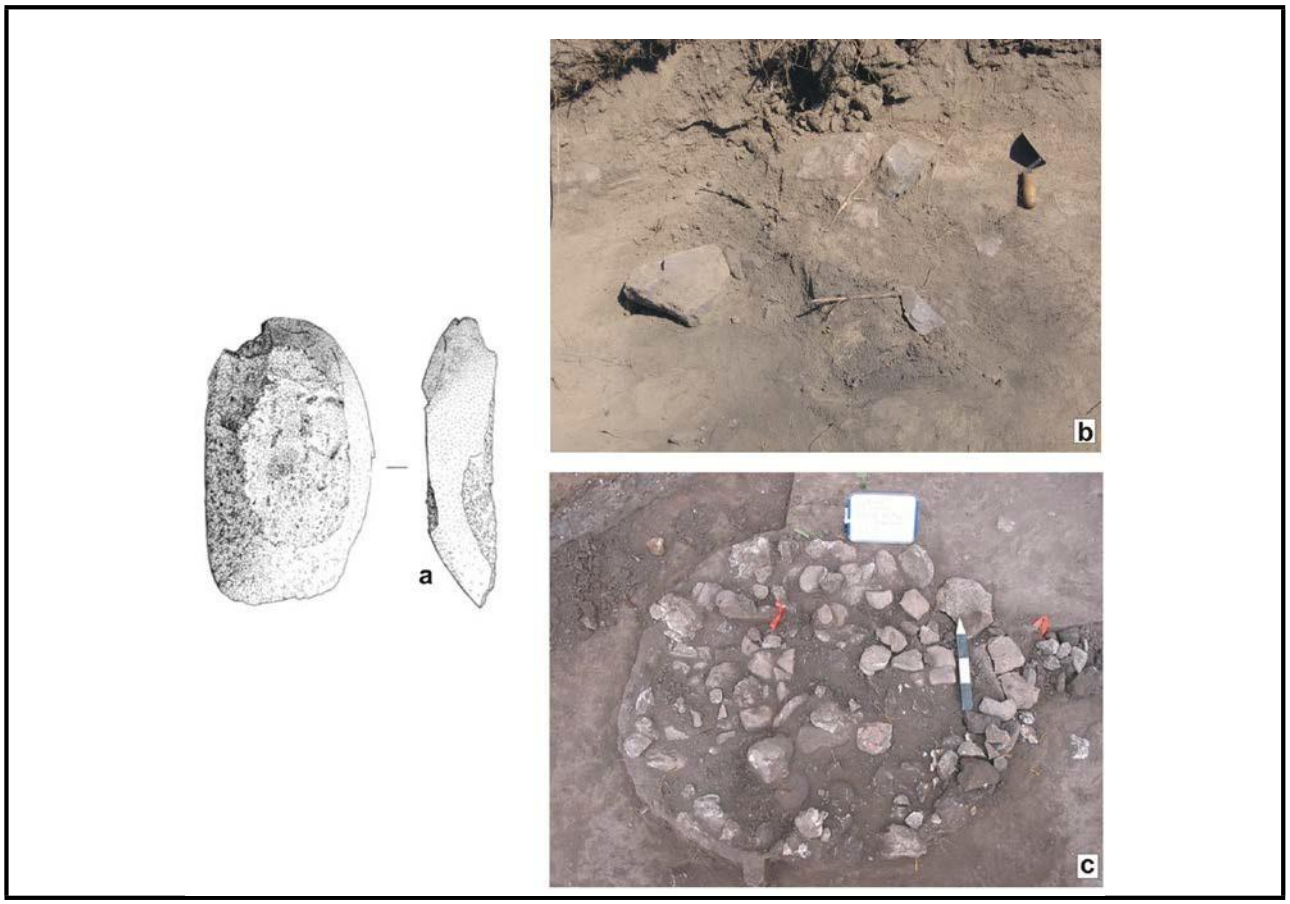


Figure 6: a) two views of a single piece of fire-altered rock showing spall scars from heat stress; b) fire-altered rock with associated matrix reddening uncovered during development activity; c) a large circular hearth with a heavy concentration of fire-altered rock exposed during archaeological excavation.

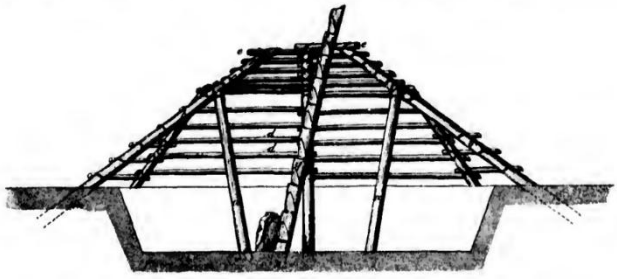
Hearth Features – What to look for:

- Fire-altered rock
- Reddening or blackening of the matrix
- Charcoal
- Layering of the above elements
- A depression associated with the above elements

Figure 7: Hearth feature

Cultural Depressions – What to look for:

- Subtle to deep scours on the surface that are circular to rectilinear in shape
- A raised rim along the edge of a depression
- Depressions associated with artifacts and fire-altered rock
- Depressions associated with fire-reddening and blackening



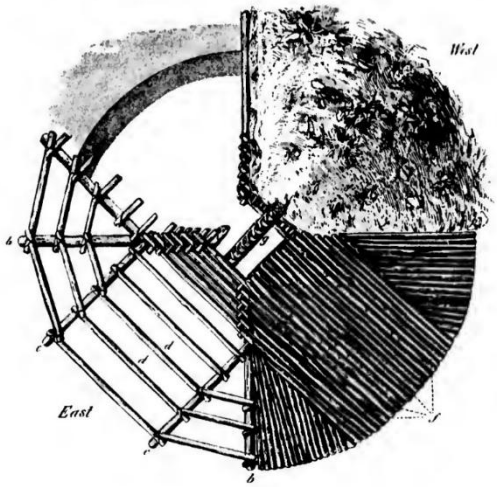


Figure 8: Semisubterranean pithomes

Rock Cairns & Culturally Modified Trees (CMT)

Carins are characterized by the structured placement of rocks in piles. Carins have been used for many purposes such as place markers, memorials or ceremony and can be painted or decorated. Culturally Modified Trees (CMT) are trees, both living or dead, that are altered for food or material harvesting, trail markers, shelter or ceremony.

Rock Cairns – What to look for:

- Concentrations of stacked rocks ranging from low to towering structures
- Balancing rocks
- Single vertical stack or round, oval, rectangular configurations

Figure 9: Rock Carins

Culturally Modified Trees – What to look for:

- Tool marks with straight or vertical edges or chop marks
- Thick curls of bark or wood (healing lobes) rolling inward and growing over the scar
- Bent boughs

Figure 10: Culturally mofidied trees

Appendix B: Tk’emlups te Secwepemc Ancestral Remains Policy and Procedures