



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Division Commander

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NORTHWESTERN DIVISION
PO BOX 2870
PORTLAND OR 97208-2870

DEC 08 2008

Dr. Julie K. Stein, Director
Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture
Box 35-3010, University of Washington
Seattle, Washington 98195-3010

Dear Dr. Stein:

Based upon the information in your request dated January 2, 2008, as well as information provided to my staff, your request for limited access to the Kennewick Collection is granted. I believe the access to the collection will give the Regents of the University of Washington a better understanding of the curation facilities and space available at the museum and may ultimately benefit the curation of the collection. Therefore, I believe the request is consistent with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) responsibility to "protect and preserve the condition, research potential, . . . and uniqueness of the collection." 36 C.F.R. § 79.10.

The Burke Museum staff (those individuals who typically are involved in the ongoing curation of the Kennewick collection) may have access to the collection to demonstrate the collection's curation to the named Regents and university administrators (hereafter, "attendees"). Such access is limited to the opening of the single drawer containing the box housing the innominate and sacral elements. The lids of those boxes may be opened in order to show the specially constructed boxes and condition of the remains. The remains may not be handled and the boxes may not be moved from the drawer in order to curtail the potential harm to the collection. The replica casts may be removed from the cabinets to be used in another room for educational purposes.

No photographs may be taken of the collection. Only the individuals named on the list provided in your request may attend. Corps staff will also be present given the number of attendees involved. At no time may any of the attendees touch the remains; however, they may handle the casts under the supervision of Museum staff. No more than three individuals should view the remains at one time given the limited space available.

It is my understanding that access to the collection will occur on January 17, 2008. Final details should be coordinated with Mr. Chris Pulliam at (314) 331-8481 or Ms. Jennifer Richman at (503) 808-3763.

Sincerely,

STEVEN R. MILES
Colonel, US Army
Division Commander



Julie K. Stein
Director
Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture
Box 35-3010, Univ of Washington
Seattle, WA 98195-3010
phone 206 543-2784, fax 206 685-3039

Col Steve Miles
Army Corp of Engineers
1125 NW Couch St, Suite 500,
Portland, Oregon 97209

January 2, 2008

Dear Colonel Miles,

The Burke Museum requests permission to show "The Kennewick Collection" to the Regents of the University of Washington at their next meeting on January 17 (to be held at the Burke Museum). The Regents are the governing body of the University of Washington. As such, they are the responsible body for overseeing the museum's operations and policies.

The Regents are viewing the Burke Museum curation facilities to better understand curation needs and how best to overcome crowded conditions and upgrade environmental standards. Allowing the Regents to visually inspect the facility is the most concrete way to demonstrate the need for improvements, and the "The Kennewick Collection" is the best curation example to educate these leaders.

We will emphasize the curation of the remains, rather than the remains themselves, to focus this educational opportunity on the responsibilities of museums to protect collections and provide secure curation facilities.

The Burke is requesting only minimal access to prevent any potential harm to the remains. We request that only one drawer from the collection be opened and the lids removed from the boxes containing the innominate and sacral elements. We realize that the remains are currently housed for research purposes, rather than display purposes, and will emphasize the difference to the Regents. We will allow no photos of "The Kennewick Collection" during this visit to help maintain positive relations with all members of the concerned public. A museum staff member will remain in the room at all times during the visit.

We have a responsibility to make clear to the Regents the compromises made to the Burke's collections when we agreed to house "The Kennewick Collection". The high curation standards and heightened security required that a careful balance be kept to accommodate these federally-owned collections along with the Burke's own collections.

We are requesting that only the Regents, university administrators, and museum staff be given access to these remains. Please see the attached list of names.

Thank you for considering this request to educate the leadership of the university on the role of curation in maintaining collections in federally-recognized repositories under standards required by the federal law CFR 36.

Sincerely,

Julie K. Stein, PhD
Director, Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture

cc. Jennifer Richman

We are requesting that the following 22 people (Regents, university administrators, and museum staff) be given access to these remains. It is unlikely that all these people will be in attendance, but they are part of the Regents' meeting and must be included.

University Administration

President Mark A. Emmert
Provost Phyllis M. Wise
Interim Dean Ron Irving
Dean Ana Mari Cauce

Board of Regents

Stanley H. Barer
Herb Simon
Kristianne Blake
Jeffrey H. Brotman
Craig W. Cole
William H. Gates
Sally Jewell
Frederick C. Kiga
Erin Lennon
Constance L. Proctor

Officers of the Board of Regents

V'ella Warren
Jack Johnson
Michele Sams
Kelly Keith

Ex-officio Representatives

Professor Dan Luchtel
Mr. Tyler Dockins
Mr. David Brown
Mr. Norm Proctor

Archaeology staff as needed to guide and protect.

Julie K. Stein
Director, Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture
January 3, 2008