

PACIFIC CONSULTING SERVICES, INC.

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September 14, 2012

Ms. Lou Ann Spelda-Drews
US Fish and Wildlife Service
1340 Financial Blvd., Suite 234
Reno, NV 89502

SUBJECT: End-of-Field Letter for Contract F11PX05662 Data Recovery Excavations and Monitoring at the Commercial Pacific Cable Station on Midway Atoll.

Dear Ms. Spelda-Drews:

Under contract to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Pacific Consulting Services, Inc. (PCSI) completed data recovery excavations and monitoring in support of lead removal within and around the Commercial Pacific Cable Station on Sand Island, Midway Atoll. This letter briefly describes our activities and preliminary results. Attached, also please find the artifact bag list generated from the project, photographs, the photo logs, GPS locations, and the Window Salvage form for Bldg. 393. These data are provided on an accompanying compact disk.

Results of Data Recovery

PCSI conducted data recovery excavations at Feature 2 of the Cable Station (50-93-01-001). Feature 2 was located and partially excavated during the shovel testing and test excavation phase of work conducted in October of 2011. The feature is located south of the former Building 626 and was recorded near the surface in Test Unit 2 (TU-2). Based on the location of Feature 2 in the stratigraphic profile, it appeared to extend to the north (between TU-2 and Building 626).

The field methodology to recover data from the remaining portions of Feature 2 included delimiting the horizontal extent of the feature followed by the excavation. The horizontal extent of Feature 2 appears to have been constrained by Building 626, suggesting it likely is contemporaneous or more recent than Building 626. Within the Feature 2 area, several concentrations of artifacts (primarily bottles) were recorded. It appears that Feature 2 caps (was deposited on) Feature 3, which was recorded below Feature 2 (and separated by a layer of non-cultural sand) in TU-2.

As Feature 2 was being excavated, it appeared that Feature 3 was present higher in the stratigraphy, directly below Feature 2. Because PCSI's task was just to remove Feature 2 and leave Feature 3 for preservation (below the area to be disturbed by the lead removal), it was decided to excavate to just below the base of the proposed sand removal region and collect

artifacts that likely came from a mixed Feature 2 and Feature 3 interface and leave the remainder of Feature 3, either for preservation or data recovery at a later date.

Following the excavation of Feature 2, PCSI monitored the sand removal project within the Cable Station. While several artifacts were recovered from various locations in the Cable Station, the predominant location of most subsurface data was around Building 626, the servants quarters. Seven additional features (Features 8-14) were located. Investigations at three features (Features 8, 9, and 10) recovered subsurface materials likely dating to the early to mid-twentieth century. Features 11, 12, and 13 were recorded as either small concrete cisterns or portions of walkways. Feature 14 was recorded as a small concrete pad which, based on its size and location south of Building 626, may have been associated with one of the original well wind pumps. During the data recovery and monitoring, PCSI recovered more than 600 artifacts (predominantly complete glass bottles).

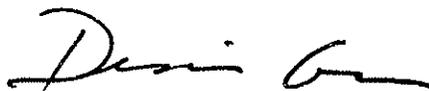
Because PCSI's monitoring commitment ended approximately one week before our monitor was slated to return to Honolulu, PCSI contacted the USFWS to see if there were additional cultural resources tasks that could be accomplished during the extra time. Three tasks were identified: (1) conduct additional shovel testing around the Marine Barracks (Site 50-93-01-002); (2) conduct additional shovel testing to the west of the Cable station to possibly identify buried deposits related to the later expansion of the Cable Station; and (3) document and dismantle window sashes (with the help of the on-island contractor slated to undertake the demolition) at Building 393.

Shovel testing at the Marine Barracks was not able to be undertaken because the area had already been prepared for the demolition project; barrier cloth had already been laid, covering the area intended for shovel testing. PCSI was able to photograph all of the windows at Building 393 and describe them as per the form sent by USFWS. However, the contractor slated to help PCSI to remove the sashes was unable to obtain permission to undertake the work by the time the PCSI monitor left the island, so that task was not accomplished.

Twenty-two shovel tests on a 30 m x 30 m grid were excavated to the west of the Cable Station. The basic stratigraphy encountered during the testing phase was also recorded during the shovel testing west of the Cable Station. No dense concentrations of artifacts were recorded, although similar material culture consisting of plastic fragments, recent bird-bone, and sporadic domestic debris was present in nearly all excavations.

If you have any questions or need clarification, please contact me in Honolulu at 808.222.0209 or by email at dennis@pcsihawaii.com.

Sincerely,



Dennis C. Gosser
Principal Investigator