

ARCHAEOLOGY STUDY NUMBER 1

Study Title: Archaeological Survey

Lead Agency: DNR

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

This is the closeout project for the 1991 archaeology injury assessment study. The project will complete the analysis of laboratory test results and artifact collections for the state field injury assessment of direct oiling effects on historic and prehistoric site dating. A synthesis of the data from all of the injury assessment studies will be put together and used to set up the basis for restoration decisions. Future restoration projects may include archaeological site protection through enhanced monitoring and law enforcement, data recovery from excavations, museum exhibits using new artifact collections and information, school curriculum units and educational publications for the general public. Archaeological damage assessment studies were not funded until 1991 and thus conclusion of the assessment lags behind other resource studies.

OBJECTIVES

The project includes the following objectives to arrive at an assessment of injuries to archaeological sites and place them in a context to plan for restoration.

- A. Complete analysis of data collected during the State's 1991 field season into a report of scientific findings.
- B. Compare results of radiocarbon analysis and sediment oiling analysis with cultural chronology generated from 1991 data.
- C. Combine results from the federally contracted damage study by the State University of New York (SUNY), Binghamton, with the State study, and the compilation of injury documentation from existing files.
- D. Based on documented injury, formulate a restoration plan for injured sites.

METHODS

The first four months of the project will conclude the analysis of the data collected during the 1991 field season. Radiocarbon

dates and results of sediment analysis to detect petroleum in sites will become available for the damage assessment study during March and April, 1992. The State report of findings will comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for archaeological reporting.

Findings of site injury studies need to be synthesized and determination of injuries completed. Establishing more detailed cultural chronologies for the spill area will allow accurate determination of site importance, a process which was not possible prior to the current studies. The process will include defining why each site is important, how the injury affects the importance of each site, and what kind of action is necessary to maintain that value. The process will result in a restoration plan for injured archaeological sites in the spill area.

Findings from the SUNY-Binghamton survey and modeling study will be incorporated into the spill geographic information system database housed within DNR to be used in future assessments and spill responses. The existing Statewide inventory of historic and prehistoric sites will also be updated.

BUDGET (\$K)

Salaries	\$ 206.1
Travel	5.1
Contractual	4.5
Supplies	2.2
Equipment	0.0
Subtotal	<hr/> 217.9
General Administration	30.9
Total	<hr/> \$ 248.8