Access to Provincial Archaeological Information

Appendix A

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There are four defined categories of information distributed by the Archaeology Branch:

- **Archaeological Site Records**
- **Archaeological Permit Reports**
- **Archaeological Non-Permit Reports and Book Collection**
- **Archaeological Spatial Data Layers**

Each category is described below with the associated distribution limitations and access methods.

Archaeological Site Records

Protected archaeological sites reported to the Province are entered into the Archaeological Site Inventory Database. There is one record for each known site. The text records consist of the site location, environment and site description, archaeological activities within the site, site condition and general remarks. Site records also include location maps showing the general site location and detailed maps showing the site extent and archaeological features exposed on the surface.

Accuracy and detail varies in the pre-1980s site records, but sites are recorded with greater detail and accuracy after this period. Site location and extent information is enhanced in the new millennia with the introduction of GPS recording.

Three levels of archaeological site records are available:

Land management level records – are tailored to assist land management decisions by containing information on the site location, extent, mapping accuracy, condition and titles of associated archaeological resource management studies. The following tables and fields are contained in a land management level record:

Borden Number	**Legal Description**	**Site Visits**
Registration Status	**Site Typology**	**Site Condition**
Map Reference	**Site Dimensions**	**References**
Site Location	**Site Disturbance**	

Resource management level records - contain virtually all information found in a provincial archaeological site form. These records are generated to assist in the background research necessary for many archaeological resource management and research studies. Resource management level records contain:

Borden Number	**(Site) Feature List**	**Site Visit Team**
Registration Status	**Archaeological Culture**	**Cultural Material**
Site Name	**(Site) Date**	**References**
Map Reference	**(Site) Dimensions**	**Tenure**
Site Location	**(Site) Disturbance**	**(Protection) Authority**
Legal Description	**(Site) Condition**	**Remarks**
SiteTypology	**Environmental (Context)**	
(Site) Feature	**Site Visit**	

Archaeology Site Government Users View attribute table – contains site record information to assist in the identification, spatial sorting and filtering of archaeological sites:

BordenLow	**ObjectID**
BordenNum	**RegStatus**
BordenSeq	**Class**
BorenUp	**Descriptor**
FormRec	**Subtype**
HertgSite	**Type**
BordenLow	**Shape**

Archaeological Site Record Distribution and Access Methods

Archaeological site records are available:
- by making a data request
- through our self-service RAAD application
- through direct access (ADIF)

Only site records relevant to the archaeological resource management obligations of the client will be distributed.

The method of accessing archaeological site records and the amount of information available is dependent on which client group is requesting the information. The following table details the level of information and methods of access for each client group:

Client Group	Access Method: Data Request	Self Service (RAAD)*	Direct Access
Accredited Archaeological Researchers	Resource Mgmt Level Reports	Resource Mgmt Level Reports**	N/A
First Nations Governments	Resource Mgmt Level Reports	Resource Mgmt Level Reports	N/A
Industry	Land Management Level Reports	N/A	N/A
Land Title Conveyance Professionals	Land Management Level Reports	N/A	N/A
Local and Federal Government Branches	Land Management Level Reports	Resource Mgmt Level Reports	N/A
Private Property Owners	Resource Mgmt Level Reports	N/A	N/A
Professional Consulting Archaeologists	Resource Mgmt Level Reports	Resource Mgmt Level Reports	Resource Mgmt Level Reports
Provincial Government Branches	Resource Mgmt Level Reports	Resource Mgmt Level Reports	Archaeological Sites- Government Users View

* Only Resource Management Level Reports are available through RAAD.

**The branch will determine if Accredited Archaeological Researchers are provided full or time- limited access to RAAD.

Site record distribution is also subject to the terms and conditions found on the data request forms, information sharing agreements and RAAD access pages.

Archaeological Permit Reports

Field work authorized under a *Heritage Conservation Act* permit is detailed in a written report submitted to the Archaeology Branch. In 2011, the branch held about 6,140 permit reports. Over 400 reports are added to this total annually.

The most common type of permit reports are archaeological impact assessment (AIA) reports. AIAs are conducted when proposed activities may impact protected archaeological sites. The AIA identifies protected sites, assesses their significance, examines the impact of proposed development or activities and contains recommendations on how to avoid or mitigate the impacts to the archaeological site. This work is summarized in the AIA permit report.

Other types of permit reports held by the Archaeology Branch include inventory reports focused on surveys to identify archaeological sites in a large region, mitigation reports containing the results of detailed excavation to gather scientific data before a portion of a site is destroyed, and research reports concerning the academic investigation of archaeological sites. In addition, the branch holds alteration permit reports, which are usually very short reports on the alteration of sites through development after an impact assessment and required impact mitigation have been completed.

Archaeological Permit Report Distribution and Access Methods

Archaeological permit reports can be requested by submitting a data request or through the self-service Provincial Archaeological Report Library (PARL). PARL enables users to search, view, download and order archaeological permit reports. The following table shows the methods of access to archaeological permit reports for each client group:

Client Group	Access Method: Data Request	Self Service Access (PARL)
Accredited Archaeological Researchers	✓	✓*
First Nations Governments	✓	✓
Industry	X**	X
Land Title Conveyance Professionals	X**	X
Local Government Branches	✓	X
Federal Government Branches	✓	✓
Private Property Owners	✓***	X
Professional Consulting Archaeologists	X	✓
Provincial Government Branches	✓	✓

* The branch will determine if Accredited Archaeological Researchers are provided full or time-limited access to PARL.

** Industry and Land Title Conveyance Professionals are not eligible to receive archaeological permit reports. These client groups should contact a qualified consulting archaeologist or the Archaeology Branch for site-specific advice.

*** Private property owners are only eligible to receive reports with respect to their property.

Archaeological Non-Permit Reports and the BC Archaeology Book Collection

The branch has a number of planning studies such as archaeological overview assessments (AOA) conducted outside of the permitting process. AOAs vary greatly in scope, from a portion of a city lot to a complete forest district or regional district. This variation in size and complexity is reflected in the length of reports.

The branch also has a collection of 1300 books on BC archaeology and ethnography.

Archaeological Non-Permit Report and Book Distribution and Access Methods

AOA studies used to compile the AOA layer within RAAD are linked to the corresponding AOA report through the Archaeology Branch webpage. Selected non-permit reports are available through the PARL. All other non-permit reports and the book collection are only available for viewing on site at the Archaeology Branch