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Dear Don:

I just talked with Max Pavesic about those quarries up in Boundary County, and he said you had steered him to them several years ago, and that he thought he had sent all his information about the quarries back to you. Is that possible? If so, would you be interested in a joint venture or something to work on these quarries?

Let me tell you a bit more about my interest in the locality. When I was driving up to Calgary in November we went up through northern Idaho, and Joe Randolph and Kelly Murphey were with me and were talking about the quarries. They said that Max had told them about them, but didn't indicate that he had any terrifically intense interest in them. When I got to Calgary I spent several hours with Barney Reeves there, looking through some of his material from Waterton Lakes National Park and the Crowsnest Pass area, and he pointed to some material and said that he understood that that was the Idaho chert. If that is/was indeed true, I am extremely interested in it--macroscopically it was identical to the largest flake tool material represented in MacHaffie II, and one of the point bases was of the same chert. It is a light chocolate tan tending to a grey, with fossiliferous inclusions that are themselves sometimes filled with bluish-grey chalcedony spots. Does that sound about right? Anyway, I found out that there might be some money available here on campus during the summer for small projects, up to maybe \$2000, and I thought I would like to put together a little package. I understand that the quarries are high up on the mountainside (Mt. Hogue?), west of the Moyie River and just a couple miles south of the BC boundary; Max didn't have a more precise location handy when I talked to him yesterday. I was thinking of working with the Kanisku National Forest personnel in Sandpoint to pinpoint the best time to get into the area--after the snow is gone and before it dries out enough to be a fire hazard area. I'd like to get a good description of the geologic formation in which the material is found, the general distribution of the material (surface? buried? amount available? Area of distribution at the quarry), and some photographs of the area, and plenty of samples to bring back for work on campus. Here on campus we could then get petrographic descriptions of the samples and perhaps some physical tests, and Dave Ives at the University of Missouri's Laboratory of Nuclear Archaeology would love to have some samples to run neutron activation analysis on. I was thinking of asking for travel money, some consultant money for myself, and funds to pay for the physical analysis here. In the future, if we could obtain the appropriate material, someone could take the base information from the quarries and do a survey of archeological assemblages in western Montana, northern Idaho, eastern Washington, and southern British Columbia and Alberta and find out what the prehistoric distribution of the material was. The money here at ~~xx~~ Idaho is supposed to be seed money for future larger projects, and I think the Boundary County quarries would be an appropriate small project.

I don't know what your involvement with this material is, or has been (since Max just mentioned your name yesterday), or what sort of feelings you have about working with or having someone else work with the material. I would

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like to work with the material, if that is all right with you, but I certainly don't want to be stepping into the middle of your or Max's plans. What about helping me get the preliminary information so that I can write up the proposal and set things up so that we could get into the quarry, then perhaps we could work up a joint expedition this summer (me, you and Evelyn, Max, and whoever else comes along) to get up there. Later on, I can set up all the analyses on campus, and can at least verify whether or not the material is similar to that from MacHaffie II. Don't hesitate to tell me, tho, if you would rather I just leave the whole subject alone for the moment or permanently, I think the quarries are significant and I am really involved in similar identification work right now, and would be interested in continuing some of the work.

Shawn Hovey (sp?) showed up in my office yesterday and is going to be doing some directed study for me this term, some tool use work with the Republican River chert from Red Smoke. I was sorry to hear about her dad's death, and am glad she happened to come up here and heard about my class, even if inadvertently; I think she needs someone to talk to, and someone who knows at least a bit about her family and her dad, and can be supportive. She must be a pretty strong young lady, and I'm looking forward to spending time with her this term.

Got to run home for dinner. I'm not too perky these days, having just found out that I've been overdosing on allergy serum for over a month and am now enjoying a constant systemic reaction. I've got a series of major allergy tests scheduled with a specialist later this month, so I should be getting it under control in a while if I don't get the local flu in the meantime. We never win, do we? After seeing the two of you looking so good after your last few years, tho, I have great hope in getting my relatively minor problems solved. Got to, to get all this work done!

Hi to you and Evelyn both of course; I hear the groundhog had good news the other day. Take care,

Chao,

*Sutborn*

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