



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

February 2004

Historical Happenings

Notes on Cultural Resource Management in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FWS Regional News:

(CHESAPEAKE, Va.) – Department of the Interior officials today dedicated the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge as a site, or station, on the historic Underground Railroad, the hidden network of people and places that provided refuge for African-American slaves on their long journey to freedom.

The Great Dismal Swamp refuge (<http://greatdismalswamp.fws.gov/>) is the first national wildlife refuge to be included in the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program administered by the National Park Service. Contact Julie Rowand for more information.

President George W. Bush is requesting more than \$1.3 billion – \$22.6 million more than last year for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s 2005 budget. The request represents the administrations continuing commitment to protect Americas natural resources and support conservation partnerships in communities across the country.

A meeting of Cultural Resource Management Staff is planned for April 5-9 in Portland. An agenda will be made available in the next few weeks. Contact Eugene Marino for more information.

The Preserve America data call will be released in early February. Regional CRM staff will have until mid-April , to send information to Headquarters. The final report is due to the ACHP by **September 30 2004**. Contact Eugene Marino for more information.

The U.S. Department of the Interior’s Fish and Wildlife Service announced it is seeking proposals for private lands conservation funding through its Private Stewardship Grants Program. About \$7.1 million is available to support on-the-ground conservation efforts on private lands through this grant. See FWS website for more information www.fws.gov

Other Agency News

NPS Preserve America. The President’s FY 2005 budget request for the first time includes \$10 million to fund Preserve America, a White House initiative announced by First Lady Laura Bush in March 2003. This unique historic preservation initiative was developed in cooperation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Department of Commerce. Preserve America matching grants will recognize communities that have taken innovative approaches to historic preservation and heritage tourism. This money will assist States, Indian Tribes, and communities in realizing the heritage tourism potential of their historic resources, just as Save America’s Treasures grants have helped them to restore and preserve those resources. It will complement Save America’s Treasures grants, which are being funded in the FY 2005 budget at last year’s level of \$30 million.

BLM To promote conservation partnerships that enhance its multiple-use management of the public lands, the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) today proposed a Fiscal Year 2005 budget of \$1.7 billion. The BLM's FY 2005 budget proposal, which is a \$53 million programmatic increase over the FY 2004 enacted level of funding, would provide increases of \$4.8 million for the agency's resource-restoration Challenge Cost Share program and \$3.2 million for its sage-grouse conservation and restoration efforts. The budget request also includes increases of \$5.6 million for land acquisition and \$4 million for monitoring the implementation of new land-use plans. The Bureau's 2005 budget proposal redirects \$10.5 million for management of the more than 39,000 wild horses and burros that roam the public lands. Through a combination of new funds and redirected funds, the budget proposes an increase of \$12 million to improve the health of forest lands in western Oregon.

DOI issues its FY 2004 Performance assessment/management control guidance for acquisition and property management—Museum Property Management Reports are due **July 16, 2004. Contact Eugene Marino for more information.**

DOI-FASAB Update—The FASAB Board is reviewing comments pertaining to restructuring FASAB #8 with respect to Heritage Asset reporting. The FASAB Board will meeting March to discuss adjustments to FASAB 8 based on reviewer comments. Comments available at <http://www.fasab.gov/pdf/rssi.pdf>. For more information contact Melissa Loughan (Loughanm@fasab.gov)

NPS requests participation in reporting to Congress on the Federal archeological activities conducted by your agency by completing and submitting the enclosed questionnaire. Section 5(c) of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA, P.L. 93-291) and the National Historic Preservation Act assign the Secretary of the Interior broad responsibilities to lead and coordinate archaeological preservation efforts in the United States. As part of these responsibilities, the Secretary periodically reports to Congress on aspects of Federal archeological activities. Information from past reports has provided important guidance for Congressional actions, for example, in preparing the 1988 amendments to ARPA which have enhanced the law enforcement, public education and archeological inventory provisions of the statute substantially.

The questionnaire, answer sheet, LOOT briefing statement and LOOT forms may be found on our web site at <www.cr.nps.gov/aad/src/forms.htm>

If you prefer that the forms be sent to you via email or on a disk, please let us know.

The congressional report is an opportunity for your Bureau to showcase your heritage resource programs nationally. We request that the enclosed questionnaire and LOOT forms be returned to the Departmental Consulting Archeologist by **April 30, 2004**. As you know, reporting with the LOOT form is a way for many agencies to fulfill their Section 14(c) responsibilities under ARPA.

If there are questions about the questionnaire, please contact Dr. Barbara Little of my staff at (202) 354-2130; FAX (202) 371-5102; E-mail: barbara_little@nps.gov. On behalf of the Secretary of the Interior and Congress, thank you for your continuing participation in this important program review and reporting effort.

Legislative News

Senator George Voinovich (R, OH) of the Transportation Subcommittee in discussions with the National Trust has proposed an amendment to the Transportation Bill that will require implementation of Section 4(f) only when the Section 106 process has determined an adverse effect on a historic property. This will streamline the process by avoiding Section 4(f) in cases when no historic properties are present or none will be adversely affected. A copy of the amendment is posted on ACRA's Hot Topic for your reading pleasure at <http://www.acra-crm.org>

H.R.3223

Title: To amend the National Historic Preservation Act to provide appropriation authorization and improve the operations of the **Advisory Council** on Historic Preservation.

Sponsor: Rep Radanovich, George P. [CA-19] (introduced 10/1/2003)

Cosponsors: (none)

Latest Major Action: 10/6/2003 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Executive Comment Requested from Interior.

S. 452

To require that the Secretary of the Interior conduct a study to identify sites and resources, to recommend alternatives for commemorating and interpreting the Cold War, and for other purposes.

Public Law 108-199 - (H.R.2673) FY 2004 Consolidated Appropriations, signed January 23. Provisions of interest: a 0.59% across-the-board reduction in all domestic discretionary appropriations (in addition to the 0.646% reduction in the Interior appropriations); extends statutory expiration of the Delaware and Lehigh Heritage Area Commission is until 2007; clarifies the authority of the Interior Secretary to give grants to the Shenandoah Battlefield Foundation for protection of Civil War sites in the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District; transfers management of the Oklahoma City National Memorial to the Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation.

Training News

An ARPA course will be held at NCTC on March 15 through 19. The course will be co-sponsored with NPS and will be offered through FLETC. Registration deadline is February 13, 2004. Contact Eugene Marino for more information.

Managing Museum Property: sponsored by the Interior Museum Program conducted at the National Park Service Western Archeological and Conservation Center 255 North Commerce Park Loop Tucson, Arizona 85745 March 15-19, 2003

National Preservation Conference scheduled for September 28-October 3, 2004 in Louisville. Check www.nationaltrust.org for more information.

These two courses are open to Federal attorneys, Assistant State Attorneys General, and tribal attorneys working with laws and regulations that consider cultural heritage resources. Attorneys who complete this training are eligible to receive continuing legal education credit. For more information, contact [David Tarler, J.D.](#)

"Overview of Heritage Resources Law" trains attorneys to effectively interpret the compliance and civil enforcement laws governing the management, preservation, and protection of the nation's archeological, historic, and cultural environment. This course is co-sponsored by the National Park Service and the Department of Justice, through the Office of Legal Education and the Environment and Natural Resources Division.

"Overview of Archeological Protection Law" trains attorneys to effectively complete casework involving the looting, vandalism, and illegal commercial trafficking of archeological and other cultural heritage resources. This course is co-sponsored by the National Park Service and the Department of Justice, through the Office of Legal Education and the Criminal Division.

Federal Register News

For February

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announces that a Draft Revised Comprehensive Conservation Plan (Draft Conservation Plan) and Environmental Impact Statement for the Alaska Peninsula and Becharof National Wildlife Refuges is available for review and comment. This Draft Conservation Plan was prepared pursuant to the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It describes how the Service intends to manage these Refuges over the next 15 years.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces that the Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (CCP/EIS) for the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) is available for public review and comment. This Draft CCP/EIS was prepared pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Draft CCP/EIS describes the Service's proposal for management of the Refuge for 15 years, beginning at Refuge establishment, which is anticipated to occur sometime between 2006 and 2008. Four alternatives for management of the Refuge are considered in the CCP/EIS.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service, Southeast Region, intends to gather information necessary to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations. The Service is furnishing this notice in compliance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.), to achieve the following: (1) Advise other agencies and the public of our intentions, and (2) Obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to include in the environmental document. Special mailings, newspaper articles, and other media announcements will be used to inform the public and state and local government agencies of the opportunities for input throughout the planning process. Open house style meetings will be held throughout the scoping phase of the comprehensive conservation plan development process.

Native American Liaison News

CATAWBA INDIAN RESERVATION -- The Catawba Indian Nation recently received more than \$450,000 in federal grant money for conservation efforts on tribal lands. The money from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will be used to purchase property and to preserve and protect trees, plants, fish and animal wildlife, said tribal Fish and Wildlife Director Teresa Harris.

Upcoming Events, Education, and Volunteers and Friends News

This special message is to let you know that the great pint-sized cartons designed and produced by campaign partner TetraPak are here and Pennies for the Plankhouse is ready to begin in earnest!

For more information about the purpose and goals of the campaign, you can go to: <http://www.plankhouse.org/help/Pennies/pforpTEACHERInfo.htm> Contact virginia_parks@fws.gov (503-625-4377) or yvette_donovan@fws.gov (360-887-4106) with questions.

Requests for Information

Instructions for contributions to Historical Happenings: Please submit information to Eugene Marino for inclusion in future editions