



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

December 2007

Historical Happenings

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



Historical Happenings provides information on the USFWS Cultural Resources Management program. Information comes from sources such as the Regional Historic Preservation Officers, websites, new sources, as well as other cultural resource management professionals.

Issues are also available on the USFWS Cultural Resources website <http://historicpreservation.fws.gov>. Submissions are encouraged and can be made via email. Please contact Eugene Marino at Eugene_Marino@fws.gov for submission guidelines.

FWS Regional News:

Washington Office—The 2007 Preserve America grants applications have been received. Reviews will be conducted later this month and selections will be complete by January. For more information contact Eugene Marino.

Washington Office--Recreational use on national wildlife refuges generated almost \$1.7 billion in total economic activity during fiscal year 2006, according to a new report released by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The information is highlighted in the 2006 Banking on Nature report. For more information contact Eugene Marino

Washington Office—2006 Preserve America grant recipients are moving forward with their projects

A few of our 2006 grant recipients have been making great strides towards their project goals. The Friends of Blackwater have successfully developed and installed a kiosk that features historical attractions near Blackwater Refuge as well as other interests for visitors to the area. The project proceeded very smoothly and Refuge volunteers enjoy having the kiosk as a tool that they can refer visitors to for more information.



The Klamath Basin Refuge Association is also making strides in its preservation efforts for a 3900 square foot CCC barracks on the Refuge. Work already completed consists of roof replacement, new footings, wall re-leveling as well as general cleaning.



Figure 1. Volunteers excavating at Sod House ranch

Burns Paiute Tribal elder Minerva Soucie appeared in the original film and was asked by the producers to reappear in the new version. The focus of her segment deals with the impact that the looting of prehistoric sites and burials has on Native Americans. In the film she discusses how looters disturbing burials are doing more than just digging up objects, but are in fact digging up people. She says that a similar analogy would be if someone went to the cemetery in town and began digging up graves to recover jewelry or other items included with the burial.

The new film will be completed in the spring of 2008 and will include segments from the American Southwest, Independence Hall, and Gettysburg National Military Park.

Region 1— A film crew from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Georgia came to Harney County the first week of October to shoot footage for a new film about the looting of archaeological sites. The film will be used to educate new federal law enforcement officers about the wide variety of archaeological and historic sites across the country that are looted for commercial profit. The film focuses on violations of the federal Archaeological Resource Protection Act which prohibits the destruction of historic and prehistoric sites.

This new film will replace a twenty year old film. The new film also contains portions filmed on Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. Segments for the new film were shot at a number of prehistoric sites on the Refuge. Footage of archaeological excavations being conducted at the Historic Sod House Ranch will also be included in the film to illustrate the extent of documentation and careful measurements that occur during scientific data recovery (figure 1).

Region 3—Archaeological and historic research being conducted on Patoka River NWR has succeeded in finding the Hargrove Cemetery. The cemetery was the family cemetery for Col. William Hargrove, who fought in the battle of Tippecanoe and is reported to have served with George Rogers Clark who took Fort Sackville from the British. Hargrove is reported to have purchased the land from Col. James Cockrum, the founder of Oakland City, Indiana who also reportedly ran an Underground Railroad stop for slaves coming across the Ohio River from Kentucky.



Figure 2. Non-invasive magnetometer survey in progress

Non invasive techniques including magnetometer surveys, soil resistivity, and ground penetrating radar identified the likely grave sites (figure 2). A minimal amount of excavation confirmed the presence of the graves (figure 3). One was only 28 inches below the surface.



Figure 3 Exposed double grave site

Other Agency News

National NAGPRA—Proposed Rule adds 43 CFR Part 10.11, Culturally unidentifiable remains. The new regulatory language was issued on Tuesday, October 16, 2007, Vol. 72, No. 199 beginning on page 58582. More will follow on this rule and how it will apply, especially to those collections not yet fully identified as containing NAGPRA items.

ACHP—Mrs. Laura Bush announced the introduction of bipartisan legislation authorizing two grants programs—Preserve America and Save America's Treasures. The legislation seeks to make these two grant programs permanent tools to assist those engaged in historic preservation.

NPS—National History Education Clearinghouse

George Mason University's Center for History and New Media has been awarded a contract worth up to \$7 million over 5 years to create a National History Education Clearinghouse. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the Virginia college will partner with Stanford University, the American Historical Association, and the National History Center to develop an interactive website, publish a newsletter, sponsor an annual conference, and issue an annual report on the state of history education.

<http://chnm.gmu.edu/news/index.php>

Library of Congress--and UNESCO recently agreed to cooperate on building a World Digital Library; a free, multilingual, online source of primary materials including manuscripts, maps, rare books, musical scores, recordings, films, prints, photographs, architectural drawings, and other significant cultural materials. The objectives of the project are to promote international and inter-cultural understanding and awareness, provide resources to educators, expand non-English and non-Western content on the Internet, and to contribute to scholarly research.

<http://www.worlddigitallibrary.org/project/english/index.html>

NPS—New THPOs

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Legislative News

A temporary reprieve for the endangered Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers in Arlington National Cemetery may be delayed because of a disagreement between House-Senate conferees over a domestic provision contained within the National Defense Authorization Bill (HR 1585). The disagreement has been over a provision passed in the Senate version of the bill that would expand race-based, hate-crime laws to include crimes committed against people because of their gender, sexual orientation or disability. The provision would set new penalties and authorize spending to support state and local prosecutions of such crimes. However, House Republicans are opposed to the inclusion of the hate crimes language and President Bush may veto the measure unless the language is stricken from the bill.

Farm Bill Fails Cloture Vote in Senate
Earlier this week, during Senate consideration of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) filed a cloture motion to limit debate on the measure. The motion, considered on Friday, November 16, failed 55-42 and fell five votes short of the 60 votes needed for it to pass. As a result, the Farm Bill is unlikely to pass the Senate before the end of this year and may not be considered until next year or perhaps even after the 2008 election!

S. 2231 – to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to strengthen cooperative conservation efforts and to reduce barriers to the use of partnerships to enable federal natural resource managers to meet their obligations, introduced by Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) on October 25.

S. 2241 – to provide consistent enforcement authority to the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Forest Service to respond to violations of regulations regarding the management, use, and protection of public land under the jurisdiction of those agencies, introduced by Wayne Allard (R-CO) on October 25.

Training, Upcoming Events, Education, and Volunteers and Friends News

DOI—The Interior Museum Program will host training in Museum Property Management in Tucson Arizona, Monday January 14th to Friday January 18th, 2008. The deadline for registration is December 10th, 2007. Please contact Brian Biegler at 202-208-4698 for more information. Also see the Museum Program's updated website for additional course information.

<http://www.doi.gov/museum/>

FWS—ARPA Training Opportunities

The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) presents this thirty-seven hour class which provides training in all aspects of an archeological investigation and subsequent prosecution of the crimes. This premier class is taught by accomplished instructors that are nationally recognized subject matter experts in the fields of law enforcement, archeology and law. The class cumulates in a twelve-hour archeological crime scene practical exercise where law enforcement officers and archeologist work as a team to investigate and document a crime scene. Attendees will gather and process physical evidence, write incident reports, executive summaries, search warrants, damage assessments, and provide testimony in a courtroom scenario.

XP-ARPTP-801 / Columbus, OH -- March 10, 2008 to March 14, 2008

XP-ARPTP-802 / Bar Harbor, ME -- April 07, 2008 to April 11, 2008

XP-ARPTP-803 / Panama City, FL -- April 21, 2008 to April 25, 2008

Contact Charles Louke at (912)280-5188 for more information

Requests for Information