



Historical Happenings

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

May

WONDERFUL THINGS

The collection from the Steamboat Bertrand is being prepared for use in a celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Steamboat's sinking. Look for updates in 2015!!

What's New at HQ?

FWS Featured in DOI Remote Sensing Report

Ground Penetrating Radar for Fish and Wildlife Management

Starting late in FY2014, the FWS started using Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) to find buried survey monuments and archaeological features related to FWS land management activities. GPR is a micro-scaled ground remote sensing device that emits and receives radar energy to detect features below surfaces such as roadways, frozen lakes, buildings, or soil. This particular GPR will initially be used by surveyors to find century-old survey monuments built out of rock and now buried below many roadway intersections across the Midwest. Other potential uses include finding buried hazardous waste drums from former military ammunition plants, documenting unknown cemeteries, and helping locate animal tunnels for endangered species work. Check out the complete report here:

<https://eros.usgs.gov/doi-remote-sensing-activities/2014/>



Figure 1. Pat Carroll, Senior Realty Officer, Region 3, FWS and Amber Onufer, of MALA Geoscience going through the basic operational features of a Ground Penetrating Radar sensor produced by MALA Geoscience.

FWS HQ Zooarch study featured in DOI Museum Property Newsletter. Check it out here

<http://www.doi.gov/museum/interior-shelves.cfm>

Around the Regions....

Region 1

In January, 2014, the shoreline of Lake Walcott within Minidoka National Wildlife Refuge, Idaho, was littered with large mineralized mammalian bones and several sites that appeared to be old hearths. Upon subsequent investigations a band of bones, 20 yards wide and extending for over 400 yards, was mapped. It was initially thought that the site could be an early bison jump site, since the site is located near a cliff face. In March of 2014,



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a team consisting of archeologists from the Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Lands Management and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes (FWS archeologists were unable to attend) and paleontologists from the Idaho Museum of Natural History were assembled to formally investigate it. Mineralized bones from various birds, horses, camels, sloths, rabbits, carnivores and bison were identified; in addition, several hearths and rock tools were also located. Numerous bones were collected for further evaluation. During laboratory analysis some of the collected bones showed signs of being gnawed by carnivores. Two bison bones had marks indicative of knife cuts and impact damage.

The site was re-investigated in February of 2015, the goal of this most recent visit was to map and identify species, their orientation to river flow, and evidence of human activity. Based on 2015 data, it was determined that there were at least two or more depositional events. The first event is a gravel deposit containing skeletal remains from extinct fauna (camels, horses and sloth—figure 1). Most of these bones were aligned with the river current. This deposition event occurred during the late Pleistocene and appears to be the result of seasonal flooding and may be related to the Bonneville Flood.



Figures 1 and 2. Horse jaw and Bison atlas (cervical vertebra) recovered during the 2015 investigation.

The second event was the deposition of the bison bones that were left perpendicular to the river current (figure 2). These bones exhibit differential mineralization suggesting a different deposition event. Further investigation of the opposite shore line (currently Tule Island) indicated considerable human activity dating back several thousand years. Lithic scatter, arrowheads, and stone tools (figure 3) littered the shoreline and numerous hearths were identified. Very little bone material was located. It is speculated that the bison which may have been harvested on Tule Island and were eroded and washed to the opposite shore during flood events.



Figure 3. Example of lithics recovered from the site in 2015.



Lake Walcott is formed by impounding the Snake River. Historically, the lake is kept at full pool March through October. The lake is then under drawn down 6 feet during the remaining months. The winter of 2014 was drier than normal causing the lake to be 6 inches lower than normal, which exposed the Bison site. In 2015, BOR dropped water levels an additional 6 inches to allow for our investigation of the site. Now re-inundated, the next time the site can be revisited will be in 2020, when water levels will be dropped for dam inspection.

Thanks go to John Braastad, Deputy Project Leader for the SE Idaho NWR Complex for sending HH staff this great article.

Other Agency News

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation—is beginning to plan for the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act in 2016. Part of the planning involves publication of 106 success stories, referring to Section 106 of the Act. FWS made the list! A story about the Cathlapotle Plankhouse at Ridgefield NWR was released late in June. Check it out: http://www.achp.gov/sec106_successes.html and click on Cathlapotle.

ACHP has also updated several policies as well as their training offerings for 2015. Please check [achp.gov](http://www.achp.gov) for all these updates

NPS—National Park Service in partnership with the Maritime Administration, today announced the award of approximately \$2.6 million in Maritime Heritage Program grants for projects that teach about and preserve sites and objects related to our nation's maritime history.

"Our maritime heritage is woven into the nation's history and identity," said Director Jonathan B. Jarvis. "These grants will not only help preserve our maritime resources for future generations, but many of these projects will also directly connect communities to that heritage through educational outreach and involvement in preservation efforts."

"Since our nation's very beginning, seafarers have helped build, defend and provide for our way of life in the United States, and the National Maritime Heritage Grant Program preserves and promotes that proud maritime legacy," said Maritime Administrator Jaenichen. "The projects were so worthwhile in providing education and preservation of our maritime heritage assets that MARAD provided more than \$800,000 over the original funding amount to support additional projects that were highly recommended by the Federal review panel."

National Maritime Heritage Grant awards are made possible through a partnership between the two federal agencies that share a commitment to maritime heritage preservation and education. Funding is provided by the Maritime Administration through the recycling of vessels from the MARAD's National Defense Reserve Fleet. The grant program supports a broad range of maritime education and preservation projects, without expending tax dollars, while ensuring that the vessels are dismantled in an environmentally sound manner.

The Maritime Heritage grants are available to state, tribal, and local governments, as well as private non-profit organizations for education and preservation projects. Education projects are funded in amounts between \$25,000-\$50,000; preservation projects are funded in amounts between \$50,000-\$200,000. Education grants can be used for programs such as school curriculum, interpretive programs and web pages, and preservation grant projects can include the rehabilitation or restoration of ships and other maritime resources.

Dept. of Transportation—[releases its new Tribal Consultation policy.](http://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/histpres/tribal.asp)
<http://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/histpres/tribal.asp>.

TRAINING, UPCOMING EVENTS, EDUCATION, AND NEWS

FLETC to Offer ARPA Training at Gettysburg NHP

The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) and NPS are co-sponsoring "Archeological Resources Protection Training Program"

This 37-hour course provides training in all aspects of an archeological investigation and prosecution. The class culminates in a 12-hour archeological crimescene 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. This training is open to all law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and Federal archeologists.

NPS employees should contact Wiley Golden at (912) 267-2246 for registration. Other Federal employees should contact their national academy representatives at FLETC to register. Contact FLETC instructor Charles Louke (912) 280-5138 for course information.

Training Dates:

TBD

Introduction to Metal Detecting for Archeologists Offered

The National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT), the Friends of NCPTT, and Connor Consulting will be conducting an introduction to metal detecting for archeologists, **8-9 May 2015**, near Santa Fe, NM. Classroom instruction will take place at the Santa Fe office of the NPS located at 1100 Old Santa Fe Trail. Field exercises will be conducted at Camp Lewis, an 1862 Union campsite related to the Battle of Glorieta Pass, in Pecos NHP. No experience or knowledge is necessary.

This introductory course is designed to provide the attendee with an understanding how metal detectors work; familiarity with the various devices and their costs, practical experience in archeological field conditions, and a resource manual and product literature.

Contact: Tad Britt, NCPTT, 318-356-7444

Desert Geomorphology for Archeologists Offered

The National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT), the Friends of NCPTT, and Desert Research Institute (DRI) are partnering to host a five-day workshop on desert geomorphology for archeologists. Participants will learn the fundamentals of desert geomorphology for archeologists using a variety of methods and techniques. Participants will visit and examine examples of desert landscapes sites within a short drive of Las Vegas. The



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training will start with the basics-defining geomorphology-then move through class lectures on selected topics important to archeologists. Extensive boots-on-the-ground field trips will all be covered in the five day course. Dr. Tom Bullard, Associate Research Professor at the Desert Research Institute will be the class instructor.

The workshop will be held **May 11-15, 2015** at the Desert Research Institute, Las Vegas, and Corn Creek Desert Wildlife Range, NV. The workshop is limited to 25 participants, so please reserve your spot early. Tuition for the workshop is \$850 and there is a reduced rate of \$650 for students. RPA registrants can receive up to 40 continuing professional education credits for course completion.

Contact: Tad Britt, NCPPT, 318-356-7444

2014-2015 NPS Archeology Program Webinar Series Recordings Available

Between September 2014 and January 2015 the NPS Archeology Program hosted webinars about archeological topics. Beginning with presentations by a Cotter Award winner, NPS archeologists gave talks about projects in national parks in September and October. From November through January, we examined the effects of climate change and other parameters of the Anthropocene on archeological research and resources. Recordings of the presentations are available on the NPS Training and Development website. Check them out! [View the webinars](#)

at www.nps.gov/training/NPSArcheology/html/index.cfm.

www.achp.gov/sec106webinar.html.

Complete information and registration procedures can be found at www.achp.gov/106.

Contact: Cindy Bienvenue, Meeting and Event Manager, at 202-606-8521.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

None at this time

VOLUNTEERS AND FRIENDS NEWS

Cathlapotle Plankhouse Celebrates Tenth Anniversary

On March 29th, 2005, the Cathlapotle Plankhouse opened its doors to the public for the first time. On March 29th, 2015, it celebrated its 10th anniversary with a special celebration honoring the volunteers and community supporters who made the Plankhouse what it is today. Members of the Chinook Indian Nation opened up the celebration with a welcoming song, and prepared the house for the work that was going to be done. Sam Robinson, acting chair of the Chinook Indian Nation and Friends board member, addressed the crowd and expressed his thanks for all the work that they have done to share the story of the Chinook Nation and Chinookan Peoples of the Lower Columbia River. Tony Johnson, chair of the Tribe's cultural committee, also expressed gratitude to the volunteers and supporters. Dr. Ken Ames, one of the foremost archaeologists in the field of Lower Columbia River Archaeology, spoke to the legacy that this house carries forward since time immemorial. Refuge Supervisor Sylvia Pelizza presented the Friends with the Preserve America Stewards award and read a letter to the Friends from Michelle Obama. Plankhouse Programs Director Sarah Hill handed out cedar roses as a token of appreciation and thanks to all who were in attendance and to mark the occasion. We would like to thank the Chinook Indian Nation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for making the celebration a success, and for your continued support of the Plankhouse and its programming over the years. Here's to another ten years!

The Columbian wrote a lovely piece on the event, and you can read it online here: <http://www.columbian.com/news/2015/mar/29/celebrating-10-years-at-cathlapotle-plankhouse/>

Friends Awarded Preserve America Stewards National Designation

First Lady Michelle Obama Designates the Friends

of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge a Preserve

America Steward

The Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge was honored recently when Mrs. Michelle Obama, First Lady of the United States, designated it as one of the nation's newest Preserve America Stewards.

"Preserve America Stewards are committed to preserving America's diverse heritage, and their work demonstrates how individuals who care deeply about serving their country and their communities can make a difference," Mrs. Obama said. "I thank and commend the volunteers of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge and the Cathlapotle Plankhouse for protecting our nation's historic treasures. You set a wonderful example for our young people, the future stewards of our heritage, while also improving the quality of life and economic vitality of our nation."

The Board of the Friends of Ridgefield NWR received a letter and certificate of designation signed by Mrs. Obama announcing that they are now a Preserve America Steward. Designation as a Preserve America Steward provides national recognition for programs that successfully use volunteers to help care for our historic and cultural heritage for the benefit of present and future generations.

The Preserve America program became an authorized part of the national historic preservation program when President Barack Obama signed the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 on March 30, 2009. The Preserve America program is a federal effort to encourage and support community efforts to preserve and enjoy America's priceless cultural and natural heritage. The goals of the initiative include a greater shared knowledge about the nation's past; strengthened regional identities and local pride; increased local participation in preserving the country's cultural and natural heritage assets; and support for the economic vitality of our communities.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation administers the Preserve America program with the Department of the Interior, in cooperation with ten other federal agencies. For more information, visit <http://www.achp.gov/> and <http://www.preserveamerica.gov/>



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