

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

April 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 first module of the Cultural Resources On-line Training Series has been launched. It is available at <https://doilearn.doi.gov/>. This first module focuses on aspects of cultural resources that **every** FWS employee should know and includes basic definitions of key concepts as well as information on how cultural resource management fits in the broader FWS mission. For more information contact Eugene Marino.

Washington Office—Plans are underway for the 2007 Cultural Resource course. The course will be held at NCTC the week of August 13th and will be aimed at project leaders and refuge managers. Regions 4 and 5 are coordinating the effort. For more information contact Eugene Marino.

Washington Office—11 proposals for the FWS Preserve America grants have been selected. The awards will be made sometime in April.

NCTC—This year, to mark the 100th anniversary of Rachel Carson's birth and join in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Centennial celebration, the Friends of the National Conservation Training Center will celebrate the achievements of the Service's most notable employee by launching the *Rachel Carson Online Book Club*. Beginning in March and continuing through November 2007, the online book club will focus on the life and work of Rachel Carson including her role as a female leader in science and government. Through the study of her writing, the Book Club will provide an opportunity for dialogue and discussion of current environmental issues in light of Carson's legacy

Region 3—The Iowa Transportation Commission approved the request for the Steamboat Bertrand Metals Conservation Project. The Transportation Enhancements funds will allow for the completion of 40% of the needed metal conservation work.

Region 7—Alaska's coast has an exceptionally rich archaeological record. The exceptionally rich environment has supported large prehistoric populations for 10,000 years. As one of Alaska's largest coastal land managers, the Service is responsible for the stewardship of thousands of sites, spread over dispersed and inaccessible coastlines. The prominent, easily visible coastal sites are a major target of illicit digging and artifact collecting. A major user group in these waters are commercial fishermen with an intimate knowledge of the shoreline and often with many hours to wait between fishing "openings".

The Alaska Region of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Kodiak's Alutiiq Museum & Archaeological Repository (Museum), and the Alaska Office of History and Archaeology (OHA), partnered to create a poster (Figure 1) and an informational rack card to provide basic information on the historical value of archaeological resources and the penalties for disturbing them. The goal was to reduce damage by people interested in archaeology but unaware of the consequences of artifact hunting.

The Museum, a Native Alaskan cultural center, designed the poster and rack card. The FWS distributed the posters to all of the Harbor Masters and city offices from Ketchikan to Kuskowkim Bay, over 110 communities in the primary fishing regions. OHA coordinated with the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission to include the information card in the mailing sent to over 14,000 commercial fisheries permit

holder in January 2007. It is too early to know if the posters and cards are having an effect but since the mail-out we have received requests for additional posters and rack cards from several communities. Koniag, Inc, the Alaska Native Corporation landowner on Kodiak is using the information to brief commercial guides and outfitters operating on their lands. With the help of the Alutiiq Museum we have already reduced the incidence of vandalism on Kodiak from about 17% of sites to 1-2%. With their help we hope to spread this success to other coastal areas of Alaska. For more information contact Debbie Corbett

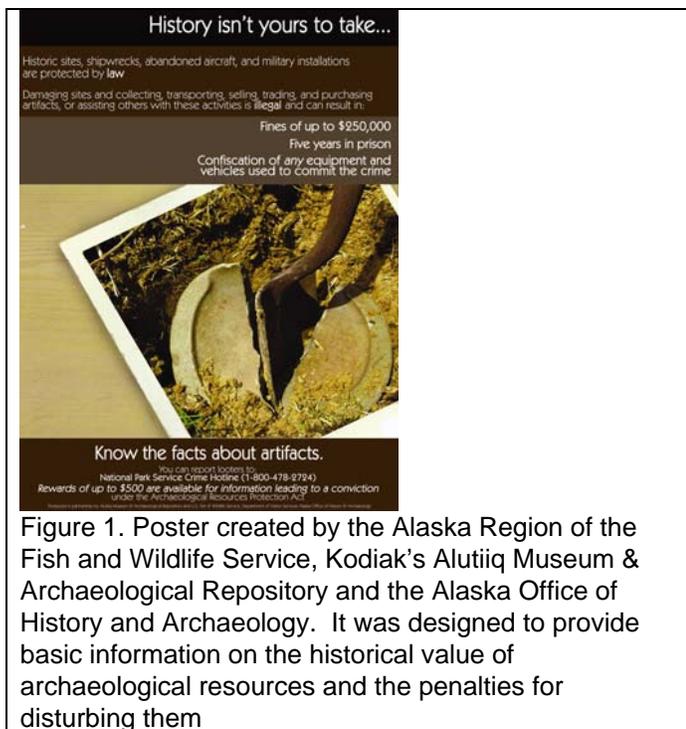


Figure 1. Poster created by the Alaska Region of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Kodiak's Alutiiq Museum & Archaeological Repository and the Alaska Office of History and Archaeology. It was designed to provide basic information on the historical value of archaeological resources and the penalties for disturbing them

Other Agency News

ACHP—Issues Revised Policy Statement Regarding Treatment of Burial Sites, Human Remains, and Funerary Objects

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation voted unanimously to adopt its new “Policy Statement Regarding Treatment of Burial Sites, Human Remains, and Funerary Objects” Feb. 23, 2007 at its quarterly business meeting in Washington, D.C. This new policy statement replaces the ACHP’s 1988 “Policy Statement Regarding the Treatment of Human Remains and Grave Goods.”

NPS—On February 5, President Bush sent his FY 2008 budget to Congress proposing up to \$3 billion of new public and private investment over 10 years to improve and expand national park conservation, preservation, and visitor service programs in preparation for the parks' 100th anniversary in 2016. Under the President's National Park Centennial Initiative, this

historic multi-year investment begins with the \$2.4 billion national parks budget for FY2008 - including the largest budget ever proposed for park operations.

National NAGPRA—Upcoming events

On April 19-20, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee will meet in Washington, DC, to finalize its annual report to Congress, consult regarding the development of the unclaimed regulations, and make recommendations regarding the disposition of culturally unidentifiable human remains. The meeting is open to the public. Additional information is online.

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nagpra/REVIEW/ANNOUNCEMENTS.htm>

White House—2008 budget has been released and contains \$5 million dollars aimed at creating a national inventory of heritage assets. These monies will be available in the form of grants that will be open to various groups, including Federal agencies.

Legislative News

ARPA updates in the draft bill on "The Violent Crime and Anti-Terrorism Act of 2007":

SEC. 324. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES PROTECTION ACT.

Section 470gg(b) of the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (16 U.S.C. § 470aa et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

“(b) Forfeitures. “(1) The following property is subject to forfeiture to the United States—

“(A) all archeological resources involved in a violation of subsection (a), (b) or (c) of section 470ee of this title;

“(B) all proceeds derived directly or indirectly from such violation;

“(C) any vehicle, equipment or other property used or intended to be used to commit or to facilitate the commission of such violation; and

“(D) all property traceable to such property.

“(2) The provisions of chapter 46 of title 18 relating to civil forfeitures shall extend to any seizure or civil forfeiture under this section.

“(3) The Attorney General shall use his authority to restore forfeited property to the victims of an offense to

ensure that any archeological resource forfeited under this section is restored to the person or entity from whom it was unlawfully taken.”

AND IN:

(i) PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CULTURAL ASSETS.—Section 1956(c)(7) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(2) by inserting the following after paragraph (F):

“(G) any violation of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (16 U.S.C. § 470aa, et seq.), or the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001, et seq.).

In this section of Title 18 (Title 18 § 1956. Laundering of monetary instruments), it would add ARPA and NAGPRA violations to the list of unlawful activities that can be penalized under this title.

[H.R.829](#): To amend the Federal Power Act to make certain changes in provisions relating to National Interest Transmission Corridors, and for other purposes.

Active tax legislation includes a great [set of amendments](#) to the federal rehabilitation tax credit program.

[Community Restoration and Revitalization Act H.R.1043 and S.584](#)

[Preserve Historic America Act H.R.610](#)

Use this link for additional information on currently pursued historic preservation legislation
<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/thomas>

Training News

New Technical Brief on Archeological Damage Assessment Archeological Resource Damage Assessment: Legal Basis and Methods,” by Martin E. McAllister, is now online on the Archeology Program website as Technical Brief #20:
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/pubs/techBr/tch20.htm>.

This technical brief describes and explains the archeological resource damage assessment process, including the legal basis and procedures for field damage assessment, value and cost determinations, and report preparation. Archeologists involved in ARPA investigations must fully understand the archeological resource damage assessment process and how to carry it out correctly because the credibility of such

damage assessments directly affects the outcome of these cases and the criminal or civil penalties imposed.

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act; presented by the National Park Service, National NAGPRA program; Washington, DC; April 17. Free, but registration required.

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nagpra/TRAINING/INDEX.htm>

Cotsen Institute of Archaeology at UCLA and ICCROM; Diagnostic Imaging and Photo-documentation of Archaeological and Cultural Materials; Rome, Italy; June 8-22. Application deadline: March 16.

<http://www.ioa.ucla.edu/ICCROM.php>

ADC50 2007 SUMMER MEETING—Roads, Railroads and Ruins: Navigating Historic Preservation in Transportation Projects Flagstaff, Arizona JULY 22-25, 2007

Roads, Railroads and Ruins: Navigating Historic Preservation in Transportation Projects, the summer meetings of the Committee on Historic and Archaeological Preservation in Transportation (ADC50), will be held in Flagstaff, Arizona July 22 – 25, 2007 at the Radisson Resort. Topics will include road maintenance issues, consultation, historic road protocols, and programmatic agreements. If you would like to contribute a presentation or organize a session, please contact [Johna Hutira](#).

Registration for the summer meeting is now open! You can download the DOC form [here](#).

Upcoming Events, Education, and Volunteers and Friends News

Cathlapotle Plankhouse at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge will be open to the public from Thursday, March 29, 2007 through Sunday, April 1, 2007. Hours of operation will be 12:00-4:00 pm. Docents will be available to answer questions. Pass it on to your friends and family!

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Requests for Information