



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

April 2004

## Historical Happenings

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

### FWS Regional News:

FWS Cultural Resources staff met in Portland, Oregon the week of April 5<sup>th</sup> and discussed topics including: proper stewardship and reporting of cultural resources, the establishment of a Service-wide Museum Property Committee, increasing attention and funding for fire related cultural resource activities, developing a cultural resources component for the environmental education program withing FWS. Contact Eugene Marino for more information.

The Preserve America data call was 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.

### Other Agency News

**BLM** Director Kathleen Clarke says the agency is strengthening the role of local, state and tribal agencies in developing land use plans for the public lands under the BLM's jurisdiction.

**BOR** Challenge Grant Program for Western Water Conservation Projects - DOI has instituted a \$4 million Challenge Grant Program that will help areas of the West hard hit by chronic water supply shortages to develop conservation and water efficiency projects. The grants program is being funded under the Western Water Initiative.

**ACHP** On March 31, 2004, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) withdrew the extension of emergency provisions that it issued shortly after September 11, 2001. For a copy of the original extension go to <http://www.achp.gov/emergencyprovisions.html>.

The extension of ACHP's emergency provisions was adopted to allow Federal agencies to respond to emergency undertakings for a period longer than the 30 days provided for in the emergency section of the Section 106 regulations, 36 C.F.R. § 800.12. The emergency undertakings under the scope of this extension were those carried out as an "essential and immediate response" to the President's September 14, 2001 Declaration of National Emergency by Reason of Certain Terrorist Attacks. The diminished use of the extension by Federal agencies and the passage of more than two years suggests that the extension has outlived its usefulness and proper applicability. Accordingly, as of March 29, 2004, Federal agencies may no longer use the extension. Nevertheless, please note that the emergency provisions still allow agencies to request an extension on a case-by-case basis. 36 C.F.R. § 800.12(d).

**ACHP** The Becoming Better Stewards of Our Past Report is available on the ACHP website. The report is the latest set of recommendations from the council in relation to the Preserve America Executive Order. See <http://www.achp.gov/pubs-2004stewardshipreport.html> for more information.

**ACHP      Laura Bush Designates 31 Preserve America Communities in Kentucky. April 20, 2004, Louisville, Kentucky—Mrs. Laura Bush today designated 31 Kentucky cities and towns as the Nation's newest Preserve America communities, the largest and most unique group honored to date since the first eight community designations were made January 15, 2004. For more information see [www.preserveamerica.gov](http://www.preserveamerica.gov)**

**NPS    A meeting to deaccession archaeological collections was held on April 13<sup>th</sup>. In attendance were representatives from all DOI bureaus as well as from agencies such as NRCS, COE, DOD, and NOAA. The issue of deaccession, which was first attempted in 1990, will be revisited and added to 36 CFR Part 79. Among issues discussed at the meeting were, ascertaining research value, defining collections that can be deaccessioned, procedures for deaccessioning. Contact Eugene Marino for more information.**

**NPS    \$15 million is available through the Save America's Treasures program to help communities and organizations preserve nationally significant historic buildings, documents, artifacts and other pieces of our Nation's past.**

**National NGAPRA    advises that its databases are on-line and available for use by federal agencies. Information on affiliations with a draft notice, without a draft notice, and collection not yet identified to an affiliation can be reviewed at their website. See <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nagpra/notices/index.htm> for more information.**

**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-WASHINGTON - The Department of the Interior announced publication of revised procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in order to encourage the department's cooperative conservation goals.**

**"We have updated the procedures to reflect our commitment to public participation and cooperative problem-solving," said Lynn Scarlett, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, who chaired the departmental working group assembling the procedures. The procedures are to be published today in the March 8 Federal Register. "We looked across bureaus and found the best practices that reflect our '4 C's' philosophy of conservation through communication, consultation, and cooperation. The manual revisions codify these best practices and communicate them throughout the department," Scarlett notes.**

**The revisions are the culmination of several years of work by the department, and are consistent with the recently released Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Task Force Report, Modernizing NEPA Implementation. The department held four listening sessions across the country in Anchorage, Portland, Denver and Washington, D.C. to elicit best practices from interested citizens and partners.**

## **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.**

## **H.R. 3550**

**White House has threatened a veto of the Roads bill due to the continued high price tag.**

**The House continues debate on the six-year \$275 billion bill, a 900-page package that House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., worked hard to trim to make it acceptable to the administration fiscal hawks that have said it is too expensive. A final vote is expected on Thursday.**

## **Training News**

**American Association of Museums meeting is scheduled for May 6-10 in New Orleans.**

**NCPTT is offering a Cemetery Conservation Conference – 2004 Charles Summer School, NW, Washington DC May 4 - 6, 2004**

**May 3-7, 2004: "Stewardship of Federal Assets--United Commitment to Excellence," is the theme of the 2004 Facilities and Assets Management Conference at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, Florida. On Monday, May 3 there will be an all-day training session on identifying, documenting, and preserving museum property and a series of sessions on inventorying museum property, preserving museum property, and a museum property "open forum."Development of the conference program can be monitored at the conference website <http://www.doi.gov/conference/facilities/>**

**May 15-19, 2004: 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. Five Day course providing training in the fundamentals of managing museum property. Course length is 40 hours and is open to all DOI staff with museum management responsibility. Class size 25 participants. No tuition requirements. For additional information contact Donald Cumberland at 202-208-4698. [Click here](#) for an application: any staff wishing to take the course should fax an application to Donald Cumberland at 202-219-4244.**

National Preservation Conference scheduled for September 28-October 3, 2004 in Louisville. Check [www.nationaltrust.org](http://www.nationaltrust.org) for more information.

## Federal Register News

For April

### SUMMARY:

This notice contains the final revised Departmental policies and procedures for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended, Executive Order 11514, as amended, and the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations. This action is necessary to update these procedures and to make them available to the public on the Department's Internet site. These procedures are final and will be published in part 516 of the Departmental Manual (DM) and will be made available to the public on the Electronic Library of Interior Policies (ELIPS). ELIPS is located at <http://elips.doi.gov/>.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the provisions of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-402, 106 Stat. 1961, hereinafter referred to as the Refuge Act), the Secretary of the Army has transferred primary administrative jurisdiction over approximately 4,929.85 acres of real property at Rocky Mountain Arsenal (RMA), Adams County, Colorado, to the Secretary of the Interior. The transfer of jurisdiction over this property occurred on April 2, 2004. Pursuant to section 4(a) of the Refuge Act, the Secretary of the Interior hereby announces the formal establishment of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge will be managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) as a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The refuge will be managed in accordance with the Refuge Act, and the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.).

## Native American Liaison News

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

## Requests for Information