

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

April 2008

## 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](mailto:Eugene_Marino@fws.gov) for submission guidelines.*

### FWS Regional News:

**Washington Office**—A 2006 FWS Preserve America grant winner will have their project showcased at the 2008 Friends Conference at NCTC April 4-6, 2008. The Iowa Academy of Science developed a series of podcasts for Iowa Refuges that focus on the geology, biology, archaeology, and history of the landscapes. Their debut may entice others to develop cultural resource oriented podcasts

**Region 2**—Known the world over as a premier destination for bird watching and wildlife conservation, Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge recently added an unexpected and unusual species to its list of mammals that once called the refuge home. On February 22, two geologists from the New Mexico Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources and a student from New Mexico Tech discovered a fossil embedded in a rock face. Paleontologists from the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science have confirmed the fossil is from an oreodont, an extinct group of hooved ungulates that were unique to North America and lived during the Miocene era between 10 and 15 million years ago.

Dr. Dave Love and Dr. Richard Chamberlin, two geologists with the New Mexico Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources, a division of New Mexico Tech, and Colin Cikoski, a NM Tech graduate student were conducting a geologic mapping project on the wildlife refuge when they came upon a fossilized upper and lower jaw and other fragmentary fossil bones.

"We noticed an exposed fault, and I could see a white thing in the canyon wall, which I knew right away was a fossil" said Dr. Love. "The closer we got the better it

looked. We took a picture and went to let the Refuge and the museum know about the fossil."

According to Dr. Love, the fossil was in a 10-million-year-old layer of sandstone and conglomerate of the Popotosa Formation of the Santa Fe Group. He added that the fossil is significant because it is the first known fossil discovered in this formation in the area.

Last week, a team led by Gary Morgan, Assistant Curator at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, visited the site to excavate the fossil. The fossil, embedded in a steep cliff face, was carefully removed from the mix of soft sands, gravel, and rock. Before completely removing the fossil from the rock it was wrapped in plaster to protect during transport to the Museum of Natural History and Science where it will be further evaluated.

"Oreodont fossils are uncommon in the Southwest. In New Mexico, most previous records are from the northern part of the state near Española," said Gary Morgan. "The Bosque del Apache oreodont is one of the most complete fossils and one of the southernmost examples of this group from New Mexico. Elsewhere in the western US, oreodonts are most common in older rocks between 25 and 35 million years old in the northern Great Plains."

Morgan explained that the recent find from the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge consists of a skull, lower jaws, and part of the skeleton. The Bosque del Apache animal belongs to a group of large oreodonts that lived in the latter part of the Miocene epoch between about 10 and 15 million years ago, very late in the oreodont's reign. It had a large head, a small trunk, rather short legs on a longish body, and resembled a

cross between a pig and a camel. Oreodonts were herbivores that probably browsed on leaves in streamside forests—the Miocene bosque.

High-resolution still images available by visiting: [www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/index.htm](http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/index.htm)

**Region 3—DeSoto NWR** celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on March 15<sup>th</sup>. The Refuge was created as a resting and feeding place for migratory waterfowl, the Refuge is also home to a huge collection of historic items from the steamboat Bertrand. The collection receives an average of 50,000 visitors per year.

**Region 4—Rick Kanaski** has prepared an article for an upcoming issue of Refuge Update on the recent drought at Santee NWR and how it impacted cultural resources. Below is an excerpt from that piece.

Lake Marion forms the western margin of Santee National Wildlife Refuge near Clarendon, South Carolina. The man-made lake, created between 1939 to 1942 by Santee Cooper, drowned approximately 177,000 acres of the Santee River's floodplain, swamps, agricultural and timber lands. The Refuge was established in 1942 to provide habitat for migratory waterfowl and recreational opportunities for the public.



The prolonged summer drought of 2007 dramatically lowered the Lake's water levels exposing scatters of stone tools and flakes, pottery, bottle fragments, and bricks associated with precolonial and historic period archaeological sites.

The newly exposed lake bed attracted individuals looking, not for wildlife, but to gather "arrowheads," pottery, and bottles for their collections or for sale. Among the sites targeted by collectors were the Santee Indian Mound/Fort Watson, former tenant houses at Gordon's Cut, and the Civilian Conservation Corps Camp on Pine Island. The Santee Indian Mound/Fort Watson Site is a National Register-listed property. The site is a small Mississippian Period mound complex occupied between the 9th to the 18<sup>th</sup> century and a Revolutionary War-era British fort captured by General Francis Marion and Lieutenant Colonel Harry Lee in 1781.

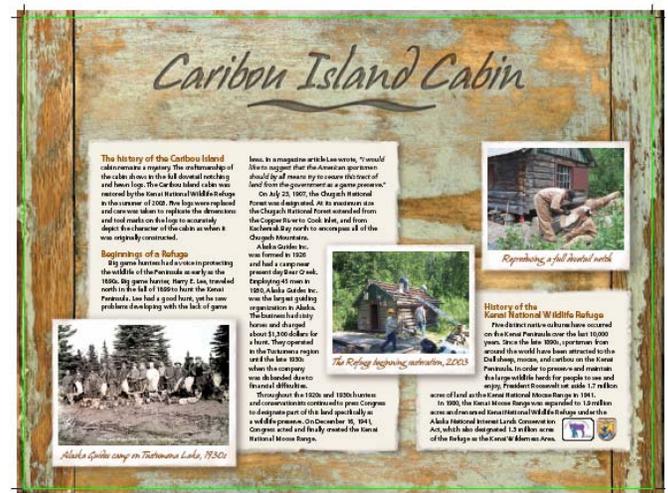
### Region 7—New Interpretive Panels developed for historic and public use cabin at Kenai NWR

Kenai Refuge public use cabin plan was developed in 2004

The cabin plan addressed restoring historic cabins (12 cabins) and making 8 of them available for overnight public use. Five new cabins were constructed in accessible locations. These new cabins along with the restored historic cabins give Refuge visitors the opportunity to experience a part of history- the life of early trappers, miners, and homesteaders to the area.

A reservation system (cabin nightly rate is \$45) was established in 2005. The money is collected under the Refuges Recreational Fee program and approximately 80% of the fees come back to the refuge to repair and restore cabins and administer the reservation system.

Public use cabins are common throughout Alaska on National Park, National Forest, and State Park Lands. However, Kenai Refuge is the first cabin program to actively interpret the history of the cabin and area at the cabin.



## Other Agency News

**ACHP—** The ACHP is very proud to announce the availability of an online training course for federal employees called, "Working Effectively with Tribal Governments." For a limited time, it will be available to the public free of charge.

While the one-hour training is geared towards federal employees, we encourage all our preservation partners to take the training to better understand the relationship federal agencies have to Indian tribes and the legal requirements that might impact the Section 106 review process. We also encourage you to pass along the URL to those you think might benefit from such training. It will be available to the public until April 30, 2008, at [www.GoLearn.gov](http://www.GoLearn.gov). Once at the GoLearn web site, click on the small thumbnail to go to the tribal training.

The training program was developed by a sub-group of the Indian Affairs Executive Working Group, established by the White House Office of

Intergovernmental Affairs in 2006. Monique Fordham of the ACHP was one of the principle architects of this training and worked with federal partners from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Justice. Other members, including the General Services Administration, US Forest Service, Department of Energy, Department of Health and Human Services, Small Business Administration, and Department of Housing and Urban Development provided support.

For more information about this training, go to [www.achp.gov](http://www.achp.gov). You can also access the training through the ACHP website.

## Legislative News

H.R 5608 Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments Act was introduced into the House on March 13, 2008. Wording in the bill may affect communication with Tribal Governments on a range of issues.

House Ways and Means Committee chairman Charles Rangel (D-NY) will be holding a mark-up meeting in his committee on a draft package of affordable housing tax provisions, which will include Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) relief and possibly some of the key amendments to the federal rehabilitation tax credit proposed in the "Community Restoration and Revitalization Act of 2007" (H.R.1043/S. 584).

The House leadership indicated that it may endorse a moratorium on earmarks for FY'09 in an attempt to steal the issue away from Republican lawmakers. If a moratorium were enacted, there would be considerable fallout for historic preservation programs that are heavily earmarked, including Save America's Treasures (SAT) program grants and Transportation Enhancements (TE) funding.

The House Natural Resources approved a bill (HR 2016) to make permanent the National Landscape Conservation System on March 12th by a vote of 24-13.

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

There are a number of activities at the Cathlapotle plankhouse planned for April and beyond. For information on these events take a look at [www.plankhouse.org](http://www.plankhouse.org)

**DOI**—will offer a Curating Natural History Collections Course in Fairbanks, AK on Monday April 21st to Friday

April 25<sup>th</sup>. For more information contact Brian Biegler at 202-208-4698

### **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-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

**NPS**—Mesa Verde will be sponsoring an ARPA class from April 7-11. This class is specifically designed for archeologist. For more information contact Julie A. Bell c Field Director, Archeology Program c Mesa Verde National Park PO Box 8, Mesa Verde, CO 81330 970-529-5020

### **Partnership for the National Trails System**

Workshop on Developing a National Trail Preservation Strategy. BLM Training Center in Phoenix Arizona, and the Sonoran Desert National Monument. Link to online registration to follow soon. Send questions to Travis Boley at [tboley@indepmo.org](mailto:tboley@indepmo.org) (888) 811 . 6282 **TOLL FREE** (816) 252 . 2276 **PHONE**

Preserving the Historic Road; Albuquerque, New Mexico; September 11-14, 2008. <http://historicroads.org>

National Trust for Historic Preservation  
Tulsa, Oklahoma  
October 21-25, 2008

## Requests for Information