



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

August 2006

# 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:** FWS currently chairs the newly established Heritage Asset Partnership. A DOI committee charged with providing cultural resource expertise to asset managers. For more information see <http://www.doi.gov/pam/HeritageAssetsPartner.html> or contact Eugene Marino.

Take a look at the May/June issue of Refuge Update as it focuses on Cultural Resources and the Centennial of the passage of the Antiquities Act.

The Cultural Resources website has been updated to include a section for Regional cultural resource reports.

**Region 3—** When the staff of the Prairie Wetlands Learning Center in Minnesota (Fergus Falls Wetland Management District) started planning their new exhibits a few years ago, they wanted to include a space to show interpretive videos, but didn't want to have just a carpeted room or other sterile space. Looking at past visitation, they realized that many members of the local community had relatives that had homesteaded in the area, some with grandparents who grew up on the prairie in the late 1800s. The prairies of western Minnesota shaped the culture and society, and to a large degree, the people that settled here shaped the prairie that exists today.

The staff designed a theater reminiscent of a sod house (Figure 1) – the type of home that the typical western Minnesota homesteader would have lived in when they first arrived on the prairie in the 1860s. Using historical photographs of sod houses and their residents, reproductions and other items on loan from the local historical society, as well as items purchased by the Friends of the Prairie Wetlands Learning Center, the sod house theater brings back the stories and feelings

from a century ago. Of course, most sod houses back then didn't have big screen TV's and DVD players!

This unique theater is also used for small interpretive programs, and is a popular exhibit in its own right for the many families that visit the Center. The tie to the local culture has prompted many a conversation with older visitors, some with stories of relatives who lived in sod houses themselves.



**Figure 1. View of the sod-house style Prairie Wetlands Learning Center theater**

So how does a historical exhibit like this further the Service mission? The connection with the heritage of the local community and the memories of what the prairie was like in the past often lead to discussions of what we are doing today to restore, manage and preserve prairie within the Wetland District. It provides relevance for our visitors as they walk the trails at the Center, and see the grasses and forbs they remember from their youth. Finally, it provides a bridge from the past to the present as grandparents; parents and

children reconnect with a part of American history. For more information contact Ken Garrahan at Ken\_Garrahan@fws.gov

**Region 4**— The South Carolina SHPO Office, the US Army Corps of Engineers, (Corps) and the Service cooperated to complete section 106 compliance for the Sangamo West/Twelevemile Creek/ Lake Hartwell Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan.

Twelve Mile Creek is located in Pickens County, South Carolina, in the northwestern corner of the state. The stream flows west into Lake Hartwell, a Corps reservoir on the Georgia/South Carolina border. Sangamo Weston, Inc. operated a capacitor manufacturing plant in Pickens County from 1955 to 1977; the facility released an estimated 441,000 lbs of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) into Twelvemile Creek. Historical sampling has documented the presence of PCB contamination in the sediments, surface water and fish from the plant site downstream to the Lake Hartwell Dam.

The Service, the Corps, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, and the South Carolina Office of the Governor, have reached a settlement of the natural resource damage claims brought against the current owner of the Sangamo Weston Plant Site, Schlumberger Technology Corporation. Schlumberger has agreed to pay \$11.8 million in damages and to spend an additional \$8 to \$10 million to purchase and remove two century-old hydroelectric dams on Twelvemile Creek, known as the Woodside I and II dams (Figure 2). The removal of the two dams will provide multiple ecological benefits for Twelvemile Creek, including improving the biodiversity and population density of species along a free-flowing stream, and the burial of PCB sediments.

The Woodside I and II dams are located a mile apart on Twelvemile Creek. They were built in 1895 and 1901, respectively, to supply hydroelectric power to a cotton textile factory called Norris Mill.

The Service acted as the lead federal agency for the project, in partnership with the Savannah Corps of Engineers. Richard Warner, the staff archeologist for FWS Ecological Services, wrote the draft MOA, and coordinated the overall NHPA compliance. Mitigation for this project includes measured drawings, Archival quality photography, and field photography, recording for the dams and their setting. The mitigation terms also include a stipulation for writing a concise overview of the history and development of the textile industry in the Appalachian or 'Upstate' region of South Carolina. This overview context will be posted on the South Carolina SHPO office website. In addition, a copy of a historical monograph "The Catechee Story" by Jerry

Alexander will be distributed to both federal agencies, the Pickens County historical society, and to the SHPO. The author is a local resident and historian, and the history includes extensive documentation on the technology, social history, and economic history of the Norris Mill and the village of Catechee. Finally, the applicant must leave a physical trace of the dams in place; this will likely include at least the indentation in the rock banks denoting the size and shape of each dam. For more information contact Richard Warner; Richard\_Warner@fws.gov



**Figure 2. Woodside Dam along the Twelvemile Creek**

## Other Agency News

**White House**—Announces the establishment of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument. This monument encompasses area contained within several federal agencies including FWS. See

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2006/06/20060615-18.html> for more information.

**ACHP**—President George W. Bush has appointed one new member, and reappointed one current member, to the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP).

The reappointed member is Susan S. Barnes, of Aurora, Illinois, who was named vice chair of the ACHP by the President in April, 2006, and now is beginning her second four-year term as an Expert Member. The new member is Rhonda Bentz, of Arlington, Virginia, who is appointed to a four-year term as a General Public Member. Both members' terms expire in June 2010.

**NAGPRA**—Two new consultation resources: [Cultural affiliation and geographic data](#) from published notices, and

[Indian Land Cessions 1784-1894](#) by State and County.

## Legislative News

The House Resources Committee approved legislation to reauthorize the National Historic Preservation Act. HR 5861 would make a number of changes to the act at the request of the CHP, an independent federal agency that promotes the preservation, enhancement and productive use of historic resources.

These changes, present in both the original version of the bill and a substitute offered by bill sponsor Rep. Steve Pearce, R-N.M., are aimed at preventing the use of a historic eligibility designation to impede development on privately owned land, according to the Resources Committee.

These changes would require a local government that received funds under the act, and that wished to use eligibility determinations to trigger local regulatory requirements, to provide due process protection to property owners through a hearing process.

The bill, as amended, also would make some changes to the makeup and rules of the council, allow the council to contract out financial and administrative services and to enter into cooperative agreements, and allow the council to report to Congress and the president on the effectiveness of its grant program and recommendations about funding levels.

The substitute would authorize "such amounts as may be necessary." As introduced, the bill would have authorized \$5 million annually through fiscal 2008 and then at \$6 million annually through 2015.

The substitute also would give a state or tribal historical preservation officer a 30-day deadline to object to a determination that a project would not harm a historic resource.

Further, it would clarify that a federal agency does not have the authority to require an applicant for federal assistance, a permit or a license to identify historical resources outside the area of the proposed project.

In 2004, a "discussion draft" bill addressing the same issue would have narrowed the eligibility requirements of historical sites, but that approach met with considerable resistance from the conservation community, according to the Resources Committee.

## Training News

FWS Hosts a Transportation Conference at NCTC August 29 and 30<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Eugene Marino for more information.

**NAGPRA**—Training sponsored by the National NAGPRA Program:

Native American Cultural Property Law, Santa Fe, NM, September 26-28, 2006

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

### Cathlapotle Plankhouse News

Below is a schedule of special events. For more information please contact: Peter\_Gebhardt@fws.gov

August 7-11th 9:00-3:00, Vancouver Audubon Day Camp. The Audubon society will be holding its day camp at the Plankhouse. (Must preregister)

August 9th 9:00-12:30, Family day at the Plankhouse. Bring the family out and learn native plant uses, including mat weaving. (Must preregister)

August 19th 1:00, Lewis and Clark on the Lower Columbia. Explore what Lewis and Clark meant to the Native Americans living along the Columbia. Guided hike 1.5 hours, flat to slightly rolling terrain.

August 26th 9:00, Plankhouse work party

August 26th 1:00, Discover Your Refuge. Discover what happens daily at the refuge, why it exists, and what you can do while visiting. Guided hike 1.5-2.0 hours, flat to slightly rolling terrain.

Friends of the Cathlapotle Plankhouse Update:

What A Difference A Year Makes!

What a difference a year makes! It hasn't been that long since we volunteers were spending our Sundays stripping bark from logs and wondering what "our" Plankhouse would look like! When we got the structure for the building up

and the roof went on it finally felt real, and when we had our grand opening last spring and celebrated, it was the best party ever. But of course the work was not over; It had just begun!

By last July we formed the group that would establish our not-for-profit organization and would support the Cathlapotle Plankhouse Project. We developed a mission statement, and completed the hard work of developing and finalizing the by-laws that would govern our work as an organization. We then formed committees to do the various kinds of work we would need to do.

Below is a list of committees and people on the board to chair them:

Susan McAdams, who worked in the private sector for many years and was in health care administration, chairs the board and heads the Fundraising Committee which is responsible for grant writing and other activities to support the Plankhouse financially. If you think of a grant that we should apply for, or a fundraising opportunity please contact Susan.

Sam Robinson, who is vice chairman of the Chinook Tribal Council, heads the Outreach Committee which is responsible for contact with the media, and educating the public about Cathlapotle and Chinookan culture. He also serves as a liaison from the Chinook Tribe to the board.

Jane Arnal, who is our secretary, and who worked as a college administrator and associate director of an American History Institute at Pomona College, heads our Education Committee, and is responsible for developing materials and activities in the Plankhouse to educate our visitors about CPP.

Lyle Deschand, who heads up our Facilities and Maintenance Committee, works for Clark County's Parks and Recreation Department. Lyle worked with Greg Robinson and Adam McLissac on the carving of the

interior Plankhouse artwork, is in charge of keeping the Plankhouse in good physical shape, and landscaping projects. We are always looking for people to help with projects such as removing noxious weeds, maintaining the trails on the Carty unit, or repairing things in the Plankhouse itself.

Donna Martinez, who is vice-chair of the board, was a member of the Plankhouse work-crew and has worked in not-for-profit organizations for many years. Donna is head of the Volunteer Committee which assists the Refuge's paid staff member, Peter Gebhardt who is responsible for recruiting volunteers to help support the work of the Cathlapotle Plankhouse Project. We always need docents to staff the Plankhouse Friday, Saturday, Sunday and during times when a group needs a tour.

Arlene Johnson, who is the director for the Vancouver "Center for The Arts" and who also was responsible for much of the grant writing and fundraising for The Lewis and Clark Committee in Clark County, is our treasurer and is responsible for our day to day finances.

Our Membership Committee is run by all of the board members and is responsible for recruiting new members to the Friends of The Cathlapotle Plankhouse Project! If you would like to help with this or any of the above committees please contact us!

All of us on the board of directors want to take this opportunity to thank all of the supporters of the Cathlapotle Plankhouse Project. The work has just begun! We look forward to many projects in the future that will help to educate the public about the first peoples of the Columbia River and the rich environmental resource that is the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge. Without your time, ideas, and hard work the project would not be the great success it continues to be!

## Requests for Information