



Historical Happenings

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

FWS Regional News:

Headquarters—The FWS 2006 Presidential Budget is available at <http://www.doi.gov/budget/2006/06Hilites/BH59.pdf>

Headquarters—The NPS Report to Congress for Archaeological Activities is due March 14, 2005. Please submit pertinent information to the WO electronically. This year's questionnaire can be found at (<http://www.cr.nps.gov/aad/src/forms.htm>.) Contact Eugene Marino for more information.

Headquarters—The USFWS Cultural Resources Staff annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the Society for American Archaeology Meetings in Salt Lake City, UT. The cultural resources meeting will be held on March 29th. For more information contact Eugene Marino

Region 1—Cultural resources a catalyst for behavioral change? Find out at <http://pacific.fws.gov/publications/out&about/Winter2005.pdf>. Look at the article entitled "Navigating Change"

Region 1—archaeologist Carla Burnside along with FWS Special Agents Edward Dominguez and Eric Jumper were recently honored. U.S. Interior Secretary Gale Norton on Wednesday awarded them the Conservation Service Award for their roles in exposing the large-scale theft and trafficking of North American artifacts from federal lands in Nevada and California. The award is one of the highest honors presented by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Region 5—Rare Elk Skull and Antlers Unearthed at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge

A rare eastern elk skull and antlers were recently excavated from a wetland impoundment on Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge in Basom, New York near Buffalo. During a dike construction project the elk parts were found nearly six feet down in the muck soil layer. When it died, the elk was a mature 6 x 6 (12 point), five year old bull. The find included the antlers, the top of the skull, and both lower jaw bones. The muck did an excellent job of preserving the specimen and only one antler point was damaged during the excavation.

Depending on its age, the antlers may be able to tell us about a now-extinct variety of North American elk. The eastern elk is an extinct subspecies of elk that at one time inhabited most of the eastern United States. The elk was extirpated from western New York State around 1820 and by the late nineteenth century the subspecies was completely extinct. Loss of habitat and overhunting were the main causes of its decline. A piece of the elk bone has been sent to a laboratory for dating.

The refuge plans to have the specimen preserved and displayed in the visitor center. Most people are unaware that these animals once roamed New York. This find offers a unique opportunity for the refuge to give visitors a look back in time at the wildlife history of the western New York area.

Other Agency News

NPS—Announces their annual data call for the Report to Congress. The 2004 questionnaire can be found at (<http://www.cr.nps.gov/aad/src/forms.htm>). Contact Eugene Marino for more information.

National NGAPRA—The Minutes of the Review Committee's September 17-18, 2004 meeting are available online at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nagpra/REVIEW/meetings/RCMIN027.htm>. The next Review Committee meeting will be held March 13-15, 2005, in Honolulu, HI. The agenda for the meeting includes an update on various disputes and issues pending before the Review Committee; requests for recommendations regarding the disposition of culturally unidentifiable human remains; discussion of regulations; the Review Committee's 2002-2004 report to the Congress; discussion of nominees for the committee's seventh member; and presentations and statements by Indian tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, museums, Federal agencies, and the public. See details at <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/05-241.htm>. The National NAGPRA FY04 Final Report is available online at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nagpra/DOCUMENTS/NNReport0410.pdf>. The Culturally Unidentifiable Native American Inventories Pilot (CUI) Database is now available online at http://64.241.25.6/CUI_pilot/index.cfm. The CUI Database is a compilation of data from museums and Federal agencies from various geographic areas of the United States. The online version of the database is 38% complete as of January 28, 2005.

Legislative News

Senators Akaka, Baucus, Feinstein, Durbin, Roberts and Inouye introduced the new fossil bill on Feb. 2, 2005. The proposed legislation outlines protection and care for this resource. The complete text can be found at <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c109:S.263>:

Training News

The National Preservation Institute's Training Calendar has been updated and is available at www.npi.org.

HERITAGE, ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM

Meetings of the Society for Applied Anthropology, La Fonda Hotel, Santa Fe, New Mexico April 5-10, 2005 contact Erve Chambers, c/o Society for Applied Anthropology, P.O. Box 2436, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-2436; sfaa2005@sfaa.net; (405) 843-5113.

MANAGING MUSEUM PROPERTYsponsored by the Interior Museum Program conducted at the San Diego Museum of Man 1350 El Prado, Balboa Park San Diego, California 92101 March 14-18, 2005. The course will be repeated on August 15-19, 2005.

Additional information and an application can be found at the Interior Museum Program website address: <http://museums.doi.gov/training/managing.html> or contact Donald Cumberland at 202-208-4698

Federal Register News

For February— Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Rice Lake and Mille Lacs National Wildlife Refuges in East Central Minnesota and Horicon and Fox River National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) in Southeast Wisconsin

Notice is here given in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3003, of the completion of an inventory of human remains in the possession of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Great Lakes[macr]Big Rivers Region, Fort Snelling, MN. The human remains were removed from the area of Ottawa, La Salle County, IL. This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA, 25 U.S.C. 3003 (d)(3). The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the museum, institution, or Federal agency that has control of these Native American human remains. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice. A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service professional staff in consultation with representatives of the Ho Chunk Nation of Wisconsin and Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. In the 1920s, human remains representing one individual were removed from an unspecified site near Ottawa, La Salle County, IL. The remains consist of the frontal portion of a skull, including the upper and lower jaws. No known individual was identified. No associated funerary objects are present. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agents seized the human remains as part of an investigation of illegal trafficking of Native American human remains [18 U.S.C. 1170 (a)]. Subsequent examination by an anthropologist and testing of the human remains revealed that they are of an approximately 24 year old Native American female that lived sometime between A.D. 1030 and 1290. On July 25th, 2002, U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge Nan R. Nolan ordered that control of the human remains be transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for purposes of repatriation. Consultation with representatives of the Ho Chunk Nation of Wisconsin and Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska indicate that the area of Ottawa, IL, was occupied by Winnebago people from A.D. 500 to 1600. The present day Indian tribes most closely associated with the Winnebago people are the Ho Chunk Nation of Wisconsin and Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. Officials of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001, the human remains described above represent the physical remains of one individual of Native American ancestry. Officials of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service also have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (2), there is a relationship of shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between the Native American human remains and the Ho Chunk Nation of Wisconsin and Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with the human remains should contact Mary Jane Lavin, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 45, Federal Building, Fort Snelling, MN 55111-4056, telephone (612) 713-5320, before March 24, 2005. Repatriation of the human remains to the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska may begin after that if no additional claimants come forward. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is responsible for notifying the Ho Chunk Nation of Wisconsin and Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska that this notice has been published.

Native American Liaison News

Upcoming Events, Education, and Volunteers and Friends News

Cathlapotle Plankhouse Project Countdown to "Completion"

Furnishing and maintaining the plankhouse will be an ongoing process, so "completion" is really the wrong word. But there is an ever-dwindling list of tasks that will be accomplished between now and the projected Grand Opening next spring. Here is a snapshot of the timeline as it now stands (subject to change, of course!).

Saturday, March 26, 3pm-6pm

Volunteer Appreciation Gala and Preview All CPP volunteers who have participated in work parties, workshops, and delivering outreach are invited to attend this special preview party. Donors and community partners are also invited. Refreshments will be served and outstanding volunteers will be recognized! RSVP by March 15 to virginia_parks@fws.gov or 503-625-4377.

Tuesday, March 29, 2pm-4:30pm

Door Opening Ceremony Project partners will officially open the doors to the plankhouse. Space is limited and registration is required, see contact above.

March 30 to April 3, noon-5pm daily

Plankhouse Open House The public is invited to drop by to see the plankhouse and participate in special activities to be scheduled each day

Requests for Information

The Service is increasing its participation in the National Trails System, the Trails for All Americans program, and promoting our part in the CDC initiative, Trails for Health. As part of that effort we are trying to increase the visibility of the Service in the National Trails System. The National Trails System has three components: National Scenic Trails, such as the Appalachian Trail; National Historic Trails, such as the Trail of Tears; and National Recreation Trails, unique local or regional trails. National Scenic and Historic Trails are congressionally designated, National Recreation Trails are designated by the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior.

There are 15 National Historic Trails in the NTS. Seven of them have NWRs or NFHs along them or near them. The Service is interested in certifying refuges and hatcheries along NHTs. Certification is a partnership that helps landowners protect and preserve their historic trail properties, and share them with others. Nathan Caldwell, the newest addition to the WO transportation staff, will be working with interested regions and field stations on the certification process. For more information and a list of the NHTs and NWRs or NFHs associated with them, contact Nathan by email or at phone (703) 358-2205.