



Historical Happenings

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

November

What's New at HQ?

Historic Preservation Award 2017—Nominations Requested!!

The Historic Preservation Award launched late in 2016 is back for its second year. We welcome nominations for those managers and staff that go above and beyond to preserve and use our outstanding cultural resources. Contact Eugene Marino eugene_marino@fws.gov for more information. Nomination due December 29, 2017.

HQ and Region 3 Host 2017 Preservation Skills Workshop

The Workshop is an FWS training course aimed at providing our Wage Grade staff with hands-on experience restoring and repairing historic buildings.

For this class, Wage Graders from Region 3, 4, 5, and 6 worked with NPS instructors to re-roof and re-construct stone walls from two 19th century structures located on the Louisville Swamp unit of MN Valley NWR (figures 1). The goal of the course is to provide our Wage Grade staff with the experience and techniques that will enable them to complete similar repairs on historic buildings on their home field stations.



Figure 1 Participants working on stone structures at Jabs Farm on the Louisville Swamp units of the Refuge.

By all accounts, the 2017 offering was a great success. Many thanks to the entire crew (figure 2) with special thanks to our NPS Historic Preservation Training Center Instructors, James Myster, Clint DeMenge from Region 3, Tim Bodeen—MN Valley NWR Manager, and John Blich from HQ.

Check out http://www.swnewsmedia.com/chaska_herald/news/fish-and-wildlife-restores-farmstead/article_6c9905fb-8dbe-5f69-8f17-e37494b71a40.html

for a great article about the work at MN Valley NWR!



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Figure 2. FWS and NPS staff from the 2017 Preservation Skills Workshop at Minnesota Valley NWR.

Around the Regions....

Region 3

The Plum Island Life Saving Station in Door County Wisconsin is a great example of a historical resource being used by the Fish and Wildlife Service to interact with its visitors. The Fish & Wildlife Service and the Friends of Plum & Pilot Islands are working to restore historic structures on the two islands located near Washington Island. Check out this great article on the work being done to preserve this glimpse into the history of this important location. http://host.madison.com/wsj/news/local/door-county-island-restoration-project-makes-for-challenging-logistics/article_2a67b7be-50c7-58f9-bc25-bb48220ab866.html For more information about Plum Island and the great work being done there, contact James Myster, james_myster@fws.gov

Other Agency News....

ACHP—New Guidance for Working for Non-federally Recognized Tribes

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation has issued new guidance on working with non-federally recognized tribes in the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 process. The guidance fulfills the ACHP's commitment to support the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which applies to all indigenous peoples. The guidance encourages federal agencies to include non-federally recognized tribes in Section 106 consultations when they have important information to share and when historic properties of religious and cultural significance to them may be affected by an



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undertaking. The guidance also clarifies that inviting non-federally recognized tribes to participate in the process does not substitute for consultation with federally recognized Indian tribes nor does it diminish their role in consultation.

The guidance is also available online at <http://www.achp.gov/docs/Working%20with%20Non-Fed%20Rec%20tribes%20Guidance%20-%208-11-17.pdf>

TRAINING, GRANTS, UPCOMING EVENTS, EDUCATION, AND NEWS

Upcoming FWS Events and Training

SRI Announces Coalition for Archaeological Synthesis Offers Grants

The SRI Foundation has launched a new initiative, the Coalition for Archaeological Synthesis (CfAS). The goal of the Coalition is to foster synthetic research on social science questions whose answers will have important implications for addressing contemporary social issues. The CfAS synthesis projects will proceed through repeated, intensive meetings of self-organized, multi-disciplinary working groups focused on particular synthetic topics, a model pioneered and proven by the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS).

The Coalition is composed of two types of members. Partners are organizations that govern and set the direction of the Coalition, and Associates are individual members interested in supporting the Coalition's goals. Organizations can register as a Partner through the CfAS website, as can individuals who would like to be an Associate.

CfAS has recently issued a call for proposals for two initial synthesis projects, to fund working groups that will address a substantive archaeological problem requiring synthesis, and will produce both intellectual products that will benefit the discipline and products that will inform public policy or benefit relevant publics. Funding will be provided for travel, meals, lodging, and conference facilities for working groups of no more than 8 individuals to meet face-to-face 3 times within a period of 2 years in a setting that is conducive to collaboration.

Proposals are due January 15, 2018, 5PM MST. Questions concerning this RFP should be sent to Mr. Terry Klein, Executive Director, SRI Foundation, at tklein@srifoundation.org.

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is also available at <http://www.archsynth.org/requests-for-proposals.html>.

Coalition's vision is described more fully in an article in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, at <http://www.pnas.org/content/114/42/10999.full.pdf>.



LEGISLATIVE NEWS

H.Con Res. 122

Protection of the Right of Tribes to stop the Export of Cultural and Traditional Patrimony Resolution or the PROTECT Patrimony Resolution

(Sec. 4) Condemns the theft, illegal possession or sale, transfer, and export of tribal cultural items.

Calls upon the Departments of the Interior, State, Commerce, Homeland Security, and Justice to consult with Native Americans in addressing these practices, to take affirmative action to stop these practices, and to secure repatriation of tribal cultural items.

Supports the efforts of the Government Accountability Office to determine the scope of illegal trafficking in tribal cultural items and to discuss with Native Americans and others the steps required to end such trafficking.

Expresses support for restrictions on the export of tribal cultural items.

H.R. 473-Military LAND Act of 2017

Sponsor: Rep. Issa (R-CA)

Status: Pending before the House Natural Resources Committee
Just as he did in each of the past three congresses, Representative Issa has introduced his Military LAND Act.

The bill would amend the National Historic Preservation Act to allow federal land-managing agencies to object to the inclusion of properties under their control to the National Register, or its designation as a National Historic Landmark, for national security reasons. It would also allow land managers to remove properties already listed on the National Register.

H.R. 602-Local Law Enforcement for Local Lands Act

Sponsor: Rep. Chaffetz (R-UT)

Status: Pending before the House Natural Resources and Agriculture Committees

This bill would end the law enforcement functions of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service (USFS), and send the funding of those offices to states, under a block grant formula, to police BLM and USFS lands.

H.R. 2199-Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform Act

Sponsor: Rep. Cramer (R-ND)

Status: Pending before the House Natural Resources Committee

This measure would require the Secretary of the Interior to consolidate all existing land inventories used by the Department into a single "master" inventory of resources contained in and upon the lands administered by Interior. The inventory data would include assets such as natural and—presumably—cultural resources, and transportation and energy infrastructure. Existing inventories found to be outdated or redundant would be eliminated. The new central inventory would be searchable by the public. A subcommittee hearing on the bill was held on May 23.

S. 282-Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act

Sponsor: Sen. Heller (R-NV)

Status: Pending before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

The legislation is designed to streamline the environmental review and permitting processes at the Department of Interior for renewable energy

development projects (solar, wind, and geothermal) on federal land.

S. 1400-Save Tribal Objects of Patrimony Act

Sponsor: Sen. Heinrich (D-NM)

Status: pending before Indian Affairs Committee

The bill would prohibit the export of illegally-procured Native American objects of cultural patrimony, increase the penalties for NAGPRA criminal violations, and better coordinate work on this issue by federal agencies. It would also encourage the voluntary return of tangible cultural heritage.

S. 1460-Energy and Natural Resources Act

Sponsor: Sen. Murkowski (R-AK)

This legislation includes the permanent reauthorization of the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF). Under current law, the HPF is authorized through 2023. If passed, the bill would mark the first revision to national energy policy in a decade.

H.R. 2936-Resilient Federal Forests Act

Sponsor: Rep. Westerman (R-AR)

Status: Pending before the full House

This bill would, through the use of categorical exclusions in specified situations, speed forest health project reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act and the NHPA. The measure would apply to lands under the control of the BLM and Forest Service, as well as Tribal lands. Project managers would be able to carry out Section 106 reviews of certain undertakings without having to consult with SHPOs or THPOs. Other projects would have a 90 day deadline for SHPO and THPO offices to complete their reviews.

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Thanks to Terry Childs (DOI) and Karen Mudar (NPS) for news stories and other contributions for this issue of HH.

VOLUNTEERS AND FRIENDS NEWS

Check for future information



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