



Historical Happenings

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

October

What's New at HQ?

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!



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



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Historic Preservation Award back for 2017!!—The award, launched last year, is back. Nominations for those manager, staff, and partners that go over and above to help preserve, use, and interpret cultural resources will be accepted beginning at the end of October. The winner will be announced in January! For more information contact Eugene Marino

New online Exhibit--FWS Cultural Resources recently developed its first online exhibit. The Google Arts Institute is hosting images from the *Louis Agassiz Fuertes* collection. The materials are currently on long-term loan to the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. To view some of these masterpieces please go to <https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/beta/exhibit/PQICV6nTdY1vIw>

Around the Regions....

Region 2

A fictionalized, semi-documentary, *Jesus Town USA*, focusing on the "Holy City of the Wichitas" is available for download (check your favorite internet video providers). The WPA-built compound, complete with chapels, shrines, crosses, and statues have all been permanent fixtures on the Wichita Mountains Refuge since the 1930s. It remains the most popular visitor attraction on the Refuge, and a tourist destination in central Oklahoma.

Region 5

Regional Cultural Resources featured on Region-wide blog

More great discussions of important cultural resources from R5. Check it out at

<https://usfwsnortheast.wordpress.com/2017/09/27/blast-to-the-past-with-a-mastodon-tooth/>

Parker River NWR honored by local Native Americans

Last night three representatives from the Massachusetts Center for Native American Awareness presented Parker River NWR with a talking stick in recognition of the refuge's long-term efforts to support the community, waterways, and earth. The talking stick was built by Hoban "Many Walks" Sanford, a Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal member, and will be housed in Parker River's staff conference room. Immediately following the talking stick presentation, local historian Mary Ellen Lepionka presented on Algonquians on the Parker River and Plum Island in the refuge auditorium. 80 visitors attended the talking stick and Mary Ellen's presentations.

Patuxent install new North Tract History Exhibit

Patuxent NWR applied for and received a 2016 Department of the Interior grant to catalog the history of its North Tract—the newest segment of the Refuge that came from excess

DoD lands located adjacent to the Refuge. Part of the grant was for an exhibit and that exhibit was recently finished and installed in the North Tract Visitor Contact station (figure 4). The exhibit features artifacts and video capturing the history that occurred on that part of the Refuge.



Figure 4. New North Tract history exhibit at Patuxent NWR.

Other Agency News....

NPS—New THPOs

Kyle McHenry, THPO
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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 undertaking. The guidance also clarifies that inviting non-federally recognized tribes to participate in the process does



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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, UPCOMING EVENTS, EDUCATION, AND NEWS

Upcoming FWS Events and Training

New Cultural Resources course—An online course focused on museum property in FWS debuts Oct 2. The course is open to all FWS staff. For more information on the course, please contact Eugene Marino

Other agency training

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is pleased to announce the availability of a new suite of online courses designed to provide historic preservation professionals and stakeholders with training in the use of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act to protect historic properties. Two of the new courses cover integration and coordination of Section 106 reviews with the National Environmental Policy Act review process, which is of particular importance as policy makers at all levels of government search for new ways to create efficiencies in regulatory processes and advance infrastructure projects.

The course catalog also includes a **free** online course, "What is Section 106?" Designed for the general public, it provides a broad overview of the Section 106 review process and the opportunities for the public to play a role in such reviews.

The catalog is rounded out by a fourth offering, "Successfully Navigating Section 106 Reviews: An Orientation for Applicants," which is targeted toward applicants for federal permits and assistance in order to help them better understand, support and participate in Section 106 reviews.

A forthcoming course will further explore the circumstances under which NEPA can serve as a substitute for Section 106.

These courses are part of the ACHP's broader training program that also includes onsite courses and webinars. On-demand courses are available any time of the day or night for a nominal fee.

For more information about the courses and instructions to register, go to <http://www.achp.gov/elearning.html>.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

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



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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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