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National Park Service News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – SEPTEMBER 25, 2007

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NPS Grants Reunite Native American Remains With Ancestral Homes

(Washington, D.C.) --- The remains of at least 187 Native Americans presently housed in museum collections will soon be returned to ancestral lands for burial. The National Park Service has awarded six Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) grants to help fund the transfer of the human remains, and more than 21,500 associated funerary objects, to tribal lands.

Grants totaling \$73,997 were awarded to two museums and two tribes:

- The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation in Oregon received two grants totaling \$14,109
- The University of Colorado in Boulder received two grants totaling \$30,000.
- The Bois Forte Band of Minnesota Chippewa received a grant for \$14,952.
- The Thomas Burke Memorial Museum in Washington received a grant for \$14,936.

Enacted in 1990, NAGPRA requires museums and federal agencies to inventory and identify Native American human remains and cultural items in their collections, and to consult with culturally affiliated Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages and corporations, and Native Hawaiian organizations regarding repatriation. Section 10 of the Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to award grants to assist in implementing provisions of the Act. Additional information on NAGPRA is available at www.nps.gov/history/nagpra.

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