



Corps of Discovery II: 200 Years to the Future

The traveling exhibit *Corps of Discovery II: 200 Years to the Future* began its final fiscal year at Clarkston, WA, in October 2005, ending the calendar year in Vancouver, WA in December.

After the exhibit was refurbished

over the winter, *Corps II* continued the Fiscal Year 2006 tour beginning in Oregon and moving on through Washington, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri. There were 28 venues, including national Signature Events in Long Beach, WA, Lewiston, ID, Pompey's Pillar near Billings, MT, Newtown, ND, and Saint Louis, MO. There were about 166,000 visitors to *Corps II* during this time period. The *Corps II* project concluded in Saint Louis with a formal closing ceremony in the exhibit's "Tent of Many Voices" on the evening of Sunday, September 24. During the bicentennial, *Corps II* had 95 venues, including 15 Signature Events, in 93 locations in 22 states plus the District of Columbia, and there were than 500,000 visitors to the exhibit. The dedication and hard work of the staff earned them a Secretary of the Interior's Unit Award for Excellence of Service.



Lewis and Clark Challenge Cost Share Program



Fiscal Year 2006 was also the final year for the special bicentennial funding of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Challenge Cost Share (CCS) program. For FY 2006, \$2,368,500 were granted to 39 commemorative, interpretive, and educational projects in 13 states (IA - \$24,000; ID - \$189,500; IL - \$3,000; IN - \$90,000; KS - \$2,000; KY - \$7,000; MO - \$603,000; MT - \$789,000; ND - \$225,000; NE - \$178,000; OR - \$169,000; SD - \$48,000; VA - \$18,000; and WA - \$23,000).

Since 1995, the Trail has awarded \$25,751,804 in CCS funds to 733 projects, with a partner match of \$82,379,102.

Budget Cost Projection & Core Operations Analysis

At the direction of the Office of Management and Budget, parks have begun to implement a process called Core Operations Analysis (COA). The COA is based on figures generated by another process called the Budget Cost Projection (BCP), which predicts funding availability based on inflation, cost of living adjustments, and estimated base funding allocations. The COA guides park staff through: identifying park priorities, based on legislation, regulations, and policies; reviewing all park activities by individual position; comparing each of those activities with the park priorities; and identifying efficiencies and actions needed to achieve them in order to keep fixed costs at a sustainable ratio (e.g. 85%) by Fiscal Year 2011. The Trail has conducted its BCP and COA, and is currently identifying efficiencies and actions needed to stay within 85% fixed costs through FY 2011. Consultations with Trail partners will be a significant factor in determining which positions are most needed to administer the Trail in compliance with the 1978 National Trails System Act, as amended.

Comprehensive Management Plan Update



The 1982 Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) is long overdue for an update. Support for the CMP through base funding will be a significant factor in the identification of efficiencies needed to determine the best organizational structure and in prioritizing work activity. Internal scoping for the CMP update had been anticipated to begin during FY 2006 but now will not occur until the COA final

report is completed and approved, the FY 2007 budget has been allocated, and the appropriate staff positions have been filled. The new target for beginning internal scoping is the third quarter of FY 2007. Some progress on the CMP update was made in FY 2006 through the use of a USDA Graduate School Executive Leadership Program Fellow to draft sections of the Foundation Statement, a major component of the CMP.