UNPS NEWS

NPS Tribal Preservation Program Chief James Bird Retires
James Bird, Chief of the NPS Tribal Preservation Program, retired on December 23, 2016. Bird served as the program chief for over 12 years. In this role, he developed relationships with many of the 567 federally-recognized tribes, assisting tribes in the development of Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs). Under his leadership, the number of certified THPOs increased, such that there were established agreements with 171 THPOs at the end of 2016.

Bird holds an MA in Anthropology from the University of Oklahoma. Prior to his work with the NPS, he served as the Eastern Band of Cherokee THPO and wrote the THPO program plan.

He has contributed much to the Tribal historic preservation field over the course of his career; his presence and knowledge will be sorely missed. Bird plans to retire to Oklahoma with his family. The best wishes of his friends and colleagues go with him.

From submission by Jennifer Taulkin-Spaulding

NPS Archeologist Jim Bradford Retires
NPS Intermountain Region archeologist Jim Bradford has retired. Born in Morenci, Arizona, he attended Northern Arizona University. Bradford joined the NPS in 1978, working in the former Southwest Regional Office. He arrived with field experience from six years of surveying and excavating in St. George, Utah and Zuni Pueblo, New Mexico. He worked with parks on NEPA issues; planning and development; ARPA permitting; and NAGPRA issues. When the Intermountain Region absorbed the Southwest Region in 1995, Bradford assumed the role of Regional Archeologist. While Bradford watched over regions largely composed of high mountain and dryland desert parks, he became an important contributor to the work of the NPS Submerged Resources Center (SRC).

According to Dan Lenihan, first SRC chief, Bradford was intrigued with the challenges of underwater archeology, which formed the basis of a forty-year association. In addition to terrestrial responsibilities, he served as part of SRC from 1980 until his retirement, executing more than 1,150 dives for the NPS.

Bradford enjoyed training new archeologists to work in both the dry and underwater world. He taught three generations of resources management and law enforcement personnel to construct accurate overviews of archeological sites and crime scenes. Because of his experience, Bradford and Jerry Livingston were called upon to map the location at Canyon de Chelly where a ranger shot and killed a suspect as they wrestled over a cliff. The two dozen parks Jim worked in as an adjunct member of SRC included the USS Arizona in World War II Valor in the Pacific NM, Yellowstone Lake in Yellowstone NP, Montezuma Well in Montezuma Castle NM, Glacier NP, Channel Islands NP, Ellis Island in Statue of Liberty NM, Biscayne NP, Dry Tortugas NP, National Park of American Samoa, and Isle Royale NP.

Jim’s friends and colleagues wish him all the best for his retirement.

From submission by Dan Lenihan, founding Chief, NPS Submerged Resources Center
Kennewick Man Repatriated
The remains of the individual known as Kennewick Man have been repatriated and reburied. Members of the Colville, Yakama, Nez Perce, Umatilla and Wanapum tribes sang traditional songs during a day-long inventory and transfer of the remains by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the Burke Museum, Seattle.

Radiocarbon-dated at 8,400 years old, the remains are regarded as one of the oldest and most complete skeletons ever found in North America. The tribes, who claimed the remains under NAGPRA, fought and lost a legal battle to researchers who sought to study the remains. A 2014 DNA test provided by the Colville Tribes, however, helped a team of scientists establish a close link to the Plateau tribes.

Washington Senator Patty Murray spearheaded the Bring The Ancient One Home Act, which brought awareness following the DNA results. A provision in the Water Infrastructure Improvements for a Nation Act, which was signed by President Barack Obama in December 2016, required the Corps to facilitate the return of the human remains to the claimant tribes.

By Cary Rosenbaum, The Tribal Tribune

Archeologist Ivor Noël Hume Passes
Archeologist Ivor Noël Hume passed away on February 4, 2017, at age 89. Born in London, he studied at Framlingham College and St. Lawrence College, and served with the Indian Army in World War II. He then spent four years in the theater before joining the staff of London’s Guildhall Museum in 1949 where he worked with historical archeology pioneer Adrian Oswald. He served as London’s rescue archeologist until 1957 when he took over the archeological department at Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. He held the same post under several names until retiring in 1987. He was a founding director of the Society for Historical Archaeology.

Noël Hume's work is noted for its effort to put social life and economic considerations into the discoveries unearthed through archeological examination. He wrote over 20 books about archeology, as well as several plays and film scripts. Noël Hume was recognized by Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain in 1993 and was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) for service to the British cultural interests in Virginia.

Online Archiving of NPS Zooarcheological Data
Much information about past wildlife populations can be found in zooarcheological data—animal bones preserved in archeological sites. Western Washington University zooarcheologist Mike Etnier has been collaborating with NPS archeologists since 2010 to compile information from sites in and around national parklands in northern and coastal Alaska. These data are being compiled in the on-line database Neotoma, named after the rodent genus that includes packrats. These inveterate nest builders obsessively collect and archive sticks and leaves in a way zooarcheologists hope to mimic with this collection of scientific data.

Neotoma provides a clearinghouse of available zooarcheological raw data as well as publications, theses, and gray literature that managers can use to evaluate resource significance. Neotoma’s mapping function can illustrate regional patterns in distributions of animal populations across thousands of years, giving wildlife managers and conservation biologists a valuable long term perspective on change. As wildlife professionals turn increasingly to archived bone samples for genetic and chemical analyses, Neotoma can
serve as a guide for locating specimens. A stable isotope database is currently being created as part of the *Neotoma* family of paleoecological databases and due to be “live” in Spring 2017.

Learn more about *Neotoma* and explore the data yourself at [www.neotomadb.org](http://www.neotomadb.org), or contribute your own data by contacting Jeff Rasic, [Jeff_Rasic@nps.gov](mailto:Jeff_Rasic@nps.gov).

**Margo Brooks New Resource Planning Specialist in the NPS Northeast Regional Office**

Margo Brooks is a new resource planning specialist in the NPS Northeast Regional Office. In 2005, Brooks began a career with the NPS and moved to the Denver Service Center in 2009 to provide compliance support to both the Transportation and Line Item Construction divisions. Brooks has worked closely with project managers and parks to contract a variety of compliance studies, including environmental assessments, historic structure reports, archeological surveys, and HABS and HAER documentation.

Prior to moving to the NPS, she served five years as an archeological reviewer with the Massachusetts SHPO. She also served two years as an editor for the Archaeological Institute of America. Brooks holds a BA in anthropology from Beloit College and a MA in Archaeological Heritage Management from Boston University. Brooks started her new role at the end of January 2017.

**New Picture of Harriet Tubman Discovered**

Just in time for the opening of the NPS visitor center celebrating her early life on Maryland's Eastern Shore, a new picture of Underground Railroad "conductor" Harriet Tubman has been identified. The photo shows a young Tubman, slim, impeccably dressed, and confident. The newly found photograph was taken 1866-68, when Tubman was 43-46 years old. It is the earliest photo of only a handful of known photographs of the abolitionist.

Born in southern Dorchester County, Maryland, Tubman was enslaved for 30 years before escaping in 1849 to Philadelphia. She returned many times, leading dozens of slaves to freedom in the North during a 10-year-period. For her efforts, she became known as “Moses” by African-American and white abolitionists. A sister national park preserves places associated with Tubman's later life as a suffragist and abolitionist in Auburn, New York.

The photo was in an album of images of abolitionists given to Emily Howland, a 19th century educator and philanthropist. The words "Harriet Tubman" were written in Howland's hand along the bottom of her skirt. The album also contains the much-reprinted photograph of Tubman in the 1870s, showing her standing, hands folded atop a chair.

The photograph's discovery comes at an auspicious time for the NPS. The Tubman Underground Railroad NHP, which opened in 2015, is set to open its visitor center March 11, 2017. “To find this photograph after all these years really contextualizes a different aspect of her life,” said park Superintendent Robert Parker. "You see her as this beautiful, resilient and determined young woman.” He hopes the park will be able to put the photograph on display, either temporarily or permanently.

*From story by Jeremy Cox, Delmarva Now*
FEDERAL NEWS

Update on Dakota Access Pipeline

Construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) is proceeding amid multiple lawsuits. In 2016, the Army Corps of Engineers granted an easement for the Dakota Access Pipeline. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe brought suit to enjoin the Corps’ approval of the easement to cross under Lake Oahe on the Missouri River, the last approval needed to complete the pipeline. The claim included both NHPA and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) counts.

A U.S. District Court denied the tribe's request for a preliminary injunction in September 2016, but the Corps voluntarily withheld approval and announced its intention to do further environmental analysis of the crossing, stating that insufficient consultations with Native American tribes had been carried out. The court did not dispose of the case on the merits, so a decision on whether the Corps violated Section 106 or NEPA could still be forthcoming.

Soon after inauguration, President Trump issued a memorandum to the Secretary of the Army to complete the review and approval of the pipeline. On February 7, 2017, Acting Secretary of the Army Robert Speer indicated that the agency had notified Congress that it intended to grant the easement allowing DAPL to cross federally-owned land at Lake Oahe and had chosen to terminate a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, citing the “sufficient amount of information already available” as supporting a green light. The Corps said it intended to waive its policy to wait 14 days after congressional notification before granting an easement. The Corps granted the easement the next day.

That action completed the administrative process and the controversy has now shifted to the courts. There are multiple lawsuits. On February 9, 2017, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe filed motions requesting a stop to DAPL construction and drilling to cross Lake Oahe. One asked for a temporary restraining order. The other motion asked for a preliminary injunction. Both motions focused on the Religious Freedom and Restoration Act and how the waters of Lake Oahe, which tribe members rely on for religious purposes, could be desecrated by an oil spill.

On February 11, 2017, the Oglala Sioux Tribe filed a lawsuit in Washington, D.C. federal court to force the Corps to complete an environmental review that fully analyzes the impacts of DAPL on the tribe’s treaty rights. The tribe says the pipeline would cross the Missouri River at Lake Oahe, upriver from the tribe’s water intake as part of the Mni Wiconi project, which provides safe drinking water to the tribe’s Pine Ridge Reservation as well as to the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe and the non-Indian West River/Lyman Jones Water District in South Dakota. The tribe sought injunctive relief to stop the construction of the pipeline until the Corps completes an Environmental Impact Statement that fully assesses the pipeline's impacts on the tribe’s treaty rights and rights in the Mni Wiconi project, a review that the Oglala Sioux say was required under NEPA and the Mineral Leasing Act.

On February 13, 2017, the federal judge presiding over the Standing Rock Sioux and Cheyenne River Sioux lawsuits on DAPL denied the Cheyenne River Sioux motion for a temporary restraining order, saying there would not be any risk of immediate harm until oil starts flowing. The judge, however, ordered the pipeline company to provide weekly updates about when it expected oil to begin flowing, leaving open the possibility of further court intervention. He set a date of February 27, 2017, for a hearing on whether to issue a preliminary injunction at that time. Based on comments from a Dakota Access representative, oil could start flowing in 30 days or even earlier.

On February 14, 2017, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe filed a motion asking the court to vacate the Corps’ easement and permits for the construction of the pipeline. The motion was based on arguments
that the Corps violated NEPA by failing to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), did not provide a reasoned justification for reversing its earlier decision to proceed with an EIS, and violated its trust responsibilities towards the tribes to protect the tribes’ treaty rights. It is likely that the next major milestone will be when the company announces that it will start the flow of oil through the pipeline. As the District Court noted, that is when the potential for harm from a spill arises.

By John Eddins and Javier Marques, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

The Federal Archeologist’s Bookshelf

Frozen: The Potential and Pitfalls of Ground-Penetrating Radar for Archaeology in the Alaskan Arctic.


The authors draw on cases from Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, Cape Kruzenstern NM, Kobuk Valley NP and Gates of the Arctic NP and Preserve to explore the potential for ground penetrating radar (GPR) research under conditions of frozen matrix. Substrates investigated included well-drained and saturated sedimentary layers over permafrost; a frozen lake, and an alpine ice patch. The examples demonstrated that GPR was effective at mapping subterranean house remains, and skeletal remains of a mammoth frozen in ice.


GRANTS AND TRAINING

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) FY2017 Grants Available
The National NAGPRA Program is currently accepting applications for their Consultation/Documentation and Repatriation grant programs. Deadlines to apply are March 9, 2017, for Consultation/Documentation grants and June 1, 2017, for Repatriation grants.

Access more information and the applications through the NAGPRA Grants website at https://www.nps.gov/nagpra/GRANTS/INDEX.HTM.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Offers Webinar Series on Section 106
The ACHP Office of Federal Agency Programs has opened registration for the Spring 2017 Section 106 Webinar Series. Topics featured are a NEW beginner level program on “Documentation and e-106,” a NEW intermediate level program on “Planning to Involve the Public in Section 106,” an intermediate level program on “Responding to Anticipatory Demolition Concerns,” and an advanced level program on “Thinking Big: Tailoring Section 106 for Federal Programs.” The list of course dates, program descriptions, and registration instructions are now posted on www.achp.gov/sec106webinar.html.

ACHP staff instructors lead these hour-long learning experiences. A small group format of 25 participants allows for student interaction with colleagues and the instructor. Beginner level programs assume limited
knowledge of and experience with the Section 106 review process; intermediate programs assume basic familiarity with the Section 106 review; and advanced topics are designed for experienced users of the regulations.

Contact: webinar@achp.gov. Course details and the full season calendar are available at http://www.achp.gov/sec106webinar.html.

NPS Offers Wildland Fire Resource Advisor Training (N9042)
Wildland Fire Resource Advisor Training (N9042) will be offered at Joshua Tree NP June 13-15, 2017. This course will enable participants with red cards to serve as Resource Advisors (REAFs/READs) during wildland fire incidents. While the course is targeted towards recruits, the presentation is updated annually and can serve as a “refresher” for those that have REAF and/or READ qualifications. The course also will also prove useful for those interested in serving as Resource Advisors on “All-Hazards” incidents such as floods, earthquakes and hazardous spills (see https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/IPQG-2015-10.pdf).

The training includes a unique, scenario-based format emphasizing the roles and responsibilities of the REAF/READ under a range of wildland fire incident complexities; resource-specific presentations; and a field trip to a burned area in Joshua Tree NP.

READs work with Incident Management Teams and fireline personnel to address concerns about the impacts of wildland fire, fire operations and post-fire conditions on natural, cultural and social resources. READs are also critical for identifying needs related to the repair of fire suppression impacts, Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) and Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR). The potential role of the Resource Advisor on prescribed fires and mechanical treatments will also be explored.

READ and REAF qualifications are “Fire Management Officer [FMO] Designations”; the home unit FMO (or designated representative) will approve the inclusion of READ and/or REAF on the participant’s Incident Qualification Card (i.e., “Red Card”). Applicants do not need to possess a Red Card in order to attend the course.


Priority will be given to NPS employees, but nominations will be accepted from all federal, state, and local agencies and non-governmental organizations. While the course has no tuition fee, the participant’s home unit must cover travel expenses.

Contact: Nelson Siefkin, nelson_siefkin@nps.gov; 415-623-2213 or 510-207-7357. Applications are due by COB May 12, 2017.

SLIGHTLY OFF TOPIC
Tribes Plead with Bureau of Land Management for Protection of Chaco Canyon
Over the years, Anthony Lee, a Navajo medicine man, has watched the sacred land around Chaco Canyon where he gathers herbs and performs ceremonies slowly turn into an industrial landscape. “This is a place still sacred to those of us carrying on our tradition, those of us still connected to our culture,” Lee said. “This is where we go to make offerings, prayers. And now I see a lot of destruction.”
The BLM office in Farmington is updating its 2003 Resource Management Plan, as well as an associated Environmental Impact Statement, which places stipulations for future oil and gas leases. However, with about 90 percent of the land leased in the greater Chaco region – the area that extends beyond Chaco Culture NHP – the remaining 10 percent or so has become a battleground between conservation and development interests.

Recently, Lee and other members of the Navajo Nation made their case to stop drilling in the greater Chaco area at the BLM’s tenth and final public meeting regarding energy development in the region. Lee said he makes regular trips to the arid, windswept country where his ancestors lived. “The answer to your Environmental Impact Statement is so simple,” he said. “We are destroying something sacred.”

In October 2016, the Department of the Interior announced that the BLM and BIA would engage in a joint partnership to further evaluate the impacts of oil and gas in the culturally sensitive landscape. Part of that initiative required the two agencies to hold public meetings throughout small communities on the Navajo Nation, where an estimated 24 tribes hold deep cultural and spiritual ties to the land.

In November 2016, the first attempt to hold a public meeting in Shiprock went awry when tribal members began an open dialogue. BLM staff said the forum violated its processes, and left the Shiprock Chapter House.

During the final meeting, the nearly 100 tribal members in attendance were given several hours to speak their minds, drawing a near unanimous opposition to any future drilling in the region. “We are the original landlords, and we will retain that title for as long as we are here,” said Shiprock Chapter President Duane “Chili” Yazzie. “And it doesn’t take any kind of brilliance to know we are hurting the land, we are hurting the water and, by extension, we are hurting the people (by drilling).”

Mark Ames, BLM project manager, said despite the overwhelming sentiment from the local Navajo tribe to cease all future oil and gas operations in the area, the BLM has a congressional obligation to recover federal resources. “At this point, we don’t have a choice,” Ames said. He said public comments will at least aid regulators in addressing some of the more feasible concerns – such as traffic, noise or light disturbances – when the remaining 10 percent of unleased acres are eventually sold off. Ames said there is a possibility the 10-mile buffer around the archeologically rich Chaco Culture NHP, which is under an oil and gas development moratorium, could be permanently protected. Though it’s important to note, Ames said, that the BIA manages about 80 percent of the land within the 10-mile buffer zone around the park, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and International Dark Sky Park.

Ames said the BLM and Bureau of Indian Affairs will draft a range of management options. The local offices will then pass on a recommendation to the state and federal levels, which have the ultimate say.

By Jonathan Romeo, Durango Herald

Archeology E-Gram, distributed via e-mail on a regular basis, includes announcements about news, new publications, training opportunities, national and regional meetings, and other important goings-on related to public archeology in the NPS and other public agencies. Recipients are encouraged to forward Archeology E-Grams to colleagues and relevant mailing lists. The Archeology E-Gram is available on the News and Links page www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm on the NPS Archeology Program website.

Contact: Karen Mudar at dca@nps.gov to contribute news items and to subscribe.