NPS NEWS

Lauren Blacik Selected as Superintendent of Pipestone National Monument

Lauren Blacik is the new superintendent at Pipestone NM in Minnesota. Since 2015, Blacik has served as Special Assistant to the Midwest Regional Director, focusing on coordination for the NPS Centennial in 2016. She led efforts to expand internal communications, develop new tools for management accountability, and build new partnerships.

Prior to moving to Omaha, Blacik managed the Visitor Services Division at Aztec Ruins NM in New Mexico, where she worked with Tribal and local leaders, and educators, including on the development of an annual Youth Cultural Exchange, the New Mexico Youth Summit, and many other collaborative efforts. She began her NPS career at Chaco Culture NHP in 2009.

Blacik has a BA in sociology and anthropology from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota.

by Matthew Turner

Fort Laramie National Historic Site Commemorates 150th Anniversary of Treaty

Tribal representatives and descendants of the 13 original signatory tribes of the Treaty of Fort Laramie came together for a four-day event to remember their families; walk in their footsteps; reflect on past struggles; and build a common narrative for the future. Between April 28 and May 1, 2018, more than 2,000 Native people joined an encampment at Fort Laramie NHS. Nearly 100 tribes were represented throughout the event.

Attendees participated in commemorative activities, traditional ceremonies, and listened to thoughts of Native American elders, spiritual leaders, tribal chiefs and council members, and treaty councils. Many were descendants of the original treaty signers from the Lakota/Dakota (Sioux), Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Crow nations. Senator John Barrasso, Congressman Liz Cheney, and Wyoming Governor Matt Mead were among elected officials that provided remarks for this historic event.

The 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie affected not only the tribes of the Northern Great Plains, but nearly every indigenous person and community in the United States. Tribal nations consider the Treaty an active, living document.

By Sandy Snell-Dobert

Changes to Application for Permit for Archeological Investigations on Federal Land

The Interior Departmental Consulting Archeologist (DCA) has announced changes in use of the application for the Permit for Archeological Investigations that will affect Federal agencies. In the past, the DCA has obtained clearance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for use of a Permit for Archeological Investigations (PAI) application form (required by the Archaeological Resources Protection Act) on behalf of Federal agencies with land-managing responsibilities. The renewal required
the submission of summary data about the use of the application. The DCA compiled the required data from the data call associated with the Secretary of the Interior’s Report to Congress.

Since the removal of the report requirement by Congress in 1996, the collection of archeological data across the federal government has diminished significantly. It is no longer possible for the DCA to compile complete and accurate data on application form use; therefore, the Permit application has been converted to a Common Form. Agencies that use the Common Form must independently submit summary use data to OMB, but do not have to renew clearance for the Form. Agencies that wish to develop their own form will have to maintain OMB clearance for distribution of the form to the public.

NPS employees can find the Permit form on the Cultural Resources Sharepoint site. Applicants can find additional information and the application for a Permit for Archeological Investigations on the NPS Archeology Program website at https://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/permits.htm.

Contact: karen_mudar@nps.gov, 202-354-2103.

Ocmulgee National Monument hosts 1,700 4th graders for Every Kid in a Park

Ocmulgee NM hosted Every Kid in a Park April 30-May 4. Every elementary school in Bibb County participated in this event for a total of 1,700 children. This was made possible by a generous grant received from the National Park Foundation, allowing for 41 school buses to transport the kids.

The park invited three American Indians to come and do lifestyle demonstrations with the children. This was a great hands-on learning experience to be able to see and touch items the American Indians would have used hundreds of years ago. The 4th graders also learned some American Indian words, songs, and games. After the demonstrations, the children explored the park and saw the 1,000 year old Earth Lodge floor of the council chamber as well as other mounds.

by Angela Bates
FEDERAL NEWS

Society for American Archeology Issues Statement About Federal Participation in Conference
Following last month's cancellation of all 14 papers in Session 261, the "Tough Issues in Land Management Archaeology" symposium, SAA issued the following statement:

"We're very disappointed that archaeologists from the Bureau of Land Management were denied permission to present their session on land management and archaeology at the SAA 83rd Annual Meeting in DC this month. Archaeologists from around the world were deprived of a symposium filled with valuable information about the tough issues facing land-managing agencies, and from learning about BLM's innovative solutions to handling conflicts with development, using data to inform future land-management decisions, and working with Native American communities to protect their extensive cultural heritage from looting and other threats. Preserving the US archaeological record is a charge entrusted to all Americans, often via our government agencies. BLM archaeologists handle large-scale, complex issues involving multiple stakeholders, and we were sorry to lose the chance to learn from their experience."

By David Lindsay, Manager, Government Affairs, Society for American Archaeology

New Mexico Senators Want to End Oil, Gas Leasing in Chaco Region
One month after a federal judge ruled that the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) did not violate environmental law when it approved applications for oil and gas drilling in a sensitive area of northwest New Mexico, the state's two Democratic senators introduced a bill to withdraw the area from future lease sales.

Sens. Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich on Tuesday introduced the Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act. The bill calls for withdrawing 316,076 acres containing oil, natural gas, coal and other minerals owned by the federal government within the Proposed Chaco Protection Zone from future leasing and development. The zone, which measures 909,000 total acres, surrounds the Chaco Culture National Historical Park.

The bill follows a ruling last month in U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico that disappointed a coalition of environmental groups that had sued the BLM in March 2015, after the Interior agency approved at least 130 applications for permits to drill (APD) targeting the Mancos Shale and the Gallup formation.

The groups claimed the BLM had violated the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) when it approved the APDs. But in April, District Court Judge James Browning disagreed and dismissed the lawsuit.

By Charlie Passut, NGI Shale Daily

Social Science Perspectives on Climate Change Workshop Papers Available
The Social Science Perspectives on Climate Change workshop was held in Washington, DC, in March 2017. This workshop brought together about 30 academic, environmentally focused social scientists from archaeology, cultural anthropology, human geography, and sociology, with some 60 federal staff involved in climate change-related activities. Each of those disciplines has developed a large body of research on
the human dimensions of climate change that can complement federal climate change research, but is not often considered.

The workshop was organized by the U.S. Global Change Research Program’s (USGCRP) Social Science Coordinating Committee (SSCC) in cooperation with the American Anthropological Association, the American Association of Geographers, the American Sociological Association, and the Society for American Archaeology.

The workshop had three aims:

- Demonstrate how the social sciences can add important methods, perspectives, and data to climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts;
- Enhance collaboration between academic and federal social scientists, and between natural and social scientists; and
- Develop products that support the Fourth National Climate Assessment, USGCRP’s Interagency Working Groups, and federal agencies.

The March 2017 workshop focused on three themes: identifying innovative tools, methods, and analyses to clarify the interactions of human and natural systems under climate change; describing key factors shaping differences in social vulnerability to climate change; and providing social science perspectives on drivers of global climate change. The themes were identified by the SSCC and representatives from the four participating associations. The associations recruited scholars from their disciplines to serve on interdisciplinary writing teams for each of the themes. The teams prepared preliminary drafts for the March 2017 workshop. There the writing groups met with federal participants, who offered reactions and ideas for improving the white papers.

The papers have been extensively revised since the workshop. The papers are designed to improve integration of social science into federal global change work, with particular emphasis on the National Climate Assessment reports and sustained assessment process. Journal articles based on the white papers are now in review for publication by WIREs Climate Change.

The three papers and a workshop report are available here: [https://www.globalchange.gov/content/social-science-perspectives-climate-change-workshop](https://www.globalchange.gov/content/social-science-perspectives-climate-change-workshop)

**GRANTS AND TRAINING**

**National Park Service Awards Maritime Heritage Grants**

The NPS has awarded $2.6 million in maritime heritage grants to assist 34 preservation and education projects in 14 states and the Northern Mariana Islands. In partnership with the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Maritime Administration (MARAD), the NPS awarded grants for projects that teach about and preserve sites and objects related to our nation’s maritime history.

The National Maritime Heritage Program grant awards are made possible through a partnership between the two federal agencies, which both share a commitment to maritime heritage preservation and education. They are funded through recycling of vessels from the MARAD’s National Defense Reserve Fleet. The grant program supports a broad range of maritime education and preservation projects, without expending tax dollars, while ensuring that the vessels are dismantled in an environmentally sound manner.
The National Park Service will administer these projects as direct grants to State Historic Preservation Offices, who will disburse funds to applicants. The recipients of the National Maritime Heritage grants are below.

For more information about the grants and the Maritime Heritage Program, please visit www.nps.gov/martime/grants.intro.htm.

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 at www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm on the NPS Archeology Program website.

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