

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve
Strong City, Kansas



Scope of Collections Statement

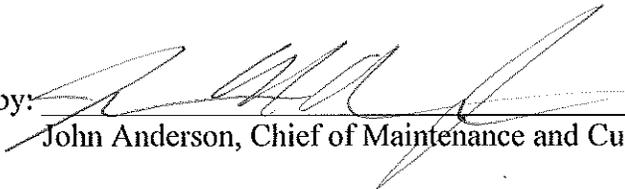


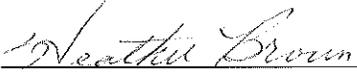
July 2011

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PRESERVE
STRONG CITY, KANSAS

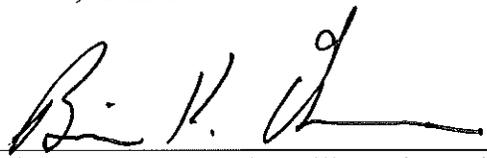
Scope of Collections Statement

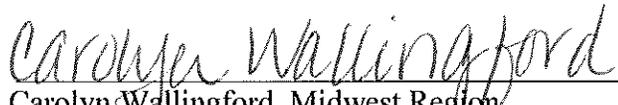
Prepared by:  15 July 2011
Kristen Hase, Natural Resources Program Manager Date

Concurred by:  15 July 2011
John Anderson, Chief of Maintenance and Cultural Resources Date

Concurred by:  7-18-11
Heather Brown, Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services Date

Concurred by: _____
Vacant, Administrative Officer Date

Concurred by:  7-19-11
Brian Obermeyer, Flint Hills Project Director, The Nature Conservancy Date

Concurred by:  7/28/2011
Carolyn Wallingford, Midwest Region
Chief, Museum Collections & Resources Management Records Advisor Date

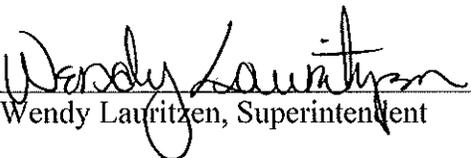
Approved by:  7-20-11
Wendy Lauritzen, Superintendent Date

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION.....	1
	A. Executive Summary	
	B. Purpose of the Scope of Collections Statement	
	C. Legal Mandate to Acquire and Preserve Museum Collections	
	D. Legislation Related to Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve	
	E. Park History, Significance, Purpose, and Interpretive Themes and Goals	
	F. Other Laws, Regulations, and Conventions Related to Museum Collections	
	G. Special Designations	
II.	TYPES OF COLLECTIONS.....	8
	A. Cultural Collections	
	1. Archeology Collections	
	2. Ethnology Collections	
	3. History Collections	
	4. Archives and Manuscript Collections	
	5. Preserve Library	
	6. Interpretive Collection	
	B. Natural History Collections	
	1. Biology	
	a. Flora	
	b. Mammals	
	c. Birds	
	d. Fish	
	e. Reptiles, Turtles, and Amphibians	
	f. Insects and Arachnids	
	g. Mollusks	
	2. Geology	
	3. Paleontology	
	4. Archives and Manuscript Collections	
	5. Preserve Library	
	6. Interpretive Collection	
III.	MUSEUM COLLECTIONS SUBJECT TO THE NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT OF 1990.....	22
IV.	ACQUISITION.....	22
V.	USES OF COLLECTIONS.....	23
VI.	RESTRICTIONS.....	24
VII.	MANAGEMENT ACTIONS.....	25

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Executive Summary

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve (TAPR) is a relatively new park established in 1996. Because of this, both natural and cultural collections are limited. The current collection comprises cultural artifacts and associated records located at the Midwest Archeological Center (MWAC), Lincoln, NE. The collection ranges from animal bone fragments to projectile points and nails to glass fragments. It is likely that natural resource items have been collected from the preserve prior and since park establishment. If so, these items are owned and maintained by other institutions, such as universities.

While the preserve has a limited collection, there are items currently displayed or stored at the preserve. Most of these items are owned by the preserve's primary partner, The Nature Conservancy (TNC).

Natural resource items and items owned by The Nature Conservancy are currently not part of the preserve's museum collection.

B. Purpose of the Scope of Collections Statement

The Scope of Collections Statement defines the scope of present and future museum collection holdings of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve that contribute directly to the understanding and interpretation of the preserve's purpose, themes and resources, as well as those objects that the Service is legally mandated to preserve. It is designed to ensure that the museum collection is clearly relevant to the preserve.

C. Legislation Related to National Park Service Museum Collections

The National Park Service's (NPS) legal mandate for acquiring and preserving museum collections is contained in the following acts:

- Cultural Collections:

Antiquities Act of 1906 (16 USC 431-433); the *Organic Act of 1916* (16 USC 1 et seq.); the *Historic Sites Act of 1935* (16 USC 461-467); the *Museum Properties Management Act of 1955*, as amended (16 USC 18f); the *Reservoir Salvage Act of 1960*, as amended (16 USC 469-469C); the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966*, as amended (16 USC 470-470t, Sect. 110); the *Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974*, as amended (16 USC 469-469C); the *Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979*, as amended (16 USC 470aa-mm); the *American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978* (42 USC 1996); the *Native American Graves and Repatriation Act of 1990* (25 USC 3001-13); and the *National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998* (16 USC 5937).

- Natural History Collections:

Organic Act of 1916 (16 USC 1 et seq.); the *Museum Properties Management Act of 1955*, as amended (16 USC 18f); the *Reservoir Salvage Act of 1960*, as amended (16 USC 469-469C); the *Lacey Act of 1900* (18 USC 43-44); *Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918* (16 USC 703-711); the *Bald Eagle*

Protection Act of 1940, as amended (16 USC 668a); the *Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972* (16 USC 1361-1407); the *Endangered Species Act of 1973*, as amended (16 USC 1531-1543); and the *National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998* (16 USC 5937).

D. Park History, Significance, Purpose, Themes, and Goals

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve was created on November 12, 1996 to "...preserve, protect, and interpret for the public an example of a tallgrass prairie ecosystem..." and to "...preserve and interpret for the public the historic and cultural values represented on the Spring Hill Ranch." The enabling legislation established cooperative management of the preserve by the NPS and the private landowner, The Nature Conservancy.

The entire preserve is a designated National Historic Landmark (NHL) which entails listing on the National Register (February 18, 1997). The NHL nomination states that the property is eligible for the National Register under criteria A and C and notes that the period of National Significance is 1878 - 1904. Specifically, the nomination notes (among other things) that the ranch "...outstandingly represents the transition from the open range to the enclosed holdings of the large cattle companies in the 1880's." In addition, the nomination notes that "...the ranch lands (contributing site) have retained a high level of integrity in all areas of consideration: location, setting, feeling, design, materials, workmanship, as well as association" (Wolfenbarger and Nimz 1996).

The 10,894 acre preserve is located in the heart of the Flint Hills region. The preserve consists mostly of high quality Flint Hills tallgrass prairie, preserved over time by a combination of geomorphology, geology, and vegetation. The preserve also contains outstanding cultural features representing the human tie to the surrounding prairies, including localized historically significant ranch developments such as the Spring Hill Ranch Headquarters, Deer Park Place, and the Lower Fox Creek Schoolhouse.

Several internal planning documents, such as the General Management Plan (2000), Long-Range Interpretive Plan (2005), and the Cultural Landscape Report (2004), provide guidance for determining this scope of collection statement:

The General Management Plan (2000) outlined the significance and purpose of the preserve.

Significance:

- Of the 400,000 square miles (1,036,279 square kilometers) of tallgrass prairie ecosystem that once covered North America, less than four percent remains; Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve represents a portion of this remnant.
- The landscape of the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve contains a unique collection of natural and cultural features that tells the story of human interaction with the prairie environment, from pre-contact times to the present.
- The Spring Hill Ranch is an outstanding representation of the transition from the open range to the enclosed holdings of the large cattle companies of the 1880's.

- The Spring Hill Ranch Headquarters area contains outstanding examples of Second Empire and other 19th century architectural styles.
- Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve offers opportunities for extraordinary and inspirational scenic views of the Flint Hills prairie landscape.

Purpose:

- To preserve, protect, and interpret for the public an example of a tallgrass prairie ecosystem;
- To preserve and protect the cultural resources found within the preserve;
- To interpret for the public, the cultural resources and the social and cultural values represented within the preserve.

The General Management Plan (2000) also developed a mission statement and management goals for the preserve.

Mission Statement

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is a public/private partnership dedicated to preserving and enhancing a nationally significant remnant of the tallgrass prairie ecosystem and the processes that sustain it; preserving and interpreting the cultural resources of the preserve and the heritage associated with the ranch property; and offering opportunities for education, inspiration, and enjoyment through public access to its geological, ecological, scenic, and historical features.

The preserve is relatively unique in that The Nature Conservancy is the majority landowner and co-manages the preserve with the National Park Service. The National Park Service owns approximately 33 acres, while The Nature Conservancy owns the remaining acreage.

Management Goals

The preserve's private landowner and the National Park Service maintain a strong partnership to accomplish the mission of the preserve.

The preserve's management team maintains effective working relationships with preserve neighbors, adjacent communities, and other partners in order to identify and cooperate on issues of mutual interest.

The preserve has adequate information available for making management decisions.

Management activities and policies at the preserve lead to the enhancement of the tallgrass prairie ecosystem and a greater understanding of its associated processes.

Heterogeneous disturbance regimes are an integral part of management activities at the preserve.

The preserve's seeps, springs, and streams are in good ecological condition and support a healthy and diverse aquatic community.

Open and unobstructed views, an integral part of the prairie experience, are maintained.

Resources are managed to interpret the legacy of human interaction in the Flint Hills.

Natural and cultural resources are managed to preserve the character-defining features of the Flint Hills cultural landscape.

The preserve's historic records and objects are properly managed and preserved.

Education and interpretation efforts extend beyond the boundary of the preserve, in order to reach a wider audience.

Visitors are transported to and through the preserve using a variety of transportation modes, in order to protect the landscape and provide for high-quality visitor experience.

The Long-Range Interpretive Plan (2005) identifies five interpretive themes for the preserve.

1. The once vast tallgrass prairie ecosystem, endemic to North America, is one of the world's most endangered ecosystems.
2. Tallgrass prairie is a biologically diverse association of flora and fauna, specially adapted over thousands of years to topography, soils, climate, fire, grazing, and other natural influences that comprise and sustain natural communities to provide an important storehouse of genetic diversity that preserves the Flint Hills prairie.
3. Interrelationships between the natural and cultural resources and features of the preserve reflect the influence of the land on the people and the people on the land.

The NHL period of significance for the preserve is 1878-1904. The Cultural Landscape Report (2004) recommends extending the period of significance to ca. 1856-1970. The extended period reflects the understanding that the preserve's cultural landscape is a result of a long continuum of cultural use and adaptation to the natural environment.

- *Pre-Euro-American Settlement (Pre-1856)*
This section includes the period prior to the US Government land survey and Euro-American settlement. American Indian groups occupied and travelled through the area.
- *Early Euro-American Settlement (1856-1876)*
This section includes the period of US Government land survey and initial settlement and homesteading. The Kansas, Missouri, and Texas

Railroad owned substantial portions of the preserve and offered them for sale to early settlers.

- *Nineteenth-Century Ranching (1877-1906)*
Stephen F. Jones and Barney Lantry moved to Chase County and established large-scale livestock ranches. Unification of the two ranches occurred during this period under the ownership of Barney Lantry.
 - *Twentieth-Century Ranching (1907-1993)*
This section includes periods of dissolution and reconsolidation of the ranch, with two periods of extended ownership, the Benninghoven family and the Davis/Z Bar Ranch.
 - *Acquisition and planning for Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve (1994-1999)*
This period includes acquisition of the property and establishment of the preserve.
 - *Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve (1999-present)*
This period includes the private landowner/partner change from National Park Trust to Kansas Park Trust to The Nature Conservancy and includes administration, management, and operations of the preserve by both the private landowner(s) and the NPS.
4. The cultural resources and features of the site illustrate the continuum of human experience in the Flint Hills regions of Kansas from the first inhabitants through today's residents.
 5. Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is a new model of public/private partnership for the stewardship of resources and for providing opportunities for public enjoyment.

Most of the preserve's management documents do not discuss collection and museum activities. However, three documents touch on collections briefly.

The General Management Plan (2000) states:

“The preserve's historic records and objects are properly managed and preserved.”

“Artifacts, archival material, natural history collections, and oral histories relating to and directly associated with the preserve would be collected, preserved, and managed for use in museum exhibits, interpretation programs, and public and scholarly research in accordance with an approved Scope of Collections Statement.” And “Some structures, or portions of structures, may be managed as historically furnished interiors.”

The Cultural Landscape Report (2004) states:

“Document all changes and treatments through drawings, photographs, and notes. Maintain records of treatment and preserve documentation according to professional archival standards.” And “Consider using the Lower Fox Creek School House for museum/interpretive purposes.”

The Long-Range Interpretive Plan (2005) states:

- Acquire items in accordance with an approved Scope of Collections Statement.
- Systematically photograph all objects at the preserve.
- Contract an agricultural equipment specialist to assess farm and ranch objects.
- Assess ranch house artifacts to determine their origins, provenance, period of manufacture, and condition.
- Complete an assessment of artifacts in Lower Fox Creek School.

Currently, the preserve’s exhibit space includes the Spring Hill limestone barn, Spring Hill limestone ranch house, and limestone Lower Fox Creek Schoolhouse. The Spring Hill ranch house is the only structure with some environmental controls. It currently has limited heating and air conditioning. All of the structures have fire suppression systems. The barn and ranch house have security systems. None of the structures have other environmental controls, such as humidity and light. The exhibits in these structures include furnishings and farm/ranch implements, all of which are owned by The Nature Conservancy. In addition, there are items stored at the Cottonwood Falls Administrative Office, which include legislative history, management planning documents, blueprints, research reports, and photographs.

Most of the current preserve museum items were collected in association with construction related activities, such as water line installation and stone fence rehabilitation. Otherwise, there have been limited archeological surveys on the preserve. These museum items are primarily cultural items.

“The NPS and NPT hold joint stewardship of the collections. Presently, collections owned by both the NPS and NPT are located in various places. NPT-owned collections are exhibited in the Spring Hill Ranch house, the barn, the smokehouse, and are stored in offices at the Midwest Archeological Center in Lincoln, Nebraska. Collections owned by the NPS are stored at the preserve headquarters and temporarily at the Midwest Regional Office in Omaha, Nebraska.” General Management Plan (2000). Note: National Park Trust (NPT) was the original majority landowner. The Nature Conservancy is the current majority landowner and received ownership of these items per the land transfer agreement.

E. Laws, Regulations, and Conventions Related to Museum Collections

Archeological collections, except in alienable and communal property (as defined by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 [25 USC 3001-13], recovered from federal property within the preserve boundary through systematic collection are Federal property and must be retained in the preserve’s museum collection in accordance with 43 CFR 7.13 and NPS Management Policies (2006).

In accordance with the NPS Research Permit and Reporting System, permits to collect natural resource specimens state that retained specimens collected from federal property within the preserve remain Federal property, are incorporated into the preserve’s museum collection and, as required by 36 CFR

2.5g, must bear official National Park Service museum labels and their catalog numbers will be registered in the National Park Service National Catalog.

Other laws, regulations, directives and conventions pertinent to the acquisition of museum collections at the park include:

Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (40 USC 483[b]); *Federal Records Act of 1950*, as amended (“Records Management by Federal Agencies” [44 USC 3101 et seq.]); *Freedom of Information Act of 1966*, as amended (5 USC 552); *Privacy Act of 1974* (5 USC 552a); *Copyright Act of 1976* (17 USC 101 et seq. [1988 & Supp. V 1993]); *Federal Property Management Regulations (FPMR)*, (41 CFR 101); 410 Departmental Manual, *Interior Property Management Regulations (IPMR)*, (41 CFR 101); 411 Departmental Manual “Museum Property Management”, Chapters 1-3; 517 Departmental Manual “Pesticide Use Policy”, Chapter 1; “Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archeological Collections” (36 CFR 79); NAGPRA Final Regulations (43 CFR 10; “Disposition of Federal Records” (36 CFR 1228); “Research Specimens” (36 CFR 2.5); Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants (50 CFR 17.11 and 17.12); Protection of Archeological Resources” (43 CFR 7); “Preservation of American Antiquities” (43 CFR 3); “Preservation, Arrangement, Duplication, Exhibition of Records” (44 USC 2109); “Disposal of Records” (44 USC 3301 et seq.); 1983 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES); 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export, and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (implemented in the United States by P.L. 97-446 in 1983, 19 USC 2601); NPS Management Policies (2006) Chapter 5 *Cultural Resources: Inventories, Preservation of Data and Collections and Protection of Research Potential, Treatment of Museum Objects, Acquisition, Management, and Disposition of Museum Objects, Historic Furnishings, Archives and Manuscripts, Fire Detection and Suppression, Pest Management*; NPS Management Policies (2006) Chapter 4 *Natural Resources: Natural Resource Collections, Integrated Pest Management Procedures, Paleontologic Resource Management*; NPS Management Policies (2006) Chapter 7 *Interpretation and Education: Interpretation and Native Americans*; NPS Management Policies (2006) Chapter 8 *Use of the Parks: Research and Collection Activities*; NPS Management Policies (2006) Chapter 9 *Park Facilities: Curatorial Facilities*; NPS Management Policies (2006) Chapter 10 *Concessions Management: Merchandize and Handcrafts*; Director’s Order #19: *Records Management*; Director’s Order #24: *NPS Museum Collections Management*; Director’s Order #28: *Cultural Resource Management*; Director’s Order #44: *Personal Property Management*; Director’s Order #77: *Natural Resource Management*

F. Structures, Landmarks, and Other Park Resources Listed on National or International Registries

The entire preserve (10,894 acres) was designated National Historic Landmark on February 18, 1997. It is listed on the National Register as the Spring Hill/Z Bar Ranch Historic District.

There are fourteen contributing resources within the property including:

Buildings

1. Ranch House (listed on National Register in 1971)
2. Lower Fox Creek Schoolhouse (listed on National Register in 1974)

3. Barn
4. Poultry House/Scratch House
5. Springhouse/Smokehouse
6. Outhouse
7. Icehouse
8. Lantry Poultry House

Structures

1. Stone Fences
2. Terraces
3. Stone Corrals
4. Cistern

Sites

1. Ranch Lands
2. Spring Hill Ranch Headquarters

The NHL period of significance for the preserve is 1878-1904. The Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) (2004) recommends extending the period of significance to ca. 1856-1970. The extended period reflects the understanding that the preserve's cultural landscape is a result of a long continuum of cultural use and adaptation to the natural environment. The CLR suggests that certain built aspects of the ranch, including those that fall outside the national period of significance should be considered eligible at the local level.

II. TYPES OF COLLECTIONS

The interpretive themes and resource management goals and objectives stated in the introduction serve as guidelines for acquiring objects for the museum collection. The following guidelines will prevent arbitrary and excessive growth of the preserve's museum collection, while ensuring that the collection remains relevant to the preserve's purpose. The development of the museum collection should proceed in close coordination with the regional curator.

Currently, the preserve's museum collection consists of 345 artifacts (archeological and historic) stored at the NPS Midwest Region Archeological Center. They were associated with planning, compliance, construction, and development. Most of the items stored at the preserve belong to The Nature Conservancy and are not part of the preserve's museum collection. Because the preserve has limited resource management staff, collecting objects and materials will be limited and done through coordination with the regional curator. Also, the preserve has no storage space to accommodate museum collections. Any objects collected will be stored off-site at an approved facility. Current museum items are primarily cultural. The preserve has no natural history items in the collection.

Collecting, either under permit and/or by preserve staff, will be approved only in response to the preserve's need for on-site reference or to establish baseline scientific data. Collecting may occur per compliance regulations and requirements (MWAC mostly). The museum collection will not be a repository for cultural or natural science specimens in excess of these needs.

All materials and items (cultural and natural) recovered from preserve property owned by The Nature Conservancy through systematic collection, or otherwise, are the property of The Nature Conservancy and will be donated and retained in the preserve's museum collection, if deemed appropriate by the preserve superintendent and the regional curator. Associated field data and records also must be maintained as part of the preserve's museum collection.

A. Cultural Collection

Cultural collections include items from pre-history to present that tell the story of human habitation and use of the area. Cultural collections are important for research and education of the preserve and should be tied to themes identified in various planning documents, including, but not limited to, the General Management Plan (2000) and Long-Range Interpretive Plan (2005). The preserve's collection consists primarily of cultural items collected during construction and development related projects (approximately 345 artifacts).

Objects and archival collections with a direct association to the preserve are more desirable for inclusion within the collection than similar items without such primary significance. Because of the lack of suitable storage or display space, cultural materials for the preserve's museum collection will not be actively sought. Cultural materials will be collected if threatened by construction, development, visitor use, or natural forces such as erosion, or in the course of professionally supervised data recovery efforts undertaken to mitigate the effects of the above threats. Cultural materials will also be collected if required by law or policy (i.e. archives). All archeological materials contained in the collection shall be derived from professionally supervised, systematic recovery efforts. The cultural collection will not include donated artifact collections unless directly relating to the preserve, as the provenience of such items has typically been lost or difficult to verify and their research potential is typically reduced.

The purpose of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve's museum collection

The preserve's museum collection is a repository for artifacts, specimens, archives, and associated records that the preserve is required to maintain by legislative mandate and/or agency directive and policy. The collection also supports operations and planning efforts that stem from the preserve's mission. Specimens, artifacts, and associated records that are maintained allow the preserve to develop baseline data, document trends, and protect records. In addition, museum objects and records play a vital role in the preserve's efforts to foster appreciation of natural and cultural resources by providing information for exhibits and interpretive programs.

1. Archeology

Following the *Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979*, archeological resources are defined as material remains of past human life or activities that are of archeological interest and are at least 100 years old. Archeological evidence indicates that the Flint Hills supported continuous, if intermittent, occupations and uses since approximately 10,000 BC. Archeological investigations of the preserve have been limited.

Field collection of prehistoric and historic archeological material must be approved by the Regional Director and conducted in compliance with the *Antiquities Act of 1906* and *Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979*. Future collection of archeological artifacts will be limited to those that have the potential to convey significant and previously unknown information about the prehistory and history of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. Collection of surface provenienced artifacts will be discouraged, as will the collection of non-diagnostic artifacts. Questions concerning archeological significance will be decided by the preserve superintendent in consultation with regional cultural resource staff.

a. Artifacts and Specimens

Archeological research and development projects with the preserve may result in the collection of artifacts, ecofacts, or other data.

Preserve staff and visitors should be discouraged from picking up surface artifacts. It is preferred that surface artifacts be left in-situ and their location documented. If materials are collected and brought to preserve staff, appropriate measures must be taken to ensure that the visitor collects no more material, that precise provenience information is recorded, if possible, and that the objects/data are promptly given to cultural resource staff or the superintendent upon receipt by staff members.

The preserve's archeological collection includes 345 artifacts ranging from bone fragments (cattle) to projectile points and nails to glass fragments. The collection may include:

- 1) Prehistoric Material
- 2) Historic Material
- 3) Confiscated Archeological Objects

Confiscated archeological objects and legal evidence are objects recovered from any unauthorized or illegal activities. It includes unearthed artifacts, ecofacts, human remains, or grave goods illegally excavated or uncontrolled surface collecting by unauthorized individuals within the federally owned property of the preserve. When such objects are recovered from non-permitted individuals, the regional curator should be consulted as soon as possible to ensure proper handling and transportation of such objects. Such objects might be held temporarily by law enforcement as physical evidence if legal action is to be taken against the collector. In such cases, the law enforcement officer handling the case should work closely with the regional curator to ensure the objects are formally turned over to the museum collection as soon as possible. For objects needed as physical evidence, the designated law enforcement officer or regional curator will maintain all such objects following standard legal chain-of-evidence procedures. Once all legal needs are met, the objects and all associated documentation may be added to the museum collection or, if non-provenienced, to the interpretive collection.

b. Field Notes, Reports, and Associated Records

Approved maps, field notes, and other documentation associated with archeological excavations and exploration will be accessioned and cataloged into the preserve's museum collection. All records associated with archeological collections must be retained as part of the museum collection, including but not limited to, field notes, field specimen lists, catalogs, drawings and maps, photographs, sound or video recordings, raw data sheets, collection inventories, conservation treatment methods, instrument charts, remote sensing materials, computer documentation and data, analytical data, as well as any other documents generated through archeological activity.

2. Ethnography

Ethnographic information for the preserve is not well developed at this time. There are currently four tribes affiliated with Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve; the Kaw, Osage, Pawnee, and Wichita. No ethnographic resources have been identified on the preserve, to date. However, the preserve is likely to have ethnographic resources, however acquisition of these items will be limited to construction, development, or preservation activities and mandated activities, such as planning and compliance.

Field Notes, Reports, and Associated Records

Approved maps, field notes, and other documentation associated with ethnological research and exploration will be accessioned and cataloged into the preserve's museum collection. All records associated with ethnological collections must be retained as part of the museum collection, including but not limited to, field notes, field specimen lists, catalogs, drawings and maps, photographs, sound or video recordings, raw data sheets, collection inventories, conservation treatment methods, instrument charts, remote sensing materials, computer documentation and data, analytical data, as well as any other documents generated through ethnological activity.

3. History

History of the preserve encompasses diverse materials made and used by peoples with a written tradition up to and including present time. Objects and archival collections with a direct association to the preserve are more desirable for inclusion with the collection than similar items without such primary significance. Historic objects that may be collected must relate directly to people, activities, and events associated with the preserve's various missions, themes, and histories. Objects and records in the history collection will serve to document the following periods and themes:

- *Pre-Euro-American Settlement (Pre-1856)*
This section includes the period prior to the US Government land survey and Euro-American settlement. American Indian groups occupied and travelled through the area.
- *Early Euro-American Settlement (1856-1876)*
This section includes the period of US Government land survey and initial settlement and homesteading. The Kansas, Missouri, and Texas

Railroad owned substantial portions of the preserve and offered them for sale to early settlers.

- *Nineteenth-Century Ranching (1877-1906)*
Stephen F. Jones and Barney Lantry moved to Chase County and established large-scale livestock ranches. Unification of the two ranches occurred during this period under the ownership of Barney Lantry.
- *Twentieth-Century Ranching (1907-1993)*
This section includes periods of dissolution and reconsolidation of the ranch, with two periods of extended ownership, the Benninghoven family and the Davis/Z Bar Ranch.
- *Acquisition and planning for Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve (1994-1999)*
This period includes acquisition of the property and establishment of the preserve.
- *Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve (1999-present)*
This period includes the private landowner/partner change from National Park Trust to Kansas Park Trust to The Nature Conservancy and includes administration, management, and operations of the preserve by both the private landowner(s) and the NPS.

Additional history-related collection themes may include:

- *Commemorative Events.*
Memorabilia from important current or commemorative events are included in the museum collection. Materials from these types of important preserve activities will continue to be preserved as they become available.
- *Historic Fabric.*
When original fabric is removed from a historic structure during a preservation or repair project, a representative portion of the fabric will be preserved and accessioned into the museum collection, along with any associated documentation.

Research is needed to identify the items that should be incorporated into the preserve's museum collection. Only historic material that has a direct association with the preserve is included in the museum collection. When a large quantity of an object type is available, priority will be given to acquiring the best-preserved examples.

To date, historical collections owned by The Nature Conservancy include a range of objects associated with the domestic and agricultural activities surrounding ranching and animal husbandry. These include partial and complete agricultural implements spanning more than a century, from horse-drawn

to mechanical, veterinary tools and equipment, building components, period furniture, and decorative items.

Field Notes, Reports, and Associated Records

Approved maps, field notes, and other documentation associated with historical research, collection, and exploration will be accessioned and cataloged into the preserve's museum collection. All records associated with historical collections must be retained as part of the museum collection, including but not limited to, field notes, field specimen lists, catalogs, drawings and maps, photographs, sound or video recordings, raw data sheets, collection inventories, conservation treatment methods, instrument charts, remote sensing materials, computer documentation and data, analytical data, as well as any other documents generated through historical activity.

4. Archives and Manuscript Collections

The goal of collecting and maintaining archival records is to retain the documentary records that contribute substantially to the understanding, interpretation, and management of preserve resources. A major objective in collecting and maintaining such collections is to retain the data necessary for preparation of preserve administrative and legislative histories. In addition, it is critical to retain resource management records to document preserve resources, the changes in resources over time, and the management of those resources. Other materials to be retained include materials related to scientific studies, oral histories, historic resource studies, and similar reports; photographs, blueprints, specifications and other items documenting facility development. Retained materials are managed as part of the museum collection.

The museum collection is the final repository for significant records that document day-to-day preserve operations, including official records, sub-official records, and non-record documentary materials, as defined by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). In accordance with Director's Order #19: *Records Management* (2001) and the NPS Records Disposition Schedule (1986), the preserve's Records Management Committee examines all current preserve files before they are transferred to NARA or disposed of, to ensure the retention of copies of important official records in the preserve.

All archival and manuscript collections considered for acquisition (including collections created or assembled by NPS staff) must be evaluated. The NPS and The Nature Conservancy must determine who owns the copyright before acquiring archival and manuscript collections, including photographic materials, sound recordings, or works of art by gift, purchase, exchange, or transfer. Copyright ownership and transfer of copyright must be given to the NPS or The Nature Conservancy during the acquisition transaction.

Policy and procedures for archival collections and records management are outlined in NPS Management Policies (2001), Director's Order #19: *Records Management* (2001), the Museum Handbook, Part II, Appendix D: Archives and Manuscript Collections (2003), and the NPS Records Disposition Schedule (1986).

Field Notes, Reports, and Associated Records

Approved maps, field notes, and other documentation associated with archives and manuscript collections research and exploration will be accessioned and cataloged into the preserve's museum collection. All records associated with archives and manuscript collections must be retained as part of the museum collection, including but not limited to, field notes, field specimen lists, catalogs, drawings and maps, photographs, sound or video recordings, raw data sheets, collection inventories, conservation treatment methods, instrument charts, remote sensing materials, computer documentation and data, analytical data, as well as any other documents generated through archives and manuscript activity.

5. Preserve Library

The primary objectives of the preserve's library are to document the natural and cultural history of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve by preserving all relevant books and papers, and to select, organize, and make accessible books and related materials that will assist preserve staff in the performance of their duties. The preserve's library contains a small collection of reference materials, none of which are part of the preserve's museum collection. This material, though valuable, will not be included in the museum collection and will continue to be managed under the preserve's library management plan.

Rare books and original manuscripts having direct association with the park should be evaluated for inclusion in the preserve's museum collection. Certain types of materials may be identified as more appropriate for the preserve's museum or archives collection. Examples include, but are not limited to, brochures, manuscripts, memoirs, photographs, photograph albums, maps (unpublished), correspondence, diaries, ranger station/visitor center logs books, blueprints, preserve documents, and field notes. When there is uncertainty or confusion about where materials will be placed, guidance will be sought from the regional curator. These decisions will be guided by the material's age, condition, value, research potential, and association to a person or event. When warranted, and when no copyright restrictions apply, selected materials accessioned into the archives or museum collections may be reproduced for a library copy and managed per the preserve's library management plan.

6. Interpretive Collection

Collections for interpretive purposes may be made under permit only. If there is a demonstrated need and if the specimens cannot be obtained outside the preserve boundary (36 CFR 2.5b), then a collection permit may be issued and may be collected in collaboration with a professionally supervised data recovery and collection effort. In order to assure long-term accountability, such permits will only be issued to permanent employees. Seasonals wishing to make collections will do so under the auspices of their supervisor's permit. Non-provenienced archeological and historical items may be turned over to the interpretive collection instead of being accessioned into the preserve's museum collection. This determination is made by the preserve's cultural resources chief and the regional curator.

The interpretive collection will be treated as "consumptively used" specimens and will not contain museum items (with the possible exception of exhibits in the proposed visitor center – as approved by the regional curator). Following periodic review of collecting permits and the interpretive collection, it may be determined that certain materials may be identified as more appropriate for the preserve's

museum or archives collection. However, only those items directly relating to the preserve, with precise provenience information, will be incorporated into the museum collection.

Interpretive collection materials will be collected based on themes outlined in the General Management Plan (2000) and the Long-Range Interpretive Plan (2005). The interpretive collection is managed and maintained by Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve's chief of interpretation. The interpretive collection will be collected, maintained, and used per the preserve's interpretation collection management plan. Although not part of the museum collection, all cultural objects in the interpretive collection will be handled as accountable property. As with museum collections, the interpretive collection is subject to all applicable laws, policies, and orders.

B. Natural History Collection

The purpose of the natural history collection is 1) to support scientific research, management, and education; 2) to provide baseline data of preserve natural resources; 3) to document changes because of internal preserve conditions and external effects; 4) to provide a database for researchers concerned with resource use by the preserve's prehistoric occupants; 5) to preserve important or locally significant species collected in response to specific research or interpretive needs; 6) to guarantee the protection of important paleontological specimens whose in-situ preservation cannot be assured.

The purpose of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve's museum collection

The preserve's museum collection is a repository for artifacts, specimens, archives, and associated records that the preserve is required to maintain by legislative mandate and/or agency directive and policy. The collection also supports operations and planning efforts that stem from the preserve's mission. Specimens, artifacts, and associated records that are maintained allow the preserve to develop baseline data, document trends, and protect records. In addition, museum objects and records play a vital role in the preserve's efforts to foster appreciation of natural and cultural resources by providing information for exhibits and interpretive programs.

Objects and archival collections with a direct association to the preserve are more desirable for inclusion within the collection than similar items without such primary significance. The natural history collection must support these goals. This will ensure that only well-documented and appropriate specimens are retained. Future growth of the collection should be restricted to specimens and associated records generated through:

1. Authorized scholarly research and selective acquisition based on:
 - Needs identified in the preserve's General Management Plan (2000), resource management plans, and other applicable preserve planning documents and resource studies
 - Servicewide initiatives such as the Natural Resource Challenge

- Enhancing understanding of and promoting increased stewardship of the preserve's ecosystem
2. Inventory and Monitoring Activities
 3. Regulatory and compliance activities such as those mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended

Scholarly research may be conducted by preserve or non-preserve scientists. All collecting activities must be in compliance with 36 CFR 2.5, the Research Permit and Reporting System, Director's Order #77: *Natural Resource Protection* (under development), and NPS Natural Resources Management Guidelines (1991). All researchers must comply with applicable state and Federal laws regarding collecting, documenting collections, and other associated activities. No collector (including preserve staff) can work in the preserve without first obtaining a signed permit. The collections section of the permit must be completed, documenting where collections of specimens and associated records will be housed. Questions related to collecting within the preserve should be addressed to the preserve's research coordinator.

All but 33 acres of the preserve are owned by The Nature Conservancy. All collectors (including preserve staff) must get approval from The Nature Conservancy, prior to any collecting activities.

Taxidermy "mounts" and freeze-dried specimens will be obtained only when a specific need is identified. If the need is for exhibits, preserve staff, in consultation with the regional curator, will determine if the specimen is included in the preserve's museum collection or the preserve's interpretive collection. Specialty collections including, frozen or other types of tissue samples and archived soils and other environmental samples, are beyond the capability of the preserve. If they are collected and held by other repositories, they will be accessioned and cataloged in the preserve's museum collection. All of the above will only be obtained as part of an authorized research project.

To date, the preserve has no natural resource items in the museum collection. It is likely that area museums and collections have items collected from the preserve (pre- and post-preserve establishment). Natural resource collections will be added to as specimens become available through research activities or natural death. The collection of state or federally-listed species will comply with NPS Management Policies, in accordance with provisions of the *Endangered Species Act of 1973* as amended and applicable state laws, and will be strictly limited according to applicable rules of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. Because of the lack of suitable storage or display space, natural resource specimens for the preserve's museum collection will not be actively sought.

The natural resource collection is divided into three disciplines: biology, geology, and paleontology. The natural resource collection, similar to the cultural resource collection also contains categories covering associated records, archives, library, and interpretive collections. The following list identifies the categories of specimens that are directly related to the preserve and may be included in the museum collection.

1. Biology

- a. **Flora.** Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve's vegetation is composed primarily of typical Flint Hills prairie species. The vegetation is dominated by tallgrass prairie plants, but also includes a number of species typical of shortgrass prairies and eastern deciduous forest. The preserve is predominantly tallgrass prairie, however other plant habitats exist including, springs and seeps, streams and riparian corridors, rock outcroppings, and old agricultural fields. There have been over 500 plant species documented for the preserve, many of which are represented by vouchers at area museums.

The preserve has no plants in its museum collection. The preserve does have a research plant collection in the Administrative Office, used by preserve staff and other researchers. Preserve staff, in consultation with the regional curator, will determine if this plant collection should be included in the preserve's museum collection. The preserve also has an interpretive plant collection used for displays and educational activities, located in the barn. This collection is part of the interpretive collection.

Other non-NPS collections that have Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve flora (vascular and non-vascular) include:

Kansas University Natural History Museum – Lawrence, Kansas
Kansas State University Herbarium – Manhattan, Kansas

No state or federally-listed plant species occur on the preserve.

- b. **Mammals.** About 40 mammal species occur on the preserve comprised mostly of small mammal species. Larger mammals include white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) and the recently reintroduced bison (*Bison bison*). Cattle (*Bos taurus*), a non-native species, graze several pastures on the preserve. The preserve has no mammals represented in its museum collection. It is likely that various mammal specimens are represented in area museum collections.

Other non-NPS collections that have Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve mammals include:

Museum of the High Plains, Fort Hays State University – Hays, Kansas

State-listed species that may occur on the preserve include the Eastern Spotted Skunk (*Spilogale putorius*) and Southern Bog Lemming (*Synaptomys cooperi*). Neither have been collected on the preserve.

- c. **Birds.** As many as 145 bird species are found in and around the preserve. Many of these species are transient or seasonal breeders only. Some of the more notable grassland obligate bird species include the Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*), Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*), Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*), Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*), and Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*). The preserve has no birds represented in its museum collection. It is likely that various bird specimens are represented in area museum collections.

State or federally-listed bird species that may occur on the preserve include Eskimo Curlew (*Numenius borealis*), Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*), Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrines*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*), Black Tern

(*Chlidonias niger*), Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*), Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*), Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*), Short-eared Owl, and Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus vociferous*). The Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) was recently de-listed.

Most bird species on the preserve are also protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which also covers other bird related items such as feathers, nests, and eggs.

- d. **Fish.** About 40 species of fish are found on and around the preserve, including the federally endangered Topeka shiner (*Notropis topeka*). Most fish species occupy intermittent and perennial stream reaches throughout the preserve. A few species are restricted to man-made ponds (i.e. stocked). The preserve has no fish in its museum collection. It is likely that various fish specimens are represented in area museum collections.

Other non-NPS collections that have Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve fish include:
Kansas University Natural History Museum – Lawrence, Kansas

State or federally-listed fish species that may occur on the preserve include, Topeka Shiner, Neosho Madtom (*Noturus placidus*), Redspot Chub (*Nocomis asper*), Brindled Madtom (*Noturus miurus*), Gravel Chub (*Erimystax x-punctatus*), and Spotted Sucker (*Minytrema melanops*). The Topeka Shiner and Spotted Sucker have been collected on the preserve.

- e. **Reptiles, Turtles, and Amphibians.** About 45 herpetofauna species are found in and around the preserve including snakes (including two venomous species), lizards, turtles, frogs, and one salamander. The preserve has no reptiles, turtles, or amphibians in its museum collection. It is likely that various herpetofauna specimens are represented in area museum collections.

No state or federally-listed reptile, turtle, or amphibian species occur on the preserve.

- f. **Insects and Arachnids.** There is very little information on the insect and arachnid species that exist at the preserve. There are no insects or arachnids represented in the preserve's museum collection. It is likely that various insect and arachnid specimens are represented in area museum collections.

State or federally-listed species that may occur on the preserve include the American Burying Beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*). To date, it has not been collected on the preserve.

- g. **Mollusks.** There is very little information on the mollusk species that exist on the preserve, however shell evidence suggests there are a few Unionid mussel species, as well as the non-native Asian Clam (*Corbicula fluminea*). The preserve has no mollusks represented in its museum collection. It is likely that various mollusk specimens are represented in area museum collections.

State and federally-listed mollusk species that may occur on the preserve include the flutedshell (*Lasmigona costata*), Neosho mucket (*Lampsilis rafinesqueana*), Ouachita kidneyshell (*Ptychobranchus occidentalis*), Delta Hydrobe (*Probythinella emarginata*), and the Wartyback (*Quadrula nodulata*). With the exception of the Delta Hydrobe, the other species prefer larger

rivers and are not likely to occur on the preserve however, they are listed for the county. None of these species have been collected on the preserve.

h. Field Notes, Reports, and Associated Records

All records associated with specimens collected in conjunction with biological research and collections will be retained in addition to the specimens as part of the museum collection. Archival collections supplement future researcher's understanding of these collected specimens. These records include field notes; daily journals; maps and drawings; photographic negatives, prints, and slides; videotapes; sound recordings; raw data sheets; remote sensing data; copies of contracts; correspondence; repository agreements; specialists reports and analyses; reports and manuscripts; specimen inventories and field catalogs; analytical study data; computer documentation and data; tabulations and lists; and reports on all scientific samples lost through destructive analysis.

2. Geology

The geology of the Flint Hills and the preserve consists of Permian-age limestones. These limestones contain numerous bands of shale and chert (of flint). These layers erode at different rates giving the hills a terraced appearance.

There is a fair amount of information regarding the geology of the preserve, including maps of the surficial geology and water-bearing units (Sawin 2008). The preserve has no geology specimens in its museum collection. Specimens associated with research at the preserve reside at the Kansas Geological Survey and are not part of the preserve's museum collections.

Field Notes, Reports, and Associated Records

All records associated with specimens collected in conjunction with geological research and collections will be retained in addition to the specimens as part of the museum collection. Archival collections supplement future researcher's understanding of these collected specimens. These records include field notes; daily journals; maps and drawings; photographic negatives, prints, and slides; videotapes; sound recordings; raw data sheets; remote sensing data; copies of contracts; correspondence; repository agreements; specialists reports and analyses; reports and manuscripts; specimen inventories and field catalogs; analytical study data; computer documentation and data; tabulations and lists; and reports on all scientific samples lost through destructive analysis.

3. Paleontology

There is some information on the paleontological resources of the preserve. A recent paleontological publication by the Heartland Inventory and Monitoring Network states "Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve contains the largest diversity of both fossil genera and fossil bearing formations in the Heartland Network." (Hunt et al, 2008) There are no fossils in the preserve's museum collections.

Field Notes, Reports, and Associated Records

All records associated with specimens collected in conjunction with paleontological research and collections will be retained in addition to the specimens as part of the museum collection. Archival collections supplement future researcher's understanding of these collected specimens. These records include field notes; daily journals; maps and drawings; photographic negatives, prints, and slides; videotapes; sound recordings; raw data sheets; remote sensing data; copies of contracts; correspondence; repository agreements; specialists reports and analyses; reports and manuscripts; specimen inventories and field catalogs; analytical study data; computer documentation and data; tabulations and lists; and reports on all scientific samples lost through destructive analysis.

4. Archives and Manuscript Collections

The goal of collecting and maintaining archival records is to retain the documentary records that contribute substantially to the understanding, interpretation, and management of preserve resources. A major objective in collecting and maintaining such collections is to retain the data necessary for preparation of preserve administrative and legislative histories. In addition, it is critical to retain resource management records to document preserve resources, the changes in resources over time, and the management of those resources. Other materials to be retained include materials related to scientific studies, oral histories, historic resource studies, and similar reports; photographs, blueprints, specifications and other items documenting facility development. Retained materials are managed as part of the museum collection.

The museum collection is the final repository for significant records that document day-to-day preserve operations, including official records, sub-official records, and non-record documentary materials, as defined by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). In accordance with Director's Order #19: *Records Management* (2001) and the NPS Records Disposition Schedule (1986), the preserve's Records Management Committee examines all current preserve files before they are transferred to NARA or disposed of, to ensure the retention of copies of official preserve records.

All archival and manuscript collections considered for acquisition (including collections created or assembled by NPS staff) must be evaluated. The NPS and The Nature Conservancy must determine who owns the copyright before acquiring archival and manuscript collections, including photographic materials, sound recordings, or works of art by gift, purchase, exchange, or transfer. Copyright ownership and transfer of copyright must be given to the NPS or The Nature Conservancy during the acquisition transaction.

Policy and procedures for archival collections and records management are outlined in NPS Management Policies (2001), Director's Order #19: *Records Management* (2001), the Museum Handbook, Part II, Appendix D: Archives and Manuscript Collections (2003), and the NPS Records Disposition Schedule (1986).

Field Notes, Reports, and Associated Records

All records associated with natural resource archives and manuscript collections research will be retained as part of the museum collection. Archival collections supplement future researcher's understanding of this research. These records may include field notes; daily journals; maps and drawings; photographic negatives, prints, and slides; videotapes; sound

recordings; raw data sheets; remote sensing data; copies of contracts; correspondence; repository agreements; specialists reports and analyses; reports and manuscripts; specimen inventories and field catalogs; analytical study data; computer documentation and data; tabulations and lists; and reports on all scientific samples lost through destructive analysis.

5. Preserve Library

The primary objectives of the preserve's library are to document the natural and cultural history of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve by preserving all relevant books and papers, and to select, organize, and make accessible books and related materials that will assist preserve staff in the performance of their duties. The preserve's library contains a small collection of reference materials, none of which are part of the preserve's museum collection. This material, though valuable, will not be included in the museum collection and will continue to be managed under the preserve's library management plan.

Rare books and original manuscripts having direct association with the park should be evaluated for inclusion in the preserve's museum collection. Certain types of materials may be identified as more appropriate for the preserve's museum or archives collection. Examples include, but are not limited to, brochures, manuscripts, memoirs, photographs, photograph albums, maps (unpublished), correspondence, diaries, ranger station/visitor center logs books, blueprints, preserve documents, and field notes. When there is uncertainty or confusion about where materials will be placed, guidance will be sought from the regional curator. These decisions will be guided by the material's age, condition, value, research potential, and association to a person or event. When warranted, and when no copyright restrictions apply, selected materials accessioned into the archives or museum collections may be reproduced for a library copy and managed per the preserve's library management plan.

6. Interpretive Collection

Collections for interpretive purposes may be made under permit only. If there is a demonstrated need and if the specimens cannot be obtained outside the preserve boundary (36 CFR 2.5b), then a collection permit may be issued and may be collected in collaboration with a professionally supervised data recovery and collection effort. In order to assure long-term accountability, such permits will only be issued to permanent employees. Seasonals wishing to make collections will do so under the auspices of their supervisor's permit. Non-provenienced natural resource items may be turned over to the interpretive collection instead of being accessioned into the preserve's museum collection. This determination is made by the preserve's natural resources chief and the regional curator.

The interpretive collection will be treated as "consumptively used" specimens and will not contain museum items (with the possible exception of exhibits in the proposed visitor center – as approved by the regional curator). Following periodic review of collecting permits and the interpretive collection, it may be determined that certain materials may be identified as more appropriate for the preserve's museum or archives collection. However, only those items directly relating to the preserve, with precise provenience information, will be incorporated into the museum collection.

Interpretive collection materials will be collected based on themes outlined in the General Management Plan (2000) and the Long-Range Interpretive Plan (2005). The interpretive collection will be managed and maintained by Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve's chief of interpretation. The interpretive collection will be collected, maintained, and used per the preserve's interpretation

collection management plan. Although not part of the museum collection, some natural resource objects in the interpretive collection will be handled as accountable property, such as vertebrate mounts and skins, insect collections, fossils, geology samples, and others as necessary. As with museum collections, the interpretive collection is subject to all applicable laws, policies, and orders.

III. MUSEUM COLLECTIONS SUBJECT TO THE NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT OF 1990

The *Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990* (NAGPRA), 25 USC 3001-13, requires, in addition to other actions, a written summary of unassociated funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony. The Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve collection does not include unassociated funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony as defined by NAGPRA. Acquisition of such objects by the preserve is not anticipated.

NAGPRA requires written, item-by-item inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects to be completed no later than November 16, 1995. The Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve collection does not include human remains and/or associated funerary objects. Acquisition of such objects by the preserve is not anticipated.

IV. ACQUISITION

The preserve may acquire objects for its museum collections by gift, purchase, exchange, transfer, field collection, and loan. Museum objects must be acquired, accessioned, and cataloged in accordance with Museum handbook, Part II, Museum Records. Acquisition of museum objects are governed by the preserve's ability to manage, preserve, and provide access to them according to NPS Management Policies (2006), Chapter 5; the standards for managing museum objects in Director's Order #28: *Cultural Resource Management* (1998), Cultural Resource Management Guideline (1997), and Director's Order #24: NPS Museum Collections Management; the NPS Museum Handbook, Part I, Museum Collections and Part III, Access and Use.

Further acquisitions by the preserve may be made only if they represent relevant objects not already included in the collection; document historic periods, events, or persons for which little or no documentation presently exists; or significantly increase the research value of present natural or cultural history collections. Objects needing extensive conservation treatment will not be acquired unless they are of special significance and only if similar objects in satisfactory condition are unavailable. Multiple objects will not be acquired.

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve currently does not have space suitable for storage or exhibit of museum objects. The preserve does not have museum staff. For these reasons, the preserve will not acquire objects into the museum collection unless required by law (such as recovery or mitigation) or approved by the regional curator.

In accordance with NPS policy, the preserve will prohibit the acquisition of gifts with restrictions or limiting conditions. Such restrictions include copyrights; the preserve will acquire copyrights to all incoming accessions. Incoming loans will be acquired only for a particular purpose such as research or exhibition, and for a specified period of time. Museum objects are acquired, accessioned, and catalogued in accordance with the NPS Museum Handbook, Part II, Museum Records.

The preserve will not be a partner to, or encourage in any way, the trafficking in illicitly collected materials. All acquisitions must be completed, exported, imported, transported, or otherwise obtained and possessed in full compliance with the laws and regulations of the country of origin, the United States federal government (include NAGPRA), and the individual states of the United States.

The acquisition of firearms included on the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) list of prohibited/restricted weapons requires concurrent review by the regional curator and regional law enforcement specialist.

The preserve superintendent, by delegation, represents the Director of the National Park Service and the Secretary of the Interior in accepting title to and responsibility for museum objects. The superintendent will ensure that all collections acquired are in keeping with this Scope of Collections Statement before accepting the items as part of the permanent collection. The superintendent bears the ultimate responsibility for the acquisition and proper care and management of the museum collection. The superintendent may delegate the day-to-day care of the collection to other preserve or regional staff.

All acquisitions must receive formal approval from the superintendent before they can be accepted into the museum collection. Upon receipt, all newly acquired objects and related documentation must be turned over to the chief of cultural resources and/or the regional museum curator. The chief of cultural resources prepares, for the superintendent's signature, all instruments of conveyance, and letters of thanks, acceptance, or rejection, and transmits them as appropriate, to the donor, lender, vendor, or other source of acquisition.

V. USES OF COLLECTIONS

The preserve's museum collection may be used for exhibits, interpretive programs, research, publications, or other interpretive media. The primary consideration for the use of museum objects is the preservation of each object in question and of the collection as a whole, and accurate interpretation.

In accordance with NPS Management Policies (2006), Chapters 5 and 7, the preserve will not exhibit Native American human remains or photographs of those remains. Drawings, renderings, or casts of such remains will not be displayed without the consent of culturally affiliated Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations. The preserve will consult with culturally affiliated or traditionally associated peoples to determine the religious status of any object whose sacred nature is suspected but not confirmed. These consultations will occur before such an object is exhibited or any action is taken that may have an adverse effect on its religious qualities.

Researchers and other specialists may examine objects and archival materials under the conditions and procedures outlined in Director's Order #24: *NPS Museum Collections Management*, Director's Order #28: *Cultural Resource Management* (1998), Cultural Resource Management Guideline (1998), and in the preserve's written "Museum Collections Access Procedures". Outside researchers must submit a research proposal to the superintendent for review by the preserve's research coordinator and other staff as appropriate. If applicable, the research proposal may be presented for review during consultation with the appropriate affiliated Native American tribe or consulting agencies (such as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) before access to certain items in the collection is granted.

Any interpretive use defined as consumptive must be authorized in advance, as outlined in Director's Order #24: *NPS Museum Collections Management*, Director's Order #28: *Cultural Resource Management* (1998), Cultural Resource Management Guideline (1998), and Director's Order #6: *Interpretation and Education* (2005). The use of reproductions is preferred to the consumptive use of original objects. Reproductions used in place of original museum objects must be indelibly marked as such. They are controlled and accounted for as required in the Museum Handbook, Part II, Chapter 4.

Destructive analysis is a legitimate use of museum collections for approved research purposes when the impact is minor or when the object is common, in which case approval by the superintendent is required. If an object is rare or significant, a request for destructive analysis should be reviewed by the regional curator and may be approved only by the regional director, as outlined in Director's Order #24: *NPS Museum Collections Management*, Director's Order #28: *Cultural Resource Management* (1998) and Cultural Resource Management Guideline (1998).

Objects may be loaned out to qualified institutions for approved purposes in accordance with NPS Museum Handbook, Part II, Chapter 5: Outgoing Loans. Institutions must meet accepted museum standards for security, handling, and exhibition of NPS museum objects. Sensitive material may require additional conditions prior to a loan commitment. Expenses related to loans of museum objects, including shipping and insurance, will normally be assumed by the borrower.

Photographs of museum objects are made available to the public to provide an indirect use of the museum collection through publications and exhibits (including exhibits on the preserve website). Photographs of sensitive objects, such as human remains, will not be available for preserve exhibits.

All exhibits containing museum objects must have proper security, appropriate environmental controls, and proper mounts to ensure the long-term preservation and protection of the objects.

VI. RESTRICTIONS

Restrictions in addition to those applying to the use of the museum collection outlined in Section V of this statement are as follows:

In accordance with NPS Management Policies (2006) 7.5.5 "Consultation" and 5.3.5.5 (Museum Collections", and Director's Order #24: *NPS Museum Collections Management*, preserve cultural resources staff should consult with traditionally associated peoples and other cultural and community groups for whom the collection has significance. Archeological objects in the museum collection shall be made available to persons for use in religious rituals or spiritual activities in accordance with 36 CFR 79, Section 79.10(c), "Curation of Federally-owned and Administered Archeological Collections". Requests to borrow non-archeological material for religious ritual or spiritual activities will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

The preserve will not approve research on human remains and associated funerary objects without consent of the affected group(s).

In accordance with the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966*, as amended (16 USC 470 et seq.), the *Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979*, as amended (16 USC 470aa-mm), the *National*

Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998 (16 USC 5937), and NPS Management Policies (2006) 4.1.2 “Natural Resource Information” and 5.2.3 “Confidentiality”, the preserve may withhold from the public sensitive information concerning: rare, threatened, or endangered species; commercially valuable resources; minerals; paleontological resources; archeological and other cultural resources; objects of cultural patrimony and sensitive ethnographic information; information provided by individuals who wish the information to remain confidential; and the identities of individuals who wish to remain anonymous. Inquiries of this nature will be referred to the regional *Freedom of Information Act* (FOIA) and Privacy Act Officer for consultation and possible review.

Restrictions may be placed on the publication of images or manuscripts in the museum collection if these materials are subject to copyright, and the National Park Service or The Nature Conservancy does not hold the copyright.

All endangered, threatened, or rare plants and vertebrate and invertebrate animals will be collected only when accidentally killed or when dead from natural causes. The collection of threatened, endangered, or rare plant and animal species will comply with NPS Management Policies (2006), be in accordance with the provisions of the *Endangered Species Act of 1973*, as amended, and applicable state laws, and will be strictly limited according to the applicable rules of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

Final disposition of type specimens will be determined at the Servicewide level and will adhere to recognized conventions established for specific disciplines.

The preserve will not knowingly be a partner to or encourage in any way the trafficking in illicitly collected materials.

VII. MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

This Scope of Collections Statement must be reviewed every five years, and be revised when necessary, to remain supportive of and consistent with any changes in the preserve’s mission. Any revision to this document requires the approval of the superintendent.

Planning documents related to this Scope of Collections Statement that the preserve should prepare include:

- Collection Management Plan
- Library Management Plan
- Interpretation Collection Management Plan
- Research Collection Management Plan
- Museum Collections Access Procedures

Committees or teams related to this Scope of Collections Statement that the preserve should create include:

- Records Management Committee

Other preserve collections related to the Scope of Collections Statement but not included in the preserve's museum collection include:

- Research Collection
- Interpretation Collection
- Library

All Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve museum objects (345) are located at the NPS Midwest Archeological Center, Lincoln, NE.

Locations of other preserve specimens that are not part of the preserve's museum collection include, but are not limited to:

- Kansas University Natural History Museum, Lawrence, KS
- Kansas State University Herbarium, Manhattan, KS
- Museum of the High Plains, Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS
- Kansas Geological Survey, Lawrence, KS

Preserve staff should work to identify data on collections in other institutions that were removed from the preserve. Natural history collections and cultural materials were removed from the preserve before its creation in 1996 and during the first two decades of the preserve's existence.

Objects owned by the preserve's partner, The Nature Conservancy, need to be reviewed and analyzed for significance and relatedness to the preserve's mission. These objects need to be reviewed for condition and provenience as well. Only after thorough review and consultation between The Nature Conservancy, preserve staff, and the regional curator, will these objects be accepted, by donation, into the preserve's museum collection. This also applies to items donated in the past to the National Park Service by others.

Currently, the preserve does not have objects on loan from other institutions.

For additional information on the museum collection, contact:

Superintendent
Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve
P.O. Box 585
226 Broadway
Cottonwood Falls, KS 66845
(620) 273-6034
Tapr_superintendent@nps.gov