

**US Fish and Wildlife Service
Preserve America 2014 Update**



Cover: Photo is from the FY 2013 Preservation Skills Workshop for FWS Wage Grade Professionals at Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, South Dakota.

Foreword

Since our 2011 update reporting for Preserve America, the US Fish and Wildlife Service has made strides in many areas of its historic preservation program. Our staff, though the smallest among Interior's land managers, continues to be steady and busy with respect to our Section 106 mission. Recent retirements have been filled even in the face of higher priority needs at our Regional Offices. Additionally, our FWS archaeological database, we call it FRED, is now being used by two Regions with two more in the planning stages.

Challenges continue as well. As a program, we still find it difficult to do much more than respond to our Section 106 needs. With 106 as our primary driver, it detracts from other responsibilities such as museum property management.

The 2014 update is divided into two main sections:

Protecting and Promoting History—describes our successes around the Service, describing projects from our Regions that have helped develop the historic preservation program among our staff and partners. This section will address PA Guidance questions: 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, and 16

Identification, Evaluation, and Policies—Historic Structures Identification and Reporting—describes our program statistics and policies and procedures that we have in place for ensuring the sustainability of Service historic assets. It also contains information on outreach via avenues such as monitoring of historic structures, use of historic structures, and training for staff and partners aimed at supporting the historic preservation program. This section will address PA Guidance questions: 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, and 18.

Refuges are places where the people of today can renew the ties to their cultural heritage by viewing ancient and historic sites. These ties, delivered through the System's public use programs, strengthen the connection between wildlife and people."

Fulfilling the Promise 1999

"We [Refuges] also strive to expand the application of science within the Refuge System beyond biological sciences and include physical, social, historical and cultural sciences in our programs and management."

Conserving the Future 2011

Protecting and Promoting History

USFWS cultural resources staff engaged in **Science and Research** projects that collected and used data recovered from archaeological and historic sites. These data can be applied to larger issues, such as climate change, and can be used to help understand why a habitat has changed over time. **Training** projects help illustrate the importance of historical resources and provide guidance for their preservation to USFWS employees. **Partnership** opportunities help continue or establish corroborations between USFWS and other organizations. Tribes are an important partner when it comes to cultural resources and their cooperation is invaluable. **Education and Outreach** projects, a cornerstone of the USFWS, take on a new dimension when coupled to archaeology and history. The interest people have in these subject areas connect well to larger environmental education programs already in place on Refuges and Hatcheries.



Figure 1. Regions of the US Fish and Wildlife Service

USFWS Headquarters



Training

Participants and staff at Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge in South Dakota completed a successful Preservation Skills workshop, designed to provide FWS Wage Grade staff with experience in repairing and restoring historic structures, the week of June 10, 2013. Staff from FWS and the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office helped rebuild a CCC era entryway to the Refuge. Masonry experts from the NPS Historic Preservation Training Center in Frederick Maryland served as instructors and led the effort to restore the pillars and footings (figures 1 and 2). For more information about this course see <http://www.fws.gov/historicPreservation/employeeTraining/empGuidance.html>



Figures 1 and 2. Participants of the Sand Lake workshop addressing masonry needs on the CCC entryway.

Training

The first offering of the new Cultural Resources on line training launched in FY13. 10 participants completed the 3 week course. Areas covered in the course include; compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Museum Property, and Cultural Resources Interpretation.

Participants consisted of field station staff from two Refuges, FWS Grants managers and program staff and staff from USFWS State partner organizations.

The course is the first of its kind at FWS and makes use of an online classroom platform where students can respond to weekly

Discussion Forums, take Quizzes and interact with the instructor and other participants. The course centers on discussion of pertinent cultural resource topics and helps students understand how to better manage their cultural resource responsibilities. For more information about this course see <http://www.fws.gov/historicPreservation/employeeTraining/empGuidance.html>

The Northeast



Partnership

The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) selected Patuxent National Wildlife Refuge as the recipient of its 2013 Maryland Preservation Award. This award, presented annually by MHT's Board of Trustees, is the highest level of recognition for historic preservation and heritage education projects in Maryland.

Patuxent, which was established by Executive Order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1936, was selected because of its efforts to preserve Refuge historic resources through consultation with MHT on its Facilities Modernization Plan. The plan required the unavoidable demolition of approximately 80 buildings, including both historic and non-historic, thus constituting an undertaking with an adverse effect under the National Historic Preservation Act. The Memorandum of Agreement that was negotiated between the Service and the MHT

was especially notable because of its inclusion of substantive public interpretation programs for the historic resources at the Refuge.

These programs, accessible at the Refuge's Visitor Center, include a video, exhibit, guided tours, and a brochure that tell the story of both the natural and cultural significance of the property.

MHT chose this project to receive their award because it demonstrated outstanding stewardship on the part of a federal partner (USFWS) to expand beyond its natural resource oriented mission to provide visitors an opportunity to recognize and explore the history of the property and its development over time.

Education and Outreach

In the wake of the establishment of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Monument in 2013, Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge is celebrating the life and history of Harriet Tubman, whose heroic actions helped many slaves escape to freedom on the Underground Railroad.

Now a sanctuary for migratory birds, areas of Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge were once part of the landscape where Harriet Tubman was born and raised. The refuge is situated in Dorchester County on the Eastern Shore of Maryland where Tubman was born in 1822. The natural habitats of the refuge—wetlands, waterways, swamps, and upland forests—are representative of the landscape that Tubman experienced in her youth.

Tubman spent her childhood as a slave working on farms that abut or are included within the boundary of the refuge. As a young adult she worked as a timber laborer on the north side of the Blackwater River. She had family members that were spread throughout the area. This led her to travel throughout the region, likely through much of what is now the refuge.

The refuge landscape is a mosaic framed by the estuarine environment formed by the Blackwater River, Little Blackwater River and the Choptank and Transquaking Rivers. Greenbriar, Kentuck and Russell swamps and the tidal marshes are characteristics of Maryland's coastal plain within the refuge and they exhibit more open water than they did 150 years ago, but their character is unchanged. While the mixed hardwood and pine forests have undergone constant harvest and regrowth since the European settlement, the current woodland habitats represent the forested communities that sustained the economy during Tubman's time. These woodlands are still being managed by the refuge using silvicultural practices similar to those used in her time. The refuge maintains much of the agricultural landscape that Tubman grew up in but today, instead of tobacco, the major crops are corn and wheat and these lands are managed using mechanized equipment rather than hand labor.

For more information see <http://www.fws.gov/blackwater/harrietubman.html>

Education and Outreach

Before becoming a haven for millions of songbirds, monarch butterflies and thousands of raptors, Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge was Fort John Custis, named after a prominent eighteenth century resident of Northampton County. The strategic location at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay encouraged military uses of the area in the years before the refuge was established.

During WWII, large bunkers housed 16-inch guns designed to protect naval bases and shipyards in Virginia Beach and Norfolk. In 1950, the U.S. Air Force acquired Fort John Custis, renaming it the Cape Charles Air Force Station. Radar towers and additional buildings were built by the Air Force, which occupied the area until 1981. The Refuge was established in 1984.

In an attempt by the Refuge to re-connect with and better interpret its unique past, a gun bunker on the Refuge, which lay unused since the military relinquished control of the land, was prepared and reunited with a 16 inch gun barrel from the USS Missouri. The barrel was rescued from the scrap heap through a program with the US Navy that offers this and other materials to historic parks for use as exhibits.

Though their meeting was over a year in the making, in 2013 the gun was installed in the bunker and is now an active interpretive attraction

for the over 40,000 annual visitors to the Refuge (figures 3 and 4)



Figure 3. Gun Barrel en route to the Refuge



Figure 4. Barrel and bunker reunited at Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge

Science and Research & Education and Outreach

Since Hurricane Sandy struck the Eastern Shore last fall, shipwreck timbers and 150 year old artifacts (shoes, bottles, etc.) have been washing ashore on Chincoteague Island. These unusual finds prompted the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge Manager (Lou Hinds now retired) to seek assistance from an archaeologist. Austin Burkhard, a student of Maritime Studies and Anthropology at the University of West Florida, was hired to investigate the recovered finds. A

major focus of the research was directed towards the shipwreck timbers. It was decided that the shipwreck timbers, which vary in size up to seven feet, should be tagged in some way to better track and record them.

A wreck tagging program was developed that would allow a cadre of volunteers to track the wreckage's degradation and movement over time.

Before launching the recordation effort for Chincoteague, Mr. Burkhard reviewed other shipwreck tagging programs and consulted with other marine archaeologists regarding the program design. These discussions repeatedly identified tag design as the weakest part of current tagging programs, noting that degradation of the tag can occur over time due to harsh UV exposure and continued exposure to oceanic environments. This prompted Mr. Burkhard to design a new Plexiglas tag for the Chincoteague Wreck Tagging Program, a design that was borrowed from marine mammal tagging programs (figure 5).

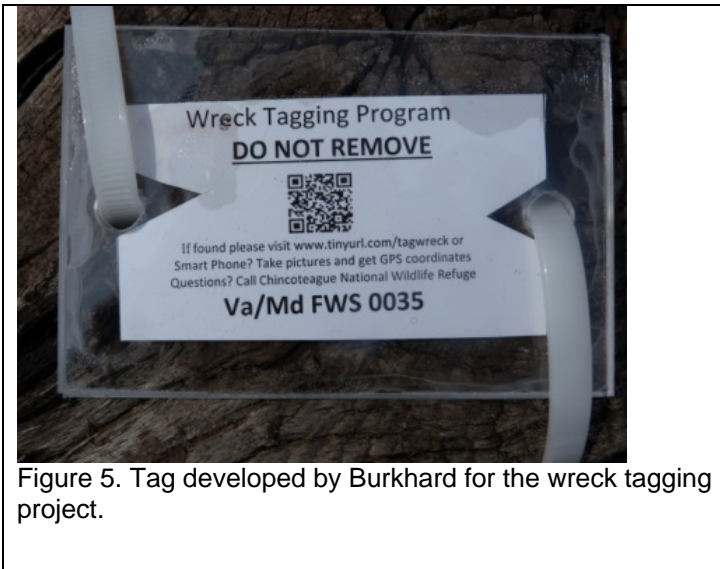


Figure 5. Tag developed by Burkhard for the wreck tagging project.

In order to successfully track the tagged wreckages' degradation and movement over time, the wreckage must be well documented. Volunteers use a protocol developed by Burkhard, which gives instructions on how to properly affix the tags to the wreckage, and Burkhard's Volunteer Reporting Form and Instruction Sheet, to record the initial data for a wreckage timber. If a tagged timber is later found, volunteers and the public can access Reporting Forms, via the QR code or URL located on the tag. This link allows the volunteers and the public to answer basic, but vital, questions that will allow archaeologists to compare the new data to the data originally provided with the Volunteer Reporting Forms. To learn more about the program and see it in action go to www.tinyurl.com/tagwreck

The Midwest



Education and Outreach

FY13 saw the official return of materials from the Steamboat Bertrand collection to their exhibit space at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge (figure 6). In addition to the collections, museum cabinets, now outfitted with castors for easier movement, were re-installed and will be used to house and exhibit the collections.

The exhibit space is open to visitors, who are currently afforded the unique opportunity to watch as the collections are brought back after more than a year away. A generous investment from the Service's Transportation program has helped continue to the re-cataloging effort that is expected to be completed by the end of the calendar year.



Figure 6. Bertrand collection being returned to the Refuge Visitor Center.

The Southeast



Education and Outreach

Savannah National Wildlife Refuge recently hosted a Natural Resource Discovery Day. Children got the chance to be young archaeologists brushing off artifacts and mapping features in a 2X2-meter unit created just for this event (figure 7).



Figure 7. "Dig" in progress at Savannah National Wildlife Refuge.

Refuge staff assisted in the mock excavation, explaining the history of the area to the students.

Science and Research

Approximately 700 archival maps, engineering and architectural drawings, and landscape plans for several Southeast Region's Refuges were recently scanned for use by the USFWS Inventory and Monitoring (I&M) Program.

A number of the drawings, particularly those depicting vegetative cover, landscape, and hydrology, will be uploaded to the I&M national database, ServCat, as part of an on-going regional inventory and monitoring initiative. The documents, an example of which can be seen in figure 8, are also valuable for identifying and evaluating cultural landscapes and the built environments at Refuges, such as White River NWR where Civilian Conservation Corps crews constructed the Refuge's conservation infrastructure.

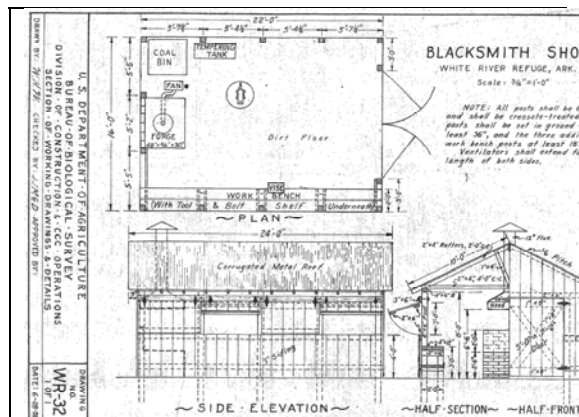


Figure 8. Blacksmith Shop, White River NWR, 1938. One of the CCC's standardized architectural plans for the FWS.

Science and Research

In FY13 Georgia Southern University completed another archaeological fieldschool at Camp Lawton, a National Register-listed Confederate-operated prisoner of war camp site located on Bo Ginn National Fish Hatchery and Magnolia Springs State Park. The fieldschool, under the direction of Dr. Lance Greene, focused on a recently identified mid-19th century occupation, thought to be associated with the Confederate officers' barracks. Three locations were examined; one located on the state park and two locations on the hatchery. The first hatchery location was thought to be part of the wood stockade while the second area was thought to be one of the Union prisoners' 'shebangs' or huts. Features located and excavated during the fieldschool were initially and briefly exposed in 2012 during the filming of an episode of Time Team America that focused on Camp Lawton. The section of the stockade wall exposed on the hatchery appeared to be constructed differently from the one exposed on the state park. Greene thought that the differences may represent either different groups of laborers involved in the construction or simply different soil environments.

Excavations near the stockade focused on a brick feature and a rectangular dark stain that revealed two potential postholes and a central hearth-like feature (figure 9).

Additional fieldwork is scheduled for FY14 to further examine these features, as well as the differences in material culture and food remains

present in Union and Confederate occupation areas.



Figure 9. Excavations of features, including a hearth-like feature, at Camp Lawton

Science and Research

Dr. Kenneth Sassaman and his team from the Laboratory of Southeastern Archaeology at the University of Florida conducted archaeological investigations at the Shell Mound archaeological site (8LV42) under ARPA Permit #LSNWR021612.

The archaeological site is one several arcuate shell works located on Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge and this section of the Florida Gulf Coast. Sassaman demonstrated that the site's current configuration was not the result of early 20th century shell mining.

The inner portion of the site appears to be a habitation area or village, though further testing will be required to confirm this interpretation. The recent investigation, though limited, revealed at least three distinct occupations, including a Late Archaic horizon [ca. 2450-2300 B.C.] that pre-dated the initial accumulation of oyster shell (Fig. 10 [fig 2-9 Sassaman 2013]).

The other two occupations were dated to circa A.D. 450-650 and A.D. 650-750. This permit has been extended for six months to follow up at Shell Mound and several other smaller but contemporaneous arcuate shellwork sites on the Refuge.

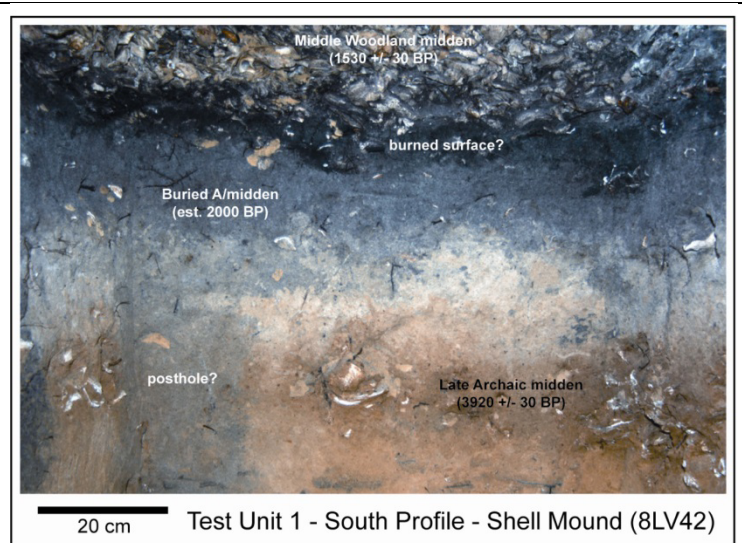


Fig 10. Occupation levels discovered during current excavations at the Shell Mound site.

The Pacific Northwest and Hawaii



Science and Research

In September of 2011 construction for the Tidal Marsh Restoration of the Ni-les'tun Unit of Bandon Marsh NWR was completed converting over 400 acres of former dairy farm to a tidally influenced marsh. During the restoration activities archaeological research was conducted which revealed over 4,000 years of marsh utilization by Native Americans. Numerous wooden stake fish weirs were uncovered and recorded during construction of tidal channels. Lending credence to the marsh restoration efforts by showing that fish were once in abundance

With the close of construction the Refuge and Cultural Resources staff from the Region monitored the marsh and stream channels for newly uncovered weirs. New finds would be recorded and samples taken for Radiocarbon dating. Only unique or unusual objects would be considered for excavation.

During the spring of 2013, several wooden fish weirs were exposed and

reported by Refuge Staff. Taking advantage of some low negative tides archaeologists found five new weirs were exposed. Trapped within one was a basketry fragment. Textiles of this sort are unique, so recovery of the basket was determined to be a high priority. Unfortunately the item lay exposed, in an area barely uncovered by the falling tidal water.

Service archaeologists and a local tribal representative proceeded with a careful, but time sensitive excavation (figure 11) and successfully removed the basket. Having come from a wet, and until recently anaerobic environment, the preservation is quite good (figure 12). However the same conditions that allow for preservation now pose a challenge for its conservation. By keeping the basket submerged and cold in the Refuge refrigerator the basket has remained stable.

To provide a specimen that may be studied and displayed the basket is now undergoing treatment with polyethylene glycol. This will displace the water in the vegetable material with a waxy substance, providing preservation that retains flexibility with minimal shrinkage. Preliminary investigation by a Coquille basket maker indicates that it may incorporate two styles of weaving which are well known but rarely seen in the same basket. Although the basket itself has not been dated the weir where it was found dates to about 650 years ago.



Figure 11. Region 1 archaeologist Nick Valentine excavates prehistoric basketry found during examination of an exposed fish weir at Bandon Marsh NWR.



Figure 12. Salvaged basket is readied for storage and stabilization

Identification, Evaluation, and Policies

I. Cultural Resource Management

Program History

Cultural resources (also known as historic properties or heritage assets) include: archaeological sites (both prehistoric and historic and their associated documentation), buildings and structures, landscapes, objects, and historic documents. As an agency of the Federal government, USFWS is responsible for, and committed to, protecting and managing these irreplaceable resources in a spirit of stewardship for future generations to understand and enjoy. A Cultural Resources Management (CRM) program was established at USFWS in the 1970s to manage the rich array of cultural resources under its jurisdiction. Its primary goals are to:

- identify, evaluate, and encourage preservation of cultural resources
- manage museum property collections
- consult with a broad array of interested parties
- promote heritage education
- provide expertise to USFWS programs, some of whom include, Federal Assistance, Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Realty, Endangered Species, Refuges, Fire, and Planning with respect to Cultural Resource needs

Since its inception, the program has expanded as cultural resource laws, requirements, and public concerns, continue to increase. The Federal Preservation Officer, located in Arlington Virginia, coordinates the USFWS CRM program with many responsibilities delegated to regional staff. These include professional archaeologists, historians, and museum specialists. Each cultural resource professional in the USFWS meets the [Secretary of the Interior's professional qualification standards for historic preservation](#) qualifying them to conduct this type of work and serve as experts for this resource type.

Each Region employs at least one cultural resources specialist. These Regional Historic Preservation officers (RHPOs) provide expertise and management advice to Senior Regional leadership with respect to cultural resources (table 1).

Table 1. USFWS Regional Historic Preservation Officers

Region	Name	Contact
1 and 8	Anan Raymond	20555 SW Gerda Lane Sherwood, OR 97140 503.625.4377; fax: 503.625.4887
2	David Siegel	P.O. Box 1306 Albuquerque, NM 87103 505.248.7396; fax: 505.248.7950
3	James Myster	5600 American Boulevard West, Suite 1049 Bloomington, Minnesota 55437 612-713-5439 (phone) 612-713-5287 (fax)
4	Richard Kanaski	694 Beech Hill Lane Hardeville, SC 29927 843-784-6310 (ph), 843-784-2465 (fax)
5	Eugene Marino (acting)	300 Westgate Center Drive Hadley, MA 01035-9589 413.253.8560; fax: 413.253.8468

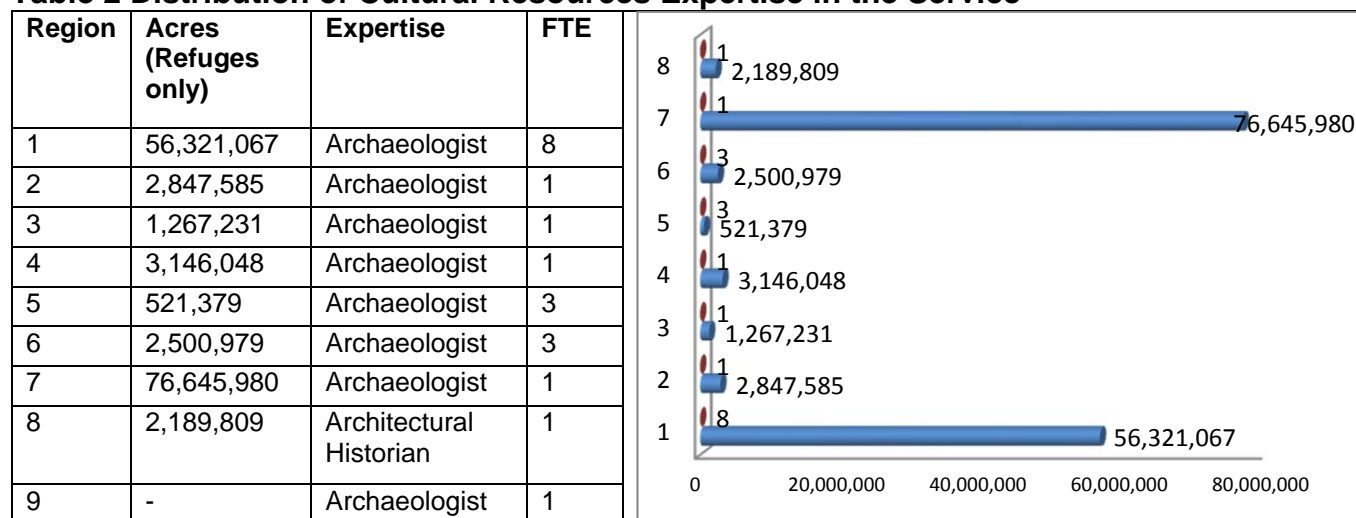
6	Meg VanNess	P.O. Box 25486 Denver Federal Center Denver, CO 80225 303.236.8155 x258; fax: 303.236.8163
7	Ed DeCleva	1011 E. Tudor Road Anchorage, AK 99503 907.786.3399; fax: 907.786.3976
9	Eugene Marino	4401 North Fairfax Dr. Arlington Virginia 22203 703.358.2173; fax: 703.358-2517

The primary responsibilities of the Cultural Resource program and the RHPO is to facilitate Service compliance with the NHPA and comply with other authorities pertinent to cultural resources (for detailed information on these authorities see <http://www.USFWS.gov/historicPreservation/crp/authorities.html>). Program staff also comments on cultural resource related policy and guidance and offer opportunities for training and education on cultural resources to both Service staff and the general public.

Staff and Budget

Funding for NHPA compliance comes from individual program dollars with the majority of these activities being conducted on Refuges and Hatcheries. This funding is used to support 20 cultural resource FTE (the second smallest cultural resources staff in DOI, Table 2), but does not include costs of cultural resource related contract work (e.g., survey, excavations, etc...that are not completed in house). A workload study completed in FY11 for the program indicated an additional **20** FTE are required to *keep pace* with **current** workloads. Additionally, Table 4 notes that 479 NHPA reviews were left uncompleted for FY13. Most were not reviewed because of a lack of staff. The impact here is that roughly 479 projects were not able to advance in FY13 because an NHPA review could not be completed. An investment in the additional FTE called for in the FY11 Workload Study would alleviate these obstacles and would allow better service to the field to execute the projects considered to be important to Refuge and Hatchery operations.

Table 2 Distribution of Cultural Resources Expertise in the Service



Note: This table does not reflect personnel changes as of 12/31/13.

Internal Policies, Guidance, and Reporting for Cultural Resources

USFWS has developed several internal policies and handbooks that pertain to cultural resource program activities. 614 FW chapters 1-5 provides policy for compliance with the NHPA and coordination with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

126 FW chapters 1-3 provides policy for the USFWS museum property program. It outlines responsibilities under federal statute as well as DOI standards, <http://www.USFWS.gov/historicPreservation/mp/museumPropPol.html>

Revision and updating for both FY 614 and 126 continues. New versions are expected to go into effect in FY14.

Performance

Because of Cultural resources are included in the USFWS Strategic Plan, several reporting requirements specifically for performance are also the purview of the RHPO. The Refuge Annual Performance Plan (RAPP) and Operations Plan (Ops) plan measures specific to cultural resources are:

- Number of archaeological sites in good condition
- Number of historic buildings in good condition
- Number of museum collections in good condition
- Number of paleontological sites in good condition

Data for the RAPP and the USFWS Division of Finance Required Stewardship Information (RSI) report are embedded within other data categories noted under Compliance with the NHPA and other sections of this report.

Compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act

The USFWS RHPOs and, where applicable, their staff are the primary points of contact in each Region for cultural resource or historical/heritage asset related activities. They are the subject matter experts for the Regional Director, who retains final decision authority as per USFWS cultural resource policy (<http://www.USFWS.gov/historicPreservation/crp/policiesHandbook.html>). 98% of RHPO time is spent assisting the Regions of the Service to comply with Section 106 of NHPA. Section 106 requires federal agencies to consider potential effects of their mission related activities on cultural resources. These activities can range from the construction of a cell tower to creation of impoundments for duck habitat. In many instances, the RHPO is able to provide information on the potential of these projects to impact cultural resources very quickly. In other examples, further research and consultation is required. Table 4 shows data for NHPA compliance activities of the program during the FY.

USFWS RHPOs also provide assistance in the development of Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCPs) and Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) and provide comments on USFWS grants that might have the potential to affect cultural resources. Not all Regions are equally active in CCP and HCP development.

Table 4. Cultural Resource Program—Compliance Activities

Cultural Resources Compliance	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	Totals
Number of completed NHPA Reviews this FY	143	80	590	90	132	566	215	62	1878
Number of uncompleted NHPA Review this FY	204	1	15	7	0	87	40	125	479
Number of archeological surveys this FY	44	40	17	12	5	102	6	18	244
Number of acres surveyed this FY	842	200	60	150	4	2,301	460	335	4352
Number of archeological sites this FY	7	10	5	120	2	10	3	12	169
Number of archeological recovery projects this FY	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	3
Total number of historic buildings or structures in the Region	188	5	9	70	203	1243	43	53	1814
Number of condition assessments for historic buildings this FY	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Dollars spent on condition assessments for historic buildings this FY		0	0	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of archaeological sites in the Region	871	540	3561	2516	964	1,708	3955	1304	15419
Total Acreage surveyed for archaeological sites in the Region	0	3,000	0	4399 00	100	502,300	620,660	0	1565960
Total number of Paleontological sites in the Region	2	1		1	0	50	326	4	384

Several Regions noted compliance activities such as review of land acquisitions, CCP reviews, assistance with completing NEPA documents, review of Federal Highways projects (bridge replacements and highway realignments). Some also identified work with contractors and partners as falling under the compliance responsibilities.

Review 4 (Southeast Region) had specific reporting information with respect to Cultural Resources compliance. The Region notes that, although much of FY 13

has been dominated by efforts surrounding the ARPA/NAGPRA violation at the Indian Bayou Mounds on Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge (see ARPA and NAGPRA sections of this report for more information), a number of other initiatives were either successfully completed or started. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Successful negotiation of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Corps of Engineers-Jacksonville District and the Florida Division of Historical Resources regarding the pending beach re-nourishment along Egmont Key's eroding shoreline. Integral to the process was the participation of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, who visited the Refuge twice;
- Stabilization of the National Register-listed Mount Zion Church on the Big Sandy Unit of Tennessee NWR completed;
- Continuation of our partnership to investigate archaeological sites at Lower Suwannee and Cedar Key National Wildlife Refuge with the University of Florida's Laboratory of Southeastern Archaeology;
- Development and implementation of an "unanticipated site discovery plan" for Mountain Longleaf National Wildlife Refuge intended to protect rock wall and mound complexes encountered during DOD's clean-up of unexploded ordinance. The Tribes consider such landscape features as "sacred sites" or part of a larger ceremonial landscape;
- Presentation to Federal Aid/WSFR on incorporating tribal consultation into their grant process, as well as a refresher on their program's Section 106 compliance process;
- Worked with Ecological Service's Partners program to upgrade their Section 106 compliance process;
- Participation in the South Atlantic Landscape Conservation planning effort;
- Compilation of archived historical maps and drawings for scanning and subsequent uploading to ServCat (the FWS Inventory and Monitoring program database).

Consulting with the Tribes on a range of cultural and natural resource issues is an integral and critical component to the Region's (and agency's) historic and cultural resource program. The RHPO consults over undertakings as part of the Section 106 compliance process with the Tribes who once resided in the Southeast or have historical ties to the region. Several of these consultations have lead to increased and/or improved sharing of information with the tribes. Examples include:

- Sharing of available reports, maps, and photographs of Egmont Key with the Seminole Tribe of Florida;
- Sharing of information regarding the Trail of Tears corridors/routes that pass through White River National Wildlife Refuge, as well as information on site location and setting with the Choctaw Nation and the Jena Band of Choctaws;

- Sharing of available reports, maps, and the updated site form for the Baytown Mound Complex at White River with the Quapaw Tribe; and
- Sharing of available reports describing archaeological investigations of shell midden sites on Grand Bay and Mississippi Sandhill Crane National Wildlife Refuges with the Jena Band of Choctaws.

In addition, Region 7 (Alaska) notes the following for compliance: The total number of projects requiring a Section 106 review in the region reflects a sudden influx of projects from Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration, Fisheries, Migratory Birds, Tribal Grants, Landscape Conservation Cooperatives and other grant programs. None of these entities had previously submitted their projects for review. However, the project increase was met with a decline in funding, in part due to Sequester. Two Programmatic Agreements (PA) were negotiated to cover regional programs. The first, between FWS and the Alaska SHPO, covers the process of reviewing large land exchanges between the agency and Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act Village and Regional Corporations. The Regional Realty office has estimated there will be 5-10 land exchanges per year for the next 10 years. These exchanges may encompass tens of thousands of acres. The second PA was negotiated between FWS, Alaska SHPO and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to cover review of WSFR grants. WSFR will deliver over \$40 million to the State of Alaska in 2014 for projects ranging from administration of grants, construction of campgrounds and boat launches, hunter education, wildlife viewing facilities and habitat restoration. The PA details the kinds of projects which are exempt from review, details the process for getting the other projects reviewed and specifies actions to be taken in cases of inadvertent discoveries.

Monitoring and Use of Cultural Resources

Table 5 notes Service monitoring of its historic structures. These structures have been identified as requiring monitoring for various reasons, but mainly for interpretation. Many historic resources, for instance the Assateague lighthouse at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, are interpreted for visitors and their history incorporated into visitor opportunities. Many of these interpreted sites include exhibits in their visitor centers and/or interpretive programs offered by USFWS staff to visitors. Interpretation has always been a focus of USFWS. In 2013, a team was launched to examine how cultural resources are being interpreted and used throughout the Service with the goal of issuing some guidance and examples on how to expand these kinds of opportunities. Interpretation guidance will be issued sometime in FY 14.

Region 7 (Alaska) has established a partnership with the Alutiiq Museum for monitoring archaeological sites on Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. \$3000 was provided to the Museum in FY 13 to continue their efforts.

Table 5. Monitoring and Use of Cultural Resources

CR Monitoring and Use	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	Totals
Number of sites/buildings interpreted for visitors	5	5		9		8	10	4	41
Number of sites/buildings being maintained for research	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	6

Number of sites/buildings being maintained as a result of damage	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	5
--	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Climate Change

Table 6 shows data from high-risk Refuges that was originally captured for the development of a Climate Change Primer for the USFWS (released FY13). The information was added to comment on how climate change is impacting various types of archaeological and historic sites. Erosion was the overwhelming impact factor identified by the RHPOs for all the Refuges. Other factors noted in lesser degrees were sea level rise and drought. Data collection for climate change is considered an important marker under monitoring of cultural resources and will become a permanent component for this report.

Table 6. High Risk Refuges and the Climate Change Impacts most likely to affect the Refuge and its cultural resources

Refuge	Sea level rise	Fire	Drought	Erosion
San Francisco Bay NWR	x			x
Brandon Marsh NWR	x			x
Willapa Bay NWR	x			x
Howland Island NWR	x			x
Midway Atoll NWR	x			x
Malheur NWR			x	x
Minidoka NWR			x	x
Back bay NWR	x			x
Blackwater	x			x
Eastern Neck				x
Martin NWR	x			x
Chincoteague NWR	x			x
Prime Hook NWR	x			
Bombay Hook	x			x
Monomoy NWR	x			x
Nantucket NWR	x			x
Nomans Island NWR	x			x
Eastern Shore of Va NWR				x
Rappahannock NWR				x
Presquile NWR				x
James River				x
Plum tree Island NWR	x			x
EB Forsythe NWR	x			x
Great bay NWR				x

EA Morton NWR				x
Wertheim NWR				x
ME Coastal Complex				x
Moosehorn NWR				x
Parker River NWR	x			x
Potomac Complex				x
Rachel Carson NWR				x
Ninigret NWR	x			x
Trustom Pond NWR				x
Sachuest point NWR	x			x
Alaska Maritime NWR	x			x
Alaska Peninsula NWR	x			x
Becharof NWR	x			x
Izembek NWR	x			x
Kodiak NWR	x			x
Togiak NWR	x			x
Arctic NWR	x			x
Kanuti NWR		x		x
Koyukuk NWR		x		x
Nowitna NWR		x		x
Yukon Flats NWR		x	x	x
Selawik NWR		x		x
Yukon Delta	x			x
Bear River				x
Fish Springs				x
Alamosa NWR			x	x
Monte Vista NWR			x	x
Baca NWR			x	x

National Register Information

RHPOs also maintain National Register data for their Region (Table 7). As their time permits, they focus on addressing the backlog of sites that are listed as **eligible** to the National Register. These properties must be reviewed and a determination made as part of compliance with the NHPA. Region 7 (Alaska) reported that FY13 saw no progress on developing a management plan for the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument due to lack of interest on the part of the USFWS. Also noted was that the Corps of Engineers is planning major FUDS contaminants cleanups on all units of USFWS National Monument and National Historic Landmarks (NHLs). Resources on Attu Island, whose cleanup is scheduled to begin in 2015, are at risk from the proposed FUDS cleanup activities.

Table 7. National Designation Data

National Designation Data	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	Totals
---------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	--------

Total number of NRHP eligible sites	0	20	30	66	192	267	3800	0	4375
Total number of NRHP sites actually listed	15	5	13	25	11	15	8	16	108
Total number of national monuments	13	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	14
Total number of national historic landmarks	1	2	0	1	1	0	4	2	11

Archaeological Resources Protection Act (APRA)

The RHPO assists USFWS and Refuges Law Enforcement in cases that include an archaeological component or that violate the ARPA of 1979 (Table 8). This data is noted by the RHPOs but is also reported up through USFWS Law Enforcement channels. Region 4 (Southeast) reported specifics for compliance with ARPA:

- Georgia Southern University's summer archaeological field school focusing on two of the previously exposed "shebangs" and stockade wall section of Camp Lawton, a Confederate-operated prison. An article describing the university's archaeological investigations, as well as the on-going collaborations among federal and state agencies, appeared in a recent issue of *American Archaeology* (<http://www.archaeology.org/exclusives/articles/1504-camp-lawton-robert-knox-snedden>).
- Archaeological investigations at Lower Suwannee and Cedar Key NWR [Laboratory of Southeastern Archaeology, University of Florida] continued this fiscal year that focused on continuing investigations at the Shell Mound Site, as well as the extensive shell works on Raleigh Island.
- Panamerican Consultants, Inc. conducted archaeological investigations along those sections of shorelines of the Savannah, Middle, and Back Rivers located within Savannah National Wildlife Refuge. The work was driven by the ACOE's proposed Harbor Expansion and Deepening Project.
- Investigation of ARPA violation at Indian Bayou Mound Complex, Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge. As this investigation is an active and on-going law enforcement investigation, no details will be provided at this time.

In addition, Region 7 (Alaska) noted 7 ARPA permit applications were received in 2013. Five of these were for work to be performed in 2013, two are for work in 2014. One permit, for survey of Sledge Island, was a project developed, and funded by FWS to inventory this small island. Two were issued to Oil Companies for compliance surveys before seismic exploration on Kenai NWR. One was for research on Alaska Maritime NWR. One permit to a private individual is for survey along the Kenai river for independent research. This permit was issued in 2013 but delays in receiving a Special Use Permit from the refuge means the permit was extended through 2014. A permit was issued to a researcher associated with the Alutiiq Museum to conduct salvage excavations on Chirikof Island. Over 130 sites have been recorded on this island but

most have been irreparably damaged or destroyed by invasive grazing ungulates. Researcher Catherine West received support to excavate the few remaining sites to salvage information before they too are destroyed.

Table 8. ARPA data for the FY

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	Totals
Number of ARPA permits received this FY	4	2	6	8	1	7	7	0	35
Number of ARPA permits issued this FY	4	2	6	8	1	7	5	0	33
Number of ARPA consultations this FY	4	1	0	19	0	0	0	0	24
Number of ARPA violations this FY		0	0	2	0	0	0		2
Number of ARPA arrests this FY		0	0	0	0	0	0		0

Native American Graves Protection Repatriation Act

In addition to its responsibilities under NHPA, the USFWS also complies with [NAGPRA](#) and its regulations ([43 CFR Part 10](#)). NAGPRA addresses the rights of lineal descendants, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations (parties with standing) to Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony. The statute requires Federal agencies and museums to provide information about Native American cultural items to parties with standing and, upon presentation of a valid claim, ensure the item(s) undergo disposition or repatriation.

In 2009 the Government Accountability Office (GAO) conducted a survey of federal agency compliance with NAGPRA. They directed the National NAGPRA office of the National Park Service to collect data from agencies that documents their NAGPRA compliance (Table 9).

Table 9 Status of Regional NAGPRA Compliance

NAGPRA	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8
Number of published notices of inventory completion this FY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notice ID(s)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total MNI in Notice(s)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Total Assoc Funerary Objects in Notice(s)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of published notices of intent to repatriate this FY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notice ID(s)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
MNI Repatriated this FY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Associated Funerary Objects Repatriated this FY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of NAGPRA consultations this FY	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	19
Total Number of Culturally Affiliated Remains awaiting NAGPRA review	1	0	4	0	0	0	500	505
Total Number of Culturally Unaffiliated Remains awaiting	0	0	46	0	0	2	0	48

NAGPRA review								
---------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Regions 4 (Southeast) and 7 (Alaska) provided narrative on their NAGPRA activities. Region 4 notes that the inadvertent discovery of a human femur eroding out of the Baytown Site's Mound A—an archaeological site is located on the White River National Wildlife Refuge—was relocated to a more secure location following the directions provided by the Quapaw Tribe.

Region 7 reports that no Notices of Intent to Consult or Notices of Intent to repatriate were submitted or published in FY13. Three collections of human remains have been published and could be repatriated at any time. The affiliated tribe has not requested repatriation. Also, a student intern will be completing their inventory work on a collection of 27 individuals from Chirikof Island. The information is an effort on the Region's part to develop more data to use for NAGPRA reviews. Finally, work continued with 3 sets of human remains from the Alaska Maritime NWR currently at the Peabody Museum Harvard. The Museum agrees the remains are the responsibility of the FWS but has been reluctant to return them. Discussions will resume once a new RHPO for the Region has been hired.

Training, Education and Youth

In addition to responding to active NHPA undertakings and maintaining National Register designation data, the RHPO is also responsible for maintaining, when possible, opportunities for training and volunteering related to cultural resources. Table 10 shows all such outreach and volunteer activities reported in the FY with respect to USFWS cultural resources. Region 1/8 (Pacific) continues to be the busiest Region with respect to working with volunteers. They serve as a model to the rest of the Regions.

Regions 4 (Southeast) reported some specific information with respect to training, education and youth in FY13:

- Natural Resource Discovery Day at Savannah National Wildlife Refuge, March 9, 2013. Created an “archaeological unit” complete with features that children and other visitors to the cultural resource table could map and document.
- “The Archaeology Roadshow” at Savannah National Wildlife, November 16, 2012 that consisted of a presentation on the history and archaeology along the lower portion of the Savannah River.
- Presentations on the history of the Gullah Geechee community at Harris Neck, Georgia to the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission's executive board and to the Coastal Audubon Society [Brunswick, Georgia].
- Presentation on the Indian Bayou Mound Complex, Tensas National Wildlife Refuge to the Cultural Heritage Committee of USET.
- The Gould Cemetery, a Gullah community burial ground, was documented and mapped this year. A formal report describing the investigation is nearing completion. Sections of the report have been shared with the Harris Neck Land Trust [Table of Contents listing documented graves; photos and maps for the Thorpe Family].

Table 10. Cultural Resources outreach and volunteer activities

CR Outreach	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	Totals
Number of volunteer hours this FY	598	0	0	2	0	0	300	207	1107
Number of presentations to/for youth	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
Number of projects involving youth	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1

In FY13 USFWS developed and launched a new online Cultural Resources course. The 3 week course focuses on compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Museum Property and Interpretation of cultural resources, but can be easily expanded to include other topics. The course was developed using the Moodle classroom platform and offers students a range of interaction opportunities including, forums, one-on-one chats with the instructor and other participants, quizzes, and field trip opportunities. Field trips are online experiences but the capability exists to create webinar based field activities that students can view and then use to respond to specific course assignments. The course is designed for small, manageable groups of student to maximize instructor interaction. The target class size is 10-12; the FY 13 class had 7 students.

The USFWS Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) offers law enforcement training programs government wide. For the past 7 years they have offered a training course for compliance with ARPA. Several offerings of this course are made during the year. They are attended primarily by archaeologists and federal law enforcement officers. FLETC works with the USFWS cultural resources program to update this course and to market it to USFWS cultural resource staff.

In 2004, the USFWS cultural resource program launched its national website (<http://www.USFWS.gov/historicpreservation/>). The website has information on all aspects of the program including a section for Employee training. Here one can find documents, videos, and lectures for employees to increase their understanding of the program and the Service's responsibilities.

II. Fish and Wildlife Museum Property Management

The Service is responsible for about **4.5** million objects that include: archaeology, art, ethnography, history, archives, biology, paleontology and geology. Approximately **28** percent of the total number of objects is maintained by Service units, while the remaining materials are curated in non-Federal repositories. The number and size of collections continue to grow as a result of cultural resource studies completed in response to the requirements of the NHPA.

114 FWS units are responsible for managing museum property with most collections housed in **175** non-federal institutions. Responsibility for museum property collections has been reported at all administrative levels (e.g., the FWS Headquarters, Regional Offices, field stations and administrative sites such as the National Conservation Training Center [NCTC]).

Table 1. Discipline totals for FWS Museum Collections

Region	Arch	Art	Ethno	Hist	Archives	Bio	Paleo	Geol	Regional Totals
1	72,184	5	2	55	24	480	806	1	73,558
2	7	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	9
3	654,178	132	2	577,320	9,576	1,429	68	0	1,242,705
4	395,401	36	5	208	1,260,000	1,266	71	0	1,656,987
5	107,674	418	4	1,434	37,880	6,171	63	0	153,644
6	1,000,100	25	0	15,897	73,423	0	14,380	0	1,103,825
7	115,000	19	40	591	500	7,000	0	0	123,150
8	15,227	23	2	67	4	210	63	0	15,596
9	0	0	0	100,000	33,400	0	0	0	133,400
									4,502,874

In FY13, FWS continued its effort to re-certify its museum property, removing collections from museum property listing if they no longer met the definition of Museum Property and noted in 411 DM. Additionally, collections that have, for years, been attributed to FWS control through various forms of limited or unverified information are no longer tracked by FWS.

Funding

In FY 2013, \$362,659 from the Service's Refuge Operations and Maintenance Activity has been allocated to Regions as Arts and Artifacts funding. Art and Artifacts funding has been used for program oversight and coordination, compiling inventory information, providing technical assistance and purchasing equipment and supplies for field stations. Additionally, Service repositories, including D.C. Booth Historic Fish Hatchery, DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge and NCTC, receive additional operations and maintenance funding to maintain their collections, exhibits and facilities. DeSoto received \$25,000 (included in the total) from the FWS Transportation Program for cataloging and exhibit re-installation. Funding for museum property from Arts and Artifacts is woefully inadequate, both for new collections and legacy collections (Table 2). Table 3 lists estimated funding and staffing needs for USFWS museum collections.

Table 2. FY13 Arts and Artifacts budget against Regional museum property totals

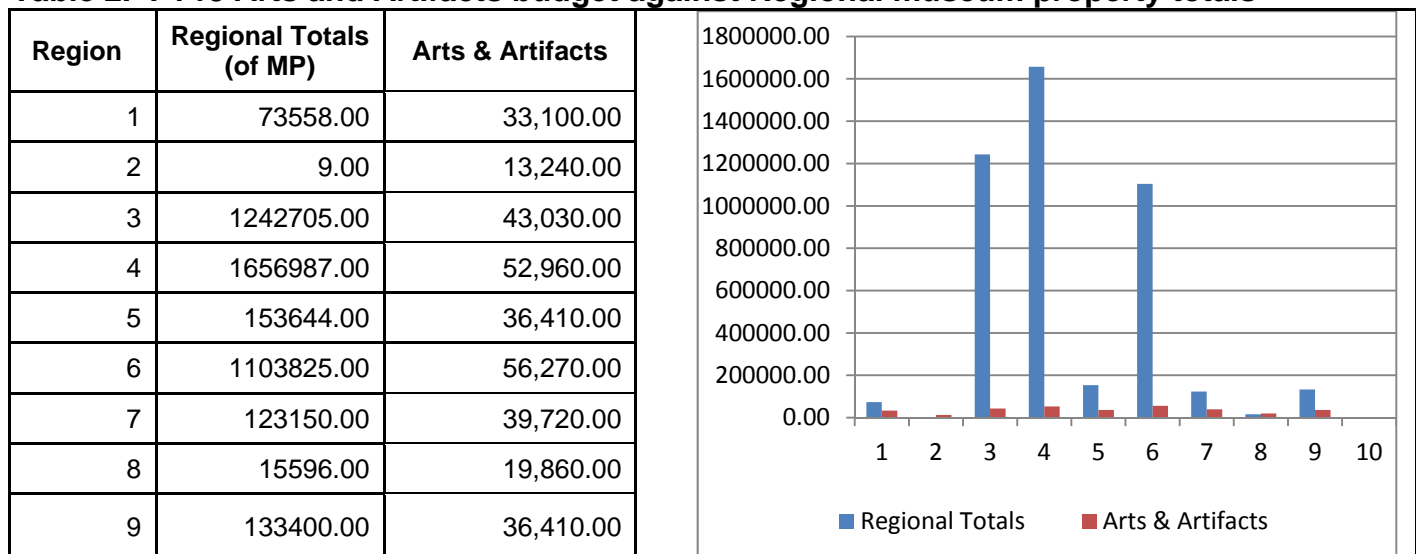


Table 3 Estimated funding needs for museum property

Action	Need	Funding Amount	Outcome
Increase the current number of FTE for the cultural resource program	Our workload analysis recommends an additional 8 FTE (GS 7, 9, 11) Service-wide to meet museum property responsibilities for FWS	\$271,832 (for 8 GS 7s)	The addition will allow for dedicated staff and time that can be allocated for other program components such as NAGPRA compliance

Create a National Curator/NAGPRA coordinator position at the Washington level	This addition of 1 FTE (GS 11) will more effectively address FWS museum property	\$50,287	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Standardization of FWS organization against that seen in other Bureaus 2. Enhance the FWS ability to consult with Tribes on NAGPRA 3. Improve FWS ability to meet the needs of its programs (e.g. OLE NAGPRA needs)
Raise the current level of base funding available for museum property management	The current level that has been in effect since 1992 should be doubled and added to base funding for 2013. It should be revisited annually beginning in 2014.	\$770,000 (doubling of current amount)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Augment current ability to actively manage collections 2. Fund current agreements with non-federal repositories housing collections
Set aside 2 year money in FY 2013 for a review of FWS legacy collections	Special funding (equivalent to 1 FTE, GS 11, for 18 months) should be used for a contract to examine all FWS legacy collections for NAGPRA items.	\$50,287	Enable of review of FWS legacy collections for NAGPRA items
		\$1,142,406	

*Funding is based on a 2011 Workload Analysis for the FWS Cultural Resources program that called for 1 additional FTE per Region to handle the agency's museum property needs. The report also noted a need for a doubling of the current FWS Arts and Artifacts budget.

Museum Program Timeline

2013—issuance of an updated Museum Property Policy (in progress); collection of Facility Condition Index (FCI) for federal repositories (complete); update to OIG audit C-IS-FWS-0007-2010 (complete, see Update to OIG audit section of this report)

2012—accession any collections that meet the definition of museum property and that have not already been accessioned

2012—issuance of a Workload Study for the FWS Cultural Resources program—includes a component on museum property management.

2011—Service archaeologist named National Curator for FWS

2010—the FWS began to re-certify its museum property to only those that meet the definition of museum property as per DM 411 (on-going).

2009—GAO audit of NAGPRA compliance

2009—an online training course that includes museum property management was developed in conjunction with our National Conservation Training Center. The course is available through DOI Learn

2008—a second OIG audit for museum collections

2007—a follow on to the 1991 survey was initiated wherein 80 units reported meeting standards with 32 reporting that they did not.

1996—NAGPRA assessment released to comply with that Act.

1992—museum property policy and scope of collections guidance issued.

1991—in response to the IG audit of 1990, the FWS initiated a survey to identify specific weaknesses and deficiencies in how collections were being managed. Information submitted by approximately 180 FWS units cited 14,932 deficiencies related to the management of museum property. Cited deficiencies include the lack of documentation and plans to account for and protect museum property, improper environmental conditions, and lack of staff expertise. The review did indicate, however, that many units meet Departmental standards in terms of certain requirements addressing physical storage space and fire security.

Program Oversight

Oversight responsibility for the program resides with the Assistant Director - Refuges and Wildlife at the national level. The Division of Refuges, Washington Office, has been delegated lead responsibility for providing overall direction and coordinating activities related to the program. Policy development and day-to-day program coordination are collateral duties of the Service's Historic Preservation Officer. Each Regional Director has designated one or more individuals to coordinate functions within their respective Regions and with the Washington Office. The Service also participates in the Department's Heritage Asset Partnership and Interior Museum Program Committee. As per the 1992 FWS Museum Property policy, each Regional Director has designated one individual as a Regional Museum Property coordinator (on a collateral duty basis) to provide assistance to units and oversee the completion of program activities. None of the Regional coordinators has extensive training or experience in managing collections, although all possess a basic understanding of program objectives and standards for managing primarily archaeological collections. Regional coordinators have received, at a minimum, introductory training on the program's administrative and technical requirements and a few have attended an 80-hour curatorial methods training course.

Long-Term Objectives

Given the breadth of its collections and number of units involved in managing museum property, the FWS efforts to meet Federal and Departmental standards will require work to be phased in over a long-term basis. The exact timetable for completing this work is largely dependent upon available funding and FTEs. While work to identify and assess the condition of FWS collections located in non-FWS facilities continues, priority is being placed on meeting legal mandates and protecting collections in the possession of offices. The program's major objectives are to:

1. Re-certify that FWS museum property collections meet the definition of museum property as per DM 411;

2. update policies, procedures and standards for the management of museum property;
3. assess the condition of collections, identify deficiencies and initiate necessary corrective actions;
4. provide for necessary conservation of museum property and ensure its adequate use and storage;
5. connect the protection and use of museum property within the FWS mission and various program objectives, specifically for interpretation, research, and education; and, develop a network of individuals and offices that are available to provide subject expertise and technical assistance to FWS units managing museum property.

FWS Repositories

NCTC

The National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) in Shepherdstown West Virginia is the “home” of the US Fish and Wildlife Service and serves as the National training center for all FWS training. The Fish and Wildlife Service Museum, located within the NCTC, tells the story of the Service within the context of the American conservation movement. The NCTC archives contain an extraordinary collection of about 2600 catalog files comprised of more than 100,000 objects, photographs, books, and documents. The museum also contains materials from the broader conservation community, including an extensive collection of materials and artwork from the National Wildlife Federation. The museum collection contains an extensive collection of important and sometimes rare conservation books, and the NCTC museum houses an additional collection of un-accessioned, "important" conservation books. The center has one FTE devoted to museum collections and also houses the office of the Service Historian.

In FY13 there were no changes or updates from FY12 where the controlled property (firearms) inventory was updated, and a 100% inventory of controlled property was completed as was a random 5% inventory of the entire collection and an inventory of loan objects. The National Wildlife Federation collection of over 3100 original artworks for NWF stamp series was catalogued, conserved, and digitally copied. All new accessions and catalog records were entered in the ICMS database. The cataloging and conservation of the collection is on-going. Key entry and sign-in security measures were maintained. IPM and environmental monitoring was strictly adhered to according to 411 DM standards. Preventive conservation procedures were carried out on all incoming materials to the museum storage facility. The resource file system was upgraded and expanded. This system makes information immediately accessible to researchers and the interested public. A similar 30 requests for information regarding conservation methods, and NCTC holdings, as well as FWS history were answered, with books, pamphlets, Xerox copies, and photographs forwarded to the requestors.

DC Booth National Historic Fish Hatchery

In 1983 the Spearfish National Fish Hatchery was closed by the Service. The City of Spearfish, under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Service, began to operate the Spearfish hatchery. It was renamed the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery (DCB). In 1989 discussion among the Directorate of the Service resulted in the reestablishment of a position at DCB. This was in recognition of the potential public information and interpretation benefits to the Service. An administrative person followed in 1991 and a museum curator was hired in 1992. Current Service employees stationed at and responsible for DCB are the Director, Museum Curator, Administrative Officer, and Maintenance Worker. Three additional Service employees are stationed at DCB. Full control and responsibility for the hatchery operations reverted from the City to the Service on 1 Jan 1993.

The potential public information and interpretation benefits to the Service at DCB were recognized in 1989 by the Deputy Director, after discussion among the Directorate. This is accomplished through the preservation of the historic site and through the museum collection. As the National site to collect, preserve, protect, make accessible to researchers, and interpret the history of fisheries management, the site has ample resources available. The facility also serves as a collection site and provides technical assistance on museum property management for other service programs. D.C. Booth serves Region 6 as an outreach and education facility to improve effectiveness in communicating the Service's roles and responsibilities for fish and wildlife resources.

For FY13, DCB continued entering its collections into the Interior Collection Management System (ICMS).

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge, located in Missouri Valley, Iowa, is home to a premier archeological collection of over 250,000 artifacts excavated from the buried hold of the Steamboat *Bertrand*. On April 1, 1865, the sternwheeler hit a sawyer, or submerged log, twenty miles north of Omaha, Nebraska. Bound for the newly discovered goldfields of Montana from St. Louis, Missouri, the *Bertrand* sank into the depths of the Missouri River; her cargo was a complete loss. Local folklore indicated the ship carried whiskey, gold and flasks of mercury for use in the mining process, a treasure trove worth hundreds of thousands of dollars!

Using historical documents and a flux gate magnetometer, modern salvors, Sam Corbino and Jesse Pursell discovered the wreck on DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge in 1968. Since the boat was on government property, the salvors agreed under the requirements of the American Antiquities Preservation Act of 1906, to hand all man-made artifacts over to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for permanent exhibition and preservation in a public museum. By 1969, the vessel's extant hull was completely excavated from its thirty feet deep, mud tomb under the auspices of National Park Service archeologists. Unfortunately for the salvors, the treasure they sought had eluded them. Insurance Company divers had removed most of the mercury and other valuables in 1865. In spite of this fact, a diversity of tools, clothing, food, and equipment remained in the hold.

A Visitor Center, built by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1981, accommodates the artifacts from the *Bertrand*. An environmentally-controlled collection storage area protects the cargo of the boat. The Visitor Center also contains a conservation laboratory for *Bertrand* artifact preservation, research library, theater and exhibition galleries. Permanent exhibits discuss the impact steamboat cargoes and passengers brought to the frontier through the building of towns, farming, logging and mining. Each of these pursuits, while assuring prosperity and growth, initially produced a long term adverse effect upon the environment and wildlife habitats. Displays address the history of wildlife refuges, which were created to alleviate these problems. Temporary exhibits include a variety of topics from art shows to interpretive programs.

For FY13, staff at DeSoto returned the Bertrand collection to the Refuge's visitor center and began the process of re-installing the exhibits. As collections were transferred, cataloging work continued for those collections still located off Refuge. During FY13, DeSoto staff were given Funds (25k) from the FWS Transportation program for exhibit reinstallation and to continue cataloging efforts. Once fully returned to the Refuge, data entry into ICMS will continue and, hopefully, conclude in calendar year 2014.

FWS Cataloging

In FY13, 19 (17%) federal Repositories and 17 (10%) of non-federal repositories reported having some portion of the Service collections cataloged. The 253 remaining repositories have no information as to the current status of cataloging efforts for Service collections. The majority of collections with catalog information are archaeological in nature, however several historic and biological collections were also noted. Of the in-house repositories only NCTC reports 100% of the collections as being cataloged, DeSoto reports 80% of the Bertrand materials are cataloged. DC Booth also reported 80% cataloged.

Public Use

Several cultural resources authorities direct federal agencies to educate the public on its historic resources. Museum collections often take a central role in these education efforts, either in the form of museum exhibits at FWS Visitor Centers or as traveling exhibits used by field or regional staff to take the message of protection of historic resources to various audiences. In FY13, 50 FWS Visitor Center's include exhibits pertaining to history or prehistory. Materials in these exhibits are often from the field station's museum property. FWS collections that are available for research are those housed in our Federal repositories (NCTC, DCB, and DeSoto). Table 4 notes their access request and viewing data for FY13.

Table 4. Public Use for FWS Museum Collections

Repository	Number of research requests	Number of Visitors to the collection	Number of research access
NCTC	150	2,000	120
DCB	-	-	-
DeSoto*	0	0	0

Region 7	12		15
----------	----	--	----

- While being rehoused, Bertrand material is not available to researchers or the public.

Future Directions

As noted in the Timeline, the next milestone will be issuance of an updated Museum Property policy. A draft is complete but will require continued review and the submittal through USFWS leadership. The newly developed museum module of FRED (the USFWS archaeological database) will be fully implemented in Region 3 (Lakes and Rivers) and 6 (Mountain-Prairie) in the coming year. Region 1 and 8 will likely move to FRED this calendar year. Also, the mid-west Region (3) of FWS will continue its collection identification and assessment project (hopefully to conclude towards the end of FY14) that will update current totals, locations, and condition for collections on FWS field stations.