

WAPA

Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists Spring 1993

NOTES FROM GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

BLM/FHWA/SHPO/ACHP PA: The Programmatic Agreement was signed on October 19, 1992, contrary to regulations, since the Council did not receive WAPA comments until October 22 (still within the review time allotted us). At this time, the Council has requested that WAPA provide documentation of instances when the PA is not working and to participate in the review process.

BLM/SHPO/ACHP PA: Both the BLM and the Council drafted new versions of the proposed PA in January. The BLM's version outlines time saving measures at the beginning of the consultation process, the Council's abbreviated procedures are at the end of the process. The Council's version includes specific BLM responsibilities for data management and synthesis, while the BLM's outlines procedures for Category 1 sites, Category 2 sites, and NRHP eligible sites. Another meeting among all interested parties is in the process of being scheduled for late April or early May. Any members with specific concerns, ideas or comments are urged to contact the Governmental Chairman, Dianne Berrigan, 235-7018.

RODIAK STEATITE QUARRY: The EQC issued the Bridger-Teton steatite mining permit February 19, 1993, over our objections that the permittee was in violation

of this permit stipulations (use of helicopter to remove steatite, divulging site specific information to the press, removing more steatite than permit allowed). The steatite quarry is considered sacred to Shoshone and Arapahoe tribal members according to the Association of American Indian Affairs.

MEDICINE WHEEL: Bighorn National Forest officials recently announced some decisions regarding short-term management protection for the Medicine Wheel. Adverse affects to the site were the result of excessive vehicles adjacent to the Wheel in an area with limited parking facilities and unlimited, uncontrolled pedestrian traffic around the Wheel. Visitor vehicles will park 1.5 miles away from the Wheel and visitors will walk in, guided by interpreters. Additional ethnographic studies will be undertaken as a basis for long-term management decision. The long-term management analysis will include identifying the area for special management, such as a National Historic District or a Cultural/Spiritual Forest Plan Management Area. The Decision Memo is dated February 22, 1993. Membership comments to date have been very favorable.

SHOSHONE N.F. OIL AND GAS LEASING FINAL E.I.S.: WAPA formally commented on the sections pertaining to cultural resource management, which was in general, weak and lacking basic knowledge of preservation policy. A primary concern was that the document

failed to address the issue that the entire Shoshone N.F. may be eligible as a National Historic Landmark, as the flagship of an entire agency. Native American issues of protecting cultural and spiritual sites also were given inadequate consideration. a decision memo may be issued on late March or April.

WYOMING CULTURAL RESOURCE

LEGISLATION: Chris Arthur and John Albanese have sent out requests for copies of cultural resource legislation passed recently in other western states. This year's legislature has not attempted to pass last year's bill, so WAPA efforts will target the 1994 session.

BLM CULTURAL RESOURCE TASK

FORCE: The most recent meeting was held on January 26, 1993, in Cheyenne. The BLM's continuing efforts to draft a PA were discussed and the sub-committee outlined their recent activities. The BLM consider implementation of a PA to be integral to satisfying industry's demand for a streamlined process.

AGENCY UPDATES

BRIDGER-TETON N.F.: Jamie Schoen reports that the EIS for the Union Pass Road is completed. Also, inquiries concerning the upcoming Rocky Mountain Regional Conference can be directed to Jamie, (w) 739-5523.

As of 17 March 1993, no other agency updates were submitted. If you folks don't let me know, I can't print what's happening!!!

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

The following concerns and items will be discussed at the upcoming meeting:

1) The current status of the curation facilities in the state - Do the facilities meet current standards for maintenance of the collections? Are the facilities adequately staffed and funded? Are the sources of funds such that perpetual curation is assured? Should the membership be concerned, and if so, what actions could or should we take?

2) The BLM/SHPO PA proposal and the ACHP (Advisory Council) counter proposal - I have been invited by the BLM and SHPO to provide WAPA's comments on the PA, and to attend a meeting in April where the agencies will attempt to come to some resolution. I'll prepare a draft set of comments and circulate these among the executive committee as soon as possible, and report on the outcome of the BLM/SHPO meeting.

3) Procedures for approving spending of WAPA funds - Currently there are few guidelines for spending and, as discussed at the last meeting, the executive committee needs to draft proposed guidelines to be presented at the meeting.

4) Procedures for developing and approving WAPA comments on various activities affecting the resource - Currently there are few formal guidelines, and this can put the WAPA commenters in a bad position when commenting on controversial topics. Perhaps we can develop some formal mechanism for approval of comments so that it is clear that the comments represent the feelings of the membership, rather than any one person's personal feelings.

5) After several failed attempts to schedule an earlier time and place, there will be a meeting of the Archaeological Landscape committee Thursday, April 29 at 6 p.m., in Saratoga. A report will be made to the membership at the business meeting.

Swen Swenson, President

DUES

The following members need to pay dues for 1992 - \$10.00:

Mike Andrew	Jeff Mitchem
Craig Bromley	Greg Newberry
Ranel Capron	Chris Prillwitz
Dave Darlington	Chuck Reher
Jon Frizell	Gene Rogge
John Greer	Gene Romanski
Mavis Greer	Paul Sanders
Jim Heid	Charlotte Sasonkin
Mary Hopkins	Jamie Schoen
Michael Kyte	Allen Schroedl
Tom Larson	John Slay
Dave McKee	Danny Walker
Roger Wardlow	

Remember - Dues have been increased to \$20.00 beginning in 1993!!!

Spring meeting announcement:

WHERE: Saratoga Inn, Saratoga, WY

WHEN: Friday, April 30, 1993, 1:00 p.m.
Membership Business meeting

Saturday, May 1, 1993 - special presentations or extended discussions - contact the President, Swen Swenson, if you have an interesting topic for discussion!!

Thursday, April 29, 1993 - Archaeological Landscape meeting in the evening at the hotel - rather informal.

Hotel arrangements must be made with the Saratoga Inn, 326-5261. Tell them you are with the "BLM Group" or you will get a higher rate!! Rooms are \$45.00/night. They will provide a steak dinner Friday p.m. for \$16.00/person. Reservations for the dinner must be made by Friday, April 23, with Gary DeMarcay, (w) 324-4841. The hotel will also provide a Breakfast Buffet for \$5.50/person, Saturday, May 1, in the meeting room.

F Y I a n d T h i n g s t o C o n t e m p l a t e F r o m B e t h S e n n e t t , C o l l e c t i o n s M a n a g e r , W W C R e p o s i t o r y

As noted in the letter from Pres. Swen, the current status of the two curation facilities in Wyoming will be a topic for discussion at the upcoming meeting. Do the facilities meet current standards for maintenance of the collections? Are the facilities adequately staffed and funded? Are the sources of funds such that perpetual curation is assured? Should the membership be concerned, and if so, what actions could or should we take? These are questions raised by those of us who work with the storage phase of CRM (and others) that should be of concern to us all.

The Department of the Interior has approved new regulations for the care and maintenance of museum property and all associated records which includes the contents of our Repositories. They are strict and will probably be "foreign concepts" to many field archaeologists. However, like learning a foreign language, with a little practice and dedication we can all learn to be preservation minded.

These changes will not take place overnight. I hope people will not think this is just more bureaucratic B.S. being shoved down their throats. It is probably the most important aspect of Cultural Resource Management that we can preserve for future archaeologists. Without all the records, field notes, photographs, data, analyses, artifact provenience, etc., the artifacts we collect are totally useless. They will tell us and future scholars nothing about the people who once lived here if the data base is scattered, incomplete, or totally gone.

Nearly three years ago I returned to WWC after a ten year hiatus. It has been quite an adventure going through the collections - artifacts and records. Bag tags and labels are faded and brittle; glued photos are turning brown and brittle; negatives have no records or numbers; bone is disintegrating; "utilized flakes" have reproduced like rabbits; etc, etc, etc. We truly have a curation crisis for which we all must take responsibility.

My opinion is that we are all part of the problem, past and present, and to fully correct the situation we must all be part of the solution. There are many museum professionals in this state that can share their knowledge of artifact conservation and data preservation so that we as archaeologists can learn how to and why we must preserve all the data we collect doing cultural resource inventories.

Our neighboring states have already taken steps to correct these problems. They have raised curation fees to help cover costs. They have worked with the BLM to get monetary support and written standards for all permittees. It's time we in Wyoming join the 20th century before it leaves us behind and we, quite literally, have nothing to show for all our effort.

I would like to see one-day workshops or symposia organized to give the WAPA membership information on how to

preserve their data in perpetuity - a word we all must learn to live with. Having spent several years working with archaeological collections management I know we can all learn the "ins and outs" of artifact and document preservation and have all our years of hard work available for archaeologists next year, in ten years, in a hundred years.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

23 October 1992 Executive Board Meeting

John Keck spoke about the status of the SHPO. There are presently two vacancies, Planner and Historic Compliance. Judy Wolf, Mary Hopkins, and Sheila Bricher-Wade are Deputy SHPOs. Carin Collins on contract through November. The SHPO is back in the Barrett Building at the following address: 2301 Central Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001. They are on the fourth floor of the Barrett Building. The main points presented by Mr. Keck will be discussed under the business meeting minutes. The agenda was set for the business meeting and the Executive Board adjourned.

23 October 1992 Business Meeting

The minutes were approved as printed in the Fall newsletter; a motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. Julie Francis presented the treasury report. After expenditures were made for this meeting and the newsletter, there is a balance of \$2520.55 with \$101.30 in petty cash.

AGENCY UPDATES

These have been included in the meeting because they were not submitted for the

newsletter (Guess that means I need to send reminders!!!)

SHPO: John Keck addressed the membership concerning changes in SHPO and what they hope to accomplish. Briefly, he comes from a background of 12 years with the state as planner for the state park system; 1 year as head of the Rec. Commission; and has worked with David Kathka over the SHPO. His work with the state has been dealing with cultural resources in an indirect manner for several years. The phone number for SHPO in the Barrett Building is 766-6696.

Mr. Keck mentioned the two vacancies (see minutes from Executive Board meeting). They are attempting to have all staff work more closely through the reorganization of the office. Planning must be program wide coordinating all facets. The various 'Context' documents will hopefully be an aid to managers and professional dealing with the 106 process. Mr. Keck feels strongly that it is important for SHPO to work with WAPA and all agencies alike for better management of our cultural resources.

A major issue discussed was file searches. It was mentioned that file searches are out of date too quickly. Information needs better updating. Sandy Shelley discussed the options of raising fees. A rough estimate concluded that adding \$4.00 would fund one position; \$8.00 would fund two positions. These would have to be on a yearly contract basis. It might be possible to create a sliding scale for requests over 10 sections. Thus far there have been no complaints from industry. The increase in fees would be used to improve service. The general discussion centered on the need for attention to detail and experience when inputting the data for quality work; errors cost time. It was suggested to simply double the fee and get the money to do the work

now. Sandy Shelley felt that two people working on it for two years would be adequate to input the backlog of data. The cost would be passed on to the clients. Sandy also felt the need for a data cooperative with the BLM. This would have to be pushed through the state office with lots of positive feedback.

BLM: Terry Del Bene noted that information on the Oregon Trail sesquicentennial can be obtained from Jude Carino in Casper and mentioned the initial draft PA between BLM and SHPO has been written. Mike Beis introduced Julie Clark, a new archaeologist in the Worland District Office. Lynn Harrell briefly discussed the pottery site in the Kemmerer Resource Area which was salvaged with the help of volunteers. She has been swamped with oil and gas work. B.J. Earle has been compiling data for a revised RMP in Buffalo. They have also written a cooperative agreement with Fort Phil Kearney for interpretive signs for the Bozeman Trail.

Russ Tanner thanked WAPA for their support of Archaeology Week events and assisting with the Stage Station excavation in conjunction with the OCTA meeting in Rock Springs. He felt they were able to demonstrate to local communities that economic gain can be made by promoting cultural resources.

Chris Arthur presented a thank you letter from the Casper District to WAPA for their support of the High Plains Tribute. The blankets presented as a commemorative item were well received. The elders were especially pleased. Copies will be available eventually, of the video and audio tapes from the event at Fort Laramie. Julie Clark will be doing the transcriptions for the audio tapes.

USFS: Brad Humphrey reported that the Medicine Bow Forest hosted the second volunteer archaeology excavation on the Walker tipi ring site. It was very successful with the help of 25 volunteers. John Tarness was also involved. The NRHP nomination will be written this coming year. Dave McKee will be hosting a similar event in 1993. Jim Heid worked on improving CCC structures for use by hikers in the back country.

BREC: Dale Austin commented that the reservoirs in Wyoming were almost empty, but no compliance work is being generated. Seminoe Reservoir is so low that the general public is using it as an archaeology hunting ground. Some sites at Seminoe will be excavated this coming fiscal year. When asked if press coverage was being used to alert people to the problems created by the looting, Dale said it was felt that would only advertise the sites even more. He felt that school age children need to be targeted for education on the value of archaeological resources.

WyDOT: As of September 1, 1992, Julie Francis is the archaeologist for the WY Dept. of Transportation. Her two immediate problems were the hot mix plant on the Oregon Trail and the draft PA with the BLM on how 106 compliance will be handled.

In a report to be sent to the BLM she will delineate the damages to the Oregon Trail with a recommendation that the hot mix plant be moved.

Concerning 106 compliance and the proposed PA with the BLM, Julie will approve all contractors, but there will be no permit required through the BLM. ARPA permits for excavations have not been ironed out. Julie is taking the position that these are Federal undertakings governed by Federal law and not the land owner. All artifacts will be curated as Federal property.

Julie will be responsible for all concerns with compliance. The BLM will have some input and will oversee all decisions concerning any burials.

The membership present mentioned several concerns with the proposals in the draft PA and WAPA will be making a formal comment. Some of the concerns noted include:

- collecting should be by Federal employees or permitted contractors only
- artifacts should be curated as Federal property
- Lack of a BLM permit to do the work is not wise
- concerns about borrow areas outside the initial 1/4 mile boundary
- ARPA and NAGPRA not seriously addressed

Committee Reports: Concerning Lithic Landscapes - Lynn Harrell will gather all the data collected this past field season and start the analysis this winter.

Concerning Native American Issues - Chris Arthur met with people on the Flathead Reservation with the following topics discussed:

- NAGPRA and new amendments to the Antiquities Act, SHPO's will be set up on the reservations.
- Section 106 and 110 will not be directly affected by the amendment changes
- Sacred Sites were a major concern; Section 106 does not effectively work in this area.
- more consultation with Native American groups is needed

Governmental Affairs: John Whitehurst presented the plan for writing the cultural resource section of the Grassy Creek RMP. It will include such concerns as rock art, paleontology, interpretive signage for trails, a scenic byway will be created in the basin interior with archaeology signage, and they

are considering interpretation of the Meeteetsee Draw Rock Art area.

A motion was made and seconded to send a thank you letter to the Department of Commerce for their handling of Legend Rock. Russ Tanner and Dave Vlcek will write a letter to the superintendent of Hot Springs State Park and John Keck. This passed unanimously.

Dianne Berrigan passed out copies of the first draft from the BLM on the PA with the SHPO. Progress has met an impasse. A version from SHPO should be out by the first of the year.

A public hearing was held by DEQ on the Rodiak steatite claim in the Wind River mountains. Comments were made by all present.

And finally, the BLM will have a new publication by the end of the year on the Bairoil excavations conducted by Mariah.

Membership: Bill Prentice re-established his membership. Two new members, Lynita Langley and Phyllis Wolf, were also considered. A motion was made and seconded to accept their membership and was approved unanimously.

New Business: The membership was asked to appoint a new WAPA representative to the Cultural Resources Task Force since Steve Creasman left. Lynn Harrell volunteered to fill the vacancy.

Ballots were counted during the break with the following results:

Chris Arthur	Vice President
Julie Francis	Treasurer
Beth Sennett	Secretary
Tim Nowak	Member at Large

The Bylaws change included on the ballot enclosed with the last newsletter passed.

WAPA has received many requests for donations this past year. It was felt that a policy should be established for reviewing such requests. At present, the Executive Board makes these decisions. General comments centered around the membership having a say in how their money is spent, the Executive Board having the authority to authorize donations up to \$100.00, setting a ceiling for the treasury to not drop below, there needs to be a written request including the amount, and putting a cap on donations in any one year. A motion was proposed, seconded, and passed unanimously to have the Executive Board present a proposal for handling donation requests for consideration at the Spring meeting, 1993.

Wyoming does not have a state historic preservation law. Now appears to be the time for WAPA to become involved with writing one for Wyoming or at least presenting ideas to appropriate legislators. Beth Sennett presented copies of the new Utah historic preservation law. We need to pull information from this and other existing state preservation laws and try to formulate one for Wyoming. A motion was presented, seconded, and passed unanimously for a committee to convene to gather information to be presented at the Spring meeting. Chris Arthur, Russ, Tanner, and John Albanese volunteered for the committee.

Ideas for this year's Wyoming Archaeology week are being accepted by Mary Hopkins. She is interested in ideas for a general theme; one big name speaker for the state; fairs, tours, and local speakers; and anything else you might think appropriate. WHC grant money will be sought. Mary requested \$200.00 from WAPA for posters again this year. She will submit a formal written request for our files. It was motioned, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve this request for funding.

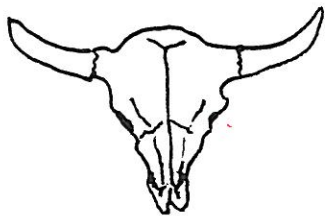
Announcements: Vacancies were noted for two positions at SHPO and the Director of Archaeological Services - WWC. Russ Tanner commented on the progress of the plans being made jointly between the Park Service and the BLM concerning the festivities for the Oregon Trail celebration. At least one, and possibly two, wagon trains will travel the route to the new center at Baker, OR. Phyllis Wolf announced the November 7 meeting of the South Dakota Archaeological Association.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to have the Executive Board swap newsletter with surrounding

state archaeology associations. A motion was also made, seconded, and passed unanimously to have the Executive Board approach other state associations about having joint state association meetings at various national association meetings.

A final motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to have the Spring, 1993, meeting in Saratoga, WY, Friday/Saturday, April 30/May 1, 1993. Dave McKee and Gary DeMarcaay will organize the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.



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OF
PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS

Spring 1993

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Vice President

Chris Arthur

Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Beth Sennett

Treasurer

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Members at Large

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