

existing oil and gas lease rights would be allowed, other rights-of-way would not be allowed, locatable minerals would be withdrawn from entry, oil and gas leasing would be allowed with a No Surface Occupancy stipulation, the area would be closed to geophysical exploration for oil and gas, and off-road vehicle use would be limited to authorized use.

Battle Butte (120 public surface acres) in Rosebud County, Montana would be designated an Area of Critical Environmental Concern and managed to protect significant cultural resources. Management actions affecting this area are: fire would be managed with conditional fire suppression, rights-of-way would not be allowed, mineral material sales and permits would not be allowed, oil and gas leasing would be allowed with a No Surface Occupancy stipulation, geophysical exploration for oil and gas would be allowed on designated roads and trails with restrictions, and off-road vehicle use would be limited to designated roads and trails.

Finger Buttes (1,520 public surface acres) in Carter County, Montana would be designated an Area of Critical Environmental Concern and managed for its scenic values. Management actions affecting this area are: fire would be managed with conditional fire suppression, rights-of-way would avoid the area, livestock grazing and range improvements would be allowed, mineral material sales and permits and nonenergy mineral leasing would not be allowed, oil and gas leasing would be allowed with a No Surface Occupancy stipulation, geophysical exploration for oil and gas would be allowed on designated roads and trails with restrictions, and off-road vehicle use would be allowed with restrictions.

Howrey Island (321 public surface acres) in Treasure County, Montana would be designated an Area of Critical Environmental Concern and managed to protect and enhance its special wildlife habitat. Management actions affecting this area are: fire would be managed with conditional fire suppression, wood product sales would be allowed with restrictions, rights-of-way would not be allowed, livestock grazing would be allowed, range improvements would be allowed when they do not degrade the values of the Area of Critical Environmental Concern. Off-road vehicle use would be limited to the BLM road except from February 15 to June 1. During that time, no vehicles would be allowed, including on the BLM road.

Reynolds Battlefield (336 public surface acres) in Powder River County,

Montana would be designated an Area of Critical Environmental Concern and managed to protect its significant cultural resources. Management actions affecting this area are: fire would be managed with conditional fire suppression, timber and wood product sales would be allowed with restrictions, rights-of-way would avoid the area, livestock grazing and range improvements would be allowed, coal leasing would not be allowed, mineral material sales and permits and oil and gas leasing would not be allowed, geophysical exploration for oil and gas would be allowed on designated roads and trails with restrictions, and off-road vehicle use would be limited to designated roads and trails.

Fossil Cycad (320 public surface acres) in Fall River County, South Dakota would be designated an Area of Critical Environmental Concern and managed to protect its significant paleontological values. Management actions affecting this area are: the surface and minerals would be retained in public ownership, fire would be managed with conditional fire suppression, timber sales and wood products sales would not be allowed, rights-of-way would not be allowed, livestock grazing would be allowed, locatable minerals would be withdrawn from entry, geophysical exploration for oil and gas would not be allowed, off-road vehicle use would be limited to designated roads and trails, and noncommercial collection of common invertebrate and plant fossils would be allowed.

Management prescriptions for these proposed areas of critical environmental concern vary by alternative and are described in the Areas of Critical Environmental Concern Environmental Assessment and Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment.

Public participation has occurred throughout the resource management planning process. A Notice of Intent was filed in the **Federal Register** in April 1995. All comments presented throughout the process have been considered.

This notice meets the requirements of 43 CFR 1610.7-2 for designation of areas of critical environmental concern.

Dated: September 14, 1998.

Aden Seidlitz,

Associate Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 98-25220 Filed 9-30-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AK-050-1220-00]

Establishment of Moratorium on New Commercial Operations on the Gulkana National Wild River Throughout the Upcoming Limits of Acceptable Change Planning Process

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

SUMMARY: Public notice is hereby given that no new Special Recreation Permit applications for commercial operations on the Gulkana National Wild River will be authorized for a period of three years, the tentative time frame under which a Limits of Acceptable Change planning process to update the Gulkana National Wild River Management Plan of December, 1983, is expected to be completed. Only annual renewal applications submitted by qualified commercial operators authorized for at least one of the use seasons between 1995-1998 will be considered. No new types of use or requests for increases in levels of use by individual operators will be authorized during the moratorium. Since the original Gulkana National Wild River Management Plan was written in 1983, estimated visits to the river have nearly doubled, and commercial use, estimated in 1983 at 5% or less of all river use, is estimated to have increased to nearly 8%. This temporary moratorium is being established to stabilize the number of, and user days associated with, commercial outfitters during the planning process to update the Gulkana National Wild River Management Plan. Future use levels will be determined by the Limits of Acceptable Change planning process. Data related to the environmental impacts of river use have been collected since 1994 in preparation for the Limits of Acceptable Change planning process. By limiting the availability of Special Recreation Permits to operators with historical use of the Gulkana National Wild River between 1995 and 1998, and limiting the types and levels of use of the historical operators to 1995-1998 levels, this data should remain relevant during the planning process.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kathy J. Liska, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Glennallen Field Office, Mile 186.5 Glenn Highway, P.O. Box 147, Glennallen, Alaska 99588; email: kliska@ak.blm.gov; Telephone: (907) 822-3217; Fax: (907) 822-3120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authority for this decision comes from

43 CFR 8372.0-3: Authority, 8372.1-1: Public lands, general, and 8372.3: Issuance of permits; The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, 16 U.S.C. 1271-1287; the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, 43 U.S.C. 1740.

Dated: September 25, 1998.

KJ Mushovic,

For the Glennallen Management Team.

[FR Doc. 98-26258 Filed 9-30-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items in the Possession of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Mesa, AZ

AGENCY: National Park Service

ACTION: Notice

Notice is hereby given under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 43 CFR 10.10 (a)(3), of the intent to repatriate cultural items in the possession of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Mesa, AZ which meet the definition of "object of cultural patrimony" under Section 2 of the Act.

The cultural items are: 30 medicine bags, two fire starter kits, two deer toe rattles, one constellation rattle, two prayer sticks, two animal skin wraps, and two small wooden bows.

Collectively, these items are referred to as *Na'at'oye' jish*, or Shooting/Lightning Way paraphernalia

On July 19, 1996, an undercover Special Agent of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service purchased two prayer sticks, an animal skip wrap, and two medicine bags from Neil Hicks, owner of Indian Territory, Tucson, AZ. Mr. Hicks told the Agent at the time of purchase that all items were "Navajo Medicine items." Following the execution of a federal search warrant in November 1996, Special Agents of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service recovered the Navajo medicine items listed above. On June 25, 1998, Mr. Neil Hicks, DBA Indian Territory, pled guilty to selling Native American cultural items obtained in violation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (Title 18 USC, Section 1173).

These cultural items were purchased by Mr. Hicks from person(s) unknown who obtained these items in violation of the Act. Consultation evidence presented by representatives of the Navajo Nation indicate that the Lightning Way is one of twelve major chants still performed in the Navajo Nation. Bundles for these Ways should

only be in the possession of a qualified *Hataalii* (chanter, singer, or medicine person) capable of understanding the *jish*. In Navajo tradition, *jish* is only cared for or possessed by a human being, it is not "property" capable of being "owned" in the Western meanings of the words.

Officials of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service have determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (d)(4), these 41 cultural items have ongoing historical, traditional, and cultural importance central to the culture itself, and could not have been alienated, appropriated, or conveyed by any individual. Officials of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service have also determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (e), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these items and the Navajo Nation.

This notice has been sent to officials of the Navajo Nation. Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with these objects should contact Kevin Ellis, Special Agent, Office of Law Enforcement, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 26 N. MacDonald, Room 105, Mesa, AZ 85201; telephone: (602) 835-8289 before November 2, 1998. Repatriation of these objects to the Navajo Nation may begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: September 28, 1998.

Francis P. McManamon,

*Departmental Consulting Archeologist,
Manager, Archeology and Ethnography
Program.*

[FR Doc. 98-26334 Filed 9-30-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-F

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Inventory Completion for Native American Human Remains and Associated Funerary Objects from Marshall County, OK in the Control of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, Tulsa, OK

AGENCY: National Park Service

ACTION: Notice

Notice is hereby given in accordance with provisions of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 43 CFR 10.9, of the completion of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects from Marshall County, OK in the control of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, Tulsa, OK.

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers professional staff in consultation with representatives of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes.

In 1954, human remains representing one individual was excavated at site 34MA1, Lake Texoma, Marshall County, OK during legally-authorized salvage excavations by University of Oklahoma personnel. No known individual was identified. The two associated funerary objects documented with the burial are a stone flake and a shell hoe. During the inventory process, the stone flake could not be located within the collections of the University of Oklahoma.

Based on the cultural material at site 34MA1 in addition to the associated funerary objects, this individual has been determined to be Native American. This cultural material also dates the site to the late prehistoric period, 800-1600 A.D. Based on ceramic types; stone tools, site organization; associated funerary objects; 16th, 17th, and 18th century historic accounts of the aboriginal occupants of the general area; and oral history presented during consultation with representatives of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes; the Army Corps of Engineers has determined that the human remains and associated funerary objects from site 34MA1 are culturally affiliated with the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes.

In 1954, human remains representing a minimum of six individuals were excavated at site 34MA2, Lake Texoma, Marshall County, OK by University of Oklahoma personnel during legally-authorized salvage excavations conducted by University of Oklahoma personnel. No known individuals were identified. Since 1986, five of these individuals have been in the possession of Dr. Douglas Owsley of the Smithsonian Institution, according to University records. The U.S. Army Corps, Tulsa District, has possession of the sixth individual and other cultural material from site 34MA2. The seven associated funerary objects recorded during the excavations include one stone core, one stone scraper, two stone projectile points, one stone knife, and two bone awls. These objects were not located at the University of Oklahoma during the inventory process.

Based on the cultural material at site 34MA2 in addition to the associated funerary objects, these individuals have been determined to be Native American. This cultural material also dates the site to the late prehistoric period, 800-1600 A.D. Based on ceramic types; stone tools, site organization; associated funerary objects; 16th, 17th, and 18th century historic accounts of the