

announces public meetings on the proposed withdrawal.

**DATES AND TIMES:** Public meetings will be held on Tuesday, January 22, and Thursday, January 24, 2008. Times for both meetings will be 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The January 22 meeting will be held at the BLM Las Vegas Field Office (Conference Room A), 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada. The January 24 meeting will be held at the Bob Ruud Community Center (Room B), 150 N. Highway 160, Pahrump, Nevada. For those unable to attend the meetings, comments may be mailed to the Field Manager, BLM Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130. The 90-day comment period ends January 30, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Patrick Putnam, BLM Las Vegas Field Office, (702) 515-5042.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the public meetings is to allow the public the opportunity to comment on the proposed withdrawal, disclose the mineral potential within the ACECs, and to describe how the proposed withdrawal would continue the protection and preservation of wildlife habitat and historic properties located within ACEC boundaries. Furthermore, as stated in 43 CFR 2310.3-1(c)(iii), these meetings will help the BLM develop information which would otherwise be difficult or costly to accumulate.

A Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Opportunity for Public Meeting; Nevada, was published in the **Federal Register** on November 1, 2007. That notice established a 90-day public comment period that will end on January 30, 2008.

All persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed withdrawal may present their views at the scheduled meetings or may do so in writing to the BLM Las Vegas Field Office. Facsimiles, telephone calls, and e-mails are unacceptable means of notification. All comments will be collected and minutes recorded throughout the course of the meetings. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM prior to the meeting.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BLM Las Vegas Field Office, at the address noted above during regular business

hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

(Authority: 43 CFR 2310.3-1)

Dated: December 12, 2007.

**Patrick Putnam,**

*Acting Assistant Field Manager, Renewable Resources, Las Vegas Field Office.*

[FR Doc. E7-24522 Filed 12-18-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### Notice of Inventory Completion: Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository, Kodiak, AK

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice is here given in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3003, of the completion of an inventory of human remains in the possession of the Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository, Kodiak, AK. The human remains were removed from Larsen Bay, AK.

This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA, 25 U.S.C. 3003 (d)(3). The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the museum, institution, or Federal agency that has control of the Native American human remains. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by Alutiiq Museum

and Archaeological Repository professional staff in consultation with representatives of the Native Village of Larsen Bay.

In May of 1991, human remains representing a minimum of one individual were removed from the private property of Chris Knowles in the City of Larsen Bay, AK. The human remains were turned over to the Village Public Safety Office and then shipped to Kodiak, AK, where Alaska State Troopers determined the human remains to be prehistoric (file 1940037897). In 1994, after another investigation was done on the human remains, the human remains were transferred to the Kodiak Area Native Association's Alutiiq Culture Center. In 1995, the human remains were transferred to the Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository (number AM41). No known individual was identified. No associated funerary objects are present.

The 1994 investigation determined that the human remains are Native American, most likely Alutiiq. Based on these findings, officials of the Alutiiq Museum reasonably believe that the human remains are Alutiiq and related to the modern Native population of the Kodiak region. Specifically, the human remains are from an area traditionally used by the Native Village of Larsen Bay.

Officials of the Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (9-10), the human remains described above represent the physical remains of one individual of Native American ancestry. Officials of the Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository also have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (2), there is a relationship of shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between the Native American human remains and the Native Village of Larsen Bay.

Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with the human remains should contact Dr. Sven Haakanson, Jr., Executive Director, Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository, 215 Mission Rd. Suite 101, Kodiak, AK 99615, telephone (907) 486-7004, before January 18, 2008. Repatriation of the human remains to the Native Village of Larsen Bay may proceed after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository is responsible for notifying the Native Village of Larsen Bay that this notice has been published.

Dated: November 6, 2007

**Sherry Hutt,**

*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

[FR Doc. E7-24647 Filed 12-18-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-50-S

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items: Amerind Foundation Museum, Amerind Foundation, Inc., Dragoon, AZ

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice is here given in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3005, of the intent to repatriate cultural items in the possession of the Amerind Foundation Museum, Amerind Foundation, Inc., Dragoon, AZ, that meet the definition of "sacred objects" under 25 U.S.C. 3001.

This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA, 25 U.S.C. 3003 (d)(3). The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the museum, institution, or Federal agency that has control of the cultural items. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

The 140 objects include 38 painted wooden hoops; 17 painted wooden wands; 17 miscellaneous mask-making raw materials (sticks, feathers, leather); 16 "bowed crosses;" 16 ceremonial Gaan masks; 9 painted wooden crosses; 7 plant stem bundles (sage, fir, bear grass); 5 painted wooden staves; 5 wooden drumsticks; 4 painted "headed" sticks; 3 wooden bullroars; 1 metal tulapai strainer; 1 metal bread cooker; and 1 eagle feather bundle. The cultural items are from the William Neil Smith Apache Collection. The collection is well documented by photographs and journals, and supplemented by interviews conducted with Mr. Smith by the staff of the Arizona State Museum in Tucson.

In the spring of 1942, the 140 cultural items were removed from caves in the vicinity of Canyon Day on the Fort Apache Reservation in eastern Arizona by William Neil Smith, a collector from Tucson, AZ. In October 1942, the collection was loaned by Mr. Smith to the Arizona State Museum on the condition that it would be returned when Mr. Smith was released from active duty in the military. From 1944 to 1945, letters were exchanged between the director of the Arizona State

Museum, superintendent of the Fort Apache Reservation, and Chair of the Fort Apache Tribal Council, and it was determined at that time that the collections were removed illegally. On October 1, 1945, the Fort Apache Tribal Council voted unanimously to donate the entire collection to the Arizona State Museum, to use them as the museum saw fit. Accordingly, the collection was accessioned into the permanent collection of the Arizona State Museum, and there are no further entries on the collection in the Arizona State Museum files until 1959.

In November 1959, in response to a request from Mr. Smith to reclaim his 1942 loan from the Arizona State Museum, museum staff informed Mr. Smith that the Apache ceremonial objects had been donated to the museum by the Apache Tribal Council and, therefore, would not be returned. However, the collection was returned to Mr. Smith. On November 11, 1963, the collection was sold in its entirety to a member of the Amerind Foundation Board of Directors. The member donated the materials to the Amerind Foundation where it was accessioned into the foundation's permanent collection (Accession Nos. 4499-4583). In April 1966, the Arizona State Museum provided the Amerind with copies of photographs, catalog cards, and other records pertaining to the cultural items.

In June 2005, the Amerind Foundation consulted with tribal representatives of the San Carlos Apache Tribe of the San Carlos Reservation, Arizona; Tonto Apache Tribe of Arizona; White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Reservation, Arizona; and Yavapai-Apache Nation of the Camp Verde Indian Reservation, Arizona.

In August 2005, the White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Reservation, Arizona formally requested the return of all materials in the collection as sacred objects for the practice of traditional Native American religion by their present-day adherents. The cultural items were originally made and used by Western Apache religious leaders during the annual ceremonial cycle. These ceremonial activities remain an important part of White Mountain Apache daily life. According to White Mountain Apache cultural tradition, once the objects were used they were to be curated according to traditional religious practices and never used or seen again by humans. In 2006, the Amerind Foundation Board of Directors voted unanimously to treat the William Neil Smith Collection as stolen property and to return all 140 cultural

items to the White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Reservation, Arizona.

Officials of the Amerind Foundation Museum have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (3)(C), the 140 cultural items described above are specific ceremonial objects needed by traditional Native American religious leaders for the practice of traditional Native American religions by their present-day adherents. Officials of the Amerind Foundation Museum also have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (2), there is a relationship of shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between the sacred objects and the White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Reservation, Arizona.

Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with the sacred objects should contact Dr. John A. Ware, Executive Director, Amerind Foundation Museum, Amerind Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 400, 2100 North Amerind Road, Dragoon, AZ 85609, telephone (520) 586-3666, before January 18, 2008. Repatriation of the sacred objects to the White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Reservation, Arizona may proceed after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

The Amerind Foundation is responsible for notifying the San Carlos Apache Tribe of the San Carlos Reservation, Arizona; Tonto Apache Tribe of Arizona; White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Reservation, Arizona; and Yavapai-Apache Nation of the Camp Verde Indian Reservation, Arizona that this notice has been published.

Dated: November 6, 2007

**Sherry Hutt,**

*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

[FR Doc. E7-24645 Filed 12-18-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-50-S

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items: Denver Museum of Nature & Science, Denver, CO

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice is here given in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3005, of the intent to repatriate cultural items in the possession of the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, Denver, CO, which