



# United States Department of the Interior

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8100 (AK-931)

## Memorandum

To: Director (240), LS, Room 204  
Attention: Dr. Richard Hanes and Ms. Emily Palus

From: Deputy State Director, Division of Resources

Subject: Fiscal Year 2011 Cultural Resources Management Program Annual Report

This is in response to Washington Office Information Memorandum No. 2011-164, dated July 22, 2011 and released on August 11, 2011, requesting information for the Cultural Resources Management Program annual report.

The requested statistical information table is attached. Below are narrative summaries of our Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 accomplishments, though modified, per instruction, to actually cover the period August 1, 2010 to July 31, 2011. They are arranged by the requested headings and are generally annotated to show which Bureau of Land Management (BLM) offices or personnel were involved.

### **Part I: Major FY 2011 Accomplishments associated with the management and protection of archaeological, historical, and paleontological resources and museum collections:**

#### **#1: Anchorage Field Office (AFO) Outreach and Education Activities during Outdoor Week:**

The AFO continued its outreach efforts in Alaska's largest city through various activities. This year's efforts highlighted the theme of Alaska Archaeology Month: Sharing the Ice Age: Humans and Mammals in Pleistocene Alaska. The AFO archaeologist, with help from BLM Alaska Cultural Program Lead and State Archaeologist Robert King, State of Alaska Office of History and Archaeology archaeologist Richard Vanderhoek, and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson archaeologist Karlene Leeper, taught sixth grade students from two school districts about mammoths and prehistoric hunting in Alaska during Outdoor Week in May 2011. Children and teachers also learned how to throw darts using atlatls at this joint effort between the BLM AFO's Campbell Creek Science Center and the Anchorage School District.

2 Photos in Photo Disk:

#1: **Jenny Blanchard Outdoor Week:** BLM AFO Archaeologist Jenny Blanchard discusses prehistoric hunting with sixth graders during Outdoor Week, May 2011 (seal target and atlatl darts in background). Photo by Robert King.

#2: **Robert King Outdoor Week:** Cultural Lead Robert King discusses mammoths while holding a replica mammoth tooth during BLM's Outdoor Week, May 2011. Photo by Jenny Blanchard.

#2: Anchorage Field Office Survey & Monitoring--Bering Sea/Western Interior Planning Area:

The AFO focused special Section 110 cultural resource work in FY 2011 on the Bering Sea/Western Interior (BSWI) Planning Area. Inventory was conducted in the area of Old Woman Mountain, which has been an important landmark for people traveling through the area for thousands of years. This project also benefited from 40 hours of volunteer work from Shelley Butters, a BLM volunteer and intern with the Student Conservation Association for the Glennallen Field Office. The AFO also conducted an aerial survey and took aerial photographs of the Kaltag Portage segment of the Iditarod National Historic Trail, in order to demonstrate integrity for a nomination next year to the National Register of Historic Places. The AFO archaeologist also worked closely with the geology and mining compliance resource areas to accomplish cultural resource monitoring goals. The AFO archaeologist accompanied the mining and geology staff to several areas in Flat and Iditarod, historic mining areas along the Kuskokwim River in western Alaska.

2 Photos in Photo Disk:

#1 – **Jenny Blanchard on Old Woman Mtn 8-2-11:** Anchorage Field Office Archaeologist Jenny Blanchard unloading the helicopter on top of Old Woman Mountain, near Unalakleet, Alaska. Photo by Shelley Butters, August, 2011.

#2 – **Iditarod cemetery:** Cemetery at Iditarod, Alaska, in use ca. 1908-1926. Photo by Jenny Blanchard, June, 2011.

#3: Glennallen Field Office (GFO) Sections 110 survey projects:

The GFO completed survey work in south central Alaska adjacent to a network of Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) trails that access the Nelchina caribou herd's spring calving areas in addition to Section 106 compliance work as part of the effort by U.S. Air Force to recover a crashed aircraft. A total of four prehistoric archaeological sites were located in the area including a site on an eroding sand dune, which has similar potential for early Holocene or late Pleistocene archaeology as a nearby dune site currently being excavated by Texas A&M University on State of Alaska lands.

The Glennallen Field Office also conducted preliminary surveys of OHV trails near the North Slana Homesteading area, one of the three places in Alaska and the nation where a form of homesteading was still possible until Oct. 21, 1986. These initial limited surveys, in a poorly known area that has not been previously investigated, located two historic structures related to trapping as well as a prehistoric campsite in or near heavily used hunting trails. These initial results and the area's proximity to both ancient Lake Atna shorelines as an area of overlap

between the historic and prehistoric Nelchina Caribou herd's winter range and the Chisana woodland caribou herd's residence area suggest that there is a high potential for relatively ancient prehistoric sites. Additionally, previously undiscovered unauthorized use cabins and long term camps were also located on public lands and reported to lands and realty staff.

1 Photo in Photo Disk:

**GFO\_arch-crew\_Nslana\_site:** A member of the GFO cultural resource crew records a prehistoric site eroding from an OHV trail near North Slana.

#4: Steele Creek "Structure C" Restoration:

In late-July 2011, restoration efforts were underway at the Steele Creek townsite (49-EAG-144), on a one-room log building that is one of four remaining log buildings at the historic townsite. The site is situated at the mouth of Steele Creek on the main stem of the Fortymile River, which is located inside the Fortymile Wild & Scenic River corridor under management by the Fairbanks District Office's Eastern Interior Field Office. Originally founded in the late 19th century, the site became the center of a small community that catered to the summer riverine and winter overland trail system that connected the Fortymile drainage to the rest of the Alaskan interior. It ceased final operations following the construction of the Taylor Highway in the early 1950s. In 2011, about 11 rotten lower wall logs all around the building were replaced and set down upon a stone foundation. Only BLM employees were employed this current summer.

3 Photos in Photo Disk:

**#1: Mills Steele Creek 2011-1:** The building up on stacked pier blocks, with a couple of replacement logs already in place in the wall seen in the photo.

**#2: Mills Steele Creek 2011-2:** Work done, and all replacement logs inserted. In this photo, 3 logs were replaced in the wall on the left, and 2.5 were replaced on the wall on the right. Proper notching and fitting of logs was done prior to inserting the logs into place.

**#3: Mills Steele Creek 2011-3:** Work done, and all replacement logs inserted. Same as photo #2, but different angle.

#5 Dendrochronology Historic Cabin Project:

The BLM Eastern Interior Field Office performed dendrochronology baseline work along the Fortymile Wild and Scenic River (WSR), Birch Creek WSR, and Beaver Creek WSR this summer 2011. Hundreds of historic log cabins and cabin ruins have been recorded along the banks of these 550 miles of river, associated primarily with placer gold miners and fur trappers. The cabins span from the late-19th to mid-20th centuries. The project hired a dendroarchaeologist to float the rivers, core the cabins and ruins, core trees along the rivers to establish tree ring baselines for the rivers, process the cores, and analyze them with applicable statistical software. The goal is to establish the precise year when each of the cabin sites was built. Determining the precise building date for each cabin site would manage each individual site. In addition, a landscape level, long-term historical chronological understanding of each drainage would surface, within a larger area that covers thousands of square miles. Specific questions include: 1) when did miners (i.e., Euroamericans) first enter a river drainage? 2) did they return after each World War, and if so then when? 3) when was trapping introduced to each drainage? These data, combined with artifactual data that will provide durations of occupation at

each site, will allow an unprecedented understanding of the founding, spread and endurance of these vital economies in the Alaskan interior from the late-19th through the mid-20th centuries. In sum, more than 1600 cores were drilled and retrieved this summer, including those from 80 historic cabins and cabin ruins. Remaining FY2011 funds should cover the processing and analysis of the cores from one of the drainages mentioned above.

4 Photos in Photo Disk:

#1: **Mills Dendro 2011-1:** Dendroarchaeologist Tiffany Curtis coring a live tree along the North Fork of the Fortymile Wild River.

#2: **Mills Dendro 2011-2:** BLM volunteer coring a cabin ruin along the North Fork of the Fortymile Wild River.

#3: **Mills Dendro 2011-3:** A core being extracted from the tree borer.

#4: **Mills Dendro 2011-4:** The dendrochronology project retrieved more than 1600 cores on four separate float trips along the Fortymile Wild & Scenic River, Beaver Creek Wild River, and Birch Creek Wild River.

#6 Test Excavations at the Cripple Creek Site (CIR-003), Steese Highway, Mile Post 60:

The Eastern Interior Field Office fielded three archaeologists and six volunteers to conduct test excavations in late summer at the Cripple Creek site (CIR-003), a late prehistoric along the Steese Highway. The volunteers provided 460 hours of labor to the project. Discovered in 1976 and with limited tests in 1978, the site underwent more extensive tests as part of a joint BLM-University of Fairbanks Alaska test excavation. A trench through a known meat cache pit (Feature 1) at the site revealed intact birch bark across the base of the pit that had been dug down to bedrock by the prehistoric inhabitants. Other tests partially revealed three hearths, or fireplaces. The site was likely repeatedly used as a game lookout and large-game cache site. Thousands of broken caribou bones and about 25-50 stone lithics (mostly chert flakes) were uncovered. The results of the dig will be used by Gerad Smith, a BLM seasonal archaeologist technician and UAF graduate student as part of his Master of Arts degree in Anthropology. Smith will catalogue all finds this winter 2011-12. The artifacts will be curated at the University of Alaska Museum of the North.

4 Photos in Photo Disk:

#1: **Mills Cripple Creek 2011-1:** Test excavations at Cripple Creek site, cache pit Feature 1. Gerad Smith excavating.

#2: **Mills Cripple Creek 2011-2:** Test excavations at Cripple Creek site, cache pit Feature 1. BLM archaeologist technician Steve Lanford and BLM volunteer Lori Hanson excavating. Note the stratigraphic wall through the cache pit in the foreground being prepared for drawing.

#3: **Mills Cripple Creek 2011-3:** Test excavations at Cripple Creek site, Feature 2 hearth. Extent of hearth ash has been outlined with pink toothpicks. Burnt red soil is exposed in the central 50x50 cm unit. Note the ash and burnt red soil layers in stratigraphic profile in the fully-excavated corner unit in the foreground.

#4: **Mills Cripple Creek 2011-1:** Test excavations at Cripple Creek site, cache pit Feature 1. BLM archaeologist technicians Steve Lanford (left) and Gerad Smith (right), and BLM volunteer Carol Morris (center) are excavating through the cache pit. All artifacts and bones collected across the site were concentrated in the upper profile of all units, corresponding to the dark layers in the profile wall exposed in this photo.

#7: Northwest Drainages Archaeological Survey & Raven Bluff Excavation, Kivalina River, Northwest Alaska:

Central Yukon Field Office archaeologists returned to the Kivalina River remote camp to conduct archaeological survey and to support research at the Raven Bluff archaeological site. A ten-person BLM/UAF team conducted survey over approximately 2000 acres of BLM lands and continued test excavation at the Raven Bluff site. This season our partner, Dr. Jeff Rasic of the University of Alaska Museum of the North, was awarded a two-year National Science Foundation grant to support his portion of the Raven Bluff research. Jeff's funding and logistics support allowed the continuation of intensive work in this region with a significant reduction in the BLM investment. For the second year BLM was joined by a volunteer teacher from the PolarTrec program, Susy Ellison. Her project postings may be viewed on the Internet under "completed expeditions" at [www.polartrec.com](http://www.polartrec.com)

3 Photos in Photo Disk:

#1: **Hedman photo 6:** CYFO archaeologist Bill Hedman records a shovel test along the Wulik River (NW Drainages Survey).

#2: **Hedman photo 7:** Jeff Rasic and PolarTrec teacher/volunteer Susy Ellison screen soil at the Raven Bluff.

#3: **Hedman photo 8:** The 2011 Northwest Drainages Survey/Raven Bluff team.

#8: American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) Abandoned Mineland Survey and Hazard Inventory Project:

This ARRA project is a cooperative project between the BLM, Michigan Technological University (MTU), and the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA). A team of archaeologists from MTU and UAA conducted an intensive survey on approximately 2400 acres of BLM managed lands and federal mining claims in the vicinity of Fairbanks, AK. This work resulted in the collection of over 2000 GPS points on archaeological features and mineland hazards such as open pits, adits, shafts, and collapsing structures. The team will return for a second of three field seasons in 2012 to complete work in the Fairbanks area before moving on to more remote operations within the BLM's Fairbanks District.

1 Photo in Photo Disk:

**Hedman photo 1:** AML Team investigating an abandoned mine site near Fairbanks.

#9 National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A) Summer 2011 Climate Change Studies by University of Alaska (UAF) Volunteers & Students:

BLM Arctic Field Office archaeologist Michael Kunz and UAF professor Dan Mann provided oversight for several volunteers working in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska on various joint UAF-BLM projects. All of this work is part of broader ongoing research aimed at determining the effect of prehistoric climate change events upon the human, animal, and plant communities on the North Slope.

Project 1: Ben Gaglioti, a PhD student at UAF, worked in the NPR-A this summer on his dissertation project entitled “Vulnerability of Permafrost Carbon to Climate Warming: Lessons from the Past.” He was assisted by Dan Cross-Call, a graduate student at MIT. Over the course of three weeks in the field, Ben and Dan excavated the Lake of the Pleistocene (LOP) section along the Etivlik River. Their goals were to obtain radiocarbon samples and samples of ancient lake sediment spanning the ice age to interglacial transition to see how much particulate carbon was released from the surrounding watershed when climate warmed suddenly. They were successful in re-opening this section and retrieving numerous samples. They then worked at the Carter Section along the Titaluk River. Here they helped clean a 60-meter vertical cut down the bluff face and retrieve approximately 100 sediment samples that will be used for pollen analysis. Finally, Ben and Dan worked at a drained lake section along Inigok Creek doing much the same work they did at LOP.

Project 2: Carson Baughman, a MSc student at UAF, worked on his thesis project entitled “Environmental Controls over Tundra Peat Accumulation and Destruction.” Carson spent most of his time installing recording thermometer units at 40 different sites within the southern NPR-A. His goal was to quantify the presence of peat has on soil temperatures. He did this by installing Hobo thermometers in areas where recent landslides have removed the peat cover. To learn how long it takes for peat formation to occur and the environmental changes accompanying peat formation, he also instrumented a chronosequence of old river bars along the Ikpikpuk River. Dr. Amy Breen, a postdoctoral fellow at UAF in the School of Natural Resources spent a week in the field this summer advising Carson Baughman about how to describe plant communities. Amy is an expert on plant taxonomy and community ecology.

2 Photos in Photo Disk:

#1: **Kunz photo 1 Carter Section Titalik Riv IMG\_1536:** Showing project workers at the Titalik River on the North Slope

#2: **Kunz photo 2 Gaglioti LOP:** Showing Ben Gaglioti doing excavation work at the “Lake of the Pleistocene” area on North Slope

#10: Accountability Report for Pipeline Legacy Collections:

The State Office Archaeologist, with help from the Alaska State Office of History and Archaeology, the Alaska Museum of the North, and the Glennallen and Fairbanks BLM offices, developed an annual progress report in March 2011 for the accountability, assessment, and curation of artifacts collected in the past along the Trans-Alaska Pipeline corridor. This annual report fulfilled yearly requirements outlined in an overall BLM accountability plan written in 2007 following the ratification of a 2005 Programmatic Agreement (PA) that BLM-Alaska developed and signed with the Advisory Council, the Alaska State Historic Preservation Office, and others. The PA was for the consideration and management of historic properties affected by operations and maintenance activities along the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System. The 2007 accountability plan that came from it addressed the retrieval and care of legacy museum collections. Photographs included for this highlighted accomplishment were taken in June 2007 and show how pipeline and other legacy archaeological collections are being catalogued and re-housed at the University of Alaska Museum of the North in Fairbanks.

9 Photos in Photo Disk:

#1: **UA MU #1:** BLM rehoused collections in Museum at UAF.

#2: **UA MU #2:** Student entering data on newly processed BLM collections at Museum.

#3: **UA MU #3:** UAF student re-housing BLM collections at Museum.

#4: **UA MU #4:** Univ. of AK Museum of the North in Fairbanks.

#5: **UA MU #5:** BLM rehoused collections in UAF Museum.

#6: **UA MU #6:** Looking at rehoused BLM collections in Museum storage area.

#7: **UA MU #7:** Rehoused collections at UAF Museum.

#8: **UA MU #8:** Student processing BLM collection at UAF Museum.

#9: **UA MU #9:** UAF students processing BLM collections at Museum.

Footnote on photographs: Page 33 of BLM's September 2008 "Preserve America Report" included two of these nine photographs: UAMU #8 and UAMU #6. The latter shows former Alaska Museum of the North Curator Daniel Odess displaying re-housed BLM collections in storage drawers. (Dr. Odess is now Assistant Associate Director of Park Cultural Resources Programs for the National Park Service, Washington, D.C.)

## **Part 2: Other Accomplishments (organized by 10 topics):**

- National Programmatic Agreement implementation
  - ✓ The Anchorage Field Office, Glennallen Field Office, Central Yukon Field Office, Eastern Interior Field Office, and Arctic Field Office with coordination, participation, and/or assistance by the Anchorage District Office, Fairbanks District Offices, and the Alaska State Office have continued to provide input, review, and other support as requested in work led by WO-240 to develop a revised National Programmatic Agreement.
  - ✓ Central Yukon Field office archaeologist Bill Hedman continued to serve as Alaska's representative on the Cultural Resources Data Sharing Partnership (CRDSP). In this role he helped to establish a Users' Forum for the State of Alaska that aids the state with its management of statewide cultural resources data. This group, currently chaired by Bill, is composed primarily of archaeological and technical representatives from state and federal land managing agencies and cultural resources consulting firms that operate in Alaska. It met in April 2011 in Fairbanks. This group currently is working closely with the State of Alaska on significant database developments. Bill also represented Alaska at the BLM-sponsored annual national CRDSP meeting. (The CRDSP derives from terms in the 1997 National PA for Section 106 compliance.)
  - ✓ The Alaska State Office transferred \$25,000 of Cultural Resources Data Share money received from the Washington Office to the Alaska State Office of History and Archaeology under terms of Cooperative Agreement LO9AC15336 CRDS. (Note: This is to assist in an ongoing partnership project between BLM and the State Office of History and Archaeology, to update and further automate Alaska State archaeological site information into a GIS format.)

- ✓ The State Office Archaeologist provided training on the 1997 National PA and 1998 Alaska Protocol to the new Anchorage Field Office archaeologist and her manager and other staff in February 2011.
  - ✓ The State Office Archaeologist continued to assist the National Training Center in Phoenix with planning for various Cultural Heritage Program courses to be offered in future years. This includes planning for filming in September 2011, sections of the 8100-01 course, Fundamentals for Managing the Cultural Heritage Program. These are BLM training opportunities envisioned under the 1997 National PA.
  - ✓ The State Office Archaeologist provided comments to WO-240 involving revisions to the 1997 National PA, including participating in a Preservation Board workshop in December 2010 also for this purpose.
  - ✓ The State Office Archaeologist provided an annual report to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation on FY 2010 accomplishments related to fulfilling terms in the 1997 National PA.
- Native American coordination and consultation
    - ✓ BLM-Alaska is reporting 3,588 instances of Native American coordination and consultation on the statistics table portion of this report, with the majority of those actions due to our lands program (including survey work) that fulfills various entitlement mandates for Alaska Natives such as land transfers under the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.
    - ✓ The Anchorage Field Office focused Native American consultation efforts in FY 2011 on the Red Devil Mine and the Chuitna River Easement Termination. Subsistence Biologist Geoffrey Beyersdorf has also furthered consultation and Native American outreach efforts through his attendance at numerous Resource Advisory Council Meetings in order to discuss subsistence concerns with tribal officials and local tribal members.
      - 1 Photo in Photo Disk:
      - Red Devil Meeting Kwethluk:** State Fisheries Lead Matthew Varner and AFO Field Manager James Fincher discuss cleanup efforts at the Red Devil Mine in a meeting with local tribal members in the village of Kwethluk, March, 2011.
- Museum collections management
    - ✓ The State Office archaeologist did reviews of BLM collections and related issues with several museums and began plans to further relocate collections from the Sheldon Museum to the University of Alaska Museum of the North.



- ✓ Also, plans were developed to move legacy collections from Dr. William Laughlin at the University of Connecticut at Storrs to the University of Alaska (UA) Museum of the North, with certain materials subject to the Native American Graves Protection Act temporarily relocated to the Smithsonian for analysis.
  - ✓ In late September 2010, the State Archaeologist visited the Peabody Museum at Harvard in Cambridge, Mass. to begin work that will likely relocate legacy collections there to the UA Museum. Also to be addressed are certain NAGPRA issues.
  - ✓ The Fairbanks District Office and University of Alaska Museum of the North's Earth Sciences Department, in Fairbanks, completed a cooperative agreement at the end of FY2010 to upgrade existing "legacy" paleontological collections in the museum that the BLM is responsible for managing. Although actual numbers are unknown, owing to non-cataloguing of some large, past collections, it is estimated that about 30,000 BLM paleontological specimens or fossils may reside in the museum. Using cultural program funds supplied at the end of FY2010, the UAM staff this past year, by the time of this reporting, have been able to catalogue or re-house more than 4,700 fossils, and have entered more than 5,000 specimens into their computer database, Arctos.
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) compliance
    - ✓ The Alaska State Office archaeologist completed repatriation on 12/15/2010 of 48 partial sets of human remains from Rolling Bay & Saltery Cove (Sitkalidak & Kodiak Islands) to the Village of Old Harbor (NOIC printed 8/20/2009).
    - ✓ The Alaska State Office archaeologist completed repatriation on 5/27/2011 of 7 partial sets of human remains from Crag Point and Anton Larsen Bay on Kodiak Island to the Native Village of Ouzinkie (NOIC printed 8/13/2008).
    - ✓ As also noted under museum collections management, the Alaska State Office archaeologist coordinated the relocation of four partial sets of human remains discovered at the University of Connecticut at Storrs in legacy collections left there by the late William Laughlin. They were transferred during summer 2011 to the Smithsonian where they are being inventoried for BLM after which further NAGPRA work will occur that may include a revision to the NOIC written previously for other Laughlin collections from the Aleutian Islands.
    - ✓ Still more Laughlin legacy collections with NAGPRA materials were discovered at the University of Oregon Museum in late April 2011. Work began with staff there to complete appropriate Federal Register NAGPRA notifications and other NAGPRA work.

- ✓ Works continued in 2010-11 with the American Museum of Natural History to address their St. Lawrence Island NAGPRA collections. BLM-Alaska appreciates the assistance provided by the BLM National curator in this matter that has proven to be unusually daunting.
- ✓ During the reporting period, the Alaska State Office Archaeologist consulted with two Alaskan Tribes or Corporations to advance work on various ongoing active NAGPRA cases.
- Resource protection projects activities (including identification, recordation, evaluation, stabilization, rehabilitation, monitoring, and data recovery projects)
  - ✓ The Glennallen Field Office conducted an extensive Section 106 project in preparation for the renovation of the Tangle Lakes Campground within the Tangle Lakes Archaeological District (TLAD). Almost two hundred 20cm by 20cm test units were placed in areas of the campground that hadn't been covered by previous excavations and testing in 1989. No buried and in-situ sites were located during subsurface testing. However, two previously unrecorded, sparse, prehistoric, surface sites were located, recorded and collected to mitigate any damage from proposed renovations. Both sites had been heavily damaged and eroded by informal camping activities in the past.  
1 Photo in Photo Disk:  
**GFO\_maps\_TLADcampground:** A member of the GFO cultural resource crew works with a transit and tape while mapping test units in the Tangle Lakes Campground prior to renovations.
  - ✓ The Glennallen Field Office continued annual monitoring of two late prehistoric archaeological sites within the Paxson Lake Campground under a past agreement that included the local Ahtna people whose ancestors likely caused the sites to be there.
- Heritage Tourism interpretive developments
  - ✓ The Central Yukon and Eastern Interior Field Office Archaeology and Recreation staff teamed up to construct the first phase of an early 20th century drift mining exhibit at the Arctic Interagency Visitor Center along the Dalton Highway at Coldfoot, AK. This past summer's work involved the construction of a single room log cabin. Though time and budget dictated the use of power tools, most aspects of design and construction were true to the period right down to the antique glass windows and sod roof. Though not yet open for public display, the cabin is a hit with the local mining community who are pleased that the local mining story is going to be told. Several artifacts, including an antique steam boiler, hoist, and churn drill will be placed in the exhibit, along with a number of other tools and machinery of the period that have been removed from active federal claims in the area. A cribbed mine

shaft, hand windlass, headframe, and access trail will be completed next summer.

4 Photos in Photo Disk

#1: **Hedman photo 2**: BLM archaeologists and recreation specialists construct a “miner’s cabin” near Coldfoot.

#2: **Hedman photo 3**: Interior of the miner’s cabin.

#3: **Hedman photo 4**: Cabin exterior.

#5: **Hedman photo 5**: Cabin construction crew.

- Notable Planning accomplishments
  - ✓ The AFO archaeologist participated in land use planning efforts during FY 2011 by preparing the AMS for the Bering Sea/Western Interior (BSWI) Planning Area, the final planning area in BLM Alaska without a modern RMP. The AFO archaeologist also initiated SHPO consultation and developed alternatives for the Campbell Tract Facility (CTF) Plan Amendment to the Ring of Fire RMP, which will guide management on the CTF Special Recreation Management Area, a 730 acre parcel of BLM land adjacent to Anchorage.
  - ✓ The State Office Archaeologist assisted the Washington Office in various planning actions for special BLM activities and events in FY 2011 and later, to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the 1862 Homestead Act. He also continued compiling extensive nationwide information that will be placed on the upcoming BLM Homestead Commemoration website being planned. In January 2011, he was interviewed on video in Idaho Falls, Idaho to create streaming video for the upcoming national BLM homestead website.
  - ✓ The State Office Archaeologist assisted the Washington Office with planning for the late July – early August 2010 National Boy Scout Jamboree, marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Boy Scout movement in the United States. He then participated in this event (see additional information elsewhere in this report). Note: This event spanned two reporting years, hence its listing in this year’s report as well as last year’s report.
- Key Archaeological Resources Protection Act prosecutions (including effective related resource protection projects, methods, or techniques employed)
  - ✓ The Central Yukon Field Office continued investigations and enforcement work on the unauthorized removal of parts from a rare F-82 aircraft on Army lands in 2008. New discoveries in the case in FY 2011 have expanded its scope significantly, with work to continue into FY 2012.
  - ✓ The Northern District Office enforcement staff continued work connected to the 2010 investigation of the unauthorized removal of archaeological and paleontological resources in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska and also from some surrounding federal and state lands. Some information is starting to

appear in the press on this significant case and more will likely follow in FY 2012. Eventually, we will be able to report further details, but not quite yet.

- Heritage program publications and brochures produced (including web publications)
  - ✓ The Anchorage Field Office Archaeologist is assisting the State Office Archaeologist in a revision of the State's Cultural Heritage website. New information to be posted in early FY 2012 will include the history of homesteading in Alaska and Alaska's unexpected role in the American Civil War.
  - ✓ The State Office Archaeologist is providing information on homesteading to other BLM states for use on their websites. He also interviewed the last woman homesteader in America in June 2011, with information to appear in 2012 on the upcoming BLM-Alaska homestead website page.
- Other Notable Work or Events: Public Outreach, Interns, National Register Work, etc.
  - ✓ June 30, 2010 saw the retirement of Donna Redding, the AFO archaeologist of 19 years. Jenny Blanchard was hired during the first quarter of FY2011, and started work at the beginning of the second quarter.
  - ✓ The AFO archaeologist assisted with the annual Archaeology Month Atlatl Fun Throw in April 2011, teaching over 100 participants how Native Alaskans used kayaks and atlatls to hunt marine mammals.
  - ✓ The Glennallen Field Office archaeologist along with State of Alaska and National Park Service Archaeologists in the Copper River Basin educated 4<sup>th</sup> grade students about archaeology as well as how to use an Atlatl and darts during Earth Discovery Day.
  - ✓ The Glennallen Field Office archaeologist and wildlife biologist presented a co-authored paper about ANILCA subsistence hunting practices and demographic trends in the Copper River Basin at the Alaska Anthropological Association's 38<sup>th</sup> annual meeting.
  - ✓ The Anchorage Field Office Archaeologist helped coordinate final work on creating a Multiple Property nomination for the Iditarod National Historic Trail. This nomination, being written by the Alaska State Historic Preservation Office with some BLM funding, was completed in August 2011 and submitted to the Keeper of the National Register also that month.
  - ✓ The Fairbanks District Office cultural resource staff continued its annual participation in Fairbanks Outdoor Days, an environmental education effort aimed at the area's sixth graders. The three FDO archaeologists, along with other BLM staff and volunteers, taught at one of the program's archaeology

stations for three days, where lectures and a mock excavation involving digging up artifacts in large sandboxes were provided to about 210 students.

- ✓ The Fairbanks District Office cultural resource staff presented six papers at a variety of national and regional professional conferences, including the Plains Conference annual meetings, the Society of American Archaeology annual meetings, and the Alaska Anthropological Association (AAA) annual meetings, on a variety of historic and prehistoric topics. BLM FDO seasonal archaeologist Jessica Peterson also presented a poster at the AAAs on her undergraduate senior thesis, the topic of which focused on BLM-excavated materials from a late prehistoric site in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska.
- ✓ The State Office archaeologist wrote an article for the fall 2010 (#111) issue of BLM-Alaska's *Frontiers* magazine that is distributed to the public both by mailing and via the Internet. The topic was 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary milestones related to the Iditarod National Historic Trail. This article may be seen by visiting this site: <http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/info/frontiers.html>
- ✓ The State Office archaeologist presented a paper on 3/11/2011 at the 2011 Alaska Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Fairbanks on heritage education at the National Boy Scout Jamboree.
- ✓ The State Office archaeologist gave a paper on 4/1/2011 co-authored with Jeanne Moe on heritage education at the National Boy Scout Jamboree at a symposium organized for the Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting held in Sacramento, Calif.
- ✓ The State Office archaeologist continued providing assistance on the subject of homesteading to the National Park Service at the Homestead National Monument near Beatrice, Nebraska, including assembling and mailing a packet of homesteading information on 6/1/2011 to add to their records on Alaskan homesteaders.
- ✓ The State Office archaeologist gave an invited talk at the Valdez, Alaska Museum on Protecting Alaska's Cultural and Historical Resources. He was asked for possible future assistance in future city planning efforts to accomplish historic preservation of the old Valdez Townsite abandoned after the Great Alaska Earthquake (9.2 magnitude) in 1964, with the abandoned remains now being viewed as historic and a part of the town's history.
- ✓ The State Office archaeologist assisted the Washington Office with planning, building, and then working at the BLM archaeology exhibit and Boy Scout hands-on exercise July 18, 2010 – August 5, 2010, at the National Boy Scout Jamboree on Fort A. P. Hill, south of Fredericksburg, Virginia. He also helped with the clean-up of the site after the event. The exhibit and exercise involved the Scouts helping complete a replica 1,200-year-old semi subterranean pit

house similar to one found archaeologically in the Canyon of the Ancients National Landscape Conservation System Unit managed by BLM in southwestern Colorado. Note: Thirteen photos were provided in last year's report of this event that spanned two reporting years. Some were also provided again for help with the upcoming Preserve America report.

If you have any questions, please contact our State Archaeologist, Robert King, at the above address, by e-mail [robert\\_king@ak.blm.gov](mailto:robert_king@ak.blm.gov) or by phone at 907-271-5510.

#### 6 Attachments

- 1 – Annual Report Statistical forms (10 pp.)
- 2 – FY 2010 & 2011 CCS & Cooperator projects (1 p.)
- 3 – BLM Historic Structure Listings (1 p.)
- 4 – LOOT forms (1 p.)
- 5 – BLM Museum Collection forms (10 pp.)
- 6 – Photo CD

cc w/attachments #1-5 only:

AKA-010 Jim Fincher  
AKA-010 Jenny Blanchard  
AKA-020 Beth Maclean  
AKA-020 John Jangala  
AKF-000 Steve Hartmann  
AKF-010 Lon Kelly  
AKF-020 Lenore Heppler  
AKF-030 Shelly Jacobson  
AKF-020 Robin Mills  
AKF-010 Mike Kunz  
AKF-030 Bill Hedman