

HERITAGE

Monthly news update from the Office of History and Archaeology
State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources
October 2021

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Federal Legislation

The House and Senate passed, and the President signed, on September 30, a Continuing Resolution (CR) funding the government through Dec. 3rd and averting a potential government shutdown. The bill also included additional funds providing emergency relief for areas impacted by wildfires and hurricanes. The CR maintains FY22 funding levels through Dec. 3rd, at which time lawmakers will either need to pass all 12 appropriations bills, some kind of omnibus package, or another CR.

The House passed 9 of 12 appropriations bills in July, while the Senate has yet to pass any of their FY22 Appropriations bills. The House Interior FY22 Appropriation Bill included a record level \$158.8 million for the Historic Preservation Fund, an \$11.5 million increase over FY21 enacted levels and \$4 million over President Biden's budget request. Like the President's request, the bill notably exceeds the current authorized level of \$150 million. The bill includes an increase for State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices and significant increases for competitive grant programs like the African American Civil Rights grants, History of Equal Rights grants, and preservation grants for underrepresented communities.

Office of History and Archaeology and Alaska Historical Commission news

Historic Preservation Grants

The Office of History & Archaeology is accepting grant applications for *historic preservation development* and *pre-development* projects in Alaska. The application deadline is 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 15, 2021. The FFY21 HPF application package is available online at <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/index.htm> or by contacting the Office of History and Archaeology shown below. All projects would need to be completed by September 15, 2022.

The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grant program provides up to 50 percent matching assistance for the cost of a development or pre-development project. Development grants are for rehabilitation of Alaska buildings and structures listed in the National Register of Historic Places, individually or as contributing properties to a historic district. Pre-development grants are for Alaska buildings and structures on or eligible for the National Register.

The Office of History & Archaeology anticipates \$150,000 will be available to award to eligible projects. Pre-development requests are limited to \$3,500 minimum and \$10,000 maximum in matching assistance. Development requests have a \$10,000 minimum and \$27,000 maximum in matching assistance.

If you have any questions, please contact us at dnr.oha@alaska.gov.

The next meeting of the **Alaska Historical Commission** will be by WebEx on **Wednesday, December 8, 2021**. The agenda includes review of grant applications for Development and Pre-development projects, geographic name proposals, and National Register nominations, and updates from the Office of History and Archaeology. The agenda and information about how to participate in the meeting will be posted on the website in October.

OHA's 2021 Virtual Education Series

October 28 is the next Webinar, *Section 106 Consultation Panel*. Sarah Meitl, OHA's Review and Compliance Coordinator, will moderate a discussion among consulting party panelists about meaningful consultation in Section 106 via Webex. The panel will be comprised of individuals from a federal agency, a federally recognized Tribe, a local government, an ANSCA Corporation, and legal counsel. The goal of this forum is not to present or make policy, but rather to provide a venue to share experiences or lessons learned for a community of cultural resource management practitioners. Through questions and resultant discussions, Ms. Meitl will moderate topics concerning the consultation process, definitions, and experiences that will benefit all steps of Section 106 and consultation in general. 1:30 – 3:00pm. Free – registration is required. To register: <https://stateofalaska.webex.com/stateofalaska/j.php?RGID=radc82e3101cc7d772026263910214879>

For more information about the series,

visit <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/publiceducation/Trainings/Workshop2021.htm>

Or email us at: dnr.oha@alaska.gov

COVID 19 Adjustments

OHA employees are on a hybrid schedule with a split between working in the office and working remotely. We recommend people contact staff by email. If you have a general inquiry, a project for review, or state cultural resources investigation permit application please use one of the following email addresses:

General inquiry, geographic names, Alaska Historical Commission, etc: dnr.oha@alaska.gov

Review/compliance, Section 106, project review: oha.revcomp@alaska.gov

State Cultural Resource Investigation Permits: oha.permits@alaska.gov

Section 106 COVID 19 guidance from the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer is available at the following link: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/shpo/shpocovid19.pdf>

The Alaska SHPO has invoked tolling effective March 19, 2020 regarding the timelines outlined in 36 CFR 800. With tolling, the 30-day regulatory clock that would allow agencies to proceed with their undertaking following non-response after 30 days does not apply. SHPO will be allowed to comment beyond the 30 days.

National Register listings

The Busia Cabin, Denali Borough, Alaska

The Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places added the Busia Cabin to the nation's list of historic properties worthy of preservation on September 30, 2021. The cabin is part of a Multiple Property Submission under the *Kantishna Historic Mining Resources of Denali National Park and Preserve*. A popular visitor attraction, the Busia Cabin is one of the few remaining buildings from Kantishna's historic mining period (1903-1942) outlined in the MPDF, and is likely the second oldest building in the Kantishna mining district. The property is significant on a local level under Criteria A for its connection to the Kantishna Region's early mining industry and social history; Criterion B for its association with Johnnie Busia, a long-time Kantishna miner and trapper; and Criterion D because three middens identified within the property's boundary have the potential to yield more information about the domestic and industrial culture of Kantishna's residents dating back to the first gold rush in 1905-06.

National Park Service

The National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) recently announced a new series of information briefs, *Preservation Matters*. The series brings high-tech preservation science down to earth as practical advice for preservationists of all backgrounds. Each brief translates technical preservation research into useful tips and best practices for site managers, homeowners, and students. *Preservation Matters* provide short, illustrated overviews of topics organized into subcategories like landscape maintenance, cemetery conservation, remote sensing, and disaster response. They are designed to be used online, downloaded to a mobile device, or printed out for use as job aids in the field. <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/ncptt/preservation-matters.htm>

Updates about the overall NPS response to COVID-19, including safety information, are posted on www.nps.gov/coronavirus.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

The Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources held a full committee hearing to consider the nomination of Ms. Sara C. Bronin to be Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation on September 17, 2021. To download a copy of Ms. Bronin's testimony, go to [Full Committee Hearing to Consider Pending Nominations - U.S. Senate Committee o...](#)

A panel of ACHP members, charged with considering the successes and challenges key stakeholders have had in developing and using Program Comments and identifying actions the ACHP can take to improve their use as a tool for Section 106 review efficiency, recently delivered recommendations to the ACHP Vice Chairman, who is carrying out the duties of the Chairman during that position's current vacancy. They can be accessed at: <https://www.achp.gov/digital-library-section-106-landing/recommendations-program-comment-review-panel>. The Vice Chairman has directed staff to begin implementing these recommendations.

Program Comments (36 CFR § 800.14(e)), one of five program alternatives available in the Section 106 regulations, allow the ACHP to issue comments on a program or class of undertakings in lieu of an agency conducting reviews on a case-by-case basis. The ACHP membership must vote to approve or decline to comment after a 45-day period following an agency's submission of a formal request for a Program Comment.

As updated guidance and best practices are developed per the recommendations, information will be posted on the ACHP's Program Comment webpage (www.achp.gov/program_alternatives/program_comments). Please contact Blythe Semmer (bsemmer@achp.gov) with any questions.

Bureau of Land Management

The Senate voted to approve the nomination of Tracy Stone-Manning to head the Bureau of Land Management, making her the agency's first confirmed leader in five years. Stone-Manning is a Montana-based environmentalist who works on conservation policy at the National Wildlife Federation. She previously led Montana's Department of Environmental Quality, worked as an aide for Senator Jon Tester and served as chief of staff to Democratic Gov. Steve Bullock.

National Trust for Historic Preservation:

The Preservation Priorities Task Force, a joint project of the National Preservation Partners Network and the National Trust for Historic Preservation released a set of four Issue Briefs covering a set of timely topics. Comprised of volunteers from around the country, the PPTF is working to develop tools and strategies that state and local preservation organizations can use in their own communities to address:

- Affordable Housing and Density
- Diversity, Inclusion, and Racial Justice
- Preservation Trades and Workforce Development
- Sustainability and Climate Action

The hope is that these briefs can act "*as guides for discussions with community leaders and stakeholders, background for outreach to potential partners, support materials for fundraising efforts, and more.*"

Here is a link to the Task Force and the Issue Briefs: <https://www.preservationpriorities.org/>.

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PUBLIC PROJECT ALERTS:

NEPA:

- Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Program
 - Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement Scoping, comments due October 4, 2021 *ePlanning Website*: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/102555/510>

Section 106 large project consultation in progress:

- Mendenhall Glacier Visitors Center Rehabilitation
- Greens Creek Mine

Review and compliance agreement development for large projects in progress:

- Glenn Highway Corridor
 - Programmatic Agreement
- Sterling Highway MP 45-60
 - Data Recovery Plan
 - Programmatic Agreement Amendment
- U. S. Coast Guard Base Kodiak
 - Programmatic Agreement and ICRMP
- Formerly Used Defense Sites Program
 - Programmatic Agreement
- Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson
 - Programmatic Agreement

For information on how to participate in the process, or on how to review and comment on the above projects, contact Sarah Meitl, sarah.meitl@alaska.gov.

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HERITAGE SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION:

Heritage is produced by the Office of History and Archaeology, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Alaska Department of Natural Resources. Please send your comments, suggestions, and information by e-mail to judy.bittner@alaska.gov, mail to 550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565, or telephone 907.269.8700.

All issues are posted to our web site at dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/ and distributed to subscribers by e-mail. A paper copy can be sent to individuals and organizations that specifically request it.

To be added to the subscription list, please send an e-mail to dnr.oha@alaska.gov with “Heritage, subscribe” in the subject line.

If you do not wish to continue to subscribe to *Heritage*, please send an e-mail to dnr.oha@alaska.gov with “Heritage, unsubscribe” in the subject line.

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PRESERVATION CALENDAR:

2021

October 6-9 and 13-16 Alaska Historical Society Annual Conference *Communities Remembered and Imagined*. To learn more and register, go to <https://alaskahistoricalsociety.org/about-ahs/conference/>.

October 14 SGH/NPS Webinar: Traditional Metal Roofing and Flashing Systems: Assessment, Design, and Repair. Presented by Niklas Vigener and Matthew Bronski. Register [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#). For more information contact Jean Stoll jean_stoll@contractor.nps.gov or Dara Green dara_green@nps.gov AIA credit available.

October 27-30 Western History Association 61st Annual Conference “*To the West and Beyond: The Global and the Local in Western History*”. Portland, OR. Conference will be on-site and will have online sessions and some livestream content. To learn more and register go to: <https://www.westernhistory.org/2021/Portland>

October 28 OHA Education Series *Section 106 Consultation Panel*. Session 1:30 – 3:00 PM AST. Free. To learn more, go to <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/publiceducation/training.htm>.

November 2, 3, 9, and 10 Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. *Section 106 Practitioners Workshop*. Each of the four days sessions 12:30-4:30 pm EST. Participants must attend all four sessions to complete the course. Registration fee \$500. To learn more and register, go to www.achp.gov/training/classroom

November 2-6 *National Trust for Historic Preservation, PastForward, the Virtual National Preservation Conference*. conference@savingplaces.org.

November 29- Dec. 1, 2021 *International Conference of Indigenous Archives, Libraries, and Museums*, Washington, D.C., Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums, <https://www.atalm.org/node/430>

2022

January 24-28 *National Tribal Preservation Conference*, National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, location TBD. For more information go to nathpo.org.

National Preservation Institute provides continuing education and professional training in historic preservation and cultural resource management throughout the year. For training options go to: www.npi.org For information contact Jere Gibber, Executive Director, info@npi.org