



U.S. ARMY GARRISON FORT WAINWRIGHT QUARTERLY UPDATE FOR ALASKA NATIVE TRIBES

January 2013, Issue 30

This is a quarterly update on United States Army Garrison Fort Wainwright activities and issues of interest to federally recognized tribes in Alaska.

Fort Wainwright Personnel Participate in Veteran's Day Festivities at Northway, November 12

Commanders and Soldiers from Fort Wainwright joined the Northway community in celebrating Veteran's Day on November 12. Colonel Ron Johnson, USAG FWA Commander, was the keynote speaker for the event. This regularly-scheduled event displays the pride this relatively small community (population approximately 245) has in the large number of veterans who come from this cluster of related communities—Northway Village, Northway, and Northway Junction—located nearly 45 miles from the Canadian border.

The event was held at the Walter Northway School. Students presented the colors, sang the Star Spangled Banner, lead the Pledge of Allegiance, and served a generous dinner to the nearly 100 guests in attendance. Veterans from the community were recognized and presented with American flags. The names of those actively serving and those who had served but were no longer with us were read. Colonel Johnson spoke about service and sacrifice and pride from both the community's and the service member's perspective. Local pastor Tom Teasdale—a retired Major from the U.S. Army, a staff member with the Northway Village tribe, and the host for USAG FWA personnel—also spoke about the benefits of service to country and community.

Also attending from Fort Wainwright were Colonel Nicholas Snelson, commander of the 16th Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB); the garrison's Command Sergeant Major



American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month Observed at Fort Wainwright

Fort Wainwright observed American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month with a gathering on November 28. Dr. Walkie Charles, Assistant Professor with the Alaska Native Language Center at University of Alaska Fairbanks, spoke at the event about the struggles with education he and other Alaska Native youth experienced and about the triumph resulting from his chosen path. His story presented an excellent example of courage and perseverance for current and future Alaska youth. University of Alaska Fairbanks's Inu-Yupiaq Dance Group also performed.

This observance was organized by the U.S. Army Alaska (Fort Wainwright) Equal Opportunity Office and the sponsoring unit was U.S. Army Medical Activity Alaska (MEDDAC-AK).

JPARC Environmental Impact Statement Update

The JPARC Final EIS will be published March 15, 2013. The Record of Decision (ROD) is scheduled for signature May 24, 2013. The JPARC Draft EIS can be viewed and downloaded at <http://www.jparceis.com>

For more information, contact ALCOM PA, 9480 Pease Avenue, Suite 120, JBER, AK 99506; phone (907) 552-2341; and fax (907) 552-5411.

Army 2020 Force Structure Realignment PEA

The *Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Army 2020 Force Structure Realignment* is available for public review from now until February 19, 2013. The *Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) and Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for Army 2020 Force Structure Realignment* can be viewed and downloaded from <http://aec.army.mil/usaec/nepa/topics00.html>.

Comments should be submitted on or before February 19, 2013 to: Public Comments USAEC, Attention: IMPA-AE (Army 2020 PEA), 2450 Connell Road (Bldg 2264), Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-7664 or USARMY.JBSA.AEC.MBX@mail.mil. For more information, contact (210) 466-1590 or USARMY.JBSA.AEC.MBX@mail.mil

Native Liaison Briefs Pacific Region Staff on Alaska Native Culture

In November, the USAG FWA Native Liaison was invited to Hawaii to brief the staff of Installation Management Command Pacific Region (IMCOM-PAC) Director, Debra Zedalis. In her capacity as Regional Director, Ms. Zedalis, and her staff, oversee a system of support for 180,000 Soldiers, family members, retirees, and civilians, and an annual budget exceeding \$1.170 billion for programs throughout the 11 garrisons of IMCOM-PAC, including those in Alaska, Hawaii, Japan (USAG-Japan, USAG-Torii Station), and Korea (USAG-Humphreys, USAG-Yongsan, USAG-Red Cloud, and USAG-Daegu).

Ms. Zedalis and her staff have been conducting professional development sessions to learn about the diverse indigenous populations and host nations in their region. Briefings by each of the region's respective cultural liaisons included background on each culture, the history of Army/Native interaction, and areas of concern to each indigenous population.



National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Update:

USAG FWA is currently in planning stages for two projects that may adversely affect historic buildings on Fort Wainwright.

—The roof repair of Building 2077 could potentially change the character-defining form of the roof which is a contributing resource to Fort Wainwright's Cold War Historic District.

—Replacement of an existing garage door on Building 1060 with an exterior wall and operational windows could potentially change the exterior characteristics of the building, which is individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Artifacts from Training Lands Deposited at UAF Museum of the North

submitted by Julie Esdale, USAG FWA Archaeologist

Over 600 archaeological sites have been discovered on Fort Wainwright and its training lands and thousands of artifacts have been recovered from these sites over the last decade. Ninety-nine percent of the artifacts discovered consist of stone tools—knives, arrowheads, and hide-working tools—and the debris created during tool production. At a lab shared with the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) on Fort Wainwright, each piece of stone is carefully cleaned, numbered, and analyzed. Individual artifact bags are given unique identifying numbers that are linked to location information and will also be linked to a museum database.

Analysis of the artifacts includes identifying the raw materials from which the flakes and tools are made; describing the type of tool each flake was part of and when in the sequence of making the tool it was produced; separating the obsidian flakes so their geographical source can be determined by XRF (x-ray fluorescence); and removing charcoal for radiocarbon dating.

After the artifacts are examined, they are packed by site in acid free bags and boxes and transferred to the University of Alaska Museum of the North for permanent storage.

Federal law requires artifacts to be stored in an authorized secure and atmospherically controlled facility. The Museum meets these requirements and provides a location where researchers and the public can access the artifacts for study. This winter, Fort Wainwright archaeologists are in the process of transferring nearly 10,000 artifacts from prehistoric sites to the Museum of the North.



Lend-Lease Anniversary Observed

submitted by Lisa Graham, USAG FWA Cultural Resource Manager

In November, the Cultural Resources Section helped commemorate the 70th anniversary of the start of the Lend-Lease operations at Ladd Field (Fort Wainwright's historic name). Lend-Lease was the name given to a series of agreements during World War II in which the United States agreed to materially support other Allied nations including Britain and the Soviet Union in the fight against Germany. As part of Lend-Lease, over 7,900 airplanes were transferred to the Soviet Union at Ladd Field from 1942 to 1945. American pilots ferried the airplanes from factories in the United States through Canada and Alaska where, at Ladd Field, Russian pilots flew the planes over the rest of Alaska and Siberia to the Russian front. The Lend-Lease operations at Ladd Field directly supported the ultimate success of the Allies.

A joint effort of the Tanana Yukon Historical Society, the Fairbanks-Yakutsk Sister City Committee, and Fort Wainwright commemorated the 70th anniversary with a week of events, including a lecture on the significance of Lend-Lease by Dermot Cole, a wreath-laying ceremony at the Lend-Lease Monument in downtown Fairbanks, and symposium on Lend-Lease at the Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitor Center. Lisa Graham and Natalie Loukianoff from Fort Wainwright's Cultural Resources Section participated in the symposium with a joint presentation on Fort Wainwright's historic buildings. Fort Wainwright has nineteen historic buildings connected to World War II and Lend-Lease operations at Ladd Field, including Hangar 1 where Russian pilots worked on and learned about their airplanes prior to starting their long journey back to the war front.

If you are interested in learning more about Fort Wainwright's interesting World War II history, please contact the Cultural Resources Section at 907-361-3002 or the USAG FWA Native Liaison at 907-361-6323.

Training Lands Undocumented Buildings Project

submitted by Natalie Loukianoff, USAG FWA Architectural Historian



As part of the USAG FWA Cultural Resource Section's ongoing effort to identify historic structures on Army lands, one of this year's projects focuses on possible historic buildings and sites within Donnelly Training Area, Yukon Training Area, and Tanana Flats Training Area. Staff will be working to locate and identify historically significant cabins, military structures, bridges, and towers. This project will allow for future planning efforts to document and advocate for the protection of any historic structures or sites found.

If you have any information on significant historic structures or sites located within the training lands please contact the Cultural Resources Section at 907-361-3002 or the Native Liaison at 907-361-6323.

Cultural Resources: the Summer Field Season

submitted by Natalie Thomas, USAG FWA Architectural Historian

This summer three interns in the Cultural Resources Section worked on projects with educational applications on and off post. Intern Sarah Evridge worked on *Teaching with Historic Places* (TwHP) curriculum. The program and lesson plans "use properties listed in the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places to enliven history, social studies, geography, civics, and other subjects. TwHP has created a variety of products and activities that help teachers bring historic places into the classroom." (www.nps.gov/nr/twhp) The product is currently being reviewed by the National Park Service's Heritage Education Services Program. Locally, Watershed Charter School (Fairbanks) and Ben Eielson Junior/Senior High School (Eielson AFB) have both expressed interest in implementing aspects of the finalized lesson plan.

As part of mitigation for the Environmental Impact Statement entitled *Stationing and Training of Increased Aviation Assets within U.S. Army Alaska*, Intern Leighton Quarles updated and expanded the publication, *The Coldest Front: Cold War Military Properties in Alaska, Revised and Expanded*. The work on this document was done in conjunction with the Alaska State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), which plans to publish the document within the next year as funding allows. It is being held up as a wonderful example of coordinated efforts between the SHPO and military.

One of the missions of the Cultural Resources Section is to ensure that other sections understand the importance of identifying Army-managed cultural resources and giving them due consideration during project development. Intern Aaron Wood spent his summer producing 14 PowerPoint trainings modules for use by employees in other USAG FWA Directorate of Public Works departments. Titles include *Repair to Replacement* and *Preservation of Historic Concrete*. They will be given to staff members of other departments such as Engineering and Master Planning to help with the management of Fort Wainwright's National Historic Landmark.

Some Thanks for Veteran Assistance in 2012 and Things to Look Forward to in 2013

submitted by Al Grunin, VA Outreach Specialist

As we leave 2012, and enter 2013, those of us involved in veteran support and outreach activities are thankful for those who helped out last year and excited about the upcoming year.

— The Fairbanks Vet Center recently secured an account with the local Defense Logistics Agency Disposition Services (DLA, formerly DRMO), and has received a dozen pairs of bunny boots for local vets. The Vet Center will continue to monitor DLA inventories for items useful to area veterans.

— Thanks to Julie Engfer, who has been key in establishing the Honor Flight program in Alaska. With her hard work, several of Alaska's World War II veterans traveled to Washington, DC last year to see the World War II memorial. It is vital and time-critical that we quickly locate Alaska's remaining World War II veterans. If you know of any World War II veterans, please contact Julie at Festival Fairbanks at 456-1984.

— Also, big thanks go to the Fairbanks Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) which, in November, purchased over \$400 dollars worth of winter clothing for veterans. This winter has already seen some of the coldest temperatures on record, and Fairbanks is no stranger when it comes to having a population of homeless veterans needing winter gear.

— The Fairbanks Vet Center is already planning a First Friday art exhibition this spring. For all veterans, this is your chance to have your artwork displayed. Contact the Fairbanks Vet Center at 456-4238 for more information.

Allen Grunin is a retired, 22-year service veteran who works for Caduceus Healthcare, Inc., assisting veterans in utilizing earned VA benefits.

Department of the Army American Indian and Alaska Native Policy Released

Enclosed in this quarter's newsletter is a copy of the Army's American Indian and Alaska Native Policy signed into effect by the Secretary of the Army, John McHugh, on October 24, 2012. This policy dovetails with the DoD policy of October 1998 and greater defines the Army's position on the DoD policy.

Directorate of Public Works
Environmental Division
ATTN: IMFW-PWE (Cook)
1060 Gaffney Road #4500
Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703-4500

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

For more on USAG FWA or to get reports you see mentioned in this newsletter, go to www.wainwright.army.mil/env/.

Issues of this newsletter are mailed to tribal administrators and tribal leaders. Address corrections are requested. Thanks.



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

24 OCT 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR Principal Official of Headquarters, Department of the Army

SUBJECT: American Indian and Alaska Native Policy

1. References:

- a. Department of Defense American Indian and Alaska Native Policy, 20 October 1998.
- b. Department of Defense Instruction 4710.02, DoD Interactions with Federally Recognized Tribes, 14 September 2006.

2. Purpose. This memorandum establishes Department of the Army policy for interaction with Federally-recognized American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes (Federally-recognized Tribes), in accordance with references 1.a. and 1.b.

3. Policy. The Department of the Army will:

- a. Meet its responsibilities to Federally-recognized Tribes as derived from the federal trust doctrine, treaties, and agreements and comply with federal statutes and regulations, presidential memoranda and executive orders governing interactions with Federally-recognized Tribes.
- b. Build stable and enduring government-to-government relations with Federally-recognized Tribes in a manner that sustains the Army mission and minimizes effects on protected tribal resources. The Army will communicate with Federally-recognized Tribes on a government-to-government basis in recognition of their sovereignty.
- c. Recognize, respect and take into consideration the significance that Federally-recognized Tribes ascribe to protected tribal resources when undertaking Army mission activities and when managing Army lands.
- d. Fully integrate the principles of meaningful consultation and communication with Federally-recognized Tribes at all organizational levels including staff officers and civilian officials. The Army will consider the unique qualities of individual Federally-recognized Tribes when applying these principles.

4. This policy recognizes the importance of understanding and addressing the concerns of Federally-recognized Tribes prior to reaching decisions on matters that may have the potential to significantly affect tribal rights, tribal lands or protected tribal resources.

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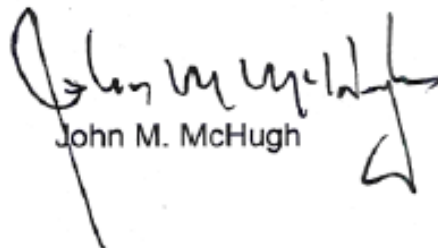
5. Definition of Key Terms:

a. Tribal rights: Those rights legally accruing to a Federally-recognized Tribe or tribes by virtue of inherent sovereign authority, unextinguished aboriginal title, treaties, statutes, judicial decisions, executive orders or agreement and that give rise to legally enforceable remedies.

b. Tribal lands: Any lands title to which is: either held in trust by the United States for the benefit of any Federally-recognized Indian tribe or individual or held by any Federally-recognized Indian tribe or individual subject to restrictions by the United States against alienation.

c. Protected tribal resources: Those natural resources and properties of traditional or customary religious or cultural importance, either on or off Tribal lands, retained by, or reserved by or for, Federally-recognized Tribes through treaties, statutes, judicial decisions or executive orders.

6. This policy is not intended to, and does not grant, expand, create or diminish any legally enforceable rights, benefits or trust responsibilities, substantive or procedural not otherwise granted or created under existing law. This policy shall not be construed to alter, amend, repeal, interpret or modify tribal sovereignty, any treaty rights or other rights of any Indian tribes or to preempt, modify or limit the exercise of any such right.



John M. McHugh