

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****National Park Service****Kobuk Valley National Park Commission Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Announcement of Subsistence Resource Commission meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act that a meeting of the Subsistence Resource Commission for Kobuk Valley National Park will be held at Kotzebue, Alaska. The purpose of the meeting will be to review Federal Subsistence Board wildlife proposals and continue work on National Park Service subsistence hunting program recommendations including other related subsistence management issues. The meeting will be open to the public. Any person may file with the Commission a written statement concerning the matters to be discussed.

The Subsistence Resource Commissions are authorized under Title VIII, Section 808, of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Public Law 96-487, and operates in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 13, 2004, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conference room in Kotzebue, Alaska.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Superintendent, Julie Hopkins and Willie Goodwin at (907) 442-3890, Ken Adkisson at (800) 471-2352, or (907) 443-2522.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice of this meeting will be published in local newspapers and announced on local radio stations prior to the meeting dates. Locations and dates may need to be changed based on weather or local circumstances.

The following agenda items will be discussed:

1. Welcome—Introduction of commission members and guests.
2. Review and approve agenda.
3. Review and approve minutes from last meeting.
4. Review Commission Purpose and Status of Membership.
5. Superintendent's Report.
  - a. Resource Projects, Research and Science.
  - b. Muskoxen Management Plan.
  - c. Commercial Services Plan.
  - d. Resource Protection and Education.
  - e. Northwest Arctic Heritage Center.
6. Update—Review Federal Subsistence Board Wildlife Proposals and Actions.

7. Update—Review Federal Subsistence Board Fisheries Proposals and Actions.
8. Review Status of Hunting Plan Recommendations.
9. New Business.
10. Public and agency comments.
11. SRC work session on issues (if needed).
12. Set time and place of next SRC meeting. Identify agenda topics for next meeting.
13. Adjournment.

Draft minutes will be available for public inspection approximately six weeks after the meeting from: Superintendent Western Arctic National Parklands, Alaska Region, P.O. Box 1029, Kotzebue, AK 99752.

Dated: August 20, 2004.

**Victor Knox,**

*Deputy Regional Director, Alaska Region.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****National Park Service****Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items: American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY**

**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 American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY, that meet the definition of unassociated funerary 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 two cultural items are a partial stone pipe and the handle of a stone club. The partial pipe, which appears to be about half of the original object, is a sculpted tubular pipe made of steatite. The bowl of the pipe is carved with an anthropomorphic design. The club handle is made of stone and is carved with a zoomorphic design.

In August 1902, W.F. Sonderman of Kennewick, WA, found the partial pipe in an "Indian grave" during the construction of an irrigation canal. The

grave was located about 1/4 mile from the bank of the Yakima River at a point about 9 miles above its mouth. The museum acquired the pipe from Harlan I. Smith, who had purchased it from Mr. Sonderman. The museum accessioned the item in 1903.

At an unknown date, D.W. Owens collected the stone club handle on Blalock Island, Benton County, WA, which he gifted to the museum in 1905.

The locale of the two unassociated funerary objects is consistent with the postcontact territory of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation, Oregon. Mr. Sonderman indicated that the pipe was associated with glass beads, a metallic handle, and buttons, suggesting a postcontact date for the burial. The glass beads, metallic handle, and buttons were not part of the purchase made by Mr. Smith. According to experts of Plateau archeology, carved stone clubs have been found exclusively in burials on the Plateau. The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation, Oregon has indicated that Blalock Island contains Umatilla habitation sites and that this type of stone club is commonly found in burials and cremations along the Columbia River. It is documented that burials on Blalock Island date to the postcontact period, which suggests that the club handle is from the postcontact period or from a postcontact burial.

Officials of the American Museum of Natural History have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (3)(B), the cultural items are reasonably believed to have been placed with or near individual human remains at the time of death or later as part of the death rite or ceremony and are believed, by a preponderance of the evidence, to have been removed from a specific burial site of a Native American individual.

Officials of the American Museum of Natural History 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 unassociated funerary objects and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation, Oregon.

Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with the unassociated funerary objects should contact Nell Murphy, Director of Cultural Resources, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, NY 10024, telephone (212) 769-5837, before October 14, 2004.

Repatriation of the unassociated funerary objects to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation, Oregon may proceed after that date if no additional claimants come forward.