

environmental impact analysis process, the NPS is seeking public comments and relevant information to guide the preparation of the Draft EIS. The objectives of this public scoping effort are to:

- Inform all interested parties of the scope of the problem and the need to find a solution;
- Identify a preliminary range of management alternatives that may include those posted by the BOR;
- Identify substantive environmental and cultural issues which warrant detailed environmental impact analysis, and identify any issues or topics which may not require analysis;
- Identify potential environmental and cultural consequences and suitable mitigation strategies.

Comment Process: The public will be invited to participate from the outset of the scoping process through completion of the draft and final EIS. The initial scoping period has already begun and public meetings have been held in order to: (1) Present information developed to date, (2) answer questions about the planning process, and (3) solicit and accept comments from the public. To initiate this collaboration, four scoping meetings were held during the month of November, 2002 as follows: November 4 (Chico), November 5 (Red Bluff), November 6 (Redding), and November 7 (Chester). The exact locations and times of the meetings were announced via regional and local news media, direct mailings, and on the Park's webpage at <http://www.nps.gov/lavo>. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies were invited to attend these meetings and/or provide written comments or suggestions during the scoping period.

While the public meetings have already been held, the scoping period remains open. All scoping comments should be submitted in writing, and must be postmarked or transmitted no later than 30 days from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** (as soon as this date has been determined, it will be announced on the park's website). Please send all comments to: Superintendent, Lassen Volcanic National Park, PO Box 100, Mineral, CA 96063 (Attn: Dream Lake Dam Management Plan). Electronic comments may be transmitted to LAVO_DreamLake@nps.gov.

All parties wishing to express concerns, ideas, support, or provide information about management issues which should be addressed in the forthcoming conservation planning and environmental impact analysis process are strongly encouraged to submit written comments. All comments will

become part of the public record. If individuals who submit comments request that their name and/or address be withheld from public disclosure, the request will be honored to the extent allowable by law. Such requests must be stated prominently in the beginning of the comments. There also may be circumstances wherein the NPS will withhold a respondent's identity as allowable by law. As always, the NPS will make available to public inspection all submission from organizations or businesses and from persons identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations and businesses. Anonymous comments may not be considered.

Decision Process: Availability of the Draft EIS for review and comment will be announced by formal Notice in the **Federal Register**, through local and regional news media, the Park's Webpage (listed above), and direct mailing. At this time, the Draft EIS is anticipated to be available for public review and comment in the Fall of 2003. Comments on the Draft EIS will be fully considered as an aid in preparing a Final EIS as appropriate. At this time, it is anticipated that the Final EIS will be completed in the spring of 2004. As a delegated EIS, the official responsible for the decision is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region; subsequently the official responsible for implementation is the Superintendent, Lassen Volcanic National Park.

Dated: March 7, 2003.

Patricia L. Neubacher,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific West Region.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intent To Repatriate a Cultural Item: Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, IL

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, Sec. 7, of the intent to repatriate a cultural item in the possession of the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, IL, that meets the definition of "cultural patrimony" 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, Sec. 5(d)(3). The

determinations within this notice are the sole responsibility of the museum, institution, or Federal agency that has control of these cultural items. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations within this notice.

The cultural item is a wampum belt, which is composed of purple beads with white beads forming the design of four pairs of diamonds. It is interwoven with buckskin and has fringe at the ends. The wampum belt measures 3 feet 8 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches long without the fringe.

The Field Museum of Natural History purchased the wampum belt in 1900 from Henry Hysen of Wisconsin. The Field Museum of Natural History accessioned the wampum belt into its collection the same year (catalog number 68567). Museum records indicate that Mr. Hysen purchased the wampum belt "from the owner who lived on the Stock Ridge Reservation, one of the Brotherton Indians whose family had held the belt since it was sent to them by Chief Black Hawk as a message to the tribes of the Michigan and Wisconsin Indians assembled at Travers bay to hold them in control during his warfare." A separate catalog entry, that is neither attributed nor dated, identifies the belt as the Peace and Friendship Belt sent by "Black Hawk war chief of the Sauk tribe of Indians in the year A.D. 1832 to the Ottawa tribe, residing near Traverse Bay, Michigan, asking them to remain neutral in the war which Black Hawk was about to wage against the American Government." It further provides that the belt had "been kept in the family of the old chief Ta-ko-se-gun and by his son-in-law presented to G.T. Wendell."

The wampum belt is culturally affiliated with the Brotherton Indians. Expert opinion submitted to the Field Museum of Natural History by the Stockbridge Munsee Community, Wisconsin supports the finding that any Brotherton Indian living on the Stockbridge Reservation at the time the wampum belt was acquired would have been considered a full member of the Stockbridge tribe (now called the Stockbridge Munsee Community, Wisconsin). The determination of cultural affiliation was also confirmed by the Field Museum of Natural History's consulting with an outside expert familiar with wampum belts of this time period. The Field Museum of Natural History has determined that the large size, composition, and design of the wampum belt indicates that it is an important "historical" belt, meaning that the belt was a record of a historical event marked and remembered by the tribe, and as such would qualify as an