



## FULLY FUND HPF COALITION UPDATE

The Coalition for Full Funding has been growing at an impressive rate. As of this writing, there are now 87 members from 39 States—as well as one Tribal community, 11 National organizations, one regionally based National Heritage Area, and four SHPO offices: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut and Maine.

We encourage SHPO offices to consider joining the Coalition and helping us to work to get the full funding you need and deserve!



### SENATE AND HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCE AUTHORIZATION COMMITTEES APPROVE END OF YEAR BILLS

On Thursday the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee approved 32 bills by unanimous consent, including bills for new wilderness areas, national parks, wild and scenic river designations and water transfers. Included in the package of bills were:

S.721, which would expand the Alpine Lakes Wilderness near Seattle, WA, by 22,100 acres and designate the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River and Pratt River as wild and scenic rivers.

S.853, would designate nine miles of White Clay Creek in Delaware and Pennsylvania as a wild and scenic waterway.

S.874 would establish El Rio Grande Del Norte National Conservation Area in NM.

S.1369 would designate segments totaling about 21 miles of the Molalla River in OR as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

S.1405 would rename the Longfellow National Historic Site as the “Longfellow House-Washington’s Headquarters National Historic Site.”

H.R. 1376 would designate Waco Mammoth Site in Texas, home to the fossilized remains of 25 pre-historic mammoths, as a national monument.

H.R.1593 would label 14 miles of Washington’s Illabot Creek as “wild and scenic” to add additional protections against development along the river.

H.R.1694 would authorize Interior to acquire and protect Revolutionary War and War of 1812 historical sites, with amendments.

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H.R.2330 would authorize a study on the feasibility of designating the former Camp Hale Army training facility in Colorado as a national historic district.

S.Res. 275 a resolution to honor the Minute Man National Historical Park on its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The House Natural Resources Committee also passed several bills including H.R.3726, from Del Donna Christensen (D-VI) which would establish the Castle Nugent National Historic Site in the U.S. Virgin Island. The St. Croix site includes the most substantial black mangrove stand left in the Virgin Islands, sea turtle nesting areas, coral reefs and a lagoon.



### NPS HONORS CULTURAL WORKERS

The National Park Service recently honored three employees with 2008 cultural resources awards - H. Thomas McGrath, Jr., Dr. Jeanne Schaaf, and Robert Fox. The awards, including \$2,500 in cash, are named for three long-time NPS employees: Roy E. Appleman, a historian; Henry A. Judd, an historical architect; and Ralph H. Lewis, a curator.

McGrath was honored for his 20 years as superintendent of the Park Service Historic Preservation Training Center in Frederick, Md. and the preservation of barns, cabins, lighthouses, canals, ships, fortifications and historic houses. Schall, chief of cultural resources for the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve in Alaska, was honored for management of numerous cultural resource projects. And Fox was honored for his work in preserving structure and

landscapes at Weir Farm National Historic Site in Connecticut.



### DECISION ON INDIAN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT

After litigating what is now called the Cobell vs. Salazar case for 13 years, the Interior Department this month agreed to settle the class-action lawsuit with American Indians who say the department bilked them out of billions of dollars by mismanaging land trusts. Under the terms of the settlement, the federal government would pay \$1.4 billion in damages and spend another \$2 billion to consolidate the land trusts. The \$3.4 billion is far less than other settlement payouts that have been considered during the case's 13-year history, but Elouise Cobell, the lead plaintiff, said that the time had come to settle because plaintiffs are dying before they receive compensation.

To become final, the settlement requires congressional approval. However, an extension from the judge may be necessary as the House has adjourned for the year and the Senate is still grappling with healthcare.



### 2009 SZUFNER-WHEELER WEDDING

Elizabeth (Szufner) Wheeler, former NCSHPO deputy director, married Michael Wheeler on October 9<sup>th</sup> in Manchester, Michigan. Elizabeth also recently accepted a new position with Michigan State University (her alma mater) as Alumni Relations coordinator for the College of Natural Science. Please let NCSHPO know if you would like Elizabeth's contact information.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- January 13-14, 2010 – NCSHPO Executive Committee Meeting, Washington D.C.
- March 2-4, 2010 – NCSHPO annual meeting and Advocacy Day, Washington D.C.
- March 3-5, 2010 – National Historic Tax Credit Conference, Washington D.C.

