

A New Approach to Annual Archaeological Curation Fees

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Statutes and Regulations

- 36 CFR Part 79
- 31 U.S.C. § 3324
- 41 U.S.C. § 253
- Federal Acquisition Regulation



Steps To Award Curation Service Contract

1. Determine most appropriate contractual vehicle
2. Prepare technical scope of work
3. Solicit proposals
4. Review proposals
5. Discussions/Negotiations (if necessary)
6. Award contract



Annual Maintenance Curation Tasks

1. **Maintain an archaeological collections and management center in accordance with 36 CFR Part 79, Section 79.9 and EP/ER 1130-2-540**
2. **Arrange for the loan or display of all or part of a collection**
3. **Provide appropriate access to and/or use of Corps collections by the general public, researchers, Native Americans, and federal employees**



Annual Maintenance Curation Tasks

4. Maintain a list of all individuals who access the collections
5. Assure the curatorial services furnished pursuant to this scope of work conform to the standards in 36 CFR Part 79 and ER/EP 1130-2-540
6. Maintain, and update as needed, a computer-assisted collections-management-retrieval system



Annual Maintenance Curation Tasks

7. **Accept one-time accessioning fees from other investigating organizations or contractors that are depositing archaeological collections recovered from Corps fee-title lands**
8. **Conduct an annual inspection of all Corps collections (artifacts and records) and prepare a report that evaluates their condition**
9. **Maintain a curatorial staff that includes a Qualified Museum Professional, as defined in 36 CFR Part 79 and ER/EP 1130-2-540**



Annual Maintenance Curation Tasks

10. Retain all Corps collections (artifacts or records)
11. Refrain from the public display of human skeletal remains, associated funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony from any Corps collection



Annual Maintenance Curation Tasks and Level of Effort

Task	Profession	Estimated Effort
Arrange for loans/displays	Museum Specialist	96 Hrs
	Museum Curator	12 Hrs
Provide access to collections and maintain a list of access	Museum Specialist	80 Hrs
	Museum Curator	40 Hrs
Maintain and update collections database	Museum Specialist	96 Hrs
	Museum Curator	12 Hrs
Accept additional collections	Museum Specialist	96 Hrs
	Museum Curator	12 Hrs
Inspect collections and provide report	Museum Specialist	320 Hrs
	Museum Curator	16 Hrs



Disadvantages

- **Difficult to use in areas where museums are at or near capacity**
- **Difficult to use in areas where museums are not in compliance with 36 CFR Part 79**



Advantages

- **Competition lowers cost**
- **Process is more compatible with contracting law**
- **Price differences throughout U.S. based on differing Department of Labor wage rates and the level of effort requested**
- **Everything is negotiable**
- **Contracting officer and office of counsel involvement improves the end result**



Main Points to Remember When Beginning the Process for Acquiring Curation Services

- Cultural resources manager must have clearly defined, unambiguous curation requirements
- Process must comply with federal procurement and property management statutes
- Contracting officers and legal offices must be involved
- Everything is negotiable

