



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
St. Louis District

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, P.L. 101-601 and 43 CFR Part 10

# Information Paper

## Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)

### Operation and Maintenance ()

**Location and Description:** The Mandatory Center of Expertise (MCX) for the Curation and Management of Archaeological Collections (CMAC) was established in the St. Louis District in 1994 to deliver centralized management, administration, and policy development for USACE-wide compliance with archeological collections management. MCX CMAC provides overall management of the Corps' NAGPRA program and facilitates consistent nationwide NAGPRA program implementation and operation. NAGPRA addresses the recovery, treatment, and repatriation of Native American and Native Hawaiian cultural items by Federal agencies. As defined by the Act, cultural items are human remains, associated funerary objects, unassociated funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony, all of which are part of USACE's archaeological collections. MCX CMAC manages and facilitates inventorying and summarizing collections, consulting with Indian tribes, researching cultural affiliation and aboriginal occupation, and returning NAGPRA collections to the appropriate Indian tribes.

• **FY 2021 Budget**                      **\$900,000**

- In FY21, MCX continues to support and facilitate NAGPRA compliance throughout the Corps. This includes review of districts' collections for previously unidentified human remains, cultural affiliation and aboriginal occupancy research for operating projects, facilitation of tribal consultation, and publication of appropriate NAGPRA notices upon completion of consultation. MCX will support the repatriation of at least 2,019 individuals and 4,826 objects. St. Louis District is providing site protection of an inadvertent discovery at Mark Twain Lake for which MCX providing tribal coordination. MCX continues to represent USACE at NAGPRA Review Committee Meetings and to liaison with the Department of the Interior's National NAGPRA Program.

• **Activities after FY 2021**

- Review of districts' faunal (animal bone) collections for unidentified human remains.
- Conduct cultural affiliation/aboriginal occupancy research for district operating projects.
- Coordinate notice publication facilitate tribal consultation, and support repatriation at the requests of districts.

• **Status:**

- The Corps is responsible for the curation and management of at least 46,255 cubic feet of artifacts and at least 3,511 linear feet of associated records collected from its water resources development projects. NAGPRA related items are estimated to be over 7,000 individuals and 505,000 objects. All 38 domestic Corps districts have completed the necessary NAGPRA summaries. Human remains have been identified in collections from 27 Corps districts, and these have been or are being physically inspected. Districts continue to make determinations of cultural affiliation/aboriginal occupancy in order to repatriate to a valid claimant Indian tribe. To date, MCX CMAC has ensured the publication of 85 compliance Notices and the repatriation of 1,808 individuals and 255,923 funerary objects to Indian tribes.



*Photo from National NAGPRA*

VALUE TO NATION	
Districts with human remains and associated funerary objects	27
Estimated minimum number of individual sets of human remains	~7,000
Estimated number of funerary objects	~505,000
NAGPRA compliance documents filed	88
Human remains repatriated	1,808 individuals
Funerary objects and cultural items repatriated	255,923 objects

SAMPLE