



Division of Interpretation and Education

Historic Weapons Program

FY05 Historic Weapons Program Statistics

- # Demonstrations – 8056
- # Visitors Attending – 740,674
- # VIPs Participating - 6841
- # VIP Hours Donated - 102,871

2005 Servicewide Historic Weapons Advisory Team (SHWAT)

Team Leader

John Sutton, WICR

Assistant Team Leader

Rick Martin, VICK

Black Powder Safety Specialist

Vacant

18th Century Small Arms

Rick Martin, VICK

18th Century Artillery

Ron Gimmillaro, VAFO

18th Century Special Weapons

Eric Olsen, MORR

19th Century Small Arms

Vacant

19th Century Artillery

Jimmy Blankenship, PETE

19th Century Special Weapons

John Sutton, WICR

Field Representative, 18th C.

Joe Craig, SARA

Field Representative, 19th C.

Cathy Beeler, MONO

Superintendents' Rep.

vacant

WASO Representative

Sandy Weber, WASO Interp. & Educ.

Risk Management Rep.

Dan Sullivan, NE Area Office

Curatorial Representative

vacant

Historic Weapons Upgrade and Replacement Program

Background

The Servicewide Historic Weapons Advisory Team (SHWAT) and the WASO Division of Interpretation & Education developed a \$1,100,000 safety upgrade and improvement program for NPS historic weapons (HW) firing demonstrations in FY03. Using 20% Fee Demonstration funds, the program was scheduled to be completed in three phases. Phase I, the inspection of all current HW programs, was completed in FY03. As a result of the inspections, 250



New weapons in use at Fort Scott NHS

items (powder magazines, safety equipment, weapons, uniforms, etc.) were identified as being in

need of replacement or upgrade at an approximate cost of \$1,00,000.

In Phase II of the program which occurred in FY04, 155 of the most urgent safety needs were funded at the cost of \$500,000. Fifty-four parks received grants in amounts ranging from \$500 to \$33,205 to replace or upgrade substandard powder magazines, purchase gun safes, replace weapons or ordnance that had failed inspection or were aging, and acquire safety equipment.

Phase III – FY05

Because a sizable list of HW program needs still existed after the FY04 grants were distributed, a second series of grants was awarded in FY05 totaling \$500,000. Thirty parks received grants in amounts ranging from \$700- \$44,000. The majority of the



Inspection of tube interior using new cannon-cam

HW Regional Inspectors

National Capital Region

Cathy Beeler, MONO

Northeast Region

Ron Gimmillaro, VAFO
Chris Keenan, MASI

Southeast Region

Joe Davis, SHIL
Matt Atkinson, VICK
Willie Johnson, KEMO
Jim Lewis, STRI

Midwest Region

George Elmore, FOLS

Intermountain Region

served by MW

Pacific West Region

served by MW

Alaska Region

not applicable

grants were used to correct deficiencies noted during the FY03 inspections. Eight parks (COLO, COWP, FOVA, FRSP, NATR, PAAL, PERI, SHIL) received funds to help restore discontinued programs or to start new interpretive demonstrations.

Although approximately \$300,000 in unfunded needs still exists in the HW program even after all the Upgrade and Replacement Program funds have been allocated, all significant safety and weapons deficiencies have been

corrected. The remaining requests are primarily for items to enhance current programs or to initiate new ones. Individual parks will take the lead in locating funding for these items.



