

Fiscal Year 2025 Report

National NAGPRA Program

National Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Program
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
For the period October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025

Published May 29, 2026

National NAGPRA Program Statistics

NAGPRA At-A-Glance
Fiscal Year 2025

846	notices published in the Federal Register
2	Review Committee meetings
7	allegations of failure to comply received
\$3.321	million awarded for grants
\$118,096	6 repatriation grants
\$3,203,349	26 project grants

NAGPRA notices continue to increase – the number of notices published in the Federal Register eclipsed any previous year as the largest number ever published in one year.

NAGPRA activity is steady – the number of human remains that have completed the regulatory process grew by nearly 6%.

NAGPRA funding extended – \$85,555 was reserved for additional repatriation grants available until May 2026, or until expended.

More NAGPRA work needed – Since 1990, the Act has required museums and Federal agencies to identify all Native American human remains. Yet, each year, additional Native American individuals are reported in inventories. Deadlines for completing inventories of Native American human remains can be found in Table 1 to 43 CFR 10.10(d)(2).

NAGPRA Accomplishments
FY 1990 – FY 2025

Nearly 64% (142,389) of the Native American human remains reported **have completed the NAGPRA process.**

Over 4.1 million associated funerary objects have completed the NAGPRA process.

46% of museums subject to NAGPRA have resolved rights to all Native American human remains under their possession or control.

More than 513,000 unassociated funerary objects have been published in notices.

About 111,676 other cultural items have been published in notices.

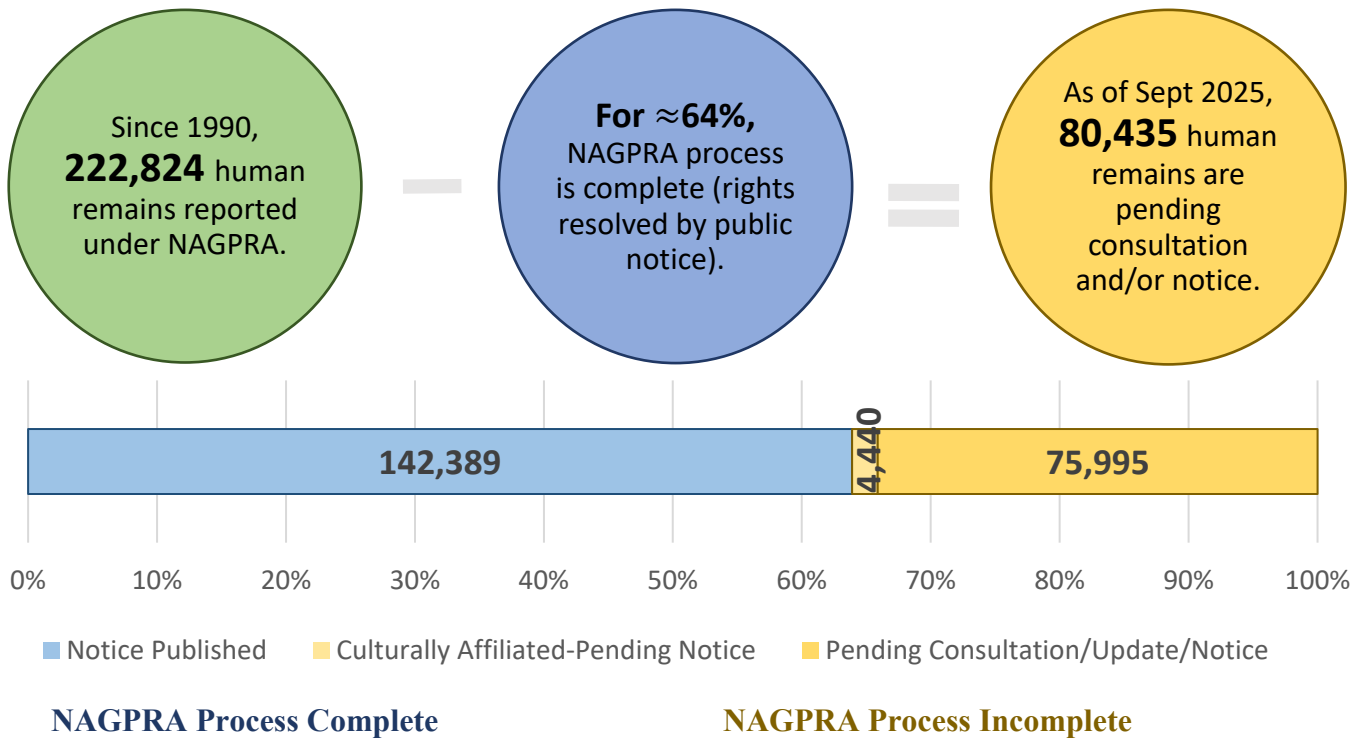
91 Review Committee meetings have been held between FY 1990-FY 2025.

\$59,111 has been collected in civil penalties for failures to comply.

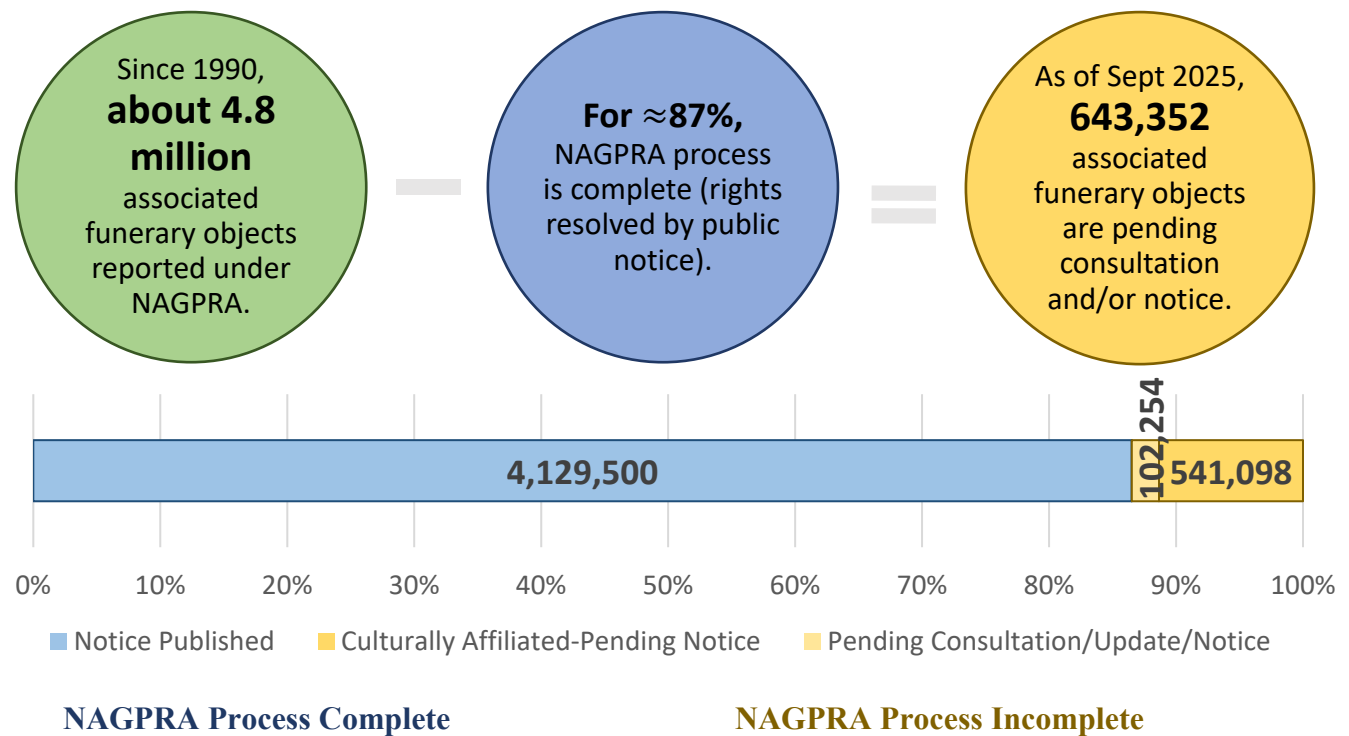
\$65 million has been awarded in NAGPRA grants.

NAGPRA in Fiscal Year 2025

Native American Human Remains in Holdings and Collections

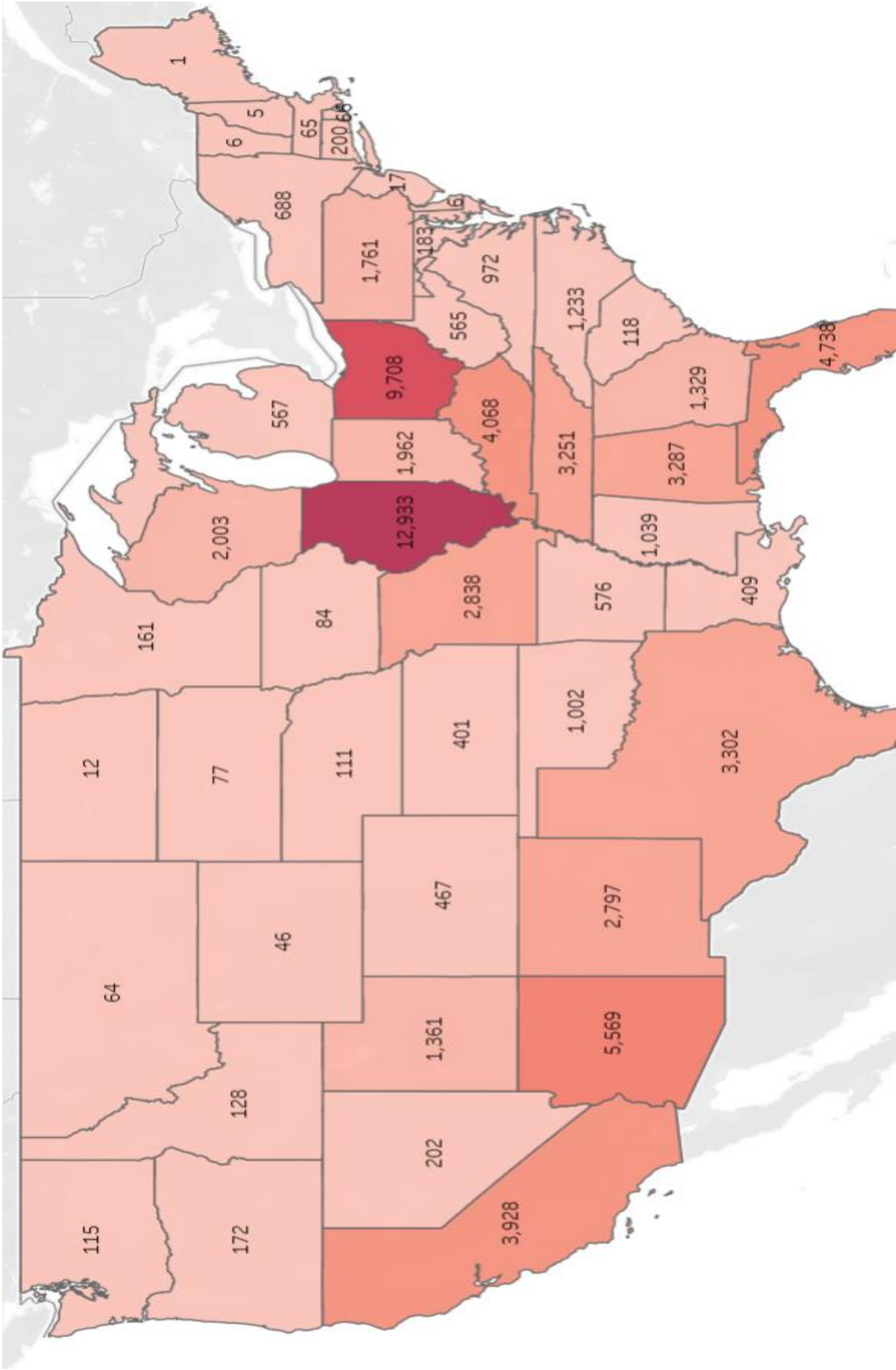


Native American Associated Funerary Objects in Holdings and Collections



NAGPRA in Fiscal Year 2025

Native American individuals by state of removal/excavation.
Showing the **80,435** human remains in holdings and collections as of Sept 2025.



NAGPRA in Fiscal Year 2025

Native American individuals by institution/Federal agency.
19 largest holdings or collections as of Sept 2025.

Ohio History Connection (formerly the Ohio Historical Society)	6,537
Illinois State Museum	5,850
Harvard University	5,242
Indiana University	3,869
Univ. of Kentucky, William S. Webb Museum of Anthropology	3,127
Univ. of Alabama Museums	2,714
Arizona State Museum	2,480
Univ. of Missouri, Columbia, Museum of Anthropology	2,069
Univ. of California, Berkeley	1,959
Center for American Archeology, Kampsville Archeological Center	1,947
Univ. of Texas at Austin, Texas Archeological Research Laboratory	1,896
American Museum of Natural History	1,722
Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, McClung Museum of Natural History &..	1,686
Univ. of Florida, Florida Museum of Natural History	1,663
Milwaukee Public Museum	1,554
U.S. Dept. of Defense, Army Corps of Engineers	1,438
Florida Dept. of State	1,407
Field Museum	1,287
U.S. Dept. of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs	1,108

More lists available at:

https://public.tableau.com/shared/X4DT5MRG9?:display_count=n&:origin=viz_share_link

NAGPRA in Fiscal Year 2025

The [Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act](#) (NAGPRA or the Act) recognizes the rights of lineal descendants, Indian Tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations in Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony. Native American human remains and cultural items subject to NAGPRA are held by museums and Federal agencies or may be removed from Federal or Tribal lands. Administrative responsibilities under the Act are assigned to the Secretary of the Interior, who delegated certain tasks to the National NAGPRA Program (Program).

This report covers Program activities related to the following delegated tasks during Fiscal Year 2025 (October 1, 2024- September 30, 2025) in the Act at 25 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq.:

§ 3002: Protection on Federal or Tribal Lands

- Providing technical assistance concerning the excavation and discovery of cultural items
- Maintaining a database of Notices of Intended Disposition published by Federal agencies
- Maintaining a list of unclaimed cultural items in the custody of Federal agencies

§ 3003, 3004, & 3005: Repatriation by Museums and Federal Agencies

- Receiving inventories and summaries prepared by museums and Federal agencies
- Publishing notices in the *Federal Register* for museums and Federal agencies
- Maintaining information about inventories, summaries, notices, and repatriations

§ 3006: Review Committee

- Providing staff support and a Designated Federal Officer to the Federal advisory committee

§ 3007: Civil Penalties

- Providing staff support on allegations of museums who fail to comply with the Act

§ 3008: Grants

- Administering a grant program to assist museums, Indian Tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations

§ 3011: Regulations

- Drafting and updating regulations

§ 3012: Appropriations

- Carrying out the Act using the funds appropriated

Technical Assistance

- Providing assistance to any party on any of the responsibilities under the Act

§ 3002: Protection on Federal or Tribal Lands

Notices of Intended Disposition

Since 1990, the Program has received copies of 247 Notices of Intended Disposition published in newspapers by Federal agencies. See <https://apps.cr.nps.gov/nagprapublic/Home/NID>.

The Program received 80 notices of intended disposition and published a total of 79 notices in the *Federal Register* this fiscal year. Since January 12, 2024, 100 notices of intended disposition have been published. See <https://apps.cr.nps.gov/nagprapublic/Home/Notice>.

Disposition Statements

Since January 12, 2024 (the effective date of the revised regulations), the Program received copies of 30 disposition statements following the publication of a notice in the *Federal Register*. See <https://apps.cr.nps.gov/nagprapublic/Home/Notice>.

Unclaimed Cultural Items

After January 12, 2024 (the effective date of the revised regulations), the Program received 6 lists of unclaimed human remains and cultural items from Federal agencies. The revised regulations required all Federal agencies to submit lists of any unclaimed human remains and cultural items in its custody by January 13, 2025 (43 CFR 10.7(d)(1)). See <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nagpra/unclaimed.htm>.

§ 3003, 3004, & 3005: Repatriation by Museums and Federal Agencies

Native American human remains and associated funerary objects

A total of 381 museums and 104 Federal agency units report 80,435 Native American human remains in inventories of their holdings or collections. See <https://apps.cr.nps.gov/nagprapublic/Home/Inventory>.

Native American cultural items

A total of 1,047 museums and 422 Federal agency units have submitted summaries of cultural items in their holdings or collections. See <https://apps.cr.nps.gov/nagprapublic/Home/Summary>.

Museum Statements

The Program received copies of statements from museums with custody of a Federal agency holding or collection and with custody of other holdings or collections. Data entry of these statements is still ongoing, and in future reports, the Program will report on the number of museum statements it received. See [https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-43/part-10/section-10.8#p-10.8\(c\)](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-43/part-10/section-10.8#p-10.8(c)) and [https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-43/part-10/section-10.8#p-10.8\(d\)](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-43/part-10/section-10.8#p-10.8(d)).

Federal Register Notices

The Program received 813 notice submissions and published a total of 767 notices this fiscal year. Since 1992, 5,838 notices have been published. See <https://apps.cr.nps.gov/nagprapublic/Home/Notice>. Note:

NAGPRA in Fiscal Year 2025

These totals do not include Notices of Intended Disposition. Those notices are reported in the section above.

Repatriation Statements

The Program received copies of 823 repatriation statements following the publication of a notice in the *Federal Register*. See <https://apps.cr.nps.gov/nagprapublic/Home/Notice>.

§3006: Review Committee

Meetings

The Review Committee held 2 public meetings this fiscal year. Since 1992, the Review Committee has held 91 public meetings. See <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nagpra/review-committee.htm>.

Reports

Since 1992, the Review Committee has completed 24 reports to Congress regarding progress made, and any barriers encountered, in implementing the Act. The report for Fiscal Year 2025 was approved by the Review Committee on September 30, 2025, but has not yet been published. See <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nagpra/reports-to-congress.htm>.

Recommendations

Since 1992, the Review Committee has heard and acted on 118 requests for human remains with no cultural affiliation. Of these requests, 115 were requests for sets of human remains, and 3 were requests to consider and approve a state process. See <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nagpra/disposition-recommendations.htm>.

Since 1992, the Review Committee has heard and acted on 22 requests for findings of fact or resolutions of disputes. See <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nagpra/findings-of-fact-recommendations.htm>.

§3007: Civil Penalties

Allegations and Findings

The Program received 7 letters alleging that a museum failed to comply with the Act. Since 1996, the Program has received 151 unique allegations of failure to comply. During this fiscal year, the Program identified three allegations not previously included in these reports. The Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks issued three notices of failure to comply this fiscal year, for a total of 26 allegations that were substantiated (see Table 2). The Assistant Secretary has issued a total of 39 notices of no failure to comply. A total of 11 allegations were not referred for investigation after an initial evaluation, and 75 allegations are still pending (see Table 3). The Assistant Secretary may exercise discretion to investigate allegations received. Since 2004, the civil penalties program has operated under a procedure where it evaluates allegations prior to initiating an investigation. After January 12, 2024 (the effective date of the revised regulations), the regulations describe the nature of this evaluation and require it be completed within 90 days of receiving an allegation. To ensure transparency in reporting civil penalty statistics, all allegations received are reported and beginning in fiscal year 2023, those allegations that are, after an evaluation, not referred for further investigation are reported as “Declined to investigate.”

NAGPRA in Fiscal Year 2025

Table 1: Allegations Results as of Sept 30, 2025

Allegation Result – Status	Number of allegations
Not substantiated – No failure to comply	39
Declined to investigate	11
Substantiated – Failure to comply (see Table 2)	26
Pending (see Table 3)	75
Total	151

Table 2: Allegations Substantiated as of Sept 30, 2025

Museum	Penalty Amount
Andover Newton Theological Seminary	\$4,900.00
Bernice P. Bishop Museum (2010)	Not appropriate
Bernice P. Bishop Museum (2008)	Settlement (\$13,500.00)*
City of Harrisburg	\$9,820.00
Center for American Archeology	Pending assessment
East Carolina Univ.	\$3,750.00
Fremont County Coroner	Settlement without payment
Hamilton County Parks and Recreation	\$6,533.00
Harvard University (2010)	Not appropriate
Harvard University (2024)	Not appropriate
Marshall University	\$4,999.00
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art	Not appropriate
Northern Illinois Univ.	\$2,500.00
Oregon State Univ.	Not appropriate
Pacific Lutheran Univ.	Not appropriate
Pierce College	\$3,750.00
Safety Harbor Museum of Natural History	\$439.34
St. Joseph Museums, Inc. (2007)	\$1,420.00
St. Joseph Museums, Inc. (2016)	Pending petition**
St. Martin's Waynick Museum	Not appropriate
Texas Parks and Wildlife	\$5,000.00
Univ. of California, Berkeley (2013)	Settlement without payment
Univ. of California, Berkeley (2013)	Settlement without payment
Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst	Not appropriate
Univ. of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History	Not appropriate
Univ. of Puget Sound	\$2,500.00
Total	\$59,111.34

* Payment through settlement, not penalty assessment.

** Penalty assessed but not yet paid. Pending a petition for relief.

Table 3: Allegations Pending as of Sept 30, 2025

Evaluation Result – Status	Number of allegations
Active investigation	14
Investigation complete, pending review and approval	7
Under Program review (received prior to 1/12/2024)	54

NAGPRA in Fiscal Year 2025

§3008: Grants

Awards to Indian Tribes and Museums

The Program awarded \$3 million in grants to 8 Indian Tribes and 21 museums. Since 1994, over \$65 million has been awarded. See <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nagpra/previously-awarded-grants.htm>.

§3011: Regulations

On January 16, 2025, the Department of the Interior published a final rule to provide for annual adjustments of civil penalties. See <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nagpra/regulations.htm>.

§3012: Appropriations

Program Budget

(in thousands of dollars)

NAGPRA Grants	\$ 3,407
Program administration	\$ 1,192
Grants administration	\$ 225
Interagency Agreement	\$ 963
Total appropriations/authorizations	\$ 5,787

Grants Awarded

Project Grants	\$ 3,203
Repatriation Grants	\$ 118
Reserved for repatriation grants	\$ 86
Operational Expenses	
Personnel	\$ 750
Grants administration	\$ 225
Publication (<i>Federal Register</i>)	\$ 306
Contractors	\$ 130
Review Committee stipends	\$ 4
Travel (Review Committee)	\$ 0
Travel (Program staff)	\$ 2
Equipment, supplies, other	\$ 0
Cooperative Agreements	\$ 963
Total expenditures	\$ 5,787

Technical Assistance

The Program corresponded with over 1,300 people at nagpra_info@nps.gov and over 200 phone calls to 202-354-2201. In addition, each staff member responded to direct inquiries. This does not include correspondence on notices, which accounts for another 1,500 emails this year. Analytics for the NAGPRA subject website(<https://www.nps.gov/nagpra>) recorded 205,793 pageviews and 18,021 unique download events. The most visited pages were the home page, regulations page, templates page, compliance page, and getting started page. The Program organization website (<https://www.nps.gov/nationalnagpra>) recorded 18,905 pageviews and 762 unique download events. Since 2012, the Program has maintained its YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@NationalNAGPRA>. This fiscal year, the channel garnered over 9,430 views and 1,006 subscribers.

National NAGPRA Program

National Park Service



202-354-2201



nagpra_info@nps.gov