

(1) Overview

The Forest Plan and the 5 year heritage work plan directs the Forest to identify, evaluate, protect, monitor and interpret heritage resources on the Superior National Forest.

Heritage sites within designated project areas are inventoried primarily to satisfy the requirements of the **National Historic Preservation Act of 1966** (as amended). Heritage sites identified within project areas are monitored subsequent to inventory for the purposes of determining whether or not recommended mitigation measures are implemented by the functional area responsible for the project and to document whether or not the recommended mitigation was effective in protecting the heritage resource.

23,500 acres were subject to heritage inventory and during the 2005 field season. **40** new sites were documented through inventory. Inventory included hazard fuel burn units within and outside the BWCAW, campsite and portage inventory for heritage sites, proposed treatment units in the VEIS, Dunka, Trail and other smaller proposed project areas. Each inventory project consists of a pre-field archival search, field inventory if needed and post field reporting and artifact processing. **154** previously inventoried heritage sites were monitored, mostly opportunistically, in conjunction with planned inventory projects. In addition, a less than **10%** sample of several past project areas were monitored to test the effectiveness of current inventory methodology.



A subset of evaluated, eligible sites (**8** sites) which were open to public interpretation in the past are monitored annually to determine whether or not their public nature has made them more subject to vandalism.

Known burial sites are monitored annually to insure no impacts are occurring through FS projects or visitor use of the adjacent areas.



5 sites were evaluated during the 2005 field season including completion of the field portion of the evaluation for Gordons site (PIT).

Site monitoring over time suggests the integrity of some heritage sites is deteriorating over time, especially on campsites subject to extremely heavy visitor use (in and out of the BWCAW). National Forest Service policy is to “flag and avoid” impact to sites located within project areas. Campsite project work and campsite use by the visiting public precludes this “flag and avoid” policy. Some of these campsites containing heritage sites should be closed to public use at least until such time they can be evaluated for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places.

(2) Monitoring Activities

Monitoring Question

Are avoidance or mitigation measures effective and being followed as recommended in project designs? 2) Are heritage resources being damaged or threatened in non-project areas?

Monitoring Driver(s): Objective. O-HR-1. Identify, evaluate, protect, monitor, & preserve heritage resources.

Applicable Monitoring Activity, Practice, Or Effect Measured	Methods	When Monitored	Location or Project Area
Number of heritage sites identified, evaluated, protected, & monitored.	On the ground observation with comparison to previously known site condition, evaluate effectiveness of mitigation recommendations, opportunistic and targeted	May thru Oct.	(1) Tomahawk Project Area. (2) VEIS Project Area. (3) BWEIS '05 Burn Units.

(3) Evaluation and Conclusions.

Desired Conditions/Objectives

Monitoring Driver(s): Objective. O-HR-1. Identify, evaluate, protect, monitor, & preserve heritage resources.

2005 Accomplishments. **23,500** acres were subject to heritage inventory and during the 2005 field season. **40** new sites were documented through inventory. Inventory included hazard fuel burn units within and outside the BWCAW, campsite and portage inventory for heritage sites, proposed treatment units in the VEIS, Dunka, Trail and other smaller proposed project areas. Each inventory project consists of a pre-field archival search, field inventory if needed and post field reporting and artifact processing. **154** previously inventoried heritage sites were monitored, mostly opportunistically, in conjunction with planned inventory projects. In addition, a less than **10%** sample of several past project areas were monitored to test the effectiveness of current inventory methodology.

2005 Accomplishment Contribution Towards Desired Conditions & Objectives

A. FOREST PLAN DIRECTION/FEIS CONDITION				
Record of Decision (7/04)	(DECADE 1)		2005 Accomplishments and/or Condition	
Existing Condition	FP Desired Condition, Objective, or S&G's	FEIS Projected or Proposed Condition	Actual Accomplishments implemented	Actual Accomplishments & Approved NEPA Decisions
3200 Sites.		Maintenance or Improvement of heritage resource conditions.	Inventories. 23,500 ac New Sites; 40. Sites Monitored: 154	

B. ACHIEVEMENT OF FOREST PLAN DIRECTION/FEIS CONDITION			
% Achievement of Decade 1 Direction/Condition		Trend	
Actual accomplishments implemented	Actual Accomplishments & Approved NEPA Decisions	Actual accomplishments implemented	Actual Accomplishments & Approved NEPA Decisions
NA	NA	Adequate Compliance	Adequate Compliance

Standards and Guides

Standard & Guide Descriptor	Standard & Guide Description	Compliance	Remarks
S-HR-1	Heritage inventories meet current national guidance and professional standards. Heritage inventory and site data are current, accurate, and reside in the corporate automated database and mapping system (GIS).	Yes No N/A	
S-HR-2	Properties are systematically evaluated against the National Register of Historic Places criteria of significance. Eligible heritage properties are nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. National Register eligible properties receive full consideration under the National Historic Preservation Act.	Yes No N/A	
S-HR-3	Prehistoric and historic artifacts, investigation field records, and historic archival data are maintained to national curatorial and archival standards.	Yes No N/A	
S-HR-4	Human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony are administered in accordance with Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act requirements.	Yes No N/A	
S-HR-5	National Register listed and other designated historic properties are monitored in accordance with Forest land management plans, heritage preservation plans, site specific plans, and other interagency and tribal programmatic agreements.	Yes No N/A	
S-HR-6	All heritage-related investigations are done under current valid authorizations.	Yes No N/A	
S-HR-7	Human-caused damage, destruction, or removal of heritage structures and properties receives full consideration under the Archeological Resources Protection Act.	Yes No N/A	
S-HR-8	Structural and non-structural stabilization, rehabilitation, restoration, and maintenance of historic properties is conducted in accordance with Forest level heritage protection plans and Forest land management plans, in consultation with the appropriate State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and other interested parties; and in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Historic Preservation, including National Park Service Technical Bulletins.	Yes No N/A	
S-HR-9	Historic properties to be protected include protected areas ("buffers") beyond known site limits, determined on a case-by-case basis considering landform, vegetative cover, access, and planned project activities.	Yes No N/A	
S-HR-10	For properties determined as not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places, management for heritage values is not required. Manage properties found to be eligible or potentially eligible (unevaluated) as if they were listed on the National Register. Reevaluate ineligible properties if additional evidence or information that may change that designation becomes available.	Yes No N/A	
S-HR-11	Maintain appropriate heritage resource site confidentiality pursuant to Freedom of Information Act (exemption), Archeological Resources Protection Act, and National Historic Preservation Act.	Yes No N/A	
G-HR-1	Paleo-environmental reconstruction, cultural-ecological, and ethno-historical data are applied where appropriate to unit management decisions, social assessments, environmental analyses, and other decision documents.	Yes No N/A	
G-HR-2	Criteria for interpretive suitability include, but are not limited to: accessibility, property condition, confidentiality, and protective considerations, compatibility with other resource activities, and public interest or values.	Yes No N/A	

(4) Necessary Follow-up and Management Recommendations

Monitoring Driver	Recommended Management Actions
O-HR-1	Ensure heritage mitigation measures are effective within heavily used recreation areas across the forest (including the BWCAW). <u>Supporting rationale</u> . Heritage site monitoring over time indicates some heritage sites are being affected by recreation use, especially on campsites subject to extremely heavy visitor use.

(5) Collaborative Opportunities To Improve Efficiency And Quality Of Program

Collaborator/Partner	Monitoring Activity	Accomplishment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -UMD Archaeological Field School -USFS Passport In Time Program -MN State Historic Preservation Office. 		