



2011 Annual Report



This summary reports the effective, dynamic, creative abilities of Fort Vancouver to successfully accomplish significant projects at its units in Oregon and Washington. Besides the daily operations of the park, some very noteworthy milestones were achieved. It is now anticipated that the East and South Barracks will transfer to us in January 2012. Likewise, agreement on the Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement for the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) I-5 Bridge Project has been reached.

Clearly, there is tremendous work which will continue, but the past years of hard work have created a firm foundation for the future. Partnerships with sister national parks, universities, nonprofit organizations, and volunteers have been crucial to leverage funds at Fort Vancouver. To continue to be competitive and achieve our high level of accomplishment and service, we will continue to depend on our partners and volunteers in bringing support to the National Park Service.

Tracy Fortmann,
Superintendent

Post to Park: Army Relinquishment of East and South Barracks

The park led the transfer of the East and South Vancouver Barracks, negotiating with the U.S. Army, working with the partners of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve, and coordinating the participation of the NPS regional office.

In 2011, park staff facilitated the transfer of \$12 million to address remediation, infrastructure, protection of cultural resources, and transition staffing for the military post. We completed a Security Assessment on all buildings.

In addition, we continued a Master Planning process that resulted in an administrative draft of the East and South Vancouver Barracks Draft Master Plan/Environmental Assessment. This document was reviewed by key partners including the City of Vancouver, Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP),

the Fort Vancouver National Trust, and 26 consulting American Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian groups who are affiliated with the site. Our regional office supports the vision and management described in the Draft Master Plan/EA, and will assist with implementation of associated projects in the future.

Anticipated to be released for the public comment this fall, the Draft Master Plan/Environmental Assessment includes recommendations for adaptive reuse of buildings, guidance for future site development, and other management direction, including the "Sustainable Public Agency Campus" concept.

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| Annual Budget | \$1.8M |
| Project Funding | \$920,400 |
| Columbia River Crossing | \$17M+ |
| Barracks Relinquishment | \$15M+ |



Pearson Air Museum

As a site of importance to the National Park Service and the local Vancouver/Portland metropolitan community, Pearson Air Museum provides an interpretive and educational venue for addressing the history of aviation in the Pacific Northwest. The City of Vancouver will vacate the agreement under which they have managed the site for the NPS by the end of 2012.

This year, we held meetings with Vancouver National Historic Reserve partners to address the transition in management responsibility, and these meetings will continue through the next year.

As part of the transition to NPS management of Pearson Air Museum, preservation maintenance of the three historic Pearson airfield structures are a priority. Two of the historic buildings were part of the World War I Spruce Mill complex, a massive home-front operation. This year, park staff managed the repainting of the historic hangar. All of the peeling lead paint on exterior walls and visible lead particulates in the surrounding soil were removed. New paint was applied to the siding and windows and window trim of the hangar, reflecting one of the original colors as garnered from paint analysis of the buildings.



Park staff recently assumed management of the Pearson Air Museum collection, and this year addressed several high priority needs, including a full inventory of the collection and an assessment of which items most strongly tie to the approved Scope of Collection Statement. In addition, NPS staff prepared a Preventive Maintenance Plan (housekeeping and pest management) and an Emergency Operations Plan specifically for Pearson.

We have also initiated a historic resource study of the Spruce Production Division. This will help to guide future interpretation and educational programs, a part of the park's contribution to commemorating the centennial of World War I.

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| Park Employees (FTE) | 29.4 |
| Youth Interns & Student Hires | 44 |
| Volunteers | 598 |

Columbia River Crossing Interstate-5 Project

Coordination and negotiation over the impacts of the Columbia River Crossing Project on the park (with partners WADOT, ODOT, FHWA, FTA) continued this year. A major milestone was the finalization of a MOA regarding Section 106 mitigation for direct and indirect adverse effects to the national park associated with this major infrastructure project.

Actions codified in the MOA include sound walls, archaeological data recovery, landscape and interpretive elements of the community connector (lid) associated with the Post Hospital, and support for renovating a South Barracks building into a museum facility.



Over \$17 million dollars for mitigation was defined, including substantial investment in the museum facility. The project will support the curation of archaeological collections produced by the project, as well as the collections from multiple national parks for which Fort Vancouver is responsible.

The NPS, on behalf of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve partners, was point on the community connector, and in addition park staff coordinated the DOI response to the CRC Final Environmental Impact Statement.