Background:

This project was implemented to develop cultural resources training modules for two specific groups. One module was targeted at individuals who are currently serving as Cultural Resource Managers (CRMs) at military installations, but who have not been formally trained or fully informed of the legislative foundation for cultural resource management, nor have they executed studies designed to protect cultural resources. This specific training module focused on diverse aspects of cultural resources management specific to the Department of Defense (DoD). The second training module was targeted at contractors, civilian employees, and military personnel who are usually in a field position and may inadvertently encounter cultural resources and/or human remains during field training exercises, construction and maintenance activities, or land clearing activities – characterized as the "boots-on-the-ground" non-professional. These individuals need to be educated in the identification and treatment of cultural resources, as well as the protocols that need to be followed to protect cultural resources.

Objective:

The primary objective of this project was to develop these two training modules. The impetus for this project stemmed from concerns voiced by Native American tribes (Tribes) and other consulting parties at the 2010 OKARNG Native American Consultation meeting. The Tribes questioned: 1) how the military ensures that direct measures are taken to protect cultural resources, and 2) are proper procedures followed in the event of an inadvertent discovery.

Summary of Approach:

The approach to creating these two training modules started by first reviewing educational material currently available in existing programs (e.g., the Missouri Department of Conservation cultural resource program, Fort Hood Cultural Resource Management Program, Arkansas Archeological Survey, Alabama ARNG, Camp Guernsey, DoD Best Management Practices and online training materials) were collected and evaluated.

The next step in this approach to creating these training modules included collective collaboration with the project partners on discussing and developing the methods and presentation styles of the educational material required for each module. Tribes with an interest were solicited for their comments on the project as well. These meetings were instrumental in collecting source material and creating outlines that were then refined for each of the two modules. The final step was to create the two modules tailored to the two designated audiences. The training modules contained two separate PowerPoint presentation training modules, as well as a project pocket card, and poster. The two modules created were geared for two separate audiences: 1) a module targeted at cultural resource managers not formally trained in this arena; and 2) a module more focused on protocol and information associated with inadvertent discoveries for the "boots-on-the-ground" non-professional.

Benefit:

The benefit of these training modules is: 1) to provide CRMs with a training tool that serves as a template focused on diverse aspects of cultural resources management practices specific to the (DoD). This module, "Training the Cultural Resource Manager," included background material on legislation, process, and protocol associated with cultural resource management. These modules serve as templates so that information specific to an installation can be added to the module. Also highlighted were known resources available to various local historic preservation groups, university cultural resource programs, contacts for Native American consultation, and other resources helpful in guiding preservation actions and utilizing volunteer support. 2) The second module, "Cultural Resource Training for the Non-Professional," was created to train contractors, civilian employees, and military personnel who might oversee fieldwork that could impact cultural resources, inadvertently encounter cultural resources and/or human remains during ground disturbing field training exercises, construction and maintenance activities, or land clearing activities. This module will provide individuals with an awareness of the responsibility and protocol for cultural resource protection and action if resources are encountered in the field. Guidance from each installation should be sought out in the Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in the event of inadvertent archaeological discoveries.

Accomplishments:

Two training modules have been produced that are designed to train both the CRM and the "non-professional" on how to protect non-renewable cultural resources by describing best practices for military installations.

Contact Information:

Jeremy D. Bolyard
Deputy Environmental Program Manager
Environmental Branch
Oklahoma Military Department
405.228.5918
jeremy.d.bolyard.nfg@mail.mil