Volunteer Opportunities: First Friday Monitoring Days

The Northeast Region kicked off a series of First Friday Monitoring Days for Heritage Monitoring Scouts (HMS Florida) volunteers. In February, 4 scouts helped staff monitor 5 sites at the GTM Research Reserve and in March, 3 scouts helped monitor 1 site at Flagler County’s River to Sea Preserve. The monitoring days allow volunteers a chance to hone monitoring skills with the guidance of staff, while aiding partnering land managers with resource management.

Assistance to DHR: Recording and modeling Spring Break Shipwreck

The Northeast Region worked closely with the St. Augustine Lighthouse Archaeology Research Program, at the request of the Bureau of Archaeological Research, to record a shipwreck in Ponte Vedra Beach. Staff aided with crowd control and media coverage, as the site drew thousands of visitors, and basic documentation and sampling. Additionally, staff was able to create a 3D model using photogrammetry to share with the public online and on social media. (link for model: https://sketchfab.com/models/648e283c17be4c8f9fa1fed7c55e3d2)
Emily Jane Murray works to document the Spring Break shipwreck through photogrammetry while onlookers take photos.

FPAN in the Media
- “New data on centuries-old Ponte Vedra shipwreck offers clues of origin,” First Coast News, TV news story

Progress on Strategic Plan Objectives

- Goal 1: Thinking Like a Network By Delivery of Standardized Programs
  - Northeast regional staff attended a state-wide FPAN staff meeting to strategize programing and work plans for the upcoming year.
  - Staff from the Northeast Region attended Archaeology Day at the Capitol to help raise awareness of Florida’s archaeological resources.
  - The Northeast Region offered a CRPT Workshop in Orange City.
- Goal 2: Increase Protection of Archaeological Resources by Working at the Local Level
  - The Northeast Region worked with the St. Augustine Lighthouse Archaeology Research Program to document a shipwreck in Ponte Vedra Beach.
  - The Northeast Region worked with staff from the West Central Region to launch beta-testing for the new Arches-based HMS Florida monitoring database.
  - Staff continued to support HMS Florida with monitoring days and workshops as well as establishing new partnerships.
- Goal 3: Provide for the Long-Term Viability of the Network
  - Staff from the Northeast Region worked on improving skills in photogrammetry and graphic design.
  - Emily Jane Murray and Sarah Miller presented on the HMS Florida pilot program at the GTM Research Reserve during the Reserve’s annual research symposium.
- Emily Jane Murray completed the Florida Master Naturalist’s Coastal Restoration workshop.