



Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail *Progress Report* Fall 2014



Administrator's Corner

Greetings,

Every year we take a step back and see where we live through the eyes of our Trail and Auto Tour users. What kinds of things would we want someone who drives our Auto Tour Routes to know about? What are must see attractions? What are our Trail users' favorite activities? What would be the great places to visit, and unique experiences along the route?

This past year we received comments from various visitors in their own words that evoked their sentiments, feelings and remembrances. They shared that the huckleberry and morel mushroom picking were a big hit for both size and quantity, experienced the Tamkaliks Celebration and friendship feast on July 18-20 at Wallowa, OR where they were made to feel like family, rafted the Hell's Canyon Snake River with Class III-IV rapids, mountain biked the Lolo Motorway on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest which offered plenty of challenges and experienced the trail with great scenic vistas, rode the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) through the Abasorka Range as a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Follow us in our next Progress Report where we will highlight a variety of experiences.

Do you have a burning question about the NPNHT history, geography or current events? We are happy to take your questions and find the relevant expert from our cadre of trail enthusiasts. Submit your questions at npnht@fs.fed.us.

One good question we received recently asked if there is way to restore more Nez Perce history along the trail? The concern was to see more historical trail markers and more hiking/equestrian trails for self-guided tours. We strive during our updates to our Auto Tour Brochures to identify more hiking/equestrian opportunities and interpretive stops for the entire family. We hope to continue working with partners to provide more of these important attractions. We are always looking for new partners and new ideas to reach these goals.

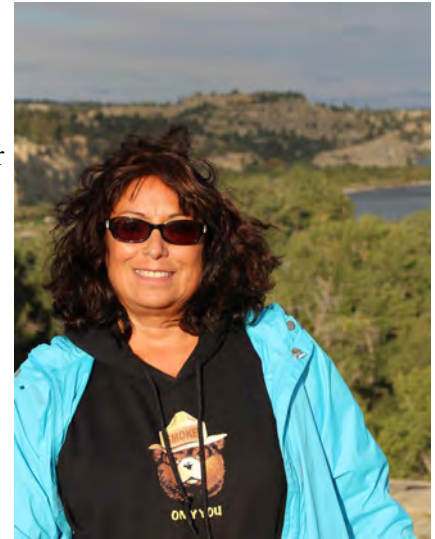
We also look for more interesting articles, facts and stories to share in our quarterly Progress Reports. YOU hold the key to helping us to share these stories. Drop us an email at npnht@fs.fed.us to tell us about your interesting discoveries and experiences along the NPNHT for our upcoming spring and summer publications.

We hope you enjoy our Progress Report as much as we enjoy putting it together for you. Stay safe, warm and well this winter!

Respectfully,

Sandi McFarland,
Administrator, NPNHT

"The vast possibilities of our great future will become realities only if we make ourselves responsible for that future."
Aldo Leopold



Sandi McFarland, along the NPNHT, near the James Kipp Recreation Area on the Missouri River, north of Lewistown, MT.



Status of the NPNHT Comprehensive Plan Revision

The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) staff held 12 Comprehensive Plan (CP) Revision public meetings across the length of the Trail in September and October. These meetings were well attended with an average of 10-12 people per meeting. Several meetings were attended by members of tribes that are affected by the NPNHT (*see photos on this page*).

NPNHT staff took notes during the meetings. These notes and public comments will be used in several ways:

- Refine the proposed Objectives and Practices that were reviewed at each meeting.
- Develop new Objectives or Practices that were not considered or thought of to date.
- Consider new information for adding new High Potential Historic Sites and High Potential Trail Segments required under the National Trails System Act of 1968.
- Address opportunities and concerns brought forward on how the revision will be completed and what will be included.
- Assist in developing a process to inform public, tribal and governmental agencies on the progress of the revision work.
- Review work that has been completed and identify what else needs to be incorporated into the revision of the Comprehensive Plan.

The notes and comments will be analyzed over the next several months for content. This content analysis will be posted on our website at www.fs.usda.gov/npnht this winter. We will be accepting comments throughout the process.

You will find on the CP revision page on the NPNHT website a recording of the virtual public meeting, which was held on September 29. Anyone can download and listen to this recording if you were unable attend one of the other public meetings. You will also find all the handouts and meeting presentations on the website.

The NPNHT Staff will continue to work to complete tribal consultation, and brief state and local government officials over the next few months.

We are **encouraging everyone to continue to send in comments** by email at npnht-CMP-rev@fs.fed.us or by regular mail to Julie Molzahn, NPNHT CP Team, Northern Region, PO Box 429, Plains, MT, 59859



NPNHT CP Revision Public Meeting, Lolo, MT.

Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service Photo



NPNHT CP Revision Public Meeting, Enterprise, OR.

Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service Photo

Rights-of-Way Development

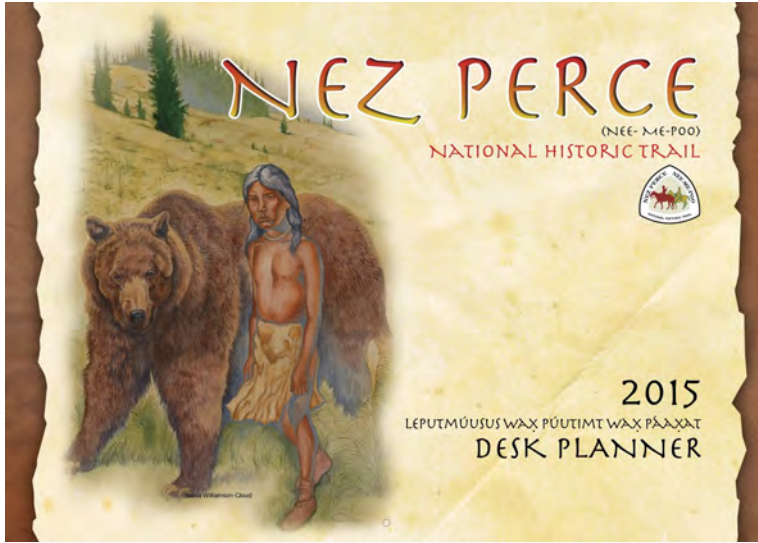
During the public meetings, the staff introduced the National Trails System Act (NTSA) requirement of mapping the NPNHT Rights-of-Way. In order to acquire land for the Trail, the rights-of-way locating the Trail's legal description needs to be selected, mapped and then legally defined. The Forest Service is requesting assistance from the State to start this rights-of-way process. This work will include working cooperatively with the State, local governments and landowners.

The Rights-of-Way process will take a minimum of five years to complete. It is essential that NPNHT staff work with all affected public to develop the best possible alignment for the NPNHT. If you have questions please, contact Julie at 406-826-4352 or email at jmolzahn@fs.fed.us.

Julie Molzahn, CP Revision Coordinator, NPNHT



2015 Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail Desk Planners Coming Soon



The annual desk planner has been sent to the printer, and delivery is anticipated before the end of the year. Trail staff will begin distribution to partners and visitor centers along the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) as soon as they arrive.

This year's version of the popular planner depicts a number of young individuals whose lives were changed forever by the events of 1877. It also includes images of several games and activities in which young people would have normally engaged.

The photographs were collected from institutions across the west, and nationally and internationally. Images are from collections held by the Buffalo Bill Center of the West in Cody, WY; Nez Perce National Historical Park in Spalding, ID; Historical Societies from Idaho, Kansas, and Montana; the Smithsonian Institution; and the Tamástsiikt Cultural Institute in Pendleton, OR, to name a few.

Special thanks to Jason Blake of Recreation Solutions for layout and design, Angel Sobotta of the Nez Perce Language Program who provided Nez Perce names for inclusion in the Planner. Also, thank you to Catherine Arthur-Bigman, Mary Hawkins, Shoshoni Walker and Deidre Williams for providing dates for events throughout the year.

We hope everyone will enjoy this year's Desk Planner.

Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT

Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail Releases Updated Auto Tour Brochures

The staff of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) is proud to announce the release of the revised and updated versions of the Experience the NPNHT Auto Tour brochures for three different sections.

Auto Tour 1 Wallowa Valley, Oregon to Kooskia, Idaho; Auto Tour 6 Through Yellowstone National Park; and Auto Tour 7 Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming to Broadview Montana.

The Auto Tour brochures are designed to help visitors experience the NPNHT. These brochures have been in development since last winter. We have received great feedback and would like to thank all those who commented and helped to make these accurate, informative and user friendly brochures which will help guide visitors along the NPNHT for years to come.



Also, thanks to the staff at Recreation Solutions for their assistance in creating these outstanding products to help visitors experience the NPNHT story.

These brochures, along with the entire family of NPNHT Auto Tour brochures, are available for download from the NPNHT website. If you would like copies, please contact Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT, at (406) 329-3540 or mpeterson@fs.fed.us.



Memorials

It is with heavy hearts that the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail shares the news of the passing of several individuals who carried the story of the Nez Perce Flight of 1877 to 1000's of people. Their dedication to the Trail over many years is deeply appreciated.

Ruth Moses Wapato (Age 80) passed on October 14, 2014, in Holy Family Hospital, one day short of her 81st birthday. Ruth was born in Nespelem, WA, on the Colville Indian Reservation. Ruth was proud of her heritage as a descendant of the Joseph Band Nez Perce, and frequently showed the grit of those who had survived the War of 1877. After bouts with tuberculosis in her teen years, she was able to attend Western Washington University, graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, and while teaching in Bothell, met another Colville Tribal Member, Paul G. Wapato. Their union produced four children, Karen, Kathryn, Paul C. and Philip, and led to 30 years in southern California as Paul pursued a career in aerospace engineering. Retirement in 1991 brought them to Bend, OR. In 2001, they chose a second retirement venue in northwest Spokane, placing them closer to the children who reside in Lewiston, Coulee Dam and Omak. Seven grandchildren and one great-granddaughter played no small role in that selection. Recently Paul and Ruth relocated to the Rockwood South Hill retirement community. While in retirement, Ruth and her husband have made a major commitment in supporting the history of the War of 1877 by working in the Nez Perce Trail Foundation, a citizen advocate organization supporting the Congressionally-designated Nez Perce National Historic Trail. That led them to many visits to sites in Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Oklahoma and Alberta. Her family deeply grieves for the loss of her firm, fair and loving presence.



Ruth Wapato of Spokane the granddaughter of one of the members of the Nez Perce Tribe who fought alongside Chief Joseph in 1877. Photo by: Jessica Robinson/NW News



Wendell Lee Davis (Age 65), a true warrior and member of the Nez Perce Tribe, passed away on November 13, 2014, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Wendell was born in Orofino, Idaho. He was a long time community member of Kamiah and a member of the Second Presbyterian Church. In 1968 he graduated from Kamiah High School and received his Associate's Degree in Education from Bacone Junior College in Oklahoma. He also attended Eastern Oregon College in 1978.

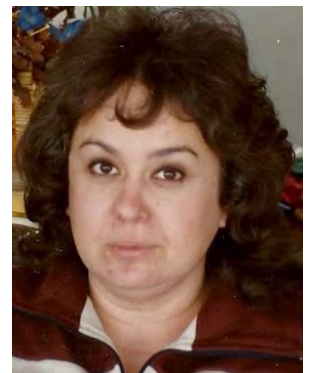
During his life Wendell was employed at Three Rivers Timber Company, Weyerhaeuser Lumber, Head Start, the National Forest Service, and the It'se Ye Ye Casino. He retired in 2013. His hobbies included watching sports with his family, bowling, and working on the Nez Perce Trail

projects. He took part in the annual Nez Perce Trail Foundation Summer Trip through Yellowstone in 2013, and enjoyed learning about his heritage and history.

Wendell is survived by his aunt Caron Spencer, Lapwai; sister Sandy Holt, Lapwai; sister Marci Bailey, Kamiah; daughter Frances Walker, Lapwai; son Winfred Davis, Oklahoma; and many nieces and nephews that he adored.

Services were held at the Wa A Yas Community Center, with burial at the Second Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Kamiah.

Donna Mae (Shaw) Hamilton (Age 70) passed away suddenly on Monday, September 22, 2014, at Coulee Community Hospital. Donna was born in Coulee Dam, WA, on March 20, 1944, and raised by her parents Amos and Mary Shaw in Belvedere on the same property she was living at the time of her death. Donna graduated from Coulee Dam High School in 1962. Throughout her childhood Donna was active in 4-H. It was during 4-H summer camp in 1958 at Lost Lake that she first met Roy Hamilton. They were married on June 13, 1964, in Coulee Dam. Donna attended Washington State University and received her Master's Degree in English in May of 1968. Donna started and completed her professional career as a social worker for the State of Oregon, beginning with the Children's Services Division in John Day, OR. In 1974 she and Roy moved to Grant's Pass where she continued with this division until 1983 at which time they moved to LaGrande, OR, where she began working in the Senior and Disabled Services Division until she retired in 1999. Upon their retirement Donna and Roy moved to their new home back on the land she had grown up on to open and manage Shaw's Fruit and Produce. Donna



loved working with the public and was an ambassador for the local community as she would lovingly and enthusiastically greet new visitors and old visitors alike. The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) thanks her and Roy for their service and for all the information about the NPNHT that they provided to thousands of visitors over the years.



Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail Spotlighted on Recreation.gov Website

November is Native [American Heritage Month](#). The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historical Trail (NPNHT) staff was recently approached about a feature article in conjunction with this National celebration of American Indian culture.

The Nez Perce National Historic Trail is proud to be a [spotlight feature](#) on the Recreation.gov website this month.

Last year Recreation.gov received more than 9 million users. Many visitors come to the website to plan a trip, with most coming to make a reservation to stay on federal lands.

Along the entire NPNHT there are federal facilities where visitors can make reservations to stay. Many of these sites are highlighted in the NPNHT Auto Tour brochures showing visitors the location of campgrounds, rental cabins and lookouts on a variety of public lands along the Trail.

We anticipate this exposure will result in an increase in visitation to numerous locations along the entire NPNHT.

Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT



The screenshot shows the Recreation.gov website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Recreation.gov logo and links for 'FIND PLACES & ACTIVITIES', 'EXPLORE TRIP IDEAS', 'HELP & FAQ', and 'ABOUT US'. Below the navigation bar, there is a section titled 'Explore Articles' with a sub-heading 'Spotlight: The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail'. The article is by Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service. The article text includes: 'Designated by Congress in 1906, the entire Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail stretches from the Willowa Valley of eastern Oregon to the plains of north-central Montana.' and 'The 1877 Flight of the Nez Perce from their homelands while being pursued by the U.S. Army, is one of the most fascinating and sorrowful events in Western U.S. history. Tension mounted as whites moved west and settled in the Nez Perce territory that extended throughout much of north-central Idaho, northeastern Oregon and southeastern Washington. In the spring of 1877 the government responded to pressure from settlers and called on the military to force the "non-treaty" Nez Perce onto the new reservation in Idaho Territory. More than 750 Nez Perce men, women, children and twice that many horses traveled over 1,170 miles (1,883 km) through the mountains on a trip that lasted from June to October of 1877.' There is also a photo of a teepee in a mountainous landscape.

UPCOMING Events:



November, 2014 — Native American Heritage Month

December 6, 2014—Annual Bead Bazaar, Nez Perce National Historical Park, Spalding, ID, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. PST

January—March, 2015—Winter Storyteller Series at Travelers Rest State Park, see the [Pak website](#) for details

February, 2015 — Hike the Hill: Trails Advocacy Week, Washington DC—more info at www.americanhiking.org/hike-the-hill/



Be Safe in Your Travels

The Staff of the NPNHT want your experience along the Trail this Fall and Winter to be a safe one.

Please take a few minutes to review the Trail's Safety and Ethics Website before you begin your journey:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/npnht/ethics>

Also check weather reports and call ahead for road conditions at 511.

There are links to a number of [webcams](#) from the NPNHT website.

Remember to: Pay attention to wildlife awareness signs along roadways and always drive the speed limit in these areas.



National Historic Trails Workshop In Salt Lake City An Opportunity Learn and Share

This year's National Historic Trails (NHT) Workshop was held October 27-30, 2014 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The indoor piece of the workshop was held at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel and the Joseph Smith Memorial Building.

This workshop focused on organizational capacity building (how to build membership, strengthen the volunteer base, recruit leadership, and develop partnering relationships), and preservation approaches for federal agency partners and stewardship organizations alike.

The theme tracks for the workshop included:

Social Media – How to use Social Media to fundraise; develop interest, support and membership; and how to use it to support preservation efforts.

Preservation – How to partner with national and local land trusts and agencies; how to preserve critical sites and segments in areas of energy development; and how to develop trail corridors for preservation and recreation.

There were eight young adult trail apprentices who participated in learning more about the National Trails System, and they contributed their unique experiences and understanding to the workshop as well as explored career opportunities with trails. The Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) Trails Apprentice Program is made possible through the support of the National Park Service (NPS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), United States Forest Service (USFS), United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USF&W), and the Federal Highway Association. Apprentices serve as interns with the various National Historic Trail Non-profit partners to accomplish a variety of projects. Funding for their positions can be provided through such programs as AmeriCorp.

The workshop opened with a dinner reception and a presentation by Ron Hall on Social Media and how it can be used by National Historic Trails to increase their exposure to a wider audience. Ron is a familiar face as he has worked closely with the Nez Perce Trail Foundation (NPTF) in a Challenge Cost Share (CCS) Agreement with the USFS Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) Administration on the unique "Google Earth" project that offers the public the ability to experience the Trail without ever physical touching the Trail. Ron also worked with the NPNHT Administration to attend Hike the Hill in 2012 to provide a presentation on the work he has done with the NPNHT to the all the Forest Service National Trail Administrators, the Washington Office staff of the USFS to the PNTS, the Washington Office staff for the NPS, and as part of the opening reception for all attendees at Hike the Hill to set the stage for the week long activities.

Once again the NPNHT Administration partnered with Ron to give a presentation on [Google Earth showcasing the NPNHT](#). Ron is an online instructor in Eastern Washington University's GIS certificate program and does freelance web development. He is also a member of Google's Outreach Trainers network, a "Featured Content Provider" for Google Geo products, a Google Certified KML (Maps) web developer, and certified with Google Apps for Education. He is known for his 3D visualization work with various Google Geo Products, and his expertise with Google Apps to organize, create, and maintain work.



Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service Photo

L-R: Sandi McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT; Sean Harwood, Regional Trails Coordinators U.S. Forest Service Regions 1 and 4; and Margaret Gorski, President Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. Along the California, Mormon and Pony Express National Historic Trails, Echo Canyon, UT.



Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service Photo

L-R: Steven Lee, Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCHTF); Sandi McFarland; Lindy Hatcher, LCHTF; Margaret Gorski, LCHTF; and Jim Zimmerman President of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation.



Sandi McFarland, Administrator, was asked to say a few words about long time NPNHT supporter, Ruth Wapato, who passed away the previous week. Ruth was recognized for her "love of the trail," and countless hours dedicated to research and trail documentation as a former BOD member of the NPTF. Gary Werner, Executive Director for the PNTS, dedicated the workshop to Ruth and all her work for the NPNHT.

Tuesday the workshop kicked off with a half-day session on the theme Technology and Youth Involvement.

Michael Knight and Jared Lundquist landscape architecture students are both currently historic trail interns for the BLM in the Salt Lake City Office. They worked tirelessly to make the workshop another tremendous success. They were involved with many aspects of planning, logistics, and design of the workshop. *Cont. page 7*

Along the Hastings Cutoff portion of the California NHT. L-R: Sandi McFarland, NPNHT; Sean Harwood, USFS; Deb Salt, BLM; Jim Zimmerman, NPTF; Bette Zimmerman, NPTF; Roger Peterson, NPNHT; and Tim Finger, BLM.



Salt Lake City cont.

Knight served as the workshop emcee and they both worked in logistics for the workshop and participated in a trek of the [Hastings Cutoff](#), where they followed 35 miles of the path of the Donner party along the California National Historic Trail, recording photos and video along the way for social media. They produced a film which premiered at the workshop, [Hastings Cutoff - Retracing the Footsteps of the Donner-Reed Party](#). Products like this film (viewed more than 1200 times on YouTube in the past month) are yet another means by which visitors can have a vicarious experience along the nation's national historic trails. The film helped us to visualize this tremendous undertaking.

The film was followed by commentaries by the trail interns consisting of Grace Anderson, Chelsea Bodamer, Caitlan Dowling, Nathan Garza, Michael Knight, Jared Lundquist, Samantha Kost, and Kelsy Sackrey.

Jared Lundquist gave an overview of the work being done on the Old Spanish Trail Recreation Development Planning in Iron County, Utah.

It was refreshing to get the perspectives from the session held next on the panel of trail apprentices that represented knowledge on a variety of topics.

Kelsy Sackrey is an intern with the Oregon California Trails Association (OCTA). She has handled the non-profit's marketing and public relations efforts, including the OCTA conference, and headed up its social media. She has worked to scan the entire collection of historic trail journals, letters diaries, and reminiscences that were recorded during the trail era. This certainly is a great idea for a project for a non-profit to pursue with an intern to accomplish a great deal of work that normally cannot be achieved by a federal agency.

Samantha Kost is an intern with the Old Spanish Trail Association. She was instrumental in assisting with the 2014 planning, development, logistics and registration for the 2014 Old Spanish Trail Conference. She also has done field work at some prehistoric and historic sites as an archaeology student. This is another example of the good work that can come from these interns.

Nathan Garza is currently the GIS Tech with the El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT Association, where he has been working on a series of maps that show markers placed by the Daughters of the American Revolution and comparing historical maps of the trail to identify changes over time. This is another invaluable service that an intern can bring to a non-profit organization and assist with much needed data for the federal agencies.

Don, Senior Executive, Consultant, Lands Trails and Parks, LLC, brought his expertise as a consultant for a variety of conservation organizations, including the Land Trust Alliance, the PNTS, and several other land trust and trail organizations. Don is a former USFS and BLM employee. His experience with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the NPS on the Appalachian National Scenic Trail provided a platform that can provide ideas, and advice on approaches to planning, designing, and managing a protective corridor for trails.

On the final day of the conference a number of presenters from the National Historic Trails Associations/Foundations in attendance shared examples of "success" stories. These ranged from various types of fundraisers, way to ensure quality trail marking, building community support through events, working with scouting organizations, and use of social media tools. The staff from the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation presented on an effort that is ongoing in which they are working with a firm to promote regional tourism along the Lewis and Clark NHT (LCNHT). Through this effort visitation at a number of sites along the LCNHT is up 30-40%. There may be an opportunity for the NPNHT to become involved in this campaign in the near future.

Brad Petersen, Directors of the Utah Governor's office of Outdoor Recreation, presented on the role that National Historic Trails play in tourism. He sees the roles that NHTs play as a vital means for people to learn and experience history. Tourism is the second leading part of the economy in Utah generating more than \$1 Billion in receipts annually.

Deb Salt, BLM, and Stephan Nofield, NPS, discussed the importance of the need to stay on top of a strategy to promote the National Trails System's 50th Anniversary in 2018 much as was done with the Wilderness 50th in 2014 and the NPS centennial in 2016. Sean Harwood, USFS Regional Trails Coordinator for Regions 1 and 4, gave an overview of the USFS trail system and ongoing maintenance. Roger Peterson, NPNHT, gave an overview of the ongoing NPNHT Comprehensive Plan (CP) Revision efforts (*see page 2*). The importance of CPs was reiterated in the afternoon session which focused on the preservation of NHTs. An area of concern which affects many NHTs is the visual impacts to historic landscapes from a variety of energy projects. When these occur it is important to work with interested parties early in specific project. A presentation was made showing how the computer graphics can be used to generate simulations to show how potential visual impacts might appear on the ground. Gary Werner discussed that Purposed Action statements need to be strengthened to help with trail corridor protection. He also reminded participants that the #2 Decade Goal is to complete and protect NHTs on the ground, and how it is vital to the long term relevance of NHTs to America.

The workshop was a great opportunity for NPNHT staff to network with staff from other NHTs and to share ideas for the future administration.

Sandi McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT and Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT



Ron Hall presenting on Google tools and social media to workshop participants.

Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service Photo





News From the Nez Perce Trail Foundation

Field Notes Traveling the Trail in 2014

Like the spots on an Appaloosa, following the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail this year was a journey of interconnected events, unexpected encounters, and lasting memories.

I started at **Fort Vancouver National Historic Site**, a side trip of sorts in the chronology of things, but equally important to the history of the Trail. We honored the innocent, the young, the wrongly imprisoned, and the death of a child. Veterans, the warriors of today, performed traditional ceremonies and songs in the pouring rain. Greg Shine, Chief Ranger and Historian with the National Park Service at Fort Vancouver, hosted Redheart's family members, elders, and guests in a setting not much different than that of 1877. Descendants of C.E.S. Wood, General Howard's aid-de-camp, also attended.

White Bird: A place that still spiritually echoes the misery of the cavalry and the short-lived success of the Nez Perce. It is scenic, ancient, secretive but peaceful, foreboding, and tragic. Tami DeGrosky, Superintendent of Nez Perce National Historical Park, oversees this solemn sanctuary. Here I met Hetty Dutra who was riding the entire Trail from Wallowa to Bears Paw.

Cottonwood: I walked the old stage road, re-read Yellow Wolf's account about Lt. Rains' death, and wondered about the missing pearl-handled gun. Foster, the Army scout, remains at the scene in his peaceful, eternal sleep. There are many stories handed down from great-grandfathers about this battle.

Clearwater: I stood where General Howard fired his howitzer from the cliffs into the village below. The Smoking Place, the springs, the entrenchments; the land is quiet now. Cattle are grazing and the river still flows past Cottonwood Creek and other ancient sites of the Niimípuu. Scott Eckberg made the visit possible, qe'ciyéw'yew.

Big Hole: Testimonials from descendants of those lost that early, foggy morning of August 9, 1877. Steve Black's (Park Superintendent) remembrance speech welcomed guests and honored the tribal members. Then, time for a contemplative walk amongst the willows, the lost souls, and the village. There was silence, punctuated by the mournful songs and drumbeats from families who kneeled over loved ones' final resting places.

Camas Meadow: There were hints of broken and scattered remnants, the reminders of General Howard's troops amongst the sage and lava rocks. The rock fortresses still stand firm but are disjointed from years of exposure and child's play. The lonesome grave of Bugler Brooks, where the spiritual wind agitates the American flag every so often, remains on this prairie.

Yellowstone: A cautious walk up the Nez Perce Creek trail, Pelican Valley, and looking beyond to the magnificent Absaroka Mountains. I imagined the events at the tourist camp, the burnt bridge, Otter Creek, and other sites of unfortunate encounters that led to several deaths. A lot of drama played out in the land of "wonder and geysers." Traveling the Trail here involves the cooperation of the weather, wilderness, buffalo and bears.

Canyon Creek: I looked to the cliffs and still imagined the silhouettes of warriors firing upon the soldiers below. Imagine the rush of the People to reach the safety within the canyon walls. Quiet ranch lands, barbed wire fences, juniper-choked gulches, and Calamity Jane hold onto their secret exit. The plateau pointing to the mouth of the canyon is in the shape of an arrowhead.

Bear Paw: It is said that those who died here have restless spirits. They are all here: Toohulhulsote, Looking Glass, Ollokot, Poker Joe, as well as warriors, women, children, and elders. The prisoners were not sent home anytime soon, even after Chief Joseph's memorable surrender speech. I brought tobacco and small stones from the Salmon River as offerings.

The Memorial began and the horses would not go up the battlefield trail. "Uncle" Horace Axtell bowed his head; he understood why. Wilfred "Scotty" Scott and Bessie said to "listen to the animals." Burning sweetgrass filled the air when the north wind finally rested over the coulees. Stephanie Martin, National Park Service Ranger welcomed tribal members and guests, and a feast followed the memorial.

I have been so enlightened by the spirit of a people whose persistence, will, and fight for freedom took them on a tragic 1,200 mile journey. A few years ago, when I asked what I could *personally* do, Otis Halfmoon told me to "just tell the story." But first, I joined the Nez Perce Trail Foundation, and then *went the distance while learning the story.*

Karen Heagen, Secretary, Nez Perce Trail Foundation



Photo courtesy of Karen Heagen

Deep in the Imnaha River Valley of NE Oregon the NPNHT leads to the Dug Bar crossing of the Snake River, in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.





News From the National Park Service: Nez Perce National Historical Park

The new Park movie is now complete and premiered for invited guests on November 15, and began showing to the public on November 16. Creating the movie was a three year process that involved a lot of participation and consultation with all of our partners. The movie is entitled *náꞩc t̄m̄ine w̄is̄iꞥx: Of One Heart*. It was produced by North Shore Productions.

Rangers presented programs at libraries throughout the area as part of the summer reading program.

The Park set up and staffed a booth at Alive After Five in Clarkston in June, July, and August this summer. The booth had interpretive displays, and material about the Park was available for visitors.

Education Specialist Alyse Cadez arranged a grant from the National Park Foundation to fund an Active Trails program in partnership with several Tribal programs. The goal was to encourage wellness within the community. Several events were held in Spalding, Lapwai, Orofino, and Kamiah, Idaho.

In October, work was completed on a new accessible parking lot. The spaces are adjacent to the front entrance of the Spalding Visitor Center. The asphalt is flush with the sidewalk to provide easier access to our front door. *(photo right)*



Photo courtesy of National Park Service Nez Perce National Historical Park

For several years the Spalding Visitor Center has been a regular stop for cruise boat passengers from the Queen of the West sternwheeler and the two boats operated by Lindblad expeditions. This year a new boat, the American Empress, added the visitor center to their itinerary.



Photo courtesy of National Park Service Nez Perce National Historical Park

The Annual Beadwork Bazaar will be held at the Spalding Visitor Center on December 6, 2014, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Many local artists will have artwork, craft items and food available for sale.

Terry O'Halloran
Chief of Interpretation
Nez Perce National Historical Park

The Staff of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) would like to acknowledge Terry O'Halloran (photo right) for his 33 1/2 years of Federal Service, with the National Park Service. Terry has been a key partner to the NPNHT during his 6 1/2 years working at Nez Perce National Historical Park. He has provided input on a number of NPNHT interpretive signs and brochures, provided information for the NPNHT's quarterly Progress Reports, chaired the NPNHT's Interagency Challenge Cost Share review panel and shared information about the Niimiipuu people and the NPNHT with of thousands of people.



Best wishes Terry!





News From the National Park Service:

Big Hole National Battlefield

Summer visitation at the Big Hole National Battlefield was down slightly from 2013, but staff was happy to host more than 28,000 visitors. Like last year, interpretive rangers continued to give programs after Labor Day and those visiting really seemed to enjoy the fact that they were still welcomed with programs.

We had a very successful summer speaker series this year. The series included a few new speakers and some old favorites. Park staff each had a favorite program they attended and that is the beauty of having so many different speakers with a wide variety of topics. Our staff gets to learn so much from our speakers and we hope that the visiting public enjoys the variety also.

Now that the first snows have fallen we are getting ready for our slower season. We had a number of school groups in early October, but no school has volunteered to come over now that there is a chance of snow in the forecast. But that is okay. It gives us time to prepare for next spring and really concentrate on giving those visitors the best programs possible.

Those visiting the Park now will see that our landscaping project in front of the visitor center is in full swing. We hope to have phase II of this four phase project done before it gets too cold and snowy. Next year we will plant a variety of native species and install interpretive signs that will tell visitors what they are seeing as the walk through our new native plant garden.



Shawna Gavin and Michael Johnson siblings from the Umatilla Reservation presented the Stick Game and the art of weaving to visitors.



Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service Photos



Photo courtesy of National Park Service, Big Hole National Battlefield

We had our first prescribed burn in many years in September (*photo left*). It was a small burn, 13 acres, but it was done for many reasons. We wanted to see the impact of fire on our scientific plots for *lemhi penstemon*, a rare plant species; the Park has the largest population in the world. We also wanted to control the encroachment of trees down the hillside and use fire to thin the sagebrush. The Park had lots of help on this project from Glacier National Park Fire, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Wisdom and Wise River Ranger Districts and Anaconda Job Corps. We burned half of Howitzer Hill with the other half being our control plot. Some of our National Park Service (NPS)

scientists have been out since the burn to monitor it and that will continue for years to come. If we decide that it was a success more burns are waiting in the wings.

For the last few years, the Park has been working with a contractor who is developing a staff ride for the Forest Service. Staff rides are teaching tools that have been used by the US Army for years and the Forest Service often does them in conjunction with fatal fire incidents to help managers and leaders understand what happened and why it happened and what can we learn from it so it does not happen again. We had people from all over the fire community (local, state and national levels), tribal partners and others take part in this new program. Instead of a fire we looked at the events of August 8-11, 1877, and how decisions affected outcomes. The participants really seemed to learn from their experience here and we hope that the program continues.

Steve Black, Superintendent, Big Hole National Battlefield





News From the National Park Service: Bear Paw Battlefield

Bear Paw Battlefield Hosts Annual Commemoration

Bear Paw Battlefield was warm and dry for the 137th commemoration of the 1877 battle. Close to 100 people and three Nez Perce riders attended the Pipe Ceremony on October 4. Many participants were able to stay until late afternoon because of the good weather. Following the morning's events a luncheon was provided for all who attended by Jim and Crystal Fox of Harlem, MT.

Stephanie Martin
Park Ranger, Bear Paw Battlefield



Stephanie Martin, National Park Service Photo

Bear Paw commemoration and memorial
October 2014.



News From the Forest Service Lolo National Forest

Approximately, 15.5 miles of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) is located within the Lolo Creek U.S. Highway 12 drainage managed by the Missoula Ranger District of the Lolo National Forest. During the 2014 field season (April thru September), the NPNHT Ranger, on the Lolo National Forest, maintained the NPNHT, the U.S. Highway 12 interpretive corridor, facilities that

directly support the use of the Trail (historic sites, campgrounds, picnic areas), and also provided interpretive information about the Trail to the public.

During the field season maintenance was provided on 63 NPNHT markers, this included replacing a number of markers. With the assistance of the Missoula Ranger Districts' trail crew, 15.5 miles of the NPNHT was cleared of downfall and brush. No motorized trespass was observed.

The NPNHT Ranger made contact with numerous local, regional, national, and even a few international visitors throughout the course of the summer season. The Ranger also discussed the trails significance, history, and recommended hikes along different segments of the Trail. The NPNHT Ranger found that many Forest visitors at the developed recreation sites were unaware of the presence of the Trail, its history, or the recreational and interpretive opportunities provided by the U.S. Forest Service and its partners. During these encounters, the Ranger frequently provided multiple NPNHT and Lolo Trail brochures and directed visitors to the U.S. Highway 12 Interpretive corridor.

Noxious weeds and new invasive weeds pose one of the greatest threats to the NPNHT. A comprehensive noxious weed inventory was completed in 2012 along this entire segment of the trail. Weeds were also treated along prioritized sections of the NPNHT. In 2013 and 2014, the NPNHT Ranger supported this continued weed management effort by hand pulling (66 Gallons) and mechanically treating weeds at trail access points, at facilities (10 acres) that support use of the trail, and small infestations along the trail. The target weed species included spotted knapweed, mullein, ox eye daisy, hoary alyssum and thistles.

Another project included the repair of a portion of the NPNHT tread, located west of Grave Creek, that was obliterated by a mud slide in the winter/spring of 2014. Approximately, 40 feet of trail tread was repaired along a steep open section of trail. (*see before/top and after/bottom photos above*).

Three campgrounds, four picnic areas, and one historic site that directly support the use of the NPNHT are located along the Lolo Creek / U.S. Highway 12 corridor. Lolo Creek, Lee Creek, and Earl Tennant Campgrounds and Picnic Areas provide camping and picnicking opportunities to the public who are interested in experiencing the trail and Nez Perce history. The Fort Fizzle Historic Site provides interpretive panels, brochures, and a replica entrenchment that highlights the role the site played during the 1877 Flight of the Nez Perce.

Al Hilshey, Acting Natural Resource Specialist, Missoula Ranger District, Lolo National Forest.



U.S. Forest Service Photos, courtesy of the Lolo/NF

News From the Forest Service



NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

Hells Canyon National Recreation Area
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest



In 2014 the Wallowa-Whitman NF received \$5,000 for trail and site maintenance.

Work accomplished with these funds included:

- Installing 35 wooden posts/rock cairns, and 11 rock cairns to serve as assurance markers.
- Re-treading 1.3 miles of the trail.
- Brushing 4 miles of trail #1727.



We gathered all the stock we could find, and made an attempt to move. We left many of our horses and cattle in Wallowa, and we lost several hundred in crossing the river. All my people succeeded in getting across in safety.

Chief Joseph





News From the Forest Service:

The Bitterroot National Forest’s portion of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) is located outside the town of Sula, in Western Montana.

The trail begins on Forest Road 10001, a quarter mile east off of U.S. Highway 93; and the trail ends at the junction with the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail #9.

In 2014, the Forest Service trail crew cleared these 3.1 miles of the Nez Perce (Nee-Mee-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) on the Forest. It seemed to be a typical year for maintenance. The crew cleared a total of 32 trees and brushed 5200-linear feet of vegetation from the trail corridor.



Signing and route identification was improved by adding more NPNHT markers to trees. (*photo above*)

The Forest staff wishes everyone enjoyable hiking on this great trail.

Debra Gale, Program Manager Wilderness, Trails, Outfitter and Guides, Wild and Scenic Rivers

New Faces Along the Trail:

New Supervisor Named for the Caribou-Targhee National Forest

In August the Caribou Targhee National Forest welcomed Garth Smelser as the new Forest Supervisor, stationed in Idaho Falls, ID.

"Garth will be an excellent leader for the Caribou-Targhee National Forest," said Regional Forester Nora Rasure. "His diverse leadership experiences have prepared him to manage the many resources the Caribou-Targhee has to offer," Rasure said.

Smelser comes to the Caribou-Targhee after serving as the Deputy Forest Supervisor of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest since December 2011. Garth completed his Bachelor of Science degree at the United States Naval Academy in 1995 after which he served as a Naval Flight Officer for eight years. He received his Master’s Degree at the University of Hawaii; Garth was awarded a Presidential Management Fellowship with the U.S. Forest Service in Washington D.C.

Having also served on the Lincoln National Forest and the National Forests in Florida, Garth brings a wealth of community and collaborative land management experience from all levels of the agency.

“I am excited to work with the employees and the communities surrounding the Caribou-Targhee National Forest,” said Garth Smelser. “The Caribou-Targhee is a beautiful forest and I am honored to be able to contribute to this treasured landscape,” Smelser said.



U.S. Forest Service Photo

Garth grew up loving the outdoors, he has also dedicated much of his time as a Forest Service leader establishing community coalitions. Garth is married to Julie Fitzpatrick. Together they are helping their daughters (twin five-year olds and a three-year old) discover all that nature has to offer.



New Faces Along the Trail:

U.S. Forest Service Photo



Regional forester Announces New Forest Supervisor for Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests

Faye Krueger, Regional Forester for the U.S. Forest Service Northern Region, has announced the selection of Cheryl Probert as the Supervisor of the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests in Idaho.

Probert reported to the Kamiah, ID, supervisor's office on November 17. She will succeed Rick Brazell, who retired recently.

"We're really excited to have Cheryl join us in the Northern Region," said Krueger. "She has a strong background in forest planning and building partnerships – two subjects that are particularly pertinent to the forest. Her experience will be incredibly valuable to us."

Probert is currently the Deputy Forest Supervisor on the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest in northern Utah but is on a detail in the Forest Service's national office located in Washington, D.C. She has spent more than 26 years working for the U.S. Forest Service in various capacities around the west, 15 of the years in Idaho. She began her career as a rangeland management specialist, worked as a wildlife biologist, and then moved into forest planning and environmental coordination. She worked as a District Ranger in eastern California and western Nevada before moving to the Salt Lake area as the Deputy Forest Supervisor in 2010.

Probert says she is looking forward to returning to Idaho and joining a community so deeply involved in forestry issues and initiatives. "It is an honor to have been selected as the next leader of the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, during this challenging and exciting time. I look forward to working with tribal representatives, local communities, employees, stakeholders and other partners in managing these magnificent and productive landscapes."

New Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Supervisor Announced

The Pacific Northwest Region of the U.S. Forest Service announces Tom Montoya as the new Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Supervisor.

"It is my pleasure to announce the selection of Tom Montoya as the new Forest Supervisor for the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest," said Jim Peña, Pacific Northwest Regional Forester. "Tom is a proven leader and I am confident that he will do an outstanding job of leading the Wallowa-Whitman by continuing to build on the achievements made in accelerating restoration, forest plan revision, and creating a safe and inclusive work place."

With almost 30 years of experience with the Forest Service, Tom brings a wealth of experience to the position of Forest Supervisor. He knows and understands the opportunities and challenges that face forest stewardship and the communities that surround the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Most recently, Tom was selected to serve as the acting Forest Supervisor on the Caribou-Targhee National Forest in Idaho. Prior to his current position as the Deputy Forest Supervisor on the Wallowa-Whitman, Tom served as a District Ranger on three different ranger districts on the Salmon-Challis National Forest in Idaho and on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest in Nevada. Tom has degrees in both fisheries and range science and has experience as a fisheries biologist and range conservationist.

Tom's passion for the outdoors and a family friend convinced Tom that his dream of working in a natural resource field and the great outdoors could become reality in the Forest Service. "I feel really honored to have been selected for the job as your Forest Supervisor," Tom said. "It is a job I will not take lightly. The employees of this wonderful Forest inspire me every day to be and do my best for the Wallowa-Whitman, our employees, and the communities we serve."

Tom started work on the Forest November 2, 2014, and replaces John Laurence, who left his position this fall to take on new responsibilities as Special Assistant to the Regional Forester in Portland, OR.



U.S. Forest Service Photo



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Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/npnht>

Autumn Along the Nez Perce National Historic Trail



Near Fort Spokane in central Washington. Members of the Joseph Band were held here in 1885. *Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service photo*



Fall Color Bitterroot mountains near Florence, MT. *Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service photo*



Big Horn sheep near Dug Bar, OR. October 2014. *National Park Service photo*



Students at Bear Paw. October 2014. *National Park Service photo*

www.fs.usda.gov/npnht



Nez Perce National Historic Trail
12730 Highway 12
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