

Cultural Resources at a Glance

Nez Perce – Clearwater National Forests

Forest Plan Revision Collaborative Group Meeting
November 10, 2012

What is not considered a cultural resource for the purposes of our discussion today.

- Ecosystem resources such as fish, plants and animals the Tribes deem important for the perpetuation of their culture. It also does not include treaty rights or sacred sites.
- Why? These resources and related issues will be discussed in detail during the Tribal treaty rights discussion and other resource specific presentations.

What is considered a cultural resource for our discussion today?

- Any district, site, building, structure or object over 50 years of age and determined eligible (or has not yet been evaluated) for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places (36 CFR 60.4). A cultural resource can also include an historic landscape or traditional cultural property.
- Examples:
 - District – Lochsa Historical Station, Florence mining district
 - Site – Indian campsite, cabin ruins, Lolo Trail National Historic Landmark
 - Building - Burnt Knob fire lookout, Shearer Guard Station
 - Structure – Railroad grades on the Palouse District, Swiftwater Bridge on the Selway River
 - Object – “Initial tree” on the Elk City Wagon Road, obelisk marking the state boundary along the Bitterroot divide

How many new cultural resources are recorded each year across the Plan area?

- Approximately 20 new cultural resources are discovered and recorded each year on the Nez Perce - Clearwater National Forests.

How many cultural resources are currently located on the Nez Perce – Clearwater National Forests?

- There are approximately 1,808 culture resources located within the Plan area.

How many cultural resources are actually listed on the National Register of Historic Places within the Plan area?

- There are only seven cultural resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places. These consist of: Elk City Wagon Road; Jim Moore Homestead; Moose Creek Ranger Station; Fenn Ranger Station; Musselshell Meadows; Lochsa Historic Station and the Lolo Trail National Historic Landmark.
- Why so few? The National Register nomination process is lengthy (time and resources are limited). Nonetheless, current agency direction/targets are now directed at increasing the number of cultural resources actually listed on the National Register of Historic Places.