

# Nez Perce National Historic Trail



#### Fall 2013

#### Administrator's Corner

#### Greetings,

We will once again offer our Challenge Cost Share (CCS) Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 at some funding level yet to be determined. We want to continue to leverage federal dollars by partnering to accomplish good things together on the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) through these challenging budget times. The deadline for FY 14 CCS applications has been extended to Friday, December 13, 2013, due to the furlough. Visit our website for more information at <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/npnht/workingtogether/partnerships">www.fs.usda.gov/main/npnht/workingtogether/partnerships</a>.

I had to really think about the fact that the digital world is becoming a rapid leader in the way people read, research, learn, and communicate about the NPNHT. In order to explore more methods and to capture the attention of the younger generation we are exploring new technologies and one of those is involving a free mobile app that links visitors to nearby historical sites using a phone's GPS. The interactive content makes the trails community's unique history easily accessible. To get a glimpse of this exciting new program visit www.nextexithistory.com



Sandi on the lead horse at the National Historic Trails Conference recently held in Arizona.

One thing I loved about growing up along the NPNHT was the simplicity of life. There was and still is a wonderful sense of time and place. I recall the Fall as time to set up hunting camp, fish the lakes and rivers, horseback ride sections along the trail, take beautiful Fall photographs, and collect leaves from the fall foliage. The Trail is sacred, and if we continue to respect it and care for it, the Trail will always be there for us.

The Trail holds a life force unto itself and the reverence we have for the trail and its protection for future generations remains important.

I would like to thank the team of folks who work closely with us on the Trail as they are equally as passionate about this most beautiful place on earth as I am. The following pages of this Fall Progress Report will take you on a journey about activities along the Trail that will hopefully bring you back again and again to create memories for a lifetime.

Please enjoy the Trail and the Auto Tour Route, and assist me in thanking our sister agencies and volunteers who work tirelessly keeping the Trail and associated Auto Tour Route available for all to experience.

Enjoy your journey on the trail.

Sandi McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT

"We have fallen heirs to the most glorious heritage a people have ever received, and each one of us must do his part if we wish to show that the nation is worthy of its good fortune."

~ Theodore Roosevelt

#### **Land and Water Conservation Fund Update**

The National Trails Collaborative Landscape Proposal was selected for submission into the final round of Land and Water Conservation Funding consideration for the President's 2015 Budget. The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) has two parcels proceeding to the final round:

- Holland Property, 320 Acres south of Wisdom, MT. This property has a ¼ mile of confirmed trail tread from the Flight of 1877.
- Diamond D Ranch located near Henry's Lake, ID, 3,000 acres north of Island Park, ID. This property is where the U.S. Army camped for several days while General Howard resupplied in Virginia City, MT.

Both properties will protect potential and surveyed sites associated with the NPHT. Currently, 60% of the Trail is in private ownership, so adding trail mileage and site acreage to the public domain assists the citizens of the United States in traveling, learning about, and enjoying this national historic trail. These purchases will allow the NPNHT to further the goals and objectives set out by Congress when the Trail was designated in 1986 to protect and preserve the sites and events surrounding the 1877 Flight of Nez Perce. Both Henry's Lake and Holland parcels are designated as high potential routes as determined by the 1985 Environmental Assessment for the Trail.

Acquisition of both these properties will also protect:

- Migration route for a herd of 300 pronghorn antelope which winters around the Holland parcel and summers on the Henry's Lake parcel. This route is thought to be the third longest terrestrial migration of any animal in the lower forty-eight states (210 km)
- Protection of critical migratory corridors for Elk from Yellowstone National Park to mountain ranges in SW Montana including critical Elk foraging habitats
- Provide access to water based recreation including premier fishing
- Contribute to America's Great Outdoors objectives
- Provide for migratory connectivity and prevent habitat fragmentation.
- Open space for the public and public access

Julie Molzahn CMP Revision Coordinator, NPNHT

## Public Encouraged to Submit Challenge Cost Share Applications For Nez Perce National Historic Trail Projects

The public is encouraged to propose projects designed to improve and enhance the visitor's experience along the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT). The submitted projects will be considered for the 2014 project year funding. Project funding is made available through funds designated to administer the NPNHT. Completed **applications** must be post marked by December 13, 2013.

The purpose of the Challenge Cost Share Program (CCSP) is to increase participation by qualified partners in the preservation and improvement of federally managed natural, cultural, and recreational resources; in all authorized programs and activities; and on the NPNHT. The Forest Service and partners should work together on CCSP projects with mutually beneficial and shared outcomes.

The CCSP is a matching fund program. An equal amount of eligible and matching share (50% preferred) of cash, goods, or services from non-federal sources is necessary. Currently, the maximum CCSP award is \$30,000. Projects selected should generally be able to be completed within one year.

A list of 2013 NPNHT Challenge Cost share recipients can be found in the Trail's spring 2013 Progress Report.

Project application forms and instructions for completing the application are available at the NPNHT website at <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/npnht/partners">http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/npnht/partners</a> or from the Administrator of the NPNHT located at the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest Supervisors Office in Orofino, ID.

Applicants are encouraged to submit their forms electronically. E-mail applications to Sandi McFarland at <a href="mailto:npnht@fs.fed.us">npnht@fs.fed.us</a>. Proposals may also be mailed or hand delivered to: NPNHT Administrator, 12730 Highway 12, Orofino, ID 83544.

For additional information applicants may also contact Sandi McFarland, Administrator NPNHT at (208) 476-8334.

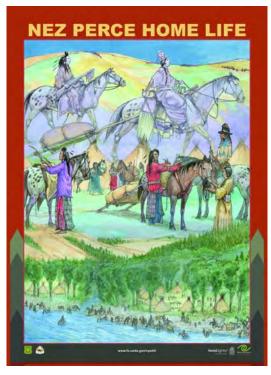
#### New Annual Poster Available Soon

The next installment in the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) Annual Poster series will be available this winter. The poster will feature the work of Nez Perce artist John Wilson.

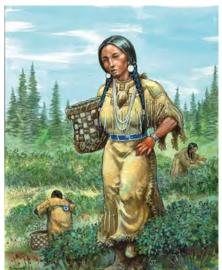
A draft of the poster is pictured (*right*) on this page, the title for the poster will be finalized at a later date. It is still being finalized but we wanted to share a glimpse of the artwork that is coming.

When it is available we will be posting that information on the NPNHT website. At that time if you would like copies, please contact Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT, at (406) 329 3540 or <a href="mailto:rmpeterson@fs.fed.us">rmpeterson@fs.fed.us</a>

Roger Peterson, PAO, NPNHT



# New Postcards Available this Winter



In the spring of 2012 the staff of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail

(NPNHT) introduced a series of interpretive postcards. These postcards were a new interpretive product for the NPNHT. The postcards were well received by visitors with almost 20,000 copies being distributed in the past 18 months, and we are almost out of stock from that first printing.

Working with Nez Perce artist John Wilson and staff from Recreation Solutions we are proud to announce that the next series of postcards will be available as free interpretive handouts this winter. (*samples are pictured on this page*). The scenes on the

postcards depict Nez Perce (Niimipuu) women in daily life.

When the postcards arrive from the printer the NPNHT staff will distribute copies to more than 100 locations along the NPNHT as well as to Ft. Walsh, a

unit of Parks Canada in Saskatchewan, and the National Museum of The American Indian at the Smithsonian in Washington DC. If you live near or along the NPNHT or one of these other locations you should be able to find them at Forest Service offices, National Park visitor centers, USFWS national wildlife refuges, and BLM offices or Interpretive Centers along with a number of other local museums visitor centers.

When they are available we will be posting that information on the NPNHT website. At that time if you would like copies, please contact Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT, at (406) 329 3540 or <a href="mailto:rmpeterson@fs.fed.us">rmpeterson@fs.fed.us</a>

Roger Peterson, PAO, NPNHT



#### 2014 Nez Perce National Historic Trail Desk Planners Coming Soon

The annual desk planner will be sent to the printer any day now, and delivery is anticipated before the end of the year. Our schedule is a little off because of the Government shutdown in October but we are working diligently to still have these to people no later than early January. 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 features a variety of beaded Nez Perce items along with descriptions of their use and when possible, who they belonged to.

The photographs were collected from institutions across the west and nationally. Images are from collections held by, the Buffalo Bill Center of the West in Cody, WY; Nez Perce National Historical Park in Spalding, ID; the Museum of



the Rockies in Bozeman, MT; the Museum of the American Indian in Washington DC, and Smithsonian Institution; the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture in Spokane, WA; the Tamástslikt Cultural Institute in Pendleton, OR; Washington State University in Pullman, WA; and the Washington State Historical Society in Tacoma, WA.

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

Roger Peterson, PAO, NPNHT

#### NPNHT Auto Tour Brochures 1 and 7 Available Soon

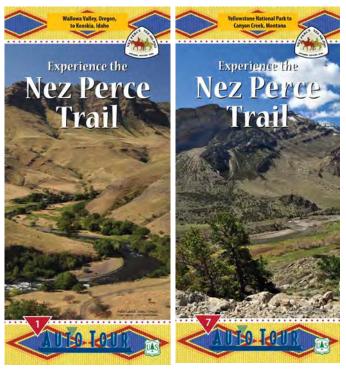
The staffs of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) and Recreation Solutions started the process to update and reprint two more NPNHT Auto Tour brochures this past summer.

These brochures are Auto Tour 1 from the Wallowa Valley of Oregon to Kooskia, ID, and Auto Tour 7 from the east side of Yellowstone National Park to Canyon Creek near Laurel, MT.

We would like to thank everyone who took time to provide feedback on these brochures helping to ensure a quality and accurate product for NPNHT visitors.

We anticipate that these brochures will go to the printer in the next few weeks and be available in early 2014.

Roger Peterson, PAO, NPNHT



#### 16th Annual PACE Camp Summer 2013

The "16th Annual Preparing for Academic Excellence (PACE) Math & Science Camp" was a go. Despite being defunded from DOE and ERWM, the Nez Perce Tribe was still able to host the camp, and although we only had 1/3 of the budget, had to change locations from Lewis-Clark State College to Lapwai, Idaho, and had to revise the camp from two (2) weeks to one (1) week, the camp was a huge success.

With only having a little over a week to advertise, contact the teachers, recruit students, and develop the schedule, the PACE Coordinator (Solo Greene) was able to pull it together, but he didn't do it on his own. Antonio Smith, RaeAnn Oatman, David Aiken, Bob Sobotta, Leo Smith, Catherine Big Man, Charles Snyder, Danielle Drader, Nez Perce National Historical Trail, and NPTEC helped make it possible. It couldn't have been done without their help and support.



For the one week camp, which was scheduled for July 22-26, 2013, we had twenty (20) students sign-up for the camp, nineteen (19) started the camp, and eighteen (18) completed the camp, and for the first time in camp history, we had a student get a 100% on his pre-test. Not only that, we had three (3) students get 100% on their post-test. We can't take all the credit for the fine work the students have done and are doing, but the camp is making a difference. Once again, every student who participated in the camp improved scores from their pre and post test scores.

On the first day of camp, we went to the Dworshak Dam Visitor Center to watch a video on the development of the dam and were able to walk out on the dam. We also had a little time to go to the marina to swim and cool off. On the second day of camp, Angela Feldmann, Casey Mitchell, Tui Moliga, and two high school interns (Ivory Williams and Tyler Terry) from the Nez Perce Tribe's Fisheries Department and Dworshak Dam Fish Hatchery brought salmon into the classroom to dissect and talk about the cultural significance of salmon to the NiMiiPuu. Kevin Brackney and Judy Goodman from the Nez Perce Tribe's Water Resource Program gave a hydrology presentation about ground water. On Wednesday, Steven Tallas, an Air Quality Intern and student at Northern Arizona University, and Johna Boulafentis, Nez Perce Tribe Air Quality Program, developed solar cars and provided a presentation on solar energy. On Thursday, Tami Church provided a wind turbine presentation and we visited the Palouse Discovery Science Center and grizzly bears in Pullman, WA, on the Washington State University campus.

On Friday, July 26, 2013, we had our Annual Lunch and Awards Assembly for the students and their families. Solo Greene (PACE Coordinator), Brooklyn Baptiste (NPTEC member), Antonio Smith (ERWM Communication Specialist), Charles Synder (PACE Math Teacher) and Danielle Drader (PACE Science Teacher) all shared a few words, and the students, teachers, and counselors (Alex Pinkham: senior- University of Idaho, Tasheena Picker: freshman- Walla Walla Community College, Ashley Paul- recent Lapwai High School graduate, and Red Sky Chimburas- senior to be at Lapwai High School) received their PACE and individual certificates.

We would like to thank all the presenters, sponsors, and volunteers.

Information provided by Solo Greene

The Nez Perce National Historic Trail was once again a camp sponsor

#### **Missoula Rotary Presentation**

On Wednesday, August 28, 2013, I was invited by the Missoula Rotary Club to give a presentation about the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT).

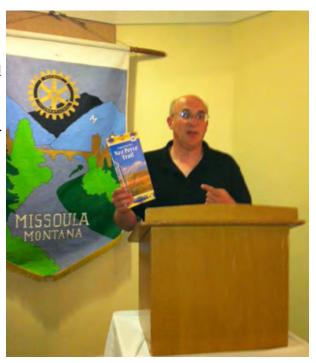
I arrived at the Governor's Ballroom in old Florence Hotel in downtown Missoula a little before noon and set out a number of pieces of literature related to the NPNHT.

By noon the gathering of about 75 Rotarians began with lunch and club business.

I had the pleasure of giving a 20 minute presentation on various aspects of the National Historic Trail. I provided them with information about the establishment of our Nations Trails System and the NPNHT, background on the Nez Perce way of life prior to the mid-1800's, events leading up to and including those of 1877, and explained the wide range of options available to visitors along the NPNHT today.

The program was very well received.

Roger Peterson, PAO, NPNHT



#### **Continental Divide National Scenic Trail Turns 35**

The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail and the Nez Perce National Historic Trail Cross in several locations, in western Montana, Idaho and Wyoming.

In tribute to the 35th Anniversary of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, I'm sharing the following poetic statement from the CDNST Study Report:

"The trail experience on or near the Divide is an intimate one, for one can walk or ride horseback across vast fields of wildflowers and contemplate a story dating from the dawn of earth's history. This story began when a portion of the earth was thrust upward, creating the sharp precipitous peaks that were sculptured into rich land forms leaving sparkling lakes, crystal-clear streams, and myriads of cascading waterfalls. Along the way, the tranquility of the alpine meadows, verdant forests and semi-desert landscape overwhelms everyone who passes that way. The trail would provide the traveler his best encounter with the Continental Divide — its serenity and pure air — and would supply for every trail traveler some of the world's most sublime scenes..."



I want to thank Jim Wolf, Director of the Continental Divide Trail Society, for recently highlighting this passage. Jim has been promoting, leading, and supporting the CDNST for over 35 years.

Greg Warren Administrator Continental Divide National Scenic Trail

## New book by Dan Strawn, the author of, Isaac's Gun—An American Tale and Lame Bird's Legacy

#### Black Wolf's Return

It is 1740 and Black Wolf, an aged warrior, has a dying vision: The wolves will leave the prairie, and so will the Nez Perce Indians. The vision promises his descendants will only return when the wolves do.

In the 20th century, his descendant, Emma Wolf Alone follows her baby's father to California where she forms a lifelong friendship with Tessie, and their children, Tom and Seesee, find trials and tribulations of their own.

When Tom and his daughter, Sara, search for the black wolf in and around Hell's Canyon, their journey leads to the fruition of Black Wolf's vision, bringing a three hundred year tale of struggle and survival, love and loss, bound by common dreams, to a conclusion.



Black Wolf's Return
Three hundred years of struggle, survival, love and loss
Come to a conclusion in Hell's Canyon

Dan is also offering a course through Clark College in Vancouver, WA, for anyone who lives in the Portland/Vancouver area:

#### The Nez Perce:

The story of the Nez Perce tribe is iconic in American history. In Part I of a two part series, study their history, culture and current status, from the Pre Columbian era to the arrival of horses, and their adoption of Plains Indian customs and technology, to the horrific outcome of the European occupation of tribal lands. Learn about their lifestyle, food and shelter and religion.

http://www.campusce.net/Clark/Course/Course.aspx?c=3281

#### **Exploring Fort Vancouver**

I took advantage of an invitation to make my first visit to Fort Vancouver on August 22-25, 2013. As part of the trip my goals were to meet potential partners, dive into research, and secure photographs and information. I also attended the celebration marking the 5th Anniversary of the Vancouver Land Bridge. The bridge was originally dedicated August 23, 2008, as part of the Confluence Project which explores the rich cultural history of the Pacific Northwest and was inspired by Maya Lin, designer of the well-known Vietnam War Memorial located in Washington, DC. The Confluence Project is a non-profit organization undertaking the challenge of interpreting thousands of years of history and heritage of people who have lived along the Columbia River and its tributaries. I met with Jane Jacobsen, Director of the Confluence Project, and we are going to continue our discussion on how we are going to work with the Fort Vancouver National



L-R: Antone Minthorn and Sandi McFarland

Historic Site of the National Park Service (NPS) and explore opportunities for partnerships.

The Land Bridge is an earth covered 40 foot wide pedestrian bridge designed by architect Johnpaul Jones, which creates an arc over State Route 14, reconnecting the Columbia River with the historic Fort Vancouver, a historic tribal crossroads as well as a point of contact between European and numerous Native peoples including Hawaiians.



During the celebration speakers included Ed Edmo, a consultant who performed traditional storytelling. Ed is a member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and lives in Portland, OR. Some may remember Ed was one of our presenters at the first Nez Perce Trail Conference held in Lewiston, ID, in 1996.

Antone Minthorn, a Cayuse-Nez Perce Language Master and speaker/historian also shared his connection to this project. Antone works for the Department of Education Language Program and is a former chairman of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Local speakers consisted of Timothy Leavitt, Mayor of Vancouver, WA, (*pictured with Sandi on left*), and Tracy Fortmann, Superintendent, Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, NPS.

Lillian Pitt, Native American artist and a member of the Warm Springs Tribe, designed the Land Bridge Welcome Gate and other artwork at the site. The gate leads to the village Welcome Gate and is topped with a pair of canoe paddles adorned with a cast-glass sculpture of a Chinook woman's face. Lillian spoke of her vision for this project.

After the speakers and dance exhibition by members of the N'Chi Wanapum Canoe Family, Warm Springs Tribe, the Northwest Indian Veteran's Association Color Guard led the procession over the Vancouver Land Bridge to the village at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. The group was welcomed at the Fort by Aaron Ochoa, a NPS Ranger dressed in period fur trapper attire living in the village. He announced, "Thla-hi-em! Welcome to Fort Vancouver," speaking in the Chinook jargon commonly used as a trade language at Fort Vancouver for more than 200 years. The Nez Perce also used this jargon and we have an exercise for youth on our website to learn Chinook jargon.



Another site of importance to the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) that the Confluence has worked on is the "Listening Circle" amphitheater which is the next scheduled installation located at Chief Timothy (member of the Nez Perce Tribe) State Park on the Snake River near Clarkston, WA, and on our NPNHT Auto Tour Route.

I joined the visitors for this celebration which represented many tribes to form a traditional circle to introduce ourselves and say a few words. (*continued on page 9*)

During my trip, I discovered that more than 35 tribes worked at Fort Vancouver and lived in the village outside the Fort's stockade during the Hudson Bay Company Era at the site. In 1840, this included Nez Perce people as well. Nez Perce women were marrying employees of the Hudson Bay Company. There are graves of Nez Perce at the site today.

Chief Red Heart's Band was captured during the Nez Perce War of 1877 when they were returning home from a buffalo hunt. They were forced to march from the Weippe Prairie to Lewiston, ID, where they were boated to Fort Vancouver as prisoners of war and was contained at this facility. I learned they are sea bisquits (flour and water), salted salmon, potatoes, and deer.

I also had the opportunity to meet with a number of the staff at Fort Vancouver.

Tracy Fortmann, Superintendent, was generous with her time and agreed to discussions on developing a short video, an interpretive panel, and a brochure for the site telling the story of the Nez Perce as prisoners of war.

Greg Shine, Historian, was also invaluable supplying me with important research and documentation of the Nez Perce and Fort Vancouver.

I appreciate the time I had with Robert (Bob) Cromwell, NPS Archaeologist, who showed me around including exhibits, and maps, giving me an overview of the Fort. I also met Doug Wilson, Fort Vancouver National Historic Reserve (FVNHR) Archaeologist and Northwest Cultural Resources Institute (NCRI) Director.

Megan Huff and Heidi Pierson, both Museum Techs, graciously spent time assisting me with the photography collection. We will, for the first time, have a good source of photographs to finish our interpretive media depicting the Nez Perce at the Fort.

I also visited with Debbie Garbe, Retail Manager for the gift store, who will carry our NPNHT sale items and our free interpretive materials. They will also show our video, "Landscape of History," and host our traveling display.

The trip proved invaluable to our program and I appreciate the Fort's staff for their time and enthusiasm in interpreting the Nez Perce at Fort Vancouver.

Sandi McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT

## Traveling Displays at BLM National Historic Trails Interpretive Center and the Historic Darby Ranger Station

This past summer the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) traveling displays were once again in use at several highly visible locations. From Memorial Day through Labor Day these traveling displays, which discuss the various aspects of the Nez Perce in exile, were available for visitors to view.

At the Bureau of Land Management's National Historic Trail Interpretive Center in Casper, WY, more than 6,000 people viewed the exhibits and picked up literature related to the NPNHT. At the Historic Darby Ranger Station in Darby, MT, more than 1,300 people viewed the exhibit.

These same exhibits were also on display at Native American Heritage week programs in Billings, MT, in September and October.

Roger Peterson, PAO, NPNHT



Exhibit at Billings Skyview H.S. Photo by Karen Mayhall

## **Be Safe in Your Travels**

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

Please take a few minutes to review the Trail's Safety and Ethics Website before you begin your journey: <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/npnht/ethics">http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/npnht/ethics</a>

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

There are links to a number of webcams from the NPNHT website.



#### Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Idaho Chapter Completes NPNHT Trail Work

The Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, (LCTHF) Idaho Chapter under the leadership of President, Chuck Raddon, spent a week working on the NPNHT this past summer. They had 25 good and willing workers. Among the trail maintenance work accomplished was some maintenance on the old ridge line trail east of No-see-um Meadow, which hasn't been done for 70 years. They worked on four sections of trail about 1/4 mile each with road in between. They also maintained the trail between Weitas Meadow and Sherman Peak, and painted several of the interpretive signs, fixed an outhouse, and painted the log toilet at Rocky Ridge lake. Thanks to all the volunteers for your hard work and dedication.





Top to bottom: Volunteers painting the sign at Beaver Dam Saddle along the NPNHT. Chapter President Chuckl Raddon putting up a NPNHT Marker along the trail. All the members of the LCTHF Idaho Chapter volunteer group that worked on the NPNHT this year.



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#### Nez Perce Appaloosa Horse Club Activities along the Nez Perce Trail - 2013

This summer, members of the Nez Perce Appaloosa Horse Club (NPApHC) spent many hours and miles riding and working along the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) and giving presentations to the public about the Trail. Enroute to the Appaloosa Horse Club's annual Chief Joseph Trail Ride (CJTR) in July, our entourage of pickups, horse trailers, and personal vehicles transporting eight adults, four youth (Olivia Carter Herrera, Ryan Terry, Payton Sobotta, *-pictured below*— and Rielly Leighton) and our Appaloosa horses stopped at the Big Hole Battlefield to present a program. Club members dressed in traditional regalia and horse trappings and held a small parade near the visitor center where members spoke of the Battlefield, the NPNHT and our ancestors who were in the 1877 Nez Perce conflict with the U.S. military. The National Park Service generously provided overnight accommodations for our members and horses.

The Chief Joseph Trail Ride took place in the beautiful Absaroka Mountains east of Yellowstone National Park. The ride started near Cooke City, MT, where we visited the site of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail's interpretative sign and metal sculptures. Highlights of this portion of the Trail included the Sunlight Basin, Dead Indian Hill, and the steep switchbacks on the trail descending to the Clark's Fork River. During one evening's program, our Vice-President, Emmit Taylor, Jr., and Nez Perce youth conducted an Empty Saddle Ceremony for all those who sacrificed their lives along the NPNHT, especially the unnamed elderly man who was killed by Bannock Scouts in 1877 on the aptly-named Dead Indian Hill. Emmit also gave some history on this portion of the NPNHT. NPAPHC member and Nez Perce elder, Loretta Sobotta, and her mount, Yawka's Prairie Dancer, received their well-earned awards for completing the whole NPNHT on 13 consecutive years of the CJTR. Loretta took this occasion to present shawls to recognize four other Nez



Perce women who have also been on the CJTR for 13 years or more - Ida Ann Wheeler, Donna Henry, Bonnie Ewing and Rosa Yearout. (Sadly, this was the last CJTR for "Prairie" and Rosa's horse, "Sweetwater," since both had to be put down in September after a bad highway accident with a semi.) Rielly qualified and was approved to be a Junior Scout for the trail ride.

In early August, the NPApHC took horses to Wallowa Lake State Park near Joseph, OR, to make four well received presentations about the NPNHT and the Appaloosa Horse to Nez Perce youth and their instructors who were attending the Nez Perce Tribe's annual Nez Perce Culture Camp. The presenters spoke of the significance of the area to the Nez Perce people and used a map of the NPNHT Trail to show that it began in the Wallowas and gave a summary of the events and locations of the route the Nimiipuu followed to the Bear Paw Mountains in Montana. After each presentation, the youth and their instructors asked questions and then enjoyed the opportunity to mount the horses to preserve their experience in photos. Many of our Nez Perce youth do not own horses and always welcome the chance to be around them.

At the end of August, an NPApHC work crew spent three days along the 500 Road, in the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest of central Idaho, clearing thick brush and logs to open a portion of the NPNHT between Moon Saddle and Indian Post Office (*Abraham Yearout, picture on right*). Gene and Mollie Eastman of Weippe, ID, flagged and used a GPS on the Trail. About half of this NPNHT funded Challenge Cost Share (CCS) project was completed and a little less than half of the budgeted amount was used. A combination of weather (snowed out) and Government shutdown prevented us from completing the project as planned. All of the trees and brush were cut and cleared from about 1.3 miles of the trail tread. Over 300 dead logs needed cutting. The crew worked both ends of the trail, starting the first day from the Moon Saddle side and then the next day

from Indian Post Office. The middle portion still needs to be completed next year as well as putting in NPNHT signs. There were a lot more trees and brush than initially estimated, but it will be a beautiful graded trail when done, and we are looking forward to riding it.

— Rosa Yearout NPApHC

# UPCOMING Events:



- October—January 26, 2014—Exhibit "Welcome to Yellowstone" at the Museum of the Rockies, Bozeman, MT
- November, 2013 Native American Heritage Month
- December 7, 2013—Annual Bead Bazaar, Nez Perce National Historical Park, Spalding, ID, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. PST
- January—March, 2013—Winter Storyteller Series at <u>Travelers Rest State Park</u>, see the Pak website for details



## **News From the Nez Perce Trail Foundation**

After a year delay the Charting Project (Archaeological study of the escape route near the Crandall Ranger Station in Wyoming in conjunction with the Wyoming State Parks and Cultural Resources



Archaeological Department) got underway under the leadership of Dan Eakin, who has spent the last three years studying the Nez Perce Route through Yellowstone National Park.

The ground survey team, consisting of volunteers Julie Eakin, Kierson Crum, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Cody office, Kyle Wright, Shoshone National Forest Office in Cody, WY, and several local ranchers assisted in the initial survey. Results will be published later in the spring. (*Photo above shows the group meeting with a rancher, on the right is a landscape photo*).





Starting with the Tamkaliks celebration in Wallowa, OR, (photo left) this year's teacher's project (using carry over funding from 2012) took a different approach. This year's program which was sponsored by, Montana State University Northern allowed 16 students to take part in this educational and informational journey, following the Nez Perce National Historic Trail from Wallowa, OR, to Yellowstone National Park. In addition to instructors sharing materials several participants gave presentations demonstrating how they have incorporated cultural resources in their classrooms.

The basis for this program was the major theme "Must Cultures Collide" developed by Connie Jacobs, Director

of the BLM's Missouri Breaks Interpretive Center in Fort Benton, MT.

Presenters were: Our lead education Instructor, Duane Heglie; Carolynne Merrell, Nez Perce Trail Foundation (NPTF) member; Wendell Davis, Nez Perce Tribal member; Candy Moulton Author of Several Nez Perce books; Bernadine Ellenwood, Nez Perce Tribal Member; Quackgrass Sally, Pony Express board member; Maureen Fatris, a past participant who has developed a classroom programs; Leo Ariwite, Member of the Lemhi Shoshone language and cultural program; Connie Jacobs, developer of the classroom presentation, "Must Cultures Collide;" Charlie Moses of the Confederated Colville Tribes/Chief Joseph Band and his wife Margaret Moses; and Dan Eakin, Lead Archaeologist with the State of Wyoming.

A special student that joined us at Wallowa was a graduate student from Ireland, Amelia-Roisn Seifert, who is doing a study on the Horse Cultural and the Nez Perce Tribe.

Jim Evans Executive Director Nez Perce Trail Foundation

# NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## **News From the National Park Service:**

## **Big Hole National Battlefield**

On Sunday, November 10, 2013, the Battlefield will begin its winter schedule. The visitor center is open and free to the public seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It contains new exhibits, an introductory video, and

a book sales area.

The Battlefield will be closed, November 28, 2013; December 25, 2013; January 1, 2014; January 20, 2014; and February 17, 2014, for the Federal Holidays.

Trails are currently open but may close unexpectedly depending on weather conditions. Please contact the Battlefield (406) 689-3155 for updates on trail conditions.



A recent frosty morning in the Big Hole

Big Hole ended the most successful, in terms of numbers of programs given, summer season ever on September 28. More than 70 programs were presented to 536 people in September alone. How did we do this? Because we did not hire college students this summer and instead people, who had already graduated. We had staff until almost the end of the fiscal year. This allowed visitors who would normally see the park on self-guided tours to instead go on one of our daily programs. There was a very enthusiastic response to this change from our visitors. The sad part about this is we will not be able to do this again next summer due to budget cuts and we will have a bare bones (basically winter) staff next summer.



The park's summer speaker series was well attended and we had some very good speakers this year. We hope that we can continue this program next summer with the gracious support of the Glacier National Park Conservancy (GNPC), the park's cooperating association. The GNPC provided the park with \$4,000 to cover travel and speaker fees.

The government shutdown at the beginning of October did take a huge chunk of our normal early fall visitation away from the Park. It was very difficult to keep a smile on ones face telling potential park visitors that they could not enter the Park. We hope that there are no long lasting effects from the shutdown.

One of the continuing odd things going on in the Park is the lack of snow (*image left*). Normally by Veterans Day we have at least of foot of snow on the ground. This is great for

our visitors who would like to drive to the lower parking lot to access the trails instead of using snowshoes to get down there. How long will this last? No one seems to know, but you can keep track of our snow, or lack of, on our webcam http://www.nps.gov/webcams-biho/battlefield.jpg

Steve Black Superintendent Big Hole National Battlefield

# **News From the National Park Service:**

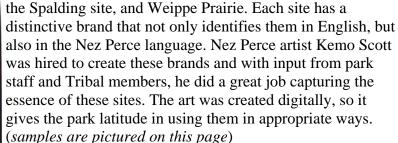
Nez Perce National Historical Park

In May of 1965, Congress passed the enabling legislation that would create Nez Perce National Historical Park. 2015 will mark the fiftieth

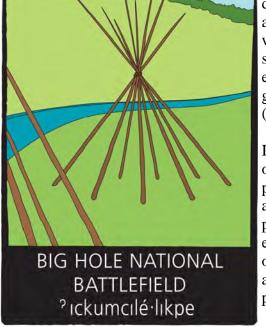
anniversary of that act. To honor the anniversary of the park, planning is underway. In the fifty years since the park's establishment, we are often described as a non-traditional National Park Service unit, since it's composed of thirty-eight sites spread across Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. There isn't a contiguous border that marks the boundaries of the park. Since park identity is a key element to public understanding, one of the first anniversary projects was to supplement the National Park arrowhead with a distinctive park brand.

Of the park's thirty-eight sites, the National Park Service directly manages nine of them: Bear Paw, White Bird and Big Hole Battlefields, Buffalo Eddy, Canoe Camp, Old Chief Joseph

Gravesite and Cemetery,



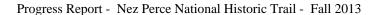
In the coming years, we plan to use these brands in a variety of ways. We have manufactured road signs that will be placed along the road ways that access these sites. We already have developed a coloring book with the brands and plan to start incorporating them into the exterior wayside exhibits that are set up at many park sites. There may be other products that are developed in the coming year for sale at the park's cooperating association such as note cards and postcards. We already have pins and patches for sale.





**NEZ PERCE NATIONAL** 

HISTORICAL PARK





## News From the National Park Service:

#### Bear Paw Battlefield

2013 Commemoration at Bear Paw Battlefield in Chinook, MT, took place on Saturday, October 5th, under sunny skies with 92 people attending.

Geraldine Earthboy Rutherford from Ft. Belknap (seen center in red iacket) welcomed the Nez Perce people. All were invited to join the pipe circle by Wilford Scott and Horace Axtell. A hearty lunch for everyone, provided by the Jim and Crystal Fox family, followed the Pipe Ceremony.

> Stephanie Martin Park Ranger, Bear Paw Battlefield







## **News From the Forest Service Lolo National Forest**

Approximately, 15.5 miles of the Nez Perce 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. The NPNHT on the Lolo National Forest is divided into seven distinct management areas between Graves Creek and

the Montana/Idaho border. During the 2013 field season (May thru September), the Nez Perce National Historic Trail Ranger, on the Lolo National Forest, maintained these area of the NPNHT, and the NPNHT Hwy 12 interpretive corridor, and the facilities that directly support the use of the NPNHT(historic sites, campgrounds, picnic areas), and also provided interpretive information about Trail marker replacement the trail to the public.



During the field season, 37 damaged trail markers were replaced and new trail markers were installed along the trail. Maintenance was provided on 47 trail markers including the loosening of aluminum nails attaching markers to trees to accommodate tree growth.

With the assistance of the Missoula Ranger Districts' trail crew, 15.5 miles of the NPNHT was cleared of debris and 14 miles of trail were cleared of brush.

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.

These interactions with the public were also an invaluable opportunity to gain feedback about the Trail and its condition (tread, signing, etc...). This information assisted the NPNHT Ranger and management staff to prioritize and plan trail



maintenance activities. One of the more interesting encounters the NPHNT Ranger made was with an author who was hiking and researching the Trail in order to write a fictional book.

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, the NPNHT Ranger supported this continued weed management effort by hand pulling and mechanically treating weeds at several locations along the trail. Monitoring of new weed invaders was also a

priority in 2013. (Pictured above Howard Creek #2180 trailhead treatment for knapweed - L-R before and after).

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

## **New Faces Along the Trail:**

#### New Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF Supervisor

The Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest in Montana will welcome Melany Glossa as their new supervisor in November.

Glossa is currently the supervisor on the Hoosier National Forest (NF) in Indiana, and will officially take the reins on November 17, according to Regional Forester Faye Krueger.

"The Beaverhead-Deerlodge is getting an outstanding supervisor with broad experiences gained from assignments in four different Forest Service regions," Krueger commented in her announcement to the Forest staff on Friday. "Melany has a strong background in

collaboration and partnership successes. She is a strong strategic thinker, leader, and decision-maker who empowers her staff, and is results oriented."

Glossa is a native of Indiana, growing up in the northern part of the Hoosier state. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in forestry and wildlife management from Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN, and her Master's degree in forestry from Oregon State University.

Early in her professional career, Glossa worked as a wildlife biologist with the state of Missouri, where she worked closely with wildlife staff on the Mark Twain NF. She subsequently selected Colorado State University for her doctoral studies, where she concentrated on forest policy issues. While there, Glossa worked as a consultant on National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) planning for the US Army, Pacific Command, with assignments taking her to Hawaii and Alaska.

Glossa began her career with the Forest Service as a NEPA planner with the Rocky Mountain Region, and moved to the White River NF as the Forest Planner. She subsequently worked on the Nez Perce NF in the Northern Region as the forest's Natural Resources Staff Officer. She transitioned to the Pacific Northwest Region and the Willamette NF as a District Ranger before assuming the Forest Supervisor position at the Hoosier NF in Bedford, IN.

Glossa's husband John and children, Bella, Milo, and Coco, are also very excited about heading back West



Scot Shuler joins the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest as the District Ranger for the Dillon Ranger District. Scot comes from the Gardiner Ranger District on the Gallatin National Forest. He is a graduate of Colorado State University with a bachelor's degree in fisheries biology and a master's degree in stream fish ecology. He has worked on the Gallatin and Custer National Forests.

In addition to his career with the U.S. Forest Service Shuler has worked as an aquatic consultant and a hunting guide. He began his career in 1991 as a fisheries biologist and is currently a Resource assistant on the Gardiner Ranger District.

Shuler has been actively involved in a variety of topics including: fisheries management, managed recreation, wilderness; trails, and outfitter guide programs. In his spare time Scot likes to explore the back country with his horses and mules.

"I am excited for this new opportunity and the challenges that come with managing a complex district," said Shuler. "I'm looking forward to continuing to build relationships between the Ranger District, local community, and many key interest groups who care about the management of their public lands."



Shuler's daughter Amy is a senior at Montana State University. He took over the reins as the new District Ranger last spring in Dillon.

#### **How to Contact Us:**

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#### Fall Along the Nez Perce National Historic Trail Western Montana and Central Idaho



Bitterroot Mountains, near Florence, MT. Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service



Along U.S Hwy. 12 near Lolo Hot Spring, MT. Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service



Lee Metcalf NWR, near Stevensville, MT. Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service



Along U.S Hwy. 12 near Lowell, ID. Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service



Nez Perce National Historic Trail 12730 Highway 12 Orofino ID 83544





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Progress Report - Nez Perce National Historic Trail - Fall 2013