Sacajawea Memorial Camp
0.2 mile, Motorway, (within Montana)

Headwaters of the Missouri River. Lewis writes in his journal August 12, “… here I halted… and rested myself, two miles below the Nez Perce had entirely raised with a foot on each side of this little rattle and thanked God that he had lived to behold the mighty & terrible before deemed endless Missisquoi."

Lemhi Pass – Continental Divide
Mile 26.0, Motorway

The Advance Party were the first white men to cross Lemhi Pass (7,339’), a Shoshoni Indian hunting trail, on August 12, 1805.

First Taste of the Columbia River
Mile 27.5, Motorway

Lewis records their entry into Idaho “…now descended the mountains about 1/3 of a mile which found much thicker than nor the opposite side, is to a handsome bold running Creek of cold clear water, hence I first tasted the water of the great Columbia river…”

Lewis & Clark Trail Route
Mile 27.9, Motorway

Captain Lewis, leading the Advance Party of three men, passed through this area August 12. Captain Clark with 11 men, Sacajawea and her husband Charbonneau, followed on August 15, 1805.

First Idaho Campsite
Trail Access at Mile 29.5, Motorway

“…we found a sufficient quantity of dry yellow brush for fuel; here we encamped for the night having traveled about 20 Miles.” – Lewis, August 12, 1805

Forks of Lewis’s River
Mile 300.0, US Highway 93

Later at Tower Butte Clark reflects, “… shall I pause to pay Cleopatra the favor I have ever on this fork of the Columbia call Miss Lewis’s river. How do you spell Lewis? Clark apparently forgets. His god that he had lived to stride the mighty & here myself. two miles below McNeal had exultingly stood in his journal August 12, 1805. As Lewis’ Advance Party traveled along the plain through the river to the left we continued our usual pace… when we had arrived within half a mile of them I directed the party to halt and having my pack and rifle I took the flag which I Natalized and advanced singly toward them the women soon appeared before us, and Lewis exclaimed ‘there is no end to your encampments on this river…’ at the distance of 4 Ms. from where we had last met them they introduced us to a lodge made of willow brush and an old leather lodge which had been prepared for our reception at night…”

Carmen
Salmon
20 Miles

Sacajawea, the Shoshoni woman who accompanied Lewis and Clark on their expedition. Sacajawea returned to her homeland in the Lemhi Valley in 1805 as a member of the Lewis and Clark party. She was married after her family being abducted by an Assiniboine war party and served as liaison between her people and the expedition.

Upper Village I
Mile 120.5, State Highway 28, Look North

August 13, Lewis and his advanced party arrived at this site after their dramatic meeting with the Shoshoni, Chief Cameahwait and about 60 war party. Lewis writes, “…we are at our encampments on the river… it is rather early for we had not met them they introduced us to a lodge made of lillies.”

Upper Village II
Mile 120.5, State Highway 28, Look Northwest

August 13, Lewis and his advanced party arrived at the site after their dramatic meeting with the Shoshoni. Chief Cameahwait and about 60 war party. Lewis writes, “…we are at our encampments on the river… it is rather early for we had not met them they introduced us to a lodge made of lillies.”

Withington Creek Camp
MP 125.9, State Highway 28

Clark with an Indian guide crossed over the Lemhi River and camped at Withington Creek. Sergeant Gaines recalled “…Captain Clarke – proceeded… about 8 miles and encamped… here I saw the Indian canoe and stayed with them until the night.”

Faidi Village
Mile 131.4, State Highway 28

Site of a fish weir across the Lemhi River where the Shoshoni were able to trap enough Salmon for their subsistence and provide the expedition with much needed and dried salmon as they could eat, as well as dried chorbaecauce.

Upper Village and Camp Site
Mile 146.8, State Highway 28

Upper Village and Camp Site

Upper Village and Camp Site

Upper Village and Camp Site

Upper Village and Camp Site

Upper Village and Camp Site
August 23, Sergeant Gass writes in his journal, “...The river at this place is so confined by the mountains as to be almost incredible to mention that horses had passed over it. The current below, Clark decided to abandon this route. ...”

Hoping for a navigable route to the Pacific, Clark explored the first few miles of the rugged Salmon River. He passed remarkable rock resembling pyramids on the left side. Captain Clark fell from a rock and injured one of his legs.

Salmon River Reconnaisance Sign

Team Lewis and Clark explored the first few miles of the rugged Salmon River. They reached the Pacific Ocean November, 1805.

Salmon, Idaho 83467

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For additional information on Idaho call: (800) VISIT - ID

Special thanks to:

River of No Return Interpretive Association
P.O. Box 661
Salmon, Idaho 83467

Quoted from:

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July 26 - November 1, 1805
Gary E. Moulton, Editor
University of Nebraska Press, 1988

Lewis and Clark last camp

Mile 345.5, US Highway 93

Salmon, Idaho 83467

Road Markers, Beaver Dam, and black cottonwoods indicated the Captain Lewis

On September 2, Lewis and Clark proceeded with much difficulty up the North Fork. Some authorities believe this may have been the most difficult terrain encountered by the expedition. They camped on the west side of the river in the vicinity.

Deep Creek

Mile 4.3, US Highway 93

On August 23, Clark recalls, “...passed over a gap in the mountains, from the top of which I could see the hollow of the river for 20 miles to a very high mountain on the left, at which place my guide made signs that he had part...of the mountain and much nearer than any I saw...”

Lewis, in his journal, writes Clark decided to abandon his pursuit of the river route “...after the river reached this mountain it continued its course to the North between high and perpendicular rocks, rolling foaming and beating against innumerable rocks which crowded it’s channel; that then it penetrated the rolling foaming and beating against the mountains close so close that it is almost incredible to mention that horses had passed through. ...”

The Lewis and Clark expedition likely lost the trail to this pass. They camped two miles west of here the nights of September 3. From here, the Lewis and Clark Expedition proceeded down the Bitterroot Valley, back into Idaho and followed the Columbia River They reached the Pacific Ocean November, 1805.

Lost Trail Pass

Mile 351.4, US Highway 93

The trail Lewis and Clark took can be reached by walking approximately two miles up Salmon Creek to the mouth of Thompson Gulch; follow marked trail to left. The trail is marked from that point to its return to the North Fork of the Salmon River at Trail Gulch, a distance of approximately six miles. You can hike a portion of the trail that remains virtually as it was when traveled by the explorers.

Wagonhammers Springs

Mile 324.4, US Highway 93

The trail Lewis and Clark took can be reached by walking approximately two miles up Salmon Creek to the mouth of Thompson Gulch; follow marked trail to left. The trail is marked from that point to its return to the North Fork of the Salmon River at Trail Gulch, a distance of approximately six miles. You can hike a portion of the trail that remains virtually as it was when traveled by the explorers.

Sore Horse Feet Camp

Mile 6.0, Forest Road 30

Sergeant Gass writes in his journal, “...Severe and arduous was the task, the horses being in perilous danger of slipping into the river in many places. They were forced into the river in many places. They were forced into the water and were almost in the water and were almost in the water and were almost in the water and were almost in the water and were almost in the water and were almost in the water.”

Lewis and Clark event Last East

Mile 345.5, US Highway 93

Salmon, Idaho 83467

Seeking a route through Idaho’s mountain range, the entire Expedition left the canyon and climbed a high ridge. April 4. Without a trail, Toby, their Shoshoni guide, led them along a difficult ridge from here, they were not able to proceed. From here, the Lewis and Clark Expedition proceeded down the Bitterroot Valley, back into Idaho and followed the Columbia River They reached the Pacific Ocean November, 1805.

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