



Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail *Progress Report* Spring 2016



Administrator's Corner

Greetings,

Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) enthusiasts like you are the lifeblood of the NPNHT. All of us here truly appreciate your support! We have a lot to celebrate on the trail this year—all thanks to the support of our volunteers and partners. The upcoming field season and work to host inspiring educational exhibitions and special events bring the NPNHT experience into schools and universities across the Trail through our Challenge Cost Share (CCS) partnership with partners like the Nez Perce Trail Foundation, which provides a forum for an authentic and relevant curriculum and a strong voice for the NPNHT. Please help us all to shine a spotlight by becoming a volunteer and partner.

Together we have made significant progress towards building a thriving education program. Please see the article regarding the NPNHT Challenge Cost Share (CCS) program in this progress report. We take pride in the work we do, because doing our job right means you're getting as much information and education as possible about the NPNHT. Soon the staff of the NPNHT will again encourage CCS proposals for project proposals designed to improve and enhance the visitor's experience along the NPNHT. The CCS applications will be due by October 1, 2016, and would be awarded by the spring of 2017.

Everyone loves a great story, whether it's classics we grew up with, or ones handed down through history. We invite you to learn more about the NPNHT where old meets new. Let's dive into a legend and then let the allure of our Auto Tour routes bring out fresh sounds and sights and get lost in a new chapter of the NPNHT. One will agree, a hike with your four-legged friends enjoying the exercise is good for both of you. The Trail is your own story to create.

Head to our website www.fs.usda.gov/npnht to plan your experience along the NPNHT. Please get in touch with us if you have questions. Everyone here at NPNHT Administration is happy to help. We hope to see you this year on the Trail!



Presentation at the spring 2016 Nez Perce Tribe General Council meeting in Lapwai, ID. L-R: Sandra Broncheau-McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT, Christine Bradbury, Tribal Government Liaison, Nez Perce-Clearwater & Payette National Forests, and Scott Eckberg Idaho Unit Manager, Nez Perce National Historical Park.

Sandra Broncheau-McFarland,
Administrator, NPNHT

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

~ Theodore Roosevelt



Comprehensive Plan Update:

The revised Comprehensive Plan (CP) Chapters I and II are at the Washington Office of the U.S. Forest Service for review. The interdisciplinary team that will complete the revised CP and accompanying environmental document is in the process of beginning work on the existing condition of the Trail. The team's assessment work requires the completion of the proposed Trail centerline alignment, designated as the Right-of-Way in the National Trails System Act of 1968. The proposed alignment, which will be completed through Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping, is planned for completion this spring. A review of this proposed alignment by all federal agencies and state and local governments will begin this spring and continue until completed this year. All landowners near the alignment proposal will be invited to participate in this review process.

The NPNHT staff continues to receive written comments from the public on the CP revision. The staff encourages all people to continue to provide comments. Comments can be sent by e-mail to npnht-CMP-rev@fs.fed.us or by postal service to Julie Molzahn, NPNHT CP Revision Coordinator, U.S. Forest Service Northern Region, PO Box 429, Plains, MT 59859.

NPNHT Administration Approves More Than \$65,000 for Challenge Cost Share Projects

The following [Challenge Cost Share](#) (CCS) applications were reviewed by an interagency panel and recently approved by Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) Administrator Sandi McFarland.

This year we have approved 12 CCS applications and modified an existing agreement for a permanent display for \$15,000.

The Nez Perce Trail Foundation (NPTF) was awarded \$3151 for the "Nez Perce Summer Trail Tour," which will help promote the NPNHT. A 16 day educational and interaction tour will involve educators and students working towards an advanced degree in Native American Studies. College credit is available. More information about this project can be found on page 11 of this report.

The NPTF was also awarded \$5496 for their efforts in working with the Partnership for the National Trails in preserving, protecting, conserving, creating retracement trails, and board development to make for a stronger non-profit organization. They will learn how we can together grow more partnerships and developing Trail Towns along the NPNHT.

[Discover Your Northwest](#) received \$8018 to hire a seasonal 90 day Nez Perce Tribal interpreter for the Lolo Pass Visitor Center targeting their months of highest visitation from June to mid-August. This facility on the NPNHT receives more than 60,000 visitors annually. The person will provide high quality interpretive programs and work to improve onsite interpretive displays concerning the NPNHT. They will provide a Nez Perce perspective interpreting the NPNHT history and culture as well as provide a training platform for other staff giving a different cultural perspective.

The [Joseph Center for Arts and Culture](#) will received \$11,000 to create a permanent cultural/historical exhibit for the center. This is the beginning of the NPNHT and home to the Chief Joseph Band who left their homeland to start on the Flight of 1877. The center will also invest in creating maps, photo's baskets, regalia, clothing, and horn bow as accessories to the exhibit. They plan from time to time to host Indian artists in residence to add to the exhibit.

A dozen volunteers from the Idaho Chapter [Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation](#), Inc. will spend five days clearing the NPNHT and the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trails. This consists of 20 miles of maintenance by removing fallen trees, and the group will inspect facilities, signs, and make any emergency repairs needed. They will provide interpretation to visitors utilizing the trail, and inspect interpretive signs and build a list of needed maintenance activities for 2017. The project will monitor recreational facilities within the trail corridor. The chapter was awarded \$3,000 for this work.

Fifty 4th graders from the Orofino Elementary School will learn leave no trace ethics to become better educated and can in turn educate others while on the NPNHT or at NPNHT sites. They will share stewardship on the trail and importance of diversity in our communities while promoting the NPNHT in school and at home. They will also use this for 4th Grade Idaho History month to educate others on the NPNHT. This group was awarded \$4270.

The Friends of the Southern Nez Perce Trail were awarded \$5,500 to replace 20-30 trail markers on the Southern Nez Perce Trail (SNPT) after the fire destroyed wooden markers in 2015. These are to be placed where the trail touches the road. This project will include designing a metal 9x9 which will be placed on 10x10 aluminum signs. One thousand metal, fireproof small signs will be placed along the actual SNPT. Approximately 20 miles of the SNPT will also be located and marked.
Continued on page 3



Challenge Cost Share Projects cont.

[Ravalli County Museum](#) will receive \$6,000 for an educator who will offer (NPNHT) history programs on site and in area schools in western Montana. They will also offer assistance to teachers and other educators utilizing the phone and internet in assisting to develop programs that fit the curriculum in the pre-existing NPNHT traveling 4th grade trunks. The project will establish a permanent educational trunk for the sole use by the museum. This will help when the existing NPNHT educational trunks which are all in use elsewhere.

The [Nez Perce Appaloosa Horse Club](#) was awarded \$7950 for two efforts. The first is for youth and members to participate in the 2016 Chief Joseph Trail Ride (CJTR) and Nez Perce Ceremony at Bear Paw Battlefield as we help celebrate the National Park Service's 100th Anniversary.

The club will provide educational and cultural programs to 300 participants on the (NPNHT) during the [Chief Joseph Trail Ride](#). They will also provide a memorial parade with members including youth dressed in Nez Perce regalia at the Bear Paw Battlefield as part of the 2016 Centennial of the Nez Perce National Historical Park to commemorate the last battle of the Flight of the 1877 event and the NPNHT. Nez Perce Tribal historians and speakers will give presentations along with a Nez Perce Drum singing and the empty saddle ceremony honoring those who died during the Flight of 1877 along the NPNHT.

A second agreement will help reopen 4-miles of trail between Cayuse Junction and Wendover Road along the Lolo Motorway on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest in Idaho. The project entails clearing logs and brush while marking with official NPNHT markers. For future reference the trail will be on GPS and they will do an inventory to identify culturally important plants. The project will preserve and protect for the Trail future hikers and equestrians.

In August the Administration of the NPNHT will again encourage Challenge Cost Share proposals for projects designed to improve and enhance the visitor's experience along the NPNHT. Applications will be due by October 1, 2016.

Sandra Broncheau-McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT and Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT

Celebrate Earth Day Qe'emu & Butterfly Workshop



The Nez Perce Tribe and Lapwai Community Action Team hosted an Earth Day event on April 21, 2016, at the Pi-Nee-Waus in Lapwai, ID, starting at 9 a.m. I was honored to present a program titled "Nature's Supermarket" that talked about the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) and the many flora that can be found along the NPNHT and Auto Tour Route that was traditionally utilized by the Niimiipuu throughout time.

I also had a display featuring interpretive panels from the Dillion Ranger District of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. A display also featured the poster for mushrooms and herbs available on our local National Forests. Our program provided copies of the NPNHT General Brochure and visitor tear sheet maps. I joined a number of esteemed colleagues, including Dr. Rico Cruz, Nez Perce

Agriculture Manager, who spoke on Building Nez Perce Food Systems, Mr. Joseph Y. Oatman, Deputy Manager of Nez Perce Fisheries Resources, provided an update on the salmon recovery projects, and Mr. Neil Thagard, Nez Perce Wildlife Manager, presented on hunting buffalo herds in Yellowstone National Park along the NPNHT.

It was refreshing to speak with seven members of the AmeriCorps (*photo right*). AmeriCorps is a national Civilian Community Corps that strengthens communities and develops leaders through team-based national and community service. We shared what we experienced to get our current respective positions. The group comes from throughout the United States, including Illinois, South Carolina, Massachusetts, Maryland, Arkansas, and Connecticut.

Sandra Broncheau-McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT





NEW: Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail Traveling Displays Available for Use



Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) has available for use a **NEW** set of 5 “pop-up” traveling displays related to various aspects of the NPNHT story.

There are five double sided displays available (*samples pictured below*).

- Display 1: Provides information about Nez Perce (Niimiipuu) life prior to the arrival of European people.
- Display 2: Discusses events in the early and mid-19th century related to the Nez Perce and the treaty period.
- Display 3: Shares information about the 1877 war and flight of the Nez Perce.
- Display 4: Details the story of the more than nearly 300 Nez Perce men, women, and children who escaped the Bear Paw Battlefield and made their way north to Canada, in the vicinity of Ft. Walsh, as well as the Nez Perce exile from 1878 to 1885 in present day Kansas and Oklahoma, an area the Nez Perce called Ee Yak ish Pah (iyeq'iispe) or the Hot Country.
- Display 5: Focuses on the Niimiipuu people today and their connections with their ancestors.

We currently only have one set of these displays and are making them available to visitor contact locations and educational institutions along or associated with the NPNHT, and for other conferences and workshops.

The displays are very light weight and can usually be set up by one person.

The NPNHT program will pay for shipping these displays to your location but it will be the responsibility of the institution using the display to pay for return shipping (*typically less than \$100 for all five*).

Maximum usage time will be 30 days unless otherwise negotiated.

If you would like additional information, or to reserve please contact: Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT at (406) 329-3540 or rmpeterson@fs.fed.us

Approx. 30 inches wide

"USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender."

March 2016

Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail General Brochure Reprinted

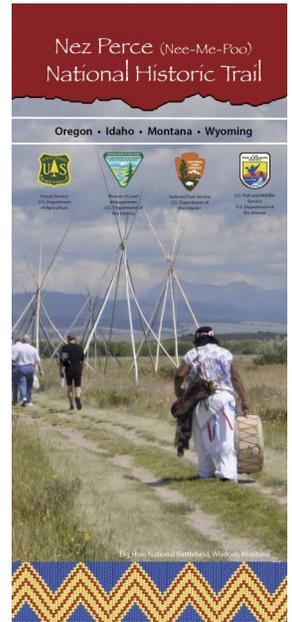
The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) staff recently reprinted, with minor updates, the Trail's general brochure. The current edition was printed in January of 2015, and was widely received with nearly 10,000 copies distributed in the past 15 months. The brochure includes more information about those Nez Perce who escaped to Canada, were exiled in Kansas and Oklahoma, and the internment of Chief Redheart's Band at Fort Vancouver in Washington Territory. We also worked with the Nez Perce Tribe's language program to ensure the correct Nez Perce spellings for the names of Nez Perce leaders.

The popular brochure folds into a format the same size as the current Trail Auto Tour brochures, which makes it easier to display in brochure racks. Thanks to the staff from Recreation Solutions, Nez Perce National Historic Park, the Nez Perce Tribe, and other partners for helping with updates and creating this outstanding product to help share the Trail story.

A downloadable version is available on the Trail's website. This brochure recently arrived from the printer and hard copies are available for distribution.

If you would like copies, please contact Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT, at (406) 329-3540 or rmpeterson@fs.fed.us.

Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT



News From the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Trail Interpretive Center (WBNPTIC)



Photo by Mary Hawkins, WBNPTIC

The new longhouse takes shape at the WBNPTIC Homeland Project grounds in Wallowa, OR

The longhouse in Wallowa is on track for completion this summer! In part to refine how this new facility will change what is possible at the 320 acre Homeland Project managed by the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Trail Interpretive Center ([WBNPTIC](#)), a revision to the 2004 Master Plan of the non-profit is underway. The Board of Directors have commissioned consultants Alice Parman and Brian McCormack to draft an interpretive plan and new physical site plan, respectively. The WBNPTIC hosted five public meetings last November at the Tamastlikt Cultural Institute in Pendleton, OR, at the Colville Tribal Government Center in Nespelem, WA, at the City Hall Council Chambers in Lapwai, ID, at the Portland State University Native American Student and Community Center, Portland, OR, and at the WBNPTIC in Wallowa, OR.

The public meetings will serve to help define how physical developments, interpretive work, and education programming will be prioritized at the Homeland Project's 320 acres. The NPNHT administration also provided input into this process. This is a partner with whom we have accomplished three Challenge Cost Share Applications (CCSA) in the past and we are working together to complete the fourth project that involves the bridge construction to

connect Wallowa to the Homelands. The public and Board of Directors reviewed draft plans and concepts at the organization's Annual Planning Meeting Saturday, April 30, 2016.

Construction on the longhouse started in December 2015. The plan is for a dirt floor, but covering materials can lay down as needed. It is planned to hold 150 people, and solar panels will be installed on the roof. The contract was awarded to two contractors, Kirk Skovlin and Eric Carlson. The two are collaborating here for the first time because they share a dedication to craftsmanship as well as a deep commitment to creating a place for Nez Perce practices in the Wallowa. Other local support includes more than \$13,000 in donations from 200 individuals and families. The U.S. Forest Service Wallowa Whitman National Forest donated \$10,000 in standing timber for the handsome log supports of the building. A meeting in Wallowa was held on Friday, April 29, to convene Washat practitioners and begin to gather ideas to help keep the new longhouse actively used for years to come.

You are invited to reach out to WBNPTIC office manager, Mary Hawkins, at tamkaliks@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the list to receive updates about developments and activities at the Homeland Project.

Mary Hawkins WBNPTIC office manager



Pinkham Family Shares Nez Perce Oral Traditions as Part of Traveler's Rest State Park Winter Storytellers Series



Photo by Dale Dufour, Travelers' Rest Preservation and Heritage Assoc.

On a crisp winter day in early February more than 80 people gathered at Travelers Rest State Park in Lolo, MT, to hear Josiah Pinkman speak about Nez Perce (Niimíipuu) traditions. He also discussed the importance of oral tradition and how a resilient Niimíipuu People traveled to many places across the west for generations prior to the arrival of Lewis and Clark, to obtain various goods.

Those who made the trek to the Park were rewarded with a number of traditional stories, including the Niimíipuu creation story, how the people discovered what was later to become known as the Lolo Trail with the help of a Grizzly Bear, and how Fire came to the Niimíipuu.

Assisting Pinkham with his presentation were

Josiah Pinkham shows the audience a necklace given to him by his paternal grandmother when he received his Nez Perce name of Blackeagle. It belonged to the one who carried the name before him (her younger brother). It is representative of the type of necklace worn by Nez Perce men throughout times past.

his two young son, Tamahsat and Sapaatma Blackeagle. Pinkham recounted to the audience how special it was for his boys to be with him and how when he was their age he would travel with his grandfather to learn the same stories he shared.

Pinkham also displayed a number of traditionally Niimíipuu handcrafted items, including a shell necklace, clothing, a rawhide parfleche bag, a bowcase and quiver made from a mountain lion hide, and a bonnet which belonged to his grandfather, a World War I Veteran.

The annual Travelers' Rest Winter Storytelling Series is made possible in part by a grant from Humanities Montana, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Co-sponsors include Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; Blue Mountain Bed and Breakfast; and the Travelers' Rest Preservation and Heritage Association, a non-profit, 501(c) (3) organization protecting Travelers' Rest State Park and National Historic Monument through place-based educational and interpretive programming.

For more information about Traveler's Rest visit: www.travelersrest.org.



Photo by Dale Dufour, Travelers' Rest Preservation and Heritage Assoc.

Tamahsat Blackeagle displays a rawhide sun visor which was worn by males and females in both casual and ceremonial situations.

Please Make a Note

The Missoula office for the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail Will be relocating this summer to Historic Fort Missoula.

After August 1, 2016, the new address will be:

Roger Peterson
NPNHT Public Affairs Specialist
26 Fort Missoula Road
Missoula MT 59804

Our phone numbers and e-mails will remain the same.



Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail Educational Trunks

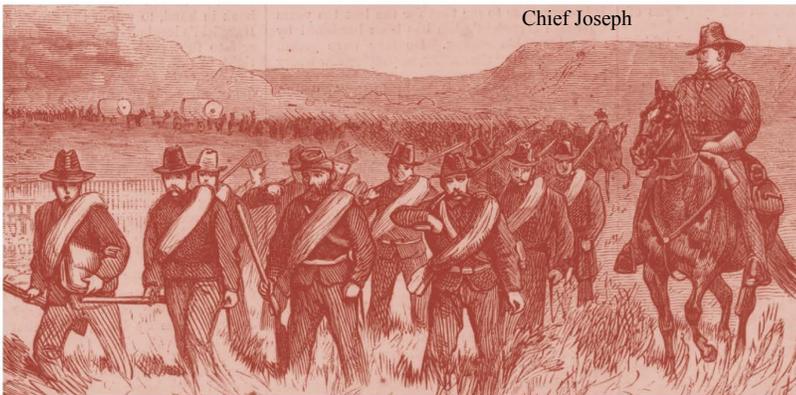
For more information visit the Learning Center part of our website



Through three different sections, this resource describes the traditional lifestyle of the Nez Perce, offers hands-on lessons to provide students with an opportunity to explore what the life of a United States soldier may have been like in this time period, and allows students to explore the war the Nez Perce leaders' decision resulted in and what ultimately happened to the Nez Perce. The trunk includes traditional Nez Perce crafts, games and stories, as well as some military clothing, and gear. There are also two videos that give two different views of the 1877 war and flight of the Nez Perce.



There is no rental fee for this trunk. The trunk is available for one, two or three weeks. The borrowing institution is responsible for return shipping charges or for picking up and dropping off the trunk if it is not being shipped.



Chief Joseph

Haper's Weekly Illustration of U.S. Military in 1877

Books & DVD's

- The Nez Perce Tribe* by Allison Lassieur
- Nez Perce Coyote Tales* by Deward E. Walker Jr. & Daniel N. Matthews
- I will Fight No More Forever* (DVD)
- Landscape of History: The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo_ National Historic Trail)* (DVD)

Clothing

- Moccasin (pair)
- Officer rank insignia
- Leggings
- Dentalium Necklace and Earrings
- Girl's Wool Dress & Slip
- Boy's shirt
- Wing Dress
- Military blouse with 5 year service stripe
- Government issue shirt
- Forage Cap and infantry insignia



Tools

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Berry Basket | 1 Toothbrush |
| 1 Awl/Sinew/Selvage Belt | 1 Tin cup |
| 1 Haversack | 1 Canteen |
| 1 Parfleche (Isaaptakay) | 1 Tin plate |
| 2 Hard Tack Cutters | 3 Cloth food bags |
| | 1 Silverware |
| | 1 Housewife |

Additional Equipment

- 10 Small mixing bowls
- 10 Measuring spoons (tablespoon)
- 2 Cookie sheets
- 10 Wooden spoons
- 10 Measuring cups
- Banner "War of 1877"
- Map
- Posters

Food and Entertainment

- 1 Dried fish/meat/camas
- 1 Soldier cards
- 8 sets Cexstem sticks and containers
- 8 decks Classroom set Euchre cards

Other Materials

- Photographs
- Curriculum binder
- And additional equipment for lessons

Montana Natural History Center | Nature Discovery Traveling Trunks

We have two of these trunks available for loan on a first come first serve basis. If you have questions or would like to borrow one of our trunks please contact our partners at the Montana Natural History Center at 406-327-0405.



Hike the Hill 2016

Hike the Hill is a week-long event that provides participants the opportunity to advocate for the protection, completion, and funding of our National Trails System (NTS). This year's Hike the Hill event took place from February 6-11, 2016.

This year, Sandra Broncheau-McFarland, Administrator, and Julie Molzahn, Comprehensive Plan (CP) Revision Coordinator, attended "Hike the Hill" in Washington DC, a joint effort of American Hiking Society and the Partnership for the National Trails System. It included a week of meetings with agency partners such as the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of Transportation, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

On Saturday, February 6, the Partnership National Trails System (PNTS) worked on refining their Mission Statement and held their Board of Directors Meeting. Agency staff can be Ad Hoc non-voting members.

On Sunday, February 7, the PNTS gave committee reports and talked about future plans. They provided partner briefings on major legislation and all agencies gave briefings in the afternoon.

There were a number of meetings with the lead land protection people in the Washington DC staffs of the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to address current and projected land protection issues for National Trails. We all enjoyed meeting U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell on Monday to talk about the National Chain Saw Policy, the effects of floods and fires on trail funding, travel restrictions in the agency, Land Water and Conservation Fund, and to hear the Chief's words in bringing all the federal agencies together to raise the awareness for the upcoming National Trails System Act and National Wild and Scenic River Act celebrations. I attended the 5th annual National Trails System Trail Lands Protection Strategy Meeting later that day in the Auditorium of the Interior South Building. A number of topics were broached including status of the 2017 Collaborative Landscape Planning initiative, how to make our National Trail projects better fit into the Core Land Acquisition Programs of the agencies, effects of Congress interest in "recreational access" and local support on how the agency land protection programs are managed, and ways for National Trails partnerships to better prepare and manage land acquisition projects.

There was much excitement on how we can all partner with the National Park Service (NPS) in celebration of the NPS Centennial while also preparing for the celebration of the National Trails System Act's 50th anniversary in 2018. I agree with the PNTS when they say, "If Hike the Hill teaches us one thing, it's that when we use our voices together, they become amplified."

Throughout the week citizen advocates and our non-profit partner, Matt Nowak from the Nez Perce Trail Foundation, spoke with members of Congress, their staff, and leaders of the federal land managing agencies. Matt did a great job by speaking with Congress about legislation that positively affects the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), National Forest System Stewardship Act, Wildfire Disaster Funding Act 2015 (WDFFA), National Scenic Trails Parity Act, and the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA).

NPNHT staff also took this opportunity to meet with USFS Staff regarding the NPNHT CP Revision. The following are some key parts of those meetings.

NPNHT Specific:

- ★ The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail Federal Interagency Memorandum of Understanding is being reviewed by the U.S.D.A. Washington Office of General Counsel and Department of Interior Solicitor's Office before it can be signed.
- ★ Julie Molzahn met with Sharyl L. Pahe, Interpretive Services Manager, at the National Museum of the American Indian. They discussed the Nez Perce National Historic Trail programs and the connection with the Nez Perce Tribe. Several items to be followed up on are:
 - The Museum is interested in hosting an exhibit on the Nez Perce National Historic Trail for the 2018 National Trails System Act Anniversary and there would need to be information provided including educational modules, available speakers, and the exhibit itself by the end of this summer.
 - Providing the exhibit could be done through our Challenge Cost Share Program with the Museum.
 - They are interested in a list of available speakers and subject matter specialists for Native American topics from the Nez Perce Tribe. They are looking for speakers on their exhibit discussing Treaties- White Man's View and the Native American's View.
 - They have not been able to find interns for the Museum or fill interpretive specialist positions with Tribal members. They requested assistance in getting the word out that there are positions available at the Museum.

Sandra Broncheau-McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT, and Julie Molzahn, CP Revision Coordinator, NPNHT



Hot on the trail of the ancient Nez Perce

Sleuthing by "a bunch of geezers" is uncovering lost section of historic Southern Nez Perce Trail

By ERIC BARKER of the Lewiston Tribune

Sometimes Dennis Baird has to go low and slow to detect the tread of an ancient trail he and others are working to uncover.

It's work that requires a methodical approach, sometimes under a blistering sun. But for Baird, an emeritus professor at the University of Idaho, author, and gray beard wilderness advocate, getting it right is more important than doing it fast.

"You have to stop and look and think and kind of lay on the ground. You have to have people with really good eyes to find it. It's slow work - not just because you have to find it - we want to make sure this is absolutely the real thing, not a phony," he said.

For the last several years, Baird has been working to uncover a section of the 10,000-year-old Southern Nez Perce Trail. The route used by generations of Nez Perce Indians runs from the South Fork of the Clearwater River near Harpster to Darby, MT. Baird has been working to reveal the section between Red River Ranger Station and the boundary of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area near Burnt Knob, a distance of about 40 miles that roughly follows the Magruder Road, a backcountry double track dirt road that snakes between the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church River of No Return wilderness areas.

Baird spoke about his effort on January 30, 2016, during the Selway-Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation's 10th annual Winter Gathering and Fundraiser starting at 6 p.m. at the Quality Inn at Clarkston.

Continued on page 9

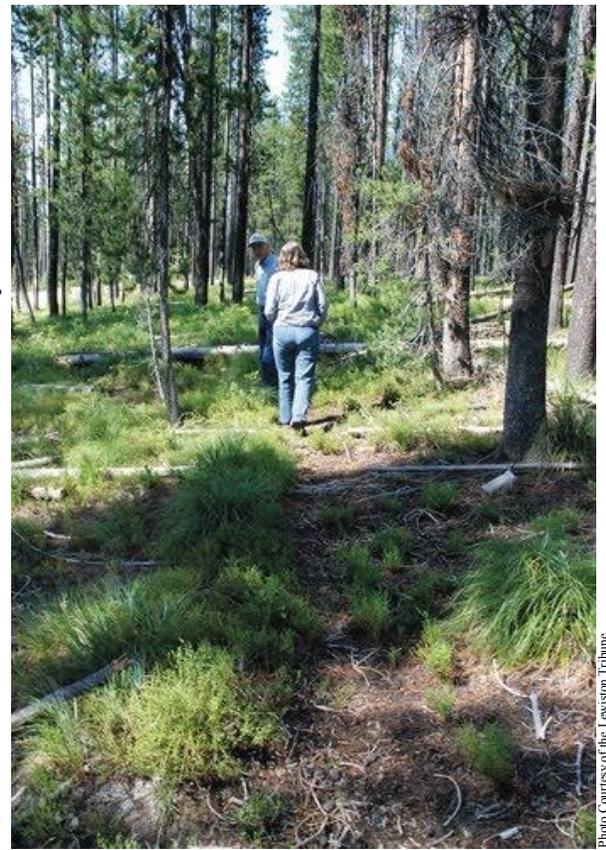


Photo Courtesy of the Lewiston Tribune

Volunteers walk on the Southern Nez Perce Trail as they try to locate the tread and clear it of downed trees and brush.

UPCOMING Events:



- May, 2016: Idaho Archaeology and Preservation Month see [website for a list of activities](#)
- May 13-14, 2016 — Eastern Oregon University Indian Arts Festival, Pow Wow and Friendship Feast, La Grande, OR
- May 13, 2016 — Confluence Picnic at Chief Timothy Park, Clarkston, WA
- June 4, 2016 — National Trails Day
- June 6-9, 2016 — National Historic Trails Workshop, Independence, MO
- June 11, 2016 — National Get Outdoors Day, fees waived at U.S. Forest Service sites that require a fee, (check with local units)
- June 18, 2016 — White Bird Battle Memorial, White Bird, ID
- June 17-19, 2016 — Chief Joseph & Warriors Pow Wow, Lapwai, ID
- July 1-3, 2016 — Wildhorse Pow Wow, Pendleton, OR
- July 8—10, 2016 — Nespelem 4th of July Pow Wow, Nespelem, WA
- July 8—10, 2016 — Lapwai Days, Lapwai, ID
- July 22—24 2016 — Nez Perce Tamkaliks Celebration & Friendship Feast, Wallowa, OR
- July 23, 2016 — [Nez Perce Trail Foundation Annual Meeting](#), Wallowa, OR,
- July 18-22, 2016 — 52nd Annual [Chief Joseph Trail Ride](#) from Roy, MT to the Bear Paw Battlefield
- August 6, 2016 — Big Hole Battle Memorial, Wisdom, MT
- August 11-14, 2016 — Omak Stampede and Pow Wow, Omak, WA





A segment of the souther Nez Perce Trail in the Bargamin Creek valley in the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest.

Working with permission from the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest and the tribe (Nez Perce), he has uncovered about 15 miles of the trail and hopes in the near future, perhaps a year or two, it can be opened to public use for hiking and horse riding.

The work involves finding the trail, cutting brush that hides it and sawing out logs that have fallen across it. He and Forest Service officials are interested in revealing and preserving the historic route, not recreating it.

"I'm pretty sure the trail we are reopening is the real trail, the actual, genuine Southern Nez Perce Trail, not some approximation of it," he said.

According to his research, the trail was last maintained by the Forest Service in 1930 and abandoned after the Civilian Conservation Corps constructed the Magruder Road in 1932. Baird said forest rangers ran phone line along the trail in 1910 as part of their efforts to detect and snuff out wildfires.

It was used by the Nez Perce until at least 1897, when a large group followed it on their way to the Fort Hall Reservation in southern Idaho. A year earlier, Baird said Gifford Pinchot, the first chief of the Forest Service, stumbled on the trail while surveying the Bitterroot Mountains to determine if the area should become a federal forest reserve.

The area has burned many times over the centuries, including last summer. Baird said the fires were a mixed blessing. The flames caused more trees to fall across parts of the trail that had already been cleared. But they also helped him to discover a section that had been hidden by dense forest.

"Suddenly the trail was visible. You could see it clear as a bell."

For now it's just been Baird and some friends doing the work, "just a bunch of us geezers," he said. Next summer, tribal members are expected to join the work.

"It's great. It's their trail. Nothing would make me happier than to see in a year or two a whole bunch of Nez Perce kids riding Appaloosas on their trail; what a marvel that would be."

Reprinted with permission from the Lewiston Tribune

Be Safe in Your Travels

The Staff of the NPNHT want your experience along the Trail this spring 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.

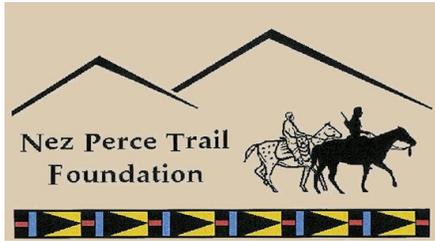
The NPNHT Auto Tour Route includes a variety of road surfaces (paved, gravel, and dirt). Please be sure to consult a map before embarking on your NPNHT trip.

Many locations along all Auto Tour routes may not have cell phone coverage.

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



It's Here!



The Nez Perce Trail Foundation's 2016 SUMMER EDUCATIONAL TRAIL TOUR

Join us for an unbelievable experience as we travel the Nez Perce National Historic Trail in two parts this year through Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana.

These guided car-camping tours feature the journey, battle sites, and significant events of 1877 war and flight of the Nez Perce War.

*Credits available through Montana State University Northern for student / teacher participants.

PART 1 - Wallowa, OR to Camas Meadows, Idaho
July 22 - July 31, 2016 (Begins with the Tamkaliks Celebration & Friendship Feast)

PART 2 - Yellowstone National Park to Bears Paw, Montana
July 31 - August 7, 2016 (Enjoy the wonders of Yellowstone while there)

COSTS: *Credit: Adult (Students/teachers) \$350
Adult (Companion/Audit) \$200

- Non-Credit: Adult \$225
- Youth (12-17) \$100
- Youth under 12 Free (Must be accompanied by an adult)

****Nez Perce Tribal members may attend GRATIS.
However, you will be responsible for your own camping fees****

Register early, space is limited!

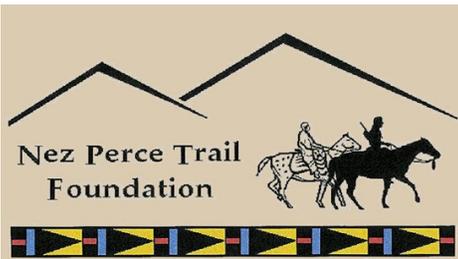
Checks accepted. PayPal is accepted on the NPTF website

For more information, please visit our website at www.nezperctrail.net
or call 916-524-9940 / 949-280-2894

Nez Perce Trail Foundation PO Box 5024 Bend, OR 97708



News From the Nez Perce Trail Foundation



The Nez Perce Trail Foundation (NPTF) will be offering two \$500 Scholarships to Native Americans this year.

- The Duane Heglie / NPTF Scholarship will be awarding two \$500 scholarships to two Native Americans.
- The Taz Conner / Terry Crenshaw Memorial Scholarships will be awarding one \$500 scholarship to a local student residing in Wallowa County, and one \$500 scholarship to a Native American.

Details and requirements can be found on the [NPTF website](#) under “Scholarships,” and applications are due on June 30, 2016. Winners will be announced at the 2016 Tamkaliks Celebration at Wallowa, Oregon, July 22-24. Scholarship founder Duane Heglie, NPTF Board Member, has annually contributed the funds with the hope that our cause will promote cultural understanding, appreciation, pride, education, scholarly advancement, and success.

Karen Heagen represented the NPTF at the Redheart Memorial on April 23, 2016. The ceremonies took place at Ft. Vancouver and begin at 10:00 a.m., followed by a feast at noon. The Memorial honors those who were falsely imprisoned by the U.S. Army during the War of 1877, especially those who died while in captivity.

This year the NPTF will be offering two NPNHT Summer Educational Trail Tours. Segment 1 (July 22-July 31) will begin in Wallowa, OR, in conjunction with the Tamkaliks Celebration & Friendship Feast, and will travel to Camas Meadows near Kilgore, Idaho. Segment 2 (July 31-August 7) will begin at Yellowstone National Park, WY, and travel to Bears Paw Battlefield near Chinook, MT. Events, historical locations, and battle sites relative to the Nez Perce War of 1877 will be visited on both segments. Car camping. Information and fees can be found on the NPTF website at www.nezpercetrail.net. Montana State University Northern credits are available. Space is limited. See additional information on page 10 of this report.

Hike-the-Hill Report, February 2016: The business meetings for the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) were a great opportunity to make new friends and reacquaint with others from my 40+ years of Federal service as a Forester and Land Manager, which includes local and national trails like the Nez Perce and the Lewis & Clark Trails.

The PNTS had made the arrangements for the Chiefs’ meetings. As a Forester, I felt very comfortable sitting in the Gifford Pinchot Room which honors the Father of American Forestry. Formerly, I had attended meetings with the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service, who is from Missouri. That kinship opened the door for some good conversations. As a founding member of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council, I knew several people, and my former relationship with the Council was especially helpful when we attended the agency Chief meetings.

The PNTS prepared us very well in advance for the Congressional meetings with handouts, discussions, and detailed information about the major issues that we should be bringing to the attention of our Congressional offices. Issues like the poor funding system for forest fire disasters in the West, the need for changes in the way potential workmen’s comp payments should be paid for injured trail volunteers on Federal lands, a route adjustment to the North Country Trail, and several other topics.

Lindy Hatcher, the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Executive Director, had already made numerous scheduled appointments with Congressional members. She made the majority of the presentations to the Congressional office staffs and I contributed with my personal experiences as a Department of Defense Forester on military reservations and with my personal experience as a military retiree. We military foresters do a lot of trail work for our active duty soldiers and the tie-in of the importance of trails in general to the well-being of our military seemed to hit home as several Congressional offices took notes at that point in the discussion. Hopefully that will also result in better legislation for our trails.

Specifically related to the Nez Perce Trail, I asked the Kansas office representative to assist us in enhancement efforts for the Nez Perce monument at Fort Leavenworth. The U.S. Forest Service and Ft. Leavenworth have already placed informational signs, as well as naming Chief Joseph Loop and Nez Perce Way. The NPTF is interested in expanding the monument by adding a small parcel of land at the point where the Nez Perce crossed the railroad tracks to the area where they were incarcerated in 1877-1878. This added parcel would allow us to build a statue or a high-relief wall depicting the historical events of that part of the Exile Route.

Karen Heagen, Secretary, Nez Perce Trail Foundation and Matt Nowak, Nez Perce Trail Foundation Membership Chair



Matt with the Montana Delegation. L-R Senator Tester, Rep. Zinke, Matt Nowak NPTF and Senator Daines

Photo Courtesy of Matt Nowak, NPTF





News From the National Park Service: Big Hole National Battlefield

Spring is struggling to find its way through the wind and snow at ʔickumcílé·lıkpe (Big Hole) and cáynim ʔá·likaʔspa (Bear Paw), but we are all busy gearing up for the upcoming season.

Big Hole National Battlefield began its summer hours of operation on Sunday, May 1, 2016. The main visitor center is now be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

At Big Hole we are excited to be offering Coyote Camp for the seventh season May 23-27, 2016.

We will also be hosting cultural demonstrations on the weekends starting June 25 – August 14, 2016. The list of who will be presenting will be officially released in the upcoming weeks.



Students at 2015 Coyote Camp

Photo Courtesy of the National Park Service



Otis Halfmoon

Photo Courtesy of the National Park Service

On August 25, 2016, the National Park Service will officially be celebrating its 100th birthday. In honor of that day, we have invited [Otis Halfmoon](#) to speak at Big Hole. Otis, who is a descendant of this battle, has had a long career with the National Park Service and has worked at both Big Hole and Bear Paw. The Park feels honored and privileged to have him speak on founder’s day.

In other news, we are still awaiting the job announcements for both Lead Ranger positions at Big Hole and Bear Paw. Please continue to spread the word that those positions will be advertised shortly. We are also working on filling seasonal positions at Big Hole and Bear Paw. Currently, Jim Magera continues to be the lone ranger at Bear Paw and we cannot thank him enough for the extra work he is doing now and has always done for the Park. For those of you who are familiar with Jim, you can attest to what an amazing asset he is to the Park.

The maintenance staff at Big Hole will be very busy this summer with several projects. Some of those projects include replacing the dilapidated fence on our east boundary, installing a new boot brush in the lower lot to help eliminate the spread of invasive species, revamping the beginning of the camp trail to make it more accessible, installing a new awning on the observation deck, and replacing our temporary horse corral with a permanent one. Last but certainly not least, the commemorations for this year have been scheduled at Big Hole on August 6 and Bear Paw on October 1.

For more information please contact Big Hole National Battlefield at (406) 689-3155 or check out our website at www.nps.gov/biho.

qe'ciyew'yew (thank you),

Mandi Wick
Superintendent/Montana Unit Manager
Big Hole National Battlefield





News From the Forest Service: Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest—Lolo Pass Visitor Center

The 2016 winter season is quickly melting away. Current snow levels are just under 4 feet. While it is definitely spring on the Pass, the die-hard skiers and snowmobilers are still coming out to enjoy the last of the snow. Many of the local schools made field trips to Lolo Pass, giving students the opportunity to ski, snowshoe, and practice with transceivers at the Beacon Park and learn about winter safety.

The Lolo Pass Visitor Center is excited to have been chosen as a test site for some new technology from the National Technology and Development Program. We have installed a digital kiosk at the Lolo Pass Visitor Center. The intent of the kiosk is to modernize the distribution of National Forest information. Visitors who have a smartphone, tablet or laptop can access National Forest information, maps and publications. No user information is collected and the content is free. The Lolo Pass staff can choose what information to make available and change it with the seasons. Right now we have Ski and Snowmobile maps, FS Over-snow maps, Motor Vehicle Use Maps, and most of the Forest Service Brochures that can be accessed. The majority of the maps are GPS enabled and if the user has the "Avenza PDF Maps" app they can navigate from the maps. The best part is that the "hotspot" is able to be accessed from outside the building and from our Warming Hut. Even on days the Visitor Center is closed, visitors can access maps, brochures, and interpretive information. The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail [Auto Tour brochures](#) are some of the items which visitors will be able to access.



Photo Courtesy of HWalkerPhotos

This year marks the 9th Annual Mountain-to-Meadow Half Marathon and Fun Run.

The Visitor Center has several big events planned for this summer. The annual Mountain to Meadow Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K Fun Run will be held at the Visitor Center on Saturday, June 25, 2016.

2016 Mountain-to-Meadow Goes Twilight! New Start Time: 5 p.m. PDT. This year's race will be a new and exciting "Howl at the Moon" themed evening run. The course will close at 9 p.m. when volunteers will do a sweep of the area. Early start is available at 4 p.m. and will be noted by our official timer, Competitive Timing.

There will be interpretive programs on wolves at the Lolo Pass Visitor Center before and during the race.



Jim Peaco, National Park Service photo

Gray Wolf in Yellowstone National Park



Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service photo

The half-marathon winds for 13 miles through forests of Engleman Spruce and White Pine, with dramatic views of the Bitterroot Mountains in the distance. All courses will take participants along Packer Meadows, a historical site along the Nez Perce and Lewis and Clark National Historic Trails. The 10K course is a new addition this year for participants to enjoy. [Registration is now open.](#)

For more updates and to follow the bloom of the camas next month follow us on [Facebook.](#)

Buffie Cerutti, Manager
Lolo Pass Visitor Center
Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest



New Faces Along the Trail:

Brett Spaulding Joins the Staff at Nez Perce National Historical Park

Park Ranger Brett Spaulding joined the staff at Nez Perce National Historical Park earlier this year. Brett was born in Altoona, PA. He enlisted in the United States Army and was stationed at Fort Kobe, Panama, and Fort Campbell, KY. Upon successful completion of his enlistment, he attended The Pennsylvania State University and received a degree in Geography with a minor in History. After graduation Brett worked for a short time at Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL.

He took a position as a seasonal Park Ranger on the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina and was hired in 2001 as a full time Park Ranger at Monocacy National Battlefield in Frederick, MD. While at Monocacy he wrote and published the book *Last Chance for Victory: Jubal Early's 1864 Maryland Invasion*, which was awarded the 2011 Easter National Author's Award.

Brett also participated as a historian in the Emmy Award winning Maryland Public Television documentary *Heart of the Civil War*.

In January 2016 he accepted the Supervisory Park Ranger position at Nez Perce National Historical Park. Brett and his wife Mary have two children; Hannah and Kate.



Sara Bethscheider New Customer Services Representative for the Wallowa Mountains Office



Sara Bethscheider recently accepted the position of Customer Services Representative for the Wallowa Mountains Office (WMO) in beautiful Joseph, OR, home to the Eagle Cap Ranger District, Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, and Wallowa Valley Ranger District on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

Bethscheider got her start with the U.S. Forest Service as an Office Automation Clerk at the WMO Visitor Center while attending college in 2004. The following summer, she was thrilled to be hired on to collect research through the Pacific Northwest Research Station in the Prince William Sound in Alaska. After earning a Bachelor's Degree in Recreation Resource Management with minors in Forest Management and Environmental Interpretation from Oregon State University she returned to eastern Oregon. "My heart, has always been in Wallowa County," said Bethscheider. She spent her summer's growing up in this area on family camping, hunting, and fishing trips. "This is where I've always wanted to be," she continued. She was hired as a

Ranger Aid for Wallowa Lake State Park and then back on at the WMO where she worked as lead Recreation Technician in the Developed Recreation Program for nine years as a seasonal employee.

In her duties as Customer Services Representative at the WMO, Bethscheider will work to inform visitors of local outdoor recreation opportunities, history, and culture. Along with a multitude of office assistant tasks she will also continue to help with the Developed Recreation Program. Since the original WMO Visitor's Center was tragically lost in a fire in 2010, Bethscheider will be working toward creating new interpretive displays and materials to be used at their new location. She is extremely dedicated to this task from her experiences here as a child and working at the old location since the start of her career.

Bethscheider enjoys spending her spare time helping with events in the community and at the restaurant owned by her husband, Gary. She loves spending time with Gary and their beloved "kids" in the great outdoors. The "kids" include three horses, three mules, three dogs, and three cats.





Kent Wellner Named Regional Trails and Dispersed Recreation Program Manager for the U.S. Forest Service Northern Region

Wellner is a native of, Moscow, ID, who graduated from University of Idaho in 1986 with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Forest Resources and a Masters in Fire Ecology and Silviculture in 1990.

Wellner began working seasonally for the U.S. Forest Service in 1984 for the Intermountain Research Station, which has since combined into the Rocky Mountain Research Station, as an entomological project. He started working for the Clearwater National Forest in 1985 on a Timber Sale Improvement (TSI) crew. He worked additional seasons on a stand exam crew and supervising a Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) crew.

Wellner started working full time in 1989 while in graduate school as a Cooperative Education Student in silviculture. He was converted to a full time Forester position in 1990 after completing his Master's program. He worked in the Silviculture shop as a certified Silviculturist on the Palouse Ranger District, of the Clearwater National Forest, until 1995 when he lateraled into a Recreation and Range position on the district working with another Resource Assistant. He managed the recreation and range program for the next five years until the spring of 2000.

Wellner moved to the Sopris Ranger District on the White River National Forest in Carbondale, CO, in the spring of 2000 as the Assistant District Ranger. He worked there until November of 2002 before moving to the Idaho Panhandle National Forests in Coeur d'Alene, ID, as the Recreation Program Manager and as part of the Forest Plan Revision Core Team. He occupied that position until February of 2012 when he moved into the Forest Planner chair where he worked for the rest of 2012.

In January of 2013 he moved to the Willamette National Forest in Eugene, OR, as the Recreation, Lands, Minerals, and Heritage (RLMH) Staff Officer and worked there through late January of 2016 before taking the position in Missoula, MT, as the Regional Trails Coordinator and Dispersed Recreation Program Manager.

Wellner and his wife Donna have three grown children, Dylan, Shane and Hannah.

Trent Martinez to Serve as Maintenance Supervisor at Nez Perce National Historical Park

Trent Martinez, joined the staff at Nez Perce National Historical Park earlier this year as the new Maintenance Supervisor. Martinez previously served at Minute Man National Historical Park in Concord, MA, as both an arborist and tradesperson with a focus on historic structures.

Most of his National Park service career has been spent in the Northeast Region working on historic structures and landscapes. However, he has worked on historic preservation projects in multiple locations across the United States, in places like Colorado and Texas. He has also been very involved in Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) programs.

Martinez previously worked with a National Park Service program in Boston, MA, called "Branching Out" which hires inner city youth to complete various cultural landscape projects in Northeastern area parks.



Martinez is originally from Bellingham, WA, and attended Western Washington University and missed the Northwest greatly.

He very excited to be a part of the Nez Perce National Park staff and work with the staff of the U.S. Forest Service and the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail.



How to Contact Us:

Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail

Administration

12730 Highway 12
Orofino, Idaho 83544
(208) 476-8334
smcfarland01@fs.fed.us

Nez Perce National Historic Trail

Public Affairs

PO Box 7669
200 Broadway
Missoula, MT 59807
(406) 329-3540
rmpeterson@fs.fed.us

CP Revision Coordinator

(406) 826-4352
jmolzahn@fs.fed.us

General e-mail: npnht@fs.fed.us

CP Revision e-mail: npnht-CMP-rev@fs.fed.us

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



www.fs.usda.gov/npnht

Spring Along the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail



Osprey are sure sign of spring along the NPNHT. This one was spotted recently near Riparia, WA, on the Snake River.

Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service photo



Wildflowers at the Tom McCall Preserve near Rowena, OR, in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service photo



Arrowleaf balsamroot is making a splendid showing along many parts of the NPNHT right now.

Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service photo



treadlightly!®

ON LAND AND WATER



RESPECTED
IS OPEN ACCESS

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.”

