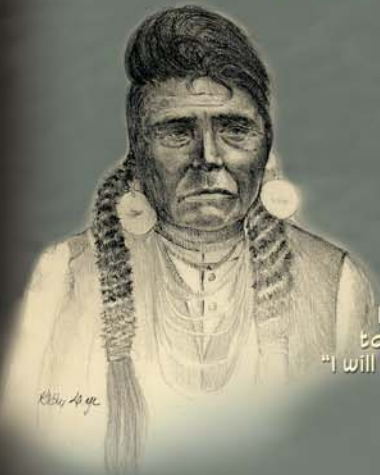


# WELCOME TO CHIEF JOSEPH CAMPGROUND



**GALLATIN**  
National Forest  
GARDINER  
RANGER DISTRICT



Named in remembrance of the legendary Nez Perce Chief Joseph and his people's unrelenting flight for freedom, this small campground was once thought to sit along the route this band of nearly 800 traveled, in their desperate effort to gain freedom in Canada, after the Battle of the Big Hole in the summer of 1877. We now know the Nez Perce, in making every attempt to avoid confrontations with white settlements, actually crossed over the Absaroka Range many miles south of here.

Look around—can you imagine this multitude of men, women, children, and at least as many horses crossing these harsh rugged mountains, effectively eluding the U.S. military who were doggedly on their heels for months? How was it possible? Think of the hardships they must have endured. Across the highway to the west of here is a monument to this epic plight, which ended with Chief Joseph's famous declaration, "I will fight no more, forever."

Clarks Fork  
Trailhead & Picnic  
Area and Flume  
Interpretive Trail



To Red Lodge  
and Cody

Watchable Wildlife  
Interpretive Trail &  
Site



Nez Perce  
National Historic Trail  
Interpretive Site



You Are  
Here



To Cooke City, 4 miles  
and Yellowstone National  
Park, 8 miles

Now that our campsite is set up...  
What can we do next?

On the other side of the highway, follow the wooded trail beyond the Nez Perce Interpretive Site. Fit your hand on the bronze paw print of a grizzly bear while you learn about the restoration work that followed the Fires of '88.

Grab your picnic basket and head across the highway to the Clarks Fork Picnic Area. Catch a glimpse of Granite Peak, Montana's highest mountain, as you enjoy this accessible site. Try your hand fishing the Clarks Fork River. Follow the Flume Trail and discover the mining history of this area during the early 1900s. Across the high bridge, the hiking trail begins... a doorway to the myriad of lakes and peaks, on the vast alpine plateau of the Beartooth Mountains.

	Toilet	
	Water	
	Trail	
	Path	

