



## Nez Perce National Historic Trail



# Summer 2007 Progress Report

### Administrator's Corner



The first signs of spring along the NPNHT are usually found in the aroma of fragrant flowers and the sight of black bears coming out from hibernation. I spent some quality days on the trail enjoying the flowering Oregon grape, service berry, syringa, Wood's rose, thimbleberry, blackberry, elderberry, grouseberry, balsam sunflower, camas, Indian paint brush, fireweed, yellowbells, cow parsnip, roundleaf alumroot, wild carrot, buttercup, false hellebore and mule's ear, to name just a few. The flowers and new growth on trees are truly a sight to behold. Yet for me it is more than just the flora and fauna that announce spring's arrival. It is the planning and all of the hard work to prepare for summer projects along the trail. As you read through this progress report you will find a number of projects that will be completed this summer and some that have already been accomplished. Again this is largely due to our wonderful partners.



I feel both sad and happy to announce that I will be leaving on a detail to the Office of Tribal Relations in Washington, DC effective May 27, 2007 through September 15, 2007. I say sad only because I will miss completing the construction of a new segment of the NPNHT on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, the dedication of our new metal silhouette at the J. Herman Reuben Building, the Chief Joseph Trail Ride from Musselshell Meadows to Packer Meadows on the Clearwater National Forest, and two youth projects with the Nez Perce Appaloosa Horse Club and Joseph Band Colville Confederated Tribes. To be given the great opportunity to serve in DC will be a good learning opportunity for me as well.

In my absence you will all be left in the very capable hands of Scott Eckberg. Some of you may know Scott from the Nez Perce National Historical Park where he is the Idaho Unit Manager.

Best Wishes for a memorable and safe summer on the NPNHT.

*Sandi McFarland*  
NPNHT Administrator





# FOREST SERVICE NEWS

## Regional Forester's Multicultural Organization Award

In 2007, Tom Sandberg, Idaho Panhandle National Forest Archaeologist and Richard Broncheau, Nez Perce Tribal representative and camp director for the American Indian Intertribal Youth Camp, received the Regional Forester's Multicultural Organization Award. For nearly two decades, the American Indian Intertribal Youth Camp has bridged the gap of time and traditions among five Northwest Indian tribes and five National Forests. This successful collaboration builds mutual respect and appreciation for the challenges of natural resource management. Carefully crafted educational opportunities and on-the-ground volunteer projects encourage participants to claim ownership and pride.

The camp's mission is to provide a fun, hands-on learning environment that allows campers the opportunity to see and experience first-hand what our natural resource technicians and professionals do. Both the Tribes and the Forest Service can recruit young people into developmental career paths in natural resource management.



Tom Sandberg, Idaho Panhandle National Forest Archaeologist, Tom Tidwell, Northern Region Regional Forester, and Richard Broncheau, Nez Perce Tribe.



Fish survey participants.

The Tribes sponsoring volunteer agreements allow participants to work on actual Forest Service projects. Projects include hydrology and fisheries related work (step structure reconstruction of egg collection facility, stream surveys and data collection, stream flow studies, and electro-fishing); forestry related work (tree identification and health, tree planting, white pine pruning, seed orchard irrigation system, and timber sale layout); wildlife work (nesting box construction and placement and habitat studies); recreation work (trail and road clearing and brushing, campground boardwalk construction, and campground sign placement and installation); and fire management work.

The NPNHT supports this intertribal youth camp.

## Clearwater National Forest Announces New Tribal Liaison

Christine Bradbury, NPNHT Public Affairs Officer, was offered and accepted the position of Tribal Liaison for the Payette, Nez Perce, and Clearwater National Forests.

Christine has extensive experience working with the Nez Perce Tribe, both in her NPNHT position and her former position assisting with watershed restoration working closely with Tribal watershed and fisheries program staff.

The NPNHT will miss Christine's hard work and can-do attitude. Thanks Christine for a job well done.



Christine Bradbury

## FY 2007 Budget

The NPNHT received \$610,000 for fiscal year 2007. In previous years this money was earmarked, however this year there are no earmarks.

This year we did something a little different, we took in project proposals and these proposals were reviewed and prioritized by an interagency team which consisted of Scott Eckberg, Nez Perce National Historical Park, NPS; Susan Sawyer, Dworshak Fisheries Complex, USFWS; David Sisson, Cottonwood Field Office, BLM and Kathy Thompson, Clearwater National Forest, USFS. We received 17 project proposals for \$229,582.74. When we finally received our budget in April, we worked with other managing agencies to identify priority work and to determine their budget shortfalls. The remaining money was earmarked for cooperative cost share projects.

## Comprehensive Management Plan

USFS Enterprise Team, Recreation Solutions, has begun the complex process of revising the NPNHT Comprehensive Plan. The original plan signed in 1991 needs to be updated to include modern management challenges, trail threats, interpretive plans and partnership strategies. This will be a multi-phased project. Using information gathered from internal agency scoping, Rec Solutions will first develop a communication strategy and timeline for working with communities and stakeholders along the NPNHT. Stay abreast of developments as they will be posted on <http://www.fs.fed.us/npnht/news>.

## Challenge Cost Share Program

Last year the NPNHT initiated a new Challenge Cost Share Program. This program will be used again to determine those projects that will be funded in 2008. There have been some changes, so please visit our website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/npnht/partners> or contact Scott Eckberg, acting NPNHT Administrator at 208.476.8334 or [seckberg@fs.fed.us](mailto:seckberg@fs.fed.us). Deadline for proposals is October 1, 2007.

# Idaho Governor's Conference on Recreation & Tourism

The 2007 Idaho Governor's Conference on Recreation and Tourism was held at the Coeur d'Alene Casino near Worley, Idaho from May 8-10. The theme for this year's conference was "Finding Your Niche in the 21st Century," and there were many exciting workshops that provoked insightful discussion. Data suggests most travelers come to Idaho in search of unique outdoor opportunities. Idaho merchants were eager to learn of the NPNHT and interpretive resources. Christine Bradbury represented the NPNHT by staffing our booth.

## 7th Annual Weippe Camas Festival

The 7th Annual Weippe Camas Festival was held May 25-27, 2007 in Weippe, Idaho. Activities included a dutch oven cookoff at the Weippe Discovery Center, multiple demonstrations, and programs including "Trails Then!" by Christine Bradbury, NPNHT Public Affairs Officer, "Camas History and Appreciation" by Gwen Carter, and Saturday's Fun Run and Horseshoe Tournament.

The NPNHT also helped judge the Camas Festival Art Contest for Weippe and Pierce Elementary students. Winners were Christine Mowery of Pierce and Cortny Jared of Weippe, 2nd place recipients were Tristan Lee Bonner of Pierce and Wyatt Matthes of Weippe and 3rd place ribbons went to Lacey Dawn Bonner of Pierce and Nicholas David Umphenour of Weippe.

## 9th Annual Lewis & Clark Symposium:

Historically, the Corps of Discovery story has been told from the point of view of Meriwether Lewis, William Clark and other members of the Corps. The role of the Nez Perce people, has not been fully developed. The meeting that occurred two centuries ago between the two cultures is a complex topic with multiple perspectives worthy of exploration, discussion and reflection. Lewis-Clark State College provides a forum to explore both stories in the land of the Nez Perce.

The Symposium, June 20-22, 2007 hosted by Lewis-Clark State College in partnership with the Nez Perce Tribe and Nez Perce National Historical Park, was a cooperative effort of national scholars, teachers, artisans, local experts and historical groups whom jointly share their knowledge of history and ethnology.

The NPNHT staffed a booth at the Nez Perce National Historical Park Visitor Center at Spalding, Idaho.

The 9th Annual  
Lewis & Clark Symposium

**Lewis & Clark**  
Among the  
Nez Perce

JUNE 21 - 22, 2007  
2007 KEYNOTE SPEAKER  
**David Nicandri**  
*Director, Washington State Historical Society  
& Author*

PERFORMANCE BY  
**Jack Gladstone &  
Rob Quist**

**Odyssey  
West**

www.lcsc.edu/symposium  
208.792.2447 800.394.4189

Lewis-Clark  
STATE  
COLLEGE  
Continuing  
Education  
Community  
Events

# Orofino Elementary First Grade Fun Day

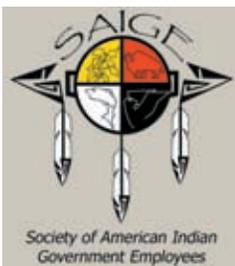
Christine Bradbury, acting NPNHT Administrator, spent the afternoon of June 3, 2007 playing hoop and stick game with approximately 80 first graders. Carolyn Steiner, NPNHT Information and Education Specialist, was creating havoc with her friend Marco, the lynx. Carolyn has been doing a wildlife pelt presentation for the past 5 years and is frequently requested by the teachers. Carolyn's goal is to give the kids a very hands-on experience.



Mrs. Victorine's class gets a very hands-on experience during the pelt presentation.



Mrs. Victorine's class participates in a wet hoop and stick game.



The Society of American Indian Government Employees was formed to promote recruitment, hiring, retention, development and advancement of American Indians and Alaska Natives in the government workforce, and assist our respective agency in fulfilling the Federal Trust Responsibility.

The 2007 National Training Conference was held June 25-29, 2007 at the Loews Ventana Canyon Hotel, Tucson, Arizona.

Sandi McFarland attended as a moderator for the "Skill Development through Volunteering/Community Service" session and the "Honoring our Warriors" award ceremony.

Corps of Discovery Canoe at the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, DC. Tom Eier is shown pulling the canoe as Sergeant Ordway and Sandi McFarland riding in it.





# NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NEWS

## Big Hole National Battlefield

The staff at Big Hole National Battlefield, in conjunction with Nez Perce tribal representatives, has begun a review of interpretive programs, efforts, and media to ensure representation of Nez Perce perspectives of the events of 1877. The staff is also currently working with Nez Perce tribal representatives and staff members from Nez Perce National Historical Park to recreate the trail guide and update the museum exhibit space.

Photos by Robert West depict camas growing in the 1877 Nez Perce village site at the Big Hole National Battlefield.



## Bear Paw Battlefield

Pat Chapin has been hired as the new permanent Park Ranger at Bear Paw battlefield replacing Robert West, who transferred to Big Hole National Battlefield. Pat will be at the battlefield in time for the summer visitor season. Jim Magera has again returned as a summer Park Ranger.

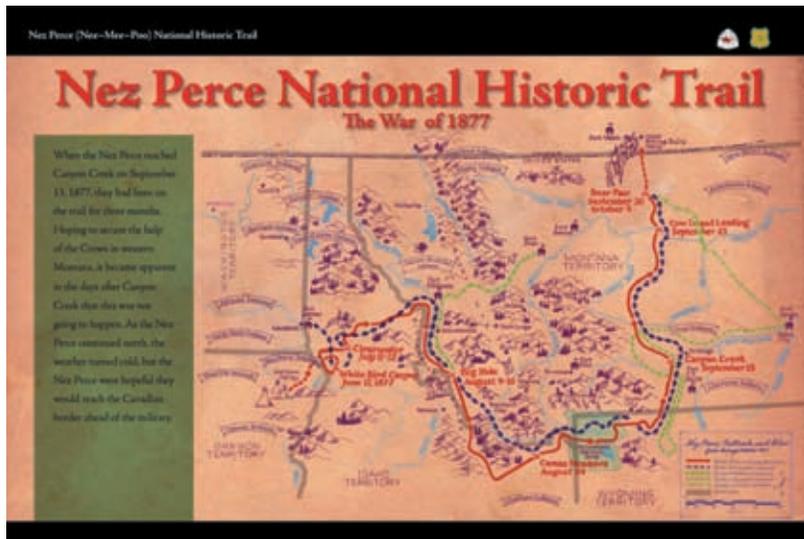
The Blaine County Museum, at 501 Indiana in Chinook, continues to serve as the remote site's interim visitor center.

A Travelers Information Station (TIS) is expected to be installed in Chinook this year. This radio transmitter will broadcast on AM radio and will provide travelers on U.S. Highway 2 with orientation information about the battlefield. This project was made possible by the Friends of Big Hole, Bear Paw, & Canyon Creek Battlefields and the City of Chinook.

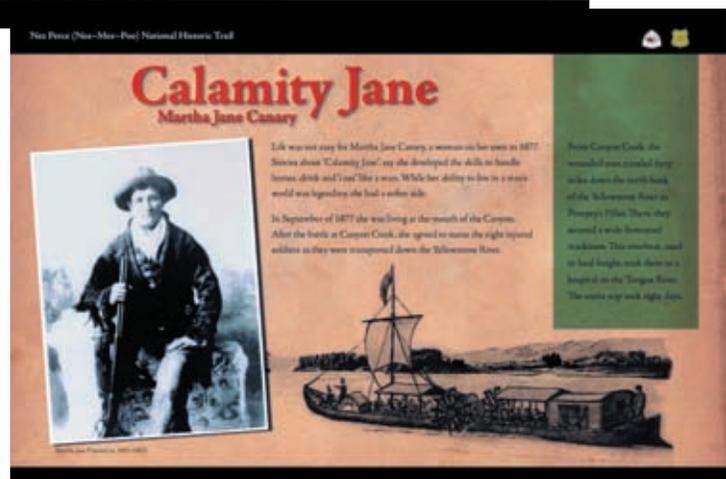
## Interpretation in Yellowstone National Park

The National Park Service is charged with the dual missions of protecting and interpreting significant cultural resources. Over 350 miles of the NPNHT lie within Yellowstone Park and is the only congressionally designated resource in the park. In an effort to fulfill those missions, Yellowstone Park managers have collected a significant volume of oral histories, archival materials, maps and photographs about the Nez Perce Flight in the park. This summer an interagency agreement between the NPNHT and Yellowstone National Park will allow for these materials to be read and coded. Once these materials have been organized Yellowstone will be able to provide access to them. The Yellowstone interpretive staff will fabricate and produce the final park media for the NPNHT.

# Canyon Creek Visitor Kiosk



The NPNHT and the Nez Perce National Historical Park are cooperating to install several new interpretive wayside panels at Canyon Creek this summer. The following are images of these three panels. If you would like further information about this project please contact Jason Lyon, Nez Perce National Historical Park at 208.843.7017.



# Nez Perce National Historical Park

The following is a schedule for the Nez Perce National Historical Park Summer Programs: July 13 to September 4, 2007. The Spalding Visitor Center is open every day from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Admission is free.

Daily programs include tipi pitching at 9:00 am and ranger programs at 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, and 3:00 pm, join the park staff as they share the stories and legacies of the Nez Perce people and culture. "Portrait of a People" tells the story of the Nez Perce people and is shown throughout the day and is closed captioned and audio described.

Throughout the summer the park will be offering special programs. For specific times, please visit the park's web site at <http://www.nps.gov/nepe> for more information or call the park at (208) 843-7001. These include:

--**July 13-14: Wolf Education and Research Center.**

--**July 20-21: Atlatl workshop.** Try your hand at an ancient spear thrower used by the Nez Perce.

--**July 27-28: Trish Carter, National Congress of the American Indian** will share her experiences with Indian youth as well as with homeless .

--**August 9: Dworshak Fishery Complex,** US Fish and Wildlife Service will provide a program for the entire family on the Incredible Journey of the Salmon as they migrate down river to the sea.

--**August 10-11: Rawhide Program.** Learn what rawhide was used for and watch Kevin Peters make a parfleche.

--**August 17: Rene Russler, Whitman Mission NHS.** Rene Russler, a ranger at Whitman Mission NHS in Walla Walla, will explore the Whitman's and the feelings of their Indian neighbors.

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## Ordway's Nez Perce Village

Historians have speculated for years about the route that Lewis and Clark Expedition members Sergeant John Ordway, Robert Frazer and Peter Weise took when they were sent to catch some fish in the spring of 1806. Based on Ordway's journal, historians suspected the men left Long Camp near Kamiah, Idaho and climbed a steep ridge to the Camas Prairie before reaching a Nez Perce village on the Salmon River. The men arrived ahead of the salmon run, so they headed for another site on the Snake River, guided by Chief Twisted Hair. They traded for salmon here but sadly did not cook it before making the return trip.

Steve Russell, an expert on historic trails from Iowa, started searching for the route taken by Ordway. He realized the topography of Wapshilla, and Cottonwood Creeks and the Big Cougar Bar were the same as described in Ordway's journals

This year a team of archaeologists led by Ken Reid, Idaho Historical Preservation Office began excavating the site. They have found clues that a longhouse stood there during the same time as Ordway would have been there and matches his description

# Nez Perce Trail Foundation

## Nez Perce Trail Foundation Holds Spring Board Meeting In Salmon, Idaho



On May 11, 2007 the Board of Directors of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation held its Spring Board meeting at the Sacajawea Interpretive Cultural & Education Center.

The Wallowa project will be completed and dedication will be mid-July 2007. Final report and plans for the Sacajawea Byway Kiosk at Birch Creek will be presented at a public meeting in June. The Big Hole project will be completed and dedicated in September.

President Charlie Moses reported on the status of the Foundation and what he was looking forward to this coming year. Membership stands at 123 members and is growing. The projects and funding from the NPNHT was presented to the membership. President Moses thanked the NPNHT for continuing the working relationship that the Foundation and NPNHT have developed over this past year and hoped to continue and expand that relationship.

## Big Hole Trailhead Project

The Nez Perce Trail Foundation is partnering with the Wisdom Ranger District, Big Hole National Battlefield, Salmon River and Hamilton Backcountry Horsemen to construct a developed trailhead on the western boundary of the Big Hole National Battlefield. The Foundation will be rebuilding the west boundary gate, installing horse hitching posts and selecting text for an interpretive panel.

## 2007 Nez Perce Ride to Freedom

The Nez Perce Trail Foundation and Appaloosa Horse Club of Canada once again sponsored the "Nez Perce Ride to Freedom." This was a three-day historical event June 29 - July 1, honoring the Nez Perce people who fled from the Bear Paw Battlefield in 1877 seeking refuge in Canada. The ride was about a 20-mile roundtrip with a program at Fort Walsh. We hope to have a follow up article with pictures in our Fall 2007 Progress Report.

## 2007 Nez Perce Trail Foundation Annual Meeting & Site Dedication

The Nez Perce Trail Foundation is proud to announce their annual meeting and site dedication. The meeting will be held at the Best Western Rama Inn, Enterprise, Oregon, July 20-21. For more information visit <http://nezpercetrail.net> or contact Jim Evans at 208.940.0053.

# Kids

## 10th Annual Preparing for Academic Excellence (PACE) Math & Science Camp

The Nez Perce Tribe's Environmental Restoration & Waste Management (ERWM) program has scheduled the 10th Annual PACE Camp for July 16-27 at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho. This two-week camp is for students who are entering the 8th or 9th grade, and the primary goal of PACE is to prepare students to succeed in math and science. The camp is open to any student interested with preference given to Nez Perce and other Native American youth.

Students come from dozens of northwest tribes to prepare for high school science and algebra classes. For the past four years the NPNHT and Clearwater National Forest Heritage staffs have joined forces to provide the 30 students, their high school teachers and college counselors with hands-on activities to apply math and science skills.

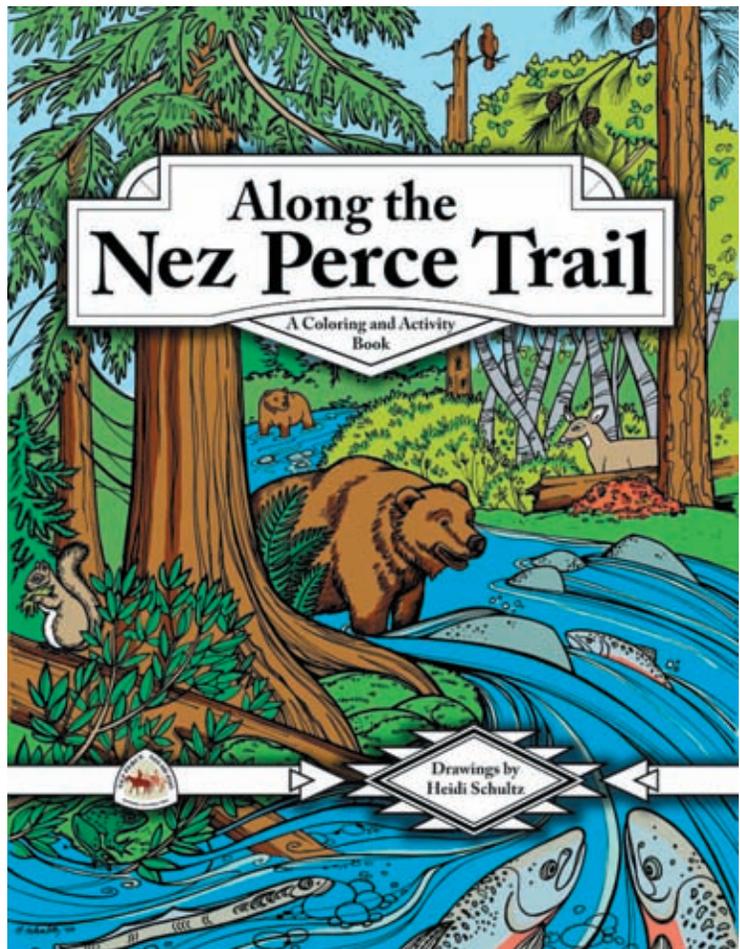
For more information visit <http://www.nezperce.org/%7Eerwm/pace.html>.

### “Along the Nez Perce Trail:” A Coloring & Activity Book

We are proud to announce that our 44 page Coloring and Activity Book, “Along the Nez Perce Trail,” is now available to the public. This coloring book highlights Nez Perce language, Nimípuutimt, as well as animals that can be found along the Nez Perce Trail. Activities include a maze, a word search, and matching games.

The book was designed by Heritage Design and illustrations are by Heidi Schultz. We would like to thank elders of the Nez Perce Tribe who helped with spelling and pronunciation.

If you are interested in obtaining a coloring book, please contact Carolyn Steiner at 208.476.8227 or email at [cssteiner@fs.fed.us](mailto:cssteiner@fs.fed.us).



# Announcements

## 2007 Poster

Our 2007 NPNHT poster is in DRAFT stages. This year the poster is being designed by the Nez Perce Tribe's Cultural Resource Department thanks to a participating agreement with the Nez Perce Tribe.

## Wallowa-Whitman Auto Tour Brochure

Our Wallowa-Whitman Auto Tour Brochure that we introduced in DRAFT stages last summer is available to the public. The brochure is also available on our website, but please be patient as it is a large file. If you are interested in obtaining a copy, please contact Carolyn Steiner at 208.476.8227 or email at [cssteiner@fs.fed.us](mailto:cssteiner@fs.fed.us).

## 2007 Chief Joseph Trail Ride

The Chief Joseph Trail Ride has been considered one of the most historical trail rides in the U.S. today. Since 1964 the ride has retraced, as closely as possible, the 1,350-mile trek the Nez Perce and their Appaloosas took during their flight from the U.S. Cavalry in 1877. The August 5-11, 2007 ride starts at the Mussellshell Work Center and will follow the "Road to the Buffalo" of the Nez Perce near the Lolo Motorway, with termination at the Wendover campsite. This year tenting is required as the Clearwater National Forest has put a limitation on the number of support vehicles. For more information visit <http://www.appaloosa.com/trail/2007TrailRides.htm>.

## Fire Season Comes to the NPNHT

We have already had one 3,660 acre fire in the vicinity of the NPNHT on the Gallatin National Forest called the Madison Arm Fire near West Yellowstone, Montana.

Where fires are permitted use established fire rings.  
Keep fires small and use only dead and down wood.  
Burn all wood to ash. Make sure your fire is dead out!

