



# NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

*Progress Report*

Winter 2011



## Administrator's Corner

Imagine the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT). From one vantage point you see only clear rivers and mountain streams and from another point visions of heavily forested areas, high mountain peaks, narrow gorges, and open prairie lands. By looking from different viewpoints, one finds a broader knowledge and perspective of the Trail. The action of looking through different perspectives enables us to explore an issue, a challenge, or an opportunity, from many different angles and directions. This process encourages visions and is very common for our partners, tribes, sister agencies, volunteers and the public.



I see the NPNHT and its mission from many vantage points. Protecting the Trail is a great responsibility entrusted to us to remember the past, and a charge to preserve, interpret, and educate the public of the values and the unique history of the Trail. We have many means to bring about what is expected of us. These include our valued partners, volunteers, agencies and tribes. The most prominent aspect I see is the people and their personal resolve of past and present to protect and preserve the Trail.



L-R: Charlie Moses Jr. accepts award from Trail Administrator Sandi McFarland for his service as President of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation

The expectations are high, but I know that we have the people, the resources, and the commitment to make it happen. We seek to make honest assessments of what works and doesn't work along with what we know and what we don't know, in order to build a solid foundation for protecting the Trail.

Only by working together will our resources, abilities, and knowledge be sufficient in preserving this important treasure. With a solid foundation of cultural wisdom, a desire to honor the Trail, and the highest quality people working toward this goal, we will succeed. I encourage you all to engage with us as we enter into our Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) revision process which will lead us to our new CMP for the NPNHT. See more information on page 3. Please visit our website to stay informed of upcoming CMP events. Thank you,

*Sandi McFarland* Administrator NPNHT



## Friend of the Nez Perce Trail Passes

### Frank B. Andrews

February 24, 1923 – September 22, 2010



Frank dedicated his life to his family, his church, and to the Nez Perce Tribe. Born into a Nez Perce family that was proud of their heritage he learned the language, customs, stories, and songs of the old people. He proudly served in the United States Army during the Second World War in the European Theater. He landed on Normandy Beach and served under General Patton. Upon his return he entered the old long house singing the old war dance song of the warriors returning from war.

Frank had a son Frank, Jr. from his first wife Martha Starr, a member of the Kootenai and Blackfeet Tribe from Elmo, MT, and a daughter Shireen from his second wife Mearle Lou Wilson, a descendent of the Apache Tribe. Frank worked at various jobs and finally settled down and worked for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, a job he retired from. Frank was community spirited and served as Mayor of Nespelem and on the Nespelem School Board.

Frank became a Christian and gave up all his Indian clothing, war dance regalia, and his elk hide drum, much like the Nez Perce did when they gave up the old ways and were Christianized by Reverend Spalding. After several years of learning the religion, Frank became pastor of the Pentecostal Church on the Hill in Nespelem, WA. He served the Lord until his death. He was asked to open many meetings with a prayer in Nez Perce.

He was a historian of the Nez Perce people and of the Nez Perce War. He went to all of the commemorative services at White Bird, Big Hole, and Bear Paws. At each site he prayed, interpreted what happened, and gave accounts of many of the warriors. His knowledge came from accounts told to him by participants of the War who lived in Nespelem and his relatives in Idaho. He was respectful of all accounts of the War but insisted that it be the truth.

Frank was buried in the Nez Perce Cemetery, Nespelem, WA.

*“We, the surviving Nez Percés, want to leave our hearts, memories, hallowed presence as a never ending revelation to the story of the event of 1877. These trails will live in our hearts.*

*We want to thank all who visit these sacred trails, that they will share our innermost feelings. Because their journey makes this an important time for the present, past and future.”*

-Frank B. Andrews, Nez Perce descendant

## Public Encouraged to Participate in Workshops on Future Administration of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail

During the next year managers along the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) will host a number of workshops and ask for public input on a variety of topics related to the administration of the Trail.

The next sessions in this [series of workshops](#) is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, 2011, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Main Hall room 218 on the campus of the University of Montana Western in Dillon, MT. This meeting will be hosted by staff from the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest and the NPNHT. The next evening on March 10, 2011, staff from the BLM Upper Snake Field Office will host a workshop at their office, located at 1405 Hollipark Drive, in Idaho Falls, ID, again from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For those of you who might have missed the Missoula workshop in early December and for our friends in the Bitterroot Valley a workshop will also be held at the Bitterroot National Forest Supervisors office in Hamilton, MT, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday March 31, 2011.

Planning is also underway for workshops in Spokane, Nespelem, WA and Kamiah/Orofino, and Lewiston, ID during the month of April.

On October 6, 1986, Congress amended the National Trails System Act of 1968 to include the 1,170 mile Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT). The Regional Forester of the Northern Region is delegated the responsibility from the Chief of the Forest Service for the administration of the NPNHT in cooperation with other affected Federal Agencies.

The 1990 CMP successfully established the start-up of the Trail which was the major focus for the Plan at that time. Action is needed now to revise the current Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) for the NPNHT because the CMP is more than 20 years old. The CMP needs to be revised to meet future management challenges, address changed conditions, and embrace new opportunities to lead the management of the Trail into the 21st Century. Information gathered at these [workshops](#), as well as written public comment, will be used to help managers develop the purpose and need for action for the CMP revision.

The Trail commemorates the 1877 Flight of the non-treaty Nez Perce from their homelands while being pursued by the U.S. Army under the command of General Oliver Otis Howard. The journey of the Nez Perce from their homelands is one of the most fascinating and sorrowful events in U.S. history. The Nez Perce Chiefs saw flight to Canada as their last hope for peace. Their desperate and circuitous route is today called the [Nez Perce National Historic Trail](#). It stretches from Wallowa Lake, OR, to the Bear Paw Battlefield near Chinook, MT.

The Trail was also a prehistoric travel corridor for a number of tribes traveling from the Pacific Northwest to the buffalo hunting grounds on the Great Plains.

For additional information please visit the NPNHT CMP Revision website at: [www.fs.fed.us/npnht/cmp/](http://www.fs.fed.us/npnht/cmp/). This website provides more information about the NPNHT, the process for the revision of the CMP, a schedule of upcoming workshops, and an additional means to provide written comment if people are unable to attend one of the scheduled workshops, **a comment form is provided in this newsletter.**

### NPNHT Website Moving to new USDA Web Portal Template

The French author Francois de la Rochefoucauld is famous for saying “the only thing in life that is constant is change.” That holds true for the NPNHT which will soon make the transition to the new USDA Forest Service national template. If you have visited the sites of other National Forests along the Trail you have gotten a glimpse of the new look and feel. Some of the Forests that have recently converted include the Beaverhead-Deerlodge, Bitterroot, Lolo, and Nez Perce. The Trail website will transition to the new template later this winter. You will still find the information you are used to obtaining from the Trail and we hope that some of the new features like the photo gallery will help provide additional information to website visitors. The current website address/URL will continue to redirect for several months.



## Nez Perce National Historic Trail Releases Auto Tour 7: Yellowstone National Park to Canyon Creek

The staff of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) is proud to announce the release of the next publication in the family of Auto Tour brochures relating the NPNHT. This brochure has been in development for more than a year. We have received great feedback and would like to thank all those who commented and helped to make this a user friendly brochure which will help guide visitors along the Trail for years to come. Also thanks to the staff at *Recreation Solutions* for helping create another outstanding product to help visitors experience the NPNHT story.

The brochure is currently available as a download from the Trail website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/npnht/autotours/>

This brochure has been sent to the printer and hard copies should be available in early March. If you would like copies, please contact Trail Public Affairs Specialist Roger Peterson at (406) 329-3540 or [rmpeterson@fs.fed.us](mailto:rmpeterson@fs.fed.us)

Trail staff is currently working on the final two brochures in the NPNHT Auto Tour family of publications. We are entering the second comment phase of the brochure for Auto Tour segment six through Yellowstone National Park and hope to release the final brochure sometime this summer. Development has also begun on the final brochure in the series from Canyon Creek to Bear Paw. We hope start the comment period on this by the spring for release before the end of the year.



## Trails Annual Poster Available Soon



The next installment in NPNHT Annual Posters will be available by the end of February, 2011. This year's full color poster entitled "Traditions Linking Today and Tomorrow" features the images of a number of Nez Perce women and youth. The posters are scheduled to arrive from the printer by the end of February.

If you are interested in obtaining a copy, please contact Trail Public Affairs Specialist Roger Peterson at (406) 329-3540 or [rmpeterson@fs.fed.us](mailto:rmpeterson@fs.fed.us)

## Nez Perce National Historic Trail Staff Set to Unveil New Trail Brochure

The NPNHT will be soon be releasing a revised version of the Trail's general brochure. The current edition has been in existence for more than 10 years, and the staff and partners felt it was time to update the brochure and to also include more information about those Nez Perce who escaped to Canada, were exiled in Kansas and Oklahoma, and the interment of Red Heart's Band at Fort Vancouver in Washington Territory.

The brochure also features the photography of Northwest artist Harold Pfeiffer and several agency photographers as well as a number of historic images.

The new brochure folds into a format the same size as the current Trail Auto Tour brochures, which should make it easier to display in brochure racks.

Again, thanks to the staff from *Recreation Solutions*, Nez Perce National Historic Park, Nez Perce Tribe, Nez Perce Trail Foundation, and other partners for helping create this outstanding product to help share the Trail story.

A downloadable version will be available on the Trail's new website which will launch in late February 2011.

This brochure is currently at the printer and hard copies should be available in early March. If you would like copies, please contact Trail Public Affairs Specialist Roger Peterson at (406) 329-3540 or [rmpeterson@fs.fed.us](mailto:rmpeterson@fs.fed.us)



## American Hiking Society Launches Photo Contest



American Hiking Society is starting an ongoing photo contest for the most nature-y, beautiful, fun, and family-oriented pictures you have taken. The winner(s) will have their picture published in an upcoming issue of *American Hiker* magazine or may even see it on the cover!

Submit your favorite pictures for these contest categories: (1) Families on Foot, (2) Trails and Hiking (3) Nature, and (4) Seasons. Read the official rules and download the entry form today at:

[www.americanhiking.org](http://www.americanhiking.org)

## **Pinkhams Share Nez Perce Oral Traditions as Part of Traveler’s Rest State Park Winter Storytellers Series**

On a cold and icy day in early January more than 75 people braved treacherous conditions to hear Josiah Pinkman speak about Nez Perce traditions. Those who made the trek were rewarded with a number of traditional stories, including the creation of the Big Dipper constellation, how the Nez Perce people discovered what was to later become known as the Lolo Trail with the help of a Grizzly Bear, and how Fire came to the Nez Perce.

Mr. Pinkham also displayed a number of traditionally Nez Perce handcrafted items, including a shell necklace, clothing, a rawhide parfleche bag, a bowcase and quiver made from a mountain lion hide, and a tomahawk carried by Black Eagle during the 1877 War.

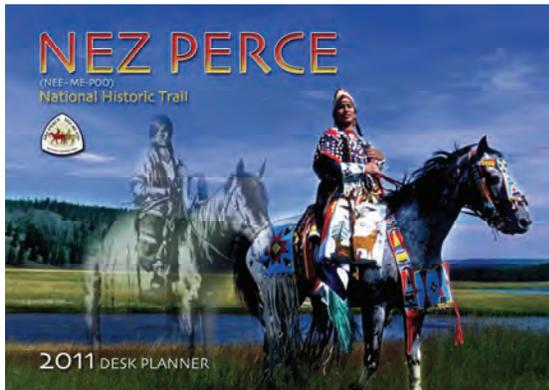
On Saturday, February 19, 2011, Allan Pinkham (Josiah’s father) will be the featured speaker and will present several Nez Perce stories.

Presentations are from 11 a.m. - noon at the Holt Museum and Visitor Center at the Park in Lolo, MT. Admission to each program is \$3 per adult; youth under 18 and all 2011 Travelers’ Rest Preservation and Heritage Association (TRPHA) members are admitted free.

The 8<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.travelersrest.org) and a complete list of all the presenters in this year’s Storyteller’s series, contact the Park at 406-273-4253 or visit them online at: [www.travelersrest.org](http://www.travelersrest.org).



Josiah Pinkham tells stories and shares traditionally handcrafted items at Travelers Rest State Park.



## **2011 Nez Perce National Historic Trail Desk Planners Distributed**

The annual desk planner arrived just before the holidays and just as quickly the 5,000 Planners went back out the door and up on walls across the region, country, and even several requests from overseas.

Thanks again to the staff of *Recreation Solutions* who helped with design, layout, and printing; Angel Sobotta of the Nez Perce Language Program who provided Nez Perce names for inclusion in the Planner; and Wilfred

“Scotty” Scott from the [Nez Perce Tribe](http://www.nezperce.com) who provided information on the annual commemorations.

This year’s Planner features the work of a number of photographers. Thanks goes out to everyone for all the help given to produce a high quality product which shares the story of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail with a wide audience.



## **\$100,000 in Challenge Cost Share Grants Approved for Funding**

Providing workshops for educators, charting the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) in northwestern Wyoming, creating museum exhibits, and developing online tools to tell the story of the NPNHT are among the \$100,000 in grants recently approved by Trail Administrator Sandi McFarland.

McFarland recently approved six applications along with operational funds for the Nez Perce Trail Foundation.

“The Trail benefits from these strong partnerships and we appreciate all these people have done for the Trail. We strongly hope that other organizations will consider submitting Challenge Cost Share grants applications in the future,” said McFarland.

This past fall the Administration of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail again encouraged Challenge Cost Share proposals for projects designed to improve and enhance the visitor’s experience along the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT).

The submitted projects were reviewed by a panel of staff from Forest Service, National Park Service, BLM, and US Fish and Wildlife Service units along the entire length of the Trail. Based on feedback from this panel the Trail Administrator has announced that \$100,000 in Challenge Cost Share funds will be made available to complete a range of projects.

For additional information on the Trail Challenge Cost Share Program please contact Sandi McFarland, Trail Administrator at (208) 476-8334.



### **UPCOMING Events:**

- Trails Advocacy Week (Feb. 12-17) is your chance to promote and protect our nation's system of trails by developing your advocacy skills, and getting up to speed on important legislative and policy issues. More information at: [www.americanhiking.org/](http://www.americanhiking.org/)
- February 19, 2011 — Nez Perce Stories, presentation, Traverler’s Rest State Park, Lolo, MT
- March 9, 2011—Nez Perce NHT [CMP Revision Public Workshop](#), Montana Western, Dillon, MT
- March 10, 2011—Nez Perce NHT [CMP Revision Public Workshop](#), BLM Office, Idaho Falls, ID
- March 31, 2011—Nez Perce NHT [CMP Revision Public Workshop](#), Bitterroot NF, Hamilton, MT
- Spring 2011 — Additional Nez Perce NHT [CMP Revision Public Workshops](#), see Trail website
- May 14 to 18, 2011, [13th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails](#), Abingdon, VA
- National Trails Day, Saturday, June 4, 2011
- Fee Free Days at Yellowstone National Park:
  - April 16-24 (National Park Week)
  - June 21 (First day of summer)



## University of San Diego Offering Nez Perce Trail Professional Development Course for Educators

The University of San Diego will once again offer a course to educators interested in learning more about the Nez Perce National Historic Trail.

There are two parts to this course which can be taken separately or together. The first session starts in the Wallow Country of Oregon. This course focuses on Nez Perce culture and events of the 1877 War and Flight leading up to the Big Hole battle.

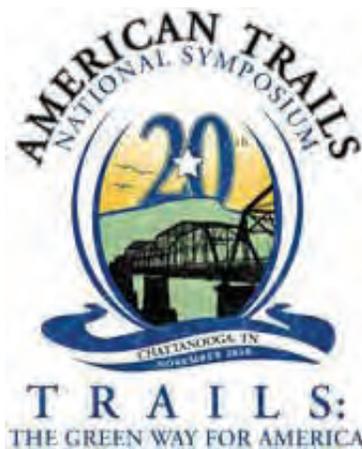
The second session, which is co-sponsored by the Nez Perce Trail Foundation through a Challenge Cost Share grant from the NPNHT, concentrates on the Nez Perce and their experiences in Yellowstone Park in 1877 as well as the flora, fauna, and fascinating geology of the region.

Instructors are hoping that more educators from the Northwest and Rocky Mountain regions will take part in these sessions. For more information contact the Nez Perce Foundation, Duane Heglie with the University of San Diego, visit the Universities website, see link below, or see the flyer on the next page of this newsletter.

Course link: <http://www.usd-online.org/areacourses.aspx?id=56>



## American Trails National Symposium 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



The Trail Administrator attended the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Trails Symposium held in Chattanooga, Tennessee, November 14-17, 2010. The Symposium's theme, Trails: The Green Way for America, evoked the benefit of trails to America's economy and environment.

The Trail Administration maintained a display with literature and personnel to answer questions and visit with symposium visitors. She also attended meetings on the National Trails Training Partnership. The NPNHT is a sponsor of this symposium. The symposium included valuable workshops on Building Horse Trails the right way and sessions such as How to engage youth in the design, construction, and operations, and getting them out on the trail to How to evaluate and build trails that accommodate users of all ages.

The closing keynote speaker was Dayton Duncan, who spoke on Celebrating our Public lands: A Legacy for our future and Our Kids! His speech provided in-depth insight to how we can inspire and recruit our youth to be trail leaders tomorrow.



### FOLLOWING THE NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

Experience the beauty and splendor of the ancestral land of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) people. You will explore and experience the rich history and culture of these first people, while car camping along a portion of this historic and sacred trail. The trail stretches from Oregon's Wallowa Valley to the plains of north central Montana, (approx. 1,200 miles). Our class will begin in Wallowa, Oregon with participation in the annual 3-day Tamkaliks celebration where you'll experience traditional Nez Perce ceremonies, dancing and a friendship feast. From Wallowa we'll continue our journey into central Idaho touring the Whitebird and Clearwater Battlefields. Following the Lolo trail east, we'll continue south through the Bitterroot Valley and conclude our journey at the Big Hole Battlefield in western Montana.

- What:** An informative car camping journey  
**Where:** Oregon, Idaho & Montana  
**When:** July 22-29, 2011  
**Course:** 3 semester units –Division of Continuing Education USD  
**Cost:** \$425/ 3-units (not including camping fees). You may bring a companion for an additional \$275.  
Required book: Chief Joseph & the Flight of the Nez Perce by Kent Nerburn  
Yellow Wolf, His Own Story by L.V McWhorter

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### NEZ PERCE IN YELLOWSTONE

The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo), National Historic Trail stretches from Wallowa Lake Oregon, through Idaho and Yellowstone Park, ending at the Bear Paw Battlefield near Chinook, Montana. During their epic journey, the Nez Perce were in Yellowstone for approximately two weeks. This course will emphasize and explore many little known Nez Perce Trail sites within the park boundaries. While day hiking, students will also have the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of our nation's first national park. The diverse flora and fauna within the park along with its famous geological features will make for an educational and memorable experience.

- What:** An informative camping and day hiking course  
**Where:** Yellowstone National Park (Canyon Village Campground)  
**When:** August 1 –5, 2011  
**Course:** 3 semester units –Division of Continuing Education USD  
**Cost:** \$400 / 3-unit class (does not include camping fees). You may bring a companion for \$250.  
Required book: Nez Perce Summer, 1877 by Jerome A. Greene

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Helpful websites: [www.fs.fed.us/npnht](http://www.fs.fed.us/npnht)  
[www.nezperctrail.net](http://www.nezperctrail.net)  
[www.nps.gov/yell](http://www.nps.gov/yell)  
[www.wallowanezperce.net](http://www.wallowanezperce.net)

\*\*Please contact instructor prior to registering. Duane Heglie (916-933-1368)\*\*



## Nez Perce Appaloosa Horse Club 2010 Activities in Review

**May 2010** - Jon and Rosa Yearout spoke to a 6th grade class from St. George school, Spokane, WA, covering information about the Nez Perce Trail. 45 students and chaperones attended.

**June 2010** - Jon and Rosa Yearout spoke during the Nez Perce Tribe's memorial at White Bird. Approximately 25 people were in attendance.

**July 2010** - Nez Perce Appaloosa Horse Club (NPApHC) President Emmit Taylor spoke to an estimated 200 Chief Joseph Trail Riders (CJTR) on two separate days. He spoke again to about 25 of our NPApHC members and friends at our campsite. He talked about the Trail, and what happened at Big Hole, and the trails that we were following this year for the CJTR that started in the Big Hole Valley and ended at Leadore, ID.

**July 2010** – Jon Yearout spoke to more than 200 people during the CJTR about his trip on the Nez Perce Trail with the group from Norway who traveled the Trail during the summer of 2010.

**August 2010** - Jon and Rosa Yearout, along with Angel Sobotta each spoke at the Nez Perce Tribe's memorial at Big Hole to approximately 75 people.. They also spoke at the Bears Paw memorial the first weekend of October.

**August 2010** - During a fireside chat, Jon Yearout spoke to about 30 Nez Perce Appaloosa Horse Club members at Packer Meadows about his trip along the Nez Perce Trail with the group from Norway.

**August 2010** – Angel Sobotta, Emmit Taylor Jr., and Rosa Yearout each spoke about the Nez Perce Trail at the Lolo Visitors Center. A group of about 80 people enjoyed the presentation.

**August 2010** - Rosa Yearout discussed the Nez Perce Trail in a presentation to the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation's annual meeting. The focus was *Lewis and Clark in Nez Perce Country*. This was part of a special session for meeting attendees at Nez Perce National Historical Park. Rosa gave a 30 minute presentation, and then discussed the Trail and Nez Perce culture with attendees for another hour and a half. Approximately 100 people attended.

**Note:** Angel Sobotta discussed the Nez Perce Trail during her weekly presentations to jet boat tour clients in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.





## News From the Nez Perce Trail Foundation

### OCTOBER

The 2010 Annual Membership and Educational meeting was held at Chinook, MT, on

October 1-3, 2010. This was one of our largest Annual Meetings with a combined audience of over 100 people attending, which included a community dinner hosted by the Nez Perce Trail Foundation and presentation by noted Nez Perce historian and author Jerome Greene.

### NOVEMBER

This month was filled with meetings with ongoing projects, which are in various stages of completion. At Camas Meadows there were some last minute problems with the interpretive signs and it was agreed to hold the signs over until spring.

The signs for Birch Creek arrived and those too were held over until spring. We also got another grant to finish the landscaping, gravel, and picnic tables, which will be put in place in the spring.

We had another meeting with the NPNHT administration concerning planning and Comprehensive Management Plan revision. Progress is being made in meeting these goals.

### DECEMBER

Winter was upon us in Nez Perce land when the first public meeting for input on revision Comprehensive Management Plan was held. The meeting in Missoula on a stormy night in early December drew about 15 people, who braved the elements to participate. The program was hosted by the Missoula Ranger District and presented by the NPNHT administration.

The organization of the event was well designed and will be an example for the rest of the meetings. With this format, we should get outstanding results. Thank to Sandi, Maureen, Julie, Roger, and crew for the good job. There is a schedule for the rest of the meetings and the complete process on the NPNHT web site [www.fs.fed.us/npnht](http://www.fs.fed.us/npnht) or our web site at [www.nezpercetrail.net](http://www.nezpercetrail.net).

The Winter Board of Directors was cancelled due to the weather. It was to be held in Coeur d'Alene, ID, as a conference call meeting. We hope to hold as many of the Board Meeting as possible this way so all the Board Members can participate.

We will need more participation from the membership and Board of Directors to complete the many tasks that the Foundation has undertaken. The work plan for 2011 will be presented to the membership and Board of Directors in the March meeting (date to be announced).

You are encouraged to send us any suggestions or ideas that you might have for projects or concerns that you want the Foundation to undertake.

Thanks to all who have worked so hard this year. Your efforts enable the Nez Perce Trail Foundation to live up to our vision statement.

Jim Evans  
Executive Director  
Nez Perce Trail Foundation



Retiring NPTF Officers: L-R, Linda Fleming, Secretary, Charlie Moses, Jr, President, Lynn Fleming, Treasurer

Image courtesy of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation



## News From the National Park Service:

### Big Hole National Battlefield

The renovation work on the Big Hole Visitor Center was shut down at the end of December. The snow and cold has made working on the roof unsafe so we are going to wait until spring melt-off for the workers to come back and finish the roof. Almost everything will have been completed by that time.



National Park Service Image



The new entrance way to the Visitor Center is complete, and the fire suppression system was installed and tested and the last of the siding installed, even with the snow falling in the valley.

A meeting was held in November regarding the exhibits at the Visitor Center. Turner Exhibits of Lynnwood, Washington is the primary contractor and this has been the culmination of a long project with all of our partners. At this time it appears that the exhibits will be installed and the Visitor Center should reopen in late July, and any bugs worked out of the exhibits prior to the 134<sup>th</sup> Commemoration on August 6, 2011.

With heavy snow fall in the Big Hole valley this winter, snowshoeing should be pretty good this winter. The Park has several pairs of loaner snowshoes, so if you would like to try your hand at this growing winter sport, come on down .

Steve Black  
Superintendent  
Big Hole National Battlefield

### Update from Nez Perce National Historical Park

The Annual Beadwork Bazaar was held at the Spalding Visitor Center on Saturday, December 4, 2010 (photos right). More than 260 people stopped in to see and purchase beadwork, quillwork, weaving, and lots of other traditional crafts and foods. For many of the vendors and visitors it was also an opportunity to see old friends and catch up on the year's happenings. Next year's Bazaar will be held on December 3, 2011, so mark that date on your calendars now.



Terry O'Halloran, National Park Service Images

Planning for the new film at Nez Perce National Historical Park continues to move forward. North Shore Productions of Portland, OR, was selected as the contractor. North Shore has done a variety of film projects for the National Park Service and several Indian Tribes. The first meeting with our tribal partners was held in Lewiston on January 19, 2011. Representatives from Nez Perce Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation met with park staff and the film producers to help determine the themes and content of the film. The meeting was very successful and the next meeting will be held in February.



Terry O'Halloran, Chief of Interpretation, Nez Perce National Historical Park





## News From the National Park Service: Bear Paw Battlefield

### Annual Commemoration Held at Bear Paw Battlefield

Stephanie Martin National Park Service Image



Nez Perce riders passed through Coyote and Peachleaf willows to cross Snake Creek during the October, 2010 Bear Paw Battlefield Commemoration. A plant and flower flipchart is now available at Bear Paw Battlefield to help visitors identify battlefield plants and learn about ways the Nez Perce used native vegetation. Spring flower walks will be available with the Ranger. Bear Paw Battlefield is 16 miles south of Chinook, MT.

Call 406-357-3130 for more information.

Stephanie Martin  
Park Ranger  
Bear Paw Battlefield



## News From the National Forests

### Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center

#### Interpretive Center Hosts “Thunderbeast” as Part of Winter Film Festival

When the days are short and the cold is, well cold, avoid cabin fever by attending the six-part “Best of the International Wildlife Film Festival.” View some of the finest locally-produced wildlife documentaries featured in previous International Festivals. The six featured films highlight conservation issues and wildlife of Montana.

Although free, donations of non-perishable food items for the Great Falls Food Bank are encouraged. This evening's film is “Thunderbeast.” This documentary from National Geographic details the management issues surrounding America’s last wild bison herd in Yellowstone National Park, and the challenges of bison management.



Joni Packard, US Forest Service Image

This film will be shown on Thursday February 10<sup>th</sup> at the Interpretive Center in Great Falls, MT, films are shown in the indoor theater at 4 p.m. and repeated at 7 p.m.

To learn more or for a complete list of winter presentations at the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center please visit: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/lewisclark/lcic/calendar/>





## News From the National Forests: Lolo National Forest

Changes are happening on the Lolo National Forest. Andy Kulla reports that Sam Redfern, Program Officer in charge of the NPNHT, retired in July 2010, his replacement Bev Yelczyn, reported to Missoula in mid-January, Rusty Wilder also assumed a number of duties related to the Heritage Program for the Forest.

This past year the Lolo performed maintenance on 14 miles of the NPNHT on the Forest.

In 2010 staff from the Lolo National Forest completed the acquisition of **31,249 acres** in the Lolo Creek Block of the Legacy Land Acquisition. Transfer of these lands into National Forest System ownership **significantly improves the cultural landscape of the NPNHT** on the Lolo NF in the Lolo Creek drainage. The staff is very excited to be able to expand our landscape management to these formerly industrial and heavily logged lands and improve the NPNHT cultural landscape.

Special coordination occurred in 2010 to address cultural issues along Lolo Creek in Montana along US Highway 12. We work with the Tribe on protection of this culturally rich corridor.

Other important accomplishments in 2010 included:

Spot weed control on 10 acres of Trailhead and access sites to the NHT to protect the weed free cultural landscape and two biological weed control agent releases along the trail corridor on knapweed infestations too large and remote for herbicide applications.

In 2010 we focused on backlog maintenance of developed and dispersed sites along the NPNHT that support Trail visitors. We maintain and operate trails, trailheads, interpretive sites, and three campgrounds. We also monitored two historic sites along the trail. We did the following support site work in 2010:

Began refurbishment of Lee Creek Campground. We replaced 22 site posts, painted and repaired 22 picnic tables, replaced regulation signs, and painted the pump house and information board.

- Removed over 250 bug killed hazard trees from Lolo Creek and Lee Creek campgrounds.
- Installed U.S. Fee Area signs at Lolo Creek and Lee Creek campgrounds.
- Replaced the U.S. Highway 12 entrance sign for Lolo Creek Campground.
- Repaired and replaced water pumps at Lolo Creek and Lee Creek campgrounds.
- Replaced spigot at Lee Creek Campground.
- Implemented the Howard Creek portion of our dispersed site management plan.
- Managed 2 volunteer Hosts for three campgrounds: Lolo Creek, Earl Tennant, and Lee Creek campgrounds.
- Cleaned and packed out unburnable materials, such as plastic, food wastes, aluminum, and pop and beer cans from 56 developed fire rings along the Historic Trail Corridor in Lolo Creek.
- Maintained 2 – 100 gallon bear resistant trash cans at Howard Creek and Fort Fizzle and seven bear resistant dumpsters at Lolo Creek, Earl Tennant, and Lee Creek campgrounds.
- Repaired four damaged bear resistant dumpsters at Lolo Creek and Lee Creek campgrounds.

Forest personnel distributed *The Lolo Trail* and *A Modern Explorers Guide* brochure to hundreds of visitors.





## News From the National Forests:

### Clearwater National Forest, Lolo Pass

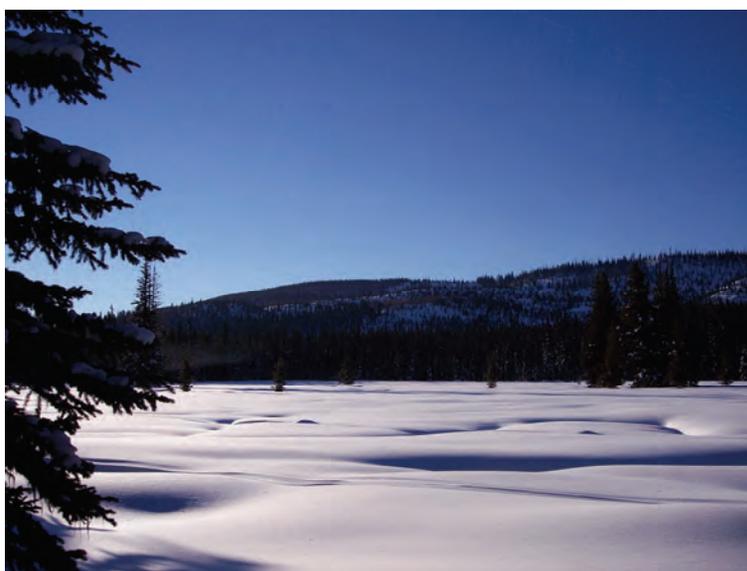
Winter has arrived at Lolo Pass! With 67 inches of snow at last count, Lolo Pass has become a winter wonderland for visitors. The Lolo Pass and Packer Meadow area holds a special place in the hearts of many visitors. Regardless of the season, the importance and significance of Lolo Pass is not missed by visitors. The winter season brings lots of visitors to Lolo Pass, both for recreational opportunities and simply opportunities to enjoy nature and solitude.

The [Lolo Pass Visitor Center](#) is open Friday thru Monday, providing a great place to warm up and enjoy a good book and a cup of hot chocolate. The 6 mile Packer Meadow loop and 2 mile Glade Creek loop are groomed for cross-country skiers every Saturday and Sunday. The Lolo Pass snowmobile trail system is groomed by the Missoula Snogers and can be accessed from Lolo Pass. The groomed trails provide endless riding options, from the Lolo Hot Springs to the Lochsa Lodge and countless points in between.

The West Central Montana Avalanche Center has installed an avalanche beacon training park near the visitor center for visitors to use. The beacon park is free to the public; you just need to bring your own transceiver. Be sure to take advantage of this great training opportunity! There is also a designated snowshoe trail that is a 3 mile loop, starting at the visitor center. On a clear day, the view from the top of the snowshoe trail is well worth the hike up.

Please remember Winter Recreation Passes are required for all vehicles parked at Lolo Pass. Passes are available at the Visitor Center, [Lolo Hot Springs](#), and [The Trail Head](#) outdoor store in Missoula, MT. Day passes can be purchased after-hours at the front door of the Lolo Pass Visitor Center, winter hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. PST, Friday - Monday. Sorry, dogs are not allowed.

Buffie Cerutti, Manager  
Lolo Pass Visitor Center



Sunny winter day at Packer Meadow, Photo courtesy of Randy Hutcheson



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

### **Wenk Taped as Supervisor of Yellowstone National Park**

National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis has appointed Daniel N. Wenk as Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park.

Wenk, who has served as the agency's deputy director of operations since 2007, will take the helm of the world's first national park in early 2011. The 35-year NPS career veteran replaces Suzanne Lewis who is retiring from the post she has held since 2002.



"Dan is a superb manager, well-grounded in every aspect of park operations," Jarvis said. "He has led our efforts to protect and preserve the resources entrusted to our care, ensuring that decisions are based on sound science and research and that the voices of stakeholders are heard. Dan has also had incredible success working with partners and communities to identify and achieve common goals. He is perfectly suited to take on the challenges and opportunities of Yellowstone and to lead the park into the future."

"My first job in a national park was in Yellowstone in 1979. To return as superintendent to where I first learned what it means to be responsible for our nation's treasures, is a distinct honor," Wenk said. "Yellowstone is the iconic destination for more than 3 million visitors from across the globe every year. Its very existence speaks to the values that led Americans more than 100 years ago to start setting aside places of great natural beauty and historic importance for all to enjoy. Caring for these places is a privilege, and I look forward to working with the park's outstanding staff and network of supporters and advocates who love Yellowstone."

Established in 1872, Yellowstone is America's first national park. Covering 2.2 million acres in Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho, it is home to a large variety of wildlife including grizzly bears, wolves, bison, and elk. Preserved within Yellowstone National Park are Old Faithful and a collection of the world's most extraordinary geysers and hot springs, and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. The human history of the Yellowstone region goes back more than 11,000 years. It has an annual budget of \$37 million and 860 employees. Yellowstone's 3 million visitors spend \$ 345 million each year - and support over 6300 jobs in the local economy.

Wenk began his NPS career in 1975 as a landscape architect at the Denver Service Center. He returned as director of the DSC from 2001-2007 where he oversaw the National Park Service's centralized planning, design, and construction services, and provided parks and regional offices with services including contracting and project management.

From 1985 to 2001, Wenk was superintendent of Mount Rushmore National Memorial in South Dakota. As superintendent, he oversaw development of natural and cultural resource management programs to ensure the long-term preservation of the sculpture and the natural area of the surrounding forest. His leadership was integral in the design, development, and completion of a \$60 million public/private partnership that raised \$30 million in private donations and in negotiating two innovative concession contracts for the construction of facilities valued at \$30 million.

Wenk's career accomplishments have been recognized with numerous awards, including the Meritorious Service Award, the second highest honor awarded by the Department of the Interior.

Wenk earned a bachelor of landscape architecture from Michigan State University. He and his wife Barbara have three grown children.



## New Faces Along the Trail:

### Steve Ellis Named Idaho BLM State Director

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Director Robert Abbey announced this past September that Steve Ellis, current Forest Supervisor of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in Oregon, will be the new Idaho BLM State Director. Ellis reported for duty on October 12, 2010.

Ellis began his 31-year federal career as a forester with BLM in Burley, ID. Since then he has worked for both the BLM and Forest Service in a number of staff and leadership positions in Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Alaska, and Washington, DC. Steve has performed as an Area Manager, Associate District Manager, District Manager, Forest Supervisor, and Deputy State Director for Resources and Planning. He also served one year as a Congressional Fellow in the U.S. Senate.



“We are very excited to have Steve in Idaho,” said Peter Ditton, Acting State Director for Idaho BLM. “He is a career professional who has worked and gained experience at all levels of our organization. Having leadership with this understanding is invaluable.”

Ellis grew up on a family farm in Illinois. He holds a B.S. in Forestry from Southern Illinois University as well as a M.S. in Geography from Northern Illinois University. Steve and his wife Linda, a family nurse practitioner, have raised three children and have one grandchild.

“I started my federal career in Idaho, and all three of our children were born here,” Ellis said. “Coming to Idaho as the State Director for BLM feels a lot like coming home. I look forward to working with our employees as well as community leaders and partners as we continue to tackle the challenges and take advantage of opportunities.”

The BLM manages more land - more than 245 million acres - than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

### Rocky Mountain Regional Announces Joe Alexander as Shoshone Supervisor



Rocky Mountain Regional Forester Rick Cables recently announced that Joe Alexander will be the 27<sup>th</sup> forest supervisor for the Shoshone National Forest, located in Cody, WY.

“We are very fortunate to have Joe return to the Rocky Mountains,” said Rick Cables, Regional Forester for the U.S. Forest Service. “Joe has demonstrated his ability to build strong relationships in rural communities and we are looking forward to his expertise and management on the Shoshone National Forest.”

*cont. on the next page*



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

### **Alexander Cont:**

Joe graduated from the University of Montana in 1993 with a Bachelor's Degree in Forestry and an emphasis in Range Management. He started his career as a range management specialist on the Bitterroot NF and then on the Dakota Prairie Grasslands. Joe then transferred to the Humbolt-Toiyabe NF and worked as an Operations Team Leader and served as a NEPA Specialist.

Joe's first Line Officer position was on the Republic Ranger District (RD) of the Colville NF in Washington. Joe really enjoyed being a ranger and especially working with his staff to build a high functioning team.

Since 2006, Joe has been working as a District Ranger on the Deer River RD of the Chippewa National Forest, in Northern Minnesota. The new challenges in the Eastern Region suited him well and the Deer River Ranger District is leading the way in multiple-use management on the Chippewa. Over the past 16 months Joe has served as an Acting Team Leader for Engineering Lands, Minerals, Recreation, and Heritage Programs on the Chippewa National Forest and has most recently served as the Acting Director of Public Affairs and Government Relations in the Eastern Region.

Joe has been married for 17 years to his wonderful wife Kelli. They have two great kids: Cassidy, who is 12 years old and starting the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and Carson, who is 5 years old and starting Kindergarten.

Joe has also developed a knack for collaboration and building strong relationships in rural communities.

While Joe always enjoys work in the Forest Service, his true passion in life is his wife and kids and all of the pursuits the great outdoors has to offer. Joe is also an enthusiastic outdoorsman and any day he can spend in the boat or field with his father he feels is truly a special day!

### **Mary Maj Gardiner District Ranger**

Mary Maj started in her new position as the District Ranger in Gardiner, MT, in August of 2009. Her previous position was Ecosystem Staff Officer for the Shoshone Forest in Cody, WY.

"We are happy to have Mary back on the Gallatin, bringing with her a wealth of knowledge about the Greater Yellowstone Area," said Mary Erickson, Forest Supervisor. "She will be a valuable asset to the Gardiner District and to the management of the Forest."

Mary is a graduate of Montana State University in Fish and Wildlife Management. She worked for the Gallatin and Targhee National Forests from 1975 – 1991 and the Region One Regional Office in Missoula for the next three years. Mary then left the Forest Service to work on trumpeter swan restoration and was the first stewardship director for a newly formed Teton Regional Land Trust in southeast Idaho. In 2000, she returned to the Forest Service working in partnership with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation in their habitat program and then as the Executive Coordinator to the Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee. Her work on the Shoshone completes her circumnavigation of the Greater Yellowstone Area National Forests, a region she has called home for 30 plus years.

"I continue being drawn to the small communities where I enjoy working through public land management challenges and opportunities," said Maj. "I look forward to getting to know and working with the people in the Gardiner and Cooke City areas who care about their public lands."

Welcome to the Trail, Mary, we apologize for not sharing your information earlier. Thanks to Jane Ruchman from the Gallatin National Forest for letting us know that we had missed profiling you as a *New Face along the Trail*.



## New Faces Along the Trail:

### Julie Molzahn Assists Trail with CMP Revision

Julie Molzahn has for the past several months been assisting the staff of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail with items related to the revision of the Trail's Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP). Julie brings outstanding skills in organization, planning, meeting facilitation, and teamwork. She has worked for the Forest Service in a wide range of positions since the mid-1980's and has been an asset to the CMP revision efforts for the Trail.



Julie started her Forest Service career as a Timber Sale Preparation Seasonal employee on the Black Hills National Forest in South Dakota. During the early part of her career Julie held several positions in Timber and Fire Management in the Intermountain and California Regions of the Forest Service.

In the early 90's Julie began to work more in Recreation and served as the District Recreation Staff Officer and Forest Non-motorized Trail Program Manager on the Angeles National Forest in Southern California.

Following a stint as the South Zone Recreation Staff Officer for the White Mountain/Mt Whitney Ranger Districts and Forest OHV/OSV Program Coordinator of the Inyo National Forest in west central California, Julie promoted to the Northern Rockies in 2005 as the District Ranger for the Cabinet Ranger District of the Kootenai National Forest.

Since 2008 Julie has been part of the Northern Region's Public and Governmental Relations staff as the U.S. Forest Service Liaison Regional Conservation Education Program and Interim Youth, Volunteer and Hosted Program. She chairs the Combined Federal Campaign for Western Montana and other special projects in the Northern Regional Office.

Julie was born in the Chicago, IL and grew up in Illinois and Iowa City, IA, she attended Iowa State University receiving a dual degree in Forest Management and International Studies. Julie and her husband Terry, a retired Fire Management Officer, are raising five children and currently are proud grandparents of one grandchild with a second due in early spring.

Julie and Terry also manage an antique booth in Plains, MT, and spend their summers at yard sales and auctions looking for antiques. Her hobbies include gardening, cooking, reading, refurbishing furniture and trunks, and hiking.

Julie works remotely from the Plains Ranger District of the Lolo National Forest and can be reached at, 406-826-4352 or by e-mail at, [jmolzahn@fs.fed.us](mailto:jmolzahn@fs.fed.us)

### Martha Lindsey Accepts Position at Travelers Rest

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, Travelers Rest Preservation & Heritage Association (TRPHA) welcomed their new Program Director, Martha Lindsey. Martha moved to Missoula from Seattle, WA, where she has been the Education Manager at the Museum of History & Industry (MOHAI) since 2008. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from the University of Florida in 2003 and Master of Arts in Museology from the University of Washington in 2006. She has been working with MOHAI's education team since 2005, managing volunteers, working with community school districts, and providing teacher professional development opportunities to implement hands-on history curriculum. She looks forward to bringing her skills to TRPHA and expanding her experiences, both personally and professionally, here in the Bitterroot Valley. TRPHA, a private non-profit, is responsible for the interpretive education programs and park stewardship, in partnership with Fish, Wildlife, and Parks at Travelers Rest State Park in Lolo.





# Comment Form

## Nez Perce National Historic Trail *Comprehensive Management Plan Revision*

This comment form is a means for you to provide your input regarding specific issues and opportunities along the Trail as well as a way to provide additional information that will be helpful for the USDA Forest Service to consider as we prepare the long range Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) for the Trail.

For your comments to be considered, we require that you include your name and address. Please note that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, maybe made public. You may request that we withhold your personal information from public view. Though we can not guarantee that we will be able to do so, we will make every effort to honor your request.

\*If you would like to receive future updates about the Trail CMP revision please check this box:

**Comments From Public Workshops are due on or before October 31, 2011**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address/E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Comments can also be e-mailed to: [npnht-CMP-rev@fs.fed.us](mailto:npnht-CMP-rev@fs.fed.us)**  
For additional information please visit: [www.fs.fed.us/npnht/cmp/](http://www.fs.fed.us/npnht/cmp/)

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# Comment Form

Nez Perce National Historic Trail  
*Comprehensive Management Plan Revision*

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Return address:

First Class  
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Nez Perce National Historic Trail  
Attn: RMLHW—CMP Revision  
PO Box 7669  
Missoula MT 59807



## How to Contact Us:

### Nez Perce National Historic Trail

#### Administration

12730 Highway 12  
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### Nez Perce National Historic Trail

#### Public Affairs

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[www.fs.fed.us/nphnt/](http://www.fs.fed.us/nphnt/)



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12730 Highway 12  
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Progress Report - Nez Perce National Historic Trail - Winter 2011

## Winter Along the Nez Perce National Historic Trail, near Lolo Pass

Roger Peterson, US Forest Service Images

