

Spring Progress Report 2013

Nez Perce National Historic Trail

ADMINISTRATOR'S CORNER

Greetings,

The staff of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) serves to mentor, motivate, inspire, and educate thousands of children, youth and adults every year about the history, conservation, and preservation values of this unique trail. We strive to engage the communities along the trail in events and provide youth the opportunity to learn, grow and take ownership of their trail. As you read through the Progress Reports from previous years, including this one, you will see the exciting projects and programs that have been completed and those which are underway. In future years even bigger and more exciting things are on the horizon.

If "it takes a village to raise a child," it has taken a landscape of communities and cities along the trail to raise and provide stewardship to the NPNHT.

Thank you so much for your continued support of the NPNHT. We could not have done what has been accomplished without you and we are just getting started. We hope that you will continue to be an integral part of the evolution of the NPNHT. We want to leave the trail and the Auto Tour Route better than we found them. That can simply mean picking up garbage, pulling a noxious weed, replacing a trail marker or helping to raise a child by getting our youth involved in securing the future of our trail. Visit our website to see the many ways to make the trail a better place.

I invite you to get involved this year. Look back on all that has been accomplished and get inspired by how much there is still to do. Come join us as a partner. The NPNHT is a national legacy for all of us to share.

"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks." John Muir

Kind regards,

Sandi McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT

NPNHT ADMINISTRATOR APPROVES FUNDING FOR FY 2013 CHALLENGE COST SHARE APPLICATIONS

Initially \$100,000 was allocated for the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) Challenge Cost Share Program. The following seven competitive Challenge Cost share applications have been funded.

- Completing work, clearing, marking and GPSing the Nez Perce National Historic from Moon Saddle to Indian Post Office in Central Idaho.
- Producing a virtual tour of the “aftermath” of the 1877 war and flight following the battle at Bear Paw.
- Producing a theatrical play of the Niimiipuu creation story, “Heart of the Monster,” and accompanying educational programs.
- Procure supplies and install six horse corrals and watering facilities along with a turn out pasture at the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Homeland site near Wallowa, OR.
- Printing and distributing copies of the Top 10 Scenic Drives Adventure Map which provides visitors with information about the NPNHT, and other National Historical Trails.
- Creating a museum exhibit at the Rocky Mountain Museum of Military History, in Missoula, MT.
- Completing phase three of traveling exhibits, Ravalli Co. Museum, Hamilton, MT.

“The Trail benefits from these strong partnerships and we appreciate what 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 fall the Administration of the NPNHT will again encouraged Challenge Cost Share proposals for projects designed to improve and enhance the visitor’s experience along the NPNHT. Applications will be due by November 30, 2013.

The submitted projects are reviewed by a panel of staff from Forest Service, National Park Service, BLM, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service units along the entire length of the Trail. Based on feedback from this panel the Trail Administrator announces which projects will receive Challenge Cost Share funds.

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

Roger Peterson, PAO, NPNHT

ANNUAL CHIEF JOSEPH TRAIL RIDE JULY 21 - 27, 2013, COOKE CITY, MONTANA

This year’s annual Chief Joseph Trail Ride will occur in the breathtaking landscape of north and east of Yellowstone National Park in late July. Riders will travel approximately 20 miles per day. For additional

information and to register please visit the Appaloosa Horse club website at:
www.appaloosa.com/trail/2013TrailRides.htm

INTERNATIONAL TRAILS SYMPOSIUM

America Trails hosted their first International Trails Symposium in Arizona at the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Radisson located in Fountain Hills, AZ, April 14-17, 2013. This year's theme was "Trails Lead Everywhere!" which is a true tribute to the first International Trails Symposium.

Sandi McFarland, Administrator, Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT), attended the symposium serving as an exhibitor and representing the U.S. Forest Service as a sponsor. The NPNHT joined more than 100 exhibitors in taking part in the 21st American Trails International Trails Symposium. The symposium exhibits included a trails and greenways system with a city park, labyrinth, and beautiful landscaping. The historic trails bridge and the Trails "Tools Area" all provided something for everyone to enjoy and learn about the latest in trail technology, equipment, planning and programs.

As an exhibitor and sponsor, Sandi relays that the NPNHT will receive a number of benefits. For example, the NPNHT will be listed on the American Trails website Sponsors webpage (www.americantrails.org/resources/info/National-Historic-Trails.html). This website receives more than 1 million visitors per year. The NPNHT will also be recognized in each monthly issue of the Monthly Tracks e-newsletter which has a distribution of more than 22,000 readers.

The NPNHT will also be listed in each issue of the American Trails Magazine, published three times per year. In addition, we received a "thank you," and get even more exposure by being listed in all of the symposium publications, furthering public relations and outreach for the NPNHT.

This year we celebrated 25 years of our partnership with American Trails. This was another milestone in the four decades of this conference in recognizing a broader spectrum of the "International Trails." The symposium featured an international panel of representatives offering inspiration and providing alternative approaches to challenges all trails of the world face.

Another new addition to this year's symposium was the Hulet Hornbeck Youth Scholarship Program which provided unique training and mentoring opportunities to inspire young adults in choosing a career path surrounding recreation.

Intriguing features for symposium attendees consisted of a poster gallery with beautiful and educational posters that depicted creative approaches to trails. Sandi particularly enjoyed the one about the Trans-America Trail because she has ridden that trail, which is also the trail used by the Nez Perce who escaped into Canada in 1877, where they found refuge Chief Sitting Bull.

Mornings were enjoyed by the early risers who discussed trail related issues over coffee allowing for an exchange of ideas. Networking at its best.

There were so many concurrent sessions and workshops it was hard to choose among the 120 presenters. This proved to be a great learning opportunity. The awards banquet recognized exemplary people who work to create a national system of trails. Many were honored for outstanding efforts from various agencies, trail professionals, the private sector and advocates of the trails. We were honored to see Steve Elkinton National Program Leader, for the National Park Service National Trails System Program, received the Lifetime Achievement Award (image above). Steve has been a long-time friend and advocate for the NPNHT. The luncheon and evening speakers all raised our spirits and reinvigorated everyone.

Sandi McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT

HIKE THE HILL FEBRUARY 2013

Sandi McFarland, Administrator, Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) attended the American Hiking Society's annual (Hike the Hill) event in Washington DC. The busy week started on Sunday, February 10 at the Washington Plaza Hotel where the Partnership for the National Trail System held their Board of Directors and Leadership Council Meetings. Sandi serves as an Ad Hoc Member to the Leadership Council. Liz Bergeon the new President for the Partnership called the meeting to order. Partnership committees submitted status reports on development, finance, leadership development, and the Partnership's Strategic Plan. The leadership development committee is recruiting members. The 2013 Work Plan was approved.

Next on the agenda was the topic of federal funding requests for the trails for FY 2014 and discussion on the status of the Collaborative Landscape Proposal (CLP) for the Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) proposal. Topics for the afternoon consisted of the 2012 Interagency National Trails System MOU report, and the National Park Service DO45, Challenge Cost Share and Connect Trails to Parks grants. This was of interest to the NPNHT since we had one proposal in for a project in Oregon.

We received valuable information of the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) Reauthorization, which affects our trail and the National Scenic and Historic Trails authorization initiatives.

Greg Miller, President, American Hiking Society made opening remarks before leading participants in a hike along the National Mall to the U.S. Capital Building. Hikers, trail advocates, children, college students, partner organizations all joined in the hike to raise the awareness of the important role that trails play in the nation's health, in community, in economic development, and in preservation.

The week brought numerous meetings with Federal Agencies, our partners, and Congressional staff as well as internal Forest Service meetings. The Inter-Agency Meeting held on February 11, covered updates on the 2014 National Trails System CLP with discussion on lessons learned to help us in the future to plan these projects for success.

We discussed the future of CLP/LWCF with Sarah Peterson and Leslie Jones from the National Park Service's Washington Office. Nancy Parachini, David Beaver, Simi Batra and Bill Shaddox representing a variety of agencies and organizations shared information and insights on the projections for LWCF and Forest Legacy funding in 2014.

The agencies all shared information about changes in vetting procedures, project priorities, and approaches relating to National Trails System acquisition projects.

We learned how to initiate Trail Land Protection Planning for Trails lacking such plans. We also learned how to sustain annual progress for individual trails acquisition programs. The bottom line is that the NPNHT needs an active land protection program and partnership plan in place. We are working towards this with our revision of our NPNHT Comprehensive Management Plan. Trail administrators and partners need to devise appropriate strategies and approaches to secure the partnerships, staffing, funding, and long term policy commitments necessary to sustain consistent year after year programs to protect the trail.

Sandi attended congressional meeting with members and staff at the request of our partners from both the Lewis & Clark National Trail Heritage Foundation as well as our own Nez Perce Trail Foundation proved beneficial. U.S. Senators Max Baucus and Jon Tester both of Montana offered a bill to fully fund the LWCF.

Christopher Douwes, Trails and Enhancements Program Manager, Federal Highway Administration, gave an update on the Recreational Trails Program (RTP), including discretionary funds for trail-related education (up to 5% can be used for safety and resource impact training). This is critical for our partners to tap into

Sandi McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT

WHAT IS THAT?

In the future Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) visitors will begin to encounter Quick Response (QR) bar codes. More and more visitors to the NPNHT are coming with mobile technology (smart phones, and tablets) in hand and the NPNHT staff wants to make sure they have quick and easy access to additional online information about the NPNHT.

We will be initially placing this general NPNHT QR code on NPNHT literature and newer interpretive signs.

If you don't already have a QR code scanner on your mobile device these can be download from online App stores free of charge.

Once you have the App you can scan the QR codes. At this time our code will take visitors to the NPNHT website where they can access more detailed information and other links about the NPNHT.

We realize that not all visitors will have access to this technology so it will not replace written materials or roadside interpretive signs. These codes will provide visitors with quick online access to additional information.

Roger Peterson, PAO, NPNHT



GOOD, BETTER, BEST

Technology is an agent for positive change. Sandi McFarland, Administrator, Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) recently attended the International Trails Symposium held in Ft. McDowell, AZ (see article on page 3). During the symposium she attended a fascinating training using ArcGIS, coming away with a whole new perspective and respect for what opportunities are available for bringing the NPNHT into the future. In real-time georeferenced data, such as social networks, can be used to understand what is happening during a project or event. For the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT), this could include economic development projects including mining, hydroelectric dams, cell towers, transmission lines, gas pipes, and road construction.

Terrain base-maps could be readily available on ArcGIS Online to be used in displaying social media information (fire activity, road conditions, and avalanche conditions to name a few, to keep our trail users best informed for safety measures.

We could create thematic layers to display information from a variety of social media sources including Twitter, Flickr, and YouTube, and real-time local weather reports. By using the internet we can screen and use live messages and pictures posted by people working on or enjoying the NPNHT.

With GIS Nez Perce people's spatial knowledge can be incorporated into digital maps for conservation planning. They can draw polygons on georeferenced landscape maps to indicate areas of local importance with ArcGIS, a tool that can be used to count overlapping polygons to identify concentrations of important places.

We can work with technical GIS people to support the development of a visual tool for NPNHT staff and tribes to facilitate our interaction with government planners and external institutions in all issues related to development along the NPNHT and the auto tour route. In the land use decision making processes, ArcGIS includes the ability to use real-time data in everyday decision making. Users would be able to answer questions, such as, where are field personnel located on a project, alert nearest responders when an incident occurs, and even be able to monitor lightning strikes.

The process is collaborative. It's the network extension of shared intelligence where insights of individuals can be shared among others. People need to be thinking far into the future when we look at capabilities in how we can interact. It is important that we take a "long view" when considering what is the next steps in administering and managing the NPNHT. We encourage you to help us to realize this vision.

Sandi McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT

AUTO TOUR SIGN REPLACEMENT: WORKING WITH DOT PARTNERS

During the past year the staff of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) has been doing more to work with our partners at the respective State Departments of Transportation (DOT) along the NPNHT. The Auto Tour and associated adventure and intrepid (rugged) routes cover more than 1,500 miles from northeastern Oregon to north central Montana. We count on our partners along these many miles to help ensure that the route is properly marked and easy for travelers to follow. The route is marked by large brown and white National Historic Trail Auto Tour signs

These signs are exposed to the elements of the Pacific Northwest and over time weather and fade, and from time to time are unfortunately the targets of vandals.

Recently DOT staffs from Missoula, Havre and Boise have been very helpful in replacing signs that needed to be replaced. Our partners with the BLM Billings State Office have also been working to assure the route is properly marked from Belfry to Lewistown, MT.

In your travels along the NPNHT Auto Tour Route if you encounter problems with the Auto Tour signs please let us know and we will work with our DOT partners to ensure that the route is clearly marked for visitors to follow.

Roger Peterson, PAO, NPNHT

COLLABORATIVE LANDSCAPE PROPOSAL FOR THE 2015 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Following the success of our 2014 submittal, the Nez Perce Trail Foundation and the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) staff are asking agencies for land acquisition projects that can be submitted to the 2015 program. The agencies received the interagency request for 2015 pre-proposal submittals with criteria for proper submissions on Monday April 29, 2013.

All pre-proposal submittals are due back to the interagency panel by May 24, 2013. This panel will review the proposals for completeness and assess how the proposal meets this year's criteria. Only proposals passing this review will go forward for potential selection to be included into the President's 2015 LWCF Budget Proposal to Congress.

As of April 30, 2103, the NPNHT has received the following two land parcels to be included in the 2015 proposal:

- Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest is proposing the Holland Property, a 1,242 acre parcel located in the Selway Creek drainage in western Beaverhead County
- Upper Snake BLM Office Idaho is proposing the Salisbury Diamond D Ranch property, a 3,000 acre parcel located between the summits of Reynolds and Targhee Pass adjacent to Henry's Lake, Idaho west of West Yellowstone.

If any tribal, agency or non-profit partners are aware other potential lands for inclusion into this proposal please contact Julie Molzahn, jmolzahn@fs.fed.us or 406-826-4352 or Jim Evans, executivedirector@nezperce-trail.net by May 14, 2013.

Julie Molzahn, CMP Revision Coordinator, NPNHT

NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL TRAVELING DISPLAYS

In 2012 staff from the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) updated and revised a set of three pop-up displays related to various aspects of the Nez Perce Flight of 1877 and exile.

These displays have been used at recreation, trail, and historical society conferences and "sister" agency facilities in the past year. They most recently returned from a three month run at the Appaloosa Horse Club Museum in Moscow, ID, where they were well received by more than 1,000 visitors.

This summer both sets of displays will again be on the road greeting visitors at the Bureau of Land Management National Historic Trails Interpretive Center in Casper, WY, and at the historic Darby Ranger District office in Darby, MT. We hope in your travels along the NPNHT this summer you will take a little time to view these displays if you have not seen them before. They will be on display at these two facilities from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

The first display provides information about the Red Heart band which was captured returning from a Buffalo hunt in present day Montana and were held as prisoners of war at Ft. Vancouver, WA. The next

display details the story of the more than 200 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, a North West Mounted Police/Royal Canadian Mounted Police post located near present day Maple Creek, Saskatchewan. The final display in this series details 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) The Hot Country.

Once they have completed their run at the facilities listed above they are available to visitor contact locations along the NPHNT and for other conferences and workshops. The NPNHT program will pay for shipping these displays to your location but it will be the responsibility of the office using the display to pay for return shipping. Maximum usage time is generally 30 days unless otherwise negotiated.

Thanks to the staff at Recreation Solutions for their assistance in creating these educational products.

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

Roger Peterson, PAO, NPNHT

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May 13, 2013 — National Indian Day
- May 17-19, 2013 — Mata'Lyma Pow Wow, Wa-A'Yas Community Center, Kamiah, ID
- May 17-18, 2013 — Eastern Oregon University Indian Arts Festival, Pow Wow and Friendship Feast, La Grande, OR
- May 24-25, 2013 — Annual Camas Festival, Weippe, ID
- May 31—June 2, 2013— E-Peh-Tes Pow Wow, Lapwai, ID
- June 1, 2013—National Trails Day
- June 8, 2013—National Get Outdoors Day, fees waived at U.S. Forest Service sites that require a fee, (check with local units)
- June 8-9, 2013 — Ess-Kah-Po Pow Wow, Orofino High School, Orofino, ID
- June 14-16, 2013 — Chief Joseph & Warriors Pow Wow, Lapwai, ID
- June 15, 2013—White Bird Battle Memorial, White Bird, ID
- July 19-21, 2013 —Nez Perce Tamkaliks Celebration & Friendship Feast, Wallowa OR
- August 10, 2013 — Big Hole Battle Memorial, Wisdom, MT
- August 16-18, 2013— Chief Looking Glass Days
- August 25, 2013 — National Park Service Birthday (fees waived at National Parks)
- September 28, 2013 — National Public Lands Day
- October 5, 2013 — Bear Paw Memorial, Chinook, MT
- October 13, 2013 — National Wildlife Refuge Day (fees waived at US Fish and Wildlife Service facilities)
- November 9-11, 2013 — Veterans Day Weekend (fees waived at National Public Lands Agencies)

NEWS FROM THE NEZ PERCE TRAIL FOUNDATION

2013 started off with a noticeable change in a number of Nez Perce Trail Foundation (NPTF) Director and Board positions. Jim Zimmerman of LaGrange, KY, was elected as President. Jim became involved with the Appaloosa Horse Club in the early 70's which eventually lead him to become a member of the NPTF Board of Directors and now President. Our Vice Presidents are Dick Seymour of Wallowa, OR, and Paul C. Wapato of Omak, WA. Bernadine Ellenwood of Lapwai, ID, continues to serve as our Secretary and Ryan Allen of Salmon, ID, agreed to once again serve as our Treasurer. Jim Evans continues to run the day to day operation as Executive Director of the Foundation from his office in Salmon, ID. The complete listing of our Officers and Directors can be found on the NPTF web site at www.nezperctrail.net.

This year the Nez Perce Trail Foundation has completely revamped our Facebook page. With the help of Tricia Taylor of Olathe, KS, our Facebook page has taken on a completely new look. Every attempt is being made to monitor and update the site weekly. Please take time to check out our site and add your comments or announcements, while at it, indicate on the site that you "Like" the page. We can be found at <http://www.facebook.com/NezPerceTF>

The annual "Hike the Hill" program with the Partnership for the National Trail System was held in early February in Washington D.C. Sandi McFarland, Administrator, Nez Perce National Historical (NPNHT), and Executive Director Jim Evans attended this vital event. Sandi and Jim visited Jonathan Stephens, Trails Program Manager, USDA Forest Service, and provided a full report on the proposed budget as it relates to the protection, preservation, and promotion of NPNHT. One of the best news items to come out of our nation's capital was that we were included in the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) budget. The appropriations from the LWCF budget will be utilized for the purchase of various sites that will further enhance the preservation of historic and scenic land for the National Trail System. Because of the joint effort of the NPNHT Administration and the NPTF, five sites along the NPNHT have been included in the purchase program.

During "Hike the Hill" week Jim also visited with a number of our elected Congressional leaders and staff members (image right). Jim was accompanied by the representative of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation; the two trails have several locations where they share common trail ground. Many objectives were accomplished during the "Hike the Hill" week but it's quite obvious that due to the budget cutbacks that all of our national scenic and historic trails will be impacted one way or another.

In early April, Director Evans and several NPTF board members had the opportunity to meet with the NPNHT staff and George Bain, Director of Recreation, Minerals, Lands, Heritage and Wilderness for the Forest Service Northern Region. Hopefully this meeting will prove to be of tremendous valuable in the exchange of information and learning first hand of the many procedural and policy changing requirements that both the NPNHT and the Foundation will be facing together. It's obvious that in order to continue to be successful, the NPNHT and the Nez Perce Trail Foundation must learn to adapt and change so that our common goal and vision to preserve, protect and commemorate the Nez Perce National Historic Trail will endure.

Jim Evans
Executive Director
Nez Perce Trail Foundation

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR TEACHERS

This is a reminder of the wide variety of educational information materials that is available from the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) staff.

Our website is a great place to start. The Learning Center can be accessed from the left hand navigation bar on the NPNHT home page: www.fs.usda.gov/npnht/

Inside the learning center you will find a wide variety of information related to the NPNHT and the Nez Perce (Niimípuu) people, including:

- Nature and Science
- History and Culture
- Videos
- Flickr page (with hundreds of trails photos)
- Google Earth / Virtual tour of the NPNHT
- Outdoor Safety and Ethics
- Wildlife
- Coloring & Activity books
- Traditional Foods and Recipes
- Classroom projects
- The NPNHT Map is a great educational tool with one side depicting the region from 1877.
- Teachers Education Resource Guide
- Education Trunks (designed for use by 4th through 5th grades)

As educators begin to plan for the 2013-14 school year we want to remind our partners and educators that our NPNHT Traveling Educational Trunks are available for use in classrooms. Trunks are 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 the NPNHT Administration or Barbie Coldwell. If you have problems reaching [Barbie via e-mail](mailto:Barbie@fs.usda.gov) please call her at 406-295-7553.

If your classroom does a project associated with the NPNHT send information to us and maybe it will make the class projects page.

Side bar: In the past year since the NPNHT Landscapes of History video was posted on the USDA YouTube channel it is one of the Top 5 viewed videos with more than 4,000 viewers.

www.youtube.com/user/usdaForestService/videos?query=Landscape+of+History

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE:

Big Hole National Battlefield

Even though the Park held our grand reopening last June we continue to make improvements to the visitor center. This spring we are making the restrooms accessible. In order for us to do that, we had to remove one stall from each restroom. The new wheelchair stalls meet all the requirements of the American with

Disabilities Act (ADA). To meet ADA requirements all the new exhibits are now audio described. This will open up all of our exhibits to a wider population. These have been tested by Park staff and are ready for visitors to use this summer.

The Park is putting the final touches on the 2013 Coyote Camp. Schools all over western Montana and southern Idaho visit for this camp. This year's camp will be the week of May 24 and it is a highlight of our spring. Most slots are already filled. This is the fourth year for this program and the children who come here really seem to learn a lot about the Nez Perce and the battle. We know the teachers enjoy it, as we are already getting requests for next year. Any school interested in participating in this event needs to go to the Park website at www.nps.gov/biho and fill out an application

A big project that the National Park Service (NPS) and Big Hole National Battlefield have been working on is the State of the Park Report. This snapshot in time view of Big Hole was released to the public on April 23, 2013, and you can review it here: www.nps.gov/stateoftheparks/BIHO/. Big Hole was the first park in the nation to produce a report and the NPS is planning on doing 50 more reports prior to the NPS centennial in 2016.

The Park will start operating with summer hours on Sunday, May 13. The main visitor center will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Our summer speaker series schedule is now available:

- June 29-30th- Bob Brown presents Capt. Rawn
- July 6-7th - Ron Boyles (Red Heart) and Ruby Boyles
- July 13-14th - Silas Whitman / Leroy Seth
- July 20-21st - Jack Gladstone / Appaloosa Horse Club
- July 27-28th - Red Tail
- August 3-4th - Bessie Blackeagle
- August 10-11th - Commemoration- Michael Penney and Nez Perce Nation Drum
- August 17-18th - Michael Johnson and Shawna Gavin

Most of the snow has melted and the trails are open. Stop by if you get the chance.

Steve Black, Superintendent, Big Hole National Battlefield

News from Nez Perce National Historical Park

The Park has begun a series of temporary exhibits at the Spalding Visitor Center. The first featured a saddle and other artifacts related to Jackson Sundown, a survivor of the 1877 Flight who went on to become a famous rodeo cowboy. The current exhibit is comprised of items acquired in the last five years. These items have not been displayed before and include beaded gloves, a child's dress, several bags and more. This exhibit will be on display until late May when it will be replaced with the next exhibit.

In February more than 125 visitors attended a birthday party for Jean Baptiste Charbonneau and in March more than 300 folks attended Raptor Day which was highlighted by live birds of prey from the Washington State University Raptor Club (image right). Both of these events were held at the Spalding visitor center.

There is a new webcam at the Spalding visitor center showing a view looking toward Lapwai Creek and the Clearwater Valley (image below). The webcam can be viewed at www.nps.gov/nepe/photosmultimedia/webcams.htm

An exhibit of Nez Perce National Historical Park's Historic Image Collection is now on display at Washington State University Manuscripts, Archives, and Special Collections through September, 2013. The exhibit highlights the recently-developed partnership between the park and WSU, in which the WSU Library's website will be hosting the park's Historic Image Collection, making it accessible to the public via the internet.

Park Archivist Robert Applegate retired on March 22 after 15 years at Nez Perce NHP. He assisted many researchers, authors, and people seeking photograph over the years with his in-depth knowledge of the park collections. The Archivist position will be filled by Beth Erdey, who has been working with Robert for several years (see her profile on page 13). From now through August, the Research Center will be open on Monday and Tuesday, and other days by appointment. Beth can be reached at 208-843-7042 or by e-mail at Tabitha_Erdey@nps.gov.

Summer hours at the Spalding visitor center are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and will begin Memorial Day weekend and will continue until Labor Day.

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

News from Bear Paw Battlefield

The annual Museums Association of Montana Conference was held at Havre, MT, in March. Workshops on archaeology, textile preservation, women's suffrage, and social media were featured along with an afternoon field trip to Bear Paw Battlefield on March 21. Twenty five participants visited the Blaine County History Museum, and the Blaine County Wildlife Museum, and walked the 1.5 mile trail at the battlefield. The trails were clear of snow and the spring sun was shining as the museum members visited rifle pits and tipi sites. This last battle of the war and flight of 1877 is an important part of local history presented to tourists when they visit the Hi-Line areas of Havre and Chinook.

Stephanie Martin, Park Ranger, Bear Paw Battlefield

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL FOREST

Lolo Pass Visitor Center

The first signs of spring are starting to show at Lolo Pass. The grooming of our ski and snowmobile trails has ended, the snow pack is melting and we have started to see our first visitors on motorcycles. The snow pack at Lolo Pass was a little low this winter; we saw a high snow depth of 72 inches.

This winter we had more than a dozen local schools and organized groups hold field trips at Lolo Pass. The groups spent their trips skiing, snowshoeing and learning about winter safety. Many of these groups took advantage of our Avalanche Beacon Park and practiced using transceivers to "rescue" victims.

The visitor center again hosted several "Full Moon Events." These events were held on the Saturday closest to the full moon in January, February and March. Visitors were invited to come out and ski or snowshoe by the light of a full moon. The warming hut was kept open late into the evening, with a toasty fire and hot chocolate.

The Lolo Pass visitor center will be hosting the 6th annual Mountain to Meadow Half Marathon and 5K Fun Run on Saturday June 29, 2013. The event is open to all ages, runners, walkers and even four legged friends. Watch our Facebook page for updates: The course will take participants past Packer Meadow, which is located along the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. With luck, the beautiful Camas flowers will be in full bloom in time for the run.

Buffie Cerutti, Manager, Lolo Pass Visitor Center

NEW FACES ALONG THE TRAIL:

Forest Service Chief Announces New National Director of Recreation, Heritage and Volunteer Resources

Joe Meade was recently selected as the new National Director of Recreation, Heritage, and Volunteer Resources in the Washington DC.

Meade has served as the National Partnership Director, National Forest System since 2010. He oversees a Public-Private Partnership Strategy that is building Agency partnerships and expanding investment in the stewardship of our nation's Forests and Grasslands. As the complexity surrounding the stewardship of public lands has increased, Meade has been a champion for growing relationships that encourage shared stewardship and are essential for achieving social, economic, and ecological outcomes. He has served in professional assignments across five Regions, national headquarters, four Forests, Ranger Districts, and in an executive assignment with sub-cabinet members of USDA.

Meade's 35-year natural resource career includes a 7-year assignment as Forest Supervisor on the Chugach National Forest; a 6-month USDA Senior Executive Departmental assignment; 5 years as Regional Director of Recreation, Heritage and Wilderness Resources in the Southwest Region and seven years in National Headquarters as Recreation Developed Sites Program Leader. He has a deep passion for recreation that started on the Deschutes National Forest as an interpreter at the Lava Lands Visitor Center in Central Oregon, now a National Monument.

Nez Perce National Historical Park Hires New Archivist

Beth Erdey is the new Archivist at Nez Perce National Historical Park (NPNHP). She replaces Robert Applegate, who retired March 22, 2013.

Erdey was born in Sheboygan, WI. She attended the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History in 2003 and a Master's of Arts in History with a certificate in Public History in 2007. She is a doctoral candidate in History at Washington State University and will graduate in the fall of 2013. Her dissertation research examines 20th century federal public land management and natural resource policies in North Central Idaho and public reactions to federal land and resource management in the Clearwater River drainage.

Erdey began her work with the National Park Service in 2006 as a summer intern at Big Hole National Battlefield. In 2008 she returned to NPNHP as a seasonal park guide at the Spalding visitor center. In 2010, she transferred to the Park's resource management division, working in the Park's archives and museum collections. She currently serves as the Pacific West Regional Park Representative to the National Park Service's Museum Management Program Council.

She and her fiance, Jason, reside in Pullman, WA, with their beagle, Scooter. In her limited-because-of-the-need-to-finish-her-dissertation spare time, she enjoys traveling, outdoor recreation, crafting, and quilting.

Wyoming Native Selected as Outdoor Recreation Planner for Cody BLM

Paul Rau is the new Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Bureau of Land Management Cody, WY, Field Office, enjoys sharing his infectious enthusiasm of the great outdoors with anyone around him – simply ask his wife of 10 years and their 3 children.

Before joining the BLM's Cody Field Office, Rau was the Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Worland, WY, Field Office for five years, and for the Rawlins, WY, Field Office for two years. He also worked in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and recreation planning for the Buffalo, WY, Field Office for nearly five years, and served as a Range Tech for two seasons in Worland. This work has allowed him to manage more than 18 Wilderness Study Areas, and allocated recreational use in 6 million acres across Wyoming.

Rau's journey in outdoor recreation management started after accepting the call of natural resource management over music education, business, and performance. He ended up with a bachelor's of science in Geography from the University of Wyoming with an emphasis in recreation and natural resource management.

When he is not planning, you can find this Lander, WY, native out enjoying the Badlands throughout the Bighorn Basin, and hiking, skiing, fishing, and camping in his favorite places tucked away in the Bighorns, Absarokas, Wind Rivers, the Gros Ventres Mountains, and in the Wyoming Range with his family. If you don't find him hiking, you will more than likely find him floating and fishing the Shoshone, Hoback, and Bighorn Rivers.

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:

Also check weather reports and call ahead for road conditions at 511. There are links to a number of webcams from the [NPNHT website](#).

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