



NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

Progress Report

Spring 2012



Administrator's Corner

Greetings,

In 2012 we commemorate the 135th year since the events of 1877. Visit the Nez Perce National Historic Trail ([NPNHT website](#)), to discover opportunities to remember and learn more about the important dates of 1877.

It is time to embrace spring, move into summer, and start planning to stretch your legs on the NPNHT. We encourage families to get out together on the Trail, to visit key battle sites, visitor centers, and other unique areas. The scenic views, diverse cultures, extensive history, and great outdoor opportunities continue to entice visitors to journey on the Trail. The NPNHT is a place where time is not measured by the ticking of a clock, but by how much you enjoy your trail experience.

We challenge people of all ages to get out and look for animal signs. Animal tracks, scat, feathers, and nests often can lead to interesting stories. The oral history and information in our Auto Tour guides can fit any one's schedule to experience the trail.

It is the time of year to volunteer your time and to increase the opportunities for others to enjoy all the NPNHT has to offer. Our volunteers are the backbone of many of our projects and maintenance along our nations trails. Call your local Forest Service office for opportunities. Remember June 2 is National Trails Day and many events are scheduled to create lasting fellowship.

We have some exciting and new Challenge Cost Share projects that will roll through the Trail this year. We are currently preparing and signing these new agreements. As soon as these are in place we can share what projects you can look forward to seeing this year.

Sandi McFarland, Administrator NPNHT



Steve Elkinton, National Park Service Program Leader, National Trails System Program joins Sandi McFarland, NPNHT Administrator participating in this year's National Historic Trails Workshop, along [El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail](#)

Website Will Provide Information on 135th Events Along the NPNHT

2012 marks the 135th year since the 1877 war and flight. The staff of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail in conjunction with a number of partners is hosting a website to provide information about events happening during the next several months to commemorate the events of 1877.

We would encourage people to take time to learn more and reflect upon the historic events of 1877 and what they mean for all people today.

We hope people will find time to participate in some of the events. We plan to add additional events to the calendar in the coming weeks so please check back throughout the rest of this year to learn about new events.

Follow [this link to the page](#).

NPNHT Now on Twitter

The Nez Perce National Historic Trail is now on Twitter. We try to tweet as often as possible about things happening along the NPNHT. We will also be using our Twitter account to keep people apprised of the various events related to the 135th commemoration of the 1877 war and flight. If you have a Twitter account follow us at: <https://twitter.com/#!/nphnt>

follow us on
twitter

NPNHT Pop-Up Displays Available for Use



Staff from the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) have recently updated and revised a set of three “pop-up displays” related to various aspects of the Nez Perce Flight of 1877 and exile.

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

We have two complete sets of these displays and are making them available to visitor contact locations along the NPNHT 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 will be 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

Julie Molzahn Joins Nez Perce National Historic Trail Team

Happy Spring!

I am pleased to now be a dedicated member of the NPNHT team. My focus will be leading the CMP revision. I have enjoyed working with Sandi and Roger in my part time assistance role so it is a great to know I will now be a dedicated member of the NPNHT team!

The current focus for work on the CMP Revision is completing federal agency partners agreements to facilitate contributions to the CMP Revision. Several agreements are needed with our federal and tribal partners as we progress on the revision work. These agreements outline how everyone will work together, the roles and responsibilities for each partner setting up a mutual understanding of managing the NPNHT. The first of these is the Federal Agency Partners Comprehensive Management Plan Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Then a second set of MOU's are being developed for setting up similar relationships with our tribal government partners.

I continue to work on the comment analysis to develop topic areas for the CMP revision. I have yet to encounter a negative comment or concern about the NPNHT. There are so many great proposed ideas for the future of the Trail that we received during our public workshops and through comment submission. Some of our work will focus on developing a process to prioritize accepted projects that folks want to assist with over the next few years.

We also continue to review Forest, Resource Area, and Refuge management plans that are being revised at this time. There are a large number of these efforts that potentially affect the NPNHT, so that is another priority workload right now. In many of the older documents, the NPNHT was not mentioned or assessed for management. Our focus is to make sure that all units properly acknowledge and have guidelines in their unit plans for the NPNHT.

I welcome any feedback, comments, or questions about the CMP revision. Please contact Julie Molzahn, CMP Revision Team Leader, NPNHT at (406) 826-4352 or jmolzahn@fs.fed.us

Julie Molzahn



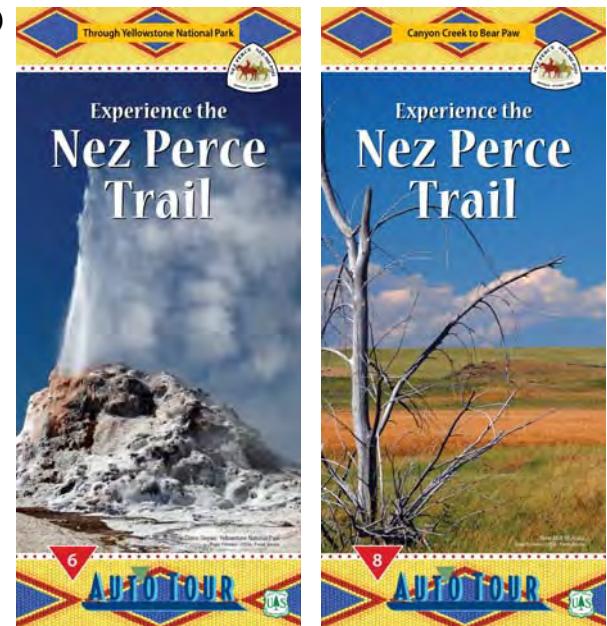
Julie Molzahn, CMP Revision Team Leader



Nez Perce National Historic Trail Releases Final Two Auto Tour Brochures

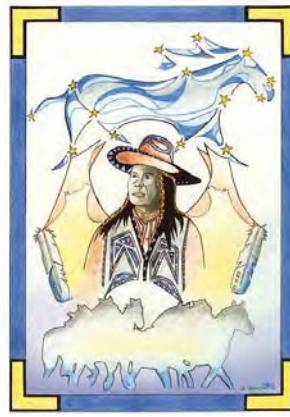
The staff of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) is proud to announce the release of the final two publications in the family of Auto Tour brochures designed to help visitors experience the NPNHT. These brochures, Auto Tour 6 *Through Yellowstone National Park* and Auto Tour 8 *Canyon Creek to Bear Paw* (*pictured on right*) have 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 these user friendly brochures which will help guide visitors along the Trail for years to come. Also thanks to the staff at *Recreation Solutions* for their assistance in creating these outstanding products to help visitors experience the NPNHT story.

These brochures, along with the entire family of NPNHT Auto Tour brochures, are now available for download from the [NPNHT website](#).



The brochures have been sent to the printer and hard copies will be available in mid-May. If you would like copies, please contact Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT at (406) 329-3540 or rmpeterson@fs.fed.us

Nez Perce National Historic Trail Postcards Available

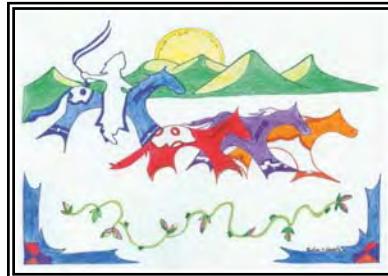


Staff from the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) is proud to announce a new interpretive product. Working with Nez Perce artist Abraham Yearout and staff from *Recreation Solutions* we have made available as free interpretive handouts a series of four postcards (*pictured on this page*). The scenes on the postcards depict several aspects of Nez Perce (Niimípuu) culture along with participants in the war and flight of 1877. NPNHT staff has distributed copies to more than 100 locations along the NPNHT as well as to Ft. Walsh, a unit of Parks Canada in Saskatchewan and the National Museum of The American Indian at the Smithsonian in Washington DC. If you live near or along the NPNHT or one of these other locations you

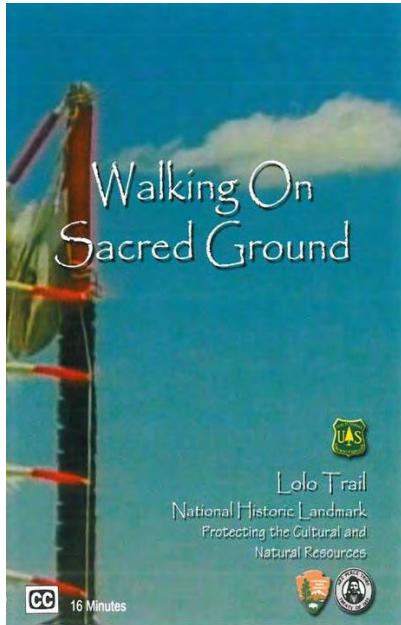
should be able to find them at Forest Service offices, National Park visitor centers, national wildlife refuges, and BLM offices or Interpretive Centers along a number of other local museums visitor centers.



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



Walking on Sacred Ground Video Now Available Via YouTube



The video *Walking on Sacred Ground*, originally created in 2004, was recently reproduced by the staff of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) along with assistance from the Forest Service Northern Region Public and Governmental Relations group.



The video is now available via streaming download from the NPNHT [website](#). If you would like a DVD copy it can be requested through Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist NPNHT at (406) 329-3540 or rmpeterson@fs.fed.us

The 16-minute video was produced prior to the Lewis-Clark Bicentennial commemoration; however the message is still just as important today. The need for stewardship along the Lewis and Clark Trail and the Lolo Trail National Historic Landmark are the main topics of the video, which informs visitors about historic sites along the NPNHT, Lewis and Clark Trail and Lolo Trail and how preserving these sites are vital.

The video was produced by Media Services of Lewis-Clark State College and is the result of two years of collaboration among the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Nez Perce Tribe.

Status of 2012 NPNHT Challenge Cost Share Program

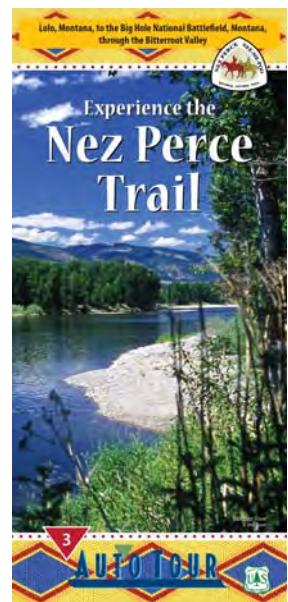
Sandi McFarland, Administrator, Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) will soon be announcing the recipients of funding from the NPNHT 2012 Challenge Cost Share (CCS) Program.

Please stay tuned to the NPNHT website in the next few weeks for an announcement of 2012 Trail CCS funding recipients.

NPNHT Auto Tour Brochures 3, 4 and 5 Being Reviewed and Updated

The staffs of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) and *Recreation Solutions* have started the process to update and reprint several NPNHT Auto Tour brochures. These brochures include, Auto Tour 3 *Lolo, Montana to the Big Hole National Battlefield, Montana, through the Bitterroot Valley*, Auto Tour 4 *Big Hole, Horse Prairie and Lemhi Valleys*, and Auto Tour 5 *Leadore and Island Park, Idaho, to Yellowstone National Park, Montana*.

We anticipate that these updated brochures will be ready for distribution by late summer 2012.



Annual Chief Joseph Trail Ride July 29 - August 4, 2012 in Yellowstone

This year's annual Chief Joseph Trail Ride will occur in the breathtaking landscape of Yellowstone National Park in late July and early August.

Riders will have limited access to Yellowstone National Park, riders will be assigned to groups (max of 25 riders per group including support crew) and each group will ride a different trail every day. There are four trails inside the Park, and one trail outside the Park. For the two trails in the Park, two of them are loops. The horses and riders will be hauled to the trailhead to unload and will be loaded and hauled back to camp at the conclusion of that day's ride. There is limited parking in these sites so groups will need to coordinate horse hauling to ensure that everyone gets to each trailhead and back to camp without exceeding vehicle limits.

The base camp for the ride will be located in West Yellowstone, MT. For additional information and to register please visit the Appaloosa Horse club website at: www.appaloosa.com/trail/2012TrailRides.htm



Chief Joseph Trail Riders in the Big Hole Valley, July 2010



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May 14-18, 2012 — Historic Trails Workshop, Albuquerque/Socorro, NM, more information: www.pnts.org
- May 28, 2012 — How to Set Up a Tipi program, Joseph, OR, Nez Perce Wallowa Homeland Project interpretive grounds
- June 2, 2012—National Trails Day—www.americanhiking.org/national-trails-day/
- June 2, 2012—Grand Reopening of the [Big Hole National Battlefield](#) Visitor Center near Wisdom, MT, 1 p.m.
- June 2, 2012—[National Trails Day](#) - NPNHT identification walk, Cody WY, [Nez Trail Foundation](#) and [Cody BLM](#)
- June 9, 2012—National Get Outdoors Day
- June 15-17, 2012—Chief Joseph and Warriors Memorial Pow Wow, Lapwai, ID
- June 17, 2012—White Bird Memorial, White Bird Idaho
- June 23, 2012—World Premier *Caritas Chorale: Nez Perce Promises*: Lapwai, ID—<http://caritaschorale.org/>
- June 30, 2012—[Mountain-to-Meadows run](#), Lolo Pass (Montana and Idaho border on US Hwy 12)
- June—August 2012—Summer Speaker series [Big Hole National Battlefield](#) (see schedule on page 12)
- July 5-8, 2012—Lapwai Anniversary Celebration, Lapwai, ID
- July 20-22, 2012—Annual Nez Perce Tamkaliks Celebration, Wallowa, OR—www.wallowanezperce.org/
- July 29—August 4, 2012, [Chief Joseph Trail Ride](#), Yellowstone, National Park
- August 11, 2012—Big Hole Memorial Big Hole National Battlefield near Wisdom, MT
- August 17-19, 2012—Chief Looking Glass Days & Pow Wow, Kamiah, ID
- September 29, 2012—National Public Lands Day—www.publiclandsday.org/
- October 6, 2012—Bear Paw Memorial, near Chinook, MT

For a list of events related to the 135th commemoration of the 1877 war and flight visit the 135th events calendar on the [NPNHT website](#)

Class Provides an Opportunity for Teachers to Become Immersed in the Nez Perce National Historic Trail and Nez Perce Culture

Once again summer courses are being offered for educators and anyone else interested in learning more about the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) and tribal culture. The first course starts at the annual Nez Perce Tamkaliks Celebration in Wallowa, OR, providing participants to meet and get to know members of the Nez Perce Tribe and experience traditional Nez Perce ceremonies. Participants then have an opportunity to travel the NPNHT with course instructors and if they choose participate in the second part of the course with five days in Yellowstone National Park. This year participants will have a special opportunity, which only happens once every 13 years, to interact with participants on the annual Chief Joseph Trail Ride in Yellowstone National Park. (*see page 6 of this report*).

See the trailing information on both courses. Those interested can register any time prior to July 13, 2012.



Roger M. Peterson, U.S. Forest Service Image

Class gathers at the Tamkaliks Celebration in Wallowa, OR, July 2011

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 White Bird 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 20-July 27, 2012

Required books: Chief Joseph & the Flight of the Nez Perce by Kent Nerburn & Yellow Wolf, His Own Story by L.V McWhorter

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: July 30 – August 3, 2012
Required books: Nez Perce Summer, 1877 by Jerome A. Greene

Helpful websites: www.fs.usda.gov/npnht & nezpercetrail.net

For additional information contact course Instructor: Duane Heglie (916) 933-1368 / heglie@comcast.net

Historic St. Mary's to be Featured in Exhibit at the Smithsonian

In late July 1877 the Nez Perce traveled up the Bitterroot Valley spending several days in and around Stevensville, MT, trading with local merchants and interacting with local residents.

The National Museum of the American Indian of the Smithsonian Institute is working on a project called "Stories of Encounter," a touch-screen exhibition interactive display that will teach visitors about contact between Native communities and Europeans. One of the stories will focus on Father De Smet's contact with the Salish people and the founding of St. Mary's Mission. (*Photo right, 1879 historic photograph of St. Mary's Mission, Stevensville, Montana*)



Slated to open in early 2012, the NMAI exhibit will present an interactive map that lets visitors explore 24 stories. Each story gives a glimpse of the conditions at the particular site when the great civilizations of the Americas met explorers from outside this hemisphere.

"In addition to dispelling the 'empty parkland' vision of the Americas, the map will also communicate that these moments of encounter happened over a long period of time and not all in 1490's. This process of encounter and subsequent change was prolonged, profound, and difficult. These moments in time changed the world and contemporary peoples continue to live with the results."

Colleen Meyers
St. Mary's Mission Inc.



Roger M. Peterson, U.S. Forest Service Image

St. Mary's Mission today.

Need Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail Information?

The Staff of the NPNHT is committed to ensuring your visitors have access to information about the NPNHT.

As we head into the summer travel season, we ask frontline visitor services staff to please take a few minutes to review the inventory of NPNHT brochures for your office.

The NPNHT has a number of **FREE** [publications](#) available for distribution. There are also several sales items, including a visitor map and a children's coloring and activity book.

If you find that you are low on any brochures or need additional information, please contact
Roger Peterson, NPNHT Public Affairs Specialist at
(406) 329-3540 or rmpeterson@fs.fed.us

Hike the Hill 2012

Each year the Nez Perce Trail Foundation along with 26 other National Scenic and Historic Trail non-profits and agency Administrators "Hike the Hill," in Washington, DC. This year Jim Zimmerman, Nez Perce Trail Foundation (NPTF) Board member from Kentucky and Jim Evans, Executive Director of the NPTF attend and were joined by Sandi, McFarland, U.S. Forest Service Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) Administrator (*see photo left to right*). Yes, we do "HIKE THE HILL." One of the events is a hike by all, from the Lincoln Memorial to the steps of the U.S. Capitol.



The purpose of the event is to meet with all the Federal agencies, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to report on the activities for each of the National Trails. There are training sessions sponsored by the federal agencies, updating all the Trails on the latest activities. The exchange of ideas on this level by the Partnership for the National Trail System makes for a stronger partnership in carrying out the intent of the mission of each agency who has responsibility for the National Trail System.

In addition the separate mission of each National and Historic Trails non-profit partners is to visit members of their Congressional delegation and to report to them on the outstanding job each non-profit has accomplished in partnership with their federal partners. In 2011, the Nez Perce Trail Foundation received more than \$71,810 from the NPNHT and returned 15,910 volunteer hours to assist the Forest Service in accomplishing the mission of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. The Nez Perce Trail Foundation partnership stretches the taxpayer's dollars allocated to the NPNHT.

The Partnership for the National Trails System (27 nonprofit partners) assisted the entire National Trails System with a total of 1,141,866 volunteer hours with an estimated value of \$24,390,258 and financial contributions worth \$8,714,610.

By Jim Evans, Executive Director, NPTF

Nez Perce Wallowa Homeland Project Presents "How to Set Up a Tipi" Program

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, 2012, at 1 p.m. PDT, as part of its Nez Perce educational program series, the Wallowa Nez Perce Homeland Project is presenting a demonstration by Steve and Connie Evans on the correct way to set up a tipi. Always a bit tricky, setting up Nez Perce style tipis is even more so in that they are designed to cant forward at the entrance, unlike a typical conical design.

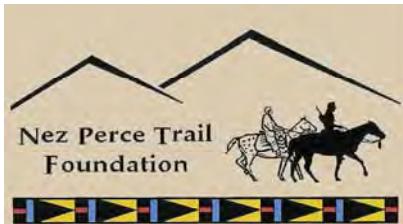
The program will take place at the Nez Perce Wallowa Homeland Project interpretive exhibit grounds in downtown Joseph, OR, (next to Chevron gas station).

Thanks to a grant from the Lamb Foundation, the Nez Perce Homeland Project is replacing the tipis at its Joseph Interpretive Exhibit with new 20' and 16' tipis. The tipis were made by Steve and Connie Evans from Lapwai, ID. They have been making tipis for nearly thirty years and a documentary film about the process (including selecting and cutting the poles) was recently finished. The new tipis will be painted with traditional native designs by Nez Perce artist Kevin Peters.

The Joseph Nez Perce Interpretive Exhibit is a satellite exhibit of the main Nez Perce Homeland Project grounds in Wallowa, OR. In addition to the new tipis, the Joseph Exhibit recently installed several swing sets in the design of traditional longhouses, and several new picnic tables, in an effort to encourage families and children to use and visit the site.

Steve Evans is a retired history professor at Lewis-Clark State College. In 1996 he published the book, *Voice of the Old Wolf: Lucullus Virgil McWhorter and the Nez Perce Indians* (WSU Press), which is in its third printing. A new book, co-authored with Allen Pinkham, on Lewis and Clark and the Nez Perce Indians will be coming out in August of 2013. Connie Evans is a retired Nurse Practitioner with the US Public Health Service who served in Vietnam and Germany. Kevin has been a Ranger with the National Park Service for over twenty years. He attended Santa Fe Indian Art Institute and Lewis-Clark State College, and has been a lifetime artist. Connie and Kevin are related and are both members of the Nez Perce Tribe connected with the Wallowa, White Bird, and Chief Looking Glass bands.

For additional information call Rob: 541-432-4343.



News from the Nez Perce Trail Foundation

The Nez Perce Trail Foundation's (NPTF) marked another event recently. Members of the NPTF have been taking groups of young people to various sites along the NPNHT. The first such outing this year occurred early in 2012 just as the snow cleared from the Big Hole National Battle Field (NPS).

The Park visitor center has undergone a major renovation and upgrade. The staff from the NPTF were pleased to share the revised story of the Big Hole National Battlefield with a group of Latter-day Saints (LDS) Missionaries stationed in Salmon, Idaho.

The revised story is very uplifting and depicts what the event really means to the Nez Perce people.

Please plan a visit to the site this year. Information on the re-dedication this spring is available on page 11 of this report.

Jim Evans, Executive Director, NPTF



Visiting LDS missionaries, left to right Elder Jordan Arrowchis, Orange County California; Elder Wiley Morgan, Anchorage Alaska; Elder Chris Harelsor, Sacramento, California; Elder Nick Bystrom, Chicago, Illinois

John D. Corpolongo, D.O. 1931 to 2012

Dr. John D. Corpolongo of Jay, Oklahoma, passed away on March 31, 2012, in Gallup, NM, after riding in the Caballos Del Sol trail ride in Arizona.

Dr. Corpolongo, had been a mainstay of the [Appaloosa Horse Club](#)-sponsored trail rides for nearly 40 years. Serving as the official ride physician on all four rides for most of those years, Dr. Corpolongo has administered medical services on 81 of the 88 rides he's attended.

An osteopathic physician and surgeon for more than 45 years, Dr. Corpolongo specialized in family practice and general surgery. He had served as president of the Kansas State Osteopathic Association and the Governor's Commission Kansas State Emergency Medical Service.

After 25 years of private practice, Dr. Corpolongo did locum tenens for six medical and osteopathic family practice physicians between trail rides. He served as the official trail physician on 10 rides throughout the year, including the four ApHC-sponsored rides.

A 1995 Trail Ride Hall of Fame inductee, Dr. Corpolongo derived his greatest satisfaction from helping others while enjoying time spent with his Appaloosas on the trail.





News From the National Park Service:

Big Hole National Battlefield

Spring came early to the Park with the snow melting off quickly. Most of the horse pasture was exposed by the end of March and the North Fork of the Big Hole was flowing with no ice in it by mid-April.

In November 2011, the Park had its unofficial reopening and since that time Park staff have seen a dramatic increase in visitation.

Since the reopening of the main Visitor Center the Park has seen a 72% increase in visitation. We know that some of that has to do with us being in a "real" Visitor Center and not a converted house, but also because the word is getting out about the new exhibits and we are back in the main Visitor Center.

The official Grand Reopening will be held on June 2, 2012, at 1 p.m. The people who were involved in the planning of the exhibits will be involved in the ribbon cutting and the Park is very excited to see all of those who worked so hard on getting these exhibits designed and built come back to the Park and see what they helped create. The ceremony is open to the public and more details will be posted on our website as they are finalized, please visit the website for updates, www.nps.gov/biho

Regarding the Park website, the National Park Service recently launched a "reskin" of all National Parks websites. Big Hole NB staff is completing the switch over and if you find any problems please let us know as we want to make it the best source for Big Hole information.

The Park will once again be hosting its week long educational program, Coyote Camp, the week of May 21-25. Cultural demonstrators from around the region will be on hand to give a wide variety of programs on Nez Perce culture and Park staff will be taking groups on tours of the battlefield. Schools are already signing up and space is limited. Please visit the education page of the park's website for forms and information.

Big Hole National Battlefield returned to summer hours on Sunday, April 29, 2012. The Visitor Center is now open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, seven days a week.

The Battlefield also offers three separate trails. These trails allow visitors access to the actual sites where the events took place. Trail guides are available at the trailheads to provide opportunities for learning about the battle and the people who participated in it.

The Parks Summer Speaker Series begins on July 7th and will continue every weekend through August 26th. See the full schedule on the next page of this report.

Steve Black, Superintendent
Big Hole National Battlefield



National Park Service Image

Early snow melt off on Battle Mountain. April 03, 2012

Be Safe in Your Spring Travels Along the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail
The Staff of the NPNHT want your experience along the Trail this Spring to be a safe one.

**Please take a few minutes to review the Trail's
Safety and Ethics Website before you begin your journey:
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/npnht/ethics>**



Big Hole Battlefield

Big Hole National Battlefield
Po Box 237
Wisdom, MT

Phone: 406-689-3155
Fax: 406-689-3151



SUMMER SPEAKER SERIES 2012

JULY 7-8TH – REDTAIL – The Horse and Native American Culture. Lots of beautiful horse trappings to view.

JULY 14-15TH – SILAS WHITMAN AND LEROY SETH- Traditional Use and Access of Natural Resources for Nez Perce People and the Historical Perspectives of Pow-Wow as a Native Art Form.

JULY 21-22ND - BOB BROWN- A first person presentation of Major Rawn, a participant of the 1877 conflict.

JULY 28TH (SATURDAY ONLY!)- JACK GLADSTONE- Native Montana “Poet-singer” and lecturer. Programs cover American Indian myth, legend and history. Jack has produced 15 original CD’s receiving critical acclaim.

AUGUST 4-5TH –MICHAEL JOHNSON AND SHAWNA GAVIN- The always fun and popular ‘Stickgame’ returns, along with the art of weaving. Beautiful items to view.

AUGUST 11-12TH- ANNUAL COMMEMORATION- MIKE PENNEY AND NEZ PERCE NATION DRUM- Drum and song follow the 135th Commemoration of 1877 events.

AUGUST 18-19TH – NANCY FONICELLO- Before Beads: Porcupine Quillwork techniques of the Native Americans.

AUGUST 25-26TH – VIVIAN WILSON- Cradleboards. The construction, purpose, and evolution of the cradleboard.

Presentations are Saturday at noon and 3p.m. at Big Hole National Battlefield Visitor Center. There will also be a campfire presentation on Saturday at 7p.m. at May Creek Campground. Sunday there will be a final presentation at noon at the Visitor Center.

Big Hole National Battlefield is located 10 miles west of Wisdom, Montana on Highway 43. May Creek campground is located 17 miles west of Wisdom on Highway 43. For more information please call: (406)689-3155.





News From the National Park Service:

News from Bear Paw Battlefield

Bear Paw Battlefield in Chinook, Montana, will get a visit by Kevin Ellison of the Wildlife Conservation

Society to study Sprague's Pipits on and near the battlefield this summer. A cooperative agreement is in place for the National Park Service and the Wildlife Conservation Society to conduct the first study of how, when, and where individuals of three species of grassland songbirds migrate. Data from the study will aid in conserving these species and better manage the grasslands that they depend on. During the summer of 2011, 28 longspurs (Chestnut-collared and Mccown's) and Sprague's pipits were fitted with miniature, leg-loop backpack-harnessed geolocators. Five geolocators were deployed on Sprague's pipits at Theodore Roosevelt National Park in western North Dakota and the remaining birds at a Nature Conservancy Canada site in southern Saskatchewan. The geolocators weigh 0.6g (approximately the same as a salt packet from a fast-food restaurant) and record each bird's daily location based on day length. The geolocators will be removed in the following year when the birds return to their breeding grounds. The tagged birds are marked with small plastic colored leg bands. Information gained will be important for prioritizing lands for grassland restoration.

Stephanie Martin
Park Ranger, Bear Paw Battlefield



Photo: Courtesy of Wildlife Conservation Society

The adult Sprague's Pipit, *Anthus spragueii*, is a pale, slender, sparrow-sized bird with white outer tail feathers, a thin bill, pale legs, and a heavily streaked back.

Five geolocators were deployed on Sprague's pipits at Theodore Roosevelt National Park in western North Dakota and the remaining birds at a Nature Conservancy Canada site in southern Saskatchewan. The geolocators weigh 0.6g (approximately the same as a salt packet from a fast-food restaurant) and record each bird's daily location based on day length. The geolocators will be removed in the following year when the birds return to their breeding grounds. The tagged birds are marked with small plastic colored leg bands. Information gained will be important for prioritizing lands for grassland restoration.



New Faces Along the Trail:

Bill Avey Selected to Serve as Forest Supervisor for the Lewis and Clark National Forest

Bill Avey has been chosen to serve as the new Forest Supervisor for the Lewis and Clark National Forest. Bill will start in his new role on February 12 when he steps into the position vacated this past summer when the former Forest Supervisor, Spike Thompson, retired.

Bill comes to the Lewis and Clark National Forest from Missoula where he has served as the Deputy Director of Fire, Aviation and Air for the Northern Region (National Forests in Montana, northern Idaho, and the Dakota Prairie Grasslands) since July, 2010. Prior to working as the Deputy Director, Bill was the District Ranger for the Big Timber Ranger District on the Gallatin National Forest.

Bill received a Bachelors of Science in Forestry from the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point.

He started his career with the Forest Service in Wyoming on the Big Horn National Forest in 1981 as a forestry technician working as a firefighter and timber cruiser. After 7 years there, he went to the Manti-LaSal NF in Utah as an Assistant Fire Management Officer. From there he worked on the Wisdom and Madison Ranger Districts of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest in recreation, range, timber, minerals, lands, and special uses prior to being promoted to the District Ranger position in Big Timber.

Throughout his career, Bill has successfully pursued special assignments to broaden the diversity and depth of his leadership and professional skills. These assignments have included serving in several stints as Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor in the Northern and Southwest Regions, working to obtain advanced Agency Administrator fire qualifications, and serving as the Agency Administrator on several large and complex fires. In 2006 he was awarded the National Line Officer Team Award for Fire Leadership.

Bill refers to being selected to serve in this new role as a “dream come true” saying, “I am honored and humbled to serve as Forest Supervisor of the Lewis and Clark National Forest. The Lewis and Clark Forest has an outstanding professional workforce that I look forward to learning from. The Forest is truly a world class resource, and the communities are strongly connected to it, in a way that I view as the epitome of a healthy connection with the land. I look forward to serving the people and the land for the long run.”

Sean D. Harwood Intermountain Region (R4) Trails, Travel Management, and Dispersed Recreation Coordinator

Sean started his career with the Forest Service as a cartographer working at the Geospatial Services and Technology Center (GSTC) in Salt Lake City in 1990. He moved to the R4 regional office as the supervisory cartographer in 2002, and accepted his current position in 2010.

He lives in Clinton, Utah which is a suburb of Ogden, where he grew up. His wife Pamela is a high school math teacher, and they have three daughters, Haileigh 22, who is attending nursing school, Jade 17, a junior in high school, and Sienna 15, a ninth grade junior high student. “They are all good kids,” said Harwood.

Sean loves the outdoors, and is an avid bike, motorcycle, ATV, horse, and hiking trail user. He skis in the winter and one of his major hobbies is horse shoeing. He also operates a small working farm in Southern Idaho that takes up his weekend time, but always allows access to the out of doors.



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Spring Scenes Along the Nez Perce National Historic Trail

Images by Roger Peterson, US Forest Service



Moon setting over the Bitterroot mountains

The Snake River near Lewiston, ID



Fort Missoula Power Magazine

Fort Owen State Park, Stevensville, MT

