



CLIMATE *Friendly* PARKS

Nez Perce National Historical Park Action Plan

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Nez Perce National Historical Park Becomes a Climate Friendly Park	3
The Challenge of Climate Change	4
Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory at Nez perce National Historical Park	5
STRATEGY 1: Reduce GHG Emissions Resulting From Activities within and by the Park.....	9
Energy Use Management	9
Transportation Management.....	11
Waste Management.....	12
STRATEGY 2: Increase Climate Change Education and Outreach	16
Park Staff	16
Visitor Outreach	16
Local Community Outreach	17
STRATEGY 3: Evaluate Progress And Identify Areas for Improvement.....	18
Conclusion	18

NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK BECOMES A CLIMATE FRIENDLY PARK

As a participant in the Climate Friendly Parks program, Nez Perce National Historical Park belongs to a network of parks nationwide that are putting climate friendly behavior at the forefront of sustainability planning. By conducting an emission inventory, setting an emission reduction goal, developing this Action Plan, and committing to educate park staff, visitors, and community members about climate change, Nez Perce National Historical Park provides a model for climate friendly behavior within the National Park Service (NPS).

This Action Plan identifies steps that Nez Perce National Historical Park can undertake to reduce GHG emissions and mitigate its impact on climate change. The plan presents the Park's emission reduction goals, and associated reduction actions to achieve the Park's goals. Strategies and action plan items were developed by working groups at the North Coast & Cascade and Upper Columbia Basin Climate Friendly Parks Workshop conducted February 9-10, 2010 in Seattle, Washington.¹

This plan provides a framework to meet the Park's emission reduction, and is not intended to provide detailed instructions on implementing each of the proposed measures. That function is carried out by the Park's Environmental Management System (EMS), whose annually-updated plan details the park's priorities and steps to implement the actions.

The EMS *Environmental Commitment Statement* asserts that Nez Perce National Historical Park will:

- conduct its operations in an environmentally responsible manner in accordance with NPS Director's Order 13A;
- meet or exceed all applicable federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations;
- incorporate best management practices, fostering the sustainable use of natural resources;
- reduce waste generation, and recycle and reuse all materials wherever feasible in park operations;
- purchase environmentally preferable products;
- cooperate with local governments and stakeholders to promote sound environmental management practices;
- educate visitors on these concepts; and
- strive for continual improvement in environmental management.

This Climate Friendly Parks Action Plan is folded into the Nez Perce National Historical Park EMS environmental goals, objectives, and targets identified on pages 23-26 of the FY2010 EMS Plan.

Nez Perce National Historical Park has committed to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) from its Park operations to 40% below 2007 levels by the year 2016 by implementing emission mitigation actions identified by the Park. This Action Plan lays out measures the park will undertake to meet this goal. Specifically, the plan recommends three strategies relative to the Park's current and future emission inventories:

Strategy 1: Identify and implement mitigation actions that the park can independently take to reduce GHG emissions resulting from activities within and by the Park

Strategy 2: Increase climate change education and outreach efforts

Strategy 3: Monitor progress with respect to reducing emissions and identify areas for improvement

¹ Original notes from these workshops, including detailed action items not presented in the final plan have been archived by Nez Perce National Historical Park and are available upon request.

THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change presents significant risks and challenges to the National Park Service and specifically to Nez Perce National Historical Park. Scientists cannot predict with certainty the general severity of climate change nor its impacts. Average global temperatures on the Earth's surface have increased about 1.1°F since the late 19th century, and the 10 warmest years of the 20th century all occurred in the last 15 years. The single leading cause of this warming is the buildup of GHGs in the atmosphere—primarily carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O)—which trap heat that otherwise would be released into space.

The continued addition of CO₂ and other GHGs to the atmosphere will raise the Earth's average temperature more rapidly in the next century; a global average warming of 4-7°F by the year 2100 is considered likely.² Rising global temperatures will further raise sea levels and affect all aspects of the water cycle, including snow cover, mountain glaciers, spring runoff, water temperature, and aquatic life. Climate change is also expected to affect human health, crop production, animal and plant habitats, and many other features of our natural and managed environments.

At Nez Perce National Historical Park, increasing temperatures, and changing precipitation patterns may alter Park ecosystems, changing vegetation communities, habitats available for species, and the experience of Park visitors. The effects of global climate change are particularly difficult to substantiate given that Nez Perce National Historical Park is not contained within one contiguous land base, but is rather comprised of scattered sites containing significant natural and cultural resource components in Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Idaho (where two-thirds of Park sites are found).

While this Action Plan mainly focuses on Park headquarters at Spalding, Idaho—where primary visitor, administrative, and facility management operations are centered—its remaining 37 sites are located across ecological zones at elevations ranging from approximately 700 feet to 6,800 feet above sea level, in three basic ecoregions: shortgrass prairie, sagebrush steppe, and conifer/alpine meadows. Spalding is located in the Palouse Grasslands of the shortgrass prairie ecoregion.

On September 14, 2009 Secretarial Order No. 3289 established a climate change strategy to integrate the work of each Department of the Interior (DOI) bureau to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change in the pursuit of their respective missions. The NPS strategy includes working with partner DOI agencies—i.e. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and U.S. Geological Service (USGS)—to identify and monitor indicators of climate change in Park environments.

As of this writing, several Nez Perce National Historical Park sites are being considered for monitoring ecological response to climate change in high elevation Park units of the Great Northern Landscape Cooperative, including the Big Hole National Battlefield (Wisdom, Montana); Old Joseph Cemetery (Joseph, Oregon); Bear Paw Battlefield (Chinook, Montana); and nearest to Spalding, the Weippe Prairie (Weippe, Idaho).

While the process of establishing monitoring systems and protocols in response to Secretarial Order 3289 is as yet in development, the potential exists for Nez Perce National Historical Park to contribute to the science of climate change, whose outcomes can be used to further inform Park managers, cooperators, and the public.

² IPCC 2007. Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Geneva Switzerland. Available online at < <http://ipcc-wg1.ucar.edu/wg1/wg1-report.html>>

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION INVENTORY AT NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Naturally occurring GHGs include CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, and water vapor. Human activities (e.g., fuel combustion and waste generation) lead to increased concentrations of these gases (except water vapor) in the atmosphere.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

GHG emissions result from the combustion of fossil fuels for transportation and energy (e.g., boilers, electricity generation), the decomposition of waste and other organic matter, and the volatilization or release of gases from various other sources (e.g., fertilizers and refrigerants). The GHG emissions for Nez Perce National Historical Park emanate from three structures containing visitor services, facility management, and administrative functions at the Park's 90-acre Spalding headquarters. These include a 15,000-square-foot visitor center built in 1980 housing visitor services and exhibits; curatorial/archival storage; and offices for Park rangers, resource managers and specialists; a maintenance complex containing shops, storage, and offices dating from the 1990s; a double-wide modular office structure located adjoining the visitor center; and administrative offices within an adapted 1890s historic house.

Additional emissions derive from a restroom and small maintenance building located each at the Park's Canoe Camp (Orofino) and Heart of the Monster (East Kamiah) sites. All three sites have ample public parking, and are considered for the purposes of the Action Plan to be key visitor destinations.

In 2007, GHG emissions within Nez Perce National Historical Park totaled 240 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO₂E). This includes emissions from Park and concessioner operations and visitor activities, including vehicle use within the Park. For perspective, a typical single family home in the U.S. produces approximately 12 MTCO₂ per year.³ Thus, the combined emissions from Park operations and visitor activities within the Park are roughly equivalent to the emissions from the electricity use of 20 households each year.

The largest emission sectors for Nez Perce National Historical Park are Energy and Transportation, totaling 116 and 105 MTCO₂E respectively (Fig 1 and Table 1). Park facilities and infrastructure are powered by electricity, principally hydro-generated. None of these facilities would be eligible today for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, and the Park's long-range plan calls for adapting and augmenting the existing Spalding visitor center to comply with green building criteria and consolidate staff now working in separated locations. The high cost, and protracted NPS line-item construction timeline, means that this goal is unlikely to be realized for many years. The Action Plan therefore describes the actions that have been taken, and those anticipated, that will mitigate and further reduce GHG emissions.

One action being explored is that of installing solar energy collection panels on the roof of the triangle-shaped visitor center. The costs and feasibility challenges associated with adapting a 1980 building design with as yet nascent solar energy technology have yet to be determined.

The impact of motor vehicles is another challenge with respect to GHG emissions at Nez Perce National Historical Park. Unlike a traditional national park with a contiguous land base, this park comprises geographically scattered sites in mainly rural settings where public transportation does not exist. Both employees and visitors must drive to experience the park and attend to work responsibilities in resources management, maintenance, and coordination between the various stakeholder groups who cooperate in the park's management (all but nine of the park's 38 sites are owned by non-NPS landowners). The transition of park fleet vehicles from gasoline to hybrid, the encouragement of employee carpooling where practicable, and good driving practices can mitigate, but will never eliminate, this reality.

³ U.S. EPA, Greenhouse Gases Equivalencies Calculators – Calculations and References, Retrieved , Website: <http://www.epa.gov/RDEE/energy-resources/calculator.html>

FIGURE 1

Nez Perce National Historical Park's 2007 Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector

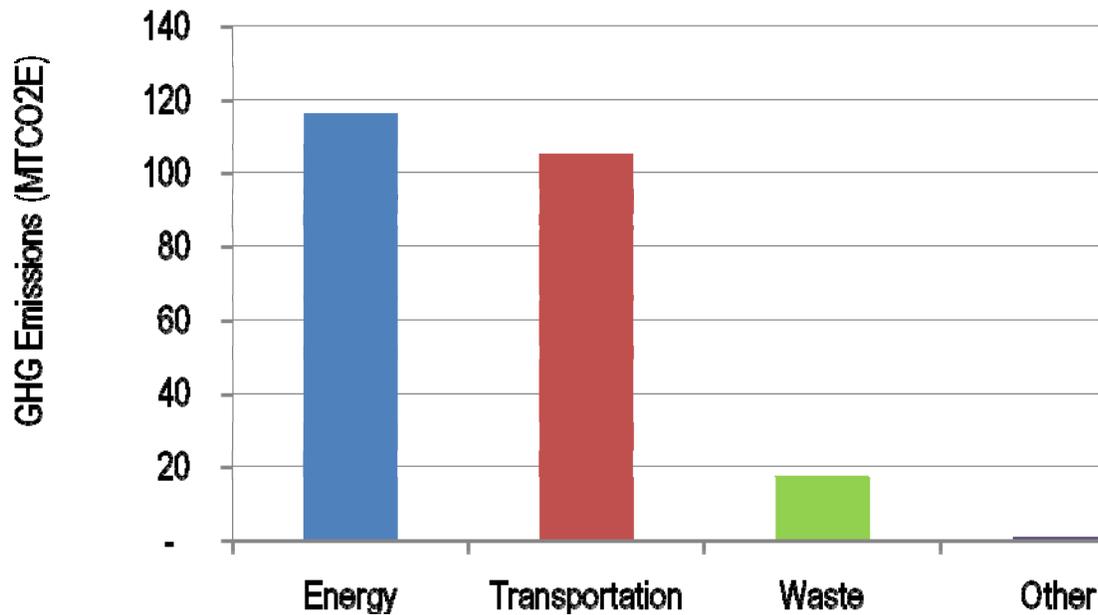


TABLE 1

Nez Perce National Historical Park's 2007 Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector and Source

Total Park GHG Inventory Results (MTCO2E)

	MTCO2E
Energy	116
Stationary Combustion	-
Purchased Electricity	116
Transportation	105
Mobile Combustion	105
Waste	17
Landfilled Waste	17
Wastewater	0
Other	1
Refrigeration and Air Conditioning	1
Total	240

Note - Totals may not sum due to rounding

Not applicable data sources represented by "-"

FIGURE 2

Nez Perce National Historical Park's 2007 Park Operations Emissions by Sector

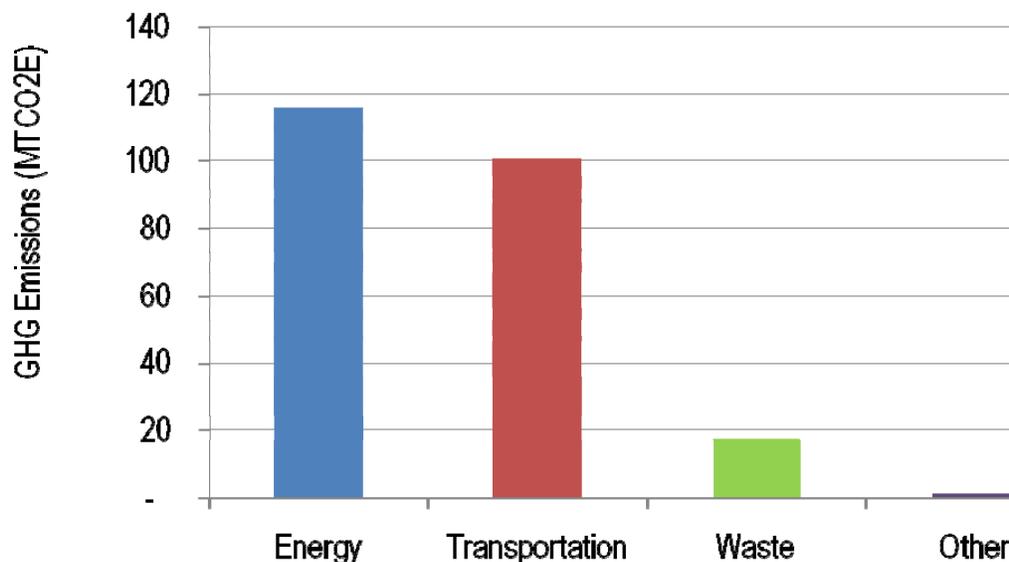


TABLE 2

Nez Perce National Historical Park's 2007 Park Operations Emissions by Sector

Park Operations GHG Inventory Results (MTCO2E)

	MTCO2E
Energy	116
Stationary Combustion	-
Purchased Electricity	116
Transportation	101
Mobile Combustion	101
Waste	17
Landfilled Waste	17
Wastewater	0
Other	1
Refrigeration and Air Conditioning	1
Total	236

Note - Totals may not sum due to rounding

Not applicable data sources represented by "-"

Nez Perce National Historical Park Responds to Climate Change

The following actions were developed during the North Coast & Cascade and Upper Columbia Basin Climate Friendly Parks Workshop on February 9th and 10th, 2010 in order to meet the Park's climate change mitigation goals.

STRATEGY 1: REDUCE GHG EMISSIONS RESULTING FROM ACTIVITIES WITHIN AND BY THE PARK

Nez Perce National Historical Park has developed a set of actions that the Park is committed to taking in order to reduce emissions from activities within and by the Park. These strategies have been prioritized based on a qualitative assessment of a set of criteria including: emission reduction potential, cost-effectiveness, feasibility, co-benefits, regional impact, and ability to rapidly implement. Actions that Nez Perce National Historical Park will take have been presented below in order from highest to lowest priority within each sub-category.

Energy Use Management

Emission Reduction Goal: Reduce Park operations' energy use emissions to 35 percent below 2007 levels by 2016.

Improving energy efficiency and implementing alternative energy sources reduces Park-based fuel use, lowers GHG emissions, decreases electricity consumption, and offers monetary benefits for the Park. Emissions inventory results indicate that 49 percent of the Park's GHG emissions from Park Operations are from energy consumption. Consequently, Nez Perce National Historical Park identified actions it will take to reduce energy-related emissions. Presented below are the actions that are currently under way and which comprise the Park's progress to date, as well as those actions the Park will pursue.

Progress to Date

Behavioral Changes

- Maintained/replaced all operating components so as not to impede Park activities or incur additional energy cost. This schedule is set up by Facility Maintenance Software System (FMSS).
- Installed new programmable night set back thermostats in 2009. Settings are checked weekly in the new Visitor Center and modular office.
- Janitorial schedule were changed to the same as building operating hours for 6 months a year and the other 6 months it is 1 hour earlier than operating hours.
- All computers' power management settings follow current Energy Star recommendations. Set computers to enter system standby or hibernation mode after 30 minutes of inactivity and monitors to enter sleep mode after 15 minutes of inactivity.

Lighting

- All light fixtures/ballast were replaced to T-8 fixtures in the Visitor Center, Green House, Maintenance Shop and storage.
- Guidelines exist that require new buildings to be oriented to maximize passive solar energy and natural ventilation and that use a north wall design that minimizes heat loss.
- Dimmable ballasts have been installed in the research center and theater.
- Motion sensors have been installed in the theater, exhibit room, and restrooms; also photo cells are installed on outside building mounted lights at the Visitor Center and Green House.

- Parking lot and walkway lights were put on a timer and only run for 1 hour, six months a year in the winter. All exit signs were retrofitted with LED lights in 2007.

Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)

- Thermostats are recalibrated every 6 months or as needed.
- The Park installed heat pumps to utilize outside air temperatures by means of automatic dampers.
- Heat settings are disabled in the summer months.

Energy Efficient Electronics and Devices

- A procurement policy is in place that meets and exceeds the Federal Energy Management Program guidelines, ensures that all new electronic/office equipment is energy efficient, and mandates that each device is used by the maximum feasible number of people to reduce redundancy.
- Replaced windows in office trailer in 2008.
- The Park has installed window shading on all windows in all buildings. The ones in the Visitor Center are hollow cored insulated to keep out heat.
- Visitor Center roof was installed with an insulated white Hyplon to reflect the sun's rays.

Other Energy Management Actions

- Energy audit was completed in 2000. Met or exceeded all energy standards at that time.

Energy Use Management – Planned Actions

1 Promote energy efficiency and energy conservation in the Park through behavioral change

- Develop a mandatory energy-saving training program.
 - Direct the Park's Environmental Management Systems (EMS) team to develop and conduct staff training program; add as a component of Nez Perce National Historical Park EMS plan.

2 Upgrade lighting options

- Use daylighting.
 - Utilize natural light by bringing it into buildings via conventional glazing south facing Visitor Center windows; glass needs to be upgraded for better efficiency.

3 Switch to more efficient electronics and devices

- Default all computers to print double-sided.
 - Work with IT specialist to complete on all computer printers to set the default settings on all computers and copiers to double-sided printing.

- Install energy efficient water heaters.
 - Develop and install energy efficient hot water heating and delivery systems throughout the Park.

4 Improve building structures and envelopes

- Add window film.
 - Upgrade windows as part of the Visitor Center replacement in 2015.

5 Utilize alternative energy sources

- Purchase electricity from a renewable energy provider.
 - Research renewable electricity options through the local utility to reduce electricity-related GHG emissions.
- Install Photovoltaic Panels on Park Buildings, Parking Lots, Open Areas, Etc.
 - Install a photovoltaic array on the 15,000 square foot Visitor Center roof (awaiting funding).
- Run existing devices using biofuel instead of conventional fuel.
 - Use biobase lubricants in all maintenance equipment (i.e. tractors, mowers, ATV's and chain saw/weed eater gas mix).

6 Measure energy use throughout the Park

- Review and implement the DOI Sustainable Buildings Implementation Plan.
 - Renovate the Visitor Center to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver or better standards (funding already requested).

Transportation Management

Emission Reduction Goal: Reduce Park operations transportation emissions to 35 percent below 2007 levels by 2016.

Reducing vehicle miles traveled, improving vehicle efficiency, and using alternative fuels can significantly reduce Nez Perce National Historical Park's emissions. As the inventory results indicate, GHG emissions from transportation comprise 43 percent of Park operations emissions and 44 percent of the Park's overall emissions (including visitors). Accordingly, in addition to the Park operations emissions reduction goal, Nez Perce National Historical Park set a goal to reduce overall transportation emissions by 45 percent below 2007 levels by 2016. Presented below are the actions that are currently under way and which comprise the Park's progress to date, as well as those actions that the Park will pursue.

Progress to Date

Behavioral Changes

- The Park employees have been carpooling as much as possible as schedules allow.

- The Park set teleconferencing as standard practice to reduce the travel emissions, whenever and wherever possible.

Vehicle and Equipment Fuel Consumption

- Substituted two-stroke with more efficient four-stroke engines in maintenance equipment.

Vehicle and Equipment Replacement

- Requested two new hybrids in 2010; receipt depends on willingness of General Services Administration (GSA) fleet management to make hybrid vehicles available, particularly if not manufactured in the U.S.

Vehicle Maintenance

- The Park keep vehicles in top mechanical conditional including: rotating tires every 5000 miles, checking tire pressure, not topping off tank, and getting regular tune-ups.
- All maintenance equipment was converted in 2008 to use biobase lubricants.

Transportation Management – Planned Actions

1 Reduce NPS vehicle and equipment fuel consumption

- Identify areas to reduce or eliminate mowing.
 - As part of the Visitor Center line item construction project incorporate native grass/plants to reduce watering and mowing.

Waste Management

Emission Reduction Goal: Reduce Park operations waste emissions to 40 percent below 2007 levels by 2016 through waste diversion and reduction.

The connection between waste and GHG emissions may not be obvious. However, waste management—in the form of source and solid waste reduction—can dramatically reduce GHG emissions. Landfills are the largest human-generated source of CH₄ emissions in the United States. Reducing the amount of waste sent to landfills reduces CH₄ emissions caused by decomposition as well as the GHGs emitted from the transportation of waste. The less the Park and its visitors consume in terms of products and packaging, the less energy is used and fewer GHGs are emitted.

Nez Perce National Historical Park's operation activities emitted 17 MTCO₂E from waste management in 2007. Diverting or reducing the Park's waste stream through increased recycling and waste management will reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills and resulting emissions. Presented below are the actions that are currently underway and which comprise the Park's progress to date as well as those actions that the Park will pursue.

Progress to Date

Waste Prevention

- Staff is procuring approved recycle content office products (i.e. paper, toner cartridges, etc.)
- The Park has installed hand dryers in the Visitor Center restrooms and gotten away from paper towels.

Waste Diversion (Recycling and Composting)

- The Park recycles cardboard, aluminum, scrap metal, glass, white paper, and number 1 PET and number 2 HDPE plastics. Pallets have been and will continue to be donated to local organizations for reuse.
- The Park has an assigned recycle coordinator.
- Fluorescent bulbs are sent to be reclaimed at recycling service centers annually.
- Used oil/coolants are recycled at local certified dealership.
- Arranged for asphalt company to come in and grind off for reuse during last overlay.
- Recycling of batteries is tracked via the Intergraded Solid Waste Alternatives Plan (ISWAP) diversion worksheet that is updated annually.
- Recycling containers have been installed in all office buildings.

Green Procurement

- Adopted the Pacific West Region Guidance for Procurement, we also track the Ozone-Depleting Substances that we have here in the Park and insure that the recovery of abated material is done in accordance with 40 CFR part 82 subpart F.
- Park implemented using recycle-content toner cartridges, recycled paper products. Recycle content carpets when replacing. Plastic lumber on decks, trail bridges.
- Verbiage is included in all contracts that require recycling purchasing new items from the CPG list and meeting or exceeding energy/water efficiency standards.
- Purchased products from local vendors whenever possible and still stay within the purchasing guidelines.
- The Park recycled all computer equipment when possible.
- The Park has gone through paints and adhesives and changed to latex paint and stain wherever possible. Nez Perce is a historical park so sometimes other paints are required.
- The Park already uses carpets with high recycled content using the CPG list and guidelines.
- The Park's hazmat coordinator has replaced the Park's hazardous chemicals for a less toxic or non-toxic substitute whenever possible and will continue to do so. This is done annually to target the worst products we have in the Park and try to find a substitute for those products.

Reduce Wastewater

- Older toilets, urinals have been replaced (as they wear out) with the new most efficient models available at the time of replacement.
- Faucet aerators have been installed on all sinks and showerheads.
- Sprinkler system was set to water at night in order to reduce evaporation.

Other Waste Management Actions

- The Park had an ISWAP developed in April 2004 by D.A. Kahl Consulting.
- Standard language about contactor responsibility for waste reduction has been inserted in all construction contracts.

Waste Management – Planned Actions

1 Decrease waste through behavior change

- Train staff on green procurement practices.
 - Green procurement staff training will be conducted by appropriate staff annually.
- Train Park staff on source reduction, waste prevention, recycling and composting initiatives.
 - Waste management staff training will be conducted by appropriate staff annually.

2 Establish new plans and policies that promote waste reduction.

- Start a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling outreach campaign aimed at Park visitors.
 - The Park's recycling coordinator is working with the interpretive staff and media specialist to get verbiage added into the Park's brochure, and reservation application forms.

3 Implement recycling and composting practices

- Recycle or donate old computers and electronics.
 - Continue to recycle unusable computers and electronics and ensures that the recycler of the e-waste is an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) certified recycler to ensure toxic components are properly managed.
- Measure the baseline solid waste generation (tons) at the Park.
 - Measure the baseline solid waste generation (tons) at the Park and track this information within the Park's ISWAP that is updated annually.

- Recycle grass.
 - Limbs/branches are chipped and transported to a composting plant.

4 Reduce waste through green procurement

- Use post-consumer recycled paper in all Park publications.
 - We have been experimenting with different percentage of post-consumer recycled paper in the copiers but some of the equipment will not operate properly with higher than 30% post-consumer recycled material content.
- Inventory and substitute all cleaning supplies with non-toxic products.
 - Develop a preferred list of green and locally sourced products for purchase card holders and provide the list to Park employees. Refer to the Pacific West Region tracking worksheet for guidance on preferred products and providers.

5 Reduce and reuse wastewater

- Manage non-point wastewater.
 - The Park's storm drains are kept clean, proper spill cleanup procedures are in place. Pesticides are managed in accordance to all state and federal regulations. Vehicles or equipment is washed at a local car wash.

6 Other

- Track and report landfill data to monitor reductions and success in diverting waste from the landfill.
 - The Park tracks and reports landfill data to monitor reductions and success in diverting waste from the landfill through the ISWAP that is updated annually.

STRATEGY 2: INCREASE CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Climate change is a complex and easily misunderstood issue. Nez Perce National Historical Park can play an integral role in communicating about climate change to a vast audience. A better understanding of the challenges and benefits of reducing GHG emissions can motivate staff, visitors, and community members to incorporate climate friendly actions into their own lives.

Nez Perce National Historical Park recognizes that the greatest potential impact the Park can have on mitigating climate change is through public education. Thus, the Park sees public education as an end goal of any climate initiative. From increasing the efficiency of transportation to developing a green purchasing program, the actions Nez Perce National Historical Park takes to address climate change serve as opportunities for increasing the public's awareness of climate change. Presented are actions that are currently underway and which comprise the Park's progress to date, and those actions that the Park will pursue.

Progress to Date

Education and Outreach Actions

- Maintenance staff collects recyclables for the Park and brings them into the local recycling station. The Maintenance staff also talks to the visitors about the importance of them helping the Park recycle.

Park Staff

Incorporate climate change into Park staff training and events

Developing a climate change education program for Park staff is vital to increasing awareness about climate change among Park visitors and fostering a sense of collective responsibility among staff to help reduce Park emissions. By incorporating climate change education into staff development programs, Nez Perce National Historical Park will enable its staff to demonstrate their commitment through leading by example, and providing visitors with the tools and resources they need to reduce GHG emissions in the Park and in their own communities. Potential actions include:

- Include the science and impacts of climate change into Park education tools.
 - Obtain traveling National Park Service (NPS)/National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) exhibit for display at the Visitor Center.

Visitor Outreach

Understanding climate change and its consequences is essential to initiating individual behavioral change. Nez Perce National Historical Park realizes that it has a unique opportunity to educate the public in a setting free from many of the distractions of daily life. By using existing materials, developing park-specific materials, highlighting what the park is currently doing about climate change, and encouraging visitors to reduce emissions, Nez Perce National Historical Park can play an important role in educating the public about climate change.

Nez Perce National Historical Park staff recognize the many different audiences that visit the Park, including recreational and non-recreational Park visitors, “virtual visitors” who visit the Park online, school-aged visitors, local and out of town visitors, local tribes, and external audiences. Reaching these various audiences with climate change information and engaging them in the Park’s efforts requires appropriately focused messaging. The Park has developed a number of strategies to reach these various audiences effectively. These strategies include:

- Integrate climate change themes into interpretive programs.
 - Generate and collect the information needed to educate the public about climate change and help to ensure consistent and accurate messaging.
 - Develop an interpretive presentation linking climate change to traditional Nez Perce environmental beliefs and practices.
- Create signs promoting the Park’s efforts to curb emissions.
 - Install a recycling interpretive wayside display at the Spalding picnic area near recycling containers.
 - Develop a Park poster utilizing the CFP logo to explain the Park’s recycling activity and enlist public support.
- Incorporate climate friendly information into interpreter programs and talks.
 - Integrate Climate Friendly Parks (CFP) program with school programs using educational kits, wayside exhibits, posters, etc. Look for opportunities to educate with resources like the Climate Change Wildlife and Wildlands Toolkit.
 - Create demonstration projects and temporary exhibits to convey Park sustainability message to visitors.
- Educate visitors about their recycling options at the Park and at home.
 - Provide clear signage to identify recycling locations and information on materials that can recycled.
- Develop and distribute Do Your Part! materials.
 - Provide links and direction to the Do Your Part! Website on the Park website.

Local Community Outreach

The gateway communities, agencies, vendors, and volunteers surrounding Nez Perce National Historical Park can play a significant role in supporting the Park’s climate change mitigation goals. As such, when appropriate, Park staff will assist local communities with incorporating climate change messages into community events and find partners to promote climate change education at those events, and engage with surrounding agencies to coordinate effective outreach and education efforts.

STRATEGY 3: EVALUATE PROGRESS AND IDENTIFY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

By taking the actions established in strategies 1 and 2 above, Nez Perce National Historical Park plans to reduce its emissions to the specified goals. Achieving these goals will require an ongoing commitment by the Park, which may include subsequent emission inventories, additional mitigation actions, and reevaluation of goals. As part of this strategy, Nez Perce National Historical Park will:

- Monitor progress with respect to reducing emissions. This will include subsequent emission inventories to evaluate progress toward goals stated in this action plan.
- Develop additional emission mitigation actions beyond those listed in this plan.
- Periodically review and update this plan.
- The Park will track climate friendly actions through the environmental management system.

CONCLUSION

Nez Perce National Historical Park has a unique opportunity to serve as a model for over 200,000 recreational visitors annually.⁴ This report summarizes the operational actions the Park commits to undertake to address climate change. Specifically, the Park realizes its ability to educate the public and serve as a valuable model for citizens. By seriously addressing GHG emissions within the Park and sharing its successes with visitors, Nez Perce National Historical Park will help mitigate climate change far beyond the Park's boundaries.

The National Park Service faces an uncertain future due to the possible effects of climate change. However, by seriously addressing climate change impacts and reducing emissions, Nez Perce National Historical Park will reduce its contribution to the problem while setting an example for its visitors. The strategies presented in this Action Plan present an aggressive first step towards moving Nez Perce National Historical Park to the forefront of Climate Friendly Parks.

⁴ Nez Perce National Historical Park: Park Statistics. Available online at: <http://www.nature.nps.gov/stats/viewReport.cfm>

APPENDIX A: LIST OF WORK GROUP PARTICIPANTS

Randy Anderson – Maintenance Worker/Haz-Mat Coordinator, Nez Perce National Historical Park

Scott Eckberg – Idaho Unit Manager, Nez Perce National Historical Park

Justin Ohlschlager – Physical Science Technician, Climate Friendly Parks Program, Mount Rainier National Park

