

Nez Perce Publications

SUMMER 2004 Progress Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S CORNER:

Over the past 15 years I have experienced all of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. While driving the auto tour route, walking, or riding horseback along the Trail, I try to imagine what the natural environment looked like back in 1877, and try to establish where the trail was actually located. I try to understand the management of a particular landscape by various user groups -- and changes that have occurred since the Nez Perce first traveled the Trail.

Trail visitors want to understand changes wrought on the landscape. We continue to be on the lookout for new ways to connect with different groups, whether through an established relationship with a non-profit organization like Nez Perce Trail Foundation, or a new and developing relationship with a museum like the West Yellowstone Museum.

The NPNHT will continue to search out relationships that help tell the story of the Trail and help provide a continuous link along the Trail route.

We are pleased to present this Progress Report, highlighting some of the NPNHT accomplishments for 2003 and 2004. These accomplishments reflect our commitment to our philosophy and mission and to the Trail:

- Reviewed and edited NPNHT portion of the [Hells Canyon NRA Comprehensive Management Plan](#)
- Wrote and recorded interpretive/informational radio spots covering NPNHT
- Assisted personnel with the Wallowa Mountains Visitor Center, Clearwater National Forest Supervisor's Office, and Lolo Pass Visitor Information Center with information requests, interpretive materials, and displays on the NPNHT, Nez Perce culture, Nez Perce continuum, and the return of Nez Perce to the Wallowa Region
- Represented the NPNHT as ex-officio member of the Oregon Historic Trails Advisory Council (OHTAC), a governor-appointed council to advise, locate, preserve, and encourage the use of the four nationally recognized and 16 state-recognized historic trails in Oregon.
- Represented NPNHT at commemorative events held at battle sites at White Bird, Clearwater, Big Hole and Bears Paw
- Dedicated Indian Village Grove of culturally modified trees along the NPNHT into the Oregon Heritage Tree Program with



**Wildflowers
in Hells Canyon**

representatives from the Nez Perce Tribe, Wallowa Band Nez Perce Trail Interpretive Center, Nez Perce Trail Foundation, National Park Service, Oregon Travel Information Council, Bureau of Indian Affairs, The Nature Conservancy, Wallowa Resources (a non-profit community sustainability organization), local media, and interested local publics.

- Coordination of the development of a Heritage Tree plaque in Nez Perce language to be mounted with the original plaque
- Ordered and replaced NPNHT reassurance markers and NPNHT Auto Tour signs in four states
- Coordinated and collaborated with the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Trail Interpretive Center throughout the year as ex-officio board member -- the Center is also a Nez Perce National Historical Park [NEPE] site
- Coordinated and collaborated with NEPE (specifically WA/OR Unit Manager, Natural Resource Manager, Museum Curator, and Archivist)
- Funded and finished the reconstruction design of Joseph Canyon Overlook along the NPNHT Auto Route on State Hwy 3 (co-managed site with NEPE)
- Continued to increase informational area and interpretive/educational products related to the Trail in the Clarkston office of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and the Wallowa Mountains Visitor Center
- Attended and presented at the Nez Perce Trail Foundation annual meeting
- Funded Region 6 representative to attend the final day of the Chief Joseph Trail Ride (sponsored by the Appaloosa Horse Club) finishing their 100-mile ride of the War of 1877 route by riding into Bears Paw Battlefield
- Produced a feature on the Chief Joseph Trail Ride online, including a slide show and video clips of ceremonial drummers
- Hosted video crew filming landscapes along the Trail for an agency-produced educational documentary
- Provided coordination and involvement between the NPNHT and planning committee of the newly designated All-American Road for trail interpretation (portions of Auto/Adventure Routes along this A-A Road)
- Served on a Buned Area Emergency Recovery (BAER) Team for the Clearwater National Forest Beaver Lake Fire Complex and provided write/up for BAER Report.
- Attended Lewis and Clark Symposium to ensure protection of and accurate interpretation of NPNHT and its associated resources
- Participated in annual partner meeting with NEPE in Spalding
- Funded R6 representative to continue planning and coordinating with Nez Perce Young Horsemen program for a ride -- including a Snake River crossing -- to the homeland
- Funded R6 representative to continued consultation with Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla and Nez Perce Tribe cultural committees (specifically Elders of the tribes) on the proposed Blue Mountain land exchange, in which the Wallowa-Whitman could



Joseph Canyon Overlook

acquire about three miles of the NPNHT currently under private ownership and access to another two miles of trail under NFS ownership but currently without access

- Funded R6 representative to present Tribal Relations section of the Blue Mountains Province National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Effects Training



Meeting Attendance:

NPNHT representatives attended the "Living Together into the Future" Symposium, the Montana Archaeological Society meeting, Idaho and Montana Governor's Conferences, the Weippe Camas Festival, the Idaho Indian Education Youth Conference, and the Ninth Annual Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails.

We presented information at the Lolo Pass Visitor Center dedication, the Looking Glass Monument dedication, the 5th Lewis and Clark Symposium, the Nez Perce Trail Foundation annual meeting, the Idaho Teachers Conference at Lolo Hot Springs, the Indian Education Summit, the Sandpoint Historical Society, and the Nez Perce County Fair.

Interpretation:

- Printed 5000 Clearwater National Forest Auto Tour Brochures
- Printed 5000 NPNHT Brochures
- Printed NPNHT Posters
- Printed NPNHT Presentation Folders
- Printed 30,000 NPNHT coloring books

All brochures, posters, presentation folders, coloring books, and maps are free to the public. [Email](#) us if you'd like some!

Other interpretative materials:

- Two traveling 8-by-10-foot displays which traveled to 20 different locations
- Two wayside exhibits on the Gallatin National Forest
- Two wayside exhibits in Yellowstone National Park

- One semi-permanent display at the Lolo Trail Center

NPNHT Website:



- We received 267 emailed requests for information from our website and responded to every one.
- We sent 41 electronic Progress Reports out in addition to having them posted on the website.
- We received two national awards for our website at www.fs.fed.us/npnht -- the American Trails Organization gave us an award for "Best Site for Kids and Families," and the American Association for State and Local History recently awarded the Nez Perce National Historic Trail a certificate of commendation for its website.
- The NPNHT website was also nominated for a MAESTRO Award. These awards are granted to websites that fulfill strict criteria including functionality, presentation, content, creativity, and professionalism; the Maestro competition focuses on clarity, purpose, use of language, interactive activities, resource, expression, and attention to detail.
- The Nez Perce National Historic Trail website receives between 500 to 800 visitors per day, from dozens of different countries.
- Many web visitors find us through search engines such as [Google](http://www.google.com) and [Yahoo](http://www.yahoo.com), and a large number find us from links on other sites, including [FirstGov For Kids](http://www.firstgov.gov), other related Nez Perce sites, and the Nez Perce Trail Foundation site at [nezpercetrail.net](http://www.nezpercetrail.net)
- Many pages in our kids' section are popular, along with the cavalry section, the photo gallery, the life skills section, the virtual tour, and the section on the Chief Joseph Trail Ride.



Educational Programs:

- We provided eight educational programs for 200 elementary children
- We provided nine speaking engagements to adult audiences, reaching some 3500 people
- We talked directly to over 1,100 people who stopped by our office to inquire about the NPNHT
- We provided 200 educational packets
- We responded to 269 letters requesting information on the NPNHT
- We teamed up with the Clearwater National Forest to provide activities for 20 Preparing for Academic Excellence (PACE) students

Partners:



**Nez Perce Young Horsemen
at Bears Paw Battlefield**

We had multiple partnerships this year, with some of the same old friends that we have had for a long time, and with some fine new friends also.

- One of our new partners was Meera Censor, who contacted us through the website and generously provided a Chief Joseph sculpture for the new Lolo Pass Visitor Center
 - An old friend, Jo Proferes, illustrated three coloring books about the Nez Perce
 - We helped the Nez Perce Appaloosa Horse Club send a number of young people to ride in the 2003 Chief Joseph Trail Ride
 - We replaced the vandalized monument at the site of Looking Glass's camp with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service assistance
 - Along with the Big Hole National Battlefield and the National Park Service, we exchanged park rangers with Parks Canada and Fort Shaw
- We also had partnership activities with Yellowstone National Park, the Nez Perce Tribe Cultural Camp, the Nez Perce Trail Foundation, the Appaloosa Horse Club, and the Lewis and Clark State College Lolo Trail video project.



Jo Proferes illustrated three new coloring books about the Nez Perce

Benefits Realized:

The benefits from our projects and public service far exceed the basics of culturally sensitive maintenance on this National Historic Trail. Other benefits include the solicitation and establishment of advocates for the Trail through consistent and enduring relationships by communication, coordination, collaboration, and nurturing of partners. Other benefits include raising awareness of the Trail and associated resources with Lewis and Clark Bicentennial planners (especially where trails overlap), internal and external education, and recognition beyond congressional designation.

Proposed Work:

We will continue to maintain our award-winning website; it's an important tool for communication and information-sharing with our publics.

We need more interpretive products to better share the trail nationwide. In order to achieve this goal, we are planning posters, calendars, brochures, and the development of five more Auto Tour brochures.

Much of our progress over the last year was achieved through the collaborative efforts of our sister agencies, foundations, and other partners. The NPNHT continues partnerships to effectively use scarce financial resources.

This year the NPNHT recognized people who provide service excellence consistent with our philosophy, mission, and values. Our job is to serve the NPNHT and we take that responsibility very seriously. We are always eager to hear about how we can do a better job; if you have ideas about improvements we can make or just want to know more about what we are working on, don't wait -- give us a call or send an [email](#) today.

Sandi McFarland

NEW STAFF:



Christine Bradbury began her career with the Forest Service at 15, planting trees with the YCC. A passion for "caring for land and serving people" grew into jobs as forestry technician, hydrologic technician, and engineering technician. Dedicated to improving public participation in and understanding of public land management, Christine obtained her Masters in Public Administration (Natural Resource Management) and became a public affairs officer for the Nez Perce National Historic Trail.

Aaron Ehlinger joined the NPNHT staff as an administrative assistant in June at the end of his first semester at Paradise Valley Community College in Scottsdale, Arizona -- as part of our stay-in-school program. Prior to enrolling as a business major, Aaron served his country for nearly three years in Afghanistan. Although he now lives in Arizona, Aaron grew up in Orofino, Idaho, and his knowledge of the local area and cultures was welcomed. Aaron has already spent considerable time traveling across the region representing the NPNHT at conferences and educational presentations, including the annual Lewis & Clark symposium, the Nez Perce Trail Foundation annual meeting, the Inter-Tribal Natural Resource Youth Program, the Northwest Children's Home, and the Nez Perce Tribe's Students for Success Language Camp.



Johnae Wasson joined the NPNHT staff as an administrative assistant in August. Johnae is a junior at Kamiah High School in Idaho, taking part in the Nez Perce Tribe's Youth Employment Service Program. Johnae is a member of the Nez Perce Tribe. She helped give educational presentations at the Nez

Perce Tribe's Students for Success Language Camp, created an interpretive display for the unveiling of American Indian art stamp collection at the Missoula, Montana post office, and researched names, dates, and quotes for the upcoming 2005 NPNHT calendar. She will also help staff the NPNHT booth at the Nez Perce County Fair in September in Lewiston, Idaho.

NEW LANDSCAPE OF HISTORY VIDEO:

Filming for the updated NPNHT video, Landscape of History is complete. Forest Service Interpretive Specialist Keith Thurlkill and Forest Service Videographer Gene Colling have been instrumental in moving this production forward. Colling is determined the new video will be finalized by September. "We can still feel our connection to the trail, and the video highlights the exhilaration with the unknown and discovery of ourselves on lands preserved as parts of the NPNHT," says Administrator Sandi McFarland. Funded by McFarland, this video will go on tour, reaching thousands of people with messages about heritage and benefits of preserving the Trail. The video will be available with closed captioning that appears "on demand."

"WALKING ON SACRED GROUND" VIDEO:

The need for stewardship along the Lewis & Clark Trail is the topic of a new video produced by Media Services of Lewis-Clark State College. It's called "Walking on Sacred Ground." The video is the result of two years of collaboration among the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Nez Perce Tribe. Its purpose is to inform tourists and visitors about historic sites along the Lewis-Clark Trail and how preserving these sites is vital.

"The video has a resource protection theme," Dave Taylor of LCSC says. "There has been vandalism to the trail in the past, and we want to make people aware that this isn't just a forest, but a sacred ground and ancestral home to the Nez Perce."

The 15-minute video will be shown at National Park Service and Forest Service visitor centers along the trail as part of the Lewis-Clark Bicentennial commemoration. The video was made possible by a grant, which included \$20,000 from the National Park Service and \$10,000 from the Forest Service.



**One of Indian Post Office Lakes,
Clearwater National Forest**

Dan Kane of LCSC's Media Services was the managing producer and, along with LCSC's Jason Goldkammer, filmed the video. Angel Sobotta of the Nez Perce Tribe was the script writer. NPNHT Administrator Sandi McFarland provided funds to support production of the video, served as consultant and provided historical information. McFarland also provided additional funding to turn this video into a longer piece for a PBS broadcast later this year.

LEWIS & CLARK VIDEO:

"Lewis and Clark Crossing Centuries Video" NPNHT Administrator Sandi McFarland assisted with logistics for the filming, provided an interpretive tour for the film crew, and appears in the video.

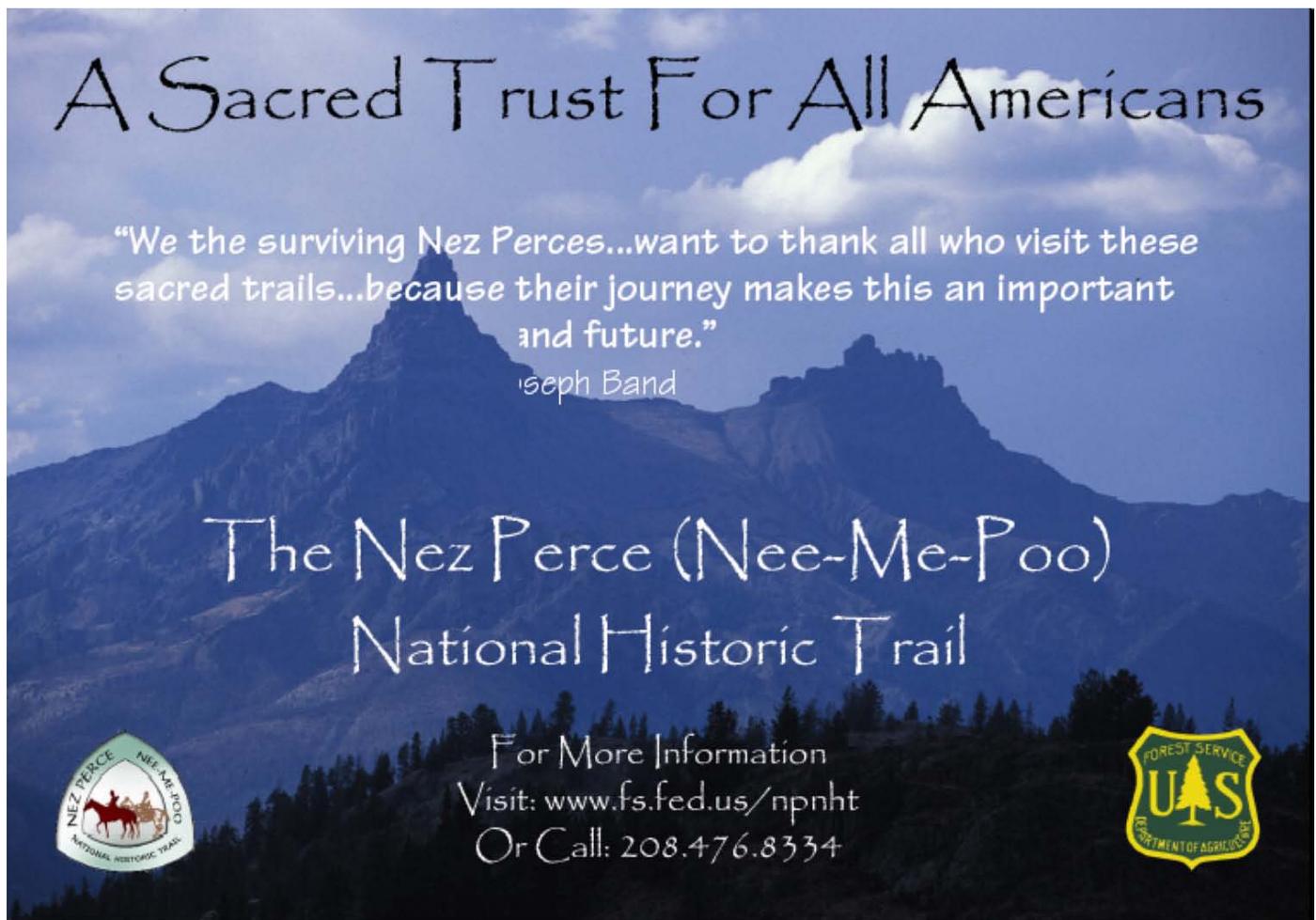
MAGAZINE FEATURE:

The Nez Perce National Historic Trail was featured in the "Renegade Roads" section of True West Magazine in August. "Following the Nez Perce Trail," written by Johnny D. Boggs, tells the author's experiences from Oregon to Montana's Bear Paw Battlefield.

Award-winning author Johnny D. Boggs has written more than 20 nonfiction books and novels, plus thousands of newspaper and magazine articles. He lives in Santa Fe with his wife, son and basset hound, and is a regular contributor to the magazine.

The magazine has been around since 1953 and was launched by the legendary Joe "Hosstail" Small in Austin, Texas.

This is the first opportunity that the NPNHT has had to publish a preservation, protection advertisement in a popular magazine.



A Sacred Trust For All Americans

"We the surviving Nez Percés...want to thank all who visit these sacred trails...because their journey makes this an important and future."

Joseph Band

The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo)
National Historic Trail

For More Information
Visit: www.fs.fed.us/npnht
Or Call: 208.476.8334



PARK FEATURED ON ABC NEWS:



Big Hole Battlefield

The 38 sites of the Nez Perce National Historical Park, which are located in Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Montana, pay tribute to the legends and history of the Nez Perce people. The travel section of ABC News recently featured the park, describing visits to Big Hole National Battlefield, the park headquarters in Spalding, Idaho, and trails at Canoe Camp outside of Orofino and the Heart of Monster in Kamiah. The park's website is at www.nps.gov/nepe/ and is also worth a visit.

BATTLEFIELD FRIENDS:

During the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877 several major battles were fought with the Army. These sites have been designated by the National Park Service as important components of the Nez Perce National Historical Park.

Jon James, former NPS superintendent of the Battlefields, organized the creation of a non-profit association called the "Friends of Bear Paw, Big Hole and Canyon Creek Battlefields" that will operate under a Memorandum of Agreement with the National Park Service. Their website at friendsnezpercebattlefields.org includes narratives of the Big Hole, Bear Paw, and Canyon Creek Battlefields, along with photos of events at the 125th anniversary celebration of the Big Hole Battlefield in August 2002.

FOUNDATION NEWS:

The Nez Perce Trail Foundation held its annual meeting July 15-16 in Wallowa, Oregon. The meeting kicked off the Chief Joseph Trail Ride, which began in the Wallowa Lake area this year. Among the speakers for the meeting were Loran Olsen, Professor Emeritus of Music and Native American Studies, Washington State University, Dennis and Lynn Baird, University of Idaho Library, and author Kent Nerburn. Sandi McFarland provided an update on NPNHT happenings.

NEW FOUNDATION LOGO:

After several years of using a modified version of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail logo that marks the federally designated trail, the Nez Perce Trail Foundation has created their own unique logo.

Designed by Nez Perce tribal artist Sarah Penney, the logo uses traditional symbolic images used in Nez Perce baskets, beadwork, and other traditional and contemporary art forms.



PEOPLE OF THE 1877 NEZ PERCE CONFLICT:

The history of the American West involved the broadest possible cross-section of human activity. In an ongoing effort to acknowledge previously under-recognized players and noteworthy individuals in the American Western drama, the "PEOPLE" section of our website is designed to help visitors identify with these courageous men, women, and children. Our latest feature is KAPKAP-PONMI, the "Noise of Running Feet."

When the War of 1877 broke out, Kapkap-Ponmi was a young girl, just 12 years old. She was born in 1865 to Hin-mah-too-yah-lat-kekht "Joseph" and Heyoom Yoyikt.



On September 30, 1877, Kapkap-Ponmi was out checking on the horse herd with her father, Chief Joseph, west of Snake Creek, when they were attacked by Colonel Miles's troops.

Joseph caught Kapkap-Ponmi a pony and told her to escape, which she did.

The day after Chief Joseph stopped fighting, he sent Yellow Wolf to find Kapkap-Ponmi and bring her to him. Yellow Wolf did find Kapkap-Ponmi, but did not bring her back to Joseph -- he joined White Bird's band with Kapkap-Ponmi and escaped to Canada.

In June of 1878 Kapkap-Ponmi traveled back into the United States. She was turned over to her aunt and placed in the Lapwai Agency School, where she was simply known as Sarah.

Her forced separation from her parents -- she was not allowed to join them in exile -- is yet another atrocity of the U.S. Government's Native American policy during the 19th century.

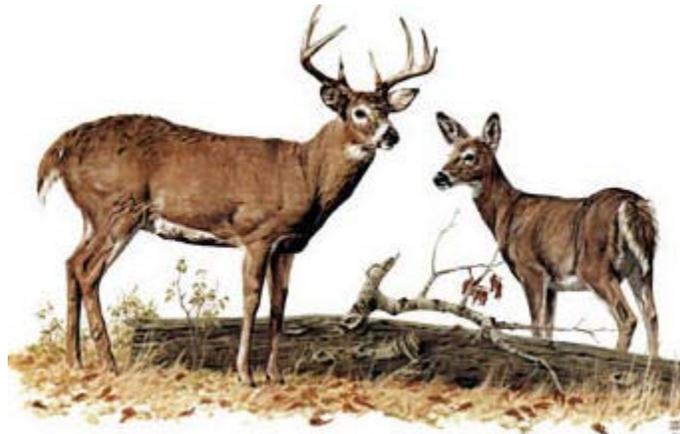
Joseph's isolation from his daughter was to be part of his punishment. In 1879 Kapkap-Ponmi married George Moses, another Nez Perce, at Spalding. She later died of malaria at Lapwai. She never had any children.

WILDLIFE ALONG THE TRAIL:

The Nez Perce National Historic Trail ranges from the Columbia River Plateau across the Continental Divide, across mountains, canyons, and valleys, through forests and plains. The Trail winds through some of the most rugged and spectacular scenery in western America, and traverses some of the largest undisturbed tracts of sagebrush steppe habitat. A tremendous variety of wildlife and plant species thrive across the varied habitats of the Trail corridor.

The Nez Perce National Historic Trail supports relatively unaltered and increasingly uncommon native habitats, the quality and extent of which are unequaled in the Pacific Northwest and Great Plains.

We've presented a few of the wildlife species found along the Trail on our website at www.fs.fed.us/npnht/wildlife and recently included this feature:



Considering the current commonness of white-tailed deer, it is hard to imagine that historically these deer were rather uncommon in the Rocky Mountains. The white-tailed deer is a master at hiding. Mountain lions and humans are the major predators.

White-tailed deer are grayish in winter and tan to reddish-brown in summer. Their undersides and throats are white. They have a large tail that is white underneath, and when threatened or alerted, the deer raise their tails like a bright white flag. The bucks grow non-branching antlers after their first winter, unlike mule deer, whose antlers are branched. Bucks generally weigh between 150 and 300 pounds and the does average 120 to 250 pounds.

The white-tailed deer is found along the entire route of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. This species is found in various habitats from forests to fields with adjacent cover -- and especially riparian habitat and brushy bottomlands. In northern regions they usually require stands of conifers for winter shelter, but they often avoid dense forest. In montane regions their habitat is limited by snow depth and duration.

Whitetails, as they're also called, eat grasses, forbs, browse, and acorns and fruits. If the winter is severe enough they may even browse on evergreens. They breed from late October to mid-December, with the rut usually peaking in November. Pregnancy can last from 187 to 222 days. Fawns are usually born in May or June, and twins are common. The fawns are a reddish brown color with white spots.

CONFERENCE and MEETING ATTENDANCE:

Staff from the NPNHT program attended a number of meetings and conferences, representing the program and educating attendees throughout the year. Trail Administrator Sandi McFarland

did a presentation for the Bonner's Ferry Historical Museum, and made another presentation to at the Idaho Teachers' Workshop at Lolo Hot Springs. McFarland and assistant Carolyn Steiner staffed an exhibit at the Idaho Indian Education Summit held at the Sacajawea Inn in Lewiston. McFarland also spoke at the Women's History Month celebration in Grangeville and the Whitebird Memorial in June, and was a guest instructor at a class at the NorthWest Indian College.

Aaron Ehlinger, Christine Bradbury, and Carolyn Steiner gave presentations at the Northwest Children's Home in Lewiston, Idaho. Bradbury and Ehlinger explained and demonstrated a traditional Indian game called double ball, and Steiner made a presentation on the Kaya Nez Perce doll.

Steiner also gave a short presentation including the video "Landscape of History" at the Intertribal Natural Resources Native American Youth Camp. The Clearwater National Forest North Fork District hosted this event this year at the Canyon Work Center from June 14-18.

PARTNERS IN STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE:

A joint session on "Art and Place in Trails" and "Where Nimiípuu, Land, and Culture Meet" was presented at the Joint Ventures: Partners in Stewardship conference in Los Angeles, California, last November. More than 700 proposals were received, and the Nimiípuu presentation was one of 300 selected. Presented jointly by the U.S. Forest Service (Sandi McFarland), the Nez Perce Tribe (Aaron Miles Sr.), and the Nez Perce Trail Foundation (Brian McCormack), the 90-minute multi-media presentation included video, artwork, and photography. Themes during the conference focused on case studies in partnerships, skills and competencies in partnership building, and the future of partnerships -- new initiatives in collaborative efforts.

BLM NATIONAL SCENIC AND HISTORIC TRAIL WORKSHOP:



The first-ever BLM National Scenic and Historic Trail workshop was held at the historic Mission Inn in downtown Riverside, California in March. Sandi McFarland with the NPNHT was selected by the National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) to attend, along with recreation and cultural program staff, trail program managers, trail partners, trail administrators, and the Federal Interagency Council on Trails. McFarland was asked to help as facilitator for one of the sessions -- on Native American/Exploration Trails. The National Scenic and Historic Trails System (NSHT) comprises of 23 congressionally designated national scenic and historic trails. The BLM is responsible for the day-to-day management of 12 portions of these multi-state trails as units of the NLCS in approximately 70 field offices. The BLM manages more federal miles of national historic trails than any other federal agency, and has been named as administrator or co-administrator on three of these trails by the Secretary of the Interior. In the 35-year history of the NSHT system, this was the first-ever national-level BLM workshop to share, discuss, and learn about managing these trails.

MONTANA GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON TOURISM AND RECREATION:

Montana's tourism industry partners gather each year for two days of education, evaluation, exchange, and entertainment. The Conference agenda includes presentations on travel trends, marketing ideas, the state's national attractions, and cultural tourism. Typically, 400 to 450 people participate in the two-day conference, including travel service providers, property owners (hotels, motels, guest ranches, B&Bs, resorts), public and private sector attraction managers and staff, guides and outfitters, federal and state agency land managers, and tourism developers and promoters.

This year's conference, held April 5-6 in Billings, included presentations on tourism research by Norma Nickerson and James Wilton of the Institute for Tourism & Recreation Research at the University of Montana, and marketing on a budget by Roger Brooks of Destination Development, Inc., out of Olympia, Washington.

Trail Administrator Sandi McFarland was one of the exhibitors at this year's conference.

APRIL FORUM:

"Working Together Into the Future" was held April 23 in Orofino, Idaho. About 150 people gathered for the day to discuss rebuilding our communities and working together for the common good. This year's forum was co-sponsored by the Nez Perce Tribe, the Historical Museum at St. Gertrude, and the National Park Service.

This is the third year for this one-day event that brings contemporary and sometimes controversial topics to the small communities on the Nez Perce reservation. Each forum attempts to bring together cultures for a day of positive interaction.

The keynote address, "Rebuilding the Front Porch in Our Communities," was given by Dr. Patrick Overton, the director of the Front Porch Institute in Astoria, Oregon.

Christine Bradbury and Carolyn Steiner represented the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. The NPNHT display was on hand, along with an array of brochures and NPNHT items for forum participants.

Begun in 2002 on the 125th anniversary of the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877, each forum has attempted to discuss topics of mutual concern to all cultures. The land and how it has been transformed over the last 300 years was the topic in 2002, and treaty rights and sovereignty issues were included in in 2003. Discussions this year focused on rebuilding communities and working together for the common good.

IDAHO GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE:

The College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls hosted the Governor's Conference on Tourism May 5-7 with a theme of "Trails to Success." Presentations included information on internet

marketing and public relations, and the keynote presentation was given by Betsy O'Rourke of the Travel Industry Association of America.

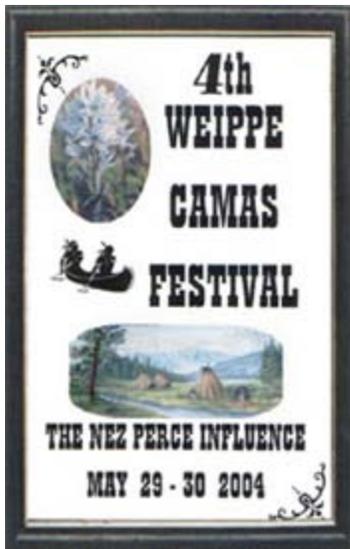
Workshops were conducted by Bruce Bommarito, Nevada Tourism, and Carol Graham, International Selkirk Loop Case Study, explaining what the state of Nevada and the International Selkirk Loop are doing to attract visitors, and Bob Werth, Mediator with the Winter Coalition, on avoiding reducing conflicts among user groups. Participants learned about creating community support and enhancing the local economy from Mary Austin-Crofts, Blaine Country Recreation, Jane Weber of the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center.



The new interpretive display for the Nez Perce National Historic Trail

Preservation and stewardship were covered in another workshop, where participants learned about protecting and preserving important trail segments from Sandi McFarland, Nez Perce National Historic Trail administrator, and Leo Hennessy, Department of Parks and Recreation. The new NPNHT exhibit was also on display.

DEDICATION OF WEIPPE VISITOR CENTER:



The community of Weippe hosted the Dedication and Ribbon Cutting of the Weippe Discovery Center with Idaho Sen. Larry Craig on May 28, 2004. The ceremonies kicked off the 4th Annual Camas Festival.

NPNHT Administrator Sandi McFarland made a presentation on traditional plants of the Nez Perce at the Camas Festival, and she and Aaron Ehlinger staffed the traveling exhibit of the Trail.

In 1805, Lewis and Clark had their first encounter with the Nez Perce on the Weippe Prairie, not far from the present townsite. A stone monument commemorating the event has been placed along the highway entrance to Weippe and on the John Opresik farm where the actual meeting took place.

SIXTH ANNUAL LEWIS & CLARK SYMPOSIUM:

The theme of the 2004 Symposium, held June 17-19 at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho, featured the flora and fauna of the L&C Trail. Keynote speaker was Landon Jones, whose new biography of William Clark was published this spring.

The Symposium also featured cultural views of native plants and flowers, lectures by national and local historians, historical overviews, a mini pow-wow and period reenactments, and field trips.



NPNHT Administrator Sandi McFarland made a presentation on traditional plants and medicines of the Nez Perce, and took on tour guide duties for an interpretive tour of the area. The NPNHT also served on the planning committee for the symposium.

The NPNHT traveling display was staffed by Christine Bradbury, Aaron Ehlinger, and Carolyn Steiner.

Next year's Symposium is scheduled for June 23-25, and the 2006 Symposium is scheduled for June 15-17. More information is available on the Symposium website, or you can write to the LCSC Center for Arts & History at 415 Main Street, Lewiston, Idaho 83501 or email EPWS@lsc.edu or phone (208)792-2447 or (800)394-4189.

OREGON-CALIFORNIA TRAILS ASSOCIATION:

Sandi McFarland and Doug Gober co-presented at the 2004 OCTA National Convention held in Vancouver, Washington August 8-15, 2004. This year's theme was "Roll On, Columbia! River Trail Of History," including Native American culture, Lewis and Clark, Fort Vancouver and the Fur Trade and the Oregon Trail.

Their presentation was titled, "Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail: Yesterday and Today." In 1986 the NPNHT was designated part of the National Trails System to commemorate the Nez Perce War of 1877. But the trail's history neither begins nor ends with this epic conflict. Segments of the route bore centuries of use prior to the war, and many segments are still used today.



Emphasizing the most treacherous and best-preserved route through the rugged Bitterroot Mountains, they examined the evolution of this diverse trail, how it was once used, and how it is used today. Those who carved it into the landscape called it "K'useyneisskit" (Buffalo Trail-Nez Perce) and "Nap-ta-nee-sha" (Trail to the Salmon-Salish). Later Lewis and Clark followed with their Corps of Discovery, describing this route as "the most terrible mountains I ever beheld." Scores of trail users continued to carve their history -- as the presentation described to the 500-some attendees.

One of the primary goals of the Oregon-California Trails Association is to help to educate people about the westward emigrant trails. The story of the emigrant trails is immensely rich, and not only spans the middle decades of the nineteenth century, but also continues to influence our world today.

Hinmatoowyahtq'it (Thunder Traveling to Higher Areas)
Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce
1840 – September 21, 1904 • "100 Years of Honoring His Legacy"



www.fs.fed.us/npnht



GRAND OPENING:

The Grand Opening of the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC, is scheduled for September 21, 2004. This date also marks the 100-year anniversary of Chief Joseph's death. Many Nez Perce tribal members will be attending the Grand Opening Ceremonies and will participate in the Native Nations Procession; registration is open till the first of September. Note that an extraordinary number of visitors are expected at the time of the opening, and Timed Passes will be required for entry to the museum. The passes are free, and a limited number of passes can also be reserved in advance for a nominal service fee at www.tickets.com or by calling toll-free (866)400-6624.

This commemorative poster of Chief Joseph will be available from the NPNHT in the near future.

NATIONAL TRAILS SYMPOSIUM:

Mark your calendars for October 21-24 for the 17th National Trails Symposium at the Austin Convention Center, Austin, Texas. This year's symposium is themed "The Emerging Role of Trails in American Lifestyles."

NPNHT staff will attend, and will present a poster session, a Trail exhibit, and a photo gallery of bridges along the Nez Perce National Historic Trail.

The schedule includes workshops, the State Trail Administrators Meeting, a Universal Trail Assessment Process (UTAP) Coordinator Workshop, an exhibit hall, a Natural Surface Trail Design Workshop, a Tread Lightly! trainer workshop, and a Volksmarch around Town Lake coordinated by the American Volkspport Association. Other agenda items include a silent auction and poster gallery, and the opening keynote luncheon will feature "The Emerging Role of Trails in American Lifestyles." Friday night's schedule includes an off-site party, a live auction, and a river boat ride. Saturday evening will feature "On the Path of Excellence," the American Trails Awards Banquet.

FORT LEAVENWORTH:

The Nez Perce Trail Foundation, in conjunction with Fort Leavenworth in Kansas, is working to have the Fort Leavenworth site officially certified as part of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail. The certification ceremony will take place at Fort Leavenworth on Friday, November 19, 2004.

KIDS' COLORING CONTEST:



Coloring contest winners at Orofino Elementary School

Orofino Elementary School students competed for the second year in a row in a coloring contest in honor of National Trails Day.

Because National Trails Day happened during summer vacation this year, the contest was re-scheduled to recognize National Indian Day on May 13.

Representatives from the NPNHT who sponsored the contest said it was open to all students from kindergarten through sixth grade.

Prizes were awarded for four categories.

Each student received a souvenir for participating, and first, second, and third place winners in each age group received a special prize and certificate.

The NPNHT staff are grateful to the school for the ongoing support, and look forward to another fun project with OES students!

PREPARING FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE:



Nearly 20 Native American students visited the Clearwater National Forest July 23. The goal of the Preparing for Academic

Excellence (PACE) summer camp is to prepare students for their first high school algebra course. By strengthening students' math and science skills PACE leaders hope to increase the number of Native American students who enroll in math and science fields.

NPNHT Public Affairs Officer Christine Bradbury, teamed up with Chris Jenkins, Clearwater National Forest Archaeologist and David Scholes, Clearwater National Forest Tribal Liaison to provide a fun, interactive activity for the students.

The students created a poster of an archaeological site, layered with artifacts they drew or cut from magazines. The highlight of the day came when Chris Jenkins tore into their posters with scissors, demonstrating that vandals to archaeological sites do more than steal artifacts, they also alter the cultural context and destroy information that can never be replaced.

The students also watched the video "Walking on Sacred Ground". Directly following the video students were asked questions relative to the video and were given prizes for correct answers.

NEZ PERCE TRIBE'S STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS LANGUAGE CAMP:

The NPNHT provided both instructors and prizes for the students, counselors and leaders. We taught students about traditional Nez Perce games, both how to play and their importance. Aaron Ehlinger and Johnnae Wasson represented the NPNHT on August 3 and August 10.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For further information, contact Sandi McFarland, Administrator, at smcfarland01@fs.fed.us or at (208)476-8334