



Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail Progress Report

Winter-Spring 2019

Administrator's Corner

Welcome to 2019! 2019 is shaping up to be a big year! We've had our share of snowy and icy days; but I do enjoy the beauty of the earth sleeping beneath the frozen ground. It is a time for rest to rejuvenate both plants and people a time to share with family and friends, and for me to do some long neglected reading. I did enjoy my perusal of a book I have been wanting to read *The Coming*. See more on this book on page four.

Perspective and perception is all about how you set your filter. As we begin 2019, my goal is to continue celebrating life and dedicating this year to the Trail. This past year we've shared history and made history. Take a look back with us. In honor of the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System Act (NTSA) we celebrated with a multifaceted approach. Working with our partner from the Bitter Root Cultural Heritage Trust we created some "fun" selfie frames and shared these interactive means for people to show their support of the NTSA at re-enactments, presentations, demonstrations, archaeological investigations, and so much more. Read more about our 50th activities in this Progress Report.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) was a definite win for everyone with the permanent reauthorization of the LWCF. We no longer have to worry about the program expiring. While dedicated funding for LWCF is still needed, permanent reauthorization removes a major barrier for the LWCF.

We work with our partners to look for opportunities to identify important unprotected sites and segments, and seek to obtain title to them through Trust for Public Lands, Willowa Land Trust, and a host of other partners in conjunction with LWCF. Together we can cultivate a community of land stewards. Maybe you spent your summers on the Trail, camping, berry picking, and horseback riding. Possibly you visit to hunt, fish, or spend time back packing. Regardless of your connection, we hope you will join us as we work together to protect this special Trail.

We owe it to our children to make these investments and conservation efforts a priority today, so that tomorrow they may better know, understand, and respect our iconic and historic treasures.

There is a common denominator among our partners opening more Trail segments where anyone can walk peacefully, ride leisurely; people who take good care of the trails and people who hike or ride the trails. That is a genuine love for nature, respect for Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail, and willingness to open up to fellow trail users. Take your children to reenactments, commemorations, or a museum and cultural center. Get them out on the Trail. History truly does affect our present and our future generations.

"All or part of every national forest and grassland is carved out of the ancestral lands of American Indian and Alaska Native peoples. Indigenous communities across the country still maintain strong historical and spiritual connections to the land, connections that have not been extinguished despite changes in land ownership." Leslie Weldon
Senior Executive for Workforce Environment, former Deputy Chief, National Forest System



U.S. Forest Service photo, Roger Peterson

L-R: Sandra Broncheau-McFarland, Charlie Moses, and Steve Elkinton.

Sandra Broncheau-McFarland,
Administrator, NPNHT



April
2019



Winter Story Telling at Travelers' Rest State Park Includes Nez Perce and Trail Stories

Our partners at Travelers' Rest State Park again hosted their Winter Story Telling speaker series early in 2019. The staff at the Park along with the Travelers' Rest Preservation & Heritage Association hosted a couple speakers in the series with connections to the Nez Perce.

In early January more than 75 people gathered to hear J.R. Spencer, a Nez Perce storyteller, singer of traditional songs, and musician share stories that go along with the skills and stories of the Nez Perce people and the campsites they used. Most of his stories came from a time known as Tit'wau'tit'yayat, which means legend days, that gives a feel of the Nez Perce legends and what the people are about.

In mid-February, as Mother Nature was busy adding more than 6-8" of snow to the ground in Lolo, more than 50 visitors gathered to hear Dr. Bob Brown portray Charles Rawn. Stationed in Montana during the height of the Indian Wars, Captain Charles Rawn proved an unlikely hero and an indispensable leader in numerous battles. Captain Rawn lead forces from Fort Missoula in July of 1877, during the 1877 War and Flight of the Nez Perce, to Lolo Canyon to a site now called Fort Fizzle. Author Robert M. Brown (Dr. Bob) portrayed this outstanding officer and told tales that illustrate the transformation of the frontier army from a Civil War legacy into an elite fighting force.

The annual Travelers' Rest Winter Storytelling Series is made possible in part by a grant from Humanities Montana, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Co-sponsors include Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; Blue Mountain Bed and Breakfast; and the Travelers' Rest Preservation and Heritage Association, a non-profit, 501(c) (3) organization protecting Travelers' Rest State Park and National Historic Monument through place-based educational and interpretive programming. For more information about Traveler's Rest visit: www.travelersrest.org.



Photo Courtesy of Travelers' Rest State Park

J.R. Spencer presents Nez Perce stories at Travelers' Rest State Park



Photo Courtesy of Travelers' Rest State Park

Crowd at Travelers' Rest State Park Winter Storytelling Series listens to J.R. Spencer present.



National Trails Celebrate 50 Years

2018 was a Golden year for the National Trails System. The staff of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historical Trail (NPNHT) celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act (NTSA) with activities and events throughout the year.

With assistance from the U.S. Forest Service's Washington office we developed two sets of traveling banners which traveled to 20 visitors centers, office, museums, and events along the entire length of the NPNHT, and beyond, throughout 2018. These banners highlighting the NPNHT and the NTSA were seen by around 65,000 people.

NPNHT staff and partners also interacted with visitors sharing information about the National Trails in the Pacific Northwest at a series of events during the year.

The NPNHT website had a list of the events which happened along the Trail during 2018 where 1000s of others learned about the NPNHT and the NTSA.

Events were also highlighted on the Trails50.org national website.

In the fall NPNHT staff and partners capped the year by attending the National Scenic and Historic Trails Conference in Vancouver, WA. See more information about that conference on page five.

We were very excited to participate in this national celebration of trails and are excited about the exposure to future generations about their National Trails and how they can become stewards of these national treasures for the next 50 years. 2018 also marked the 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

We want to thank everyone who helped make the year a success!

Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT

2018 Capitol Christmas Tree Celebrates the National Trails System



U.S. Forest Service photo

The 2018 Capitol Christmas Tree was a Noble Fir tree from the Willamette National Forest in Oregon.

The theme for the 2018 Capitol Christmas Tree was "Find Your Trail!" in recognition of two 2018 anniversaries: the 50th anniversary of the National Trails Systems Act, and the 175th commemoration of the Oregon Trail. The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historical Trail was proud to be represented by an ornament on the tree along with the other National Scenic and Historic Trails.

The tradition of the Capitol Christmas Tree, or "The People's Tree," began in 1964 when Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John W. McCormack (D-MA) placed a live Christmas tree on the Capitol lawn. This tree lived three years before succumbing to wind and root damage.

In 1970, the Capitol Architect asked the U.S. Forest Service to provide a Christmas tree. Since then, a different national forest has been chosen each year to provide "The People's Tree." The national forest also works with state forests to provide companion trees that are smaller Christmas trees for offices in Washington, D.C.

Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT



Visitors to the BLM National Historic Trails Interpretive Center in Casper, WY, view NPNHT displays and interpretive materials.

BLM photo, Reid Miller



Plan Your Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail Experience

Every year the staff of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) responds to 100s of requests for information and 1000s of more access information about the NPNHT via our website and many more discover the NPNHT by picking up brochures at 100s of locations across the northwest.

We are always thrilled to share information and knowledge about the NPNHT with our visitors.

Occasionally we hear back from our visitors like this message from Joe Sherfy of Texas.

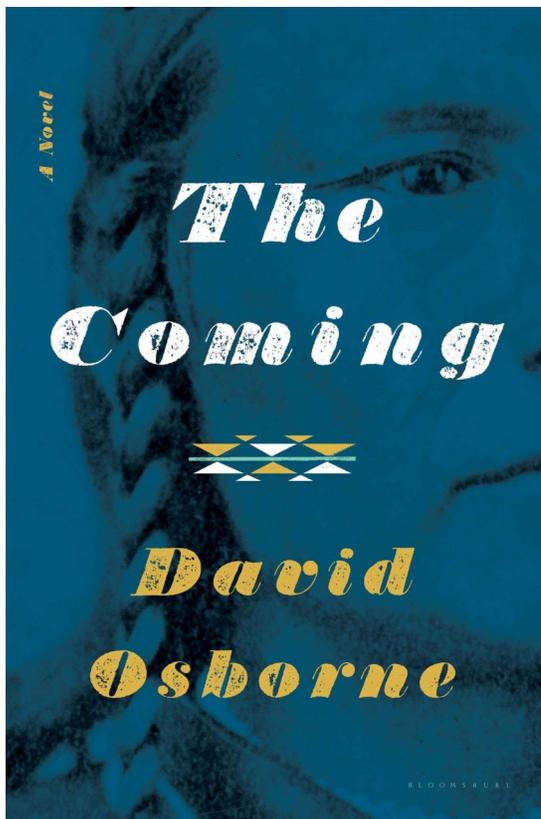
“You may not remember but you sent me some of the publications related to the Nez Perce Trail just before a trip I took in mid-October. We ended up having a great time and we were very fortunate to have nice sunny weather for almost our entire trip. You mentioned that you might be interested in my sharing photos with you. So here are some of the photos I took on our trip (*photos right of Joe’s trip with stops at Big Hole and Canyon Creek*). Thanks again for helping out. One of these days I will try to come back to explore the first part of the trail. Most of our trip we were listening to Kent Nerburn’s book *Chief Joseph & the Flight of the Nez Perce: The Untold Story of an American Tragedy*. It certainly made the trip both seeing these places as we listened to the book about the events.”

Now is a good time to start planning your summer travels. Consider a trip along the NPNHT. NPNHT brochures are available on the [NPNHT website](http://npnht.fs.fed.us) or by dropping us a note at: npnht@fs.fed.us.

Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT



Photo Courtesy of Joe Sherfy



Best regionally based book: “The Coming”

I would make “The Coming” by David Osborne required reading for everyone who lives in the area if I could. This historically based fiction retells the story of the Nez Perce, beginning with the arrival of Lewis and Clark and ending with the Nez Perce exile in Oklahoma.

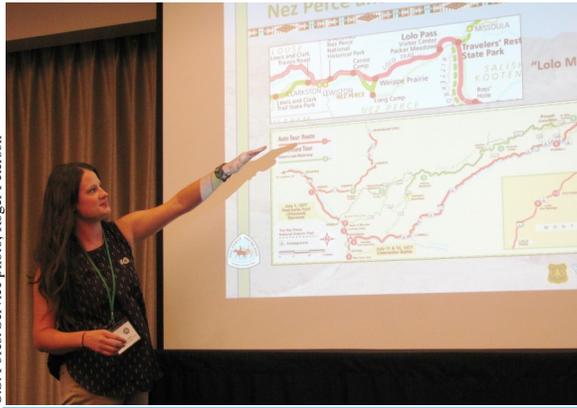
I don’t know how well the writing reflects the views of the Nez Perce people, and there are slow moments along the way, but it put the story together in a seamless narrative. I recognized most of the names and historical events and locations-pieces you collect by growing up and living here-so there was a familiarity to the story. And yet, the way it was presented made me feel like I was hearing it for the first time.

Admittedly, it’s a tough read-I knew it would not end well, and I sometimes had to put the book down to distance myself from the emotion of it. But it was the best book I read this year, and I’d love to see it become a movie.

Information provided by Michelle Schmidt, The Lewiston Tribune, [mschmidt@lntribune.com](mailto:m Schmidt@lntribune.com)



National Trails System Conference, Pathways to the Future 2018 to 2068



U.S. Forest Service photo, Roger Peterson

The 16th National Trails System Conference, sponsored by the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS), was held this past October in Vancouver, WA, just a short distance from Fort Vancouver. It was at Fort Vancouver where Tim'ine 'ilp'ilpnim (Chief Redheart's) band and other Nez Perce were held as Prisoners of War from August, 1877, until April, 1878, when they finally returned to Idaho.

More than 250 people representing all the National Scenic and Historic Trails gathered for the three day conference. A key focus of the conference was to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System while looking forward to the next 50 years.

Themes and topics were focused on Trail Land Management and Resource

Chrysann Jager, PNTS Intern for the NPNHT, presents about her project using digital technology in remote locations.

Conservation, engaging new audiences, strengthening organizations, creating strong trails on the ground, and innovation and technology. More than 35 concurrent sessions provided staff the opportunity to listen to presenters speak on subjects from an overview of the state of the National Trails System, protecting natural resources, engaging youth, and using technology to promote the National Trails.

During the opening reception on Monday evening we heard from PNTS and agency leaders including the Pacific Northwest Regional Forester Glenn Casamassa and U.S. Forest Service Chief Vicki Christiansen who had just recently been officially sworn in as 19th Forest Service Chief. During the reception members of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation shared the stage, Charlie Moses dressed in traditional regalia, while Jim Zimmerman dressed in a period U.S. military uniform portraying Lt. C.E.S. Wood.

During the conference Sandra Broncheau-McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT, Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT, and Chrysann Jager, PNTS Intern for the NPNHT also presented on missions and partners, existing and new methods of reaching potential audiences, and use of emerging technology. They shared Trails Connect segment with Jaime Schmidt and Meckenzie Helmandollar-Powell from the Forest Service Washington office who discussed Trails Strategy and the 10-Year Sustainable Trail Stewardship Ideas and partnerships.

Sandra and Roger also took advantage of their time in Vancouver, WA, by meeting with National Park Service staff from the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site and discussing ways of furthering our relationship with them.

NPNHT staff also met with members of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation (NPTF) on matters related to Trail. The NPTF was also one of the sponsors of the conference.

Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT



U.S. Forest Service photo, Meckenzie Helmandollar-Powell

L-R: Sandra Broncheau-McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT, Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT, Chrysann Jager, PNTS Intern NPNHT, Vicki Christiansen, Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Charlie Moses, NPTF and Jim Zimmerman, NPTF.



U.S. Forest Service photo

L-R: NPTF board members Jim Zimmerman, Tricia Taylor, Karen Heagen, NPTF, Matt Nowak, NPTF, Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT, Charlie Moses, NPTF board, and Sandra Broncheau-McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT.



Sharing Blankets Exhibition Memorial Day Weekend in Wallowa Oregon

The Sharing Blankets Exhibition at the Wallowa Homeland Longhouse, located at 70956 Whiskey Creek Road, Wallowa, OR, will take place on Saturday, May 25, 2019.

The Exhibition will open at 2 p.m. PDT, and will be followed by an artist talk and community forum at 5 p.m. PDT.

The gathering aims to generate a discussion on the significance of the blanket as symbol in contemporary Northwest Native culture.

Each artist will create a new piece of artwork for this gathering in May that is inspired by the concept of the blanket. The exhibition will be shaped by traditional Native aesthetics and by the individual Native identity of each artist. This artwork will be displayed within the Longhouse around the wash, which contains soil from various sacred sites in the Northwest. This year's exhibiting artists include: Joe Feddersen (Colville), Britt Rynearson (Colville), Celeste Whitewolf (Umatilla), Paige Pettibon (Flathead Salish), Roquin-Jon Siongo (Chamoro)

The Homeland's mission is to provide and care for a place where descendants of indigenous people and inhabitants of the Wallowa Valley can build relationships and celebrate indigenous customs and culture. The Visitors Center features the history Wallowa valley.

Learn more at: <https://www.wallowanezperce.org/eventscalendar/>



News from the Josephy Center



Photo Courtesy of Josephy Center for Arts and Culture

Chief Joseph's last visit to the Wallowa Country in 1900. From the recent exhibit: [History in Photos from Wallowa County](#).

First, I want to tell you what a privilege it is to work at the Josephy Center. Exhibits are fun—and fun to be a part of. Seeing classes and students, from pre-schoolers to adults, trying paint or clay for the first time can make my day.

The opportunity to work with the books, papers, and people that are all part of the Josephy Library is just too good. It is humbling to listen to Nez Perce elders who remember their War and exile generationally, as if it were yesterday. It is exciting to hear an elder tell us that some of the kokanee in Wallowa Lake—"The ones trying to get out at the base of the dam"—will find their way to the ocean if given a chance, that a sockeye salmon run, gone for 130 years, is possible again with fish passage at a rebuilt Wallowa Lake Dam. And it is thrilling to see sisters from California and Wisconsin meeting here to celebrate their grandmother's 1918 climb of Eagle Cap with the Portland based Mazamas.

Research, I've come to know, is not just the book writer or movie documentarian's province.

Rich Wandschneider, Director, Josephy Library of Western History and Culture

Mr. Wandschneider writes a frequent Blog for the Josephy Center: josephylibrary.blogspot.com/



Leah Joan Conner

Leah Joan Conner died November 15, 2018, in Pendleton surrounded by loved ones. She was born June 29, 1932, to Gilbert Edward and Elsie Spokane Conner in the family home on the Umatilla Reservation. Midwives to her delivery were Vera Spokane Jones and Winnie Young Chief Crane.

Leah attended District 44 on the reservation and graduated from Pendleton High where she was vice president of the school band (saxophonist), active in drama and Bachelor Girls and was a basketball princess and Junior Altrusan. Leah was an avid tennis player and swimmer along with dancing and riding horses, including racing for her brother Norman. She began driving harvest trucks for local pea and wheat farmers at age 15. Mrs. Henry Roe Cloud, wife of the BIA superintendent for whom Leah babysat, encouraged Leah to save for college.

She attended Willamette University her freshman and sophomore years where she worked at the State School for the Blind to earn room and board there. In Salem, she also clerked in the Woolworth stockroom and worked at the Ice Arena. While a student at Willamette, Leah was selected to serve as queen of the all-Indian 1952 Pendleton Round-Up Court. This was her second stint as rodeo royalty. With Loretta Pinkham, Leah served as a 1948 Chief Joseph Days Indian princess, the first time such a selection was made. In various capacities, she met Averill Harriman, Robert Taft, Dwight Eisenhower, Harry Truman, Jeff Chandler, Dorothy Malone, Ward Bond, Lee Marvin, Eddy Little Sky, Jonathon Winters, and Peter Fonda.

Leah transferred to the University of New Mexico for her junior year as a physical education major and studied dance under modern dancer and choreographer Elizabeth Waters. As an officer of the UNM Kiva Club, Leah remembered one time being the only woman permitted to attend a kiva ceremony with her fellow male delegates — she wore boots and jeans.

She graduated from Eastern Oregon State College in 1966 with an emphasis in health and physical education. She taught, counseled and coached at Coulee Dam High School; District 16 R Hawthorne, Lincoln and Washington Elementary Schools; and Warm Springs Elementary and Madras High School. Meanwhile, she attained her Master of Education from Oregon State University in 1973 and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Washington in 1980 focusing on education and studio art. She also worked in parks and recreation for the City of Roses, Chemawa Indian School, and for the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla.

She became the CTUIR's first tribal member to direct the Education Department in 1981 until 1983. Prior to that, she had served as certified teacher in the Tribes' early childhood education program. She worked at the circulation desk of the Pendleton Public Library from 1984 to 1992.

Leah was the founding President of the Tiimutla Arts Council from 1981-1989. She served on the Resources and Research Committee in the planning stages of Tamástlikt Cultural Institute. Leah was devoted to the annual Tamkaliks Celebration in Wallowa and served on the committee since its inception in 1991. She assisted the Idaho State Commission on Arts Services, Eastern Oregon Regional Arts Council, Oregon Commission for the Humanities, Umatilla Co. ESD, BMCC, the design committee of the Clock Tower Restoration, and on the Boards of Directors of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation and the Wallowa Homeland Project. She was honored as a Happy Canyon Volunteer of the Year in 1993.

Leah is predeceased by her parents; siblings Duane Elliott, Gilbert Cecil, Antoinette, Norman Joseph, Etta Leona, Earl Erwin and Naomi Shepherd; and children Robert Hibbs, Norma Nanette Manta and Kimberly Conner Coleman. She is survived by her children Roberta, Brian, and Dana Conner of Pendleton and Chuck Warren, Alpine, Calif.; grandchildren Raven and Michael Manta, Pendleton, Monece and Kanim Moses Conner, Pendleton, Jonas Moses Conner, Seattle, Cody, Sierra and Austin Warren, California; Ashley Valdez, Portland; Eliot and Gilberta Gottfriedson, Pendleton; Blake Stohr, Corvallis; and Wyatt Stohr, Bonney Lake, Wash. Among her greatest blessings were her seven great-grandchildren: Kiana Manta, Michael Manta Jr., Robert Anthony Manta, Lillian Grace Wickert, Marcelline Garcia Gottfriedson, Cylus James Wickert, and Luna Love Garcia Gottfriedson.

Celebration of Life was held at the Pendleton Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, November 20, followed by burial at the Olney Cemetery.

The family suggests that donations may be made in her memory to the Tamkaliks Celebration, P.O. Box 15, Wallowa, OR 97885.





Be Safe in Your Travels

The Staff of the NPNHT want your experience along the Trail this Spring to be a safe one.

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

Also check weather reports and call ahead for road conditions at 511.

There are links to a number of [webcams](#) from the NPNHT website.

The NPNHT Auto Tour Route includes a variety of road surfaces (paved, gravel, and dirt). Please be sure to consult a map before embarking on your NPNHT trip.

Many locations along all Auto Tour routes may not have cell phone coverage.

Remember to: Pay attention to wildlife awareness signs along roadways and always drive the posted speed limit.

Hike the Hill Celebrates 50 Years of the National Trails System



U.S. Forest Service photo

2019 marked the 22nd year for Hike the Hill, a joint effort between the American Hiking Society and the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) aimed at increasing congressional and federal agency leader awareness of funding and other needs that sustain trails and public lands, including the National Trails System. Each February, trail partners and organizations from across the nation head to Washington, D.C. to discuss legislation, current policies, current initiatives and goals with federal partners, congressmen or their staff, and fellow trail organizations.

The week is packed with inter-agency and multi-partner meetings. Updates and discussions surround National Trail Land Protection Planning, National Trail Council quarterly meeting and updates, partners Meeting with Chief, National Trails System Councils meeting, National Stewardship Conservation meeting, annual PNTS Meeting and Board of Directors meetings. Some highlights include reminiscing with the 50th Anniversary closeout hosted by REI at their D.C. Flagship store. A short video was presented highlighting the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act (NTSA). A reception was hosted by REI and U.S. Forest Service Chief Christiansen shared some provocative thoughts on the importance of partnerships.

The Nez Perce Trail Foundation joined Trail staff on February 9 for a session with U.S. Forest Service recreation leadership and regional staffs. The National Trail Administrators spent a day engaging in a heavy workload and planning of future activities. The Florida Scenic Trail shared a fabulous new placard that lists volunteer work parties captured by a beautiful, colorful image of sites and along the Trail, creating a creative way to provide information.

Sandra Broncheau-McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT

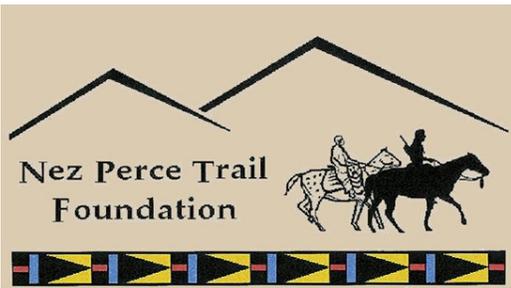
UPCOMING Events:



- April 20, 2019 - Redheart Memorial, Fort Vancouver, WA
- April 28-May 1, 2019—24th International Trails Symposium and Training, Syracuse, N.Y
- May 18, 2019—Culture Day, Nez Perce National Historical Park, Spalding, ID
- June 1, 2019 — National Trails Day
- June 9, 2019 — National Get Outdoors Day, fees waived at U.S. Forest Service sites that require a fee, (check with local units)
- June, 2019— White Bird Battle Memorial, White Bird, ID (*contact Nez Perce National Historical Park for date*)
- June 22, 2019-The Return, 'etweyéewise. Installation and Celebration with Doug Hyde, [Joseph Center for Arts & Culture](#), Joseph, OR
- July 19—21, 2019— Nez Perce Tamkaliiks Celebration & Friendship Feast, Wallowa, OR
- July 22—26, 2019 —55th Annual Chief Joseph Trail Ride. Grangeville, ID To Musselshell Meadows
- August, 2019 — Big Hole Battle Memorial, Wisdom, MT (*contact Big Hole Battlefield for date*)



News From the Nez Perce Trail Foundation



Last October the Nez Perce Trail Foundation (NPTF) was a sponsor of the 16th National Trails System Conference in Vancouver, WA. The NPTF also hosted a table sharing information about the NPTF and the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) with nearly 300 conference participants (*photo below*). Several members of the NPTF board including, Karen Heagen, Jim Zimmerman, Tricia Taylor, Matt Nowak, Margaret Moses, and Charlie Moses participated.

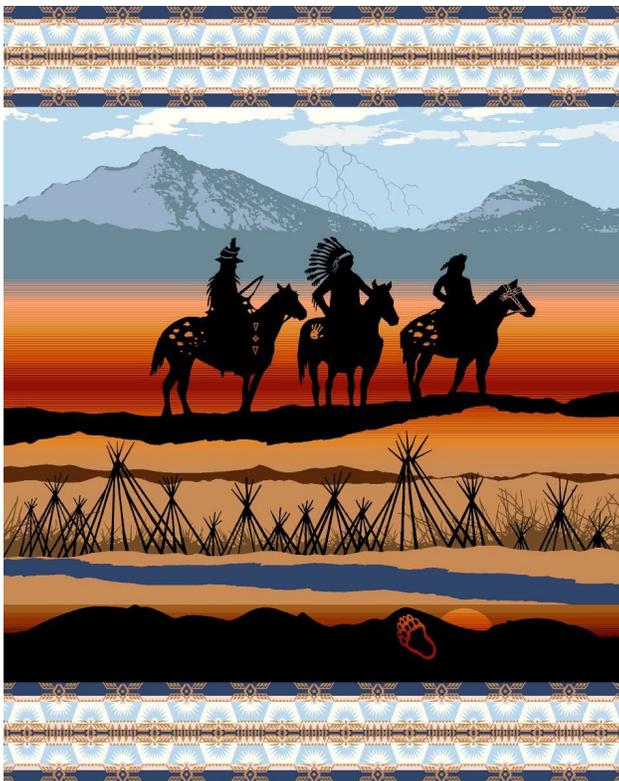
We are now taking reservations for the 2019 NPTF Summer Education Trail Tour. This year the tour will again start in the Wallowa Homelands and finishing at the Big Hole Battlefield in Montana, and will occur July 19-28, 2019. Please visit the NPTF website for more information www.nezperce-trail.net.

Three \$500 scholarships will again be awarded to Native American students from the Heglie/NPTF Scholarship Fund. Applications can be found on the NPTF website, and will be accepted starting in May.

Past President Jim Zimmerman attended the Hike-the Hill event in Washington, DC, in February. While in D.C. he visited several government agencies and officials advocating for the NPNHT.



U.S. Forest Service photo, Roger Peterson



Historic research continues on the Riparia/Wallula sites in southeastern Washington State, where Chief Joseph's band travelled through in 1885 after their release from Indian Territory in Oklahoma. Also, a Memorial at Ft. Leavenworth is being discussed to honor and commemorate the Nez Perce confinement as prisoners of war in that area in 1877-78.

Terry Ball co-designed a new release Pendleton blanket commemorating the 1877 war and flight of the Nez Perce. Nez Perce elders Leroy Seth and Silas Whitman gave insight into the history of events, which was then incorporated into the design. A limited number of blankets are for sale at the Big Hole National Battlefield visitor center. (*photo left*)

The annual Red Heart Band Memorial Ceremony will be held at Ft. Vancouver on Saturday, April 20, at 10 a.m. The ceremony, complete with the riderless horse, will honor those who lost their lives while being held captive during the 1877 war and flight of the Nez Perce.

Donations are still being accepted for the Wallowa Homelands Basketball Court. All monies should be sent directly to the NPTF via our website, or given at the Red Heart Band Memorial at Ft. Vancouver. An official representative of the NPTF will be present to accept donations.

Karen Heagen, President, NPTF





News From the National Park Service: Nez Perce National Historical Park

Nez Perce National Historical Park is excited to begin the spring season with some new faces in flat hats. We would like to extend a warm welcome to park guides, Jennifer (Jen) Kolm and Jared Wicks. *(photo right)*

Jen, originally from Golden, CO, graduated from the University of Denver with a degree in Geography and minors in Anthropology and Geology. She joins our team after gaining extensive park knowledge through her travels as a seasonal ranger for the past five and a half years. Her past parks include Capital Reef, Great Sand Dunes, Yellowstone, Badlands, Gila Cliff Dwellings, Wind Cave, and Grand Canyon.

Jared hails from Ancona, IL, with a degree in Outdoor Recreation from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale making him well suited for work as a park guide telling the Nez Perce story. He also has five years of seasonal park ranger experience at Mount Rushmore and Grand Portage National Monuments.

This past December marked the 22nd Annual Beadwork Bazaar. The Spalding Visitor Center was transformed into a winter market filled with Nez Perce Art. We were grateful to see community members from near and far make this event a part of their holiday tradition. The event drew a crowd of over 325 visitors throughout the day.

Following a visitation analysis, the visitor center days of operation were adjusted to allow our park rangers to conduct outreach to schools and reach a broader audience through website and social media efforts. Now that the snow has melted, starting April 1, 2019, the Visitor Center will be open 7 days a week and we hope you stop in and say “hello”.



Photo Courtesy of the National Park



Photo Courtesy of the National Park

Spring has us buzzing to share our new pollinator exhibit “We’ve Got Pollinators.” Visitors are invited to learn about the link between native plants, pollinators, and Nez Perce material culture. The exhibit is abloom with striking artifacts pulled from our collection and makes the perfect start to a picnic in the Park. *(photo left)*

Keeping with this budding pollinator theme, our natural resource staff teamed with the Boys and Girls Club of Lapwai to build bee boxes. The boxes are designed to promote the population of native bees and will be placed throughout the Park.

We are ‘egg’-cited to celebrate Junior Ranger Day on April 20, with an egg hunt designed to teach kids about the different types of animals that lay eggs in our park. Children

of all ages who participate will earn a badge and become Official Junior Rangers!

Our most exciting event of the season is Culture Day, which will take place on May 18! The fun-filled, free event in the Spalding Picnic Area is perfect for exploring your local National Park and learning more about the on-going history of the Nez Perce People. There will be dancing and drumming in traditional clothing. We hope to see you at the festivities.

Brett Spaulding, Supervisory Park Ranger, Nez Perce National Historical Park





News From the National Park Service: Big Hole National Battlefield

The official first day of spring has come and gone but the 5-foot snowdrifts still piled around the park tell a very different story here at Big Hole. Currently we are still

in our winter hours of 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Wednesday – Sunday, with the Visitor Center closed on Monday and Tuesdays through the end of April. Access to our lower lot continues to be by snowshoe or cross country ski only.

While we might not be seeing any green grass or spring flowers, we are dutifully preparing for our summer season. To help us provide the best experience possible while protecting the site, we hope to bring on both interpretive and maintenance summer seasonal(s), Student Conservation Association interns, volunteers, and multiple youth for our Youth Conservation Corps.

The dates for our 10th annual Coyote Camp have been set for May 20 – May 24, 2019. Coyote Camp is the Battlefield's premier education program for school children, with approximately 1,000 students attending each year. Students spend five hours rotating through a variety of activities that introduce them to Nez Perce culture, the Flight of 1877, and the Battle of the Big Hole. There are still a few slots open, so please have your school contact us soon if you are interested.



Winter morning at the Big Hole Battlefield.

Photo Courtesy of the National Park

facebook



We will also be continuing our Summer Speaker Series, both at Big Hole and Bear Paw. Dates and presenters have not been confirmed yet, so please check our website for the latest information as it becomes available.

In other exciting news we are thrilled to announce we are no longer sharing a Facebook site with Nez Perce National Historical Park and now have our very own site at <https://www.facebook.com/BigHoleNationalBattlefield>. Please stop by and check out our posts.

Saving the best update for last (drum roll), we are also currently offering for sale the limited edition “Hear Me My Chiefs” jacquard Pendleton blanket in our Visitor

Center bookstore . The design features symbols representing tribal leaders, landscapes and battle sites associated with the Flight of 1877. The blanket was designed by Terry Ball of Cascade, MT, in conjunction with tribal elders LeRoy Seth and Silas Whitman. This is a limited edition and will only be available while supplies last.

Mandi Wick, Supervisory Park Ranger, Big Hole National Battlefield





News From the Forest Service

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Skinner Meadows Home to New Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) Interpretation

A new set of interpretive signs were installed along the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) last fall at Skinner Meadows on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, south of the Big Hole Valley, in southwest Montana (*photos right and below*). The sign focuses on the flight of the Nez Perce (Niimiipuu) following the Big Hole battle.

Niimiipuu warriors repulsed the August 9, 1877, dawn attack on their village at the Big Hole River. They angrily counterattacked Colonel John Gibbon’s troops, and besieged them into the night. As gunfire echoed, Niimiipuu families hastily buried their dead before following Chief *Hotóoto* (Lean Elk), also known as Poker Joe, south from Big Hole Valley. The wounded suffered and several died along the way.



U.S. Forest Service photo, Noelle L. Meier



U.S. Forest Service photo, Noelle L. Meier

Skinner Meadows is bordered on the east and west by thick-timbered slopes. With General Howard three days behind them, this area offered the Nez Perce an excellent place to stop and rest.

At Horse Prairie Valley the warriors rejoined the traumatized survivors. With many injured and orphaned, and little food, the Niimiipuu verged on desperation. They grimly realized the U.S. Army intended to pursue and end their flight by any means. This included attacking them as they slept.

We hope this interpretation will help visitors further understand the NPNHT story as they travel this adventurous section of the Trail’s Auto Tour route.

The sign includes artwork by Niimiipuu artist John Seven Wilson.

“I feel that this simple exhibit is very thoughtful and effective in connecting visitors with the presence and history of this place,” said Noelle L. Meier Forest Recreation, Wilderness Trails and Special Uses Program Manager for the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest.

We want to thank all the members of the NPNHT staff, numerous staff from the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Nez Perce historians, designers, AmericCorps, and partners who collaborated to make this happen. We hope that interpretation such as this new sign will inspire more people to take the time to learn more about the NPNHT.

Noelle L. Meier Forest Recreation, Wilderness, Trails and Special Uses Program Manager for the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest





News From the Forest Service Bitterroot National Forest

Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail #406

Bitterroot National Forest, Darby/Sula Ranger District Trail begins at Forest Service Road #100001 Trail ends at the Continental Divide Trail totaling 3.1 miles in length.

Written by the YCC crew of 2018

July 2 at Nee-Me-Poo

Up on the trail at Nee-Me-Poo

After morning stretches are through

Everyone double knots their shoes

Out struts the YCC crew

Pines are green and skies are blue

The mountains seem to stare back at you

With picks and saws, we know what to do

Hiking with chainsaws is hard...true

Dacé is down, could it be swine flu?

Anything can happen at Nee-Me-Poo

The crew then splits in two

But all is well, for it is a grand view

Oh there is no better thing to do

Than hike the Nee-Me-Poo



U.S. Forest Service photo



News From the Forest Service Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest Lolo Pass Visitor Center

The Lolo Pass Visitor Center hosted several events this winter. Our staff kicked off the Holiday Season with a “Full Moon Event”

December 22, 2018. Visitors were invited to come out and ski or snowshoe by the light of the full moon. Participants were treated to live music in our warming hut and holiday nature crafts for the whole family. Mother Nature cooperated and provided perfect weather, clear skies, and beautiful full moon for the night.

In January, we held a non-motorized Winter Recreation Demo Day Event. Participants had the chance to learn new winter skills and pick-up tips and tricks from local outdoor recreation experts. A big thank you to Forest Service partners who helped make this event possible; REI Missoula, Missoula Parks and Recreation, Missoula Snowgoers, Missoula Nordic Club, and the West Central Montana Avalanche Center.



U.S. Forest Service photo, Roger Peterson

Winter Season at the Lolo Pass Visitor Center, located on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests along U.S. Highway 12 at the Idaho-Montana state line, officially ended March 31. This was the last day that Winter Recreation Passes were required this season. Beginning April 15, dogs will be permitted on the Lolo Pass winter trails. Please bag and remove any pet waste and keep your dogs on a leash while enjoying the trails. The visitor center will continue to operate on its winter schedule through May. Winter hours are 7:30 a.m. through 4:15 p.m. PDT, Thursday through Monday. The Lolo Pass Visitor Center will be closed Sunday, April 21 in observance of the Easter holiday.

We are looking forward to the coming season. The U.S. Forest Service is actively building on the “Artist in Residence Program” that began at the Lolo Pass Visitor Center in the summer of 2018. We will be featuring a new artist, one weekend each month, from May thru September in 2019.

Buffie Cerutti, Manager
Lolo Pass Visitor Center





News From the Forest Service: Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest & Nez Perce Tribe

Nee-Me-Poo Trail Maintenance Report

Trail Sections

The Lolo trail from Musselshell Meadows to the 500 Road was divided into seven management sections. During the field season, these management sections are lumped into four hitches by trail maintenance crew due to access point and distance to suitable camping locations. Typically a section marks the halfway point between road accesses providing the crew with an opportunity to hike out without completing the next section of trail. Musselshell Meadows to the Yoosa comprises Hitch 1 and is divided into section 1 and 2 at the first stream crossing of Siberia Creek. This hitch takes an average of 2-3 days to complete. Hitch 2, Yoosa to Camp Martin is the longest hitch taking up to 3-7 days, depending on trail conditions. Sections 3 and 4 are separated at Ira's Tree in proximity to Road 5185-A, an ATV access road. The final three sections follow in close proximity to 104 Road to the 500 Road and take an average of 1 day each depending on difficulty and comprise Hitch 3.

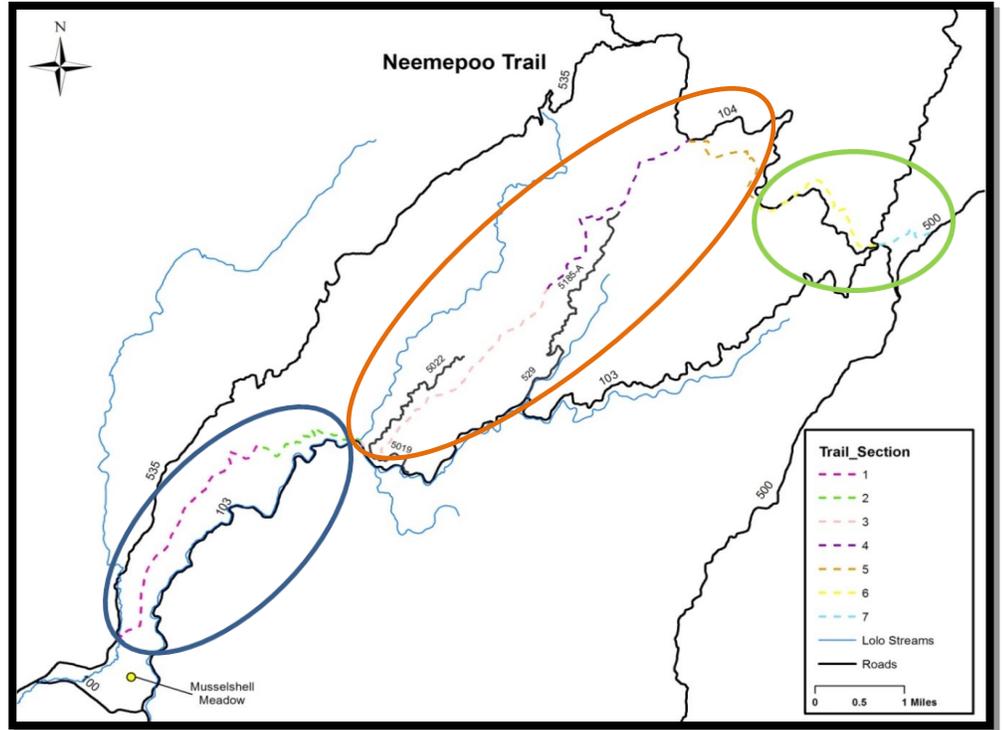


Figure 1 Trail sections throughout the Nee-Me-Poo Trail

The Nez Perce Tribe and USDA Forest Service work agreement consists of the Nez Perce Tribe clearing out, logging out, loose rock removal, drainage maintenance, brush cutting, slide maintenance, and tread repair on the Lolo Trail. Field crews follow minimum impact camping guidelines provided by the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest.

Results

Trail maintenance completed in 2018 took place over three weeks. Sections 1 and 2 as well as 5 through 7 each took 3.5 days to complete for a total of 7 days with average difficulty. Section 5 was the hardest to complete; the high maintenance difficulty was due to an above average number of large trees across the trail. All other sections had an average maintenance difficulty. The bulk of the maintenance for all sections consisted of clearing out downed logs and digging out wooden water bars.

Sections 6 and 7 are still experiencing impacts from the fire in 2015. These areas have little to no brush but many downed trees. Brushing was completed in portions of sections 1, 5, and 7. Brushing was added to the agreement in 2017 and will be completed for the next few years until all sections have been completed.

The above average amount of weeds found along the section from Lolo Forks to Beaver Dam saddle in 2017 were treated by the Clearwater Basin Youth Conservation Crew (CBYCC). Two different crews worked two hitches to hand pull the weeds. Crews primarily focused on hounds tongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*), however other species including prickly lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*) and common mullen (*Verbascum Thapsus*) were also targeted. Significant effort was spent on a large patch of houndstongue between Camp Martin and Lolo Forks. The open canopy from the 2015 fire season allowed for a rapid spread rate, therefore attention should be given to this area in future years. Estimated treatment time is one week or more depending on the size and distribution of patches.

The U. S. Forest Service and Nez Perce Tribe should continue to coordinate to ensure staff or partner group ie. CBYCC or Montana Conservations Corps (MCC) are utilized to continue treatment of these areas. *Continued on page 15*



Discussion

Trail maintenance has occurred for several years on the Lolo Trail with partnership of the Nez Perce Tribe and U.S. Forest Service. The 2018 season was successful in completing the trail and distinguishing problematic segments in need of future repair. This season the field crew experienced good production despite the increased debris across the trail. Although difficult at times restoration actions proceeded.

During trail maintenance in 2018, crews completed interviews and were filmed during some activities. This footage was summarized into a short video which can viewed on the following website:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Br0BngX8Hfs&feature=youtu.be>

Future Actions

The National Appaloosa Horse Club will be riding this section of the Nee-Me-Poo trail in 2020, during the annual Chief Joseph Trail Ride (CJTR). During the CJTR riders traverse one of thirteen 100 mile sections between Wallowa Lake, OR, and Bear Paw Battlefield near Chinook, MT, over the course of 13 years. The number of riders range between 150 and 200 during this event. Long term maintenance activities should considered before and after.

Future plans are to continue weed treatment practices in hopes of reducing patch size and distribution along the trail corridor as well

as keep invasion at a minimum to surrounding forest environments. Priority will be along sections 4 to 7. For trail maintenance the highest priority for next season is to continue replacing water bars where needed. Any water bars that are deteriorating and still have rebar will be replaced. All un-needed rebar will be pulled, packed to the trailhead, and later recycled.

Lessons Learned

Snow pack was not as significant an issue this year as it has been in previous years. However, if this is a concern in future years, crews will work with partners to determine which sections of trail can be cleared.

It has been advised that the field crew or student interns pass a basic pack test in order to help maintain trail. Possessing a crew with the physical capabilities of completing the trail would eliminate time wasted traversing to remote segments.

Conclusion

The Niimiipuu have used the Lolo Nee-Me-Poo trail since time immemorial and are inextricably linked to the trail. As co-managers of the trail, the Nez Perce Tribe Watershed Division is compelled and dedicated to protecting and restoring the trail and preserving historic values.

Portions of a larger report prepared by: Justin Peterson and Elizabeth Eastman, Nez Perce Tribe

Photo Courtesy of Nez Perce Tribe



L-R: Abe Yearout, James Scott, and Greg Crow



Photo Courtesy of Nez Perce



Please Note:

Partnership for the National Trails System

New Address:

306 E. Wilson St. Suite 2E
Madison, WI 53703



New Faces Along the Trail:

Ford Selected as New Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Supervisor

The Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest welcomes Cheri Ford as their new supervisor. “I am very excited to have Cheri join us in the Northern Region as the new Forest Supervisor on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest,” said Regional Forester Leanne Marten. “Cheri brings with her a deep desire and belief in working collaboratively with community members, Tribes, and local and state governments. Her strong resource conservation background makes Cheri a wonderful addition to the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest and the communities in which she will be working and living.”

“I have a deeply rooted commitment to working collaboratively and as the new forest supervisor I plan to prioritize hearing from our publics and partners to better understand local interest,” commented Ford. “I am very pleased to be working with such a highly motivated and hard working group of employees spread across the Forest.”

Ford was born and raised in Fargo, ND, and graduated from the University of Montana with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in both wildlife biology and forestry. She later graduated with her Master of Natural Resource Stewardship with a forestry and environmental policy emphasis from Colorado State University.

Ford comes to the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF from the Salmon-Challis National Forest in Idaho where she was the Deputy Forest Supervisor. Previously, she represented the Forest Service in Colorado to coordinate with various state agencies, members, and staff of the State Legislature and the Governor's Office.

Ford is no stranger to Montana. She has worked for the Bitterroot and Lolo National Forests as well as the Forest Service’s Northern Regional Office assisting in the wildlife and soils programs. After leaving Montana, she worked in a variety of assignments including wildlife biologist for the Tongass National Forest in Thorne Bay, Alaska. She has also served as the Wildlife Program Manager for the Forest Service’s Eastern Regions Office; and as the Tribal Government Liaison for the Chequamegon-Nicolet, Hiawatha, and Ottawa National Forests in the Lakes States.

Ford has an interest in most anything that is outdoor-related, especially when it includes hunting, skiing, kayaking, and rafting with family. She fills in behind Melany Glossa who was promoted to a Deputy Regional Forester for the Forest Service’s Eastern Region in Milwaukee, WI. She has been with the Forest in an acting capacity since Glossa’s departure and transitioned officially March 17.



U.S. Forest Service photo

Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument Interpretive Center Welcomes Bruce Davis



Photo Courtesy of the BLM

Bruce Davis has worked as a federal employee for the past seven years. He started on this journey at the Cape Hatteras National Seashore National Park in North Carolina, working as part of the Historic Restoration Crew. His next stop was at Colonial National Historical Park in Yorktown-Jamestown, VA, as an Exhibit Specialist for the National Park Service. He specialized in the restoration of cannons and fire arms of the Revolutionary War, and also historical homes and structures of the 1600s and early 1700s.

Bruce earned degrees in both Communications and Historic Preservation from Virginia Tech and is now the Interpretive Lead Park Ranger at the Bureau of Land Management’s Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument (UMRBNM) Interpretive Center in Fort Benton, MT. He is currently in charge of the interpretive programs and museum exhibits at the UMRBNM Interpretive Center. Bruce is also an

accomplished Artisan Blacksmith, winning several awards and competitions.



New Faces Along the Trail: New Bitterroot Forest Supervisor Announced



U.S. Forest Service photo

The Bitterroot National Forest recently welcomed their new supervisor. Matt Anderson, District Ranger for the Craig and Thorne Bay Districts on Prince of Wales Island in Alaska, assumed his position as Forest Supervisor on March 18.

“I am excited to welcome Matt to the Northern Region as the new Forest Supervisor on the Bitterroot National Forest,” said Regional Forester Leanne Marten. “Matt brings with him a wealth of natural resource experience and a strong desire to work collaboratively with community members, local and state governments, and tribes. His outstanding conservation background and service-oriented approach to the communities served by the Bitterroot makes Matt a wonderful addition to our team.”

Anderson, who grew up in rural Iowa, has been a district ranger in Alaska on the Tongass National Forest for six years. He also served in details as Forest Supervisor on the Manti-La Sal National Forest in Utah and Deputy Forest Supervisor on the Tongass.

Prior to being a District Ranger, Anderson worked for the BLM as a field manager, associate field manager, and planner in Wyoming and Colorado. He started his natural resource career in a variety of seasonal positions with the BLM and Idaho Fish and Game including fighting fire, doing wildlife surveys, marking timber, and working in recreation. He has also worked on ranches, in construction, and commercial fishing.

Anderson graduated from the University of Iowa with a Bachelor’s of Science and received a Master of Public Administration from Colorado University at Denver. He was a very successful collegiate wrestler at Iowa, and was part of two national championship teams for the Hawkeyes. Another passion of Matt’s has been sled dog racing. He finished the famous thousand-mile Iditarod race across Alaska in 2007.

Matt and his wife Blaire, who is an elementary school teacher, enjoy anything outdoors -- hunting, fishing, cycling, skate-skiing, and hiking with their silver lab. They have a daughter Aleah and son Asher.

“My family and I are thrilled to be moving to the Bitterroot,” Anderson said. “Because of the communities, schools, and outdoor opportunities, it’s a place we have wanted to call home for a long time and where we’re excited to raise our kids. The people and communities remind Blaire and me of where we grew up in rural Iowa with the added benefit of mountains, forests, and rivers.”

Anderson went on to say, “My experience has been when the agency and communities get aligned, a lot of work can get accomplished in managing the forest, improving forest health, and contributing to local jobs and the economy. I’m interested to hear from as many people as I can about what their interests are for their National Forest. I plan to be out and about listening to what insight folks have about the history of the Bitterroot and future of managing these lands and how we can best do that together.”

Knotek Assumes Recreation Staff Role at Lolo National Forest

Katie Knotek was hired as the Recreation Staff for the Missoula Ranger District behind Al Hilshey in October of 2018. Her duties include stewardship of the Nez Perce and Lewis and Clark National Historic Trails on the Missoula Ranger District. Katie was first introduced to these trails when she was hired as a Wilderness and Trails Manager and Lolo Pass Visitor Center Manger on the Powell and Lochsa Ranger Districts of the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests in 2007. During her tenure on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, Katie enjoyed learning about, sharing, and protecting these valuable and historic, national resources for the public. In 2015, Katie transferred to the Seeley Lake Ranger District on the Lolo National Forest where she also served as the District Recreation Staff. She is in her 17th year with the Forest Service. She has a Bachelor’s of Science in Recreation Management from The University of Montana and a Masters of Science in Recreation Resources from Colorado State University.



U.S. Forest Service photo



New Faces Along the Trail:

Carolyn Upton Named Lolo National Forest Supervisor

Carolyn Upton has been named Forest Supervisor for the Lolo National Forest and reported in late March. Carolyn was most recently the deputy Forest Supervisor on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest and Thunder Basin National Grasslands in Colorado.

“I am very excited to announce Carolyn Upton as the new Forest Supervisor for the Lolo National Forest,” said Regional Forester Leanne Marten. “Carolyn has a wealth of experience and a strong passion for working collaboratively with community members, other agencies, tribes, and local and state governments. Her outstanding resource conservation background will be a wonderful addition to the Lolo National Forest and Northern Region.”

Upton, who grew up in Buffalo, NY, has an undergraduate degree in economics from Vassar College and a Master of Science in Natural Resource Management from Colorado State University.

She has worked for the Forest Service for 29 years, developing skills and expertise in a wide range of programs across several regions and at many levels of the agency. She started with the Forest Service as a cooperative education student while at Colorado State University. Since that time she has worked on several forests and grasslands.

Prior to her duties on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest and Thunder Basin National Grasslands she was the District Ranger on the Walker Ranger District on the Chippewa National Forest in north-central Minnesota. She spent much of the 2000s as the Ecosystem Staff Officer on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest. She is looking forward to returning to Missoula, MT, which is also home of the Forest Service Northern Region headquarters.

“I’m looking forward to the challenges and opportunities in leading land management efforts and working with partners as the Forest Supervisor of the Lolo National Forest,” Upton said. “Local relationships are extremely important to me and building and fostering those relationships is a core principle of how I see successful work developed and implemented. Local relationships provide the foundation and forum for effective partnerships, to share expectations, and to support communities,” she said.

Upton and her husband, Phillip, have two teenaged sons. “We all enjoy many outdoor activities and our boys are both looking forward to being involved in many sports in Missoula,” said Upton.



U.S. Forest Service photo

Hikers along the The Lolo National Historic Trail (NHT) is located along Highway 12 west of Lolo, MT, on the Lolo National Forest.

Jaeger Serving As 2018-2019 Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) Intern

Chrysann Jaeger is the 2018-2019 Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) Intern for the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail. She is stationed on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests in Idaho. In addition to serving as PNTS Intern for the Trail, Chrysann works for the Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D) in partnership with the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests as a Recreation Program Assistant. Her work is focused on developing the Historic Routes and Trails Project on the Forests, which is a project that integrates digital technology with backcountry experiences on Historic Routes and Trails, including the Lewis and Clark and Nez Perce National Historic Trails.

Chrysann holds a Bachelor’s of Science in Biology from the University of Idaho, and is a Certified Interpretive Guide through the National Association for Interpretation. In her spare time, Chrysann enjoys hunting for mushrooms, skiing, camping, hiking, and sharing most any outdoor activities with her family.



U.S. Forest Service photo



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Spring Along the Nez Perce National Historic Trail



Sunlight Creek in NW Wyoming
Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service photo



Spring flowers in Montana
BLM photo



NPNT Near Lewiston Idaho
Roger Peterson, U.S. Forest Service photo



Bears, like this one in Yellowstone National Park, are again coming out of hibernation. *Neal Herbert, NPS photo*



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