

Title Page:

Strategic Plan
for Nez Perce National Historical Park
and Big Hole National Battlefield

For the Period
Fiscal Year 2007 - 2011
(October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2011)

December 15, 2006 Edition

REVISION HISTORY

First Edition November 30, 2006
GPRA Goal 1b4A measurement units brought into compliance with national method.

Results Act and Planning Cycle:

PREFACE

This five-year Strategic Plan has been written for one or more units of the greater National Park System administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The National Park System preserves outstanding representations of America's natural, cultural, and recreational resources of national significance. These resources constitute a significant part of America's heritage, character, and future. The National Park Service not only directly and indirectly preserves these national treasures; it also makes them available to millions of visitors from throughout the country and the world every year.

This Strategic Plan was written to fulfill the requirements of Section 104 of the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998. This legislation requires all field units of the National Park System prepare Strategic Plans and Annual Performance Plans consistent with the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 and make these documents available to the public. The law was a catalyst for our staff to examine its fundamental mission and to take a fresh, longer range view, in precise terms, of what results or outcomes we needed to achieve to more effectively and efficiently accomplish that mission.

The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) is one of the most recent and comprehensive of a number of laws and executive orders directing federal agencies to join the "performance management revolution" already embraced by private industry and many local, state, and national governments. Performance management ensures that daily actions and expenditure of resources are guided by long- and short-term goal setting in pursuit of accomplishing an organization's primary mission, followed by performance measurement and evaluation. Importantly, GPRA mandates that long-term and annual goals be results or outcomes rather than outputs (activities, products, or services) and that they be "objective, quantifiable, and measurable" so that performance can be adequately measured and reported, and progress on mission accomplishment assessed.

GPRA requires federal agencies to develop and use three primary documents in conducting their business. These documents are also to be submitted to the Congress and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB):

1. Strategic Plan of no less than five years duration, reviewed and revised every three years, and containing:

- * mission statement based in law, executive order, etc.;
- * long-term goals, which are objective, quantified, and measurable, to accomplish mission;
- * how goals will be accomplished, is the plan data and narrative showing "...operational processes, skills and technology, and the human, capital, information and other resources required to meet those goals...";
- * relationship of annual goals to long term goals, a description of how long term goals are carried out in annual goal increments;
- * key external factors which could positively or negatively affect goal accomplishment;
- * GPRA also requires consultation with affected and interested parties in the development of the Strategic Plan, and it requires that the plan be
- * developed by federal employees (versus contractors, etc.).

2. Annual Performance Plan tiered off the Strategic Plan each year, showing how long term goals will be accomplished in annual increments, and containing:

- * annual goals to incrementally achieve long-term goals in Strategic Plan;
- * annual work plan explaining how annual goals will be accomplished - "briefly describe the operational processes, skills and technology, and the human, capital, information and other resources required to meet the performance goals...." and
- * basis for measuring results - "...provide a basis for comparing actual program results with the established performance goals...."

3. Annual Performance Report reviewing each year's successes and failures and identifying areas where activities

or goals need to be revised in the future, addressing:

- * what annual goals were met or exceeded;
- * what annual goals were not met;
- * why annual goals were not met; and
- * what remedial action will be taken for goals not met.

ABOUT THIS PLAN

In consultation with Congress, OMB and other interested parties, the National Park Service (NPS) developed its own GPRA implementation process. In 2004 the Department of the Interior (DOI) produced a Strategic Plan requiring all agencies in the Department to be aligned with. It is available on the Internet at http://www.doi.gov/ppp/strat_plan_fy2003_2008.pdf.

Individual park plans address the long-term goals in the NPS and DOI plans that are appropriate to the individual units as parts of the overall National Park System and its mission. Then they add goals specific to their own legislative mandates, missions, resources, visitor services, and issues. The park plans, then, are a blend of national and local priorities and goals.

This Strategic Plan follows that pattern. It contains a mission statement born out of the NPS organic act as well as the specific legislation or proclamation establishing the park. It contains mission goals, closely paralleling the "servicewide" mission goals that illustrate in broad brushstroke what we do far beyond five years - "in perpetuity" - to accomplish our stated mission. It then contains long-term goals, which target in quantifiable, measurable ways what we will accomplish in the next four years toward achieving our overall mission goals and mission. The long-term goals address both appropriate "servicewide" goals as well as park-specific outcomes. The goal numbering protocol follows that of the NPS plan with park-specific suffixes. Since not all servicewide goals apply to every park, some numbers may be skipped. In addition, there are numbers containing 0's which are not in the servicewide plan and indicate park-specific goals.

Each long-term goal is repeated with one or more explanatory paragraphs that give background, detail, and other information useful to help the reader understand the goal as well as to sketch in how the goal will be accomplished. The figures in the tables and narrative for each goal contain any general information about "How Goals will be Accomplished", including staffing, fiscal, infrastructure, and other resources available to achieve the plan's long-term goals.

It should be noted that the goals in this plan are generally predicated on "flat budgets". Other than increases for inflation, we assumed no major increases in funding. Where increases in appropriations are known or are likely, they were taken into account. Where other funding sources (donations, fee revenues, etc.) are "reasonably assured", they too are taken into consideration when setting performance targets. Obviously, limits on funding constrain what can be accomplished toward our goals and mission. GPRA, however, is distinctly not about discussing budget shortfalls or requesting or justifying additional funding. Rather it is about planning, managing, and communicating what we can accomplish with the resources we already have while at the same, providing accountability for those resources.

Each year that the Strategic Plan is in effect, there will be a companion Annual Performance Plan which shows in annual goals, that year's targeted incremental achievement of each long-term goal, and a work plan for accomplishing that increment. Each year there will also be an Annual Performance Report discussing actual achievement of the prior year's annual goals and progress on long-term goals.

Copies of this Strategic Plan can be requested from the superintendent. Questions and comments are welcome and encouraged and can be addressed to the superintendent. Copies of the most current Annual Performance

Plan and Annual Performance Report are also available on request, with questions and comments equally welcome.

Park Background Information:

ABOUT NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Nez Perce National Historical Park was established by Act of Congress on May 15, 1965, under Public Law 89-19. In 1992, Congress expanded the park under Public Law 102-576 (the Nez Perce National Historical Park Additions Act of 1991) to include additional sites in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana, including the Big Hole National Battlefield, already a unit of the National Park System under Public Law 88-24. While two distinct units of the National Park System, with two Superintendents, two budgets, and two museum collections, the two parks are jointly managed and fall under the authority of the Nez Perce National Historical Park Superintendent. This strategic plan reflects that joint management and throughout this document, the name "Nez Perce National Historical Park" is understood to include both park units.

Nez Perce National Historical Park is composed of a multitude of individual sites significant to the history of the Nez Perce people throughout Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana, including the 24 sites originally established in 1965 and the additional 14 sites recommended for addition in 1992. The park is rather unusual in that there is no single contiguous federal landbase comprising it and the vast majority of park sites are not owned by the National Park Service. In fact, of the nearly 40 sites now part of the park, the National Park Service owns land associated with only nine of them (East Kamiah, Spalding, Weippe Prairie, Whitebird Battlefield, Canoe Camp, Big Hole National Battlefield, Bearpaw Battlefield, Old Chief Joseph Gravesite, and Buffalo Eddy), a mere 2618 acres in National Park Service ownership.

The remaining sites are owned by various other federal agencies; tribal, state, county, or local governments; and private non-profit groups or individual landowners. The National Park Service works in partnership with these other landowners to protect the natural and cultural resources of the sites and to provide interpretation of the significance of these resources to Nez Perce history and culture, and the nation.

Much of the work of the National Park Service at Nez Perce National Historical Park involves building and maintaining partnerships and coordinating our collective efforts to protect and interpret park resources. Together with critical partners, the Nez Perce Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, and Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, all three tribes with significant Nez Perce member populations, the National Park Service seeks out new opportunities and partners to fulfill our mission and maximize the federal investment. Working with other agencies, governments, and volunteer partners presents a number of challenges but results in wide networks of park stewards all working together to fulfill the mission given the National Park Service at Nez Perce National Historical Park.

Park Management

Nez Perce National Historical Park headquarters are located in Spalding, Idaho. The park is organized into three geographic and one administrative unit. The Montana Unit of the park manages all park sites in Montana and Camas Meadows (Idaho) and is headquartered in Wisdom, Montana, at the Big Hole National Battlefield. The Idaho Unit manages all remaining park sites in Idaho and that portion of the Lolo Trail extending into Montana and is headquartered in Spalding, Idaho, at park headquarters. The Oregon/Washington Unit manages all sites in Washington and Oregon and is headquartered in Joseph, Oregon. The Park Support Unit includes the divisions of Administration, Maintenance, Interpretation, and Resource Management and is headquartered at Spalding, Idaho.

The Superintendent of Nez Perce National Historical Park oversees all units and is responsible for the overall management of the park. He leads the park's Management Team, composed of the three geographic unit managers and chiefs of the park-wide support divisions, and serves as direct supervisor of each member of the

Management Team.

Park Mission

Nez Perce National Historical Park offers for all Americans an important perspective about our history as a people. It is not the view from the Gateway Arch looking west; it is a view from a homeland looking out, witnessing the march of history and change, yet continuing today and tomorrow to commemorate and celebrate Nez Perce culture and traditions. It is a park about a people, for all people.

The mission of the National Park Service at Nez Perce National Historical Park arises from the purpose, significance and legislative intent found in Public Law 89-19, the enabling legislation for the park; Public Law 88-24 which established the Big Hole National Battlefield as a unit of the National Park Service; and the Nez Perce National Historical Park Additions Act of 1991, Public Law 102-576.

Park Purpose

On the basis of provisions in the enabling legislation, the purpose of Nez Perce National Historical Park is to:

- Facilitate protection and offer interpretation of Nez Perce National sites in Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Wyoming that have exceptional value in commemorating the history of the United States
- Preserve and protect tangible resources that document the history of the Nez Perce people and the significant role of the Nez Perce in North American history
- Interpret the culture and history of the Nez Perce peoples and promote documentation to enhance that interpretation.

Park Significance

Park Significance tells why the park is special, why it is so important that it belongs in the national park system. Statements of significance clearly define the importance of the park resources as they relate to the park's purpose. Knowing the park's significance helps set resource protection priorities, identify primary park interpretive themes, and develop desirable visitor experiences.

The significance of Nez Perce National Historical Park might be summarized as:

- The park preserves a continuum of at least 11,000 years of Nez Perce culture. Its archeological record, museum collection, cultural landscapes, and structures are of national significance. The park contains historical and cultural landmarks that are of legendary significance to the Nez Perce people. The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail commemorates a significant event in Nez Perce history.
- Nez Perce National Historical Park offers a unique opportunity for visitors to gain an understanding of present-day Nez Perce culture within and outside the Nez Perce homeland and to learn about important events of the past.
- Past and present Nez Perce culture was shaped by the geography and the rich and varied resources of the Nez Perce homeland.
- The park includes parts of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and the Lolo Trail, both of which were used by other cultures. The Nez Perce country, Nez Perce National Historical Park sites, and other Native American cultures overlap but also differ in many ways.
- The park contains burial sites and sacred sites; it is also a focal point for current Nez Perce culture and allows for the continued traditional use of resources. The park honors the rights retained in the 1855 and 1863 treaties and will fully apply all applicable laws, executive orders, policies, and treaties related to the protection of cultural properties and sacred sites.

Legislative Intent

The park's enabling legislation specifies that that park was created to "facilitate protection and provide interpretation of sites in the Nez Perce Country of Idaho and in the States of Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Wyoming that have exceptional value in commemorating the history of the Nation." Specifically mentioned are sites "relating to the early Nez Perce culture, the Lewis and Clark expedition through the area, the fur trade,

missionaries, gold mining and logging, the Nez Perce War of 1877, and such other sites as will depict the role of the Nez Perce country in the westward expansion of the Nation."

The legislation goes on to outline how the National Park Service may partner with other landowners or interested parties to fulfill the mission of the park and requires that the National Park Service work closely with the Nez Perce people to ensure that interpretation of Nez Perce history and culture reflects their story accurately. In the end, achieving the protection and interpretation of Nez Perce National Historical Park sites is possible only through a broad range of partnerships and cooperative arrangements with states, federal agencies, tribes, and local and private entities.

STATUS OF PARK PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

While Big Hole National Battlefield was protecting and interpreting resources related to the Nez Perce War of 1877 in the 1890's and many other park sites were quickly established after passage of the 1965 park enabling legislation, the near doubling of the park's size in 1992 required development of a strategy for considering both well-established and new sites together under a single umbrella that fulfilled the National Park Service mission. The Nez Perce National Historical Park Additions Act added not only many new sites spread over four states, but a multitude of new partners as well. In 1997 the National Park Service produced a General Management Plan for Nez Perce National Historical Park that documents the overall direction for the park through 2017. The National Park Service is presently preparing an amendment to the General Management Plan that reflects what we've learned and new opportunities that have arisen since 1997.

Parkwide management of specific resource types or interpretive strategies is documented in a variety of park reports, such as the Comprehensive Interpretive Plan, Land Protection Plan, and Vegetation Management Plan. These documents are periodically updated and made available to the public.

KEY EXTERNAL FACTORS AFFECTING PLAN ACCOMPLISHMENT

While park management and staff can plan, manage, and largely control much of what occurs on National Park Service lands within the park, other things they can only influence, especially things external to park boundaries. Some things, such as natural events, they have no control over whatsoever. In developing Nez Perce National Historical Park's Strategic Plan and its long-term goals, it was important to take into consideration key external factors that could negatively or positively affect goal outcomes. A few of the most important or most likely are identified briefly below. This is by no means an exhaustive list but simply those that are most likely to influence outcomes as viewed at the time of writing the plan.

Partnerships

The mission of the National Park Service at Nez Perce National Historical Park can only be accomplished through the goodwill of our partners. Understanding that many of our partners assist us on a voluntary basis, and work toward the park's goals as they are able, is critical to understanding where the park is and where we are headed parkwide on the majority of our goals. While the National Park Service can be fairly specific in setting out our goals for sites that we own or exclusively manage, and while we can predict with some accuracy the resources we will have to work with in coming years, we are not in a position to do the same on behalf of our partners. As we have in the past, we continue to work closely with our partners to find those areas of mutual interest and benefit which serve the resources and visitors of Nez Perce National Historical Park. We also remain as flexible as possible in delineating our annual work plans and budgeting in order to be in a position to take advantage of opportunities as they arise. This attitude of proactive responsiveness is fundamental to our partnership work and forms the core of our continued successes. As our relationships grow, and as newly authorized or implemented sites come into being, we anticipate that the National Park Service and our partners will be better able to accurately predict our specific activities and funding together in future fiscal years.

External Funding

The National Park Service is proud of our success in garnering new partners to the mission of Nez Perce

National Historical Park. Often these partners bring new sources of funding, or new avenues to funding unavailable to the National Park Service that increase our ability to serve the resources and our visitors. Together, we have been successful in carrying the message of the park to new audiences as we apply for grants and other funding opportunities. However, ultimately, the National Park Service does not control how these funds are distributed and where our needs and proposals fall within the priorities of other agencies or funding organizations. As with our approach to partnerships in general, the National Park Service works with our partners to be prepared to act when and if funding opportunities arise that allow us to implement yet one more element of our General Management Plan.

Privately Owned Park Sites and Adjoining Lands

While the management of National Park Service lands is relatively clear and directly tied to the mission of the park, inclusion of sites outside of National Park Service ownership and public access to those sites is voluntary on the part of the landowner. It is only by the goodwill of our partner landowners that the resources and visitor experience at these sites are protected and maintained for present visitors and future generations. It's a measure of their dedication to the mission of the National Park Service at the park that to date none of our partnership landowners have chosen to withdraw from inclusion in the park or completely deny public access.

In a park composed of several, small, discreet sites, the impact of changes to adjacent lands can have tremendous impacts on the resources of park sites or the experience of visitors to the site. In some cases, the full extent of the cultural resources is not known and may, or indeed does, extend onto private lands not presently included in the park. In other cases, development or other changes to adjoining lands impacts the resources on park sites directly. Perhaps the clearest case of this would be a common situation where a cultural landscape is degraded as a result of development on neighboring properties that completely changes the context of that landscape. Natural resources do not follow fencelines or deeded boundaries - noxious weeds on one lot quickly spread to adjoining lots and impact native species. Increased density on adjoining lands can shift populations of animals to rely more heavily on park habitats with accompanying changes in the ecosystem of that site. Development of adjoining lands also impacts the visitor experience and can cause obstacles to a visitor's ability to absorb the interpretive message, interact directly with park resources, or reflect upon the history associated with the site and the impacts to their own life that resulted. In many cases within the park, park sites are considered Traditional Cultural Properties by the tribes and development of adjoining lands can directly impact their ability to continue using the site in traditional ways.

While the National Park Service respects the rights of adjoining landowners, we make every effort to work with them to find mutually beneficial solutions to issues that arise from the development of adjoining lands. We are not always successful and cannot, ultimately, control what occurs on private land owned by neighbors. The National Park Service works with our partners that are able to bring alternative solutions for discussion and remain prepared to mitigate, as far as we are able, any impacts arising from the development of lands surrounding park sites. What we cannot control is when, what kind of development, what impacts that development has on park sites, and what, ultimately, that development will look like. We can only try to share our message and enlist the support of our neighbors as stewards of the park and the stories it represents.

In most of the communities surrounding park sites, there is some form of state or local land use planning. Changes to zoning or other aspects of land use planning can affect both our privately-owned park sites and adjoining properties. We work with local governments and representatives to ensure that they are aware of how those changes might impact park sites and any challenges or protection such changes might offer. Many of the regions containing park sites are also relatively rural and are only now facing increased populations and the resulting pressures of providing developable lands. Changes from traditional natural resource extraction industries to new forms of economic development, including tourism, affect park sites and adjacent lands in a variety of ways, many difficult to predict.

Human Resources

While National Park Service staffing levels can be reasonably predicted, a large share of our collective workforce involves staff of partner agencies and the many volunteers associated with the park. Our ability to recruit volunteers and the capacity of our volunteers and volunteer-based partners is dependent upon changing demographics, regional employment conditions, and the general economy, all issues outside of National Park Service control.

The National Park Service recognizes that an increasing percentage of our national population is reaching an age traditionally associated with retirement. We are committed to providing meaningful experiences for those who wish to retire from full-time employment and find satisfaction in aiding our accomplishment of the park mission. While the expected growth and extent of that growth is beyond our control, the National Park Service works to be prepared for it.

Continued Learning

As we continue in our mission to protect park resources and the tangible connections with Nez Perce culture and history, the National Park Service increases our own understanding of that history and resources. As we learn more, we are better able to meet the park's mission and interpret that story to our visitors. There are many areas within the park where we simply do not have a good understanding of the story or the resources. In other areas, continued research and monitoring leads us to completely different conclusions than we started with. While we cannot predict such changes in understanding with any accuracy, we do know that this changing understanding requires that we rethink our approach to park management, sometimes subtly, sometimes dramatically.

Visitation Levels and Special Interest Areas

The National Park Service could not have anticipated the dramatic effects that September 11, 2001, had on park visitation - not only visitation levels, but the demographics of our visitors as well.

For previous planning periods, park staff recognized and planned for the commemoration of the Lewis and Clark bicentennial: beginning in 2007, we are now able to return our focus to our core interpretive mission and objectives. Nevertheless the interests and experience of the public does change over time. These are less predictable and more difficult to plan for than recognized national observances. Issues often arise in local communities or in the region that effect what kinds and amount of information the public seeks at Nez Perce National Historical Park. As the park deals with resources and interpretation related to a living culture - current day's affairs related to the Nez Perce people influence the expectations of our visitors. We cannot predict such affairs but do work to place current events in a historical context and provide the information that allows for fuller understanding by our visitors.

Congressional Direction

The National Park Service responds to the desires of the public as reflected in the direction provided us by Congress. Shifting emphasis at a national level, new approaches to meeting the needs of the nation, national emergencies and war, all can and do change the nature of our ability to meet the park's mission. While the National Park Service is often invited to provide input on the effects such changes will have on our ability to meet our mission, to Congress belongs the ultimate authority to determine what is in the nation's best interests. The National Park Service works to remain prepared to respond to any such changes.

How this Strategic Plan Addresses External Factors

The park's General Management Plan and upcoming amendment to that plan, based solidly on the park's enabling legislation, continues to outline our long-term goals for the park. This Strategic Plan attempts to indicate our direction over the next five years but also recognizes that flexibility is critical to successful partnerships. While this Strategic Plan indicates National Park Service goals over the coming years, it does not pretend to account for all the goals and resources put forth toward the park mission by our partners. Together, the National Park Service and our partners take advantage of opportunities as they arise and make every effort to remain

flexible in setting immediate priorities that take into consideration issues of timing, available resources, special incentives, and opportunities for funding or other action that will work to fully implement the park's General Management Plan. Throughout this document we have focussed on our part of that partnership and those resources and park sites in National Park Service ownership or direct management and will update and adapt this plan to changing conditions as we proceed through the planning period.

OTHER CLOSELY ALLIED FEDERAL UNITS

It is important to note that two other federal units, the Lewis and Clark Trail and Nez Perce (Nee Me Poo) National Historic Trail, both units of the National Trail System, are closely allied to individual sites or stories of Nez Perce National Historical Park. Park staff does not have direct administrative responsibility for either of these units, but works closely with other National Park Service (Lewis and Clark Trail) and US Forest Service (Nez Perce National Historic Trail) administrators to ensure a seamless visitor experience.

The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail follows the route of the non-treaty Nez Perce and their military pursuers during the course of the 1877 Nez Perce War. The 1,170 mile trail starts and ends at park sites: the Old Chief Joseph Gravesite and Cemetery in Joseph, Oregon, and the Bear Paw Battlefield, in Chinook, Montana. The trail is administered by the US Forest Service.

The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail follows the route of the Corps of Discovery in their 1804-1806 journey across the continent along the Missouri and Columbia Rivers. At 3,700 miles, it is the second longest of the National Scenic and National Historic Trails. The trail is administered by the National Park Service.

CURRENT PARK PARTNERS

Tribal Governments

- Confederated Tribes of Colville Reservation
- Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Nez Perce Tribe

Federal Agencies

- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Parks Canada, Fort Walsh National Historical Site (Canada)
- United States Bureau of Indian Affairs
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- United States Forest Service
 - Beaverhead-Deer Lodge National Forest
 - Bitterroot National Forest
 - Clearwater National Forest
 - Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail
 - Salmon National Forest
 - Region 1
 - Region 5
 - Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

State Agencies

- Idaho State Historical Society, Historic Preservation Office
- Idaho Transportation Department
- Lewis and Clark State College (Office of Educational Outreach)
- Montana Conservation Corps
- Montana Department of Commerce
- Montana Department of Transportation
- Montana Historical Society, Historic Preservation Office

Oregon Department of Transportation (District 13, Region 5, NEACT)
Oregon Historic Trails Advisory Commission
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (Wallowa Lake State Park, Historic Preservation Office)
Oregon Travel and Information Council
Oregon Youth Conservation Corps
Washington State Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development, Historic Preservation Office
University of Idaho (Landscape Architecture)
University of Montana, Western

County and Municipal Agencies, Special Districts

Asotin County (Public Works)
Blaine County Museum
Blaine County Weed Board
Wallowa County (Public Works, Planning Office, Sheriff)
Wallowa County Museum
Wallowa Lake Rural Fire Department

Non-profit Organizations

Bitterroot Chamber of Commerce
Clearwater Economic Development Association
Clearwater Management Council
Clearwater-Snake Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Committee
Eastern Oregon Visitors Association (Hells Canyon All American Road)
Friends of Bear Paw, Big Hole, & Canyon Creek Battlefields
Glacier Natural History Association
National Park Foundation
National Trust for Historic Places
Nez Perce Trail Foundation
Nez Perce Tribal Arts Council
North Central Idaho Travel Association
Northwest Interpretive Association
Russell County Tourism Board
St. Gertrudes Museum
St. Joseph's Mission Historical Association
Salmon Chamber of Commerce
Student Conservation Association
The Nature Conservancy, NE Oregon Office
Training and Employment Consortium, Wallowa County
Upper Clearwater Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Committee
Wallowa Band Nez Perce Trail Interpretive Center, Inc.
Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce
Weippe Discovery Center
Wisdom Tourism Board

Private Landholders and Other Parties

Associated Ditch Companies, Wallowa County
Roy Lacey

TO LEARN MORE

To learn more about the park, to track our progress in meeting these goals, or to find out how you can assist us in meeting these goals, please contact:

Superintendent Gary Somers
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39063 US Highway 95
Spalding, Idaho 83540-6086
(208) 843-7001

STRATEGIC PLAN PREPARERS

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Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: la1A

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: la1A

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Acres Restored: Number of disturbed parkland acres restored.

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, 1.5 acres (100% of 1.5 acres) of Nez Perce NHP disturbed parkland acres are restored.

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

Disturbed land

acres

Restored

1.5

5-Year Results Plan:

In a park such as Nez Perce National Historical Park, covering, as it does, a chronological span of tens of thousands of years to the present, and incorporating a wide range of cultural themes, ecological regions, and geography, it is rather difficult to determine what is and what is not "disturbed parklands." Unlike parks where the native ecosystem or a particular moment in time are the primary reasons for their inclusion in the system, Nez Perce National Historical Park celebrates and protects those changes wrought upon the environment through man's interaction. Our "disturbed lands" are often just as clearly a tangible record of the cultural landscape we aim to protect.

For the purpose of this goal, we have identified the acreage containing the Glasby house at Spalding to be "disturbed lands." The National Park Service owns the site which includes elements of the historic landscape that do not fit into the protective or interpretive themes of the park and are planned for removal or restoration. In the case of the Glasby house, formerly a private residence and post office for the town of Spalding, the National Park Service intends to remove the structure and associated landscaping and return the acreage to an older setting that compliments the adjacent historic Watsons Store.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: la1B

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: la1B

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Invasive plant species: Acres infested with invasive plant species controlled

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, 50 canopy acres (2% of 2618.29 acres) of Nez Perce NHP lands infested with invasive (non-native) plants are controlled.

Target Year:

2011

Performance Indicator (what is measured):

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

Total # Units in Baseline:

Status in Base Year (# Meeting Condition):

Invasive plant acres

acres

Contained

2618.29

5-Year Results Plan:

While the park continues to work with our partners to control the spread of noxious weeds at all park sites, this Strategic Plan documents National Park Service efforts to control noxious weeds at those park sites owned or exclusively managed by the National Park Service.

The condition of sites in Nez Perce National Historical Park varies widely, with some sites, like the Old Chief Joseph Gravesite and Cemetery and Big Hole Battlefield, capable of being restored to a native environment and others, like sections of Whitebird Battlefield or Spalding, virtually impossible to control. One grasslands specialist once speculated that only about 2% of the Clearwater and Snake drainages adjacent to the park contained native ecosystems. We hope to bring additional populations under control at Big Hole Battlefield, Bearpaw Battlefield, Spalding, Old Chief Joseph Cemetery, and Weippe over the next five years as well as controlling new infestations as they occur.

The park implements a variety of controls to manage noxious weeds including pesticide treatment; biological control; mechanical control (hand-pulling); and prescribed fire. We also rely on partnerships to aide in our efforts.

The park sites and their acreages included in our baseline are: Buffalo Eddy - 94.4; Canoe Camp - 4.1; Old Chief Joseph Gravesite - 13.21; Weippe - 273.87; Whitebird Battlefield - 1244.76; Spalding - 89.93; Heart of the Monster - 53.02; Big Hole Battlefield - 655; Bearpaw Battlefield - 190.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated:

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: la1D

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: la1D

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Land Condition: NPS managed riparian (stream/shoreline) miles in desired condition

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, 1 mile (17% of 5.6 miles) of Nez Perce NHP riparian areas are in desired condition.

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

Riparian Miles

miles

In desired condition

5.8

0

5-Year Results Plan:

Many of the sites of Nez Perce National Historical Park are located along the riverways. These same rivers have served as important transportation corridors or fisheries for the Nez Perce throughout their history and today.

The riparian area, that environment found along the banks of waterways, is home to several species of plant and animal life not found only a few yards away. Protection of the park's riparian areas is important both to preserve and enhance the life found in the rivers such as anadromous fish as well as to provide a context for understanding those facets of Nez Perce culture associated with rivers. Because these same waterways can carry the seeds of noxious weeds from upstream, the park's riparian zones are also some of the ecosystems within the park most at risk from the spread of noxious weeds.

While many of the park sites are located along waterways and include riparian zones, in this Strategic Plan, the following NPS owned or exclusively managed sites and an estimate of the length of their riparian zone were used to form the baseline: Spalding - 9000 ft; Canoe Camp - 1200 ft; East Kamiah - 4000 ft; Weippe - 4200 ft; Whitebird - 3000 ft; Big Hole Battlefield - 6000 ft; Bearpaw Battlefield - 1320 ft; Buffalo Eddy - 1200 ft; Old Chief Joseph Gravesite - 898 ft.

During the course of the planning period, the National Park Service will be acquiring more detailed baseline information, assessing the current condition of all park riparian zones, and planning for their eventual improvement. We will also be developing a definition of "desired condition" for each of the riparian segments.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: December 07, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: la2A

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: la2A

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Species Protected: Populations of Federally listed species making progress toward recovery.

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, 3 populations (43% of 7) of Nez Perce NHP's federally listed species in the park are making progress toward recovery.

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

Making progress toward recovery

Unit Measure:

Each species

Condition (Desired):

Making progress toward recovery

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

7

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

3

5-Year Results Plan:

Species included in this goal include: *Canis lupis* (Gray Wolf), *Haliaeetus leucocephalis* (Bald Eagle), *Lynx canadensis* (Canadian Lynx), *Ursus arctos horribilis* (Grizzly Bear), *Mirabilis macfarlanei* (Macfarlane's Four O'Clock), *Salvelinus confluentus* (Bull Trout), and *Silene spaldingii* (Spalding's Silene). Many of these species have been reported historically in the park, are migratory and so only passing through park sites, or their present populations within the park unknown. In addition, the small size of individual park sites and associated habitats make any significant NPS contributions toward recovery difficult at best.

This goal tracks which of these species are making progress toward recovery, including those "not at risk," "at risk but stable," and "at risk, but with increasing populations". The overall, nationwide population of *Canis lupis* and *Silene spaldingii* is listed as at risk, but stable, while that of *Haliaeetus leucocephalis* is presently not at risk.

Silene spaldingii has been found at the Old Chief Joseph Gravesite and Cemetery. It is also found on adjacent lands. The National Park Service inventoried *Silene spaldingii* colonies on the site in FY06 and participates with other federal, state, and non-profit organizations in the region to monitor the health of the species and increase our understanding of its lifecycle and impacts affecting its survival. While other park sites are located within its geographic distribution and the species was originally identified at what is now the Spalding site of the park, *Silene spaldingii* is not known to be present in any other park site. Preliminary analysis suggests that the population at the Old Chief Joseph cemetery is stable but further monitoring is required.

Salvelinus confluentus is a member of the North American salmon family, which includes salmon, trout, whitefish, char, and grayling, and is one of four species of char native to western North America. On November 01, 1999 Bull Trout was listed as threatened in the contiguous US. Bull Trout depend on very clean, cold water and therefore are a prime indicator of the health of forest ecosystems and watersheds. The current status of Bull Trout in the streams

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: December 07, 2006

adjacent to park sites is currently unknown, but their historical habitat includes streams such as those found at Weippe Prairie, Big Hole Battlefield, and other park sites in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana. The National Park Service will continue to work with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other park partners to inventory and monitor *Salvelinus confluentus* occurrences within the park and plan for further habitat protection and recovery.

The relatively small size of park sites and their ecological dependence upon adjoining lands make any significant effort to enhance a particular species difficult. The park will continue to work with other NPS and other federal units, as well as our neighbors, to develop plans for improving these species health on NPS lands.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated:

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: la2B

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: la2B

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Species Protected: number of populations of species of management concern managed to desired condition

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, 0 populations (0% of 1) of Nez Perce NHP species of management concern are managed to desired condition.

Target Year:

2011

Performance Indicator (what is measured):

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

Total # Units in Baseline:

Status in Base Year (# Meeting Condition):

Management status

Each population

Desired condition

1

0

5-Year Results Plan:

Goal la2B records the park's progress in bringing special management concern species to a desired condition. These species and their condition are recorded in one of various planning documents and this list is constantly changing.

Thymallus arcticus (Montana Grayling or Fluvial Arctic Grayling) is a candidate for future TE Species listing. The 2006 population status of Montana Grayling is listed as declining. The fluvial arctic grayling is resident in the Big Hole River running through the Big Hole Battlefield. In contrast to still-common lacustrine/adfluvial arctic grayling populations, fluvial arctic grayling appear adapted to inhabiting riverine environments year-round. At the end of the 19th century, fluvial Arctic grayling were intermittently distributed throughout the upper Missouri drainage above Great Falls. During the 20th century, the range of fluvial Arctic grayling has been restricted to the Big Hole River of southwest Montana, about 4% of its native range. This decline of fluvial Arctic grayling throughout their native range has been attributed to four factors: habitat degradation, introduction of non-native salmonids, climatic change, and exploitation by anglers. Factors potentially threatening survival of Arctic grayling in the Big Hole River include water quality and quantity, competition with introduced species, predation, habitat degradation, and impacts of angling. Water quantity issues include drought and recruitment limitation due to sudden runoff events. Sudden increases in stream flows during hatching and emergence of larval Arctic grayling may decrease survival and limit recruitment in the Big Hole River.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number: NPS Goal ID Number: la5 Park/ Program Goal ID Number: la5

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Resource Condition: number of Historic structures in good condition

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, 12 (60% of 20) of Nez Perce NHP historic structures are in good condition.

Target Year:

2011

Performance Indicator (what is measured):

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

Total # Units in Baseline:

Status in Base Year (# Meeting Condition):

Condition

Each structure

Good

20

12

5-Year Results Plan:

Structures currently on the List of Classified Structures at Nez Perce National Historical Park include: Fort Lapwai Officers Quarters; Spalding Mission House Ruins; Agency Log Building; Agents Residence; Watsons Store; Fort Lapwai Officers Quarters Cooking Oven; Fort Lapwai Officers Quarters Fireplace Ruins; Spalding Drinking Fountains; Spalding Root Cellar; Pivi-Yivi Stella and Bronze Marker at Spalding; Bredell Family Cemetery; Pierce Courthouse; St. Josephs Mission; Rock Cairn at Canoe Camp; Heart of the Monster; McBeth Mission House; Canoe Camp; Whitebird Battlefield; Liver of the Monster; and the Ferry Landing Ramp at Spalding. Of these, the Spalding Mission House Ruins; Fort Lapwai Officers Quarters Cooking Oven; Fort Lapwai Officers Quarters Fireplace Ruins; Spalding Root Cellar; Canoe Camp Rock Cairn; McBeth Mission House; Whitebird Battlefield; and Spalding Ferry Landing are listed in other than "good" condition. In most cases, these represent ruins that cannot be returned to "good" condition and are preserved in their present state. In the case of the McBeth Mission House, the NPS does not own or have management rights to the structure - so we continue to work with the landowner to determine a solution that is in their best interests. In the case of the Whitebird Battlefield, restoration to "good" condition would require extensive investment of time and funding, if even possible, and is beyond the scope of this Strategic Plan.

The National Park Service anticipates changes to this baseline over the next five years. Redefinition of what classifies as a "historic structure" for the purpose of listing on the LCS will require deletion of cemeteries as structures with new inventory of individual gravestones and other discreet features. The NPS also anticipates an increase in our baseline as we continue to inventory and list historic structures at our recently authorized park sites in Oregon, Washington, and Montana. Re-assessment of structures currently on the list in accordance with new standards and initial assessment of structures not yet on the list will alter our performance over the planning period.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: la6

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: la6

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Resource Condition: number of preservation and protection standards met for park museum collections

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, 212 (91% of 233) applicable preservation and protection standards for Nez Perce NHP's museum collections are met.

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

Applicable standards

Each standard

Standards meet

233

207

5-Year Results Plan:

Nez Perce National Historical Park's museum collection, which includes the museum collection of Big Hole National Battlefield, is housed in the museum storage at the Spalding Visitor Center and in the exhibit areas of the Visitor Centers at Spalding and Big Hole National Battlefield. The collection provides a rare record, not only of objects associated with significant events such as the Nez Perce War of 1877, but also of the Nez Perce culture over time. The ethnographic, archeological, photographic, and archival collections are particularly valuable in their focus upon the Nez Perce people.

The baseline figures for this goal are derived from the Museum Collection Protection and Preservation Program checklist. In-depth review in early FY06 revealed that 9 Standards had been applied to Facility 0 (Professional Services); 56 standards had been applied to Facility 2 (Exhibit Space); 56 standards had been applied to Facility 3 (Collection Storage); and 56 standards had been applied to Facility 4 (Maintenance Storage). In addition, 56 Standards had been applied to BIHO Exhibit Space (Facility 1). Standards had also been applied to NEPE Facility 1 (VC Office Space) which no longer applies and are therefore no longer counted. The park currently meets 207 of these standards and anticipates being able to meet 222 altogether. At that point the remaining deficiencies can not be remedied without the construction of new facilities.

The park has reevaluated its deficiencies in early FY06. Eliminating those standards that no longer apply (those related to Facility 1 (VC Office Space)), we find twenty-eight (28) standards have not been met. These are broken down as follows: There are 3 deficiencies related to Facility 2 (Exhibit Space), all of them can be fixed; there are 6 deficiencies related to Facility 3 (Collection Storage), five of which can be fixed; there are eleven deficiencies related to Facility 4 (Maintenance Storage), nine of which can be fixed. All standards applied to Facility 0 (Professional Services) have been met. There are 8 deficiencies related to BIHO Facility 1 (Exhibit Space), none of which can be met. BIHO Collection Storage no longer applies as the collection is now stored at Spalding. Many of these will require substantial funding in order to resolve. At least eleven of the twenty-eight deficiencies cannot be practically fixed as they relate to earthquake zones, 100 year floodplains, or other physical environment issues and would require construction of entirely new facilities.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: December 13, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: la7

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: la7

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Resource Condition: number of the cultural landscapes in good condition

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, 3 (75% of 4) of Nez Perce NHP cultural landscapes are in good condition.

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

Condition

Each landscape

Good

4

0

5-Year Results Plan:

To suggest the importance of the cultural landscapes to the interpretive story of Nez Perce National Historical Park, it should be noted that at one point the National Park Service identified 41 significant cultural landscapes within the park. Redefinition of what constitutes a cultural landscape and elimination of those landscapes over which the National Park Service has little or no control, has narrowed our current listing of landscapes to four: Spalding, East Kamiah, Big Hole Battlefield, and Old Chief Joseph Cemetery. Some of the other cultural landscapes in the park but outside of direct NPS control include the Weippe Prairie, Fort Lapwai, and Dug Bar. Of these, none are currently listed in "good" condition and only three currently are listed on the Cultural Landscape Inventory, Spalding, Big Hole Battlefield, and East Kamiah.

Other park sites which incorporate large viewsheds, such as Bearpaw Battlefield and Whitebird Battlefield, do not necessarily also incorporate cultural landscapes. Typically, a cultural landscape involves a complex viewshed with several contributing elements (often manmade or at least culturally significant) that change over time. While isolated historic structures and culturally significant natural features do exist on these sites, their sum total does not necessarily represent a cultural landscape. In other words, taking a cultural landscape management approach to these sites does not better enable protection of the viewshed or features in line with our mission. We are able to deal with the viewshed and individual features in isolation.

The East Kamiah cultural landscape listing was recently updated and the landscape was determined to be in "fair" condition. Over the next five years, the National Park Service will be reassessing the Big Hole Battlefield, Spalding, and Old Chief Joseph Cemetery cultural landscapes - we anticipate that these landscapes will be determined to be in good condition. For the purpose of GPRA reporting, we assume that those landscapes not evaluated by present standard are in less than good condition. Therefore, while it may well be that a particular cultural landscape is presently in good condition, we make no assumptions and only include those that have gone through rigorous evaluation. The completion of a currently underway assessment of the Old Chief Joseph Cemetery will add it to the CLI.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: la8

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: la8

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Resource Condition: number of archeological sites in good condition

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, 30 (83% of 36) NPS managed archeological sites at Nez Perce NHP are in good condition. In addition, 12 (52% of 23) Non-NPS managed archeological sites (Local Resource Types) are in good condition.

Target Year:

2011

Performance Indicator (what is measured):

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

Total # Units in Baseline:

Status in Base Year (# Meeting Condition):

Condition

Each archeological site

Good

59

24

5-Year Results Plan:

Documenting, as it does, the entire history of a people stretching back tens of thousands of years, Nez Perce National Historical Park contains a myriad of archeological sites. These sites range from pre-historic pithouses, to ancestral graves, to the more recent sites associated with the Nez Perce War of 1877 or 20th century transportation.

The data currently used to develop our baseline (both in this Strategic Plan and our Annual Performance Plans through the period) were derived as follows: The "Total Arch.sites in baseline" is reflective of the total number of park archeological sites currently entered in ASMIS. This includes "ASMIS sites" described as those being managed by the NPS and also "Non-ASMIS sites" as those sites listed in ASMIS as "Local Resource Types". Currently, the park has 36 archaeological sites in ASMIS that meet the definitions of ASMIS Sites, and 23 Non-ASMIS sites that are coded as Local Resource Types in ASMIS. The Local Resource Types for Nez Perce National Historical Park are sites which occur on or near units of the Park but are managed by other federal, state, tribal, or private entities. These two groups added together (ASMIS and Non-ASMIS) produce the 59 total archeological sites as reflected in the baseline number.

The "ASMIS Sites Good Condition" baseline number is reflective of those NPS managed sites in ASMIS (excluding the Local Resource Types) for which we have current condition information and which are listed in ASMIS as in good condition. The "Non-ASMIS Site Good Condition" baseline number reflects those sites which are Local Resource Types for which we have current condition information and which are listed in good condition.

The "Total Sites Good Condition" numbers are reflective of the total of both the NPS managed ASMIS sites and the Non-ASMIS sites listed as Local Resource Types in ASMIS.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: lb4A

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: lb4A

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Trails: miles of National Historic Trails and/or National Scenic Trails that meet heritage resource objectives

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, 1.3 miles (100%) of National Historic Trails in Nez Perce NHP meet heritage resource objectives.

Target Year:

2011

Performance Indicator (what is measured):

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

Total # Units in Baseline:

Status in Base Year (# Meeting Condition):

Heritage objectives

Mile

Meet

1.3

1.3

5-Year Results Plan:

Two National Historic Trails pass through Nez Perce National Historical Park: the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail and the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. While the National Park Service at Nez Perce National Historical Park is involved in what happens along most of both of these trails, we have limited our goals for this plan to those that concern park sites owned or exclusively managed by the National Park Service. Further, we have excluded those trail segments passing through Yellowstone National Park as they are addressed under that park's Strategic Plan.

The following park sites contain segments of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) NHT: Ft. Lapwai Officers Quarters; Whitebird Battlefield; Weippe Prairie; Heart of the Monster; Big Hole Battlefield; Bear Paw Battlefield; Old Chief Joseph Gravesite and Cemetery; and the Joseph Canyon Overlook. Park sites containing segments of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail are: Weippe Prairie; Heart of the Monster; Canoe Camp; Spalding; and Big Hole Battlefield.

Since the interpretive themes and resource protection provisions associated with these trails are already included in the park's own mission, any improvements to the condition of any of these sites automatically improves the condition of the site relative to the respective trail. Over the next five years the park will be improving interpretation related to the trails through its large, park-wide interpretive wayside project.

Beginning in FY07, the NPS changed from using trail segments as a baseline to actual mileage. In the case of both the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historical Trail and the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the original trail passes through a variety of ownerships, only a small portion of which are in federal ownership. Nevertheless, the sum total of these isolated, protected sites provides the opportunity for the public to experience the overall interpretive message and character of the original trails. But we are not, in the case of sites at Nez Perce NHP, speaking of actual trail mileage or footread. Consider, for a moment, the case of Whitebird Battlefield, one of our larger sites. Activities associated with the "trail" occurred over the vast majority of the site, but not in a linear fashion. This is a "point" along the trail, a large one, indeed, but a point. The "trail mileage" associated with the site is truthfully the routes used by the various participants getting to and from the site. Similarly, Canoe Camp, a very significant point along the Lewis and Clark National Historical Trail owned by the NPS, is only hundreds of feet long, not even a tenth of a mile, the smallest measuring unit available for this recording. The activities of the

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

Corps of Discovery at and from this point are critical to understanding the trail and the history it represents, but the footbed, if even we were able to define what that might be in this case, is a measured in feet. Recognizing that linear measurement of the trail sites and segments in the park has little meaning, but is required in order to demonstrate our actions at the sites as part of a national effort, we have simply assigned a measurement of a tenth of a mile (the smallest measuring unit used for this report) to each segment. Nearly all of the segments are much shorter than this, some, such as Whitebird, Big Hole Battlefield, Bearpaw Battlefield, etc, might be longer if it were possible to define a single or set of linear "trail" segments. For our readers, we suggest that you consider our progress in terms of "sites" or "segments", rather than linear measurement - much as we ourselves do.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: Ila1A

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: Ila1A

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Visitors: Percent of park visitors satisfied with appropriate park facilities, services, and recreational opportunities.

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, 98% of visitors to Nez Perce NHP are satisfied with appropriate park facilities, services, and recreational opportunities.

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

Visitor satisfaction

percent

Satisfied

98

5-Year Results Plan:

Meeting the mission given to the National Park Service by Congress through our enabling legislation and from the general public as reflected in the Nez Perce National Historical Park General Management Plan is no easily accomplished task. That our present visitors are overwhelmingly satisfied with our current level of services is heartwarming - but we realize we still have a long way to go. What our visitor surveys do not presently measure well is the extent to which our visitors are satisfied with services at our remote sites, or, perhaps more importantly, those park sites not yet developed.

The National Park Service is committed to providing safe, informative, rewarding, and accessible experiences for park visitors to interact directly with park natural and cultural resources and the story of the Nez Perce people. We are fully committed to expanding the current level of park services to all sites identified in our enabling legislation and as outlined in our General Management Plan.

At the same time, we undertake the challenge of maintaining our current level of service in the face of increasing costs and limited funding. We recognize that only by working directly and in cooperation with our park partners will we be able to make progress toward meeting those goals.

Over the next five years, the National Park Service will continue to make progress toward full implementation of our General Management Plan and increasing our levels of service to visitors at our visitor centers and remote sites. The park's interpretive wayside project will bring 65 new or redesigned interpretive waysides to park sites, many of those sites presently without any onsite presence. We continue to refine our planning for the Bear Paw Battlefield. Exhibits at the Spalding Visitor Center and Big Hole Battlefield are planned for re-evaluation and redesign, and in the interim the park is preparing taped audio tours that will bring Nez Perce voices to the interpretation. The park continues to refine our park orientation materials such as park orientation signs, park brochure, park handbook, and newsletters. The National Park Service has explored the feasibility of installing a limited number of Travel Information Stations that will broadcast orientation information to travelers over FM frequencies and hopes to install some initial pilot projects within the next four years. The National Park Service continues to explore alternatives and external funding opportunities to provide safe parking at Old Chief Joseph

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Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

Gravesite. At Big Hole National Battlefield, the National Park Service continues to maintain and revise a trail system that provides both interpretive and recreational opportunities to visitors while honoring the memories of those lost and buried there. Picnic areas at Spalding, Big Hole Battlefield, and Bear Paw Battlefield are heavily used and the National Park Service works hard to continue to provide this opportunity. Further, the National Park Service continues to work with partners to ensure that issues of access and service are addressed at all park sites, not just those owned or managed by the National Park Service.

Most importantly, the National Park Service strives to ensure that the service in our name reflects the level of service our visitors find at each of our sites. To that end, we welcome all comments concerning our current level of services at any of our sites.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: Ila2A

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: Ila2A

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Visitors: The number of visitor accident/incidents

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, the annual number of visitor accidents/incidents at Nez Perce NHP is 0.

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

Accidents/incidents

Each accident/incident

Reduced

0

5-Year Results Plan:

The National Park Service at Nez Perce National Historical Park is committed to providing a safe environment for our visitors. Widespread, isolated sites, in various stages of developed and natural environments present a challenge to park managers as we continue to identify potential safety issues and work to resolve them quickly and finally.

The park currently strives to conduct at least one safety inspection at each site each month. Given the miles separating our sites, this is no easy task. We will continue to work with and find new partners who can assist us in monitoring our most remote sites and in identifying and correcting safety issues as they arise.

Park staff in contact with the public are provided with first aid and CPR training annually. Training in hazardous waste identification and handling, hazardous materials emergency response, emergency response, and basic fire safety are among the training that park staff partake in on a routine basis. Park staff continually update emergency response information for each of our park sites and continue to work with local law enforcement, fire, and medical teams to ensure that consistent and appropriate response mechanisms are in place and understood by all concerned. Safety information for each of our park sites is continually updated to alert our visitors to general and site-specific hazards.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: Ila2B

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: Ila2B

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Visitors: number of visitor fatalities

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, the number of visitor fatalities at Nez Perce NHP will remain at zero.

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

Fatalities

Each fatality

Reduced

0

5-Year Results Plan:

The National Park Service at Nez Perce National Historical Park is committed to providing a safe environment for our visitors. Widespread, isolated sites, in various stages of developed and natural environments present a challenge to park managers as we continue to identify potential safety issues and work to resolve them quickly and finally.

While the National Park Service has not experienced a visitor fatality at Nez Perce National Historical Park in recent history, we cannot afford to rest on our past accomplishments. The park currently strives to conduct at least one safety inspection at each site each month. Given the miles separating our sites, this is no easy task. We will continue to work with and find new partners who can assist us in monitoring our most remote sites and in identifying and correcting safety issues as they arise.

Park staff in contact with the public are provided with first aid and CPR training annually. Training in hazardous waste identification and handling, hazardous materials emergency response, emergency response, and basic fire safety are among the training that park staff partake in on a routine basis. Park staff continually update emergency response information for each of our park sites and continue to work with local law enforcement, fire, and medical teams to ensure that consistent and appropriate response mechanisms are in place and understood by all concerned. Safety information for each of our park sites is continually updated to alert our visitors to general and site-specific hazards.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: 11b1

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: 11b1

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Visitors: Percent of visitors that understand and appreciate the significance of the park they are visiting

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, 85% of Nez Perce NHP visitors understand the significance of the park

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

Visitor understanding

percent

Understand

75

5-Year Results Plan:

By inclusion in the National Park System, Congress has made clear that it considers the park resources and story of the Nez Perce people to be symbolic of our history as a nation. Understanding that importance, the National Park Service continues to provide a forum where visitors can interact directly with the park resources and Nez Perce people and their story and come to a greater understanding of the role that the Nez Perce story plays in their own lives and benefit from the knowledge.

Annual surveys conducted of our visitors indicate that 86% of our visitors leave the park understanding the significance of its resources and story. Even with that success behind us, the National Park Service continues to improve our ability to bring that message to our visitors and to expand our visitor base. Some of the projects that we will be tackling over the planning period include production of 65 interpretive waysides, many of them of stories or for sites not previously interpreted; production of new audio tours of our exhibits at the Spalding Visitor Center; production of a new park documentary film; increased use of the internet to get the park message out to publics that cannot otherwise visit the park; publication of an updated park handbook (long out of print) that provides a concise overview of the Nez Perce people; completion of historic research on the history of the Nez Perce who crossed into Canada and freedom in 1877; increased user access to historical documents documenting the history of the Nez Perce people and housed in the park archives at Spalding; continued research into the significance of the immense park museum collection focused on the Nez Perce people; continued outreach to schools and training of teachers responsible for carrying the lessons of history to our youth; production of periodic park newsletters and interpretive brochures; planning for the interpretive strategies to be employed at new and upcoming park sites; and continued management of site vegetation, cultural landscapes, and other resources to ensure that the environment at each park site is conducive to reflection upon the park's interpretive themes.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated:

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: Illa0

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: Illa0

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Ill a Mission Level related goals.

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, TBD (TBD% of 29) partnership sites identified in the park's General Management Plan are protected through formal agreement and meet mission objectives.

Target Year:

2011

Performance Indicator (what is measured):

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

Total # Units in Baseline:

Status in Base Year (# Meeting Condition):

Determined by Park/Office

Determined by Park/Office

Determined by Park/Office

29

0

5-Year Results Plan:

Nez Perce National Historical Park was established to provide a framework, or umbrella, for a variety of individual sites throughout Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Idaho, related to Nez Perce history and culture. The intent was to create a park that did not rely exclusively upon sites in federal ownership. Our interpretive message and protection efforts would be the glue that held the individual sites together.

Goal Illa0 is developed to track our progress toward incorporating those sites in Nez Perce National Historical Park not under NPS ownership. Our role in managing each of these individual sites varies, depending upon the agreements in place between the National Park Service and the owner or park partner responsible for the site. In some cases we have assumed nearly complete responsibility, in others our role is more limited.

Goal IVb1A tracks our ability to work with partners to enhance the visitor experience or protection of park resources. This goal is one of those that measures the results of those partnerships.

Partnership sites at Nez Perce National Historical Park at the beginning of Fiscal Year 2007 include: Ant and Yellowjacket; Coyote's Fishnet; Craig Donation Land Claim; Confluence Overlook; Fort Lapwai Officer's Quarters and Northern Idaho Indian Agency; Hasotino Village; Lapwai Mission; Lenore; St. Joseph's Mission; Asa Smith Mission; Lewis and Clark Long Camp; Camas Prairie; Clearwater Battlefield; Cottonwood Skirmishes; McBeth House; Lolo Trail/Lolo Pass; Looking Glass Camp; Musselshell Meadow; Peirce Courthouse; Tolo Lake; Weis Rockshelter; Dug Bar; Joseph Canyon Viewpoint; Lostine Campsite; Nez Perce Wallowa Homeland Project; Nez Perce (Nespelem) Campsites; Nez Perce Cemetery; Camas Meadows Battle Sites; and Canyon Creek. Sites in Yellowstone National Park are not included here as they are addressed under the Yellowstone GPRA Planning.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: IVa6A

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: IVa6A

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Employees: Number of employee accidents (DART)

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, the number of Nez Perce NHP employee lost-time injuries is maintained at or below the previous 5-year annual average number of 0.

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

Injuries or fatalities

Each injury or fatality

Reduced

0

5-Year Results Plan:

The National Park Service values the many individuals who have dedicated their lives to meeting the mission set out by Congress for our agency. Our employees are fundamental to the achievement of our goals. We place a high priority on implementing measures that will reduce employee injury or death. This goal measures our progress in preventing employee injuries.

The National Park Service at Nez Perce National Historical Park continues to improve our identification of safety issues associated with the workplace; assessment of safety risks; and documentation of safety issues identified and corrected. We continue to take advantage of low cost and effective methods of providing safety training to each and every employee and relate safety training to the tasks associated with individual positions.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: IVa6B

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: IVa6B

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Employees: Number of servicewide Continuation of Pay (COP) hours

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, the number of Nez Perce NHP hours of Continuation of Pay is at or below 16.

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

COP hours

Unit Measure:

Each COP hour

Condition (Desired):

Reduced

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

0

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

5-Year Results Plan:

The National Park Service values the many individuals who have dedicated their lives to meeting the mission set out by Congress for our agency. Our employees are fundamental to the achievement of our goals. We place a high priority on implementing measures that will reduce employee injury or death. This goal measures our progress in preventing employee injuries. This goal uses the annual Continuation of Pay hours as a measurement of our success in eliminating injuries and the reduction in severity of injuries in terms of time spent recovering from those injuries.

The National Park Service at Nez Perce National Historical Park continues to improve our identification of safety issues associated with the workplace; assessment of safety risks; and documentation of safety issues identified and corrected. We continue to take advantage of low cost and effective methods of providing safety training to each and every employee and relate safety training to the tasks associated with individual positions.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: IVb1A

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: IVb1A

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Partners: NPS has X community partnerships designed to enhance the NPS's ability to manage resources

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, Nez Perce NHP has 70 community partnerships designed to enhance the park's ability to manage recreation activities seamlessly.

Target Year:

2011

Performance Indicator (what is measured):

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

Total # Units in Baseline:

Status in Base Year (# Meeting Condition):

Park Partnerships

Each partnership

Established

63

5-Year Results Plan:

Congress never intended the National Park Service to go alone in carrying out the missions of Nez Perce National Historical Park and Big Hole National Battlefield. The National Park Service relies heavily upon partnerships at Nez Perce National Historical Park to protect and interpret all park sites, the vast majority of which are not owned or exclusively managed by the National Park Service.

Current partners run the gamut from individuals to tribal governments, private non-profits to other federal agencies. Our partners are located all over the United States and assist in ensuring that park sites are available to the public, that cultural and natural resources are identified and protected, and that visitors to the park are served by appropriate facilities and interpretation. A listing of these partners can be found in the introduction to this Strategic Plan.

Not all of our current relationships are codified through formal agreements. As the opportunity arises, the park continues to make progress toward formalizing these relationships. In other cases, our relationship is specific to a short-term goal and extends only during the course of meeting that goal. While these relationships may pass, others will arise to take their place.

To find out how you can become a partner with the National Park Service at Nez Perce National Historical Park, please call Superintendent Gary Somers at (208) 843-7001. We look forward to working with you.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: IVb2

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: IVb2

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Visitors: Number of visitors served by facilitated programs

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2011, Nez Perce NHP's attendance at facilitated programs will increase to 90000 (from 86007 in 2006).

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

Facilitated programs

Each visitor

attended

86007

5-Year Results Plan:

Recognizing the importance of the story at Nez Perce National Historical Park, we have attempted to provide a realistic picture of our visitation to facilitated programs over the planning period, accounting for the general decrease in travel resulting from the events of September 11, 2001, and the nation's continuing economic hardships; increased costs of gasoline and travel; a general trend toward local travel destinations; and our own best efforts to provide similar levels of service at the same cost as in years past in spite of rising costs. The National Park Service strives to adapt its methods to these challenges and changing audiences. As of FY07, we remain in a period of declining visitation suggesting even these slight increases in visitation will be extremely difficult to meet.

The National Park Service directly touches thousands of visitors to Nez Perce National Historical Park through a variety of programs located at park sites like the Spalding and Big Hole Battlefield visitor centers; classrooms throughout the region; more remote park sites like those at Bear Paw Battlefield or Old Chief Joseph Gravesite, and through programs in partnership locations. In addition, the thousands of visitors introduced to Nez Perce culture through the efforts of our many partners are not reflected here. As we continue to find cost-effective means of reaching the public, more and more of that burden will be shared by our partners.

We will develop, sponsor, or participate in programs such as: annual Nez Perce arts and crafts event at Spalding; Idaho Archeology and Historic Preservation Month speaker series; annual meteor shower viewing; atlatl and tipi demonstrations; evening programs at the USFS Visitor Center in Enterprise, Oregon; national and regional conference and symposium presentations on Nez Perce culture and interpretation of Native cultures by park interpreters and museum staff; onsite and classroom presentations to regional school groups; training for history and social science teachers; and participation in festivals, events, and commemorations throughout the region. In addition, the park continues to work to increase our volunteer force, train others and find opportunities for Nez Perce tribal members to present programs on park themes, and increase and improve our ability to reach the public through our audio/visual programs, web-based interpretation, interpretive waysides, handbooks, brochures, newspapers, and other park-generated publications, and review and provide guidance for the many private publications dealing with Nez Perce history and touching millions who wouldn't otherwise

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated: November 06, 2006

receive the park interpretive message.

Annual reporting will be taken directly from NEPE and BIHO SIR reports and include totals for following categories: Personal Services, AV, Community.

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011

Park/ Program Name: NEZ PERCE NHP (BIHO)

Park/ Program Org Code: 9370

Date Last Updated:

DOI Goal ID Number: _____
 NPS Goal ID Number: OVERHEAD
 Park/ Program Goal ID Number: OVERHEAD

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Overhead

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

Longterm goal text not available. Enter the text on the
Annual Work Plan Results tab for the final year of the
Strategic Plan.

*Target
Year:*

2011

*Performance Indicator
(what is measured):*

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

*Total # Units in
Baseline:*

*Status in Base
Year (# Meeting
Condition):*

5-Year Results Plan:

Strategic Plan Report, FY 2007-2011
