

Nez Perce National Historical Park

Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington



Spalding Visitor Center

A museum and film provide an orientation to the park. The staff is available to answer any questions. The Visitor Center is located in Spalding, 10 miles east of Lewiston, Idaho on U.S. Hwy 95. **Summer Hours:** May 30 to September 5, 2005 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Spalding Site: Summer Programs

Tipi Pitching at 9:00 am. Help the rangers set up the park's full size tipi every morning through the summer. Program lasts 45 minutes.

Ranger programs daily at 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, and 3:00 pm. Since time immemorial, the Nez Perce have lived in the river valleys and prairies of northern Idaho. Join the park staff as they share the stories and legacies of the Nez Perce people and culture. Programs last about 25 minutes.

Flute Workshops (July 16 and July 30, 1 pm to 4 pm): Make a flute with ranger Kevin Peters and learn about the use of flutes in Nez Perce culture. Families are invited; appropriate for children ten and up. Materials provided.

Atlatl Workshops (July 23, August 6, and August 20, 11 am to 2 pm). Try your hand at an ancient spear thrower, the atlatl, used by the Nez Perce. Families are welcome; appropriate for children twelve and up.

Junior Ranger Programs. Want to be a Junior Ranger? Children between the ages of 5 and 12 are invited. Bring the entire family and earn a junior ranger badge! Materials cost \$1.50 per child.

Films: *Nez Perce: Portrait of a People* tells the story of the Nez Perce people. The film is shown throughout the day and is closed captioned and audio described. Additional films on Nez Perce culture and history will be shown daily at 10:00, 12:00, 2:00, and 4:00.

Out and About: Idaho and Oregon

White Bird Battlefield: Learn about the first battle of the Nez Perce War. The overlook and interpretive shelter are off of U.S. Highway 95, south of Grangeville, Idaho. From **Labor Day to Memorial Day, 2005** volunteers will be at the battlefield overlook **Tuesday's and Wednesday's, 9:00 am - 11:00 am.** A self-guided walking tour of the battlefield begins 1.2 miles north of the town of Whitebird.

Canoe Camp: Park staff will be at Canoe Camp every **Sunday and Wednesdays, July 5 to August 31.** At the end of September 1805, Lewis and Clark made the transition from land to water at the Canoe Camp site. With some assistance from the Nez Perce, the Corps of Discovery built several dugout canoes for the trip down the river. Canoe Camp is located 2.5 miles west of Orofino, Idaho on U.S. Highway 12 and has outdoor exhibits.

Wallowa, Oregon: On **Saturdays, June 4 to Labor Day,** park volunteers will be giving programs at the visitor center on Main Street, in Joseph, Oregon.

Driving Tours

Idaho: Twenty-four sites are in Idaho and are identified by prominent road signs and a set of twin feathers. Driving this loop is in excess of 400 miles so plan accordingly. Maps and information are available at the Spalding Visitor Center.

US Hwy 12: This is a popular historic and scenic route to western Montana and north Idaho. The highway offers access to the Forest Road 500, the Lolo Motorway, the Selway River, Lolo Pass Visitor Center and rest area, the historic Powell Ranger Station and various campgrounds in Clearwater National Forest.

Lolo Pass Visitor Center is open daily from Memorial Day to Labor Day, 8:30 am to 6:00 pm. Campfire programs are presented Friday and Saturday nights at **Powell and Wilderness Gateway Campgrounds**, Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Special Events Around The Park

Nez Perce War Battlefield Memorials: sponsored by the Lapwai Veterans of Foreign Wars and start at 10:00 am.

White Bird Battlefield Memorial, June 17
Lookingglass Memorial, July 2 in Kooskia, Idaho
Big Hole National Battlefield Memorial, August 6
Camas Meadow Battle Memorial, August 20
Canyon Creek Battle Memorial, September 10
Bear Paw Battlefield Memorial, October 8

Pow Wows and Cultural Events

Chief Joseph Memorial Pow-wow, June 17-19 in Lapwai Idaho
Lookingglass Pow-wow, August 19-21 in Kamiah, Idaho
Tamkaliks Celebration, July 22-24 in Wallowa, Oregon

For more information on special events in the region, please contact the park at (208) 843-2261, ext. 199.

Volunteer Opportunities: Want to be a volunteer? Volunteers play a vital role in the National Park system. If you would like to work with the public or behind the scenes, give us a call. For more information, please call the park's volunteer coordinator at (208) 843-2261, ext. 199.

Big Hole National Battlefield Bear Paw Battlefield



Big Hole National Battlefield, Montana

The visitor center provides exhibits and a film on the battle at Big Hole. Rangers are on duty to answer any questions and a sales center is available with material related to the 1877 Nez Perce war. **Summer Hours:** 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, May 28 to September 10, 2005.

Big Hole: Summer Programs

Tipi pitching at 11:00 am and 5:00 pm. This program provides an introduction to the Nez Perce and their culture. The program is thirty minutes in length and held on the visitor center lawn.

Guided Battlefield walk at 1:30 pm. The walk allows visitors to experience the battlefield from the perspectives of the soldiers and Nez Perce. Walks are ninety minutes in length.

Battlefield talks at Noon and 3:00 pm. These short talks introduce visitors to the battle at Big Hole. Talks are fifteen minutes in length held on the visitor center observation deck.

Film. The park film, *Weet'uciklitukt: There's No Turning Back, Battle at Big Hole* provides an introduction to the Nez Perce War of 1877 and the tragedy that took place here. The film is shown throughout the day and is closed captioned.

Campfire Programs. From **July 2 to September 3, 2005**, each Saturday at the U.S. Forest Service May Creek Campground, park staff will give evening programs beginning at 8:00 pm.

Sign Language Interpreter. The battlefield has a sign language interpreter on staff. To schedule these services, please call ahead or e-mail patti_bacon@nps.gov.



Big Hole: Summer Weekend Traditions

Beginning **Saturday, July 2 through September 4, 2005**, a cultural demonstrator will be on hand **Saturdays at noon and 3:00 pm** and **Sundays at noon** at the battlefield visitor center. A campfire program will be held at the **May Creek Campground on Saturday evenings**.

July 2-3: On July 6, 1806 Capt. William Clark of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery returns to "Fortunate Camp" through the Big Hole Valley. Jay Buckley, a Professor of History at Brigham Young University in Salt Lake City, UT will present a talk on Clark's Return.

July 9-10: Atlatls and horn bows were ancestral weapons used by the Nez Perce. Demonstrations on how to make and use these weapons will be given by Kevin Peters, a National Park Ranger, a Nez Perce tribal member, and artist.

July 16-17: Lewis and Clark recorded many species of birds, mammals, and plants as they explored the Northern Rockies. Wildlife biologist Sharon Ritter will talk about some of the wildlife and plants they encountered and reveal interesting stories about their discoveries.

July 23-24: Using the same methods as Native Americans, Ed Wills from Great Falls, Montana will demonstrate how to knap arrowheads and display many of his points, spears and tools.

July 30-31: Billy Maxwell a Forest Service Interpreter with the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center will present "Thru the Mountains". This talk explores the techniques used by the Corps of Discovery on packing of horses and mules.

August 6-7: Two hundred Nez Perce escaped from Bear Paw to Fort Walsh, Canada. George Kush of Alberta, Canada will explore the role of the North West Mounted Police and the Nez Perce. George is an artist and student of the Nineteenth Century Mounted Police.

August 13-14: The Big Hole battle has a rich and extensive archeological record substantiating many Nez Perce oral traditions about the battle. Douglas Scott, a National Park Service archeologist based out of the NPS Midwest Archeological Center will talk about what archeology reveals about the battle.

August 20-21: Reminisce with Major Charles Rawn, portrayed by Robert M. Brown, Director of Historical Museum at Fort Missoula, on his military career with the 7th US Infantry during the Summer of 1877.

August 27-28: Many tribes used porcupine quills for decoration. Nancy Fonicello, from Wilsall, Montana will demonstrate the Quill Work of the Nez Perce. Nancy specializes in the conservation of Native American ethnographic objects for museums and private collectors.

September 3-4: A series of demonstrations concerning the skills and technology of the Lewis and Clark expedition will coincide with the commemoration of the crossing of the Rocky Mountains by the Corps of Discovery. In early September 1805, Lewis and Clark crossed Lost Trail Pass, encountering bitter cold and snow.

Summer Weekend Traditions are presented courtesy of the Glacier Natural History Association and Big Hole National Battlefield.

Bear Paw Battlefield, Montana

Bear Paw Battlefield is a unit of Nez Perce National Historical Park and the end of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. The battlefield is open daily from dawn to dusk and is located 16 miles south of Chinook, Montana on Route 240. There is no entrance fee at this site.

Facilities are limited at the battlefield - a few covered picnic tables and vault toilets are available.

Blaine County Museum: To get an orientation to the last battle of the Nez Perce War, your first stop should be the Blaine County Museum at 501 Indiana Street in Chinook at (406) 357-2590.

The museum offers a short audiovisual presentation *40 Miles to Freedom* about the battle and siege at Bear Paw. The museum also offers exhibits

on local history and paleontology. From **Memorial Day through Labor Day, the museum is open Monday through Saturday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (The museum is closed for lunch between noon and 1 pm) and on Sunday from Noon to 5:00 pm.** You can pick up a brochure with a map at either the museum or the battlefield.

Trails: At the battlefield, a self-guided loop trail one and one-quarter mile in length winds through the battlefield, offering visitors a chance to reflect on what occurred. The trail is moderate in difficulty so please bring a hat and plenty of water if you visit during the hotter summer months.

Directions: The nearest services are in Chinook and Havre, 21 miles to the west. Please plan your visit accordingly. To contact the park ranger or schedule a battlefield tour at Bear Paw, please call (406) 357-3130.