



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nez Perce National Historic Trail Media Contact:
Roger M. Peterson
rmpeterson@fs.fed.us
406-329-3540

Top 10 Scenic Drives Media Contact:
Erin Jenkins Pagán
erin@pat-bach.com
407-645-1880

Nez Perce National Historic Trail Celebrates Its History with Summer Events *Activities include Native American performances, trail rides*

MISSOULA, MT (June 9, 2010) – The Nez Perce National Historic Trail celebrates its Native American history with traditional events guaranteed to capture the splendid spirit of summer. Visitors will have the opportunity to experience Native American powwows and trail rides as well as explore battlefield memorials. Highlights from these events include traditional Native American ceremonial elements: a rider-less horse performance, pipe ritual and traditional drum circle. The Nez Perce National Historic Trail is one of four connecting historic trails on the Top 10 Scenic Drives in the Northern Rockies (www.drivethetop10.com).

If you're craving an adventure along the Trail this summer, the 46th annual Chief Joseph Trail Ride promises not to disappoint. Selecting a different segment of the 1,200-mile Trail each year, this Ride retraces the journey of the Nez Perce tribe from their homelands in present-day Oregon to their surrender near the Montana-Canadian border. It takes 13 years for participants to complete the Trail. This year's 100-mile ride will start near Jackson, Mont., continue along the Continental Divide Trail and Bannock Pass, and finish in Leadore, Idaho.

The Nez Perce National Historic Trail will host additional programs and events throughout the summer, which encompass the route in its entirety, including:

- **June 19 — White Bird Battle Memorial, White Bird, Idaho**
- **June 18, 19, 20 — Chief Joseph & Warriors Memorial Powwow, Lapwai, Idaho**
- **June 25-29 — Nez Perce Ride to Freedom, Fort Walsh, Saskatchewan, Canada**
- **July 18-24 — Chief Joseph Trail Ride, Jackson, Mont., to Leadore, Idaho**
- **August 7 — Big Hole Battle Memorial, Wisdom, Mont.**
- **August 13, 14, 15 — Chief Looking Glass Days & Powwow, Kamiah, Idaho**
- **October 2 — Bear's Paw Battle Memorial, Chinook, Mont.**

Don't forget to check out the new summer exhibits and special programs at the Yellowstone Historic Center, located along the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. "Wings Into West: A New Exhibition Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Air Service into West Yellowstone" will open June 11, 2010.

-more-

Page Two

Nez Perce National Historic Trail Celebrates Its History with Summer Events

Located north of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail, the Nez Perce National Historic Park's Spalding Visitor Center will extend its summer hours from Friday, May 28, through Labor Day, Sept. 6, 2010, opening at 8 a.m. and closing at 5 p.m. daily. The Park's new hours for the season aim to accommodate all types of travelers.

###