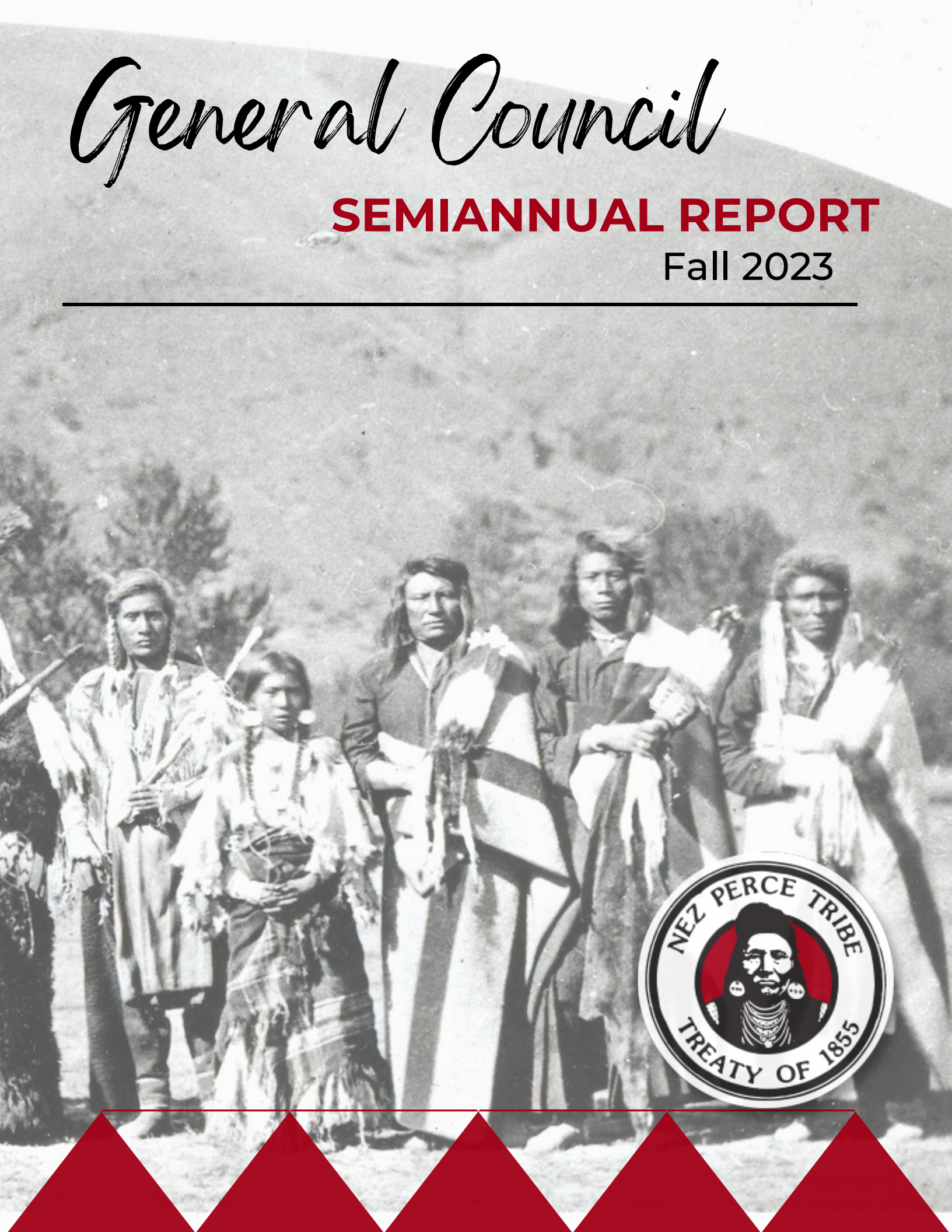


General Council

SEMIANNUAL REPORT

Fall 2023





Join our newest community resource!

We invite you to register for the most up-to-date tribal information through our website's new tribal member dashboard. Through this portal, you will gain rapid access to important communications and resources available only to Nez Perce tribal members.

Sign Up!

To join this newest community resource, please complete the form online.

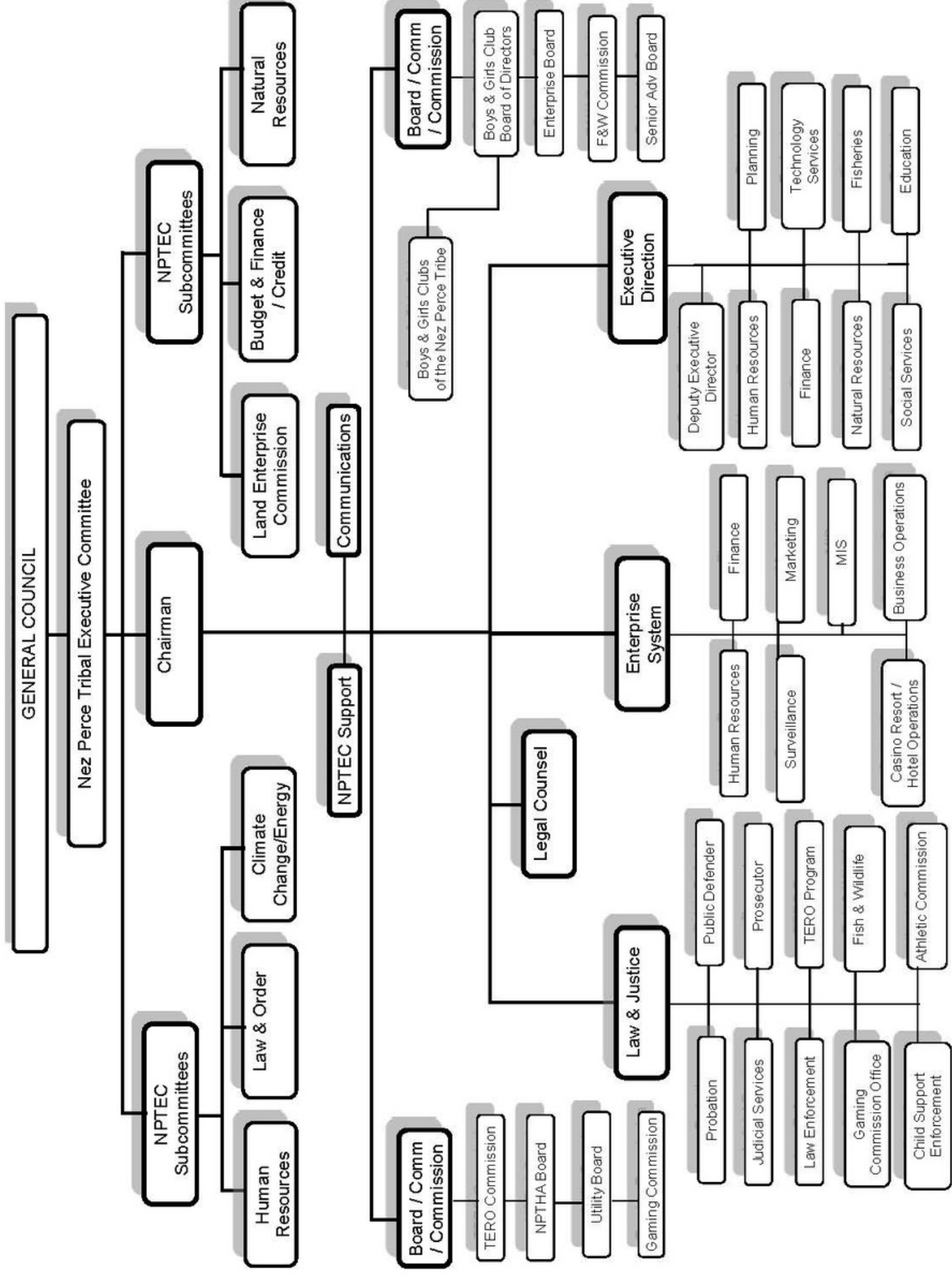
We will be processing forms and verifying membership every Friday, and will reach out if we have any questions for you.

[Registration Form](#)

Web: <https://nezperce.org/tribal-member-registration/>



NEZ PERCE TRIBE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



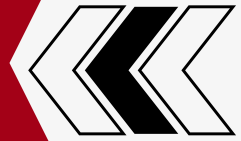
HOUSE RULES

1. The General Council meeting will be conducted according to the Robert's Rules of Order (revised) and in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Nez Perce Tribe. These rules will be used as a guide for facilitating the business of the assembly.
2. The Agenda and House Rules shall be subject to change from the floor by proper motion and vote by the assembly.
3. The Chairman shall preside over the General Council meeting. Conversations excluding the Chair are not permitted.
4. Motions and Resolutions will be in order during the three-day session. Tribal members shall introduce and submit to the Chairman a written a motion and/or resolution. Motions and resolutions shall be presented at a time related to the topic on the agenda.
5. Resolutions or motions which require a response from a panel member will be as follows: a) Questions; and b) Response.
6. Questions and responses shall be made through the Chair and should be direct and to the point; and the Chairman has the right to intervene to maintain integrity of questions and responses. More time may be allowed at the discretion of the Chairman.
7. The Maker of a Resolution or Motion will have two (2) minutes to introduce the motion and two (2) minutes for rebuttal or to close. Each person in favor of or against the motion will have two (2) minutes to speak. A person can speak once per action only and exceptions are at the discretion of the Chairman. After one side exhausts its speakers, the remaining side is allowed only two additional speakers.
8. All persons will act in a courteous, respectful, and professional manner during the course of the meeting.
9. Members have the right to "Appeal the decision of the Chairman" if they feel the Chairman decision is not what the majority wants. A simple majority sustains the decision of the Chairman.
10. Members have the right to speak. If a member is not asking a question, making a motion or a resolution, the Chairman will assume the member is making a speech. Time is valuable so each member will be limited to one such speech per General Council session with a time limit of three (3) minutes. More time may be allowed at the discretion of the Chairman.
11. Anyone under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be requested to leave the premises.
12. The Election Judges will register Nez Perce Tribal members age 18 and older.
13. Please turn your cell phone off or to silent. If you need to use your cell phone to answer or make a call, please be respectful of the members of the assembly by going out to the hallway or outside to do so.
14. "Live streaming" on social media or video recording of any kind is not allowed unless authorized, i.e., counting ballots.



AGENDA

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023



- 7:30 a.m.** **Registration Opens**
- 8:00 a.m.** **Call Meeting to Order (contingent upon quorum)**
- Welcome
 - Flag Song and Posting Colors
 - NPTEC Chaplain, Ashton Picard
- 8:45 a.m.** **General Council Business**
- House Rules
 - Agenda
 - Minutes
 - Resolutions Committee
- 10:00 a.m.** **General Council Officer Elections**
- Chairman
 - Secretary
 - Election Judges (3)
 - Resolutions Committee (4)
- 12:00 p.m.** **Movie: Covenant of The Salmon People**
- 1:00 p.m.** **Nez Perce Tribe Executive Reports**
- NPTEC Chairman, Shannon F. Wheeler
 - NPTEC Treasurer, Elizabeth Arthur-Attao
 - Government Executive Director, Jesse Leighton
 - Jamshed Kudratov, Bluebird CPAs
- 2:00 p.m.** **Questions/Comments for Panel**
- 2:45 p.m.** **Nez Perce Tribe Enterprise Reports**
- NPE Executive Officer, Nikoli Greene
 - NPE Finance Director, Thomas Rickman, Jr.
 - Casino General Manager, Daniel Kane
- 3:30 p.m.** **Questions/Comments for Panel**
- 4:30 p.m.** **Recess for the Day, Closing Prayer**



AGENDA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023



- 7:30 a.m. Registration Opens**
- 8:00 a.m. CALL MEETING TO ORDER (contingent upon quorum)**
- Opening prayer by Tribal Elder
 - Announcements
- 8:10 a.m. Executive/Department/Board/Commission Reports**
- Human Resource Subcommittee Chairman, Ryan Oatman
 - Nimiipuu Health Executive Director, Roberta Jose Bisbee
 - Social Services Manager, Jackie McArthur
 - Senior Advisory Board Chairwoman, Susie Weaskus
 - Circle of Elders
- 9:00 a.m. Questions/Comments for Panel**
- 10:30 a.m. Federal Partners**
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
 - U.S. National Park Service
 - U.S. Forest Service
- 11:30 a.m. Questions/Comments for Panel**
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 1:00 p.m. Governmental Department/Program/Board/Commission Reports**
- Law & Order Subcommittee Chairwoman, Shirley J. Allman
 - Law & Order Executive Officer, Kenton Beckstead
 - Interim Chief of Police, Leotis McCormack
 - Tribal Employment Rights Office, Melvin Wheeler
- 1:45 p.m. Questions/Comments for Panel**
- 2:15 p.m. Governmental Department/Program/Board/Commission Reports**
- Land Enterprise Commission Chairwoman, Shirley J. Allman
 - Natural Resources Manager, Aaron Miles
 - Land Services Director, Kim Cannon
 - Cultural Resources Director, Nakia Cloud
 - Nez Perce Language Program, Angel Sobotta
- 3:15 p.m. Questions/Comments for Panel**
- 4:00 p.m. Recess for the Day, Closing Prayer**



AGENDA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023



- 8:00 a.m. Registration Opens**
- 9:00 a.m. Call Meeting to Order (contingent upon quorum)**
- Opening prayer by Tribal Elder
 - Announcements
- 9:15 a.m. Governmental Department/Program/Board/Commission Reports**
- Natural Resources Subcommittee Chairman, Ferris Paisano III
 - Fisheries Manager, David Johnson
 - Conservation Enforcement Chief, Adam Villavicencio
 - Fish & Wildlife Commission Chairman, Erik Holt
- 10:30 a.m. Questions/Comments for Panel**
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 1:00 p.m. Governmental Department/Program/Board/Commission Reports**
- Climate/Energy Subcommittee Chairman, Ryan Oatman
 - Education Manager, Joyce McFarland
 - Northwest Indian College Site Manager, Angela Picard
 - Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors Chair
- 2:00 p.m. Questions/Comments for Panel**
- 2:45 p.m. Boards & Commissions Elections**
- Enterprise Board (2)
 - Fish/Wildlife Commission (2-one year; 1-two year)
 - Nez Perce Housing Authority (1-four year)
- 4:30 p.m. Adjourn**

Q'écigew'igew' - Safe travels

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Law & Justice Entity

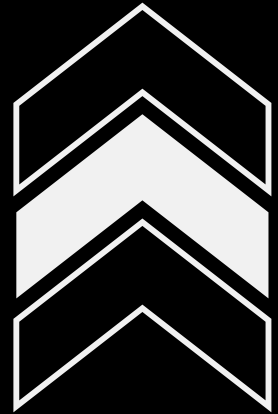
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Fall Meeting
September 28, 29, & 30, 2023
Kamiah, Idaho



WELCOME

September 28, 2023

Nez Perce Tribal Members and Guests:

The Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee (NPTEC) extends a warm welcome to everyone attending the Fall 2023 General Council. The General Council is an important opportunity for us to come together to share ideas, express concerns and develop solutions together with a common purpose.



As Chairman of the NPTEC, I would like to let you know how much your attendance is appreciated. Although it can feel like everything is changing and negative news is swirling around us in a never-ending cycle that tries to pull us apart, the enduring spirit of the Nimiipuu is a wonderful constant that keeps us anchored together. This sense of community and belonging is best exemplified through our General Council meetings.

Since we last met, we have seen major strides in the growth of our community through infrastructure development, renewable energy deployment, job devolvement and economic growth. I believe we will continue to see many more exciting and positive changes over the next year. In addition, as your leaders, we are aggressively advocating for our tribal interests at the state and federal level on management of important treaty-reserved resources, federal funding, tribal consultation, and program support.

I encourage everyone to participate in the presentations from the NPTEC, boards and commissions, departments and from our Tribal Federal partners. It is important that all of our people are updated on all that is happening in Nimiipuu Country.

I pray for safe travels to and from your homes during this time. May the Creator bless you and all that you love.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shannon F. Wheeler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shannon F. Wheeler

HUMAN RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE

MEETINGS: 1ST AND 3RD MONDAYS AT 8:30 A.M.

Subcommittee:

Ryan Oatman - Chairman
Rachel P. Edwards - Vice Chairman
Shirley J. Allman
Elizabeth Arthur-Attao
Mary Jane Miles
Ferris Paisano III
Samuel N. Penney
Ashton Picard

Contact Information

Ryan Oatman, Chairman
ryano@nezperce.org

Subcommittee Assistant

Vestal Smith
vestals@nezperce.org

Liaisons:

Family Services - EAA, SJA, MJM, FP
Housing - EAA, RPE, FP
Senior Citizens - EAA, MJM, RPE, FP, AP
Veterans - MJM, FP
Education - MJM, SJA, SNP
Youth - RPE, FP, SNP, AP
Boys & Girls Club - SNP, AP
Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board - RO, RPE
Healing Lodge - EAA, MJM
Nimiipuu Health - RO, RPE, EAA, MJM, FP
Idaho Business for Education - SJA

Promotes the well-being of the Nez Perce people by strengthening families and providing quality services to tribal citizens.

LAW & ORDER/INTERGOVERNMENTAL SUBCOMMITTEE

MEETINGS: 1ST & 3RD MONDAYS AT 2:00 P.M.

Subcommittee:

Shirley J. Allman – Chairman
Elizabeth Arthur-Attao – Vice Chairman
Rachel P. Edwards
Ryan Oatman
Ashton Picard
Ferris Paisano III

Contact Information

Shirley Allman, Chairman

sallman@nezperce.org

Subcommittee Assistant

Ashley Oatman

ashleyo@nezperce.org

7 total meetings held since Spring General Council.

Approve the updated ILETS Terminal Agency Coordinator & Assistant Terminal Access Coordinator.

Approve the Direct Access Agreement with Idaho State Police for direct entry and inquiry to criminal databases.

Place a ban of discharge of fireworks due to dry weather conditions July 7th ..Nez Perce tribal code Chapter 6-3 Fireworks Ordinance ..Section 6-3-8 Right to Close Fireworks

Elder Abuse discussion resubmit Code Emergency Amendment to address Restraining Order and the current meaning.

BIA funding request for jail operations.

Washington Toll Waiver Policy “Good to Go!” Pass Distribution Agreement w/ Washington State Dept. of Transportation

NIGC letter of Intent for Qemus Express

TAP application to create efficiency throughout programs Police, Corrections, Court, Prosecutors office, Probation, SORNA, ICW, & CSP long overdue.

Code Revisions: Chapters: 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-6 with the reorganized 4-4 & 4-5 chapters.

NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE

MEETINGS: 1ST AND 3RD TUESDAYS AT 8:30 A.M.

Subcommittee:

Ferris Paisano, III - Chairman
Ashton Picard - Vice Chairman
Shirley J. Allman
Rachel P. Edwards
Mary Jane Miles
Ryan Oatman
Samuel N. Penney

Contact Information

Ferris Paisano, Chairman

ferrisp@nezperce.org

Subcommittee Assistant

Leslie Bursch

leslieb@nezperce.org

Liaisons:

Cultural Resources - SJA, MJM< AP, RO
Utility Boards - RPE
InterAgency Bison Management Plan - AP, FP
InterTribal Council - SJA, RO
Emergency Response Team - RO
Water Rights Administration - SJA, RPE, RO

CRITFC:

CRITFC Officer: Ferris Paisano, III
In-Lieu Treaty Fishing Access Committee - SNP, AP
Fish Co., LLC - FP
Enforcement Committee - AP, RPE
Pacific Salmon Commission Advisory - AP, FP
Lamprey Task Force - AP
Fish Management & Science - FP, AP
Housing - SNP, MJM
Columbia River Treaty Advisory Board - AP, RO
US v Oregon Management - SJA, FP

Protects natural resources and exercises tribal sovereignty and treaty rights.

LAND ENTERPRISE COMMISSION

MEETINGS: 1ST & 3RD TUESDAYS AT 2:00 P.M.

Subcommittee Members

Shirley J. Allman – Chairman
Ryan Oatman – Vice Chairman
Elizabeth Arthur-Attao
Rachel P. Edwards
Ashton Picard

Contact Information

Shirley Allman, Chairman
sallman@nezperce.org

Subcommittee Assistant

Vestal Smith, NPTEC Support Staff
vestals@nezperce.org

7 meetings held total since last Spring General Council

Gaming Application status update Executive Session

Firework Bid 5 total for the season.

Agriculture Lease Work Session where tribe owns majority, 6/8

Home Site Lease – 2 tribal members approved.

Discuss Land Enterprise budget for B&F subcommittee meeting.

Homesite Lease Policy – draft and present asap

3 tribal members Point of Privilege 2 homesite leases, 1 agriculture lease

Work with BIA to send notice to cease activity on tribal allotments.

Direct Land Services to work with BIA on all tribal member requests to sale land accepted to today's date and submit a plan.

NP23-297 Amended correct wording from Avista to Transportation Dept.

LAND ENTERPRISE COMMISSION

MEETINGS: 1ST & 3RD TUESDAYS AT 2:00 P.M.

NP23-297 Amended correct wording from Avista to Transportation Dept.

NP23-294 Amended allow 60 days in case of eviction to be included in Resolution.

Home Site approved for 1 tribal member.

Construction Debris Removal: Admin Action directive to ED office transfer to certified dumping site and to clean up tribal land, above bio control offices.

Home Site lease 1 tribal member

Tribal Unit 606 4.13 designated for Lapwai Valley Wastewater Treatment Plan

Lapwai Camp Meeting land use approval

Begin discussion on Tribal land cemeteries – Survey completed in 1999

Liaisons:

Horse Program - SJA

InterTribal Agriculture Council - RO, RPE

Indian Land Working Group - AP, EAA, RPE

Reviews and approves lease applications, home site leases, and land acquisition.

BUDGET & FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

MEETINGS: 1ST & 3RD MONDAYS AT 8:30 A.M.

Subcommittee:

Elizabeth Arthur-Attao - Chairman
Ryan Oatman - Vice-Chairman
Shirley J. Allman
Rachel P. Edwards
Mary Jane Miles
Ferris Paisano, III
Samuel N. Penney
Ashton Picard

Contact Information

Elizabeth Arthur-Attao, Chairman
liza@nezperce.org

Subcommittee Assistant

Leslie Bursch
leslieb@nezperce.org

Liaisons:

Tribal Interior Budget Committee - LAA, RO
Enterprise Board - SJA, RO, RPE, MJM, AP, EAA
CDFI - EAA, RO
NAFOA - SNP, RO, EAA

Oversees the Tribe's grants and contracts funding and overall revenue.

CLIMATE CHANGE & ENERGY SUBCOMMITTEE

MEETINGS: 1ST WEDNESDAYS AT 2:00 P.M.

Subcommittee:

Ryan Oatman - Chairman
Rachel P. Edwards - Vice-Chairman
Shirley J. Allman
Ferris Paisano, III
Ashton Picard

Contact Information

Ryan Oatman, Chairman
ryano@nezperce.org

Subcommittee Assistant

Ashley Oatman
ashleyo@nezperce.org

Climate-related changes to weather patterns, seasonal patterns, and plants and animals threaten the health and socio-economic well-being of tribal members, the infrastructure investments of the Tribe, and the Tribe's treaty-reserved right to hunt, fish, gather, and practice traditional religious and cultural ceremonies.

There are many positive and sometimes surprising ways that individual and local actions can reduce the carbon footprint of our community.

LET'S TAKE ACTION!

REDUCE

RECYCLE

REUSE

CONSERVE

EDUCATE

PROTECT

RENEWABLE ENERGY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Jesse Leighton, Executive Director
Janet Poitra, Deputy Executive Director
208.843.7324

The Executive Director's Office manages the intergovernmental affairs of the Nez Perce Tribe. This includes a major role in the protection and management of treaty resources, providing and improving services in education, and delivering quality services to those in need. The role of the Executive Director also includes providing a safe environment for employees and the ability for employees to accomplish the goals set by the NPTEC.

Among many other routine tasks and special projects, this work also includes programs such as:

Limited Liability Company (LLC) Certification. Title 12-1 of the Nez Perce Tribal Code authorizes the organization of LLC companies through the Nez Perce Tribe.

Non-Profit Corporation Certification. Title 12-2 of the Nez Perce Tribal Code authorizes the organization of non-profit corporations through the Nez Perce Tribe.

Avista Internship Program. Enrolled Nez Perce Tribal Members, 18 years and over, enrolled full-time at an accredited college, university or vocational school who have maintained a 2.0 cumulative GPA are eligible to apply for summer internships.

Snake River Basin Adjudication. Enrolled Nez Perce Tribal Members and Tribal programs are eligible to apply for larger community projects in the areas of fish habitat protection and restoration, agricultural development, cultural preservation, water resource development, and community water and sewer projects annually. Applications will be accepted beginning November 1, 2023, with a final deadline of December 6, 2023.

Slammin' Salmon Skins Employee Incentive Program. The goal is to promote and encourage tribal employees to go above and beyond their regular job duties. Items in the tribal store are also available for purchase. Appointments recommended.

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208.843.7324

Local Education Program Fund. 55 awards were shared by local school districts, non-profits, private schools, colleges and tribal programs totaling \$433,097.00. The next funding cycle will open in March 2024.

School Supply Distribution. Each year, approximately 1,000 students receive school supplies through the generosity of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee. 2023-2024 school year distributions were held beginning August 3rd through September 8th serving children in grades pre-K through 12.

COVID-19. The Executive Director's Office has been able to supply personal protective supplies and sanitization supplies and services for employees, tribal meetings and events, including memorials and funerals. Supplies continue to be available until stock on hand is depleted.

DAY LABOR PROGRAM **Dakota Zimmerman, Coordinator** **208.621.3673**

The Day Labor Program is a holistic approach to improving community welfare and morale by meeting the needs of elders, tribal programs and those who have barriers to traditional employment. Several of the contractors report how the program has significantly helped improve their circumstances, many of which have gone on to gainful employment. Watching contractors' confidence grow as they demonstrate their work ethic and skillset is invaluable and healing for all involved.

During the last 12 months, the Day Labor Program has dispatched contractors to 185 projects. A total of 143 of these were yardwork jobs for our tribal elders throughout the Tribal Communities. These elders often require more than one visit to fulfill their yardwork needs; sometimes these jobs take daily or weekly returns to complete. 27 of these projects provided contractors with real world job experience while providing support services to various departments within the Tribe. We have added 82 new or renewed day laborers with active contracts in the various communities throughout the Reservation.

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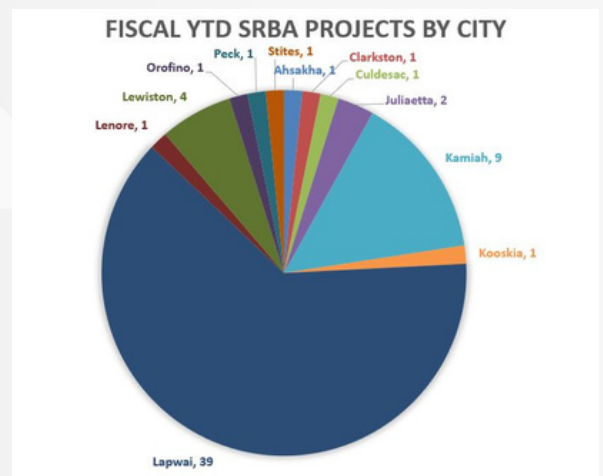
SRBA INDIVIDUAL WATER AND SEWER ASSISTANCE

Otta Moody, Coordinator
208.621.4771

The SRBA Individual Water and Sewer Assistance Program is funded under the Domestic Water Supply Account of the Snake River Basin Adjudication Settlement and governed by the SRBA Settlement Allocation Policy NP 19-071 (11/18). Since the inception of the program, the purpose has remained to ensure Nez Perce Tribal members have access to adequate domestic water, which is accomplished through the installation of water wells and sewer septic systems, as well as updating household fixtures that support domestic water. Individual requests for water and sewer systems are accepted year-round with awards contingent upon individual need, funding availability, and eligibility.

Nez Perce homeowners living within the service area—those living on the Reservation or within a sixty-mile radius from the Reservation boundary—may receive assistance for the installation/repair/replacement of water and sewer systems; repair or replacement of household fixtures that support domestic water including hot water heater, shower/tub, toilets, sinks; addressing urgent matters that are directly related to domestic water (i.e., plumbing, mold remediation, septic pump, etc.). Services provided are needs based with priority applied to severe cases. Considering the pandemic and substantial increase in material costs along with the high demand for services, the waiting period has expanded. Applicants are placed on a waiting list for non-urgent matters.

The SRBA has joined forces with the Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority (NPTHA) and the Emergency Housing Assistance Fund to cost-share projects wherever possible. SRBA applicants are encouraged to apply for funds through both funds. The waiting period is potentially longer if applicants choose not to submit the additional applications. Applying for services with the other programs will help expedite projects and potentially shorten the waiting period. It also helps expand tribal dollars by using grant funds as the primary funding source.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Jesse Leighton, Executive Director
Janet Poitra, Deputy Executive Director
208.843.7324



**Chairman Wheeler and Elder
Alfred Scott speaking at the
Parade Grounds Blessing**



**NPTEC and staff at the
Assisted Living Facility
Ground Breaking**

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Mary Beth Frank Clark
208.621.3682

Aht'Wy Interchange Project construction activity began on May 15, 2023, and expectation of completion is approximately November 2024. Knife River is moving through the project as per the plans, specs and estimates. There has been a small "hiccup" that should not delay progress; a needed stormwater permit on the .06-acre piece at the north end of the project that is outside the exterior boundary of the Reservation. This minute piece is public property and will need a permit by the Idaho DEQ. Traffic flow changed in September that provides one entry way into Aht'Wy at the temporary entry between the Hotel and RV park. This entry will also be used for outgoing traffic that wish to travel north or south on Hwy 95/12. The west entry near the Fuel Station will be an exit for northbound lanes only.

The Idaho Transportation Department have been working two bridges: Spalding and Arrow. They are considering adding another bridge at Spalding to provide 4 lanes with sufficient width for pedestrian/bike passage. The current draft plan for Arrow is to place a new bridge slightly downriver and take out the old bridge when completed. Also, to realign the intersection on the north side that provides movement toward Kendrick.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

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Janet Poitra, Deputy Executive Director
208.843.7324

Cherry Lane Bridge construction (Hwy 12) began in April 2021. Ribbon cutting was held on June 21, 2023. The work being done at the site is clearing of the old structure and a few minor items on the new structure.

The Transportation Program prepared and submitted a grant application to Rural and Tribal Transportation Pilot Program on August 14th requesting funding to proceed with the PS&E for Agency Road/White Bird reconstruction project. It is estimated this phase will cost approximately \$385,000. The Tribe should have a notice by the end of October.

Road Maintenance Crew (2.5 FTE) continues to maintain seasonal schedule that is modified to ensure minimal cost plus a streamline work plan to maintain the annual budget of \$45,000 for field work. The Road Maintenance Crew utilize the Day Labor program when needed; this program has really been an asset.

Appaloosa Express continues to provide alternative transportation to the public. Like across the United States, staffing is a challenge. This past six months, the program was able to fill a couple vacancies, however, FT and PT drivers with a class C CDL and passenger endorsement are still needed. Appaloosa Express will be revising the schedule to allow added time during designated stops; please keep your eye out for a notice that is anticipated to be implemented by December 2023.



**NPTEC and Staff at the
Aht'Wy Interchange
Groundbreaking**



**Mary Beth Clark and Doral Huff,
ITD District II Engineer,
speaking at the Aht'Wy
Interchange Groundbreaking**



**Gathering for
Aht' Wy Interchange Project
Groundbrekaing**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Jesse Leighton, Executive Director
Janet Poitra, Deputy Executive Director
208.843.7324

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Ann McCormack, Planner
208.621.3710

Awarded the BIA Tourism Business Planning grant in the amount of \$49,408 for the development of a tourism business plan for the Nez Perce Tribe.

The State Small Business Credit Initiative proposal, if awarded, will provide \$970,000 for the Nimiipuu Community Development Fund to lend to various tribal projects over a 10 year period. If all the funds are deployed, the Tribe will be allowed to keep 100% of these funds to relend. Notification is expected later this Fall.

A \$750,000 three year grant award, in partnership with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and the University of Idaho, for "Advancing Tribal Food Systems-Based Economic Development in Northern Idaho Research" will examine the potential of growing, processing, and marketing food, plant or protein. The Regional Food Summit is set for March 6-9, 2024, at the Coeur d'Alene Casino & Resort. Everyone is welcome.

The Tribe received \$150,000 to hire the director of the new Nez Perce Tribe Small Business Development program. Stacia Morfin, Director, was contracted to provide small business development needs to clients and has made many contacts with professional associates and potential clients within the region to date. The largest accomplishment planned will be new a tribal business directory.

AmeriCorps Contract. The Economic Development Planning office oversees the AmeriCorps Vista grant (\$50,000/\$9,450 match). Dr. Renee Holt, Director, is currently advertising for potential hosts and AmeriCorps VISTA members.

The new library, Hiteme'enwees ('heet-tammin-wahs' - the place to read and gain wisdom), officially opened in April 2023. Harry Slickpoo Jr. is the Collections Specialist on site.

Wisteqn'eemit approved two awards in September through the Heidi Gudgell higher education scholarship in the amount of \$500. Another Wisteqn'eemit scholarship opportunity will be offered in the Spring of 2024.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Jesse Leighton, Executive Director
Janet Poitra, Deputy Executive Director
208.843.7324

COMMUNITY CENTERS

PI-NEE-WAUS

Aqua Greene, PNW Coordinator, 208.843.7360
Peter McCormack, PNW Assistant Coordinator, 208-621-3524

WA-A'YAS

Etta Axtell, Coordinator, 208.935.5261
Carmen Bullock, Assistant Coordinator, 208-621-3624

TEWEEPUU

Alexis Coomer, Coordinator, 208.476.7407

It is the purpose of the Teweepuu Community Center to provide service opportunities in the areas of recreation, education, culture, health and fitness to members of the tribal and non-tribal community. The Teweepuu Center offers meeting space for Tribal Departments/ Boards/Commissions and community members to congregate safely. Supportive services and resources are made available to community members. The Teweepuu Center collaborates with Tribal Departments, Local Agencies and Organizations to provide opportunities and activities for the community-at-large.

Activities and Collaborations held at the Teweepuu from April to August 2023:

- Senior Birthday Lunch and Bingo
- Community Potluck
- Tunnels Pond Fishing and Picnic
- Tunnels Pond Fundraiser
- End of School Potluck
- Boys and Girls Club
- Summer BBQ/Potluck
- Outdoor Movie Night
- Aquatic Center Swimming
- Outdoor Movie Night
- Cricut Class

Upcoming Events:

- Lumberjack Days Parade
- Qemes Dig & Bake with Pat Angle
- Covenant of the Salmon People Showing
- Halloween Party
- Thanksgiving Dinner
- Christmas Party

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Jesse Leighton, Executive Director
Janet Poitra, Deputy Executive Director
208.843.7324

MAINTENANCE

Rich Ramsey, Director
208.843.7405

The mission of the Maintenance Department is to provide efficient maintenance services at the highest standard for all tribal facilities. It is our goal to deliver the Nez Perce Tribe with all general maintenance, including carpentry, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, grounds keeping and roads maintenance.

We intend to accomplish this by utilizing all new methods and technologies available to create a safe and energy efficient work environment. With the use of these methods, we plan to upgrade the appearance and safety of all facilities used by the Nez Perce Tribe.

The Plant Maintenance Department has completed the following larger projects, along with routine and special requests from programs, from May to September 2023:

- Add air scrubber unit at Teweeppuu Center
- Complete Pi-Nee-Waus roof replacement
- Install new exterior lights at Wa-A'Yas and Pi-Nee-Waus Centers
- Completion of quarterly vehicle services.
- Completion of quarterly HVAC unit inspections and filter changes
- Completion of Fire alarm inspections for Veteran's Memorial, Bio Control and Phinney Buildings
- Assist with demolition of Archives and Maintenance shop
- Install new HVAC at Wa-A'Yas Center
- Install new HVAC unit at J. Herman Reuben Building
- Install HVAC system at Lapwai ECDP
- Install new water filter system at Orofino Fisheries
- Completion of pad for construction of 40x 60 shop
- Continue to upgrade/retrofit lighting to LED

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Elizabeth Bohnee, Manager | 208.843.7317

Congress adopted the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that provided the Tribe an even larger allocation than was received under the CARES Act. Again, these funds are dedicated to responding to and planning for the pandemic and its lasting effects. The Tribe received a total of \$34.3 million under ARPA, based on both our tribal enrollment and employment figures. Interest earned on this account through August 2023 is \$75,833.48. NPTEC conducted a survey among its tribal members and approved using the remaining funds available towards high priority infrastructure projects the survey identified - \$3.5 million for an Assisted Living Center, \$3 million for a new Head Start facility, and \$2.5 million for a new Senior Wellness Extension. To date, \$32,174,411 has been obligated, leaving a balance in reserve of \$2,191,541, which has been approved to use for a Wellness Center.

In addition, the U.S. Treasury authorized the Tribe to withdraw \$10 million to make up for Lost Revenues when the casino was shut down and other businesses suffered lower levels of income during the early stages of the pandemic. The Lost Revenue funds can be used without the ARPA spending limitations. As of September 5, 2023, the current reserve is \$1,499,532.74.

Our office is located inside the Vet's Building - behind the NPTEC headquarters. While our office door has remained locked, a walk-up glass window was added to continue customer service to visitors. We have attempted to focus on electronic processing where possible, including taking credit card payments by phone instead of swiping in person. Also, for your convenience both during work and off hours, a mail drop box is available on the wall outside our office, but depositing cash there is not allowed. Cash may only be accepted at the walk-up window, and we encourage you to always obtain a receipt.



HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Anthony D. Johnson, Manager
208.843.7332 | teamhr@nezperce.org

Human Resources Staff

Anthony D. Johnson, HR Manager
Alexes Baptiste, Executive Assistant
Melissa Guzman, HR Generalist
Robert Kipp, HR Specialist
Loretta Spaulding, Risk Management Coordinator
Keesha Spencer, Benefits Technician
Carey Reuben, Administrative Specialist

The Human Resources Office is staffed entirely by Nez Perce Tribe enrolled members, tasked with providing personnel administration services for --- Nez Perce Tribe Employees.

The Human Resources Office continues to keep the active jobseekers list up to date. We have hired 25 applicants from the list to work this year.

The Human Resources Office has administered the hiring of 31 employees since the Spring 2023 General Council. This includes 22 Entry Level (Grade 15 and below), and 9 Professional Level (Grade 16 and up) positions.

The Human Resources Staff completed open enrollment for Health Benefits for FY 2024. Meetings with employees in Lapwai, Kamiah, Orofino, and Joseph.

The Human Resource Staff completed a risk assessment walk-through for our building insurance.

The Human Resource Staff completed renewal Insurance for workers compensation, general & auto liability insurance, and property.

The Human Resources Department has assisted Manager's and Directors in updating 19 Class Descriptions since the last General Council Meeting.

The Human Resources Office assisted in the posting and recruitment of the Kamiah Boys & Girls Club open positions as directed.

The Human Resources Department presented Leadership/Addressing Threats According to Coyote documenting HR Violations for New Supervisors to a select group of Tribal Leadership on September 13-14, 2023.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Anthony D. Johnson, Manager
208.843.7332 | teamhr@nezperce.org

The Human Resources Office has provided five CPR Classes for Fisheries Office in Orofino.

The Human Resources Office has improved our employment outreach by utilizing online recruiting websites, and strengthened our collaboration with Tribes, Tribal organizations, and local municipalities.

The Human Resources Office has improved the administration of our Work History Request Log, completing 99 Work History Reports.

The Human Resources Office has conducted 13 Employee Orientations.

The Human Resources Office has processed 7 Worker's Compensation Claims.

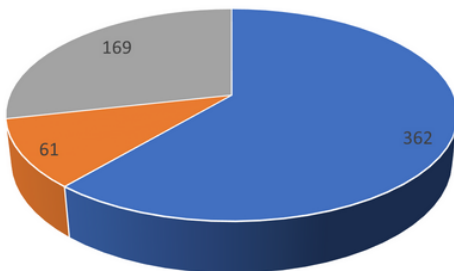
The Human Resources Office has processed 8 Auto Claims.

The Human Resources Office has processed 2 General Liability Claims.

Future projects: Supervisor training, Harassment training, HRM revisions and updating HR on Springbrook software.

Nez Perce Tribal Government Employee Statistical Report As of September 15, 2023

Nez Perce Tribal Government Total Employees



■ Nez Perce Tribal Employees: ■ Other Tribe Employees: ■ Non-Preference Employees:

Total Number of Employees:	592
Nez Perce Tribal Employees:	362
Other Tribe Employees:	61
Non-Preference Employees:	169

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

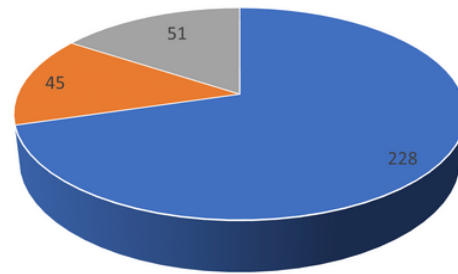
Anthony D. Johnson, Manager
208.843.7332 | teamhr@nezperce.org

Nez Perce Tribal Government Employee Statistical Report As of September 15, 2023

Positions Grade 15 and Below

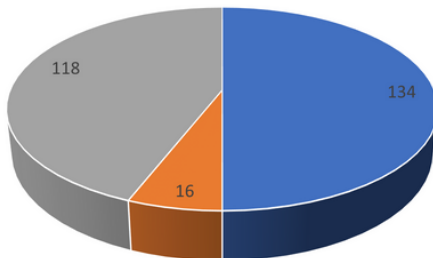
Total Number of Employees:	324
Nez Perce Tribal Employees:	228
Other Tribe Employees:	45
Non-Preference Employees:	51

Positions Grade 15 and Below



■ Nez Perce Tribal Employees: ■ Other Tribe Employees: ■ Non-Preference Employees:

Positions Grade 16 and Above



■ Nez Perce Tribal Employees: ■ Other Tribe Employees: ■ Non-Preference Employees:

Positions Grade 16 and Above

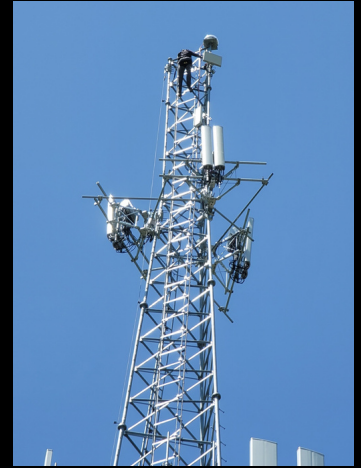
Total Number of Employees:	268
Nez Perce Tribal Employees:	134
Other Tribe Employees:	16
Non-Preference Employees:	118

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

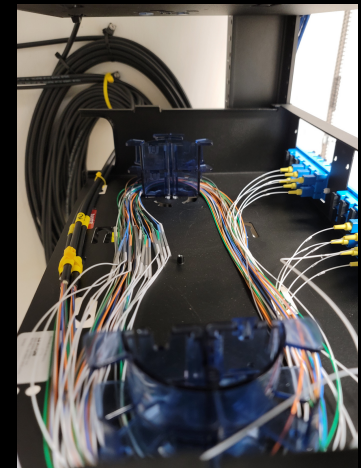
Melissa King, Manager | 208.843.7307

DTS encompasses four programs: Information Systems, Telecommunications, Nez Perce Network Systems and KIYE. DTS currently has 20 full time employees and 1 intern. Some of our most notable accomplishments:

- DTS setup and took photos at Elders Day and provided printed copies.
- Hosted a luncheon for Virginia Tech staff, Shaddi Hasan, onsite at Stedman to demonstrate a broadband mapping tool they created to assist in Broadband Data Collection.
- Completed new Casino connection from Wa-A-Yas to Itseyeye Casino improving speeds by 100 times.
- Completed BDC filing for 2023.
- Configured open access Wi-Fi for the Natural Resource conference room used for emergency operation center.
- Upgraded all Cisco phones software and servers across the board including approximately 50 new phones.
- Accepted NTIA TBCP Round 1 grant award of \$500,000.
- New Woman's Outreach building has fiber trenched to building.
- Upgraded five Social Service buildings and Communications with new fiber providing them with 10 times faster connectivity.
- Upgraded Lapwai Law Enforcement and Senior Citizens building with new fiber.
- Restored Casino fiber break from road construction.
- Completed Radio CSG agreement and certification of eligibility for CPB.



**Warren Paul up 295 feet
on Sundown Tower**



**Three nicely spliced 6-strands
fiber cables**

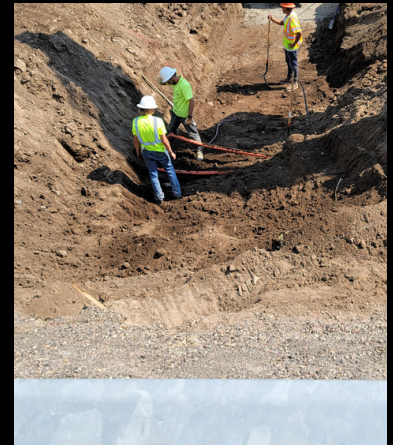


**Fiber conduit break between
Fire management and Wildlife.**

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Melissa King, Manager | 208.843.7307

- Upgraded Fire Management Fiber improving connectivity up to 10 times the speed.
- Completed a high level Tribal Broadband Strategic plan to be used for upcoming grants.
- Installed two automatic fire extinguishers in Vet's building for electronic equipment including automatic notifications.
- Completed a high level Tribal Broadband Strategic plan to be used for upcoming grants.
- Installed two automatic fire extinguishers in Vet's building for electronic equipment including automatic notifications.
- Transferred approximately \$30,000 each month from broadband revenue.
- Submitted USDA grant for technical assistance.
- Upgraded fiber at Cherry Lane hatchery between the hatchery and the shop.
- Upgraded fiber to three Fisheries Trailers: Admin, Research and Production.
- New Enterprise Executive Office building fiber online.
- Moved Boys & Girls Club fiber from old forestry building to main backbone.
- Completed a letter to House Appropriations Labor-HHS subcommittee to protect CPB funding.
- KIYE received a report card showing 100% compliant with FCC and Corporation for Public Broadcasting.
- KIYE now a part of the Kamiah Chamber of Commerce.



Casino fiber cut we were able to restore.



Bret Lawyer and Cody Moses removing a tree stump at Stedman property.



Casino fiber cut we were able to restore.

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Melissa King, Manager | 208.843.7307



Virginia Tech, Shaddi Hassan, at the luncheon with guest White House guest Danae Wilson.



KIYE, Daniel Spaudling, at the Native Public Media's Native Broadcast Summit in Phoenix.



L to R: Ramon Hobdey Sanchez, DTS, Melissa King, Frances Goli, Crystal Hottowe, Valerie Fast Horse and Eric Forsch



KIYE, Tom Williamson, Rich Johnson at the Station Emergency Operations Plan training



Antenna and equipment were salvaged from the fire at Ground Covers above casino.

FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

David B. Johnson, Manager | 208.843.7320

ADMINISTRATION

Political efforts on Snake River salmon restoration – This effort picked up some steam by having Presidential Advisor John Podesta and Council on Environmental Quality Director Brenda Mallory, participate in several meetings. This provides focus and attention by the regional and national federal agencies. Several of the six sovereigns' (four CRITFC Tribes, Oregon and Washington) issues for regional change have gained traction, including a pathway to breaching the 4 Lower Snake River dams, improved fish operations at the dams until that time, a significant increase in funding for fish programs and consideration of more fish and wildlife manager direction for the funding (rather than solely with BPA), in addition to incentives for tribal energy development that would go towards replacement of that provided by the 4 dams. A short-term extension to further work on details appears to be agreeable to the parties involved in the hydrosystem litigation.

Infrastructure Funding - We are seeing an increase in funding being available for salmon restoration activities through grants and federal add-ons in association with the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. These include a significant uptick in funding for hatchery infrastructure – such as the Kooskia Hatchery water source, potentially the Dworshak pipeline, and fixes for federal Mitchell Act Hatcheries being directed by the Tribes.

Personnel Change – Sadly, we lost our long time Executive Assistant. She was instrumental in the Department's operations and in submitting professionally assembled actions for NPTEC consideration. She had very big shoes to fill.

CONSERVATION ENFORCEMENT

Cases – A total of 53 cases were generated over this six-month time frame: 14 fishing cases, 12 citizen assists, 11 outside agency assists, 5 trespass cases, 4 animal assists, 3 littering cases, 1 hunting case, 1 wastage case, 1 animal complaint, and 1 other case.

FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

David B. Johnson, Manager | 208.843.7320

CONSERVATION ENFORCEMENT

Spring/Summer Chinook Snake Basin Fishery – This fishery opened in mid-May. On May 24th, a Spring Chinook Gillnet Fishery for the Mainstem Clearwater River opened. Twelve gillnet permits were issued for this fishery with no violations attributed to these permits. Noteworthy, is this fishery started later than anticipated. No fish had been caught at Rapid River until well after the Memorial Day Weekend. During this period, only a couple of warnings were issued, with fishing compliance at around 98%. Rapid River, the Clearwater River, and Clear Creek were the best spots to harvest salmon. On June 24th, a Commercial Season for the Clearwater River Subbasin, Rapid River/Little Salmon River, and the South Fork Salmon River opened. Only fish caught in these listed areas were allowed to be sold. As has been the case in recent years, Oregon fisheries closed early. Lookingglass Creek, the Lostine and Imnaha Rivers closed early due to quotas being harvested. The tribe's Fish Buy Back program continued to be successful this season. The Buy Back occurred on the Clearwater and the South Fork Salmon River Fisheries. Tribal members were able to sell the fish to the tribe with the fish caught available for distribution to the tribal membership. Overall, this fishery should be considered a success based on its merits and overall numbers.

Fall Hunting and the 2023-2024 Montana Buffalo Hunt

This program is now preparing for the local fall hunting season and the upcoming Montana Buffalo Hunt. Officers are currently taking some down time to be ready for the upcoming hunts. Local patrols will ensure the safety and security of tribal members hunting on and off the reservation. Once the season for the start of the Montana Buffalo Hunt is announced, officers will prepare for detailing once permits are issued and animals are on the landscape. Being as last season was a banner year for our tribe, we will prepare and provide the best coverage possible for our hunters while in Montana.



**Wastage:
Mission Creek, ID**



**Littering:
Webb Canal Rd, ID**

FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

David B. Johnson, Manager | 208.843.7320

HARVEST

General SRB Salmon and Steelhead Harvest Management Information:

Snake River Basin - 2023 Preliminary Review – Spring/Summer Chinook. Preliminary harvest estimates of SRB spring/summer Chinook are 5,563 clipped hatchery fish, 219 unclipped fish (wild and unclipped hatchery fish), and 127 jacks. We did not catch our full share of the harvest for some key populations.

Snake River Basin 2023 Fall Season Fishery Preview. We expect 33,300 Steelhead, 29,660 Fall Chinook and 17,225 Coho salmon to make it to Lower Granite Dam on the Snake River this year. We are planning on targeting the harvestable number of hatchery steelhead (TBD) with unclipped target of 655 fish, 3,978 fall Chinook and 3,700 Coho salmon.

We need tribal members to get out and fish in good numbers this fall and take advantage of the fish we produce in our hatcheries.

New Major Change or Result within Program Since Last Spring:

Snake River Basin Fish Buy Initiative for 2023 Season. This initiative is funded with SRBA funds for 2023. It has yielded tremendous results.

Preliminary results for 2023 SRB Spring/Summer Chinook buys include 1,123 Clearwater Spring Chinook and 328 SFSR Summer Chinook purchased for a total of 1,451 fish purchased during Spring/Summer season. This is the first year the Tribe has caught as much if not more spring Chinook than the IDFG non-treaty sport fishery in the Clearwater River and its tributaries (typically they out-harvest us by a significant amount). The gillnet fishery and tribal fish buys contributed to this positive outcome.

For the 2023 SRB Fall Season the Fish Buy Initiative plans on purchasing approximately 2,500 to 3,000 Fall Chinook, Steelhead, and Coho starting in early September and continuing until mid-October depending upon fish quality.

FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

David B. Johnson, Manager | 208.843.7320

PRODUCTION

Summer interns: Two high school interns (all that applied) were hired and two students from Lapwai Middle School were provided work experience in Fisheries for the summer.

Kelts: The Snake River steelhead Kelt Project collects spawned out wild steelhead (called kelts) and attempts to recondition them so they are able to spawn again thereby boosting the number of wild steelhead spawners in the Snake Basin. In 2023, 295 kelts were collected as they migrated downriver: They were taken to tanks at Dworshak Hatchery and Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery to be fed and cared for. So far in 2023, reconditioning these fish has been very successful with 70% surviving. This November, steelhead kelts that are reconditioned and ready to spawn again in 2024 will be released back into the Snake River. A new facility for kelt reconditioning is planned to be built at Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery in 2024. The Kelt Project staff presented on this work in July as part of the Salmon Orca Project Tribal Voices Matter – Steelhead Kelt Project.

Lamprey: The Lamprey Translocation Project rescues adult lamprey or eels stuck in fish ladders at Bonneville Dam, The Dalles Dam and John Day Dam. Rescued eels are then transported up to the Snake River bypassing another 5-7 hydrosystem dams. Most of the transported lamprey are released into the river but ~300 are held in holding tanks at Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery for outplanting closer to spawn time next spring. This year, 3,398 lamprey adults have been transported from the lower river dams. We expect that less than 500 lamprey will be able to make the journey past 8 dams on their own, so the translocated fish will be a huge boost to the population in the Snake Basin. The Lamprey Project staff presented on this work in August as part of the Salmon Orca Project - Voice of the Lamprey.



Lapwai Creek weir installed May 31 near Spalding Park

FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

David B. Johnson, Manager | 208.843.7320

PRODUCTION

Spring/summer Chinook broodstock collection: Nez Perce Fisheries staff operate Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery, Dworshak Hatchery, Kooskia Hatchery and weir facilities on the Lostine River and Johnson Creek (SF Salmon drainage) to collect adult Chinook for broodstock. Trapping began at most of these locations in May. Enough adult salmon have been collected to fill the hatchery production programs for 2023. Spring/summer Chinook spawning began at the hatchery facilities in August. The hatcheries are open for tours and visitors are welcome – especially on spawn days which are typically Tuesdays. Contact the Production Division office 208.843.7320 for more information.

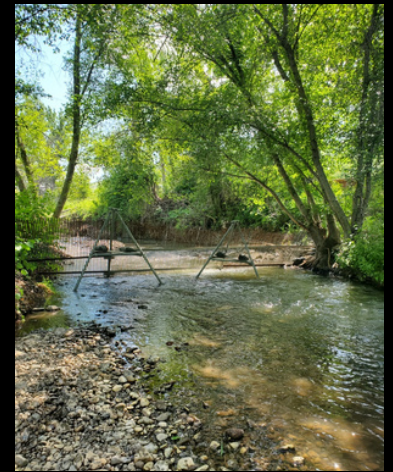
RESEARCH

Fish Coordination and Leadership - Organized and chaired weekly Snake Basin Coordination Calls for all co-managers to direct, advise, manage, and inform pre and in-season forecasting, run sizes updates and changes, harvest management, broodstock collection, spawning, distributions, and outplants of spring/summer chinook and steelhead. We continue apply for funding opportunities that expand our Fisheries program based on the Tribes' overarching goal of sustainable healthy and harvestable fish runs throughout Nez Perce Country. Presented results at Idaho Chapter, Oregon Chapter, Western Division, National American Fisheries Society Meetings.

Fish Movement - Continued monitoring survival of hatchery and natural-origin Chinook juvenile, steelhead, and coho from the Clearwater, Grand Ronde, Imnaha, and Salmon River basins to Lower Granite Dam. Evaluations help time fish releases to coincide with best times to arrive at Lower Granite Dam try and maximize survival through the hydrosystem. Also continued monitoring adult returns of steelhead and chinook using weirs, PIT arrays, spawning ground surveys in the Clearwater, Grand Ronde, Imnaha, and Salmon river basins to provide science-based recommendations to make informed decisions of the future of our fish.



Coded Wire Tagging Trailer in operation at the Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery



Lapwai Creek upstream blocking weir near River mile three.



Anthony Capetillo capturing smallmouth bass to be tested for Methyl Mercury.

FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

David B. Johnson, Manager | 208.843.7320

RESEARCH

Pre-season Forecast - Total preseason estimate fall Chinook to cross Lower Granite Dam in 2023 is 29,660 (23,510 hatchery, 6,150 natural), and is expected to be lower than the number that returned in 2022. Coho forecast is 17,225 which is slightly lower than 19,258 that returned in 2022.

Sockeye in Wallowa - Fisheries staff continue to evaluate strategies for reintroducing Sockeye Salmon to Wallowa Lake, including an assessment of Wallowa Lake's food web and its ability to support a reintroduction. We supported a Tribal Intern position to work on the project to help grow tribal fisheries professionals for the future.

WATERSHED

Crooked River Mine Reclamation/River Restoration Project: Completed construction of the last phase of the 5-year/2-mile project that includes: 4 acres of mine tailings removed, 10 acres of wetland reconnected, installation of 5 large wood structures, a rock weir, and floodplain roughness, and planting 5,000 native trees, shrubs and wetland plants.

Little Salmon River Restoration on the Zim's Property: Installed 6 Beaver Dam Analogues (BDA's) with the goal of raising the water table so that the riparian plants planted at the site have a better chance of survival. The attached image shows three of the BDA structures taken from a drone. The Zim's site will be studied to show the impacts these BDA's have on stream metrics of the Little Salmon River.

Research staff at a training in Stanley, Idaho



Freshwater mussel shell in the Minam River.



Sorted spring Chinook Salmon waiting to be coded Wire Tagged



Serviceberry along the Minam River.

FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

David B. Johnson, Manager | 208.843.7320

WATERSHED

Lolo Creek Habitat Improvement Project: The Tribe, in partnership with the Nez Perce Clearwater National Forests, constructed large wood structures at six sites along the mainstream of Lolo Creek. Habitat complexity has been identified as a limiting factor for aquatic species due to past management activities. Large wood structures were installed to improve habitat for Snake River Basin Steelhead. Project outcomes include increased channel stability, rearing habitat, pool formation, spawning gravel deposition, channel complexity, hiding cover, low velocity areas, and floodplain function. A winch was used in conjunction with a mini excavator to move the logs into the stream channel. Structures consist of approximately 20 pieces of large wood, ranging from 6 to 36 inches in diameter and have a max length of 50 feet. Approximately 10 pieces of large wood were placed in the channel, and approximately 10 pieces of large wood were left on the bank to function as a ballast. The logs were placed as far into the creek as possible from the road using the self-loader and mini excavator. From there, the logs were pushed into place using a combination of the self-loader, mini excavator, and winch. Nez Perce Tribal and Nez Perce/Clearwater NF staff worked together to accomplish this mutually beneficial work.



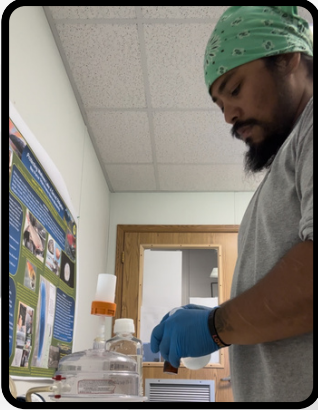
NPT DFRM McCall Field Office staff planting ponderosa pine seedlings on decommissioned roads



Sculpin in the Minam River. Photo by Meeuwig - ODFW

FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

David B. Johnson, Manager | 208.843.7320



Anthony Capetillo preparing water samples



Staff marking fish



Electrofishing for fish to test for levels of Methyl Mercury



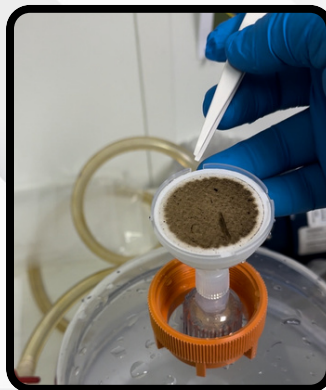
Donnelly elementary school fifth graders learning about aquatic macroinvertebrates



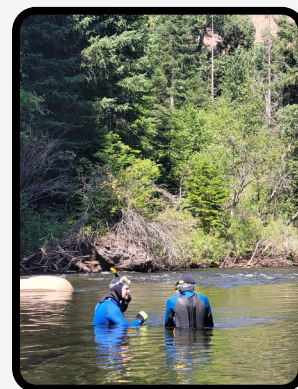
Donnelly elementary school fifth graders releasing NPTH fall Chinook



Steelhead weir in Crazyman Creek



Preparing water samples



Fisheries staff conducting snorkel surveys

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

The Department of Natural Resources (department) serves as the Tribe's land and natural resource management department. The department manages tribal trust land, allotments, and fee-title property for wildlife, cultural resources, aquatic and terrestrial habitat and forest desired future conditions under the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) 638 Single Line Agreement. The following divisions within the Department of Natural Resources include: Cultural Resources, Environmental Restoration & Waste Management (ERWM), Forestry & Fire Management, Land Services, Water Resources, and Wildlife. ERWM receives funding through US Department of Energy Cooperative Agreement for monitoring the Hanford Nuclear Reservation and also shares in the responsibility for on-reservation air quality.

The department leadership has been focused on two major undertakings: the Integrated Resource Management Plan, and the Good Neighbor Authority. The IRMP was recently approved by the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee (NPTEC) to provide a management theme for the Tribe's land base. One of the main characteristics of the alternative chosen by the staff and NPTEC is to consider cultural resources and the tribal memberships ability to gather these resources. This alternative provides the ability for the department to regain knowledge of natural resources utilized for hunting and gathering during climate change.

The Tribe entered into an agreement with the Nez Perce Clearwater Forest called the Good Neighbor Authority (GNA). GNA allows the Tribe to receive funding to enter into "co-stewardship" of roughly 4 million acres with the Forest. Departmental staff are working with the Forest Leadership and staff to ideas and projects meant to change forest conditions that are resilient to insects and disease and wildland fires.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

CULTURAL RESOURCE PROGRAM

Nakia Williamson, Director
208.621.3850

ETHNOGRAPHY

Hells Canyon Traditional Land Use Study for Idaho Power Co. Cultural Resource Program (CRP) staff are working to identify and record Nez Perce Traditional Cultural Properties located on the Snake River throughout the three dam pools operated by Idaho Power (The Hells Canyon, Oxbow and Brownlee dams) for the compliance for the re-licensing process. Through this work we have used oral histories, interviews, and historic and archival sources to identify a number of Nez Perce village and camps sites located in Hells Canyon and interconnected to hunting and gathering grounds in southeastern Oregon (Joseph and Wallowa Lake) and west central Idaho (New Meadows and Riggins). Also, through this work we are seeking to help IPC understand how important the Hells Canyon landscape is to the Nez Perce people who have occupied it since time immemorial.

Burntlog and Thunder Mt. Roads and Surrounding Ethnographic Landscape Traditional Land Use Study for Perpetua Resources (formerly Midas Gold). The CRP recently completed a land use study for roads not included in a land use study connected to the Stibnite goldmine project. This study identified numerous Nez Perce TCPs with the study area, and an intensive site visit identified several traditional plants and medicines as well as a possible trail fragment of the Nez Perce Trail running through the region. This study further reaffirms the significance of this landscape to the Nez Perce people.

Coyote's 3 Sons Story Map and Educational Modules for United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The CRP built an interactive Story Map centered on the Nez Perce legend site, Coyote's 3 Sons on the Columbia River. The purpose of this project was to create an interactive learning experience centered on this important landmark long used as the people traveled the Columbia River to Celilo Falls and beyond. The story map and educational modules will be used to help teach tribal youth about this site and its connection to the larger Columbia River gorge landscape.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

CULTURAL RESOURCE PROGRAM

Nakia Williamson, Director

TCP Monitoring on the Columbia River for USACE.

The Nez Perce Tribe are breaking ground on the monitoring of Traditional Cultural Properties. Monitoring these historic properties is more dynamic than traditional archaeological monitoring and requires direct feedback from traditional practitioners and tribal members with knowledge of these important sites. As TCPs are only now being spoken of by government agencies the work the CRP is now performing is setting the standard for this type of cultural resource management.

ARCHAEOLOGY

The CRP Archaeology Program conducted archaeological surveys for the Tribe's Executive Director's Office, the BIA and Land Services for several homesite leases, the Department of Fisheries Resource Management, the Asotin County Conservation District, the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), and the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest under the Tribe's Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) agreement. The CRP has completed site condition assessment for the Corps, and to complete mitigation for the Cherrylane Bridge project. The CRP monitored construction projects at the Aht'wy Interchange, Dworshak Hatchery pipe replacement, Kamiah Mill geotechnical investigations, and Avista utility pole replacement.

The CRP continues to use ground-penetrating radar (GPR), acquired in 2020, to conduct non-destructive surveys to identify buried archaeological and architectural resources in Lapwai and across the Reservation. The CRP also used the GPR to locate buried utilities for the BIA and Tribe in 2023.

One CRP Field Archaeologist and the THPO renewed their red-card for wildland firefighting.

**Nakia Williamson,
Chairman Wheeler,
and Dave Johnson at a
Conference**



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

CULTURAL RESOURCE PROGRAM

Nakia Williamson, Director

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (THPO)

The THPO has reviewed 170 on-Reservation projects in 2023, 67 of these since May 2023. These include 5 from the Army Corps of Engineers, 55 lease renewals for the BIA, 1 Federal Highways Administration (FHWA), 1 HUD-funded project for the Riverside Water and Sewer District, 3 Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) projects, and 1 Nez Perce County Road project.

The reviews for the BIA and ITD projects resulted in a concurrence of no adverse effect for the BIA and ITD projects, no effect to historic properties concurrence for the HUD project, and concurrences with the determination from the Army Corps of Engineers that 5 archaeological sites on the Reservation are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

The THPO also reviewed approximately 600 projects outside the Reservation boundaries since May 2023.

The THPO and Archaeology staff also attended FCRPS Payos Kuus Cuukwe site visits in June 2023, and meetings in May, July, and August 2023.

NEZ PERCE LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Grant Projects

ANA American Rescue Plan Niimípuum Titwáatit Animation Project (Project end date August 30, 2023)

- Palxc káa héey'uxc (Snowshoe Hare and Cottontail Rabbit) completed Dec. 2022. Available for viewing at Nez Perce Language Program YouTube channel.
- ʔiceyéeye péʔwe tasíipxna (Coyote Shot Cow Elk): storyboard complete, vector art complete, audio recording and editing completed and
- ʔiceyéeye hileqelíye (Coyote Builds a Fish Dam) Audio recording, audio editing, vector art, and storyboards completed and currently being applied to animation.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

CULTURAL RESOURCE PROGRAM

Nakia Williamson, Director

NEZ PERCE LANGUAGE PROGRAM

BIA Living Languages Grant Project (LLGP)

Five of the scheduled meetings with Circle of Elders have been postponed due to unforeseen circumstances. Currently viewing and transcribing three archived Oral Histories for NPL content. Four transcriptions have been drafted and are currently under review. Will review with elder mentors (upon approval by Cultural Resources and elder availability) for language lesson development. Project end date extended to December 30, 2023.

Nimipuutímt Phrasebuilders (Native Teaching Aids, LLC)

All final audio/visual edits have been finalized. Final proof received 3/20/23 for printing approval. Phrasebuilder card sets 1-3 completed and shipped. Sets will be available during Fall FC 2023.

Nez Perce Dictionary Mobile App

350/500 phrases have been selected and translated for review for recording with NPL speakers. Currently under development with Native Teaching Aids. Additional options to re-launch previous NPL mobile apps are being researched including code-writing training for NPLP staff (ANA Language P & M grant forecasted FOA January 22, 2024).

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION & WASTE MANAGEMENT

Jack Bell, Director
208.621.4710

HANFORD CLEANUP

ERWM Hanford Cleanup: Continue to participate in all aspects of cleanup at the Hanford Site; groundwater, surface water, air, and land, to protect the reserved treaty right of the Tribe to the extent possible.

- Staff in cooperation with the Tribe's Office of Legal Counsel are working at the local and national level to improve DOE's government-to-government consultation policy to be more protective of treaty rights and allow more decision-making authority.
- Staff are continuing to work with DOE staff to find answers acceptable to NPTEC regarding future funding.

ERWM Natural Resource Damage Assessment program: Participates as a trustee on the Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council (HNRTC) along with the Umatilla Tribe, Yakama Nation, state of Washington, state of Oregon, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the U.S. Department of Energy.

- ERWM staff participate on several technical Work Groups (WG); Aquatic Restoration WG, Aquatic WG, and Terrestrial WG.
- Staff continue to conduct a 3-year project titled Tribal Cultural Service Loss Restoration Plan. This work will eventually result in a settlement of the United States governments legal liabilities for injury to natural resources and the services they provide due to the release of hazardous and radiological contamination to the environment at the Hanford Site.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION & WASTE MANAGEMENT

Jack Bell, Director

AIR QUALITY

Staff monitor air quality, issue burn permits and air quality advisories, and conduct air-related research and outreach. Contact us directly at 1.800.720.4089 or airquality@nezperce.org or follow us on Facebook.

- 2023 Nez Perce Tribe Agricultural Burn Permit Registration Fee is \$2.75/acre.
- Since January 1, 2023, issued 877 small open, 91 agricultural, 2 forestry, and 19 large open burn permits.
- Issued 2 Air Quality Advisories due to smoke impacts wildfires in Canada, Washington, Oregon, California.
- Maintained air monitoring sites at Lapwai, Kamiah, Nezperce, Orofino, and Reubens. Public can view current air conditions at fire.airnow.gov. Also monitored atmospheric deposition and ozone at an EPA [CASTNET/AMoN](#) site near Woodland.
- Continued air monitoring partnership with the nine public libraries on the Reservation. Libraries have air sensors and display Air Quality Index flags to inform the public about air quality conditions.
- Provided 53 air quality & science presentations and participated in 5 community events, reaching over 1,100 students and adults at the local, regional, and national level.
- Collaborated with NPTHA, NMPH, NPT Social Services and Seniors to distribute HEPA-filter air cleaners to at-risk Nimiipuu families.
- Coordinated with Kansas State University and NPTHA to provide radon trainings for tribal housing staff.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION & WASTE MANAGEMENT

Jack Bell, Director

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Planner responsible for the representing the NPT on the NPT Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Transportation of Radioactive Materials Tribal Committee (TRMTC), Hazardous Materials Management and Emergency Response (HAMMER) Sub-committee, the Region District II Interoperability Governance Board (DIGB II), the Region 10 FEMA's steering committee, Northwest Tribal Emergency Management Council (NWTEMC) as the Idaho Representative for Region 10, the Idaho Public Safety Communication Committee (IPSCC) as the representative for Idaho Tribes, and an at-large member on the Wireless Public Safety Interoperable Communications/Project (SAFEKOM).

- FEMA Public Assistance for flood repairs of Fiscal Year 2019 were completed and FEMA has all the paperwork, they are processing to close the projects out.
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) of Idaho awarded \$40,595.50 for Fiscal Year 24 to purchase more air purifiers and filters to be used for Tribal vulnerable population homes, as a continuation of Fiscal Year 2023 project.
- FEMA Flood Risk Assessments have been completed for Nez Perce County, Lewis County and Clearwater County and are being reviewed by all parties involved including the Tribe.
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program will be awarded \$37,125.00 for contractual to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan, with a 10% match of \$4,125.00 (as in-kind).

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

FORESTRY & FIRE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

**Howard Teasley, Interim Director
208.621.4620**

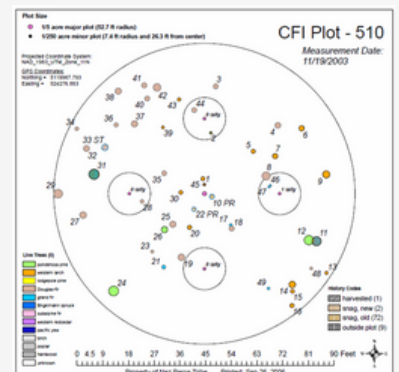
Nez Perce Tribe – Forestry & Fire Management Continuous Forest Inventory (CFI) 2023-2024
The Nez Perce Tribe's Forestry and Fire Management division has, over the past 50 years (1974 – 2024), collected continuous forest inventory information on tribal and allotted timber lands. Fifth acre (52.7 feet radius) permanent sample locations are selected based on a grid pattern (1 plot every 80 acres) across Tribal ownership. The sample location is established with a permanent marker (metal pipe) with each tree tagged and measured. Every 10 years the sample location is re-measured to determine timber volume fluctuations, assess current and potential forest growth & yield, and to measure forest characteristics compared to the desired objectives. The information gathered provides valuable information that's used in developing or revising the Nez Perce Tribe's Forest Management Plan. In addition to measuring the current state of the forest, the CFI system is intended to produce a continuous source of forest and tree data that will accurately describe how successful past plans have been in meeting the Tribal landowners goals.



**Wildland Firefighter
Selina Miles**

2023 Fire Season

This year Fire Management entered the fire season with 5 Engine Crew and 16 Camp Crew Members. An additional 17 tribal employees were also “Red Carded” and ready to assist with local wildland fires.



A highlight for our fire program this year was our Ridge Creek Camp Crew. Vernon Holt and 6 others spent 14 days assisting with base and spike camp duties and they caught the attention of the overhead. They were recognized by the Southern Area CIMT Gold Team during briefing on their final day and given a token of appreciation for a job well done! This year to date, we have had 16 camp crew members (12 of whom are tribal members) out on three different dispatches earning a total of approximately \$130,000.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

LAND SERVICES DIVISION

**Kim Cannon, Director
208.621.3721**

The Land Services Division has been working with the NPTEC and BIA towards the renewal of agriculture leases that expire at the end of 2023. There are 53 agriculture leases, with majority Tribal interest that are being advertised for lease. These lease offers will be reviewed by the NPTEC for consideration of new leases. With the 2023 crop and grazing season coming to an end, we will be conducting fall field and pasture inspections. The division will continue to work with the Nez Perce Tribal Police Department and Fisheries Enforcement for trespass issues. Please contact our office, NPTPD or Fisheries Enforcement if you suspect trespass or lease compliance issues are present.

THE LAND ACQUISITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Land Acquisition Advisory Committee has reviewed many acquisition proposals. The Tribe recently purchased a land parcel on the Wallowa River in Joseph Oregon. This property will be used for fish reintroduction programs under the Department of Fisheries Resource Management. For maps and phone/smart device applications for viewing Tribal properties, please contact the Land Services – GIS program.

THE HORSE PROGRAM

The Horse Program has been maintaining a few horses at the Sweetwater pens over the Summer for training and use at area rodeos and Tribal memorial activities. We welcome your participation as riders in the events if you would like. Many of the animals have been at pasture near Reubens and will be coming back down to winter pens in late October. Please contact the Horse Program if you are interested in riding or have general questions about the program.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

LAND SERVICES DIVISION

Kim Cannon, Director

GIS

The Geospatial Information Systems program supports all Tribal entities with the use of GIS software and training. GIS program continues to assist with the Palouse River Basin Adjudication (PRBA) team. Like the Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA), the Tribe is reviewing the water rights and spring locations within the Palouse River Basin. GIS Staff is assisting with the development of data collection forms that link to specific sites on the landscape. The GIS program recently purchased a larger, four prop helicopter style drone. This machine is capable of capturing land-based imagery for research. If you have any mapping needs, please contact the Land Services-GIS program.

BIO-CONTROL

The Biological Control was successful in receiving funding from the USDA-Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) for the 2023 year. It provides for holding public outreach and education on the importance of noxious weed control and the benefits of using insects to control many of the noxious weed species in our area. The Center is receiving a new biological control insect to combat Yellow Starthistle. Invasive weeds such as Yellow Starthistle are responsible for the loss of natural plant communities including plant species used for gathering. The Center ships agents across the country and maintains a database on their release locations. If you are interested in learning more about biocontrol of noxious weeds and learning about options for controlling weeds near you, please contact the Biological Control Center in Lapwai.

We have a current opening for the Center Coordinator position. If you are interested in leading the charge for biocontrol of invasive weeds, please contact Land Services or the Human Resources Department for position advertisement and details.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

WATER RESOURCE DIVISION

Ken Clark, Director
208.621.3903

BROWNFIELDS

The Brownfields Program performed Phase II Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) testing at the old Blue North Mill site in Kamiah, ID. Fieldwork involved collecting surface soil and sediment samples and excavating test pits in three general locations. A subcontracted Certified Indian Business performed test pitting near the Pressure Wash Pad, Former Log Pond, and 12,000-gallon Aboveground Storage Tank (AST). Program staff is working to compare laboratory results to Idaho and EPA screening levels to evaluate human health risks, if any. A Phase I ESA was conducted at the Riverside Sports Shop in Orofino, ID, and staff are planning to conduct a Phase II ESA later this year, which will include drilling and subsurface soil sampling, soil vapor testing, and installation of monitoring wells.



Blue North Mill sampling locations



Mary James and Richard Guzman collecting surface water samples.

WATER QUALITY

The Water Quality Program is conducting a year-long water quality monitoring project in the Orofino Creek Watershed and a two-year-long algal toxin study in six reservation waterbodies. Because little cyanobacteria data exists for ponds, lakes, or reservoirs on the Reservation, the Water Resources Division will analyze surface water samples for algal toxins (microcystin and anatoxin) and nutrients (N03+N02, OP, TP, TKN) to protect water resources and public health. Monitoring is being conducted monthly in six bodies of water within the Reservation boundary (Winchester Lake, Mann Lake, Talmaks Reservoir, Mud Springs Reservoir, Tunnel Pond, and Tommy Robinson Pond) to gather baseline data, determine if, when, and how long the toxins are present in the water, and to release public health advisories as needed. Nutrient concentrations will also be collected to identify correlations between specific nutrient constituents and algae blooms to inform future management practices.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

WATER RESOURCE DIVISION

Ken Clark, Director



Mary James Planting Riparian Trees along lower Bedrock Creek.



Richard Guzman installing posts for beaver dam analogues in the Lawyer Creek drainage.

WATER RIGHTS

USGS TESNAR Training session

The Water Rights Administration Program continues to monitor streamflow and water temperatures in twelve Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA) minimum flow streams. Staff attended TESNAR training with U.S. Geological Survey personnel to ensure streamflow monitoring data collection meets accepted methods. Staff review water rights permit applications advertised by the Idaho Department of Water Resources and protest those water rights that threaten to infringe upon the Tribe's decreed water rights, degrade water quality, and reduce critical habitat for Treaty-reserved aquatic resources. Since May, staff have protested three applications within or just outside the 1863 Reservation. Finally, staff continue to assist the Office of Legal Counsel to advance the Nez Perce Tribe's claims in the Palouse River Basin Adjudication as well as to protest several water rights applications proposed by Perpetua Resources for the Stibnite Gold Project.

NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION PREVENTION

The Nonpoint Source Pollution Prevention Program is working to restore riparian and wetland vegetation and reduce sediment transfer into waterways at Individual Indian Trust Allotment 369-A, near Ferdinand, and in the Bedrock Creek Wildlife Management Area—part of the Dworshak Wildlife Habitat Mitigation Project (Tekinkéecet Waq'iswiitoqt). The Program is also preparing to begin a five-year project funded by a \$2,000,000 Columbia River Basin Restoration Funding Assistance Program grant focusing on using best management practices to reduce pesticides from entering waterways on the Reservation, schedule pesticide drop-off events, and increase Tribal community awareness concerning the responsible use of pesticides.



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

WATER RESOURCE DIVISION

Ken Clark, Director

WETLANDS

The Wetlands Program has completed baseline wetland assessments on Musselshell Meadow. It is developing a protocol to monitor camas populations based on the method used by the National Park Service for camas monitoring on the Weippe Prairie. The Program developed a plant guide for wetland restoration that features functional values that align with the WESP-NP Wetland Ecosystem Service Protocol—an essential tool for evaluating wetland functions. Staff has also conducted several "Interwet" educational classes with Lapwai High School students and has continued implementing educational projects at the Lapwai Nature Trail Park with the Boys and Girls Club.



Camas at Musselshell Meadows.

CLIMATE CHANGE

The Climate Change Program held a climate and culture-smart restoration design workshop on the Zumwalt Prairie in collaboration with the Nature Conservancy and Camas to Condors Partners. The Camas to Condors Team from the Water Resources Division and Wildlife Division helped to coordinate and host the Yellowstone to Yukon Board Meeting at Wallowa Lake Lodge. Yellowstone to Yukon recognized the Tribe's conservation leadership with the Ted Smith Award, which was used to help fund youth climate education and the Wallowa Youth Retreat. Climate Change Program staff collaborated with Social Services to add a climate change education component to the Wallowa Youth Retreat in July 2023. The Climate Change Team launched a carbon credit feasibility study with Earth Economics to understand potential opportunities for the Tribe to fund climate change mitigation projects. Staff also worked with partners to survey traditional food plants on the Wallowa Whitman National Forest and the Nez Perce Reservation to evaluate climate change's impacts on traditional gathering.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

WATER RESOURCE DIVISION

Ken Clark, Director

UTILITIES

The Utilities Program continues to operate and maintain the water and wastewater systems owned by the Nez Perce Tribe, located in Lapwai and Kamiah. They work with local communities, governments, and state agencies to address the sanitation and environmental needs of the Tribe. The Utilities Program is currently working to connect North Lapwai (i.e., Domebo Flats) to the wastewater treatment plant. The Utility Board recently voted for a modest increase in sewer rates for our customers. The rates have not been increased in some time, and with the rising cost of materials and supplies to treat wastewater and maintain operations, an increase is needed. Details on the increase will be reflected on customer's billing statements.

WILDLIFE DIVISION

Eric Kash Kash, Director

208.843.2162

Conservation Planning

Conservation Planning and Project Review: The Wildlife Division conducts routine reviews of major resource management projects (e.g. forest management, livestock grazing, crop leases, etc.) proposed by other Tribal programs as well as the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and other federal and state agencies. Proposals of particular attention and collaborative effort include the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest's GNA (Good Neighbor Authority) collaborative project implementation, the Nez Perce Tribe's Forest Management Plan, agricultural practices on Tribal land, and wolf control actions by the state of Idaho.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

Wildlife Division

Eric Kash Kash, Director

Bison Management

Bison Management: Staff continues to provide technical support to the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee and Fish and Wildlife Commission regarding bison hunting and management in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Tribal Wildlife staff monitored federal and state policies affecting bison and treaty hunting opportunities, bison dispersal, while providing management recommendations requested by Tribal leadership. The National Park Service has released its 2023 Environmental Impact Statement regarding its bison management plan. The Tribe has weighed in on the scoping process and is engaging in consultation with Yellowstone National Park.

The Nez Perce Tribe is getting ready to re-engage on discussions regarding the Bison hunting season for the 2023-24 harvest season.

Strengthening Nimiipuu Stewardship Practices Grant

Strengthening Nimiipuu Stewardship Practices Grant: The Wildlife Program helped to implement funding to Spring and Summer traditional gathering events which took place with staff from Water Resources Division, Wildlife Division, and Community participants to help encourage reconnection to our cultural identity as Nez Perce People. These events help to re-establish the importance to keep practicing our traditional culture to enhance our well-being as Nez Perce People.

The wildlife program will again help fund and participate in this year's Bison hunt with the Fish and Wildlife Commission held in Gardiner, MT for community distribution, ceremonial events, donations to the longhouse, and senior citizen complexes throughout the reservation.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Aaron Miles, Sr., Manager | 208.843.7400

Wildlife Division

Eric Kash Kash, Director

Hunting Stewardship

Hunting Stewardship: Staff continue to implement the Hunting Stewardship and Safety Program designed to promote voluntary conversion to non-lead ammunition. The wildlife program has initiated a collaborated agreement with Conservation Science Global (Montana Hunters for Eagle Conservation) to provide a free box of non-lead ammunition to all Nez Perce Bison hunters hunting in the Gardiner and West Yellowstone Area for the 2023/24 hunt season.

The Wildlife program will also host 2 youth hunting camps in the fall for youth hunters. They will spend 2 three days stints in the field and help harvest deer which will be processed and donated to the Tribal Children's Home, and the Senior Meal Programs in Lapwai and Kamiah. A new grant request to extend the program for an additional three years has been approved and is currently being implemented. Discussions on how to develop a program regarding CWD are currently in process as we move into this year's deer, elk, and moose hunting seasons. Wildlife Staff will begin to reiterate the importance of the infectious diseases on the landscape and will provide informational awareness to the tribal community and possibly establish an opportunity to have samples taken from tribal harvests and submitted for testing.

Wolf Management

The Wildlife Division has been thoroughly engaged in the topic of wolf management with the State of Idaho trying to reestablish its role as co-managers for wolf populations in the state of Idaho. This has proven to be a daunting task which we are currently in discussion on our role as the Nez Perce Tribe in this matter. As you may know the State of Idaho adopted its own wolf management plan which was passed in May of this year where the Nez Perce Tribe was not recognized in its already established role through a memorandum of agreement established in 2005 to wolf management. The Tribe has been very active in trying to regain its role to the State of Idaho on the importance of co-management for our wolf relatives. This is currently ongoing and will continue in that manner until a formal plan comes to fruition.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Joyce McFarland, Manager | 208.621.4610

ADMINISTRATION

We are partnering with the University of Idaho on a “Cultivating Relationships” (CR) grant. The STEP TA Coach recruited our first cohort of teachers (5) to complete a 15-credit program over 12 months. CR is a multiyear learning process where K-12 teachers partner with Tribal Nations and University researchers to examine the relationships between people, place, lands, and waters.



Mountain Biking at Hiawatha Trail



Students Hiking



3rd Annual CONA hosted at CRC.

The Education Manager submitted two grant applications this summer. One is described below under STEP. The second was an application for \$2,445,741 to the Department of Education for an “Idaho Tribal Education Consortium STEP” program. Proposed initiative with the Coeur D’Alene, Shoshone Bannock, Idaho State Board of Education, Idaho State Department of Education, and select school districts per Tribe. For the Nez Perce Tribe, the targeted partners are Kamiah, Lapwai, and Lewiston school districts. The proposed grant goal is “to strengthen relationships and meaningful consultation between a consortium of TEAs from Idaho Tribes, the Idaho State Board of Education (SEA), the Idaho State Department of Education (SDE), and targeted LEAs that serve 50 or more Native American K-12 students with critical need for improved academic achievement and accurate identification in student counts.”

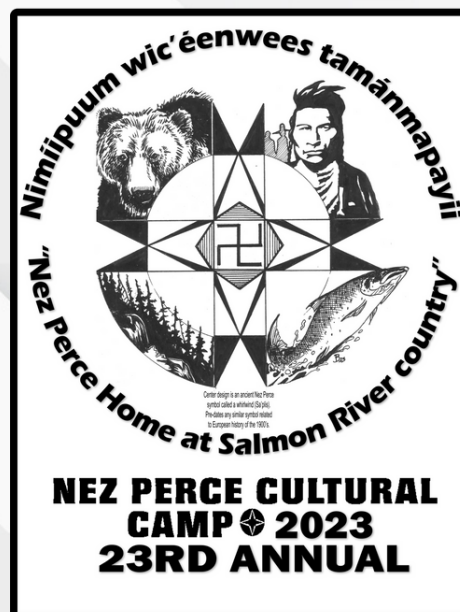
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Joyce McFarland, Manager | 208.621.4610

ADMINISTRATION

The 23rd annual Nez Perce Cultural Camp was held in August. This year's camp theme was Nimipuunéewit: núun hanisiix telkeke'ykew'éet (The People's Way of Life: We are Making Leaders). The first camp was held at UI MOSS Camp in McCall on August 1-3 (32 students in grades 8th-12th). The student traveled to Bergdorf. Wilfred "Scotty" Scott talked to them about treaty right in usual and accustomed areas. Dr. Marcie Carter discussed tribal Fisheries and Natural Resources efforts while promoting STEM careers especially for girls. The second camp was held at the YMCA Horsethief Reservoir Camp on August 15-17 (90 students in grades 4th-7th). The students participated in challenge courses such as Climbing Walls, Low Ropes, Archery, Mountain Biking, and Zipline (12-year-olds only). The activities at both camps focused on leadership, team building, and soft skills for workplace and school. We are planning to rotate the camp between Wallowa and Salmon River country to strengthen the connection our young people have with a wider area of our homeland.

Brooklyn Baptiste, Nez Perce artist, created a second Culture Camp logo for the Salmon River Country (see attached). The original logo used since 2000 features Chief Joseph, eagle, salmon, and mountains. The new logo illustrates Chief Whitebird, grizzly bear (for Chief Red Grizzly Bear whose homeland was in Salmon River country), salmon, and mountains.



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Joyce McFarland, Manager | 208.621.4610

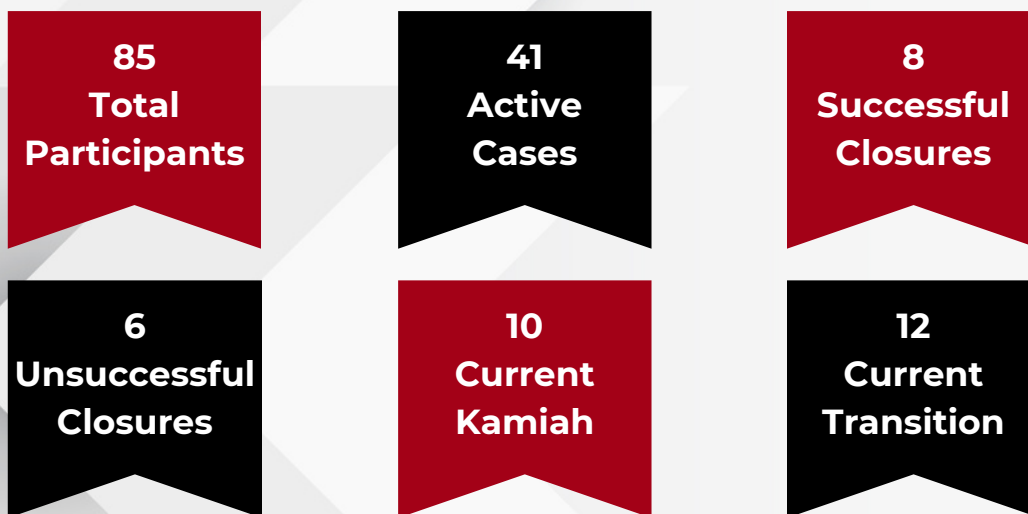
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

Feather Holt, Director

208.843.9395

In August, hired new employees: Feather Holt, NPTVRS Director; Mateo Cuevas-Jimenez, VR Counselor, and Janelle Chief, Office Specialist II. Taushina Eagle is serving at the temp VR Specialist. This position and the VR Employment Outreach Technician will be advertised.

Summary of Population served:



Orientation:

It is now a requirement for new participants to attend orientation to learn about our program. Orientation is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month and is offered in a group setting and individual sessions.

Training:

Recent staff training in TVR Database, technical assistance from the American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Training and Technical Assistance Center (AIVRTTAC), World of Work Inventory (WOWI) Assessment, Narcan, Northwest Indian College (NWIC) Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation (TVR) certification,

Outreach:

NPTVRS has created a Facebook page to post job opportunities, current events, and to communicate with participants who are Wi-Fi only for contact information.

New brochures are available for the public with our VR Process, eligibility requirements and contact information.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Joyce McFarland, Manager | 208.621.4610

STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS

Abe Broncheau, Director
208.843.7303

Students for Success presented at the SAMHSA Native Connections Regional Conference in Spokane, Washington. The first presentation was about our successes and challenges as a Native Connections grantee. We reported on our success with passing the Nez Perce Tribe Mental Health Policy, Mental Health Crisis Response training policy, Mental Health crisis response protocols, and creation of NAHOVA youth board in 2019. Discussed how NAHOVA implemented the first ever youth Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) on the Nez Perce reservation and just recently held their 3rd annual GONA.



•NAHOVA and SFS serve families at the UYLC YouthFest in Kamiah



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Joyce McFarland, Manager | 208.621.4610

STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS

Abe Broncheau, Director

GONA

3rd Nimiipuu Youth Gathering of Native Americans- GONA at the Clearwater River Casino.) June 20-22 was the Nimiipuu Youth GONA at the CRC Event Center. Over 100 registered for the event, including the Umatilla tribal youth council. Our NAHOVA youth board completed Focus Group Facilitation and were assigned groups at the GONA to help facilitate discussion as needed during certain activities. NAHOVA board members also conducted all the icebreakers, speaker introductions, and announcements. SFS and NAHOVA would like to thank all their sponsors!

NAHOVA

NAHOVA presentation #1 at the 2023 UNITY National Conference in Washington DC about conducting a GONA! Just a couple of years ago they were attending GONA learning sessions in Dallas at UNITY because they had no idea how to conduct a GONA or what a GONA was and this year, they were conducting a presentation in Washington DC to Native youth from all over the country on how to implement a GONA!! They had a large audience for this first session. Facilitators were Joseph Payne, Graciela Broncheau, Quintana Lozon, Keilan Arthur, Abigail Whitman, and Sicily Treetop.

Activities

Students for Success held several activities as part of the Nimiipuu Youth Adventures summer program. Activities included Mountain Biking at Hiawatha Trail, rock climbing, paddleboarding, day hike, and a 3-day and 2-night backpacking trip in the mountains.

- Students for Success also took 5 youth to the THRIVE Suicide Prevention Conference in Portland, OR.
- NAHOVA and SFS assisted with the PRIDE Day event in Lapwai.
- Students for Success took 16 youth to the IDFY Youth Leadership Summit at Camp Lutherhaven.
- SFS also took 5 NAHOVA youth board members to the Northwest Alcohol Conference Youth Track in Boise, Idaho.
- SFS assisted Social Services with the Wallowa Youth Retreat.
- SFS assisted with the Nez Perce Culture Camps.
- NAHOVA youth board has increased its membership to 29 members!

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Joyce McFarland, Manager | 208.621.4610

STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS

Abe Broncheau, Director



3rd Annual GONA hosted at the CRC



Youth Interacting at an event



UNITY Conference



NAHOVA 2023



NAHOVA 2023

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Joyce McFarland, Manager | 208.621.4610

STATE TRIBAL EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP (STEP)

We applied to the Yield Giving Open Call from the Mackenzie Scott Foundation to support the culturally relevant education strategies and cultural-based evidence gathering efforts of the Nez Perce STEP program. So far, our application has passed the first two rounds of review. There were over 6,000 applications from the US and foreign countries. In January 2024, 250 applicants will be announced for \$1 million awards each.

We had 5 Lapwai teachers complete our Summer 2023 “Introduction to Indigenous Pedagogy” class in June-July 2023. This is a 2-credit class through LCSC. To date, we have 38 teachers and administrators from Kamiah and Lapwai schools complete the course since Spring 2019.

·We completed our 10th annual Native Education Research Summit on the Selway River on June 18-20. We had 7 Kamiah and 6 Lapwai staff attend. Our theme was based on the 3 rivers converging: “The People Flowing Together: Students, Teachers, and Families.” Nez Perce translation: Niimípuu Siminekéemisix Hitemenew’éet, Sepehitemenew’éet kaa Nexce’éce. Tribal presenters included Northwest Indian College Youth Cultural Enrichment Academy, Dr. Angel Sobotta (Language), Johanna Jones (Idaho Indian Education office), and Michael Tuell (Fisheries).

·In August, we received our “sunset” grant for the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative in August for \$250,000. Since 2020, they have supported our STEP program with \$2,513,000 total. With our sunset grant, we will sustain our core STEP activities (culturally responsive curriculum, instruction, family engagement, leadership, school environment) with the Kamiah and Lapwai school districts. We plan to also continue our pilot efforts to use inter-generational relationships and storytelling for cultural-based evidence gathering for tribal student’s learning progress. Activities include Grandparent to Grandchild Learning Updates, Sharing My Learning Story (students), PhotoVoice (parent/fuardian), and Reflecting on My Practice Pi’amkin (Gathering; teachers). We piloted these activities for 4th-12th grade Native American students in Kamiah and Lapwai in 2022. In Fall 2023, we will modify the activities for K-3rd grade.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Joyce McFarland, Manager | 208.621.4610

MAMÁY'ASNIM HITÉEMENWEES

Jenny Oatman, Director

208.843.7330

Lapwai Center graduates: HS – 29; EHS – 20

Kamiah Center graduates: HS – 19; EHS – 3

May/June 2023 - Conscious Discipline training provided for classroom teaching staff at CRC; Teaching/Administrative staff completed Bias Busters and Head Start Basics which included history of Head Start, Family Partnerships, Health and Safety, Child Abuse/Neglect, and Active Supervision

June 2023 – Provided CDA training for 5 classroom staff at the CRC; Three teaching and 3 administrative staff attended the National Indian Head Start Directors Association conference/training at Washington DC; 4 staff attended Playground Safety training hosted by Portland Area Indian Health Board

July 2023 – 2 staff attended Behavior Bootcamp in Seattle

August 2022 – 5 staff attended the Northwest Indian HS Coalition conference/training in Spokane, WA; Met with Region XI AIAN federal/TTA staff; 2 staff completed CACFP annual mandatory training in Coeur d'Alene

Facility upgrades for Kamiah and Lapwai include lighting and electrical/plug-ins and new gate

Completed federal review and Idaho HS Association review in May 2023

Provided summer childcare

Two staff complete CLASS Observation certification

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Joyce McFarland, Manager | 208.621.4610

HIGHER EDUCATION

In 2022-23 SY, we awarded 121 students in the amounts of \$325,445 from Tribal Scholarship and \$261,306 from BIA Higher Education Scholarship. Total: \$586,751. We have not returned to pre-pandemic annual rates of ~155 students per school year.

So far in the 2023-24 SY, we have processed 72 applications.

CAREER CENTER

Kay Seven, Director
208.843.7316

CAREER CENTER (FORMERLY ADULT ED):

For Fiscal Year 2023 starting on October 1, 2022, through August 2023, sixty-two (62) students are enrolled in a GED program or in an education/training programs (degree seeking or non-degree). Two (2) students completed a GED or high school equivalency, and several are on a weekly learning plan earning academic incentives for satisfactory progress. Ten (10) of the education/training program students completed and are working in an industry based on a career plan. The education/training students are preparing for a career in the following industry sectors: health, hospitality & tourism, manufacturing, automotive/aviation mechanics, building trades, transportation, graphic design, and electric power generation. The health and manufacturing sectors are a priority for the region around the Nez Perce reservation.

The Career Center staff is ready to serve new students pursuing high school equivalency, short term workforce training certifications, career technical education certificates/degree programs, apprenticeship, health care occupations; and to serve job seekers with the employment services to enter or retain employment. A regional career fair for high school sophomores and juniors was held on May 16, 2023, at the University of Idaho. The event is "Dream It Do It Here" is a strategic pillar with the Inland Northwest Workforce Council to provide talent pipeline opportunity to high school students.

The Career Center partnered with the Education and Natural Resource Departments and Northwest Indian College summer programs offering cultural and academic enrichment to K-12 students.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

The last several general council reports included our department employee residency, tribal affiliation and mortality gap data for the Nez Perce Tribe. Let's look at the population, annual income and number of businesses in the counties that are on the Nez Perce reservation:

County	Population	Households	Life Expectancy	Median Household Income (National \$69,021)	Businesses
Nez Perce County	43,004	16,848	77.1	\$61,810	1168
Lewis County	3,763	1,556	76.3	\$44,028	110
Idaho County	17,593	6,387	80	\$47,508	526
Clearwater County	9,015	3,474	79	\$50,787	230

Recognizing the importance of the ability and capacity of the Tribe to collect, analyze, manage and report data, such as death rate, the Nez Perce mortality gap, Nez Perce natural growth since 2016 and death by male or female to the stakeholders. The following has been compiled, data is from Social Services Burial Assistance, Nez Perce enrollment, Center for Disease Control.

Period	Growth	New Enrollees	Deaths
2016	5	32	27
2017	25	55	30
2018	10	39	29
2019	4	36	32
2020	-16	36	52
2021	32	74	42
2022	-21	30	51
2023 to date	-11	22	33

There are several 'indicators' in relation to the mortality gap. An indicator being factors that may contribute towards the shorter life expectancy for Nez Perce and other American Indians. Socio-Economic conditions are indicators for life expectancy, rural living is an indicator, more is explained below. 2023 national life expectancy = 79.11.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

Nez Perce Mortality Gap

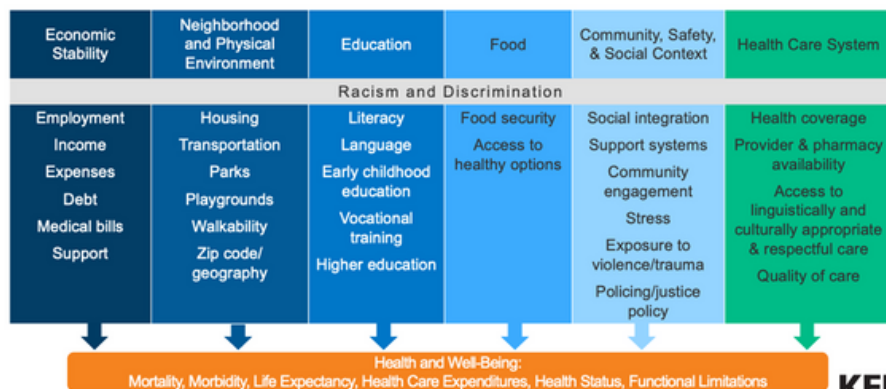
Period	Years Difference of Nez Perce vs. National Age at death (the gap)	Years Difference of Nez Perce Men Vs. National Men at Age of Death	Years Difference of Nez Perce Women vs. National Women Age at Death
2016	14.89	10.59	20.88
2017	15.37	11.74	19.83
2018	17.36	15.39	19.2
2019	13.02	19.44	7.76
2020	9	6.59	13.27
2021	16.07	7.59	13.87
2022	13.46	14.82	10.76
2023 to date	14.01	13.07	14.82
Total Average	14.14 years	12.40 years	15.04 years

Although COVID-19 mortality was a primary contributor to the recent decrease in life expectancy across groups, leading causes of death varied by race and ethnicity. Overall, COVID-19 was the third leading cause of death in 2021, after heart disease and cancer. However, COVID-19 was the top leading cause of death for Hispanic and AIAN people, followed by heart disease and cancer

Underlying social and economic inequities also drive disparities in mortality and life expectancy. Hispanic, AIAN, and Black people are more likely to have lower incomes and educational attainment levels, and studies find that people with higher incomes and more education live longer lives.

Figure 4

Health Disparities are Driven by Social and Economic Inequities



SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Taricia Moliga, Director
208.621.4657

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

NPT Financial Assistance D&C- 428 People Served \$63,750

NPT Financial Assistance Elder- 347 People Served \$168,500

NPT Financial Assistance Emergency Medical- 66 People Served \$6,750

NPT Financial Assistance Burial- 219 People Served \$228,484

NPT Financial Assistance Emergency Housing- 21 People Served \$11,250

NPT Financial Assistance Total People served: 1,081 \$478,734

Federal Grants: LIHEAP- 196 People Served \$79,218, LIHWAP- 158 People Served

\$60,881, ACP- Awarded \$280,641, General Assistance 15 Clients, IIM 3 Assessments Completed

Meetings- Domestic Violence MDT, Drug and alcohol MDT, Opioid Litigation Planning, Warming/Cooling Shelter, Homeless assistance, Permanent Supportive housing.

VETERANS PROGRAM

Mary Taylor, Director
208.621.4738

VETERANS PROGRAM

The Veterans Program can assist veterans and/or their families with: Ordering a DD214 (Discharge Paper); signing up for VA Health Benefits; VA Home Loans, Ordering and setting Headstones, markers or medallions; gas assistance for medical appointments; emergency assistance and direct them to the other agencies or programs that may assist them.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

VETERANS PROGRAM

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Our program is open, no appointment necessary, however, may want to call to make sure I am available 208-621-4738.

We host monthly Veterans meetings. We participate in various veteran's meetings and events, for example, American Indian Veterans Advisory Council (AIVAC Vice-Chairperson) meetings, Joint American Indian Veterans Advisory Council (JAIVAC) meetings with Washington and Idaho VA Programs, Valley Veterans Council (VVC), Inter-Agency Meetings and meetings with Tribal HUDVash Programs

May 2023 to September 2023:

- Assisted 2 Veteran Families with ordering head stone.
- Assisted family with headstone setting and Veteran participation.
- Met with 2 Veterans RE: filing for Health Benefits
- Assisted Veteran with filing VA Home Loan documents.
- Assisted Veterans with gas assistance for appointments in Spokane, Walla Walla, Seattle area and Lewiston.
- Assisted Veterans with emergency assistance and referred them to other programs and agencies for assistance.
- Volunteer at the Mobile Food Bank; once a month
- Volunteered at Elder's Day.
- Renewed my 1st Aid, CPR and AED training.
- Distributed flags for Memorial Day at Kamiah, Orofino and Lapwai
- Host monthly Tribal Veterans meetings.
- Attended Veterans Conference.
- Attended the American Indian Veterans Advisory Council (AIVAC) monthly meetings.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

ADULT PROTECTION

**Margret McCormack, Director
208.621.3873**

ADULT PROTECTION

The Adult Protection Program receives reports of alleged abuse, neglect, exploitation, and self-neglect of Nez Perce tribal, elders and vulnerable adults living on the Nez Perce Reservation. Adult Protection coordinates investigation & services as well as sends referrals to NMPH, Law Enforcement, Prosecutor, and other agencies as necessary.

AP hosts monthly multi-disciplinary meetings as well as bi-weekly meetings with Shoshone Bannock Tribal & Region V State Adult Protective Services, and Idaho Region II Adult Protective Services. Out of the five tribes of Idaho, Nez Perce and Shoshone Bannock are the only tribes with Adult Protective Services.

AP has attended 24 webinars from May-August, ranging in time from one hour to one day. Some topics include Geriatric Care Ethics; Diabetes, Dementia, and Brain Health; Grief; Hoarding; Mental Illness and Mental Health; Advance Care Planning Education and Advocacy; Civil Justice for Victims; Medicaid; Financial Fraud; Guardianship; and Home Health Care.

Coordinated Wills and Advance Care Planning Event in Orofino. Two other educational events had been planned but were cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control.

AP continues to partner with other tribal programs such as: NMPH Community & NMPH Behavioral Health, NPTHA, Nez Perce Tribal Prosecutor, Uuyit Kimti, Law Enforcement, Financial Assistance, and Tribal Court. As well as outside agencies: Lewiston Police Department, Area Agency on Aging, area long-term and rehabilitative care facilities, Salvation Army, and Goodwill.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

SENIOR CITIZENS

Georganne Morrison, Director
208.621.3872

SENIOR CITIZENS PROGRAM

The Nez Perce Tribe Senior Citizen Program strives to promote good health for Tribal elders and to promote the well-being of Tribal elder individuals by assisting such individuals to gain access to elder resources, nutrition, disease prevention, and by promoting health services to delay the onset of adverse health conditions resulting from poor nutritional health or sedentary behavior. Our program assists and helps Tribal elders by reducing hunger and food insecurity on our reservation.

Both elder programs Lapwai/Kamiah are working diligently to coordinate with our Tribal elder population to find resources to eat more nutritious, healthy foods. Our program provides well-balanced meals that comply with the recent Dietary Guidelines for Older Americans and menus that comply with monthly approval from Julie Keller, Nimiipuu Health Dietician.

The Nez Perce Tribe Senior Citizen Program transports elders to the bank, grocery shopping, Walmart, post-office, Clearwater River Casino events/concerts, Tribal memorials, Tribal activities, scenic drives, and promotes cultural activities. Our Caregivers also visit Tribal elders in the surrounding Nursing Homes. The Nez Perce Tribe Senior Citizen Program hosts a monthly Birthday dinner for all Tribal elders 55+ years of age at the Chief Joseph Complex, the Lookingglass Complex, and the TeewEEPuu Center. Those dates are posted on your monthly menu.

Our programs offer many activities such as Qous-qous & Mountain Tea harvest, Miniature Moccasin Making Class, Indian Necklace Making, Beaded Coin Purse Class, Ribbon-Skirt Making, Apron Class, Take-Home Elder Projects, Weaving Class, Root Digging, Weaving Tule' Mats, The-Qiis-Witki (Elder Way) Projects, and many more activities for our Tribal elders.

The Nez Perce Tribe Senior Citizen Program hosted the Nez Perce Tribe Elder Day, which was held on June 30, 2023, at our respected Clearwater River Casino & Lodge. There was approximately 500+ elders in attendance from all Northwest Tribes.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

TANF

**Consuelo Guillory, Director
208.843.2464**

TANF

The TANF Program continues to work on the purpose outlined in the federal register, specifically to assist eligible families at risk of welfare dependency with job preparation, education, training, work and support services to become self-sufficient.

Highlights: TANF supported 6 graduates from Lapwai and 1 from Kamiah. Awards, gift certificates and financial assistance for the families was a success! A big shout out to the parents!

Back-to-School was a success with TANF purchasing school clothes, backpacks and school supplies, school activity cards and fees for 55 children. A back-to-school bbg was a success; Kamiah opted for a pizza party at Kamiah. A total of \$12,226.58 was spent to invest in our youth as they enter school. We had some happy kids and parents!

Current caseload: 37 families with 55 children. Most of our families are caretaker relatives. Five (5) families transitioned from TANF into the work force. TANF continues to assist the family to remain employed and assist with barrier removal.

TANF Regional Representative X recommended me to participate on a TANF Pilot Advisory Group; I accepted.

Collaborating with CPS to bring training on-site, "Integrating Trauma Informed Case Management" from Eaglesun.

A TANF client accepted a position with the Senior Citizens Program. She graduated with an AA degree in Hospitality from LCSC.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

FOOD DISTRIBUTION (FDPIR)

Thunder Garcia, Director
208.843.7305

FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS

Foods to income-eligible households living on Indian reservations, and to American Indian households residing in approved areas near reservations. Many households participate in FDPIR as an alternative to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) because they do not have easy access to SNAP offices or authorized food stores.

USDA Food Distribution averages 281 households and 333 participants each month.

In conjunction with our Commodity Foods Program, we also have and Emergency Food Pantry and a Mobile food Pantry that we partner with the Idaho Food Bank. Our Emergency Food Pantry we assist another 15-25 families each month. Our Mobile Food Pantry Partnership with Idaho Food Bank, we continue to average/serve 353 people in the months of May through August 2023.

We have our Hydroponics Wall Project, and it is a work in progress.

We should have different type of lettuce, cilantro, basil and spinach. These will be ready by the end of September. This project was in conjunction with the University of Idaho Hydroponics Club and University of Idaho Extension Agent.

We will also have several facilities projects for FY 23. We are replacing our roof top units, a purchase of a new refrigerated truck, and some indoor improvements to our building.

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

Rebecca Lehman, Director
208.843.7302

ICWA

The Nez Perce Tribe Indian Child Welfare Program consists of Child Protection Services, ICWA, Foster Home Licensing, the Children's Home, 'inhiimiyume (My Relative's) Sober Living Home, the 'init Home (Teen Shelter) and Victim Services.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

**Rebecca Lehman, Director
208.843.7302**

ICWA

The Nez Perce Tribe Indian Child Welfare Program consists of Child Protection Services, ICWA, Foster Home Licensing, the Children's Home, 'inhimiyume (My Relative's) Sober Living Home, the 'init Home (Teen Shelter) and Victim Services. The Indian Child Welfare Program offers a multitude of services to the families and children engaged in the program through an In Home Service Plan or MINOC. Caseworkers regularly provide transportation to medical, activities, school functions, dental, optical or behavioral health appointments. Attendance at these appointments also include client advocacy and ensuring information shared in that appointment is understood, to include the steps going forward. Caseworkers assist in collecting legal documents, such as birth certificates, social security cards, and driver licenses. Case plans are person specific, and custom built to meet the needs of the family that is being served through the completion of a Family Preservation Packet. This Packet is written in first person and follows the bio-psycho-social-emotional-spiritual-cultural model to assess overall wellbeing of the family.

Promoting family preservation and avoiding court intervention remains as overall goal for Child Protection. The utilization of In Home Service Plans and/or Outreach Participation Plans will continue to be encouraged to avoid court intervention by MINOC. These plans have offered opportunity for children to remain in their home while staff ensures safety and provides healthy intervention. With an In Home Service Plan, families are offered Voluntary Placement Agreements for the family to voluntarily place children with family members while parents/caregivers attend inpatient treatment services out of the area.

Outreach Plans are designed to assist Tribal Members in navigating their way to outpatient or inpatient treatment services with community partners. Since spring general council, staff have actively advocated for 16 individuals to go to an outpatient or inpatient treatment facility and start their recovery journey.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

Rebecca Lehman, Director
208.843.7302

ICWA

Community outreach and activities from the ICW program has included community events in Lapwai, Kamiah and Orofino. In April, more than 247 people joined the Child Abuse Prevention Month Family Engagement Day and Easter Egg Hunt. The program served 200 hamburgers and 150 hot dogs before a 3,000 egg hunt commenced for children of all ages. A special appearance from the Easter Bunny for pictures was a special attraction for our youth. The support from the community and tribal programs was astounding. Teen Nights were held through the summer in Lapwai and Kamiah, with a Bingo Night included in Orofino.

Fentanyl has had a profound impact on the ICW program, bringing the Children's Home to full capacity. The fentanyl epidemic is affecting the community in ways that are new to the program. When children enter care, they experience withdrawal symptoms for 3-5 days. Collaboration with Nimiipuu Health has assisted in the management of these cases in a prompt and effective manner. Once stable, children then continue to stabilize with regular medical appointments and referrals to Behavioral Health Services. The program director has met with neighboring tribes to learn more about their response to fentanyl, collaborate on efforts and share information without identifying information.

Currently the Indian Child Welfare Program has 23 licensed foster homes, 13 of which have an active placement of a family member or fictive kin. There is still a dire need for additional foster homes on the reservation. Recruitment efforts have included newspaper articles, informational booths and information slips in each paystub for tribal employees. A current focus in the program is to develop and provide a culturally specific educational curriculum to assist potential foster parents/families provide trauma informed care to the children they serve. In recent conversations with NPTEC, an in-depth conversation is being considered to make the foster care process easier to navigate, which may include removing some BIA or federal standards.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

Rebecca Lehman, Director
208.843.7302

ICWA

‘inhimiyu’nm “My Relatives” Sober Living Home has had the opportunity to house 7 women and 9 children since Spring General Council after receiving 9 applications. Single women without children continue to be served along with mother who have a goal to get their children back in their custody. Enrollment requirements include that at least one parent of the child must be enrolled in a federally recognized tribe. The home has opened up for recovery support groups for women in the community, such as Wellbriety, FIRE groups and 12 step groups. The women in the home actively learn cultural practices such as tule gathering or root digging. Partnerships are growing with other recovery groups and outpatient treatment facilities in the area.

‘init (Teen Shelter) has housed 10 youth temporarily, or on a more long-term basis, since opening in December 2022. This home is available to youth, ages 14-18 years old, enrolled or eligible for enrollment in any federally recognized Tribe. Youth are welcome to stay the night with parental consent, they may be referred from Child Protection, Victim Services, Probation or other local service providers. Extended stay youth are encouraged to develop their own wrap around services for Independent Living. The four full-time staff in the home have focused on Independent Living Skills and healthy social interactions. Youth in the home regularly participate in cultural activities, such as gathering and digging and/or longhouse. ‘init has hosted numerous youth events such as study hall, celebration events, cooking nights, game nights, movie nights, youth Wellbriety and NAHOVA meetings/events. The staff look forward to holding more events with the youth in this 24-hour facility. Intake/referral forms, along with the parental consent document are available on the Tribe’s website.

ICW continues work cases of child abuse in concert with Nez Perce Tribal Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Nimiipuu Health, the prosecutor’s office and the State of Idaho. The utilization of this Multidisciplinary Team has been beneficial in opening lines of communication between each agency to benefit victims of crime. The Children’s Advocacy Center, located in Lapwai, has been of great assistance in forensic interviews on victims and witnesses of crime while also giving a confidential meeting space for families affected.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

**Rebecca Lehman, Director
208.843.7302**

ICWA

ICW has filled two vacant Education Trainer positions in the last three months. Their first duty upon entering staff was to assist in the delivery of the 7th Annual Wallowa Youth Retreat. New to the Wallowa Youth Retreat was the partnership and collaboration with the Nez Perce Climate Change staff. Youth spend time learning about the changes in climate, how they make a positive impact on climate change, and the importance of pollinators in ensuring natural vegetation and first foods continue. These two staff positions are grant funded with a goal to deliver various curriculum to the community ranging from White Bison Curriculum, Healthy Relationships, Financial Literacy and Positive Indian Parenting to cultural workshops, teen nights, more bingo nights and crafting. If anyone in the community has an idea for activity or workshop they'd like to see, please reach out to this department and share your ideas.

UUYIT KIMTI

**Amanda Lopez, Director
208.843.4658**

UYIT KIMTI

From May 2023 - September 2023, The Uuyit Kimti program has had a total of 28 referrals made to the program's office and a total of 37 victims seeking client services and advocacy.

The Uuyit Kimti program employees attend the Department of Justice "Crimes Against Women Conference in Dallas and the National Sexual Assault Conference in San Francisco, Employees received specific training for victim services to be able to better serve our community. Uuyit Kimti program has been writing for grants to supplement awards, specifically with regards to providing culturally specific & trauma informed support services and activities. We recently received notice of two awards received funding for 2024, NIWRC and ICDVVA.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Jackie McArthur, Manager | 208.843.2463

UUYIT KIMTI

Amanda Lopez, Director
208.843.4658

UYIT KIMTI

Uuyit Kimti is continuing to work with its partners, since May 2023 the program has been at multiple events and trainings. We would like to highlight being a part of the Wallowa Youth Retreat where our staff spoke about healthy relationships to youth. October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. Our program will hold activities in Lapwai, Kamiah and Orofino. We will continue our Women's Talking Circles in Lapwai on October 25th, 2023, at 5:30pm. Please look for our booth at upcoming community events or follow our Facebook page to be aware of events and information.

Uuyit Kimti program is confidential & voluntary, and services are open to all genders. The program provides emergency shelter, assistance, advocacy, and transitional housing to all, who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. You are never alone; we are here to help.



Uuyit Kimti Booth at the Pride Event

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

The Law and Justice system is working to improve its services to the community by improving our codes, by seizing more available jurisdiction, by negotiating with the BIA to fully fund our law enforcement programs, and by implementing needed technology.

On June 19, 2023, the justice system implemented approved changes to our criminal code. These changes include offenses that were not previously captured; for example, we now have active criminal codes that address things like strangulation and suffocation. These code changes help the justice system to better protect the community.

We are also working towards two more milestones with our code that will enhance our sovereignty and combat loopholes that contribute to our Missing and Murdered Indigenous family members. First, we are implementing enhanced sentencing. Under the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA) we will be able, for the first time, be able to sentence an individual to jail for up to three years for each individual offense. Rather than having to rely on the US Attorney's Office to appropriately punish these major crimes, we are seizing this jurisdiction and increasing our sovereignty. We intend, with NPTEC approval, to implement enhanced Sentencing under TLOA in the next months. Second, we are implementing Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction (STCJ) under the Violence Against Women ACT (VAVA) 2022. STCJ will allow us to close a jurisdictional loophole, in that we will be able to exercise criminal jurisdiction over non-Indian intimate partner offenders.

Since last General Council, with NPTEC approval, we submitted a proposed contract to the BIA for them to assume their treaty responsibility to the Tribe by fully funding our law enforcement and our detention services. The negotiation process with the BIA is likely going to take significant time, but we have taken the first necessary step to hold them to their trust responsibilities.

Through BIA funding, we have begun the process to obtain and implement an electronic court case management system. Implementation of this case management system will take about a year. This system will improve the court's service to the public by increasing reliability and accuracy while improving access to court records. Our intent is to make the court system as transparent and accessible to the public as possible. The technological advancement of an electronic case management system will make the court, and its records, much more accessible to the public.

We look forward to continuing to serve the community to the best of our abilities.

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

JUDICIAL SERVICES/TRIBAL COURT

Natasha Anderson, Chief Judge
208.843.7338

NEZ PERCE TRIBAL COURT

The Nez Perce Tribal Court (“Court”) is excited about strengthening the justice system, training and implementation for the new case management system, and improving court communication.

The Court is also supported by Law & Justice Department staff. Court Administration, Clerks, Judges Anderson and Phillips look to strengthen the justice system by implementing a case management system, tracking cases for timely disposition, reporting monthly data, holding offenders accountable, and improving communication.

OUTREACH

Not Invisible Act Commission

Judge Anderson serves as a commissioner on the federal Not Invisible Act Commission. The Commission’s purpose is to make recommendations to the Departments of the Interior and Justice to improve intergovernmental coordination and establish best practices for state, Tribal, and federal law enforcement, to bolster resources for survivors and victim’s families, and to combat the epidemic of missing persons, murder, and trafficking of Native Americans and Alaska Natives. She participated in the Commission’s final in-person meeting in Washington, D.C. on September 18-22, 2023.

Idaho Tribal Court – State Court Forum

Judge Anderson participated in planning meeting for this year’s Idaho Tribal Court – State Court Forum to be held in late October. The Idaho Supreme Court will host this year’s Forum meeting in Boise.

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

OUTREACH

Additionally, Judge Anderson has been invited to participate on a panel entitled “Sovereignty and Partnership: Understanding the intersection between tribal and state courts” to present at the Idaho Judicial Conference on September 25, 2023.

LC Valley Domestic Violence Community Response

Along with Social Services/Úuyit Kímti, Prosecutor’s Office, Public Defender’s Office, Office of Legal Counsel, and respective Tribal programs, Judge Anderson participates in the LC Valley Domestic Violence Community Response Team with local Nez Perce County counterparts. A key focus for the judges is ensuring full faith and credit of court orders.

Healing-To-Wellness

The Healing-To-Wellness Court currently has one participant in Phase II. Two participants graduated, in May and July respectively, after completing the requirements of the four-phase program. The Healing-To-Wellness Team is also meets to review referrals for new participants. It truly is inspirational to celebrate the milestones along one’s sobriety journey, offer support and accountability when there are hurdles, and honor one’s healing.

Jury Trials

The Court looks to improve jury pool procedures as parties exercise their right to a trial by jury. The role of the jury is to provide unbiased views or resolution to evidence presented in a case in a court of law. The jurors are the factfinders. Jury service helps to support fairness in trials; jury service is able to give impartial viewpoints on cases that are presented in court. Jury service is a civic duty. We are accountable through our participation in jury service.

Improved Access to Court Information

In addition to implementing a case management system, the Court is also focused on scanning paper files to digitize and preserve cases. The Court looks to develop a webpage with revised court forms, frequently asked questions, contact information, and publicly available dockets. The Court also plans to continue to support virtual video appearance via the software platform Zoom when appropriate.

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

LAW ENFORCEMENT

**Leotis McCormack, Interim Chief of Police
208.843.7141**

NEZ PERCE TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

Under the leadership of Interim Chief Leotis McCormack, the police department continues striving to protect and serve the community. Much effort has been dedicated to provided needed training opportunities, improving technology use, and seeking restorative justice for our community.

Lt. Daniel Taylor and Sgt. Michael Stegner will be attending the 1st and 2nd tier Hostage Negotiation Certification course in Colorado. The police department unveiled their new MMIW patrol striped vehicle. This effort to highlight our MMIW was brought about by the vision and leadership of Cpl. Tyson Davis. Cpl. Davis completed the Sgt. Academy training course that helps build leadership skills and techniques for upcoming leaders. His leadership addresses street level oversight and supervision. K9 training is in full force and so many people in the community are loving the daytime K9 presence. K9 Ofc. Cassidy White and K9 Manta train and present to the public on their duties and learn from the community how those duties align with Tribal Customs and culture. Ofc. Michael Erickson completed the Federal Master Firearms Academy in Artesia, NM and he is now a federal certified firearms instructor for the Nez Perce Tribe.

The technology administration of the Law and Justice programs, including the police department has been led by Marie Baheza. In addition to her efforts with the court case management system, she has been key to helping the police improve their use of technology. Tribal Police & Corrections recently acquired a Jail Module from Motorola Solutions. This system will be installed & implemented in the next 2-3 months. During this time, they will install and implement the new fingerprint machines that interface with our current records management system. This system will include the capability to submit to National Indian Gaming Commission and National Criminal Databases.

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

NEZ PERCE TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

Work continues preparing our Restorative Justice Center for use. In the past several months, on several occasions, we have not been able to house arrested individuals in the local jails with whom we contract. Not being able to hold arrested individuals in jail is a risk to community safety and degrades our sovereignty. To increase our sovereign power and to better protect the community, completion and use of our own Restorative Justice Center is a very high priority.

Recent Restorative Justice Center projects include:

Surveillance system. This was the centerpiece of all the projects listed for completion. Techs are on site designating lines and installing cameras throughout the building. While the lead time on the arrival of the equipment has slowed the project, we anticipate an October 15th go live date on our system!

Outside recreation areas. Concrete was poured and completed on both outdoor recreation sites on August 24th.

Completion of the “safe cell”. With the high number of alcohol and drug related arrests (some years as high as 87%) a safe cell was necessary to safely house those detained by Nez Perce Tribal Police. A safe cell provides extra security and safety for these intoxicated individuals. Work on the safe cell has begun.

Master Control Room and Jail Booking areas. We are working towards completion of an elevated desk for the master control room. The design of the desk will increase safety for staff as they book inmates into the facility.

Seal the floors and add texture in the common shower areas. Supplies were ordered and a completion date was set to coincide with other projects that are being completed in the building.

Complete the Communications system of the jail facility. September 20th has been finalized as the date to bring Day Wireless in to complete our communications system.

Nez Perce Tribe Restorative Justice Center Policies. The Office of Legal Counsel reviewed a draft version of our Policies and Procedures. A draft version will be disseminated to key Administrative staff. Once the staff are afforded the opportunity to comment, the Policies will be submitted through the process to be adopted.

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

NEZ PERCE TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

Recruiting and Training Staff for the Center. We are pursuing various options for how to recruit and train individuals to safely run the Restorative Justice Center. Our first small group has applied to attend the corrections academy through the BIA; we hope to have confirmation of their acceptance by the time of General Council.

Coordination with Restorative Services. Working with NiMiiPuu Health and other possible service providers to ensure that our incarcerated persons have access to treatment and health care. We want to help incarcerated persons find a healthy productive pathway upon release. We will be seeking grant money to help fund a re-entry program.



Corporal Tyson Davis with the new Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) themed F150.

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

PROSECTUOR'S OFFICE

**Ann Kelleher, Prosecutor
208.843.7361**

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

The prosecutor's office is finally in full swing. With the hiring of a Deputy Prosecutor we are nearly at full staff. Mat Eggers is Lewiston born and raised, having spent considerable time in the Lapwai area, as well. Recently graduating law school after a military career, serving time in Afghanistan, he's hit the ground running, showing he is committed to doing justice for the community.

Staffing the Deputy Prosecutor position could not come at a better time, with an above average case load this year, primarily driven by the Fentanyl crises. We have seen a significant increase in child protective cases, drug offenses, and drug overdoses. And with every drug related offense, comes property offenses, as offenders and addicts find alternative means to procure drugs, and disorderly conduct offenses, as offenders interact with the community while under the influence, or more often the case, experiencing withdrawals.

We've also seen some great changes in the Justice programs, with the addition of a new chief judge, and a consistent and practical criminal court judge, and the implementation of the revised code in June, which has gone much more smoothly than anticipated. We have filed at least one felony level charge with almost every complaint, which also goes to show just how serious a crime problem Fentanyl has brought to the community.

The aim for our office is to do Justice. To bring closure for victims, and help offenders find alternative paths to pursue. To this end, we still seek to fill a vacant and underfunded Victim Coordinator position, who would work directly with crime victims of all offenses, ensuring they understand their rights, their role in the system, and are provided every opportunity to participate and find a way to heal.

Finally, the Juvenile Diversion program is up and running. Fox Valley Community College provided training to all the stake holders, and really helped the program get off the ground. Working closely with the school, we hope to find new ways to impact the lives of at-risk youth.

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Carmel McCurdy, Public Defender
208.621.4750

PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE

The Public Defender appears in tribal court to represent adults and juveniles accused of committing criminal offenses. The purpose of the Office of the Public Defender is to safeguard individual rights in all criminal and related matters, from arrest or threat of confinement through all stages of the criminal proceedings including appeal and probation matters, if any, consistent with applicable laws, court rules, and rules of professional responsibility. This Office also represents clients engaged in the Nez Perce Tribe Healing to Wellness Court.

The Office Specialist II handles tasks such as creating and organizing case files, keeping digital files, and adding documents to individual files. She fields numerous phone calls, calendars meetings, coordinates with the conflict public defenders, and works with Nimiipuu Behavioral Health on receipt of treatment recommendations.

This office works to negotiate favorable plea bargains and deferred prosecution agreements for its clients. We research, draft, and file suppression motions, request additional discovery as necessary, and advocate for clients with sentencing and probation issues. We also repeatedly seek the reduction of bail both at initial pretrial hearings and in formal bail-reduction proceedings. We work closely with Healing to Wellness Court participants to ensure that their needs are met and help our clients with intake forms to coordinate appropriate assessments with Nimiipuu Behavioral Health.

The Public Defender provides guidance to individual tribal members concerning civil matters before the Court, so long as the opposing parties in a civil matter are not Nez Perce tribal members.

Accomplishments

1. Current active caseload: 246 cases are open and pending (including Juvenile matters). Approximately 39 cases were resolved and closed by the Public Defender between April and July 2023. Currently there are 51 cases (from 2020 to 2023) that are pending for active bench warrants. These are cases that will move from pending to active and open upon the defendants being picked up by police on their warrants and brought before the Court.

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

Accomplishments

2. This office vigorously pursues motion practice to protect the individual defendants' rights under the Code and the Indian Civil Rights Act. Recently, the Public Defender drafted a Motion to Suppress for one Tribal member and responded to the Prosecutor's Motion to Revoke Pretrial Release for another Tribal member. Other suppression issues are being researched for potential filing in several matters.
3. The Public Defender also files motions requesting mental competency evaluations from a psychologist to determine defendants' ability to understand and assist in their defense. The Prosecution generally stipulates to the motion and the Court grants such motions.
4. This office assists Tribal members with certain civil case questions. From April 2023 to date, the Public Defender has assisted at least 5 Tribal members with civil case questions, including such matters as filling out court forms, custody questions, probate, trust land leases, powers of attorney, and guardianships. The Court Navigator has been available to help other tribal members with many of the basic questions, and he confers with my office when a member needs further legal assistance.
5. The Public Defender takes an active role in grant programs, including the Healing to Wellness Court Team, Tribal Code Revision team, the Sex Offender Registry grant (working with the SORNA officer to bring convicted offenders into compliance), and anticipates participation in new grant programs such as the Family Healing to Wellness Court, Juvenile Diversion program and Special Domestic Violence Jurisdiction program.
6. The Public Defender is a member of the LC Valley Domestic Violence Community Response Team.
7. The Public Defender maintains professional associations in the Idaho Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and is an At-Large Council Member for the Idaho State Bar Indian Law Section.



LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

PROBATION OFFICE

VACANT

208.621.3518

PROBATION

Probation Officer Kenneth Bourgeau Jr., reached out to past Healing to Wellness Court Clients to obtain their progress in sobriety. I am pleased to report that most of them are continuing their road to sobriety with over ten (10) years and four (4) months of combined sobriety. Sasheena Williams (past client approval to use her name) has five (5) years of sobriety and currently works at NiMiiPu Health.

Probation Officer K. Bourgeau Jr. has maintained contact with a Juvenile client and has continue to volunteer to take him to cultural events, teach him life skills in the mountains, and has taken him to tour the Lewis-Clark State College Welding program. I support this juvenile client in his high school sports and his education by checking his progress. Probation Officer Keith Kipp Sr., continue to attend Healing to Wellness Court meetings and Sex Offender Registry meetings.

NPT Probation Dept has supported numerous community functions such as NMPBH Sobriety event, Pride Parade, and Grand Opening of 7 Nations Treatment Facility. We maintain positive and give encouragement to our clients to abstain from substance abuse not only for Court compliance but to be healthier within the community.

The Department has advertised for a Probation Officer Supervisor position, and is in the process of hiring, which may be completed by October 2023.

The Probation Department strives to attend meaningful trainings that will help them better serve the community. Recent trainings include:

[Lexipol](#) - Tips for the New Law Enforcement Leaders

[Association of American Indian Affairs](#) – Native Youth Justice Community of Practice

[Blue EQ Solutions](#) - Why Emotional Intelligence is Crucial for High-Impact Leaders in Today's Corrections

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

PROBATION OFFICE

VACANT

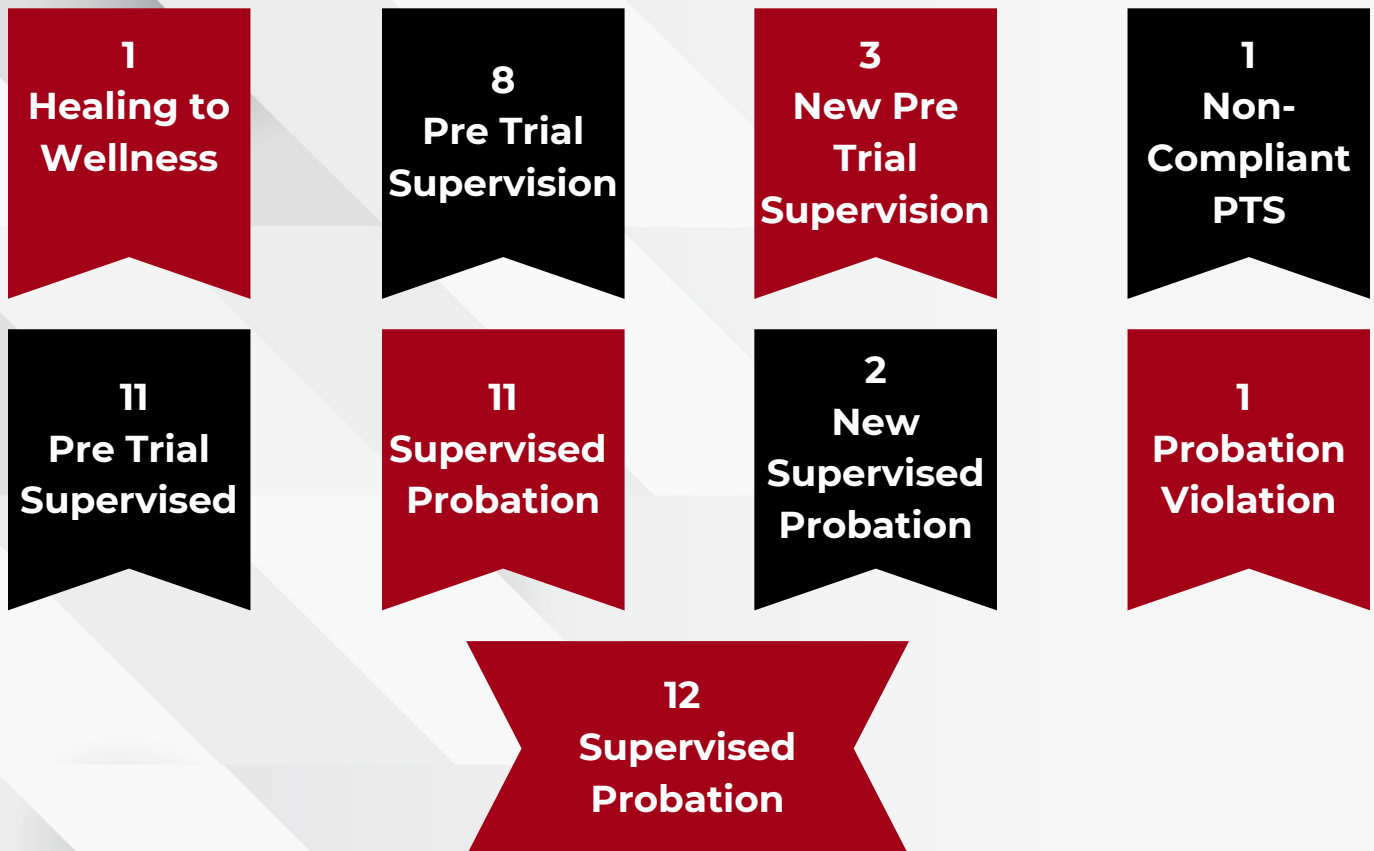
208.621.3518

PROBATION

National Criminal Justice Training Center:

- Preventing Child Abduction and Exploitation in Indian Country
- Developing Policies & Procedures to Support Tribal Probation Part 1
- Developing Policies & Procedures to Support Tribal Probation Part 2
- Tribal Corrections – Community of Practice

Current Caseload:



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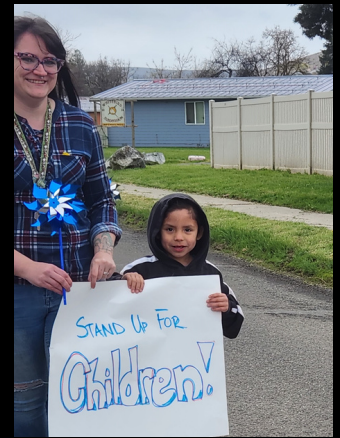
CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM (CSP)

Lilly James
208.843.7362

CSP

Child Support Awareness Month in August 2023 was a remarkable success, with a series of engaging events organized by the Child Support Program (CSP) to emphasize the significance of child support in our community. The CSP Open House was a fantastic kick-off to the month-long celebration. Attendees had the opportunity to interact with CSP staff, learn about services offered, and gain insights into the impact of child support on families. The CSP Yard Sale and BBQ offered a fun and vibrant atmosphere while shopping for treasures, enjoying delicious barbecue, and connecting with others in the community. CSP Culture Class was a 2-day event that allowed participants to work on anything culture they wanted: moccasin making, hand drums, ribbon shirts/skirts, wing dresses, frybread and more! The month ended with a Parenting Class.

The Director of the Child Support Program (CSP) attended the 2023 National Child Support Engagement Association (NCSEA) Leadership Symposium in August 6-10, 2023, assuming dual roles of significance. Primarily, the Director served as a facilitator, orchestrating a workshop on Human-Centered Design in Child Support. Additionally, the Director's engagement extended to participation in the esteemed NCSEA U Program, an eminent educational initiative tailored for prominent leaders and emerging figures in the realm of child support. Noteworthy to mention is the Director's distinguished selection as one of merely twenty individuals to partake in the NCSEA U Program. This privileged inclusion underscores the Director's commitment to advancing their expertise and enhancing their leadership insight within the realm of child support.



Child Abuse Parade



Culture Night



CPS Director

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM (CSP)

Lilly James
208.843.7362

CSP

During the Symposium, the CSP Director was able to engage with Tangular Gray, the Office of Child Support Services (OCSS), about the child support program. This was a great opportunity for the program to share thoughts and ideas with an important person in the field.

In June 2023, the Administration of Children and Families announced that the Office of Child Support Enforcement is now the Office of Child Support Services (OCSS). The name change reflects the program's commitment to serve the whole family and provide services that promote self-sufficiency so children can receive support from both parents. The Nez Perce CSP had already begun services to promote self-sufficiency and had a similar name change in 2020. CSP is currently conducting case reviews to reflect current policies leading to many case closures of old open cases.

CSP welcomes new applications while keeping professional superiority. We're proud to offer services without fees, from child support order establishment to paternity testing. For service inquiries, program details, or class suggestions, contact us at (208) 843-7362 or childsupport@nezperce.org. Our commitment to excellence drives every interaction at CSP.



**CPS Director at
NCSEAU 2023**



Child Abuse Parade



**CPS Director at
NCSEAU 2023**

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS OFFICE

**Melvin Wheeler, Director
208.843.7363**

TERO

Accomplishments

1. November 14, 2022, became a registered Youth Apprenticeship Program
2. TERO/TYAP program started going into the local high schools to talk with the students about the apprenticeship program.
3. March 2023 TERO/TYAP started talking with the Lapwai High School seniors about the construction trades. TERO staff met with the student from March-May about signing up for the program.
4. NPT TERO Program has been receiving the Compliance Plans for the following projects that are on or near the Nez Perce reservation.
 - Aht'Wy Overpass
 - Knife River
 - NPT Elders Wellness Center
 - Kenaston Corporation
 - NPT Elders Center
 - Kenaston Corporation
 - Cherry Lane Bridge
 - Cascade Construction
 - Cherry Lane Fish Hatchery
 - Fury Concrete
 - Lapwai Sewer Collection
 - Crea Construction
 - NPT Elder's Firewood
 - NPT Forestry

NPT TERP/TYAP started hosting trainings for TERO clients here on the Nez Perce reservation:

- Safety West Coast Services (July 2023)
- Construction 101 (July 2023)
- Jim Babino (July 2023)
- First Aid/CPR (July 2023)
- Lapwai High School Shed Construction (May 2023)

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

GAMING COMMISSION OFFICE

**Chantel Greene, Director
208.843.7363**

GAMING COMMISSION

**Regular Gaming Commissioner meetings are held on
the Second and Fourth Monday of every month at 5:00 p.m.**

Purpose

Nez Perce Commission, the single tribal agency primarily responsible for regulatory oversight and for monitoring compliance with tribal, Federal and applicable state regulations.

The Nez Perce Tribe Gaming Commissions (NPTGC) vision is to protect the assets of the Nez Perce Tribal Gaming Enterprise by ensuring adequate internal controls are in place and conformed to. Ensure that all gaming activity is honest and fair. Regulate all forms of permissible and authorized gaming within the jurisdiction of the Nez Perce Tribe.

Overview, Goals, and Accomplishments

The Gaming Commission department is working on improvements to the functionality of the operations and building trust between entities. The Gaming Commission led meetings that resulted in a successful resolution to acquire funding for the Gaming Commission staff department offices.

The Gaming Commission office department will soon be ready to move in. Water, sewer and electricity are all installed and working. Fiber will be provided for connectivity. Once the fiber is completed, we will be holding a small blessing ceremony prior to moving into our new offices. Invites will go for the blessing ceremony.

We are currently working with the EO on the land transfer of Red Wolf and Camas Express and providing contract updates between NIGC and the Gaming Commission Dept to become small gaming sites.

The NPTGC Dept sent out RFPs for the annual external audit. The Gaming Commission Dept staff are providing responses to the Office of Legal Counsel and NPTEC for the proposed Tribal Code changes to the gaming ordinance.

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

GAMING COMMISSION OFFICE

**Chantel Greene, Director
208.843.7363**

GAMING COMMISSION

Goals of the Gaming Commission Office:

1. To regulate the gaming operations of the Clearwater River Casino and the It'seYe Ye Bingo & Casino, by assuring compliance with a) Nez Perce Tribal Gaming Ordinance, b) Regulations of the National Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), c) Class III Gaming Compact between the Nez Perce Tribe and the State of Idaho. d) Tribal Internal Control Standards (TICS)
2. Protect the tribal gaming operations and property from illegal activity.
3. Assure that gaming licenses are issued with adequate background investigations being conducted and suitability determinations made in a timely manner.
4. The Rules and Regulations of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, Minimum Internal Control Standards (MICS) and Tribal Internal Control Standards (TICS) are adhered to by Clearwater River Casino & It'se ye ye Bingo & Casino.
5. Continue to advocate for the training of employees in the applicable internal Controls and rules and regulations. Assist all frontline employees of the Nez Perce Tribe Gaming Enterprises to maintain compliance with and use of the internal controls.
6. Create a 5-year strategic plan

What we are working on:

1. Immediate fixes to internal issues one being our badge system. We just received the IDville system and will begin setting up after we move into our new building. We will be doing trial runs to make sure everything works properly, then will start printing right away. (Almost complete)

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

GAMING COMMISSION OFFICE

**Chantel Greene, Director
208.843.7363**

GAMING COMMISSION

2. Working with HR to sync up HRIS, background checking and credit reports, so we are working from the same system and mitigate redundancy. We are working with the HR department, so they are doing background checks during the recruitment process before accepting and approving new hire referrals. (on-going) No end date will continue with monthly meetings.
3. Security ICP's and Security Matrix need further review and will need to address audit findings. (On-going) Waiting to hear back for a date to meet with EO first.
4. Vendor licenses are under review to comply with the most current resolution policy. (On-going) Waiting for contracts and resolution from the EO office.
5. Working with the Marketing dept on contract reviews for non-gaming vendors for events. (Complete)
6. A letter of Intent has been presented to Council to have chairman signature to send out a request for an expedited 60 day review of the location and deed documentation for Camas Express. (Complete)
7. Contract renewal has been presented and approved for Dun and Bradstreet for business background and credit checks. This is a compliance requirement. (Completed)
8. Going through the contract review process for addendum to Acranet contract. Just received back from OLC. The contract review sheet with previous signed Contracts and addendum with request for Admin Action to accept will be uploaded to Legistar for the next L&O sub meeting after Aug 10th. (Almost complete was presented awaiting concurrence requests)
9. Follow-up meeting with Regional NIGC is set for Aug 18th to finish reviewing employee files. Any recommendations on how to improve or findings will follow. (Complete)

LAW & JUSTICE

Kenton Beckstead, L&O Executive Officer | 208.621.4753

GAMING COMMISSION OFFICE

**Chantel Greene, Director
208.843.7363**

GAMING COMMISSION

10. Facility license renewals for all Enterprise and C-stores is set for Environmental Health Services Surveys for August 31st through September 2.

11. Planning for the Gaming Commission website is under way and gathering needs.

This will provide an online presence that is needed, especially with no current offices. This will create an avenue for the public to reach us.

12. NPTGC Staff are gearing up for training through the Indian Gaming Association.

This is the 2023 Indian Gaming Training Masters Series.

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Julie Kane, Manager | 208.843.7355

The Nez Perce Tribe (Tribe) Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) consists of five attorneys and three support staff. The following are a selection of OLC's most significant accomplishments, carried out at the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee's (NPTEC) direction, since the 2023 Spring General Council:

- 1) Provided NPTEC with litigation analyses and legal strategy on all litigation matters involving, or of interest to, the Tribe, and provided NPTEC and Tribal programs and departments with prompt responses to all legal questions and issues.
- 2) Actively advanced the Tribe's interests in the United States v. Oregon treaty fishing rights litigation, including assisting with implementation of the 2018-2027 Management Agreement.
- 3) Advanced the Tribe's interests in the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act litigation involving the impact of the dams on the lower Snake River and mainstem Columbia River on salmon, steelhead, and lamprey (National Wildlife Federation v. National Marine Fisheries Service). Emphasized the extinction crisis facing Snake River spring/summer Chinook, the Tribe's support for restoring the lower Snake River by breaching the four lower Snake River dams, and the need, in court filings, for immediate, protective actions including additional spill for fish. Based on the United States' commitment to restoring salmon to healthy and abundant levels and honoring Federal commitments to Tribal Nations, OLC assisted the Tribe in negotiating an initial extension to the stay of litigation that commits the Administration to exploring lower Snake River habitat restoration opportunities, including restoring the migration corridor by breaching the four lower Snake River dams, and, among other things, identifying funding for salmon restoration. The extension requires 90 day progress reports, and if sufficient progress is not occurring, the stay of litigation can be lifted. OLC is assisting the Tribe in advancing the Tribe's interests through the mediation. Also assisted the Tribe in advancing Congressman Simpson's legislative initiative to comprehensively address Northwest salmon, energy, and other interests, including restoring the lower Snake River by breaching the four lower Snake River dams and investing in local communities. Assisted the Tribe in all forums to advance lower Snake River restoration/dam breaching, including meetings with the Biden Administration, Congress, and states.

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Julie Kane, Manager | 208.843.7355

This includes supporting Tribal leadership (the various Salmon Orca Summits, rallies and receptions, and Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians and National Congress of American Indians resolutions); public relations and communications (working with contractors on messaging); Biden-Harris Administration leadership; Congressional leadership (building on Congressman Simpson's Columbia Basin Initiative and including Senator Murray and Governor Inslee's work on replacing the services of the lower Snake River dams); and state leadership (especially Oregon and Washington).

4) Assisted the Tribe with elevating concerns regarding revisions to the Oregon Fish Passage Rule that occurred with no public notice or opportunity for public comment and that radically changed core principles and procedures of the rule; assisted the Tribe in preparing a legal challenge to the adoption of this rule.

5) Worked toward a positive, permanent resolution of the Lewiston Orchards Project's impact on Webb, Sweetwater, and Lapwai creeks through the Lower Clearwater Exchange Project and as set forth in Term Sheet Agreements that were developed as a result of successful Endangered Species Act litigation in federal court. Assisted in advancing and guiding the Lewiston Orchards Project toward completion with Water Exchange and Title Transfer Project partners and the Administration.

6) Continued to represent the Tribe in its lawsuit against Perpetua Resources (formerly Midas Gold) for discharging toxic pollutants from multiple point sources at the Stibnite Mine Site without a permit, in violation of the Clean Water Act. On August 8, 2023, the parties filed a final settlement agreement in the U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho resolving the lawsuit. The Agreement provides for total payments of \$5 million by Perpetua Resources to a South Fork Salmon Water Quality Enhancement Fund to be used by the Tribe to support water quality improvement projects in the South Fork Salmon River watershed and to reimburse the Tribe for fees and costs incurred in bringing the lawsuit. The water quality improvement projects will be coordinated with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Forest Service and will require additional data collection to choose and define the projects.

7) Continued to represent the Tribe in its administrative protest of Perpetua Resources' applications for transfer and appropriation of water rights at the Stibnite mine site, which Perpetua Resources filed with the Idaho Department of Water Resources. A hearing is scheduled for December 2023 in Boise, Idaho.

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Julie Kane, Manager | 208.843.7355

8) Continued to represent the Tribe in coordination with outside counsel its administrative protest of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's June 17, 2022, issuance of an Air Quality Permit to Construct to Perpetua Resources Idaho, Inc., for its proposed mine at the Stibnite site. A hearing is scheduled for September 2023.

9) Assisted Tribal staff in their engagement with the U.S. Forest Service regarding their analysis of Perpetua Resources' proposed Stibnite Gold Project. Assisted Tribal staff and the NPTEC in their engagement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and directly engaged the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding the agency's ongoing evaluation of the proposed Stibnite Gold Project and their forthcoming action on Perpetua Resources' Clean Water Act Section 404 dredge and fill permit application, including during a government-to-government consultation in September 2023.

10) Continued to assist Tribal staff and the NPTEC engage with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Forest Service regarding the Tribe's support for cleaning up the Cinnabar Mine Site, including a government-to-government consultation held in July 2023.

11) Assisted the Tribe with broadband right-of-way issues and the development of renewable energy solar projects and Nimiipuu Energy through work with the Department of Energy and third party contractors.

12) Continued to represent the Tribe's rights and interests at the Port of Cascade Locks where cruise ship dockings previously conflicted with treaty-reserved fishing rights and where American Cruise Lines plans to build new docks to accommodate cruise ship dockings in the future.

13) Assisted the Tribe in its ongoing participation in the Interagency Bison Management Plan by attending meetings and providing legal and policy support to NPTEC. Currently reviewing and preparing comments on the National Park Service's recently released draft Environmental Impact Statement for bison management at Yellowstone National Park

14) Continued advancing the Tribe's interest in methylmercury reduction in the Snake River by supporting Tribal staff engagement with Oregon's development of a total daily maximum load (pollution budget) for mercury and methylmercury for the Hells Canyon reach of the Snake River and through ongoing engagement with the U.S. Geological Survey's research regarding mercury cycling in the Hells Canyon Complex.

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Julie Kane, Manager | 208.843.7355

15)Continued to engage with Idaho Power Company and with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regarding the Tribe's interests within the Hells Canyon Complex and with regard to the relicensing of the Hells Canyon Complex.

16)Continued to assist the Tribe with evaluating the Port of Hood River's proposal to build a new Hood River-White Salmon Interstate Bridge across the Columbia River to connect Hood River, Oregon, and White Salmon, Washington, and with safeguarding the Tribe's treaty-reserved rights and resources during construction.

17)Assisted Tribal staff with evaluating and protesting water right applications on and adjacent to the Tribe's Reservation.

18)Assisted Enterprises with legal questions, including questions related to the operation and expansion of the Tribe's gaming operations. Worked on revising the Tribal Gaming Code to bring it into compliance with federal law.

19)Assisted the NPTEC with monitoring, promoting, analyzing, and introducing legislative action at both the state and federal levels to protect the interests of Tribal members. These actions include regular meetings with lobbyists in Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Washington, D.C., coordinating meetings with federal and state officials, and assisting with written testimony and advocacy letters. Assisted NPTEC with planning and preparing for trips to Washington, D.C., Olympia, and Boise to discuss various issues. In particular, assisted with the hosting of a meeting of the five tribes in Idaho in preparation for the upcoming session, worked on legislative proposals in Oregon to address impacts of certain laws on the Tribe, attended meetings of Washington Department of Revenue and Washington Department of Natural Resources, and assisted with planning advocacy events in Oregon, Washington state, and Washington DC.

20)Continued advancing the Tribe's water right claims in the Palouse River Basin Adjudication, which were filed by the Tribe and by the United States, as the Tribe's trustee. Continued to monitor the objections and responses currently being filed in the Palouse River Basin Adjudication and also attended initial meetings to explore potential settlement. Also worked with the Department of Interior to explore settlement options via a federal negotiation team.

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Julie Kane, Manager | 208.843.7355

21)Continued to track administrative rulemakings regarding water quality standards throughout the Pacific Northwest. Scheduled consultations with the Environmental Protection Agency, drafted comments on the Environmental Protection Agency's Proposed Water Quality Standards Regulatory Revisions to Protect Tribal Reserved Rights rulemaking, and provided NPTEC with legal advice regarding protecting water quality in waters that support treaty-reserved fishing rights.

22)Continued representation of the Tribe as amicus curiae in Hells Canyon Preservation Council et al. v. Homer Wilkes et al. in support of Plaintiffs' lawsuit challenging the U.S. Department of Agriculture's and U.S. Forest Service's decision adopting the Forest Management Direction for Large Diameter Trees in Eastern Oregon and Southeastern Washington. The Tribe decided to participate in the case to highlight for the court the Forest Service's failure to provide an administrative objection period, in violation of their own regulations, despite representations to the contrary to the NPTEC during government-to-government consultation.

23)Provided regular assistance to the Tribe's Environmental Restoration and Waste Management and Cultural Resource programs. Participated in the Natural Resource Damages Assessment process at the Hanford site by regularly attending meetings with other trustees on the Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council and advising tribal staff on a range of associated issues. Assisted with the development of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Washington Department Ecology for the Hanford Site. Provided legal analysis of issues related to the Hanford Reach National Monument.

24)Continued work on the class action opioid litigation, in which the Tribe is a plaintiff. The Purdue bankruptcy plan was vacated in District Court; the District Court has approved the Mallinckrodt bankruptcy plan, and we are assisting departments on developing a plan for use of the funds, which is limited to opioid related projects/services. The Tribe has agreed to participate in settlement talks with Johnson & Johnson.

25)Continued work on revising the Nez Perce Tribal Code. Participated in small staff meetings monthly or semi-monthly, as well as monthly meetings of the Tribe's Code Revision Core Team. Worked with Law and Justice on code implementation of criminal procedures, criminal code, and domestic violence. Also worked with Law and Justice and Social Services for the Minor in Need of Care updates necessary for Title IV-E reimbursement. Continued to work on the development and revisions to the Fish and Wildlife code.

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Julie Kane, Manager | 208.843.7355

26)Continued to advise the NPTEC and Tribal staff regarding proposed projects within the Tribe's aboriginal territory and to review staff comments on such projects, including comments and engagement regarding on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests' revised Forest Plan.

27)Provided legal assistance to the NPTEC in its allocation of monies received by the Tribe under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation. Provided legal guidance on the Tribe's allocation of monies received under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

28)Continued monthly coordination meetings with other Columbia River Tribes and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on village development plans on the Columbia River.

29)Continued work with the Nimiipuu Development Fund on development, adoption, and implementation of a Uniform Commercial Code.

30)Continued participation in the Nez Perce Tribe Emergency Operations Team, which has been charged with the Tribal response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and continued serving on relevant committees to allocate federal monies the Tribe received to help respond to the pandemic.

31)Continued to assist Tribal departments, Enterprises, and Nimiipuu Health with day-to-day legal and employment issues, including a monthly meeting with Enterprises to discuss their legal issues and questions.

32)Worked with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to ensure the Tribe's inclusion in a policy which would exempt Tribal Members from paying fees to travel on the Washington ferry system. WSDOT has updated their policy and standard operating procedures to ensure that Nez Perce Tribal Members and Tribal employees on official business are afforded free passage in light of the Tribe's treaty-reserved right to travel. OLC also worked with WSDOT to finalize the policy on free passage for all WSDOT tolling systems. Currently, waiting for a signed agreement and process to ensure Tribal members and Tribal work vehicles have the ability to obtain a sticker to ensure no fees will be processed. Current GoodToGo fees may be disputed online, and Tribal members may submit a copy of their Tribal identification to have the fees waived.

SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Introduction to the Senior Advisory Board. There are two elected representatives from each of the Nez Perce Tribal Communities of Lapwai, Kamiah, and Orofino. The current board Chairperson is Susie Weaskus, Vice Chairperson is Scott Moffett, and Secretary-Treasure is Loretta Islas. The Senior Advisory Board meets on the second Thursday of every month. The meetings are rotated to each of the three Nez Perce communities. A meeting schedule is posted at each Sr. Meal site and includes the Board members name and contact telephone numbers.

The Board has been working on updating the Constitution and By Law for the Senior Advisory Board.

We have gone through several drafts and made deletions and additions. Finally the Board passed the new updated Constitution & By Laws in our September meeting. We would like to thank the people that helped out with their time, work and comments; Catherine Big Man, Jackie McArthur, Georgianne Morrison, NPTEC Liaison Mary Jane Mile & Elizabeth Arthur-Attao, and former Board member Marilyn Bowen. Appreciate your contributions.

The Senior Advisory Board has worked for four months on the Election of the Elder of the Year. We set a schedule for one month of taking Nominations, then put together a ballot for one month for voting, we set a Special Meeting for counting the votes and setting a date for the Award Presentation. The origin of the family presentation started when we had the "Covid scare". As you are aware the Nez Perce Tribe could not gather in large groups. Therefore, we did not have a Nez Perce Elder Day. We started by letting a family member know their Elder was being honored. We set up a luncheon for the family, to present the award. We used the Tribe's Communication Department to have the event be live on Facebook. The budget for the Senior Advisory Board kept us limited to family only.

We would like to congratulate this year's Elders of the Year; Male Elder of the Year goes out to Steve Reuben and the Female Elder of the Year goes to Vera June Sonneck. Congratulations!

Steve Reuben and Vera Sonneck recognized as Male and Female Elder of the Year 2023



SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Many Thanks goes out to the people that helped out with the Elder of the Year events, Rosanne Greene-Enrollment Officer, Jackie McArthur, Catherine Big Man, Georgianne Morrison & staff, NPTEC Liaison Mary Jane Miles, Elizabeth Arthur-Attao, and Ashton Picard, Fawn Dumbo, Marsan Lawyer, Ashley Oatman, Bernadine Weaskus, Sylvia Mitchell, Julia Davis-Wheeler, the Communications staff for the live Facebook Broadcast.

Some comments were made that we should move the Elder of the Year age up higher than 62 years. The standard was set by Social Service Elder age of 62 years. We have Senior at age 55 years, entering the Senior Program for the benefits of travel to other Tribe's Elder Day without realizing the purpose of the program is to congregate. Most retired elders use the program as a social activity. Most retired Elders are on a fixed & limited income, and if it weren't for the Senior Program, they would not be able to travel to other Elder's events.

The Board had two invited guests at the July Meeting, Mary Scheiner, Home Health Specialist and Karene Choate, R.N. for Hospice. Both ladies attended the Nez Perce Housing Fair at the Pi-nee-waus.

They were invited to do a presentation on their programs. They were very informative and gave us useful information, and answered questions on Elders who want to live out their life at home.

The Senior Advisory Board has also been preparing to attend the National Indian Council on Aging in Cherokee, North Carolina. NICOA takes place every other year. The last time we attended, two years ago it was held in Reno, Nevada. We have gotten a lot out of the conference. It helps us, as we bring back valuable information to other Seniors. Last time we brought back the awareness of the silence of Alzheimer's on each reservation. Only four members of the Senior Advisory Board will attend this year. We will miss two days of the Fall General Council meeting.

Susie Weaskus, Chairperson
Scott Moffett, Vice Chairperson
Loretta Islas, Secretary-Treasurer
Allen Slickpoo, Member
Gloria Johnson, Member
Betty Kinser, Member

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"Since time immemorial, the Nez Perce people have been here, living in balance with the land, the water, the foods, and all creation, always aware of our ancestors, their teachings and sacrifices made for our future generations. Our mission as the Nez Perce Tribe is to honor our people (past, present, and future) and fulfill our responsibilities to protect our sacred place upon Mother Earth. We will work to prepare, plan, protect, revitalize, and preserve our many resources, rights, practices, and sovereignty as a tribe, and with our people promote wellness, safety, cultural resilience, and prosperity."

