

# **ACCESSIBILITY SELF-EVALUATION AND TRANSITION PLAN OVERVIEW**

**NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK  
ID, MT, OR, WA**

**AUGUST 2018**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Nez Perce National Historical Park's Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan (SETP) includes findings from the self-evaluation process, as well as a plan for improving accessibility parkwide. The Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan resulted from the work of an NPS interdisciplinary team, including planning, design, and construction professionals; and interpretive, resource, visitor safety, maintenance, and accessibility specialists. Site plans, photographs, and specific actions for identified park areas were developed. Associated time frames and implementation strategies were established to assist NPS park staff in scheduling and performing required actions and to document completed work. Park policies, practices, communication, and training needs were also addressed. The goals of the plan are to 1) document existing park barriers to accessibility for people with disabilities, 2) provide an effective approach for upgrading facilities, services, activities, and programs, and 3) instill a culture around creating universal access.

The following are the key park experiences and associated park areas addressed in the transition plan:

- 1) **Engage with Nez Perce culture, hear the language, and learn about the Nez Perce relationship with the land** – Ant and Yellow Jacket, Buffalo Eddy, Canoe Camp, Heart of the Monster, Old Chief Joseph Gravesite, Spalding Site, Spalding Visitor Center, White Bird Battlefield, White Bird Battlefield Overlook
- 2) **Appreciate how the geography and living resources of the land shapes the Nez Perce culture** – Ant and Yellow Jacket, Buffalo Eddy, Canoe Camp, Heart of the Monster, Joseph Canyon Viewpoint, Spalding Site, Spalding Visitor Center, White Bird Battlefield, White Bird Battlefield Overlook
- 3) **View the rich museum collections and cultural resources encompassing over 10,000 years of Nez Perce culture and history** – Buffalo Eddy, Canoe Camp, Heart of the Monster, Old Chief Joseph Gravesite, Spalding Site, Spalding Visitor Center, White Bird Battlefield, White Bird Battlefield Overlook
- 4) **Visit sites where events occurred between the Nez Perce and other cultures and understand the historical significance of those interactions** – Canoe Camp, Old Chief Joseph Gravesite, Spalding Site, Spalding Visitor Center, White Bird Battlefield, White Bird Battlefield Overlook

- 5) **Interact with park resources through the use of trails, picnic areas, interpretive waysides, and other visitor use facilities** – Buffalo Eddy, Canoe Camp, Heart of the Monster, Joseph Canyon Viewpoint, Old Chief Joseph Gravesite, Spalding Site, Spalding Visitor Center, White Bird Battlefield
- 6) **Learn about the Lewis and Clark Expedition, fur trade, missionaries, gold mining, and the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877** – Canoe Camp, Heart of the Monster, Old Chief Joseph Gravesite, Spalding Site, Spalding Visitor Center, White Bird Battlefield, White Bird Battlefield Overlook

Overall, similar services, activities, and programs were found throughout park areas, as were assessment findings for physical and program accessibility.

## **PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY**

Recurring barriers to physical accessibility were generally identified for parking areas, accessible paths of travel, outdoor recreational access routes, waysides, and reach ranges. These findings included barriers such as slopes that exceed maximum measurements, surfaces that are not firm and stable, undefined parking stalls, and an otherwise lack of accessible paths of travel connecting site objects. Many areas where picnicking takes place do not uniformly have accessible picnic tables. Picnic tables are not always located along outdoor recreational access routes and are informally located on surfaces that are not flat, firm, or stable. Site features such as brochure boxes and trashcans that require specific reach ranges, clear spaces, and operation were found to be mounted too high, have surface changes or obstructions in the clear space, and cannot be operated with a closed fist.

Additional accessibility improvements include improved access at sites such as at Heart of the Monster and Old Chief Joseph's Gravesite. Accessible parking stalls at Heart of the Monster need improved access aisles and curb cuts. The outdoor recreational access route connecting visitors from the parking stall to the Heart of the Monster viewing area has surface gaps between concrete slabs where wooden joints have deteriorated or sunken. Old Chief Joseph's Gravesite lacks any designated parking including accessible parking locations and requires a high step up to a concrete slab to enter into the site. Assessments for trails not specifically identified in this plan will need to be conducted in the future. Refer to Appendix H: "Trail Assessment Protocol" for additional information on how hiking trails are assessed and what standards apply.

## **PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY**

Recurring findings related to program accessibility included font and contrast issues with interpretive waysides that require modifications to meet size and readability standards identified in Harpers Ferry Center's "Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for National Park Service Interpretive Media." In general, interpretive panels, waysides, publications, videos, and self-guided tours did not have alternate formats in braille, large print, open captioning, or audio or electronic formats. Assistive listening devices were not available for people with hearing loss for guided tours or special events. Audio description for ranger-led interpretive tours and self-guided tours that describe visual elements to persons with low or no vision were also not available. Tactile exhibits were limited with only a few located in the Spalding Visitor Center.

The park has many opportunities to improve programmatic access in ways that are both simple and impactful. As an example, audio tours of visitor center exhibits would enhance the experience for visitors who are blind or have vision loss by communicating the history and culture of the Nez Perce and European settlement. For visitors who choose to visit sites outside of the Spalding area, audio tours with audio description and tactile maps would provide the opportunity to both conceptualize the events that took place at various sites such as at White Bird Battlefield. They would enhance the sense of place for areas that are often sacred or steeped in complex history such as Old Chief Joseph's Gravesite or Heart of the Monster.

## **PARKWIDE ACCESSIBILITY**

Some of the more noteworthy parkwide accessibility challenges that were discussed by the planning team during the self-evaluation and assessment process include: providing programmatic alternatives to both exhibits displayed in the visitor center and those significant features at sites throughout the park through tools such as an audio tour; provide accessible parking locations at sites such as the Watson's Store, White Bird Battlefield, and Buffalo Eddy; and working with partners such as the Idaho Transportation Department who own or manage several sites.

It is recommended that the park employ trained consultants to assist in determining how best to address accessibility improvements parkwide and to ensure that design and implementation of alternate format programs meet the needs of the intended audiences. Notify visitors through signage placed in appropriate locations and in park publications that alternative formats are available.

Creating parkwide accessibility requires staff awareness, understanding, and appropriate action. The assessment process served as a field training tool that increases staff knowledge and commitment toward embracing accessibility as

a core park value. Continued training in physical and programmatic access requirements for all park staff, particularly those in maintenance and interpretation, is strongly advised.

Because of fiscal constraints and limited park resources, staff will need to determine which park area improvements will benefit the greatest numbers of park visitors with disabilities. Suggested implementation time frames and relative costs need to be factored into all accessibility investment decisions.

Nez Perce National Historical Park strives to be inclusive and welcoming. The Spalding Visitor Center strives to accommodate all visitors and offers conditions that help people with disabilities enjoy the site. The park has gone above and beyond by providing accessible parking locations directly adjacent to the building as well as in the primary parking lot. While some improvements are needed, the park recognizes the importance of providing an accessible parking stall and route to the collections and research library located below the visitor center, which is otherwise only accessible down a stairway. Park staff are actively committed not only to providing access for visitors with disabilities, but for older generations of Nez Perce whose access to sacred sites such as at Old Chief Joseph's Gravesite, is paramount. Park staff is aware of accessibility issues in their services, activities, and programs and is committed to making improvements that will accommodate a wider diversity of visitors.

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## INTRODUCTION

Since 1916, the National Park Service (NPS) has preserved, unimpaired, the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system, while also providing for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of current and future generations.

Many of our national parks were founded because of their stunning views, extreme and unique geography, challenging and sensitive natural environments, and historic and fragile structures. This park, Nez Perce National Historical Park, and other parks exist because of their history and resources. The NPS mission balances protection of resources (both natural and cultural) with visitation. Facilities, services, activities, and programs were designed and built within parks to accommodate our visitors and help them better understand each park purpose and significance.

Many facilities were constructed prior to the passage of laws and policies that reflect the commitment of the National Park Service to provide access to the widest cross section of the public, and to ensure compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC 12207). The accessibility of commercial services within national parks is also governed by all applicable federal laws. After 100 years of operation, the National Park Service continues to work toward a more inclusive environment. The more than 400 park units that comprise the national park system today include not only the large western parks, for which the agency is well known, but also nationally significant urban parks, historic sites, monuments, parkways, battlefields, and a diversity of other park types across the country.

For a century, the National Park Service has been a leader in connecting people to both our natural and cultural heritage. Visitors today have different needs and expectations, and the agency must adapt to meet these changing demands. Modern scientific research and visitor trend analysis provide new insight into accessibility opportunities and challenges in the national park system. There are approximately 60 million people with disabilities in the United States today, and the number is expected to rise to 71 million in upcoming years as more baby boomers reach retirement age (people 65 and older). This information helps the National Park Service understand changing visitation patterns, the nexus between resource stewardship and accessibility, and the impacts of managing visitors, resources, and infrastructure against the threat of decreased funding. Adequate planning can identify solutions to challenges and provide services with the knowledge and understanding that serves as a trajectory full of opportunity for current and future visitors. The National Park

Service is committed to making NPS facilities, programs, services, and employment opportunities accessible to all people, including those with disabilities.

## **PARK DESCRIPTION**

Nez Perce National Historical Park was established as a unit of the national park system on May 15, 1965, by Public Law 89-19. Since its establishment, the park has evolved into a model for working in partnership with public and private agencies, tribes, organizations, and individuals to achieve its goals. Unlike “traditional” parks, Nez Perce National Historical Park retains little NPS fee land; instead the park is managed and operated through collaborative processes, relying on cooperative agreements, memorandums of understanding, and other unconventional means for protecting and interpreting resources owned by others. Similarly, in order to understand and accurately interpret Nez Perce culture, the park partners with the Nez Perce Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, which represent significant Nez Perce communities, as well as allied Palouse and Cayuse peoples.

The park consists of 38 sites dispersed throughout Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. There are no designated sites in Wyoming; however, there are many sites there that are important to the Nez Perce people. These sites illustrate the historic role of the Nez Perce in the westward expansion of the United States and include, but are not limited to, historic buildings, missions, battlefields, cemeteries, archeological sites, cultural landscapes, geological features, and trails. The sites provide opportunities for the interpretation of Nez Perce culture, the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the fur trade, missionaries, gold mining and logging, and the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877.

At its 1965 establishment, Nez Perce National Historical Park consisted of 24 sites. In October 1992, Congress passed new legislation expanding the park to include 14 sites in the states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. As part of this expansion, Big Hole National Battlefield, a distinct unit of the National Park Service established in 1910, was added to Nez Perce National Historical Park as an administrative unit.

The 38 units of Nez Perce National Historical Park form a park about a people, for all people. It is not one place, but many. It is not one story, but a multitude. It is not one viewpoint, but many more than one. It is often controversial and emotional. Approximately 300,000 visitors annually come to Nez Perce National Historical Park to experience and understand the cultural heritage and history of the Nez Perce as well as to see the scenery along two national historic trails: the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, a unit of the National Park Service, and the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail, which is managed by the U.S. Forest Service in close partnership with Nez Perce National Historical Park. The majority of visitors discover Nez Perce sites as they travel to and from other destinations but are able to discover the many stories and legends inexplicably tied to this landscape.



## **PARK PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENTS**

In 2017, Nez Perce National Historical Park completed a foundation document. Foundation documents provide basic guidance for planning and management decisions by identifying the park purpose, significance, and fundamental resources and values. The Nez Perce National Historical Park foundation plan identifies special mandates and administrative commitments and provides an assessment and prioritization of park planning and data needs. Understanding these elements helps set the stage for appropriately integrating accessibility into the overall park priorities and plans. The following foundation elements were identified for Nez Perce National Historical Park.

### **Park Purpose**

The purpose of Nez Perce National Historical Park is to facilitate protection and offer interpretation of Nez Perce sites in Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Wyoming that have exceptional value in commemorating the history of the United States; to preserve and protect tangible resources that document the history of the Nez Perce peoples and the significant role of the Nez Perce in North American history; and to interpret the culture and history of the Nez Perce peoples and promote documentation to enhance that interpretation.

### **Park Significance**

- Nez Perce National Historical Park offers for all Americans an important perspective about our history as a people. It is not the view from the Gateway Arch looking west; it is a view from a homeland looking out, witnessing the march of history and change, yet continuing today and tomorrow to commemorate and celebrate Nez Perce culture and traditions. The following significance statements have been identified for Nez Perce National Historical Park and help explain why it is a park about a people, for all people.
- The park preserves a continuum of at least 11,000 years of Nez Perce culture. Its archeological record, museum collection, cultural landscapes, and structures are of national significance. The park contains historical and cultural landmarks that are of legendary significance to the Nez Perce people. The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail commemorates a significant event in the history of the Nez Perce people.
- Nez Perce National Historical Park offers a unique opportunity for visitors to gain an understanding of present-day Nez Perce culture within and

outside the Nez Perce homeland and to learn about important events of the past.

- Past and present Nez Perce culture has been shaped by the geography and the rich and varied resources of the Nez Perce homeland.
- The park includes parts of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and the Lolo Trail, both of which were used by other cultures. The Nez Perce country, Nez Perce National Historical Park sites, and other American Indian cultures overlap but also differ in many ways.
- The park contains burial sites and sacred sites; it is also a focal point for current Nez Perce culture and allows for the continued traditional use of resources. The park honors the rights retained in the 1855 and 1863 treaties and will fully apply all applicable laws, executive orders, policies, and treaties related to the protection of cultural properties and sacred sites.

## **ACCESSIBILITY SELF-EVALUATION AND TRANSITION PLAN**

The creation of a transition plan is mandated by regulations under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as they apply to the US Department of the Interior, which states that “No otherwise qualified handicapped individual in the United States . . . shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal assistance.” It specifically requires parks to document architectural barriers, solutions, and time frames for making improvements to increase accessibility.

This Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan has been prepared to provide Nez Perce National Historical Park a tool for addressing overall needs associated with making the park accessible when viewed in its entirety. The plan is based on an understanding of key park experiences and establishes a methodical process that identifies, prioritizes, and outlines improvements to park accessibility. The plan proposes strategies for implementation over time and in a manner consistent with park requirements and protocols. Compliance in association with the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act is not part of this plan and will be addressed on a case-by-case basis as the plan is implemented.

All key park experiences and all park areas were identified to ensure that the plan would consider all park programs. Park areas were then evaluated against measurable criteria to determine which would be assessed for



purposes of the plan. Each park area assessed was evaluated to identify barriers that prevented participation in park programs, and the best manner in which access could be improved. In some situations, it is not reasonably practicable to create physical or universal design solutions.

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN**

One of the goals of the plan is to increase accessibility awareness and understanding among staff and volunteers of Nez Perce National Historical Park. The park superintendent is responsible for implementing and integrating the plan. The park-designated accessibility coordinator ensures adequate communication to park employees and works with the superintendent to follow up on the implementation and relevancy of the plan by documenting improvements and keeping the plan updated.

# ACCESSIBILITY SELF-EVALUATION AND TRANSITION PLAN PROCESS

## SELF-EVALUATION

The following graphic illustrates the primary steps in the self-evaluation process. Each step is further described in the following text.



### Step 1: Identify Key Park Experiences and Park Areas

Key park experiences are those park experiences that are iconic and important for visitors to understand the purpose and significance of the park unit. They are “musts” for park visitors. Park legislation serves as the foundation for key park experiences, which are identified through park purpose, significance, interpretive themes, and those programs or activities highlighted in park communications. Key park experiences were identified at Nez Perce National Historical Park to ensure that planned improvements were prioritized to best increase overall access to the experiences available at Nez Perce National Historical Park.

- 1) Engage with Nez Perce culture, hear the language, and learn about the Nez Perce relationship with the land.
- 1) Appreciate how the geography and living resources of the land shapes Nez Perce culture.
- 2) View the rich museum collections and cultural resources encompassing over 10,000 years of Nez Perce culture and history.

- 3) Visit sites where events occurred between the Nez Perce and other cultures, and understand the historical significance of those interactions.
- 4) Interact with park resources through the use of trails, picnic areas, interpretive waysides, and other visitor use facilities.
- 5) Learn about the Lewis and Clark Expedition, fur trade, missionaries, gold-mining, and the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877.

After key park experiences were identified, all park areas were listed. Next, a matrix was developed to determine which key experiences occurred in each park area. A park area is a place defined by the park for visitor or administrative use. All park areas within Nez Perce National Historical Park were evaluated per criteria in step 2, to determine which, if not all, areas would be assessed.

## **Step 2: Identify Park Areas to be Assessed**

The criteria below were used to determine which park areas would receive assessments:

- 1) Level of visitation
- 2) Diversity of services, activities, and programs offered in the area
- 3) Geographic favorability (as a whole, the park areas selected reflect a broad distribution throughout the park)
- 4) Other unique characteristics of the site

The areas selected for assessment provide the best and greatest opportunities for the public to access all key park experiences. These park areas received comprehensive assessments as outlined in steps 3 and 4. Areas not assessed at this time are to be assessed and improved as part of future facility alterations or as a component of a future planned construction project.

## **Step 3: Identify Services, Activities, and Programs in Each Park Area**

Step 3 is the identification of all services, activities, and programs within each park area. This process ensured that during step 4 all visitor amenities within a

park area, including both physical and programmatic elements, are reviewed for accessibility. The comprehensive lists of services, activities, and programs were the basis for conducting the 10 assessments and documenting all elements as they pertain to improving access to park experiences.

#### **Step 4: Conduct Accessibility Assessment**

During step 4, an interdisciplinary assessment team identified physical and programmatic barriers and reviewed possible solutions within each park area.

Existing conditions and barriers to services, activities, and programs were discussed on-site by the assessment team. The assessment team then developed a reasonable range of recommended actions for consideration, including solutions that would provide universal access. Barrier-specific solutions, as well as alternative ways to improve access overall, were addressed and included both physical changes and/or the addition of alternate format methods. In some cases, programmatic alternatives needed to be examined because it was not always possible to eliminate physical barriers due to historic designations, environmental concerns, topography, or sensitive cultural and natural resources. Therefore, a full range of programmatic alternatives was considered that would provide access to the key experience for as many visitors as possible. All field results, including collected data, findings, preliminary options, and conceptual site plans, are organized by park area and formalized with recommendations in the transition plan.

#### **TRANSITION PLAN**

The following graphic illustrates the primary steps taken in developing the Nez Perce National Historical Park transition plan. Public involvement will occur at the draft stage of the transition plan; however, it is recommended that at the beginning of the SETP process parks initiate public outreach efforts with organizations representing people with disabilities. The draft plan will be released for a 30-day period to solicit input from the public, including people with disabilities and organizations that represent people with disabilities, to provide comments and thoughts on whether the document represents a reasonable review of the park's barriers and a feasible and appropriate strategy for overcoming the barriers. After the comment period has closed, the park will analyze all comments to determine if any changes to the plan are necessary. Those changes will be made before the implementation strategy is finalized. Once finalized, a notification will be sent to the public to announce the plan's availability.

## TRANSITION PLAN



### Step 5: Draft and Finalize Transition Plan

The final step of the process is drafting and finalizing the transition plan and implementation strategy. Developing an implementation strategy can be complex because of a large range of coordination efforts associated with scheduling accessibility improvements. All improvement efforts need to consider park activities and operational requirements. The final plan recommends accessibility improvements, identifies improvement time frames, and identifies responsible parties for such actions.

Implementation time frames are based on the park's ability to complete the improvements within normal scheduling of park operations and planned projects. Time frames are categorized as follows:

- 1) **Immediate (0–1 year):** Improvements that are easy, quick, and inexpensive to fix internally. It does not require supplemental NPS project funding.

immediate

- 2) **Short-term (1–3 years):** If the improvement does not require supplemental NPS project funding, park staff will initiate the elimination of the barrier internally; or, if a project is currently scheduled for funding, the improvement will be incorporated into the project and the barrier eliminated.

short-term

- 3) **Mid-term (3–7 years):** The park will develop a proposal and submit it for those projects requiring supplemental NPS project funding in the next annual servicewide budget call. For those projects requiring supplemental NPS project funding, the park will submit a request in the next budget call. Improvements will be scheduled dependent upon the year funding is received. If the improvement does not require supplemental NPS project funding, park staff will continue the elimination of the barrier internally.

mid-term

- 4) **Long-term (>7 years):** The park will eliminate the barrier when other work is taking place as part of facility alterations or as a component of a future planned construction project.

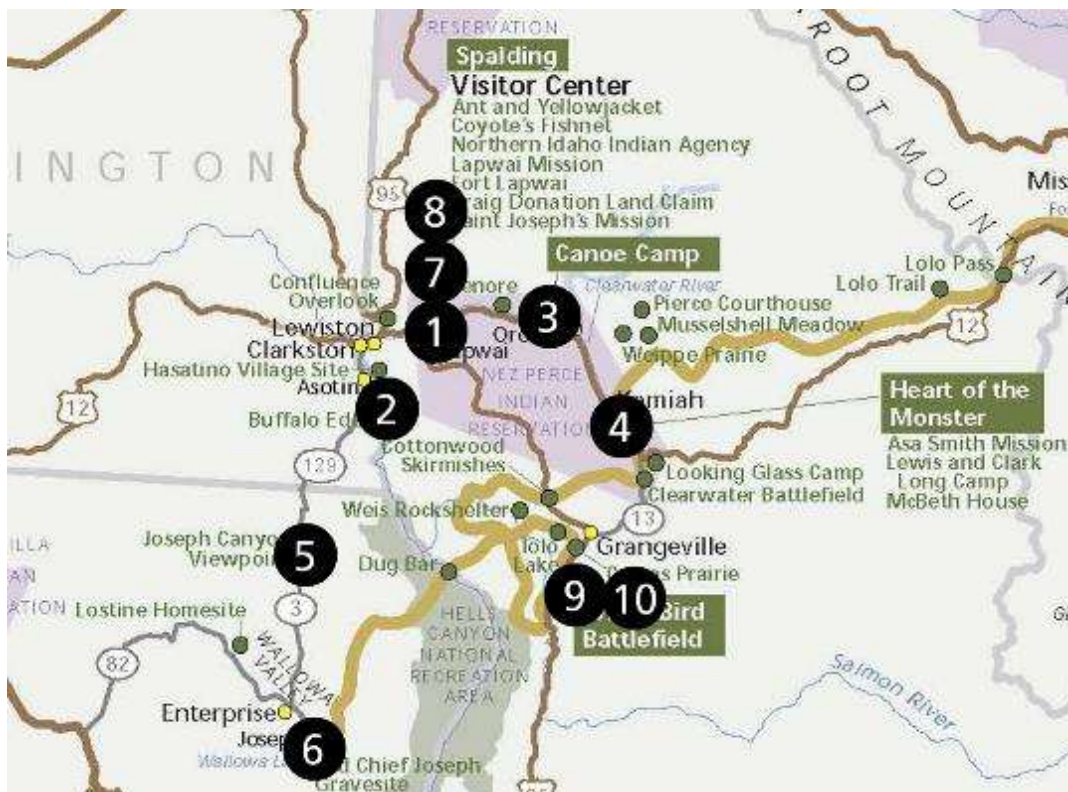
long-term

# IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

## PARK AREAS ASSESSED

All key park experiences at Nez Perce National Historical Park are represented within the park areas assessed. Park areas not included in the park area list will be upgraded to current code requirements when facility alteration and/or new construction is planned. Each park area identified for assessment is addressed during the implementation strategy exercise. All park areas assessed are listed in alphabetical order and identified in the associated map below.

1. Ant and Yellow Jacket
2. Buffalo Eddy
3. Canoe Camp
4. Heart of the Monster
5. Joseph Canyon Overlook
6. Old Chief Joseph Gravesite
7. Spalding Site
8. Spalding Visitor Center
9. White Bird Battlefield
10. White Bird Battlefield Overlook



## **IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR PARK AREAS ASSESSED**

The Architectural Barrier Act (ABA) of 1968 requires that any building or facility designed, constructed, altered, or leased with federal funds be accessible and usable by any individuals with disabilities. The Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) and the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS) were adopted for federal facilities in 1984 and 2006, respectively. Subsequently in 2011, standards for recreational facilities were incorporated into ABAAS as chapter 10.

Dependent upon the date of a building's construction or alteration, different design standards apply. In conducting the transition plan facility assessments, the 2011 ABAAS standards were used as the on-site assessments. Although a barrier may be identified by the current assessment for improvement, facilities constructed pre-1984, or between 1984 and 2011, are only required to be in compliance with the standard in place at the time of construction and/or alteration. Therefore, they may not be in violation of ABAAS. However, any renovation or upgrade of that building will be required to meet the most current standard at the time of work.

Recommended improvements for park policies, practices, communication and training are included. Park policies are adopted by the park and are those defined courses of action for reaching a desired outcome. Park practices are those habitual and/or customary performances or operations park staff employs for reaching a desired outcome. Communication and training strategies help park staff keep informed on how to best deliver services, activities, and programs to visitors with disabilities in the most appropriate and accessible formats.

This document does not include strategies for transitioning employee work spaces to be accessible. In the event an employee with a disability is hired by Nez Perce National Historical Park, the supervisor and employee will discuss the employee's needs. The supervisor will then determine what accommodations are reasonable within the given work environment and determine a plan of action to meet those needs.

For each park area, site plans illustrate existing conditions and recommended improvements. During the implementation phase, reassessment of the project site conditions and consultation with the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards is necessary to ensure that specific design and programmatic solutions are addressed correctly. Assistance is available at the Denver Service Center and through the Pacific West Region Accessibility Coordinator.



Site Plan



## Implementation Strategy

The Ant and Yellow Jacket pulloff provides access to two experiences: engage with Nez Perce culture and appreciate how the geography and living resources of the land shapes Nez Perce culture.

The activities and programs provided at this area for visitors include interpretation through interpretive signage and viewing of the cultural significant geologic feature. The existing services that support these activities and programs include accessible route and walking surfaces, car parking areas, interpretive waysides, trash and recycling, and wayfinding and orientation signage. The area includes a small asphalt parking lot with a large Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) sign and a typical National Park Service wayside, located just off the asphalt on a flat, compacted, fine aggregate surface, with plenty of circulation space. The Ant and Yellow Jacket rock outcrop is located across the highway and is clearly viewable from the entire pullout zone.

Interpretive waysides at the Ant and Yellow Jacket pullout convey the bond between people and place and shares the legend of Ant and Yellow Jacket as it has been told for generations by the Nez Perce. The ITD owns this site; however, staff at Nez Perce National Historical Park sees the potential for this simple yet important experience to be made accessible with a few improvements. By providing improved accessible parking, routes, and approaches to waysides, the park will have a large impact on accessibility.

The following improvements to this park area are planned:

### 01 Accessible Route

- 1) Provide an accessible route from the van-accessible parking stall access aisle to the wayside, 36" minimum in width at 5% maximum running slope and 2% maximum cross slope.

mid-term

### 02 Car Parking Area

- 1) Provide one van-accessible stall 11' minimum in width with a 5' minimum width access aisle.
- 2) Provide "van accessible" designation on van-accessible stall with the sign mounted 60" minimum above the ground to the bottom of the sign.
- 3) Locate the van-accessible stall along the shortest accessible route to the wayside and informational signage.

long-term

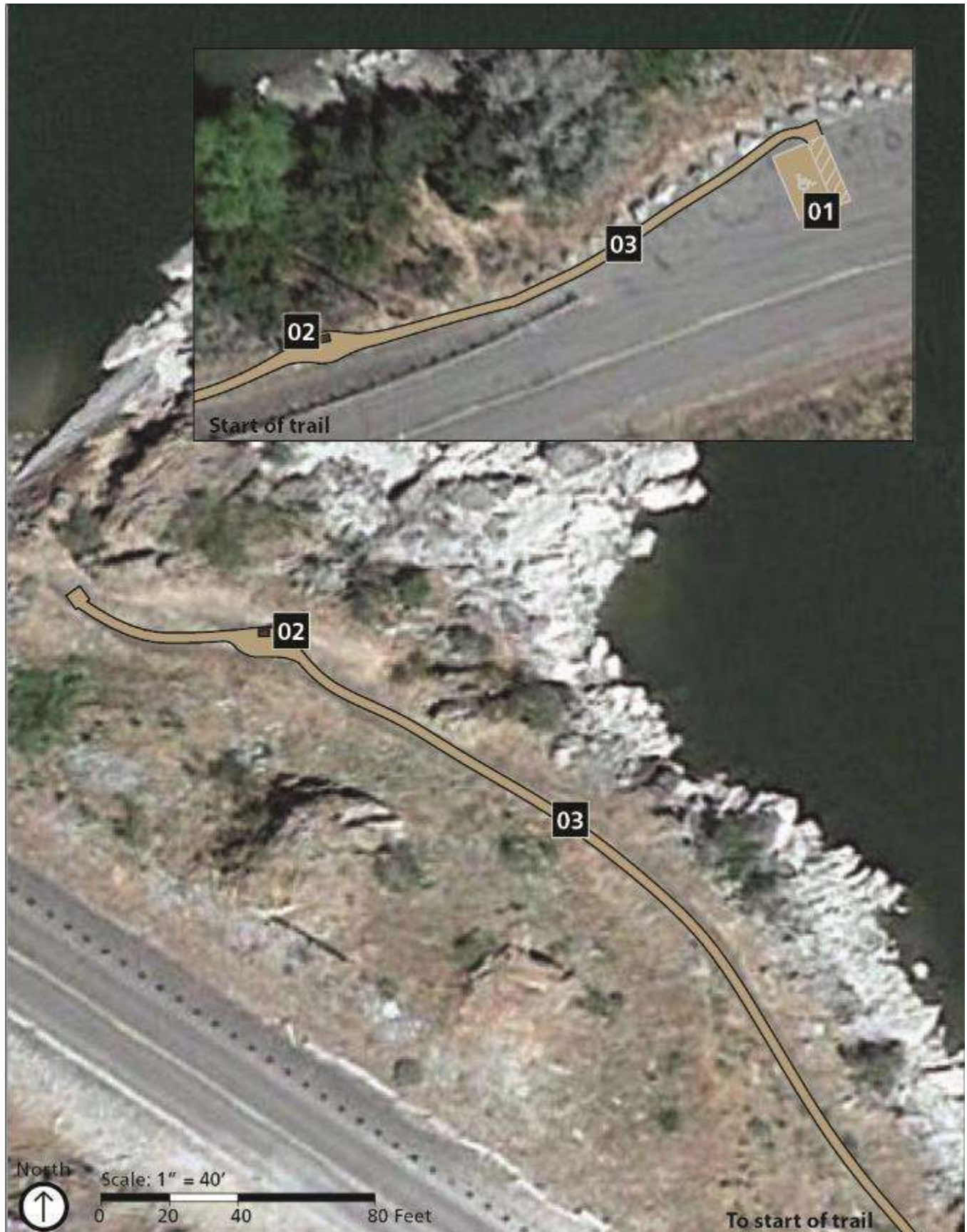
### Interpretive Wayside

- 1) Maintain the landing in front of the wayside, 30" by 48" minimum at 2% maximum slope in all directions with 27" minimum knee clearance from the landing surface to the bottom edge of the wayside.
- 2) As best practice, provide waysides that use sans serif fonts, no italics, no all caps, and 24-point minimum font.

mid-term

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## Implementation Strategy

The Buffalo Eddy site provides access to several key experiences: engage with Nez Perce culture; appreciate how the geography and living resources of the land shapes Nez Perce culture; view the rich museum collections and cultural resources; and interact with park resources.

The activities and programs provided at this area for visitors include interpretation through interpretive waysides and viewing of petroglyphs. The existing services that support these activities and programs include a car parking area and an outdoor recreation access route.

The pulloff area is not owned by the park, but is instead owned and managed by Asotin County. Park ownership begins at the trailhead. The route to the viewing area is within the old road bed, with a dirt and gravel surface. The slope, surface, and the approaches to the two waysides along the path require only minor improvements.

While some features are visible from the route, the more prominent specimens are accessed down moderately steep slopes, between rocks and large boulders. Some are seasonally submerged under water. Improving the waysides to focus on content and imagery of the petroglyphs will provide visitors better access to the experience.

The following improvements to this park area are planned:

### 01 Car Parking Area

- 1) Provide one van-accessible stall 11' minimum in width with a 5' minimum width access aisle.
- 2) Provide "van accessible" designation at the van-accessible stall with the sign mounted 60" minimum above the ground to the bottom of the sign.
- 3) Locate the van-accessible stall along the shortest accessible route to the waysides and viewing areas.

mid-term

### 02 Interpretive Waysides

- 1) Stabilize and maintain the gravel landing in front of the wayside to provide a firm and stable surface, 30" by 48" minimum at 2% maximum slope in all directions.
- 2) As best practice, provide waysides that use sans serif fonts, no italics, no all caps, and 24-point minimum font.

short-term





### Outdoor Recreation Access Route

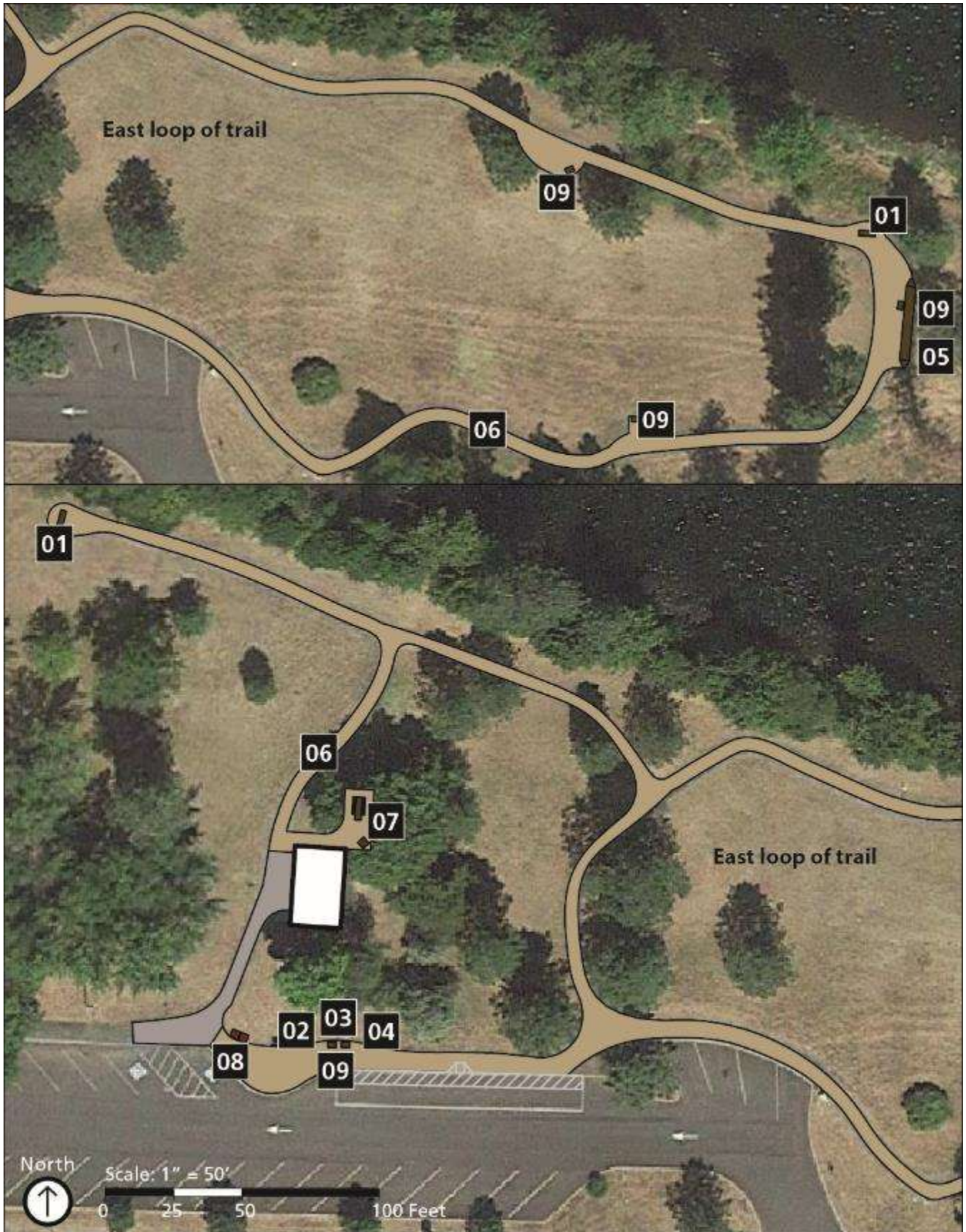
- 1) Establish firm and stable outdoor recreation access routes between accessible parking and waysides at 36" minimum width, maximum 2% cross slope and 8.3% running slope. Provide resting intervals off the route every 50' measuring 5' in length and at least as wide as the trail width and not exceeding 2% slope in all directions. Provide a turning area 60" by 60" at the end of the trail also not to exceed 2% slope in all directions.

mid-term

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## CANOE CAMP

### Site Plan



## Implementation Strategy

The Canoe Camp site provides access to most of the key experiences including: engage with Nez Perce culture; appreciate how the geography and living resources of the land shapes Nez Perce culture; view the rich museum collections and cultural resources; visit sites where events occurred between the Nez Perce and other cultures; interact with park resources; and learn about the Lewis and Clark Expedition, fur trade, missionaries, gold mining, and the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877.

The activities and programs provided at this area include hiking, picnicking, learning through interpretive waysides, tours and special events, and viewing cultural resources. The existing services that support these activities and programs include car parking areas, accessible routes, outdoor recreation access routes, interpretive waysides, benches, picnic tables, trash and recycling receptacles, restrooms, drinking fountains, and wayfinding and orientation signage.

With the many services, activities, and programs provided at this site, Canoe Camp is a major stop for those visitors following the Nez Perce or Lewis and Clark trails and for those looking to spend an afternoon picnicking and learning about the past. The site is associated with the 1803–1806 Lewis and Clark journey to the Pacific. A concrete access route leads to restrooms and a dual height fountain. From there a compacted gravel trail loops around the site, where a replica dugout canoe provides visitors with a tangible piece of cultural history. Picnic tables and benches are informally placed within the grassy area. Occasionally, park rangers hold roving services and interpretive programs. Minor changes to improve wayside approaches, access route slopes, car parking elements, and picnicking areas will greatly improve access within this diverse area.

The following improvements to this park area are planned:

### **01** Benches

- 1) Ensure that at least one bench in each distinct area has a clear ground space adjacent to the bench, 36" by 48" minimum at 2% maximum slope in all directions.
- 2) As a best practice, improve some of the benches to include armrests and backrests.
- 3) As a best practice, provide a 36" by 48" minimum clear ground space at 2% slope in all directions next to one end of the bench for companion seating.

**immediate**

**02****Brochure Holder**

- 1) Lower brochure holder so that its top hinge is no more than 48" above the finish ground.

**immediate****03****Dog Bag Dispenser**

- 1) Lower the dog bag dispenser so that its top hinge is no more than 48" above the finish ground.

**immediate****04****Drinking Fountain**

- 1) Improve the flow of water at the existing drinking fountain to being 4" minimum in height and located 5" maximum from the front of the unit.
- 2) When the single drinking fountain along the parking lot accessible route is ready for replacement, install a dual-height drinking fountain with one spout outlet height between 38" and 43" above the finish ground as well as another height drinking fountain with the spout outlet located 36" maximum above the finish ground. The spout shall be located 15" minimum from the vertical support and 5" maximum from the front edge of the unit, with a water flow 4" high minimum and 5" maximum from the front of the unit.

**immediate****05****Exhibit (Dugout Canoe)**

- 1) Provide a 30" by 48" clear space from a forward or parallel approach, 2% maximum slope in any direction, and on a firm and stable surface. Alternatively, relocate the canoe to an area with a firm and stable surface.

**short-term****06****Outdoor Recreation Access Route**

- 1) Establish a firm and stable outdoor recreation access route between the restroom, proposed accessible picnic area, and along the full path circling the site at 36" minimum width at 2% maximum cross slope and 5% maximum running slope (wherever possible). Where running slope exceeds 5% up to 8.33%, the maximum segment length permitted is 50'. Where running slope exceeds 8.33% up to 10%, the maximum segment length permitted is 30'. No segment shall be



steeper than 10%. Ensure resting intervals are provided at the top and bottom of each segment, regardless of segment length.

short-term

**07**

### **Picnic Area**

- 1) Provide a minimum of one accessible picnic table. Picnic tables must have at least one integrated wheelchair seating space a minimum of 30" by 48", a table surface height between 28" and 34" above the finished floor and 27" minimum knee clearance under the table with 9" minimum toe clearance.
- 2) Provide clear and stable ground space on all usable sides of the accessible picnic table, with slopes no steeper than 2% in any direction. All accessible picnic table sites shall be connected to an outdoor recreation accessible route.

mid-term

**08**

### **Trash and Recycling**

- 1) Provide a level landing at the trash and recycling receptacles, 2% maximum slope in all directions, firm and stable, and 36" by 48" minimum from a forward approach or a 30" by 60" positioned for a parallel approach to the receptacle opening.

immediate

**09**

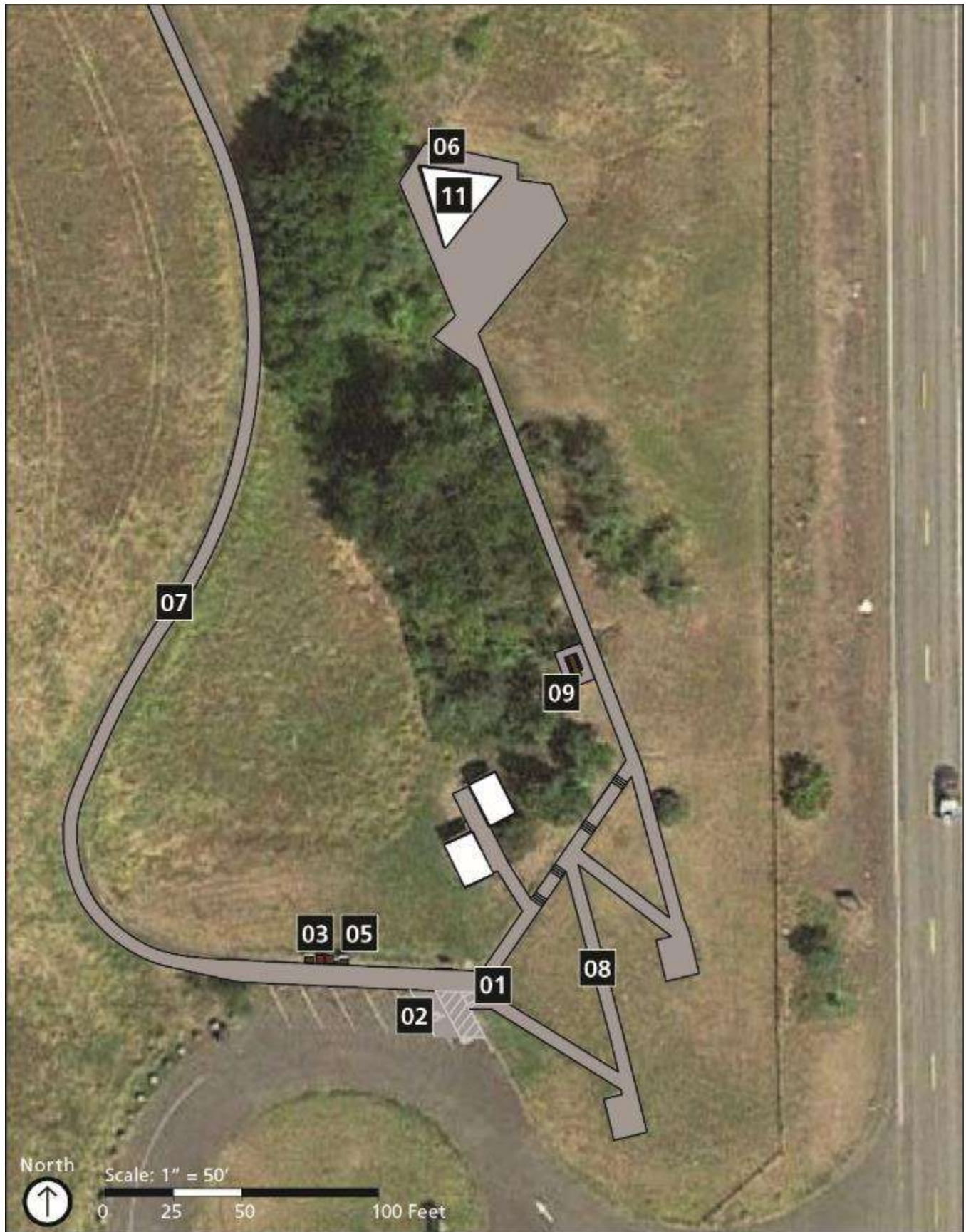
### **Interpretive Waysides**

- 1) Provide a level landing up to each wayside, 30" by 48" minimum from a forward approach at 2% maximum slope in all directions with 27" minimum knee clearance, OR move inaccessible waysides to accessible locations.
- 2) As a best practice, provide waysides that use sans serif, 24-point minimum fonts, and refrain from using italics and all caps. Allow 30" by 48" clear space from a forward or parallel approach, 2% maximum slope in any direction, and on a firm and stable surface.

mid-term

## HEART OF THE MONSTER

### Parking and Viewing Area Site Plan





## HEART OF THE MONSTER

### Picnic Area Site Plan





## Implementation Strategy

The Heart of the Monster site provides access to many experiences: engage with Nez Perce culture; appreciate how the geography and living resources of the land shapes Nez Perce culture; view the rich museum collections and cultural resources; interact with park resources; and learn about the Lewis and Clark Expedition, fur trade, missionaries, gold-mining, and the Nez Perce conflict of 1877.

The activities and programs provided at this area include interpretation through interpretive waysides, audio-visual programs and tours, educational programs, and special events, as well as hiking and picnicking. The existing services that support these activities and programs include outdoor recreation access routes, car parking areas, restrooms, picnic facilities, benches, viewing areas, seating areas, and trash and recycling receptacles.

The site entry is an asphalt loop cul de sac with parking to accommodate standard, accessible, oversize, and overflow parking. A concrete aggregate access route wraps along the front of the parking area to accessible restrooms, and up to an overlook shelter. The shelter is accessed via a series of steps or along a switchback trail, and passes a shaded picnic pad area. The interpretive shelter is situated on the point of a hill overlooking the geologic feature and includes an audio description of the Heart of the Monster story. To the west, the path passes by two waysides, and a garbage facility, then transitions to an asphalt outdoor recreation access route that winds to the Heart of the Monster viewing and picnic area on a grassy, shady knoll. A short spur loop and wall seating area are arranged around an audio station that tells the story of the legend, told in English by a Nez Perce elder, and faces the Heart of the Monster. A short walk through tall grass to a wide mowed path encircles the enclosed Heart of the Monster hill.

Perhaps most evident at the Heart of the Monster site is the bond the Nez Perce have with the land. As a sacred site tied to the creation of their people, the Heart of the Monster site was thoughtfully designed to provide access to the most meaningful experiences with minimal impact to the cultural resources. While the route to the overlook traverses a hillside, the path was laid out to provide wheelchair access and to incorporate the use of triangles in the site design. Some improvements to the route including access to an accessible picnic area, a few slope corrections, and some maintenance repairs for gaps and vertical barriers will help provide a more complete experience for visitors to appreciate the Heart of the Monster site and story.

The following improvements to this park area are planned:

### **01** Accessible Route

- 1) Improve the route along the parking lot leading to the restroom so that it does not exceed a 5% running slope or 2% cross slope.
- 2) Ensure accessible route surface changes are 1/2" or less with a 1/4" maximum vertical change and a 1/4" maximum beveled change in grade. Elongated openings in floor and ground surfaces are no wider than a 1/2" and are perpendicular to the direction of travel.

mid-term

**02**

## **Car Parking Area**

- 1) Provide a minimum of one designated van-accessible parking stall near the restroom, 11' wide minimum with a 5' wide minimum access aisle or 8' wide minimum with an 8' wide minimum access aisle.
- 2) Provide "van accessible" designation sign at the van-accessible stall to be installed at 60" minimum above the ground to the bottom of the sign.
- 3) Provide a curb ramp off the access aisle connecting the accessible route with a maximum 8.33% running slope and 2% cross slope. Curb ramp flared sides are 10% maximum and a landing is provided at the top of the ramp with a minimum depth of 36" not to exceed 2% slope in all directions. The 36" minimum depth cannot extend into the accessible route.

mid-term

**03**

## **Dog Bag Dispenser**

- 1) Lower the dog bag dispenser so that the dispenser outlet is located between 15" and 48" above ground.

immediate

**04**

## **Grill**

- 1) Remove the grill or alternatively, provide a grill where the cooking surface is between 15" and 34" above ground located on a firm and stable surface that does not exceed 2% slope in all directions.

immediate

**05**

## **Interpretive Waysides (by parking lot)**

- 1) Relocate the panel further back from the path providing a clear landing 30" by 48" minimum for a forward approach at 2% maximum slope in all directions.

- 2) As a best practice, provide waysides that use sans serif fonts, no italics, no all caps, and 24-point minimum font.

short-term

**06****Interpretive Waysides and Brochure Box (at overlook)**

- 1) Relocate the brochure box so that the top of the box is located between 15" and 48" above the ground.

**immediate**

- 2) Provide a level landing up to each wayside as well as the brochure box, 30" by 48" minimum from a forward approach at 2% maximum slope in all directions.
- 3) As a best practice, provide waysides that use sans serif fonts, no italics, no all caps, and 24-point minimum font.

**mid-term****07****Outdoor Recreation Access Route (to picnic area)**

- 1) Establish firm and stable outdoor recreation access routes between the accessible parking and the picnic area at 36" minimum width with 2% maximum cross slope and 5% maximum running slope (wherever possible). Where running slope exceeds 5% up to 8.33%, the maximum segment length permitted is 50'. Where running slope exceeds 8.33% up to 10%, the maximum segment length permitted is 30'. No segment shall be steeper than 10%. Ensure resting intervals are provided at the top and bottom of each segment, regardless of segment length.

**mid-term****08****Outdoor Recreation Access Route (to overlook)**

- 1) Establish firm and stable outdoor recreation access routes between the beginning of the viewing area trail to the viewing platform at 36" minimum width with 2% maximum cross slope and 5% maximum running slope (wherever possible). Where running slope exceeds 5% up to 8.33%, the maximum segment length permitted is 50'. Where running slope exceeds 8.33% up to 10%, the maximum segment length permitted is 30'. No segment shall be steeper than 10%. Ensure resting intervals are provided at the top and bottom of each segment, regardless of segment length.
- 2) Eliminate tread obstacles along the route so that they do not exceed 1/2" in height.

**mid-term****09****Picnic Facility (on-ramp to overlook)**

- 1) Improve the picnic table to be accessible with 27" minimum height knee clearance, extended tabletop, and 36" minimum clear space around all sides. It shall be located on firm and stable surfaces at 2% maximum slope in all directions.
- 2) Provide an outdoor recreation access route to the picnic table area by adding a spur off the existing trail to the picnic table that has a 36" minimum width with 2% maximum cross slope and 8.33% maximum running slope for up to 50' maximum or 10% maximum slope for 30' maximum.

mid-term

**10**

### **Picnic Facility (primary picnic area)**

- 1) Provide 20% (a minimum of two) of all picnic tables to be accessible picnic tables with 27" minimum height knee clearance, extended tabletops, and 36" minimum clear space around all sides. All accessible picnic tables shall be located on firm and stable surfaces at 2% maximum slope in all directions.
- 2) Provide an outdoor recreation access route to all accessible picnic table areas by adding a spur off the existing trail to the picnic tables that have a 36" minimum width with 2% maximum cross slope and 8.33% maximum running slope for up to 50' maximum or 10% maximum running slope for up to 30' maximum.

mid-term

**11**

### **Protruding Objects**

- 1) Provide headroom clearance of at least 80" high along all circulation paths. Recommend creating a fixed barrier beneath the protruding architecture that has a leading edge no higher than 27" so that it is cane detectable and does not call for a change to the original intent of the architecture.

mid-term

**12**

### **Trash and Recycling**

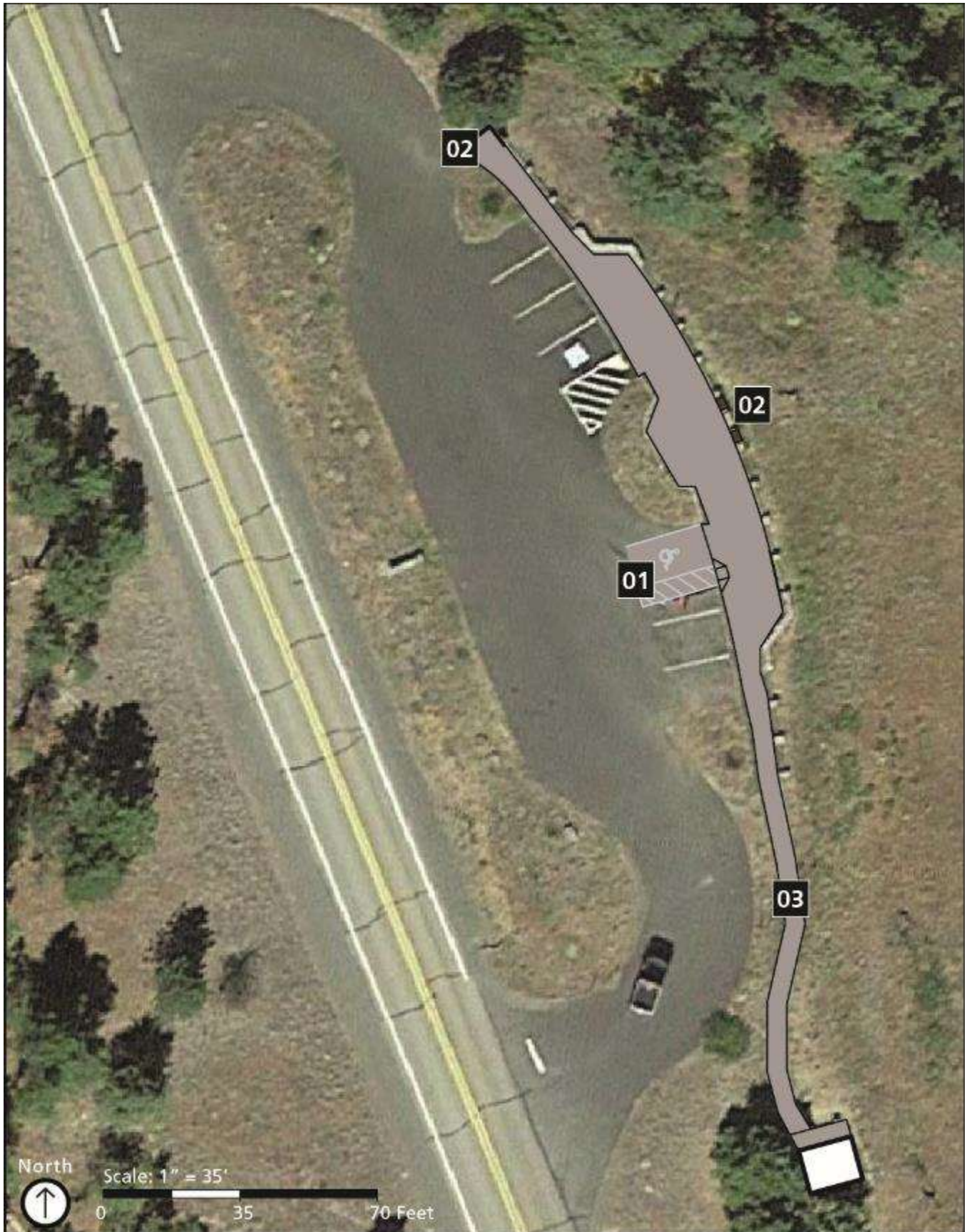
- 1) Relocate the trash receptacles to an area along the route that provides clear ground space adjacent to the receptacles that is firm, stable and does not exceed 2% slope in all directions.

immediate



## JOSEPH CANYON OVERLOOK

### Site Plan



## Implementation Strategy

Joseph Canyon Overlook provides access to two key experiences: appreciate the geography and living resources of the land shapes Nez Perce culture, and interact with park resources. The activities and programs provided at this area include interpretation through interpretive waysides and panels and viewing Joseph Canyon. The existing services that support these activities and programs include car parking areas, benches, outdoor recreation access routes, and restrooms. This highway pull-off is an NPS/USFS partnership site, and comprises an asphalt parking lot with one parking stall marked accessible. The area is gently sloped, has benches with companion seating, and good circulation space. The access route from the overlook gently slopes northerly to two waysides, and moderately slopes south to the restrooms. At the end of the path, the asphalt has slumped, creating a step onto the concrete pad entrance into the restroom.

Joseph Canyon Overlook provides visitors with a place to rest along a lengthy stretch of highway and take in the amazing and diverse geography of the area the Nez Perce call home. Joseph's Canyon Overlook reminds visitors of the bond the Nez Perce have to their land. Primary accessibility improvements for this site include slope improvements for the accessible parking stalls as well as for the route to the restroom.

The following improvements to this park area are planned:

### 01 Car Parking Area

- 1) Provide one van-accessible stall 11' minimum in width with a 5' minimum width access aisle.
- 2) Provide "van accessible" designation on van-accessible stall with the sign mounted 60" minimum above the ground to the bottom of the sign.
- 3) Locate the van-accessible stall on the shortest accessible route to the waysides and viewing areas.

mid-term

### 02 Interpretive Waysides and Panels

- 1) Provide a landing in front of interpretive waysides and panels that measure 30" by 48" minimum at 2% maximum slope in all directions.
- 2) As a best practice, provide waysides that use sans serif fonts, no italics, no all caps, and 24-point minimum font. Contrast between text and background should be a minimum of 70%.

mid-term





**03**

### **Outdoor Recreation Access Route**

- 1) Improve the route to the restroom so that it does not exceed an 8.3% running slope or 2% cross slope. Ensure surface changes are ½" or less in height.

mid-term

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## OLD CHIEF JOSEPH GRAVESITE

### Site Plan



## Implementation Strategy

Old Chief Joseph's Gravesite provides access to many key experiences: engage with Nez Perce culture; view the rich museum collections and cultural resources; visit sites where events occurred between the Nez Perce and other cultures; interact with park outdoor resources; and learn about the Lewis and Clark Expedition, fur trade, missionaries, gold mining, and the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877.

The activities and programs provided at this site include interpretation through waysides, reflection, and viewing of the gravesite and surrounding landscape. The existing services that support these activities and programs include car parking areas, outdoor recreation access routes, benches, and trash and recycling receptacles. The site is accessed via a gravel pullout immediately adjacent to the county road. Entrance to the site is over a steep step onto an old cattle guard foundation that transitions into a narrow compacted gravel path. The path goes directly up a moderately-steep slope to the Chief Joseph monument.

The Old Chief Joseph's Gravesite is held in trust for the Nez Perce and Umatilla Tribes. The park cooperatively manages the cemetery site. While improving access for all of the sites visitors is essential, of particular interest is improving the ability of tribal elders to access the site. The site was constructed by the Indian Division of the Civilian Conservation Corps, and is a cultural landscape. A cultural landscape inventory has been conducted that outlines recommended treatments for site rehabilitation. Park staff were very supportive of the need for improved accessibility to the site and were able to quickly identify constraints such as the historic concrete slab with a steep drop-off at the site entrance, as well as identifying potential solutions that maintain the historic integrity of the site such as raising the grade leading up to the slab to provide an accessible route to the gravesite.

The following improvements to this park area are planned:

### **01** Accessible Route

- 1) Provide an accessible route to the top of the historic slab so that it does not exceed a 5% running slope or 8.3% as a ramp with handrails, has a maximum cross slope of 2% and has a surface that is firm, stable, and slip resistant.

mid-term

### **02** Car Parking Area

- 1) Provide a minimum of one designated van-accessible parking stall near the gravesite entrance, 11' minimum in width with a 5' minimum width access aisle. Slope shall not exceed 2% in all directions.
- 2) Provide "van accessible" designation sign at the van-accessible stall to be installed at 60" minimum above the ground to the bottom of the sign.

mid-term

**03**

### **Interpretive Waysides**

- 1) Provide a level landing at the wayside, 30" by 48" minimum from a forward approach at 2% maximum slope in all directions. The wayside must be located along an accessible route.
- 2) As a best practice, provide waysides that use sans serif fonts, no italics, no all caps, and 24-point minimum font.

mid-term

**04**

### **Outdoor Recreation Access Route**

- 1) To the extent practicable, ensure that route surfaces, passing spaces, and resting intervals are firm and stable. The route shall not exceed 2% maximum cross slope or 5% for drainage purposes, and 8.33% maximum running slope for intervals up to 50' or 10% for intervals up to 30' in length.

mid-term

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SPALDING SITE

Watson's Site Plan



## Spalding Site

### Hillside Trail and Spalding Mill Road Site Plan





## Spalding Site

### Picnic Area Site Plan



## Implementation Strategy

The Spalding Site provides access to all six key park experiences including: engage with Nez Perce culture; appreciate how the geography and living resources of the land shapes Nez Perce culture; view the rich museum collections and cultural resources; visit sites where events occurred between the Nez Perce and other cultures; interact with park resources; and learn about the Lewis and Clark Expedition, fur trade, missionaries, gold mining, and the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877.

The activities and programs provided in this area for visitors include hiking, interpretation through waysides, exhibits, maps, tours, educational programs and special events, and picnicking. The existing services that support these activities and programs include trails, trailheads, accessible routes, outdoor recreation access routes, picnic facilities, restrooms, car parking areas, drinking fountains, benches, trash and recycling receptacles, and wayfinding and orientation signage.

Along with the visitor center, providing access to and within the Spalding Site gives visitors the opportunity to plan a full day's worth of activities within one general area. From the back of the Visitor Center, the Hillside Trail follows the access road alignment, and intersects Watson's trail and leads to the picnic area. Watson's Trail is a grassy, short spur nature trail to Watson's store. The site includes a mown grass parking area, and two waysides. One wayside interprets Watson's Store and the other wayside interprets the privately held Spalding Presbyterian Church. The Hillside Trail also leads to the picnic area, where the trail passes two waysides and the Old Townsite trailhead, a mown grass loop trail along a rather flat but slightly undulating alignment that ends a short distance from the trailhead. Interpretive brochures are provided along the trail. The Hillside Trail ends at the bridge over Lapwai Creek. The road continues to the picnic area and the Lapwai Creek trailhead. The picnic area includes a parking lot with stalls marked accessible, and a wide, flat asphalt walk that meanders from the access aisle around the site. Waysides, benches, trash cans, movable picnic tables and stationary barbecue grills are scattered within the trees and grass. The historical site dates from the 1930s, and contributing features comprise a restroom, the Spalding mission foundation site, the Indian agency cabin, DAR monument, several tiered stone drinking fountains, and a stone wall that partially encloses the cemetery. Park programs and events are held at this site on a regular basis. When occasional special events are held, or when Watson's store may be open, several of the adjacent nature areas are frequently mowed to provide additional parking. Key areas for improvement are physical access to the front viewing platform of the Watson's store and improved car parking and connecting routes at pulloffs along the road for those who cannot or decide not to walk the full length of

the trail following the road. The addition informational trail signage would allow for visitors to make the best decision based on their own abilities.

The following improvements to this park area are planned:

**01****Accessible Route (Watson's Store)**

- 1) Regrade the route from the vehicle pulloff area to the wayside landings at no more than 5% running slope and 2% cross slope. Compact, and maintain the gravel surface in firm, stable, and slip resistant condition.

mid-term

**02****Accessible Route (Watson's Store)**

- 1) In the short term, provide a programmatic solution such as an audio tour or brochure to interpret the store.
- 2) In the long term, provide an accessible route to the storefront platform. The solution will likely require a ramp with handrails up to the platform. Provide an accessible route measuring a minimum of 36" wide between handrails, having a maximum running slope of 5% and a maximum running slope of 2%, and constructed to have a firm and stable surface from the accessible parking stall to the base of the ramp. Provide landings at the top and bottom of the ramp to measure 60" by 60" and no more than 2% slope in all directions. Running slope of the ramp is not to exceed 8.3% and 2% cross slope. Ramps with a rise greater than 6" will have handrails on both sides. Ramps and landings with handrails will provide edge protection on both sides that prevent passage of a 4" diameter sphere. See ABAAS 505 for handrail requirements.

mid-term

**03****Car Parking Area (Watson's Store)**

- 1) Provide a designated van-accessible parking location by the Watson's Store and church that is firm, stable, does not exceed 2% slope in all directions, and is constructed and maintained to provide an 8' wide minimum space with an 8' wide minimum access aisle for the full length of the parking spot.
- 2) Provide a van-accessible parking sign on the designated van accessible stall to be mounted 60" minimum above the ground to the bottom of the sign. Provide "van accessible" designation on the van-accessible stalls.
- 3) The accessible parking space connects with accessible routes to waysides on both sides of the road.

mid-term

#### **04** Car Parking Area (Spalding Picnic Area)

- 1) The stall shall be firm, stable, and slip resistant at 2% maximum slope in all directions.
- 2) Provide an accessible parking designation sign on each stall to be 60" minimum above the ground to the bottom of the sign. Provide "van accessible" designation on the van-accessible stall.

mid-term

#### **05** Drinking Fountains (Spalding Picnic Area)

- 1) In the short term, provide a programmatic solution such as an audio tour or brochure to interpret the store.
- 2) In the long term, provide an accessible route to the storefront platform. The solution will likely require a ramp with handrails up to the platform. Provide an accessible route measuring a minimum of 36" wide between handrails, having a maximum running slope of 5% and a maximum running slope of 2%, and constructed to have a firm and stable surface from the accessible parking stall to the base of the ramp. Provide landings at the top and bottom of the ramp to measure 60" by 60" and no more than 2% slope in all directions. Running slope of the ramp is not to exceed 8.3% and 2% cross slope. Ramps with a rise greater than 6" will have handrails on both sides. Ramps and landings with handrails will provide edge protection on both sides that prevent passage of a 4" diameter sphere. See ABAAS 505 for handrail requirements.

mid-term

#### **06** Grills (Spalding Picnic Area)

- 1) Raise the grilling surface so that it is located 15" to 34" above the ground.

immediate

- 2) Relocate grills so that 20% of them are located at accessible picnicking locations.
- 3) Provide a firm and stable clear ground space of 48" minimum around all sides of the grill at 2% maximum slope in all directions.

short-term

#### **07** Interpretive Waysides (Spalding Mill Road)

- 1) Relocate waysides to accessible locations with a firm and stable surface that provide forward approach is 30" by 48" minimum. Provide a minimum 27" knee clearance from the ground surface to the bottom of wayside, OR provide accessible routes and level landings at the wayside.
- 2) As a best practice, improve all waysides to have 24-point minimum text, avoid the use of italics and all caps, and use high contrast images and text.

mid-term

**08**

### **Interpretive Waysides (Watson's Store)**

- 1) Provide a level landing at the waysides, 30" by 48" minimum from a forward approach at 2% maximum slope in all directions. Provide a minimum 27" knee clearance from the ground surface to the bottom of wayside.
- 2) As a best practice, provide waysides that use sans serif fonts, no italics, no all caps, and 24-point minimum font.

mid-term

**09**

### **Interpretive Waysides (Spalding Picnic Area)**

- 1) Provide a level landing at the wayside connected to the accessible route from the parking lot, 30" by 48" minimum from a forward approach at 2% maximum slope in all directions. Provide a minimum 27" knee clearance from the ground surface to the bottom of wayside.
- 2) As a best practice, provide waysides that use sans serif fonts, no italics, no all caps, and 24-point minimum font.

mid-term

**10**

### **Outdoor Recreation Access Route (Spalding Picnic Area)**

- 1) Establish a firm and stable outdoor recreation access route between accessible parking, restroom, and accessible picnic facilities at 36" minimum width with 2% maximum cross slope and 5% maximum running slope wherever possible. Segment lengths of up to 50' where running slope is between 5% and 8.33% are permitted. Segment lengths of up to 30' where running slope is between 8.33% and 10% are also permitted. No segment shall be steeper than 10%. Ensure resting intervals are provided at the top and bottom of each segment, regardless of length.



mid-term

**11**

### **Men's Restroom (Spalding Picnic Area)**

- 1) Relocate the toilet paper dispenser to be between 7" and 9" in front of the toilet measured to the centerline of the dispenser. The outlet of the dispenser shall be located between 15" and 48" above the floor.
- 2) Relocate mirror so that the bottom of the reflective surface is 40" maximum above lavatories or countertops, and 35" maximum above the floor.
- 3) Insulate or otherwise configure exposed plumbing to protect against contact with water supply and drain pipes under the sinks.

immediate

- 4) Correct the threshold at the restroom entrance so that it does not exceed ½" or less with ¼" maximum vertical clearance.

mid-term

**12**

### **Women's Restroom (Spalding Picnic Area)**

- 1) Relocate the toilet paper dispenser to be between 7" and 9" in front of the toilet measured to the centerline of the dispenser. The outlet of the dispenser shall be located between 15" and 48" above the floor.
- 2) Relocate the coat hook so that it is installed between 15" and 48" above the floor.

immediate

- 3) Correct the threshold at the restroom entrance so that it does not exceed ½" or less with ¼" maximum vertical clearance.
- 4) Insulate or otherwise configure exposed plumbing to protect against contact with water supply and drain pipes under the sinks.

short-term

**13**

### **Trailheads**

- 1) Provide trailhead signage at the entrance to the trail that contains details of all trail conditions, including trail length, surface type, typical and maximum running and cross slopes, and typical and minimum tread width. Other recommended information includes providing a description of potential obstacles, distances to experiences and/or features, and graphics, such as a cross-section that demonstrates slope conditions.

mid-term

**Trails (Hillside Trail)**

- 1) Continue the striped roadside trail to the beginning of the outdoor recreation access route at the parking lot with a minimum width of 36". Install a curb cut and landing connecting the Hillside Trail to the outdoor recreation access route leading to the restroom and accessible picnic area, OR adjust the grade of the Lapwai Trailhead and bring the remaining length of the Hillside Trail off of the street along the edge of the picnic area and connect to the outdoor recreation access route to the restrooms and accessible picnic area.

mid-term



**15**

### **Trash and Recycling Receptacles (Spalding Picnic Area)**

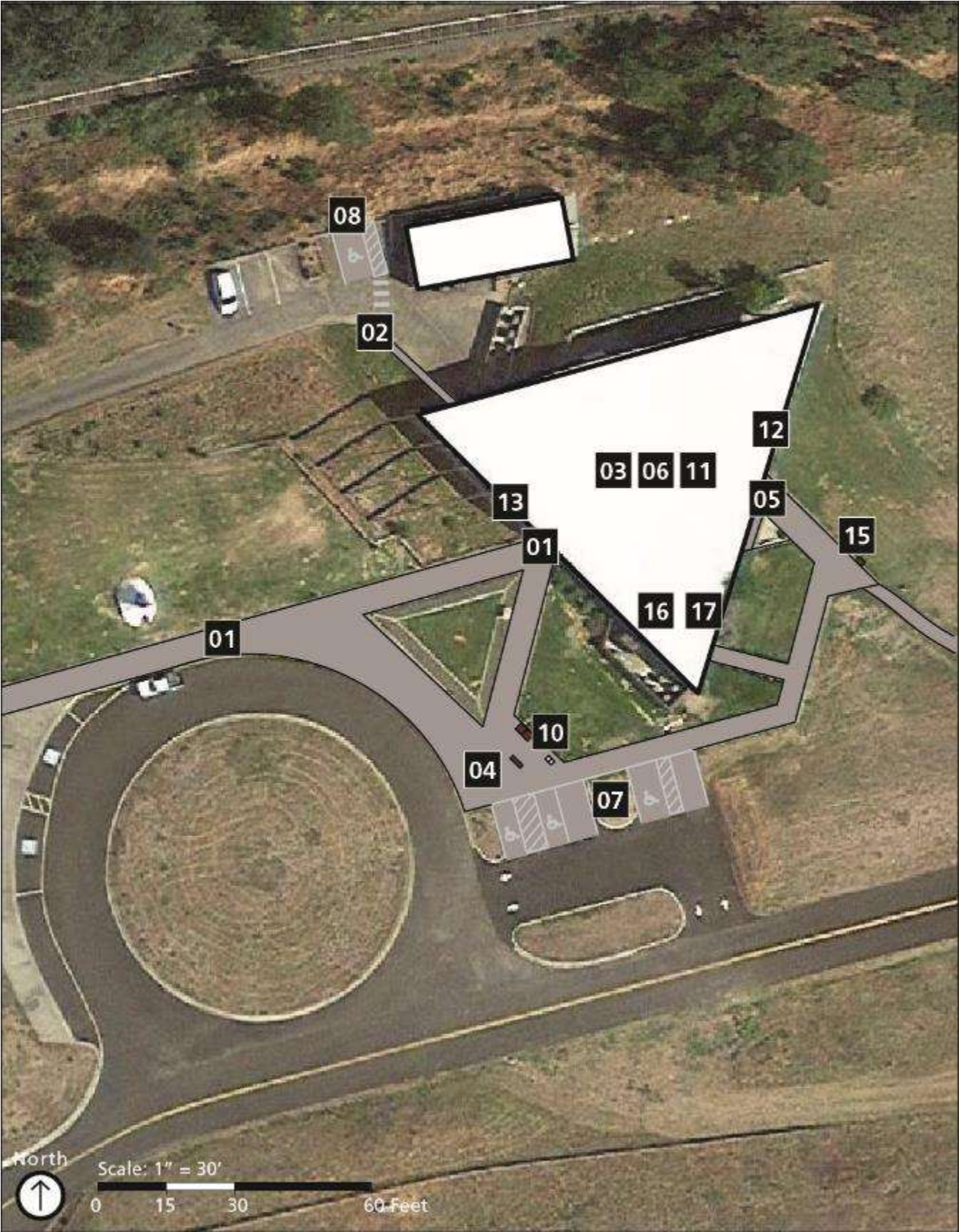
- 1) Relocate the receptacles along the accessible route from the parking lot. Provide a level landing, 36" by 48" minimum from a side approach at 2% maximum slope in all directions.

short-term

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SPALDING VISITOR CENTER

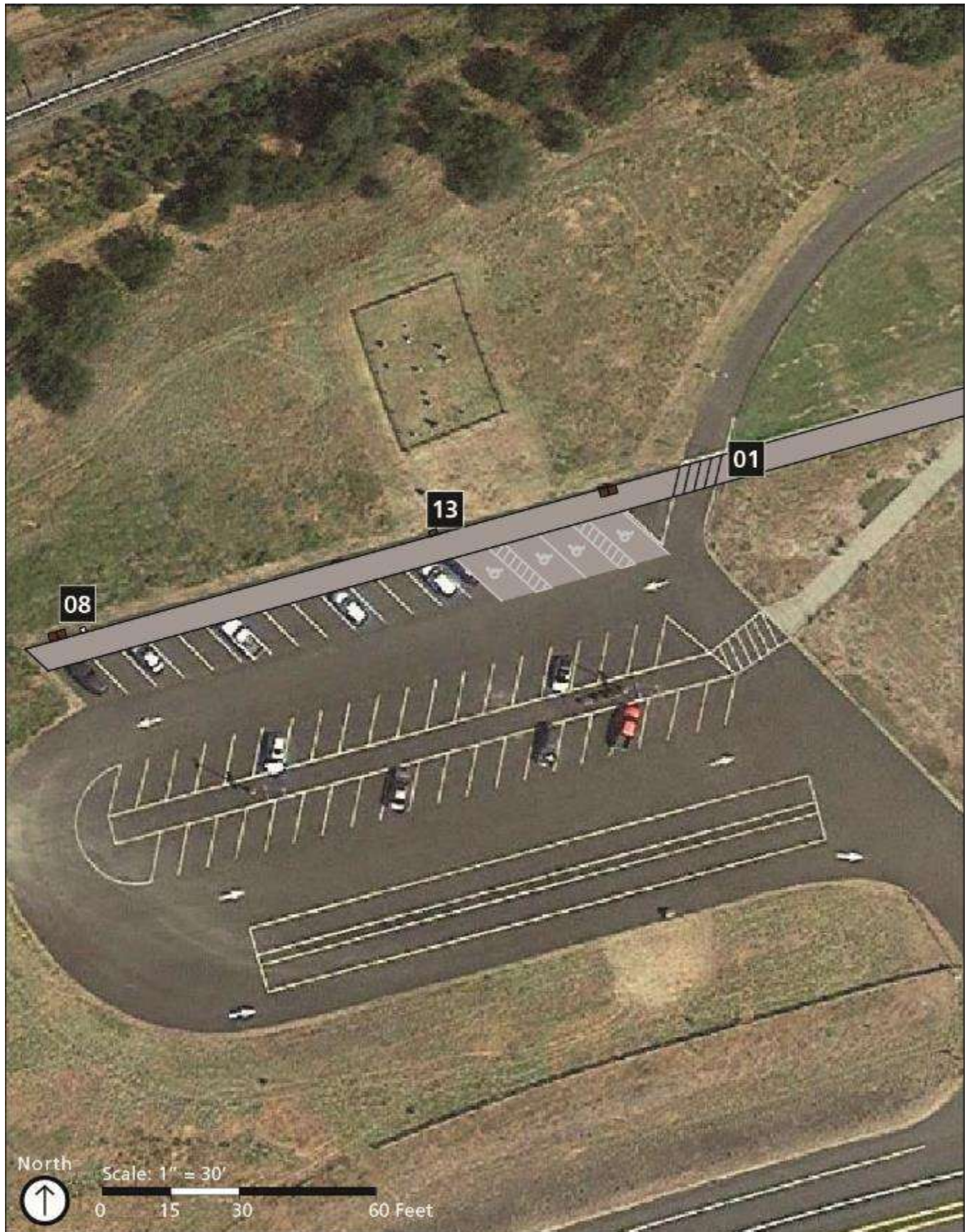
Main Building Area Site Plan





## Spalding Visitor Center

### Parking Lot Site Plan



## Implementation Strategy

Spalding Visitor Center provides access to all six key park experiences: engage with Nez Perce culture; appreciate how the geography and living resources of the land shapes Nez Perce culture; view the rich museum collections and cultural resources; visit sites where events occurred between the Nez Perce and other cultures; interact with park resources; and learn about the Lewis and Clark Expedition, fur trade, missionaries, gold mining, and the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877.

The activities and programs provided for visitors in this area include interpretation through waysides, exhibits, audio-visual programs and videos, tours, educational programs, and special events. The existing services that support these activities and programs include car parking areas, accessible routes, trash and recycling receptacles, benches, drinking fountains, drop-boxes and guestbooks, interior signage, wayfinding and orientation signage, bookstores and gift shops, information desks and service counters, restrooms, seating areas, theaters, and amphitheaters.

The Spalding Visitor Center site entrance has a large asphalt parking lot and includes a drop-off, oversize parking pullout and accessible parking spaces. The accessible route from the parking lot to the visitor center is flat, and passes a wayside and a small cemetery enclosed by a rail fence. The route continues across the service road and transitions onto a flat concrete aggregate walkway to the visitor center entrance, with benches and a fountain. The walkway also leads to the back of the visitor center where outdoor group activities occur, and where visitors can begin their site explorations via waysides and the entrance onto the Hillside Trail.

An automatic door entry facilitates access into the front of the visitor center and museum. Restrooms and a wheelchair for visitor use are located off the foyer. The visitor center has generous circulation and includes a visitor ledger, donation box, dual height fountain, dual height information counter, and a bookstore. Most materials are within reach range, exhibits are easy to view, and two work stations, a tactile interpretive station, and movable seating provide accessible opportunities. The auditorium shows open-captioned films throughout the day, and both the auditorium and museum are spacious with movable seating that can accommodate companions in wheelchairs, and allow easy viewing of photo and glass-encased exhibits.

A library including an archive vault and collection storage rooms are located one floor below the visitor center and is open to the public by request. Though there is no elevator, there is a ground level entrance from the service parking lot, which has an accessible parking space. There is a librarian's desk, a

reference library, tables with movable chairs and a computer station with ample circulation space.

Improving access to the various ways the visitor center communicates this story will have a big impact on how visitors are able to grasp the context. Ensuring all audio exhibits offer alternative formats and making exhibits with operable parts accessible to those with limited dexterity with their hands is needed. While there are some basic needs such as slope improvements along the accessible route to the building, the largest physical barrier might be restroom access. Due to the unique architecture of the visitor center, the entrance and landing to the restroom is narrow. Architectural solutions need to be explored.

The following improvements to this park area are planned:

#### **01** Accessible Routes (to visitor center)

- 1) Fix the entry threshold to not exceed ½" in height with a maximum vertical change of 1/4".
- 2) Fix the running slope on the curb ramp to not exceed 8.33%.
- 3) Patch or resurface areas along the accessible route where gaps on the ground surface exceed ½" in width.

immediate

#### **02** Accessible Route (to archives)

- 1) Provide an accessible route connecting the access aisle of the accessible parking stall to the entrance of the archive room. The route shall be 36" minimum in width and not to exceed 2% maximum slope in all directions. The route will be located on a firm and stable surface.

mid-term

#### **03** Auditorium

- 1) Relocate the fire extinguisher so that its leading edge is no higher than 27" or recessed into the wall to protrude no more than 4" from the wall surface.

immediate

- 2) Provide four wheelchair accessible seating areas with companion seating spaces by removing chairs in the front, middle, and/or back row aisle. Ensure that the locations are flat, firm, stable and slip resistant, are dispersed to offer a variety of seating options, and that accessible routes do not overlap wheelchair spaces. Spaces measure



36" minimum in width and 60" for aside entry or 46" for a forward or rear entry. Indicate accessible seating spaces with placards.

- 3) Establish a room plan with standard operating procedures for integrating the accessible seating within the auditorium.
- 4) Provide tactile signs for rooms when they are permanent in use such as an auditorium. Tactile characters on the sign are located 48" minimum above the finished floor measured from the baseline of the lowest tactile character and 60" maximum above the finished floor from the baseline of the highest tactile character.

short-term

#### **04** Bench (in front of visitor center)

- 1) Relocate the bench to allow for 36" minimum between other site elements such as the drinking fountain and their approach spaces.
- 2) As best practice, install a backrest and at least one armrest on the accessible bench.
- 3) As best practice, provide a 36" by 48" minimum clear space at 2% maximum slope in all directions adjacent to the accessible bench for companion seating.

mid-term

#### **05** Benches (at rear of visitor center)

- 1) As a best practice, install a backrest and at least one armrest on the accessible bench.
- 2) As a best practice, provide a 36" by 48" minimum clear space at 2% maximum slope in all directions adjacent to the accessible bench for companion seating.

short-term

#### **06** Bookstore and Gift Shop

- 1) To the extent practicable, place all merchandise within reach range, at least 15" from the ground surface and not to exceed 48". For items that remain out of reach range, provide signage indicating that staff is available to offer assistance.

immediate

#### **07** Car Parking Area (in front)

- 1) Restripe stalls to provide one van-accessible stall out of the three accessible stalls, 11' minimum in width with a 5' minimum width access aisle or 8' minimum in width with an 8' minimum width access aisle.



- 2) Regrade accessible parking stalls and access aisles next to the visitor center to a surface that is maximum 2% slope in all directions and is firm, stable, and slip resistant.
- 3) Provide an accessible parking sign on each designated accessible stall to be mounted 60" minimum above the ground to the bottom of the sign. Provide "van accessible" designation on the van-accessible stalls.
- 4) Provide minimum 5' wide access aisles for the two accessible stalls along the visitor center roundabout, measured to the striping centerline, extend the full length of the stalls, mark them accordingly, and connect them to an accessible route, OR provide an accessible passenger loading zone with a vehicle pull-up space 96" wide minimum and 20' long minimum with an access aisle 60" wide minimum and extending the full length of the vehicle pull-up space they serve and connecting to an accessible route, OR if vehicular circulation doesn't have adequate space for accessible stalls or a loading zone, remove the noncompliant stalls because scoping requirements are already met with the current number of accessible stall locations.

mid-term

**08**

### **Car Parking Area (at lower lot at archives)**

- 1) Provide one van-accessible stall 11' minimum in width with a 5' minimum width access aisle or 8' minimum in width with an 8' minimum width access aisle. Slopes are not to exceed 2% in all directions.
- 2) Provide a "van accessible" parking sign on the designated van-accessible stall to be mounted 60" minimum above the ground to the bottom of the sign.

mid-term

**09**

### **Dog Bag Dispenser**

- 1) Relocate the dog bag dispenser and trash receptacle along the existing accessible route on the north side of the parking lot. For both items, provide a level landing, 30" by 48" minimum at 2% maximum slope in all directions.

immediate

**10**

### **Bench (near drinking fountain)**

- 1) Relocate the bench by the drinking fountain to another area to allow a forward approach to the fountain and clear ground space of 30" by 48".

short-term

## 11

### Exhibits

- 1) Replace the activity table's current structure with an open table structure providing minimum knee clearance of 27" and a work surface that does not exceed 30" in height or alternatively, provide an adjacent surface with the same functionality, 27" high and 30" wide knee clearance, and a work surface that does not exceed 30" high.
- 2) Consider providing alternative formats for labeling the tactile objects on the sawhorse such as braille labels.
- 3) Display the exhibit in a display case no higher than 30" from the finished floor. Mount artifact labels on a horizontal surface at an angle to maximize visibility to viewers.
- 4) Consider providing an audio tour of the visitor center exhibits.

short-term

## **12** Exterior Seating Area

- 1) Provide four wheelchair-accessible seating areas within the group seating area. Space locations should be dispersed to provide a variety of seating options.
- 2) Provide companion seating with each wheelchair space.
- 3) Wheelchair spaces are firm, stable, and slip resistant at 2% minimum slope in all directions. A single wheelchair space is 36" wide minimum and 48" minimum deep for a front or rear approach or 60" for a side approach.

short-term

## **13** Information Boards

- 1) As a best practice, ensure that all printed signs and notifications use 24-point minimum text, avoid the use of italics and all caps, and use high contrast images and text.

short-term

## **14** Interpretive Waysides (at cemetery)

- 1) Relocate the wayside to the sidewalk edge and provide a level landing, 30" by 48" minimum at 2% maximum slope in all directions in front of the panels.
- 2) As a best practice, ensure that all waysides use 24-point minimum text, avoid the use of italics and all caps, and use high contrast images and text.

short-term

## **15** Interpretive Waysides (Hillside Trailhead at rear of visitor center)

- 1) Relocate the wayside closer to the sidewalk edge and provide a level landing, 30" by 48" minimum at 2% maximum slope in all directions in front of the panels.
- 2) As a best practice, ensure that all waysides use 24-point minimum text, avoid the use of italics and all caps, and use high contrast images and text.

short-term

## **16** Men's Restroom

- 1) Provide tactile signage adjacent to the latch side of the restroom door with the base of the lowest tactile characters 48" minimum in

height above the finish floor and the tops of the highest tactile characters 60" minimum in height above the finish floor.

- 2) Lower one urinal to have a lip no higher than 17" from the finished floor.
- 3) Replace the toilet so that flush controls are located on the open side of the toilet.
- 4) Relocate the coat hook so that it is between 15" and 48" above the finished floor.
- 5) Locate the toilet paper dispenser between 7" and 9" in front of the toilet measured to the centerline of the dispenser. The outlet of the dispenser is between 15" and 48" above the finished floor and not located behind the grab bars.
- 6) Insulate or wrap exposed pipes under the sinks.
- 7) Reconfigure the restroom to be 60" in width minimum measured perpendicular to the side wall and 56" in depth minimum measured perpendicular to the rear wall.
- 8) Install a rear grab bar that is 36" long minimum and extends from the centerline of the stall 12" minimum on one side and 24" minimum on the other side.

**immediate**

**17**

### **Women's Restroom**

- 1) Remove the doorstop on the kick plate.
- 2) Insulate or wrap exposed pipes under the sinks.
- 3) Locate the toilet paper dispenser between 7" and 9" in front of the toilet measured to the centerline of the dispenser. The outlet of the dispenser shall be between 15" and 48" above the finished floor and not located behind the grab bars.
- 4) Relocate the coat hook so that it is between 15" and 48" above the finished floor. Relocate the pulldown shelf so that it is between 40" and 48" above the finished floor.

**immediate**

- 5) Relocate tactile signage adjacent to the latch side of the restroom door with the base of the lowest tactile characters 48" minimum in height above the finish floor and the tops of the highest tactile characters 60" minimum in height above the finish floor.
- 6) The bathroom entrance needs to be reconfigured to provide a walking surface that is 36" minimum in width or 32" for a maximum distance of 24".

**short-term**



WHITE BIRD BATTLEFIELD

Site Plan





## Implementation Strategy

White Bird Battlefield provides access to all six key park experiences: engage with Nez Perce culture; appreciate how the geography and living resources of the land shapes Nez Perce culture; viewing the rich museum collections and cultural resources; visit sites where events occurred between the Nez Perce and other cultures; interact with park resources; and learn about the Lewis and Clark Expedition, fur trade, missionaries, gold mining, and the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877.

Activities and programs provided at White Bird Battlefield include hiking and interpretation through waysides, panels, and an auto radio broadcast. The existing services that support these activities and programs include car parking areas within a mowed grassy area, outdoor recreation access routes, a restroom with a step up into it, and wayfinding and orientation signage.

While fairly remote and simple, the battlefield site provides a reflective experience to understand the events that occurred there in 1877. Providing improvements to parking areas and routes to the restroom and waysides will make this unique experience more accessible to those who seek it.

The following improvements to this park area are planned:

### **01** Auto Radio Program

- 1) Provide an alternative format that contains the content from the auto radio program. Consider providing a downloadable version of the content on the park website.

short-term

### **02** Car Parking Area

- 1) Provide one van-accessible stall 11' minimum in width with a 5' minimum access aisle or 8' minimum in width with an 8' minimum width access aisle. The surface shall be firm, stable, and slip resistant. The stall shall be 2% maximum slope in all directions. Recommend delineating the space with a colored backstop and maintaining grade and compaction of the gravel surface as opposed to paving to limit visual impacts to the culturally significant landscape.
- 2) Install a sign designating the stall as accessible van parking. Mount the sign 60" high minimum from the ground to the bottom of the sign. Locate the van-accessible stall on the shortest accessible route to the waysides and viewing areas.

short-term



**03**

### Exhibits and Maps

- 1) Provide a 30" by 48" clear space from a forward approach or parallel approach with 27" minimum knee clearance, 2% maximum slope in any direction, and on a firm and stable surface.
- 2) As a best practice, text and images shall maintain a visual contrast of 70%, have a minimum of 24- point font, and avoid the use of italics, serif fonts, and all capital letters.

short-term

**04**

### Interpretive Waysides

- 1) Provide a level landing up to each wayside, 30" by 48" minimum from a forward approach at 2% maximum slope in all directions, OR move inaccessible waysides to accessible locations. Waysides will provide a minimum of 27" knee clearance from the ground surface to the bottom surface of the wayside.

short-term

**05**

### Outdoor Recreation Access Route

- 1) Provide an outdoor recreation access route from the accessible parking stall location to the restroom, replacing the existing scored concrete slab, and to the trailhead with a clear width of 36" minimum not to exceed running slopes of 5%, 8.33% for more than a 50' segment, or 10% maximum for a 30' segment.

long-term

**06**

### Restroom

- 1) Eliminate the vertical barrier between the concrete joints and provide a firm and stable landing in front of the restroom connecting the accessible route, not to exceed 2% slope in all directions or 5% if the material is other than wood planking, concrete, or asphalt and is necessary for drainage.

short-term

**07**

### Trail Signage

- 1) Install a sign to provide details of trail conditions, including trail length, surface type, typical and maximum running and cross slopes, and typical and minimum tread width. Other recommended information includes providing a description of potential obstacles, distances to

experiences and/or features, and graphics, such as a cross-section that demonstrates slope conditions.

short-term

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WHITE BIRD BATTLEFIELD OVERLOOK

Site Plan



## Implementation Strategy

White Bird Battlefield Overlook provides access many key experiences: engage with Nez Perce culture; appreciate how the geography and living resources of the land shapes Nez Perce culture; visit sites where events occurred between the Nez Perce and other cultures; and learn about the Lewis and Clark Expedition, fur trade, missionaries, gold-mining, and the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877.

The activities and programs provided in this area for visitors include interpretation through interpretive waysides, panels, brochures, and maps as well as taking in views downslope from the battle position of the U.S. forces. The existing services that support these activities and programs include car parking areas, accessible routes, benches, and a viewing area.

The White Bird Battlefield Overlook provides a sweeping view of what the U.S. Cavalry would have seen as they approached and engaged the Nez Perce in 1877. A welcome stop along a steep stretch of Highway 95, the White Bird Battlefield Overlook interpretive shelter is situated within a large pullout and comprises an asphalt parking lot with designated oversize and accessible parking spaces. The overlook sits high above the battlefield, with three state highway waysides. The parking area ramps up into the concrete slab entrance and onto the wood decking of the shelter structure that includes an information board, waysides, and an NPS brochure box.

Basic accessibility improvements needed include corrections at accessible parking locations and slope adjustments along the accessible route as well as some modifications to approaches at waysides and interpretive panels. As with other sites, the architecture of the shade structure is designed with angles based off the form of the triangle. The angled walls of the shade structure create protruding objects that are not cane detectable. From a programmatic perspective, the park has done a wonderful job to communicate battle tactics and positions. Providing an alternative format to communicate this information to those who are blind or have vision loss would greatly expand access to the site.

The following improvements to this park area are planned:

### **01** Brochure Boxes

- 1) Relocate the brochure boxes so that they are 15" minimum and 48" maximum above the finished floor.
- 2) If brochure boxes are mounted above 27", ensure that they do not protrude more than 4" from the mounted surface.

**immediate**

**02****Car Parking Area**

- 1) Improve the existing stalls to provide one van-accessible stall 11' minimum in width with a 5' minimum width access aisle or 8' minimum in width with an 8' minimum width access aisle. The stall shall be 2% maximum slope in all directions. Improve the second accessible stall to be 8' minimum in width with a 5' minimum width access aisle. The stall shall be 2% maximum slope in all directions.
- 2) Provide signs designating accessible spaces as well as a "van accessible" sign designation on the van-accessible stall to be mounted 60" minimum above the ground to the bottom of the sign.
- 3) Install curb cuts where needed off each access aisle. They shall be 8.3% maximum running slope with 10% maximum slope flares and a level landing at the top of the curb ramp 36" minimum depth at 2% maximum slope in all directions.

mid-term

**03****Exhibits and Maps**

- 1) As a best practice, redesign the map to not include combinations of red and green objects and instead use alternative colors or symbols to make distinctions on the map.
- 2) Consider providing a tactile map to improve universal comprehension of the locations of events throughout the battle.

short-term

**04****Outdoor Recreation Access Route**

- 1) Provide an outdoor recreation access route from each accessible parking stall location to the viewing area with clear width of 36" minimum not to exceed slopes between 5% and 8.33% for more than a 50' segment or 10% maximum for a 30' segment. Passing spaces and resting intervals provided between segments are firm, stable, and do not exceed 2% slope or 5% if it is a natural ground surface material and is necessary for drainage.

short-term

**05****Protruding Objects**

- 1) Improve the existing stalls to provide one van-accessible stall 11' minimum in width with a 5' minimum width access aisle or 8' minimum in width with an 8' minimum width access aisle. The stall shall be 2% maximum slope in all directions. Improve the second accessible stall

to be 8' minimum in width with a 5' minimum width access aisle. The stall shall be 2% maximum slope in all directions.

- 2) Provide signs designating accessible spaces as well as a "van accessible" sign designation on the van-accessible stall to be mounted 60" minimum above the ground to the bottom of the sign.
- 3) Install curb cuts where needed off each access aisle. They shall be 8.3% maximum running slope with 10% maximum slope flares and a level landing at the top of the curb ramp 36" minimum depth at 2% maximum slope in all directions.

short-term

## 06

### Interpretive Wayside

- 1) Relocate the wayside so that the battlefield view is unobstructed with an open viewing space between 32" maximum and 51" minimum above the finished ground. Safety barriers are permitted to obstruct the viewing space to the extent the obstruction is necessary for safety. Recommend cutting wood railing and inset the wayside. Provide a 30" by 48" clear space from a forward approach or parallel approach with 27" minimum knee clearance, 2% maximum slope in any direction, and on a firm and stable surface.

short-term



## Park Features



For thousands of years the valleys, plains, mountains, and prairies of our people have been protected from abuse and destruction.





## Implementation Strategy

Park policies and practices are specific to the park unit and provide guidance for reaching desired outcomes. Park policies are defined courses of action adopted by the park, while park practices are those habitual and/or customary performances of operations that the park employs.

### Posting and Publications

#### 01 Publications

- 1) Provide braille publications and tactile wayfinding maps.
- 2) Provide audio described publications.
- 3) Provide large-print format publications. Use a minimum readable typeface at 18-point font. Align flush left and rag right. Avoid hyphens. Use black or white type color and avoid red text. Avoid italicized and underlined text. Provide graphics with at least 70% contrast.
- 4) Add accessibility information in all publications, as they relate to services, activities, and programs.

mid-term

### Staff Training and Park Protocols

#### 02 Accessibility Awareness Training

- 1) Provide ongoing accessibility awareness training for all staff, including permanent and nonpermanent employees.

short-term

#### 03 Accessible Facilities and Maintenance Training

- 1) Provide ongoing training for maintenance staff on planning, maintaining and constructing accessible facilities, including, but not limited to, restrooms, walks and trails, door pressure requirements, assistive devices, accessible routes, and universal design principles.

short-term

**04**

## **Accessibility for Project Managers Training**

- 1) Provide ongoing training for project managers to address project accessibility requirements, (e.g., entering accessibility projects in Project Management Information System (PMIS), understanding universal design principles, and overseeing quality control of projects and designs).

short-term

**05**

## **Accessible Interpretive Training**

- 1) Provide ongoing training for the interpretation and education division. Training may include, but is not limited to, how to evaluate programs for accessibility compliance; which websites offer more information; information about service animals; information about Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMDs); how and when to offer live audio description programming; accessibility specifications for interpretive tactile models and maps; what assistive technologies are available; universal design principles; visitor services and communication about accessibility. It is also important to provide regular and ongoing visitor information and interpretive staff training in use of, distribution, and procedures for wheelchairs and assistive technology—assistive listening devices, T-coil hearing loops, neck loops, and text telephone machines.

short-term

**06**

## **Emergency Preparedness**

- 1) Develop, distribute, and practice standard operating procedures for assisting people with disabilities in the case of an emergency.

short-term

**07**

## **Movable Seating**

- 1) Develop and distribute standard operating procedures for movable cubicles and conference rooms, so there is adequate clear space and accessible routes to all elements in a room or building. Post a map in an area with accessible layout and instructions for use of the space.
- 2) Develop and distribute standard operating procedures for movable seating arrangements and moving things to create an accessible route and maintain integrated accessible seating. Post a map in an area with accessible layout and instructions for use of the space.

short-term



**08****Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMDs)**

- 1) Provide guidance outlining use of OPDMDs within the park.

short-term

**09****Service Animals**

- 1) Provide guidance or policy regarding service animals within the park.

short-term

**10****Wheelchairs**

- 1) Provide a standard operating procedure or guidance for checking out and returning wheelchairs.
- 2) Provide a standard operating procedure or guidance on protocol for pre- and post-inspecting, cleaning, and maintenance of wheelchairs.
- 3) Inform visitors and program participants that wheelchairs are available upon request. Provide information on wheelchair availability in all publications and on signage. Inform visitors using services, activities, and programs that wheelchairs are available upon request.

short-term

**Audio and Visual Programs****11****Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs)**

- 1) Purchase assistive listening transmitters and devices. Provide these devices at visitor centers, educational programs, and guided tours with audio components.
- 2) Develop and distribute standard operating procedures or guidance for checking out and returning assistive listening devices.
- 3) Develop and distribute standard operating procedures or guidance describing protocol for pre -and post-inspection of the devices and for cleaning and maintaining all devices.
- 4) Provide signage and information where programs are offered stating device availability. Verbally inform visitors and program participants that auxiliary aids are available. Add information to all publications and communications stating that assistive listening devices are available and provide information on how they can be attained.

mid-term

**12****Live Audio Description**

- 1) Provide live audio descriptions on guided interpretive tours when needed.

mid-term

**13****Open Captioning and Audio Description**

- 1) Provide audio description of all images shown on the videos.

mid-term

**14****T-Coil Hearing Loops or Neck Loops**

- 1) Purchase T-coil hearing loops and neck loops. Inform visitors and program participants that auxiliary aids are available and provide information on check-out procedures. Post signage in appropriate locations and in all publications specifying availability of services.
- 2) Develop and distribute standard operating procedure or guidance for checking out and returning T-coil hearing loops and neck loops.
- 3) Develop and distribute standard operating procedures or guidance for pre-and post-inspection of T-coil hearing loops and neck loops and cleaning and maintenance of all devices.

mid-term

**Visitor Information****15****Communication**

- 1) Provide park e-mail address and telephone number on the park's website and in publications for questions: [Park\\_Contact@nps.gov](mailto:Park_Contact@nps.gov).
- 2) Develop an accessibility guide for Nez Perce National Historical Park that outlines accessible services, activities, and programs.

short-term

**16****Outreach**

- 1) Conduct outreach via social media (Pinterest, Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, etc.) to describe accessible programs, services, and activities available at the park.
- 2) Conduct outreach via traditional media and other advertising methods to describe accessible programs, services, and activities available at the park.

- 3) Contact groups with disabilities to inform them about the accessible programs, services, and activities that have become available at the park as solutions are implemented.
- 4) Outreach to and engage groups with disabilities to determine appropriate ways to involve them in park accessibility improvement projects as they occur (case-by-case basis).

mid-term

**17**

## **Reservations**

- 1) On the park website, identify the following Federal Relay Service phone numbers: Voice (1-866-377-8642), Voice Carry Over (1-877-877-6280), Speech-to-Speech (1-877-877-8982), and Telebraille (1-866-893-8340). Note that for some of these services (Voice and Voice Carry Over), a user may also dial 711.
- 2) Provide an online reservation system built into the provider's website. Provide accessible formats for making reservations through the Federal Relay Service, Text Telephone (TTY), Video Phone, etc.
- 3) For each park area that requires a reservation, provide information on website reservation systems about accessible services and facilities.

mid-term

**18**

## **Signage**

- 1) Provide signage at visitor center that states availability of accessible alternative formats.

short-term

**19**

## **Website**

- 1) Provide information on the park's website that accessible programs, services, and activities are available, including, but not limited to, audio description, assistive listening devices, Braille/tactile features, accessible tours, open captioning, trails, etc.
- 2) Provide a manual switch on all websites to enable changing font size. Provide flush left and rag right alignment. Avoid hyphens. Use black or white type color. Avoid the use of red or green text. Avoid italicized and underlined text. Avoid use of all caps or italics. Provide graphics with at least 70% contrast. Provide Word documents as an alternative to PDFs.

short-term

## Tours, Programs, and Special Events

### **20** Tours (Guided and Self-Guided), Educational Programs, and Special Events

- 1) Upon request, provide alternative formats such as trail information in large print; audio descriptions for tours; educational programs; or special events. Provide alternative formats on park website and in publications at visitor center.
- 2) Provide information on the physical conditions of the tour, education program, or special event (e.g., number of steps, slopes, other barriers that exist, etc.) on-site, in a publication and/or on a website.
- 3) Provide designated stopping points or resting areas for the tour, education program, or special event, with 2% maximum cross and running slopes, firm and stable surfaces, and a minimum 30" by 48" clear space.

mid-term

### **21** Sign Language Interpreters

- 1) Develop the process for requesting sign language interpreters. Provide sign language interpreters within five days of request.
- 2) Develop and distribute standard operating procedures for contacting and scheduling sign language interpreters.

short-term

### **22** Special Events

- 1) Provide a system for people to call in and request a sign language interpreter within five days of service. Provide assistive listening devices and a T-coil or neck loop system. Post signage indicating devices and systems are available for special events. Provide large print of any handouts or waivers being provided.
- 2) Provide information on how people can contact the park for accommodations for special events, and release event announcements in a variety of accessible methods (e.g., large-print flyers, electronic accessible PDFs, etc.)
- 3) Develop and distribute a standard operating procedure on how to post accessibility information and how to request accommodations on event announcements.

mid-term



## Concessions and Partnerships

**23**

### **Park Partner, Lessee, and Concessionaire Services, Activities, and Programs**

- 1) Prepare a standard operating procedure for lessees and park partners about providing accessible programs, services, and activities within the park unit.
- 2) Develop and distribute a standard operating procedure for presentations provided by outside groups regarding accessibility and assistive listening devices.

short-term

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## CONCLUSION

Nez Perce National Historical Park is committed to providing all visitors the opportunity to connect with and learn about the park's unique natural, cultural, and recreational resources. Accessibility improvements identified in the Nez Perce National Historical Park Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan will make it easier for individuals with cognitive, hearing, vision, and mobility disabilities to discover, understand, and enjoy the range of experiences available at the park. Implementation of the plan will ensure that Nez Perce National Historical Park will continue to work toward accommodating all park visitors while sustaining its legacy to preserve and protect tangible resources and interpret the culture and history that document the significant role of the Nez Perce in North American history.

The Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan for Nez Perce National Historical Park is a living document intended to be used as a guiding reference for the park as it implements accessibility upgrades and documents accessibility accomplishments. As barriers to accessibility are removed and/or improved, the changes will be updated in this plan. The park will conduct periodic reviews to evaluate and update conditions to reflect accomplishments and to document new programs or other changes that occur over time. Revisions to the plan may include conducting additional assessments for areas not originally conducted as a part of this plan.

The primary goal of the transition plan is to define key park experiences and document modifications needed to provide independent program participation for the widest range of disabilities possible. As the park works towards its accessibility goals and makes the implementation strategy a reality, both physical and programmatic accessibility will improve across the breadth of key park experiences at Nez Perce National Historical Park.

For visitors with mobility disabilities, access will be improved from the moment they enter the park. Facilities, as well as numerous programs, services, and activities the park offers will be more universally accessible. Experiences such as engaging with Nez Perce culture and history, experiencing sacred landscapes, hiking, picnicking with family and friends, and learning about the human history and environment of the park, will be enhanced.

Park programs will be created and delivered for all visitors, including visitors with mild to severe disabilities impacting their mobility, vision, hearing, and/or cognitive abilities. Ranger led walks/talks, visitor center exhibits, films, trail waysides, and all materials that interpret park resources to the public will be provided in formats that allow visitors with disabilities to participate fully. Some of those formats include, but are not limited to: large-print transcripts for printer

materials, audio description for exhibits and films, assistive listening devices and sign language interpreters for ranger-led tours and programs, T-coil hearing loops for park films.

Over time, the results of this collective effort will make Nez Perce National Historical Park a truly welcoming and accommodating place for all visitors and will provide equal opportunity to access the many places, resources, stories, and experiences the park has to offer.

## **APPENDIX A: ACCESSIBILITY LAWS, STANDARDS, GUIDELINES, AND NPS POLICIES APPLICABLE TO NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK**

As a national park, Nez Perce National Historical Park is required to comply with specific federal laws that mandate that discriminatory barriers be removed to provide equal opportunities to persons with disabilities. The following laws, design guidelines, and Director's Orders specifically pertain to Nez Perce National Historical Park.

### **LAWS AND STANDARDS**

A law is a principle and regulation established in a community by some authority and applicable to its people, whether in the form of legislation or of custom and policies recognized and enforced by judicial decision. A standard is something considered by an authority or by general consent as a basis of comparison; an approved model. It is a specific low-level mandatory control that helps enforce and support a law.

#### **Architectural Barriers Act of 1968**

<http://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/buildings-and-sites/about-the-aba-standards/guide-to-the-aba-standards>

The Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 requires physical access to facilities designed, built, altered, or leased with federal funds. The Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) are the design guidelines used as the basis for enforcement of the law. The UFAS regulations were adopted in 1984. Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS) were revised and adopted in November 2005. Four federal agencies are responsible for the standards: the Department of Defense, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the General Services Administration, and the US Postal Service. The United States Access Board was created to enforce the Architectural Barriers Act, which it does through the investigation of complaints. Anyone concerned about the accessibility of a facility that may have received federal funds can easily file a complaint with the United States Access Board.

#### **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/43/17.550>

To the extent that section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 applies to departments and agencies of the federal government, the parks operated by the National Park Service are subject to the provisions of that statute. As will be discussed in the following text, both section 504 and the Architectural Barriers Act require the application of stringent access standards to new construction

and the alteration of existing facilities. The Rehabilitation, Comprehensive Services, and Developmental Disabilities Amendments of 1978 (PL 95-602) extends the scope of section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (PL 93-112) to include Executive Branch agencies of the federal government. As amended, section 504 states:

Section 504: No otherwise qualified handicapped individual in the United States, as defined in Section 7 (6), shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance or under any program or activity conducted by any Executive agency or by the United States Postal Service. The head of each such agency shall promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the amendments to this section made by the Rehabilitation, Comprehensive Services, and Developmental Disabilities Act of 1978. Copies of any proposed regulation shall be submitted to appropriate authorizing committees of Congress, and such regulation may take effect no earlier than the thirtieth day after the date on which such regulation is so submitted to such committees.

As noted above, section 504 and the Architectural Barriers Act govern new construction and alterations. However, as a civil rights law, section 504 goes further. Unlike the construction-driven ABA mandates, section 504 also requires covered entities to consider the accessibility of programs, services, and activities.

### **Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

<http://www.section508.gov/>

In 1998, Congress amended the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to require federal agencies to make their electronic and information technology (EIT) accessible to people with disabilities. Inaccessible technology interferes with an ability to obtain and use information quickly and easily. Section 508 was enacted to eliminate barriers in information technology, open new opportunities for people with disabilities, and encourage development of technologies that will help achieve these goals. The law applies to all federal agencies when they develop, procure, maintain, or use electronic and information technology. Under section 508 (29 USC §794 d), agencies must give disabled employees and members of the public access to information that is comparable to access available to others. It is recommended that you review the laws and regulations discussed in the following sections to further your understanding about section 508 and how you can support implementation.



## **Accessibility Standards for Outdoor Developed Areas**

<http://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/recreation-facilities/outdoor-developed-areas/final-guidelines-for-outdoor-developed-areas>

Achieving accessibility in outdoor environments has long been a source of inquiry because of challenges and constraints posed by terrain, the degree of development, construction practices and materials, and other factors. The new provisions address access to trails, picnic and camping areas, viewing areas, beach access routes, and other components of outdoor developed areas on federal sites when newly built or altered. They also provide exceptions for situations where terrain and other factors make compliance impracticable. In 2013, this final rule amended the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines by adding scoping and technical requirements for camping facilities, picnic facilities, viewing areas, trails, and beach access routes constructed or altered by or on behalf of federal agencies. The final rule ensures that these facilities are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. The final rule applies to the following federal agencies and their components that administer outdoor areas developed for recreational purposes: Department of Agriculture (Forest Service); Department of Defense (Army Corps of Engineers); and Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service). The final rule also applies to nonfederal entities that construct or alter recreation facilities on federal land on behalf of the federal agencies pursuant to a concession contract, partnership agreement, or similar arrangement.

## **Accessibility Standards for Shared Use Paths**

<http://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/streets-sidewalks/shared-use-paths>

Shared use paths provide a means of off-road transportation and recreation for various users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, skaters, and others, including people with disabilities. In its rulemaking on public rights-of-way and on trails and other outdoor developed areas, comments from the public urged the board to address access to shared use paths because they are distinct from sidewalks and trails. Shared-use paths, unlike most sidewalks, are physically separated from streets by an open space or barrier. They also differ from trails because they are designed not just for recreation purposes but for transportation as well.

In response, the board is supplementing its rulemaking on public rights-of-way to also cover shared-use paths. The proposed rights-of-way guidelines, which address access to sidewalks, streets, and other pedestrian facilities, provide

requirements for pedestrian access routes, including specifications for route width, grade, cross slope, surfaces, and other features. The board proposes to apply these and other relevant requirements to shared-use paths as well. This supplementary rulemaking also would add provisions tailored to shared-use paths into the rights-of-way guidelines.

### **Draft Accessibility Standards for Public Rights-of-Way**

<http://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/streets-sidewalks/public-rights-of-way>

Sidewalks, street crossings, and other elements in the public right-of-way can pose challenges to accessibility. The United States Access Board's ADA and ABA Accessibility Guidelines focus mainly on facilities on sites. While they address certain features common to public sidewalks, such as curb ramps, further guidance is necessary to address conditions and constraints unique to public rights-of-way.

The board is developing new guidelines for public rights-of-way that will address various issues, including access for blind pedestrians at street crossings, wheelchair access to on-street parking, and various constraints posed by space limitations, roadway design practices, slope, and terrain. The new guidelines will cover pedestrian access to sidewalks and streets, including crosswalks, curb ramps, street furnishings, pedestrian signals, parking, and other components of public rights-of-way. The board's aim in developing these guidelines is to ensure that access for persons with disabilities is provided wherever a pedestrian way is newly built or altered, and that the same degree of convenience, connection, and safety afforded the public generally is available to pedestrians with disabilities. Once these guidelines are adopted by the Department of Justice, they will become enforceable standards under ADA Title II.

### **Effective Communication**

<http://www.ada.gov/effective-comm.htm>

People who have vision, hearing, or speech disabilities ("communication disabilities") use different ways to communicate. For example, people who are blind may give and receive information audibly rather than in writing and people who are deaf may give and receive information through writing or sign language rather than through speech. The ADA requires that Title II entities (state and local governments) and Title III entities (businesses and nonprofit organizations that serve the public) communicate effectively with people who have communication disabilities. The goal is to ensure that communication

with people with disabilities is equally effective as communication with people without disabilities.

- The purpose of the effective communication rules is to ensure that the person with a vision, hearing, or speech disability can communicate with, receive information from, and convey information to, the covered entity.
- Covered entities must provide auxiliary aids and services when needed to communicate effectively with people who have communication disabilities.
- The key to communicating effectively is to consider the nature, length, complexity, and context of the communication and the person's normal method(s) of communication.

The rules apply to communicating with the person who is receiving the covered entity's goods or services, as well as with that person's parent, spouse, or companion in appropriate circumstances.

### **Reasonable Accommodations**

<http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/disability-employment/reasonable-accommodations/>

Federal agencies are required by law to provide reasonable accommodation to qualified employees with disabilities. The federal government may provide reasonable accommodation based on appropriate requests (unless so doing will result in undue hardship to the agencies). For more information, see the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's [Enforcement Guidance: Reasonable Accommodation and Undue Hardship under the Americans with Disabilities Act \(external link\)](#).

Reasonable accommodations can apply to the duties of the job and/or where and how job tasks are performed. The accommodation should make it easier for the employee to successfully perform the duties of the position. Examples of reasonable accommodations include providing interpreters, readers, or other personal assistance; modifying job duties; restructuring work sites; providing flexible work schedules or work sites (i.e., telework); and providing accessible technology or other workplace adaptive equipment. [Telework \(external link\)](#) provides employees additional flexibility by allowing them to work at a geographically convenient alternative worksite, such as home or a telecenter, on an average of at least one day per week.

Requests are considered on a case-by-case basis. To request reasonable accommodations:

- Look at the vacancy announcement.
- Work directly with person arranging the interviews.
- Contact the agency [Selective Placement Program Coordinator](#).
- Contact the hiring manager and engage in an interactive process to clarify what the person needs and identify reasonable accommodations.
- Make an oral or written request; no special language is needed.

### **Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices**

<http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/ADAREgs2010.htm>

The definition and regulation to permit the use of mobility devices has been amended. The rule adopts a two-tiered approach to mobility devices, drawing distinctions between wheelchairs and other power-driven mobility devices such as the Segway Human Transporter. Wheelchairs (and other devices designed for use by people with mobility impairments) must be permitted in all areas open to pedestrian use. Other power-driven mobility devices must be permitted for use unless the covered entity can demonstrate that such use would fundamentally alter its programs, services, or activities, create a direct threat, or create a safety hazard. The rule also lists factors to consider in making this determination.

### **Service Animals**

<http://www.nps.gov/goga/planyourvisit/service-animals.htm>

[The following is excerpted from the Department of Justice and Americans with Disabilities Act Revised Regulations \(effective 3/15/2011\).](#)

34.104 Definitions: Service animal means any dog [or miniature horse as outlined in the following text] that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the handler's disability. Examples of work or tasks include, but are not limited to, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, providing nonviolent protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair, assisting an individual during a seizure, alerting individuals to the presence of allergens, retrieving items such as medicine or the telephone, providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities, and helping

persons with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors. The crime deterrent effects of an animal's presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this definition.

- a. General. Generally, a public entity shall modify its policies, practices, or procedures to permit the use of a service animal by an individual with a disability.
- b. Exceptions. A public entity may ask an individual with a disability to remove a service animal from the premises if-
  - (1) The animal is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to control it; or
  - (2) The animal is not housebroken.
- c. If an animal is properly excluded. If a public entity properly excludes a service animal under § 35.136(b), it shall give the individual with a disability the opportunity to participate in the service, program, or activity without having the service animal on the premises.
- d. Animal under handler's control. A service animal shall be under the control of its handler. A service animal shall have a harness, leash, or other tether, unless either the handler is unable because of a disability to use a harness, leash, or other tether, or the use of a harness, leash, or other tether would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks, in which case the service animal must be otherwise under the handler's control (e.g., voice control, signals, or other effective means).
- e. Care or supervision. A public entity is not responsible for the care or supervision of a service animal.
- f. Inquiries. A public entity shall not ask about the nature or extent of a person's disability, but may make two inquiries to determine whether an animal qualifies as a service animal. A public entity may ask if the animal is required because of a disability and what work or task the animal has been trained to perform. A public entity shall not require documentation, such as proof that the animal has been certified, trained, or licensed as a service animal. Generally, a public entity may not make these inquiries about a service animal when it is readily apparent that an animal is trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability (e.g., the dog is observed guiding an individual who is blind or has low vision, pulling a person's wheelchair, or providing assistance with

stability or balance to an individual with an observable mobility disability).

- g. Access to areas of a public entity. Individuals with disabilities shall be permitted to be accompanied by their service animals in all areas of a public entity's facilities where members of the public, participants in services, programs or activities, or invitees, as relevant, are allowed to go.
- h. Surcharges. A public entity shall not ask or require an individual with a disability to pay a surcharge, even if people accompanied by pets are required to pay fees, or to comply with other requirements generally not applicable to people without pets. If a public entity normally charges individuals for the damage they cause, an individual with a disability may be charged for damage caused by his or her service animal.
- i. Miniature horses.
  - (1) Reasonable modifications. A public entity shall make reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures to permit the use of a miniature horse by an individual with a disability if the miniature horse has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of the individual with a disability.
  - (2) Assessment factors. In determining whether reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures can be made to allow a miniature horse into a specific facility, a public entity shall consider-
    - i. The type, size, and weight of the miniature horse and whether the facility can accommodate these features;
    - ii. Whether the handler has sufficient control of the miniature horse;
    - iii. Whether the miniature horse is housebroken; and
    - iv. Whether the miniature horse's presence in a specific facility compromises legitimate safety requirements that are necessary for safe operation.
  - (C) Other requirements. Paragraphs 35.136 (c) through (h) of this section, which apply to service animals, shall also apply to miniature horses.



## **Section 17.549 Program Accessibility: Discrimination Prohibited**

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/43/17.549>

Except as otherwise provided in § 17.550, no qualified handicapped person shall, because the agency's facilities are inaccessible to or unusable by handicapped persons, be denied the benefits of, be excluded from participation in, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by the agency.

The reference to § 17.550 in the below quotes is intended to address exclusions available to covered entities in connection with existing facilities.

## **Section 17.550 Program Accessibility: Existing Facilities**

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/43/17.550>

**(a) General.** The agency shall operate each program or activity so that the program or activity, when viewed in its entirety, is readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. This paragraph does not:

- (1) Necessarily require the agency to make each of its existing facilities or every part of a facility accessible to and usable by people with disabilities;
- (2) In the case of historic preservation programs, require the agency to take any action that would result in a substantial impairment of significant historic features of an historic property; or
- (3) Require the agency to take any action that it can demonstrate would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of a program or activity or in undue financial and administrative burdens. In those circumstances where agency personnel believe that the proposed action would fundamentally alter the program or activity or would result in undue financial and administrative burdens, the agency has the burden of proving that compliance with § 17.550(a) would result in such an alteration or burdens. The decision that compliance would result in such alteration or burdens must be made by the agency head or his or her designee after considering all agency resources available for use in the funding and operation of the conducted program or activity, and must be accompanied by a written statement of the reasons for reaching that conclusion. If an action would result in such an alteration or such burdens, the agency shall take any other action that would not result in such an alteration or such burdens but would nevertheless ensure that handicapped persons receive the benefits and services of the program or activity.

**(b)Methods.**

- (1) **General.** The agency may comply with the requirements of this section through such means as redesign of equipment, reassignment of services to accessible locations, assignment of aides to beneficiaries, home visits, delivery of services at alternate accessible sites, alteration of existing facilities and construction of new facilities, use of accessible rolling stock, or any other methods that result in making its programs or activities readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. The agency is not required to make structural changes in existing facilities where other methods are effective in achieving compliance with this section. The agency, in making alterations to existing buildings, shall meet accessibility requirements to the extent compelled by the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended (42 USC 4151–4157) and any regulations implementing it. In choosing among available methods for meeting the requirements of this section, the agency shall give priority to those methods that offer programs and activities to qualified handicapped persons in the most integrated setting appropriate.
- (2) **Historic preservation programs.** In meeting the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section in historic preservation programs, the agency shall give priority to methods that provide physical access to handicapped persons. In cases where a physical alteration to an historic property is not required because of paragraph (a)(2) or (a)(3) of this section, alternative, methods of achieving program accessibility include:
  - (i) Using audio-visual materials and devices to depict those portions of an historic property that cannot otherwise be made accessible;
  - (ii) Assigning persons to guide people with disabilities into or through portions of historic properties that cannot otherwise be made accessible; or
  - (iii) Adopting other innovative methods.
- (3) **Recreation programs.** In meeting the requirements of paragraph (a) in recreation programs, the agency shall provide that the program or activity, when viewed in its entirety, is readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. When it is not reasonable to alter natural and physical features, accessibility may be achieved by alternative methods as noted in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

**Section 17.551 Program Accessibility: New Construction and Alterations**

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/43/17.551>

Each building or part of a building that is constructed or altered by, on behalf of, or for the use of the agency shall be designed, constructed, or altered so as to be readily accessible to and usable by handicapped persons. The definitions, requirements, and standards of the Architectural Barriers Act (42 USC 4151–4157) as established in 41 CFR 101 – 19.600 to 101 – 19.607 apply to buildings covered by this section.

## **NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DIRECTOR'S ORDERS AND MANAGEMENT POLICIES**

A policy is a definite course of action adopted and pursued by a government, ruler, or political party. It is an action or procedure conforming to or considered with reference to prudence or expediency.

### **Director's Order 16A**

<http://www.nps.gov/policy/DOrders/DOrder16a.html>

Director's Order 16A establishes the framework for meeting reasonable accommodation requirements in all areas of employment, including: application, hiring, retention, promotion, recognition, and special hiring authority. Within this framework, NPS Human Resources and Equal Opportunity Program officials will take the lead in providing specific guidance and services to applicants, employees, and supervisors and other managers with respect to the provision of reasonable accommodation.

### **Director's Order 42**

<http://www.nps.gov/policy/DOrders/DOrder42.html>

Director's Order 42 addresses accessibility for visitors with disabilities in National Park Service programs and services. It is the goal of the National Park Service to ensure that all people, including persons with disabilities, have the highest level of access that is reasonable to NPS programs, facilities, and services. The order gives detailed guidance based on the minimum requirements set forth in laws, rules, and regulations with the goal to provide the highest level of access that is reasonable, exceeding the minimum level of access required by law. The order sets forth six implementation strategies:

1. to increase employee awareness and technical understanding of accessibility requirements
2. to ensure all new and renovated buildings and facilities, and all new services and programs (including those offered by concessioners and interpreters) will be “universally designed” and implemented in conformance with applicable regulations and standards

3. to ensure existing programs, facilities and services will be evaluated to determine the degree to which they are currently accessible to and useable by individuals with disabilities
4. to ensure that barriers that limit access be identified and incorporated into the NPS Assets Management Program
5. to develop action plans identifying how identified barriers will be removed (where feasible)
6. to ensure action will be taken on a day-to-day basis to eliminate identified barriers, using existing operational funds or other funding sources or partnerships

### **National Park Service Management Policies: Section 1.9.3 – Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities**

<http://www.nps.gov/policy/mp/policies.html>

All practicable efforts will be made to make NPS facilities, programs, services, employment, and meaningful work opportunities accessible and usable by all people, including those with disabilities. This policy reflects the commitment to provide access to the widest cross section of the public and ensure compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, and Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Specific guidance for implementing these laws is found in the Secretary of the Interior's regulations regarding enforcement and nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in Department of the Interior programs (43 CFR par 17, subpart E), and the General Service Administration's regulations adopting accessibility standards for the Architectural Barriers Act (41 CFR part 102-76, subpart C).

A primary principle of accessibility is that, to the highest degree practicable, people with disabilities should be able to participate in the same programs, activities, and employment opportunities available to everyone else. In choosing among methods of providing accessibility, higher priority will be given to methods that offer programs and activities in the most integrated setting appropriate. Special, separate, or alternative facilities, programs, or services will be provided only when existing ones cannot reasonable be made accessible. The determination of what is practicable will be made only after careful consultations with persons with disabilities or their representatives. Any decisions that would result in less than equal opportunity is subject the filing of an official disability right complain under the departmental regulations cited above.

### **GUIDELINES**

A guideline is an indication of a future course of action. It consists of recommended, nonmandatory controls that help support standards or serve as a reference when no applicable standard is in place.

### **Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for National Park Service Interpretive Media**

<http://www.nps.gov/hfc/accessibility/>

The “Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for National Park Service Interpretive Media” is for media specialists, superintendents, and other NPS employees and contractors who develop and approve interpretive media. Publications, exhibits, audiovisual programs and tours, wayside exhibits, signage, and web-based media provide park visitors with information and context so that their experience of visiting national parks can be both safe and meaningful. Park visitors who have physical, sensory, or cognitive disabilities have legally established civil rights to receive the same information and context that NPS interpretive media products have always provided to their fellow citizens.

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## APPENDIX B: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Accessibility assessment:** A process in which physical and programmatic barriers to accessibility are identified at a park unit.

**Accessibility assessment team:** This group is a subgroup of the Interdisciplinary Design Team (see definition below) and includes an accessibility specialist and/or technician, coordinators, a regional representative, the primary facilitator for the process, architect, engineer and/or landscape architect, and typically the chiefs of interpretation, resources management, and facilities management.

**Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan:** A tool that establishes a methodical process for identifying and improving parkwide access and proposes strategies for implementing the plan over time, in a manner consistent with park requirements and protocols.

**Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standard (ABAAS):** Standards issued under the Architectural Barriers Act apply to facilities designed, built, altered, or leased with certain federal funds. Passed in 1968, the Architectural Barriers Act is one of the first laws to address access to the built environment. The law applies to federal buildings, including post offices, social security offices, federal courthouses and prisons, and national parks.

**Barrier:** Architectural and programmatic obstacles to accessibility that make it difficult, and sometimes impossible, for people with disabilities to maneuver, understand, or experience.

**Best practice:** A method or technique that has consistently shown results superior to those achieved with other means, and that is used as a benchmark for meeting accessibility requirements.

**Consultation:** A formal or informal process for discussing an action or process for implementing a solution, such as section 106 (cultural resource compliance), or design for an Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan.

**Facility Management Software System (FMSS) work order:** The process for documenting work needs and collecting information to aid the work scheduling and assignment process within the Facility Management Software System. Information collected should include labor, equipment and material costs, hours, types, and quantities.

**Guideline:** A guideline is an indication of a future course of action. It consists of recommended, nonmandatory controls that help support standards or serve as a reference when no applicable standard is in place.

**Interdisciplinary design team:** This team is composed of all the people involved in the workshop at the park unit, potentially including planning, design, and construction professionals; and interpretive, resource (natural and cultural), visitor safety, maintenance and accessibility specialists.

**Key park experience:** For the purpose of the Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan, key park experiences are those experiences that are iconic and essential for visitors to understand the purpose and significance of a given park unit. They are those experiences that are “musts” for all park visitors. Key park experiences can be identified through a consideration of park purpose, significance, interpretive themes, and those programs or activities highlighted in park communications.

**Law:** A law is a principle and regulation established in a community by some authority and applicable to its people, whether in the form of legislation or of custom and policies recognized and enforced by judicial decision.

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Requirements:** NEPA defines a process that federal agencies must follow when proposing to take actions that have environmental impacts. NEPA requires federal agencies to fully consider the impacts of proposals that would affect the human environment prior to deciding to take an action. NEPA also requires federal agencies to involve the interested and affected public in the decision-making process.

**Park area:** A park area is the geographic location that is home to a single or multiple key park experience(s).

**Park Asset Management Plan-Optimizer Banding (PAMP-OB):** Provides a 5-year asset management strategy for park units, allowing for annual updates that coincide with the budget and planning processes already occurring in park units. As this approach includes life cycle total cost of ownership, analysis, processing, and calculations, it also helps park units and the service as a whole to manage the gap between what should be spent on facilities and what is actually being spent.

**Park policy:** A policy is a definite course of action adopted and pursued by a government, ruler, or political party. It is an action or procedure conforming to or considered with reference to prudence or expediency.

**Park practice:** Those habitual and/or customary performances or operations for reaching a desired outcome that the park employs.

**People-first language:** A type of disability etiquette that aims to avoid perceived and subconscious dehumanization when discussing people with disabilities. It emphasizes the person rather than the disability, noting that the

disability is not the primary defining characteristic of the individual but one of several aspects of the whole person.

**Project Management Information System (PMIS) Facility:** A separate and individual building, structure, or other constructed real property improvement.

**Project Management Information System (PMIS) Nonfacility:** A project that includes anything not covered by the definition for PMIS facility

**Project Management Information System (PMIS) # (number):** A unique Project ID Number that is automatically generated when adding a new project into the Project Management Information System

**Project planning team:** This group is a subgroup of the interdisciplinary design team and includes DSC planners and PWR staff. This team collects baseline data, facilitates calls, develops the participant guide, plans for and facilitates the workshop, and produces the draft and final documents.

**Readily achievable:** Easily accomplished and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense.

**Recommended solution:** The action to eliminate the identified barrier.

**Responsible person:** The person/position responsible for seeing that the elimination of a barrier is completed.

**Service, activity, and program:** A service, activity, or program that is undertaken by a department and affords benefits, information, opportunities, and activities to one or more members of the public.

**Standard:** A standard is something considered by an authority or by general consent as a basis of comparison; an approved model. It is a specific low-level mandatory control that helps enforce and support a law.

**Time frame:** Time frames for implementation of a recommended solution are primarily based on park's ability of the park to complete the improvements within normal scheduling of park operations and planned projects. They describe when staff will eliminate the barrier. Recommended solutions are divided into four time frames including: immediate, short-term, mid-term, and long-term.

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## **APPENDIX C: CONTRIBUTORS**

### **NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK**

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# NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ACCESSIBILITY SELF-EVALUATION AND TRANSITION PLAN [DATE]

This Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan has been prepared as a collaborative effort between Nez Perce National Historical Park, Pacific West Regional staff, and the Denver Service Center and is recommended for approval by the superintendent.

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**Approved**

Date

Superintendent, Nez Perce National Historical Park



As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.



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