

THE NEZ PERCE [NEE-ME-POO] NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

August, 1990

Scale: 1:1,000,000

LEGEND	
	National Forests & Grasslands
	Bureau of Land Management
	State
	National Park
	Private Land
	Nez Perce Trail
	Principal Roads
	Indian Reservation
	Military Reservation
	National Wildlife Refuge
	Department of Energy
	Bureau of Reclamation

Contour Interval: 500 Feet

HISTORIC OVERVIEW . . .

THE NEZ PERCE WAR OF 1877 . . . in the summer of 1877 a small group of Nez Perce Indians began a journey along this route from eastern Oregon, through Idaho Territory, and into Montana Territory, stopping finally at the Bear's Paw Mountains just south of Canada. Five Nez Perce bands were involved - about 800 people herding more than 2,000 horses - and carrying whatever possessions they could manage. Yet they made this trek in less than 4 months - for they were fleeing from the U.S. Army, which was under orders to place them on a reservation in western Idaho Territory.

Although these Indians hoped to peaceably escape from the Army, they were forced to combat their pursuers nearly a dozen times. The following briefly describes the significant events of that trek.

1 **ULTIMATUM OF MAY 14, 1877.** - The non-treaty bands remained on their homeland outside the reservation until increasing demands for settlement and mining forced the Indian Bureau to order the various bands of Nez Perce to move onto the reservation. The military command of General O.O. Howard was ordered to support the local Indian agent.

2 **WHI** Howard se US Cavalr Canyon to hoping to poorly arm their defeat. He agreed the

3 **CI** 1877 . . . from Wh

4 **T** with the ancient burials

5 **1877.** vance Perce

6 **187** Jose and pun mer me an so

7 **18** ar ru do ti ti

8 **18** ar ru do ti ti

9 **BEAR'S PAW BATTLE AND SURRENDER OF OCTOBER 5, 1877.** - Finally, on September 30, in the Bear's Paw Mountains of Montana, just south of the Corps under the

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

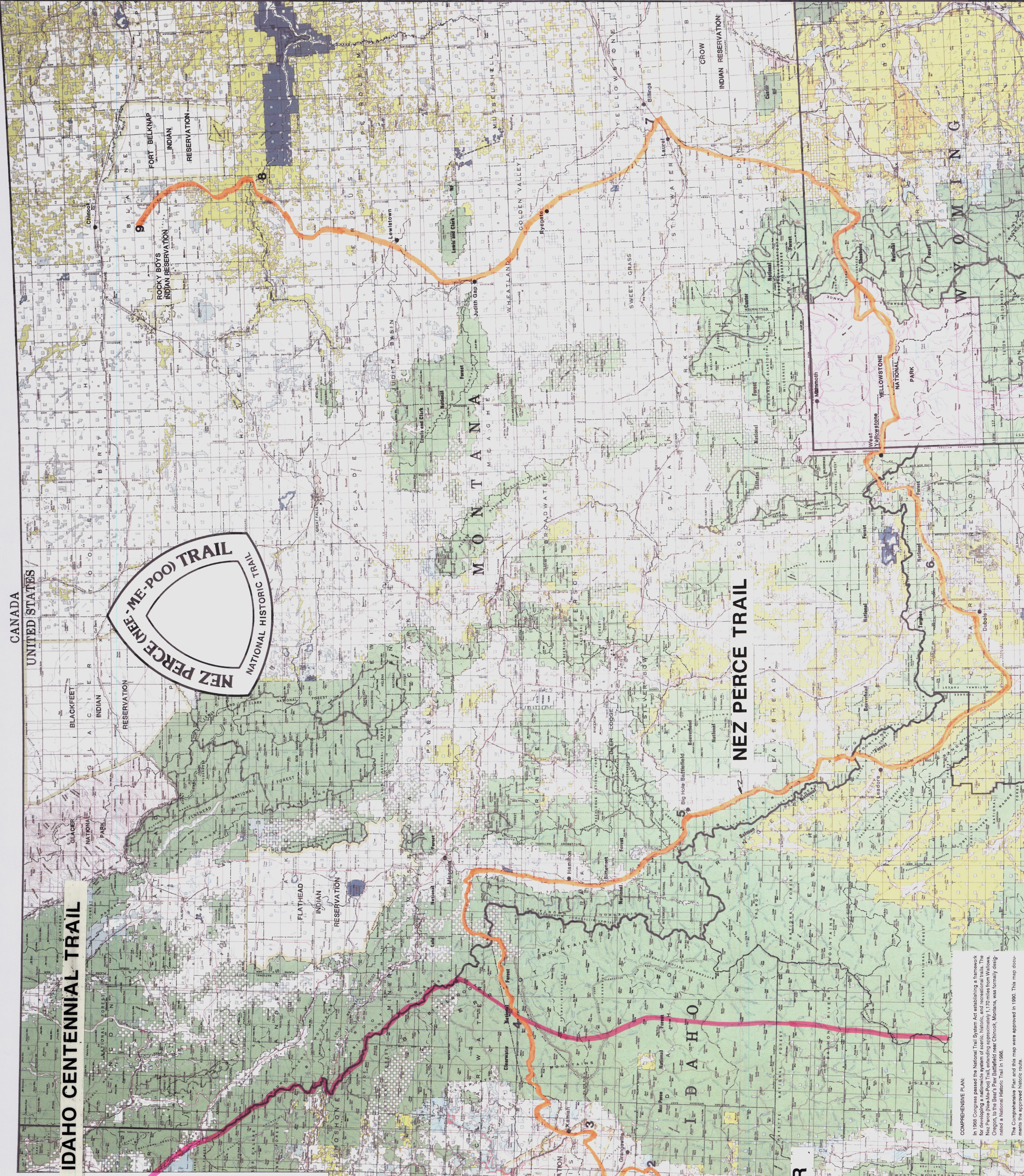
followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.

burned over fifty tons of supplies awaiting transfer to Fort Benton.

followers, but after five days of fighting and intermittent negotiations, they finally surrendered to Miles.



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
In 1989 Congress passed the National Trail System Act establishing a framework for developing a nationwide system of scenic, historic, and recreational trails. The Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) Trail, extending approximately 1,170 miles from Wallawa, Oregon, to the Bear's Paw Battlefield near Chinook, Montana, was formally designated a National Historic Trail in 1986.
The Comprehensive Plan and this map were approved in 1990. This map documents the approved historic route.