



Nez Perce

TRIBAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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December 12, 2017

Sent via email to: cprobert@fs.fed.us

Cheryl Probert
Forest Supervisor, Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests
U.S. Forest Service
903 3rd Street
Kamiah, ID 83536

RE: Nez Perce Tribe's Preferred Wild and Scenic River Designations and Rationale

Dear Ms. Probert:

The Nez Perce Tribe ("NPT") is providing the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests ("Forest") an updated list of Wild and Scenic River reaches based on the Forest's Outstandingly Remarkable Values criteria. The list follows this letter. The list is not an exhaustive list of the resources and values NPT deems culturally and ecological significant and worthy of protection.

The NPT technical staff is supportive of all stream reaches identified by the Forest planning team, with the following amendment:

- NPT does not support the use of mining as a historical criterion for designating Crooked River. Historic mining was a major contributor to degrading water quality and stream structure.

In the attached list, NPT has added some additional reaches to the Forest's July 17, 2017, list of preliminary eligible Wild and Scenic River reaches. NPT has also provided its specific rationale for its additions to the Forest's list, as requested by Zachary Peterson, Forest Planner. NPT is happy to clarify any remaining ambiguities.

Additional feedback on hot springs:

As the NPT has previously stated, the hot springs on Jerry Johnson Creek and Weir Creek are very special to the NPT, unique to the Forest, and in need of specific protection. These hot springs also meet the Wild and Scenic geologic, historic, cultural, wildlife, and recreational criteria. Thus, in

July 2017, the Forest Planning team and NPT's technical team discussed whether these hot springs should be protected by a Wild and Scenic designation. At the time, NPT staff was not sure if the watersheds containing these highly popular hot springs were already protected or whether the Forest had other means of protecting them.

Thereafter, Forest Planning staff shared with NPT staff a draft Recreation Desired Future Condition ("DFC") that it had developed to specifically ensure a high level of integrity for these hot springs' characteristics, functions, and uses. NPT staff provided the Forest with some minor changes to the draft Recreation DFC via e-mail. NPT believes that, if its recommended changes are adopted, the hot springs will have sufficient management protections, negating the necessity for Wild and Scenic designations for the hot springs and their associated watersheds.

Sincerely,



Mary Jane Miles
Chairman

NPT Recommended: Preliminary Eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers, 12/12/2017

OUTSTANDINGLY REMARKABLE VALUES ('ORV')					
Named Rivers and Creeks	ORV Length	NPT Cultural	NPT Fish	NPT Wildlife	NPT Botany
Lower Clearwater River Subbasin					
Eldorado Creek	All		Fish ORV: Chinook Salmon (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell (<i>Margaritifera falcata</i>), Idaho SGCN ¹ Tier 2 (IDFG 2017b)	Botany ORV: <i>Blechnum spicant</i> - Deer fern, Idaho S3 rare sensitive plant; <i>Botrychium lanceolatum</i> var. <i>lanceolatum</i> - Lanceleaf Grapefern, Idaho S1 rare sensitive species; <i>Buxbaumia viridis</i> - Buxbaumia Moss, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species; <i>Hookeria lucens</i> - Hookeria Moss, Idaho S1 rare sensitive species; <i>Pseudocyphellaria anomala</i> - Pseudocyphellaria Lichen, Idaho S2 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Lolo Creek	1.58	Cultural ORV: TU area, next to Lolo trail (NPT data)	Fish ORV: Chinook Salmon and Lamprey (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (NPT data)	Botany ORV: <i>Blechnum spicant</i> - Deer fern, Idaho S3 rare sensitive plant; <i>Botrychium minganense</i> - Mingan Moonwort, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Musselshell Creek	2.07	Cultural ORV: TU area, National Historic Park management (NPT data)	Fish ORV: Chinook Salmon (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (NPT data)	Botany ORV: <i>Blechnum spicant</i> - Deer fern, Idaho S3 rare sensitive plant (NPT data)
Yoosa Creek	All		Fish ORV: Chinook Salmon (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (SDM ² data, IDFG 2017a)	

¹ Species of Greatest Conservation Need

² Species Distribution Model, potential habitat (see IDFG 2017a)

North Fork Clearwater River Subbasin					
Beaver Creek	1.47			Wildlife ORV: Lolo Mayfly (<i>Caurinella idahoensis</i>), regional endemic species that inhabits cold and fast flowing, steep, headwater streams (Mazzacano 2017), Idaho SGCN S2 Tier 2 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	Botany ORV: <i>Buxbaumia viridis</i> - Buxbaumia Moss, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species; <i>Corydalis caseana</i> spp <i>hastata</i> - Case's Corydalis, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Elk Creek	4.86			Wildlife ORV: Umatilla Willowfly, Idaho SGCN Tier 3 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	Botany ORV: <i>Botrychium lanceolatum</i> var. <i>lanceolatum</i> - Lanceleaf Grapefern, Idaho S1 rare sensitive species; <i>Botrychium minganense</i> - Mingan Moonwort, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species; <i>Rubus spectabilis</i> - Salmonberry, Idaho S2 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Isabella Creek	5.44			Wildlife ORV: Lolo Mayfly, Idaho SGCN S2 Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a), species observed during targeted survey in 1997 (IDFG 2017b); Pristine Pyrg, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	Botany ORV: <i>Cardamine constanceii</i> - Constance's Bittercress, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species; <i>Corydalis caseana</i> spp <i>hastata</i> - Case's Corydalis, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Kelly Creek	26.24	Cultural ORV: TCP, Traditional Use area (TU), 9,000 yr old habitation site(s) (NPT data)	Fish ORV	Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck (<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>), Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b); Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	Botany ORV: <i>Pseudocyphellaria anomala</i> - Pseudocyphellaria Lichen, Idaho S2 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Little North Fork Clearwater River	2.78	Cultural ORV: Traditional Use area, sensitive traditional		Wildlife ORV: Lolo Mayfly, Idaho SGCN Tier 2; Pristine Pyrg, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (SDM, IDFG 2017a)	

		area (NPT data)			
North Fork Clearwater River	78.18	Cultural ORV: TCP, TU area, early habitation site(s) (NPT data)	Fish ORV	Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2; Western Toad (<i>Anaxyrus boreas</i>), Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b). The river also supports habitat for Bald Eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>) and Northern River Otter (<i>Lontra canadensis</i>) (IDFG 2017b). Bald Eagle and River Otter hold cultural significance (regalia and oral histories) to Nez Perce, are river-dependent species, and contribute to the function and structure of the NF Clearwater River.	Botany ORV: <i>Botrychium crenulatum</i> - Scalloped Moonwort habitat, Idaho S1 Imperiled species, river-dependent (Beatty et al. 2003); <i>Blechnum spicant</i> - Deer fern, Idaho S3 rare sensitive plant; <i>Buxbaumia viridis</i> - Buxbaumia Moss, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species; <i>Corydalis caseana</i> spp <i>hastata</i> - Case's Corydalis, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species; <i>Hookeria lucens</i> - Hookeria Moss, Idaho S1 rare sensitive species; <i>Mimulus alsinoides</i> - Wingstem Monkeyflower, Idaho S1 rare sensitive species; <i>Cardamine constanceii</i> - Constance's Bittercress, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Weitas Creek	28.55	Cultural ORV: TU area, early habitation site(s) (NPT data)	Fish ORV (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2; Western Toad (<i>Anaxyrus boreas</i>), Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b). The river also supports habitat for Northern River Otter (IDFG 2017b). River Otter hold cultural significance (regalia and oral histories) to Nez Perce, are river-dependent species, and contribute to the function and structure of Weitas Creek.	Botany ORV: <i>Hookeria lucens</i> - Hookeria Moss, Idaho S1 rare sensitive species (NPT data)

Middle Fork Clearwater River Subbasin					
Clear Creek	0.90	Cultural ORV: Archeology site(s), habitation site(s), 1887 battlefield (NPT data)	Fish ORV (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Pristine Pyrg, Idaho SGCN Tier 2; Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	
Ruby Creek	0.32			Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017b)	
Lochsa River Subbasin					
Big Sand Creek	19.95			Wildlife ORV: Idaho Snowfly, Idaho SGCN Tier 3; Lolo Mayfly, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	Botany ORV: <i>Pseudocyphellaria anomala</i> - Pseudocyphellaria Lichen, Idaho S2 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Brushy Fork	4.89			Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b); Lolo Mayfly (<i>Caurinella idahoensis</i>), Idaho SGCN S2 Tier 2, regional endemic species that inhabits cold and fast flowing, steep, headwater streams (IDFG 2017a, Mazzacano 2017), species observed during targeted survey in 1997 (IDFG 2017b); Sandhill Crane (<i>Grus canadensis</i>), Idaho SGCN Tier 3 (IDFG 2017 a and b)	
Canyon Creek	0.67			Wildlife ORV: Selway forestsnail (<i>Allogona lombardii</i>), Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (IDFG 2017 a and b), endemic species	

				found along medium to large streams.	
Colt Killed Creek	23.25			Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b); Bald Eagle (IDFG 2017b), they hold cultural significance (regalia and oral histories) to Nez Perce and are river-dependent species.	
Coolwater Creek (to headwaters)	All	Cultural ORV: TCP, TU area (NPT data)		Wildlife ORV: Pristine Pyrg, Idaho SGCN Tier 2; Salmon Oregonian, Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	
Crooked Fork	23.18			Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b); Idaho Forestfly, Idaho SGCN Tier3 (IDFG 2017a and b); Bald Eagle (IDFG 2017b), they cultural significance (regalia and oral histories) to Nez Perce and are river-dependent species.	
Fire Creek (to headwaters)	All	Cultural ORV: TCP, TU area (NPT data)		Wildlife ORV: Pristine Pyrg, Idaho SGCN Tier 2; Salmon Oregonian, Idaho SGCN Tier 1, Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	Botany ORV: <i>Cornus nuttallii</i> - Pacific Dogwood, Idaho S1 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Fish Creek	21.07		Fish ORV	Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b)	
Fishing Creek	All		Fish ORV (NPT data)		

Glade Creek	3.26			Wildlife ORV: Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (IDFG 2017 a and b), endemic species found along medium to large streams.	Botany ORV: <i>Blechnum spicant</i> - Deer fern, Idaho S3 rare sensitive plant (NPT data)
Imnamatnoon Creek	1.26		Fish ORV: Chinook Salmon (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b)	
Lochsa River	1.95			Wildlife ORV: Habitat for Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b); Bald Eagle (IDFG 2017b), they hold cultural significance (regalia and oral histories) to Nez Perce and are river-dependent species.	Botany ORV: <i>Botrychium minganense</i> - Mingan Moonwort, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species; <i>Cornus nuttallii</i> - Pacific Dogwood, Idaho S1 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Lowell Creek	1.04			Wildlife ORV: Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (IDFG 2017 a and b), endemic species found along medium to large streams; Salmon Oregonian (<i>Cryptomastix harfordiana</i>), Idaho SGCN Tier 1, endemic species that occurs in riparian areas, restricted to Lower Salmon River Canyon (IDFG 2017 a and b).	
Rye Patch Creek	2.68			Wildlife ORV: Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (IDFG 2017 a and b)	
Storm Creek	10.79		Fish ORV	Wildlife ORV: Lolo Mayfly, Idaho SGCN Tier	

				2 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	
Warm Springs Creek	6.42			Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b)	
Waw'aalamnime Creek	2.06		Fish ORV: Chinook Salmon (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b)	
Selway River Subbasin					
Bear Creek	22.84	Cultural ORV: TCP, Legend Site (Story place), early habitation (NPT data)	Fish ORV (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b)	
Buck Lake Creek	12.04			Wildlife ORV: Western Ridged Mussel, Idaho SGCN Tier 3; Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	Botany ORV: <i>Corydalis caseana</i> spp <i>hastata</i> - Case's Corydalis, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Gedney Creek	9.07			Wildlife ORV: Salmon Oregonian, Idaho SGCN Tier 1; Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	Botany ORV: <i>Cardamine constanceii</i> - Constance's Bittercress, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Meadow Creek (Selway)	44.26		Fish ORV: Chinook Salmon (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (IDFG 2017 a and b); Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (NPT data); Western Ridged Mussel (<i>Gonidea angulata</i>), Idaho SGCN Tier 3 (IDFG 2017 a and b)	

Moose Creek	3.77			Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	Botany ORV: <i>Botrychium minganense</i> - Mingan Moonwort, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species; <i>Buxbaumia viridis</i> - Buxbaumia Moss, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species; <i>Corydalis caseana</i> spp <i>hastata</i> - Case's Corydalis, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
O'Hara Creek	2.32		Fish ORV: Chinook Salmon (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (IDFG 2017 a and b)	Botany ORV: <i>Cardamine constanceii</i> - Constance's Bittercress, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species; <i>Corydalis caseana</i> spp <i>hastata</i> - Case's Corydalis, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
South Fork Clearwater River Subbasin					
American River	3.42			Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell and Western Ridged Mussel (NPT data)	Botany ORV: <i>Corydalis caseana</i> spp <i>hastata</i> - Case's Corydalis, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Baldy Creek			Fish ORV: Chinook Salmon (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	
Meadow Creek (S.F. Clearwater)	14.67	Cultural ORV	Fish ORV: Chinook Salmon (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	
Mill Creek	0.87		Fish ORV: Chinook Salmon (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (IDFG 2017 a and b)	
Newsome Creek	All	Cultural ORV: TU area (NPT data)	Fish ORV: Lamprey (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	
Pilot Creek	All		Fish ORV: Chinook Salmon (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	
Red River	20.26		Fish ORV: Chinook	Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2	

			Salmon and Lamprey (NPT data)	(IDFG 2017a and b); Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a); Bald Eagle and Beaver (IDFG 2017b)	
Silver Creek	12.24	Cultural ORV: Borders Pilot Knob (NPT data)		Wildlife ORV: Idaho Forestfly, Idaho SGCN Tier 3 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	
South Fork Clearwater River	34.48		Fish ORV: Fall Chinook (NPT data)	Wildlife ORV: Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1; Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2; Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017 a and b). The river also supports habitat for Bald Eagle, Northern River Otter, and Beaver; these species hold cultural significance (regalia and oral histories) to Nez Perce, are river-dependent species, and contribute to the function and structure of the SF Clearwater.	Botany ORV: <i>Cardamine constanceii</i> - Constance's Bittercress, Idaho S3 rare sensitive species (NPT data)
Salmon River Subbasin					
Allison Creek	8.39	Cultural ORV: Early habitation area (NPT data)		Wildlife ORV: Boulder Pile Mountainsnail (<i>Oreohelix jugalis</i>), Idaho SGCN Tier 3; Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1 (IDFG 2017 a and b)	
Bargamin Creek	25.57			Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b)	

Big Mallard Creek	3.64			Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	
North Fork White Bird Creek	5.59	Cultural ORV: TU area, view shed overlooks battlefield (NPT data)	Fish ORV: NPT data	Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2; Salmon Oregonian, Idaho SGCN Tier 1; Boulder Pile Mountainsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 3 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	
South Fork White Bird Creek	13.17	Cultural ORV: TU area, view shed overlooks battlefield (NPT data)	Fish ORV: NPT data	Wildlife ORV: Western Pearlshell, Idaho SGCN Tier 2; Salmon Oregonian, Idaho SGCN Tier 1; Boulder Pile Mountainsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 3 (SDM data, IDFG 2017a)	
Papoose Creek	0.65			Wildlife ORV: Pristine Pyrg (<i>Pristinicola hemphilli</i>), Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017 a and b)	
Salmon River	14.40			Wildlife ORV: Ashy Pebblesnail (<i>Fluminicola fuscus</i>), G2 Imperiled species; Rotund Physa (<i>Physella columbiana</i>), Idaho SGCN Tier 3; Western Ridged Mussel, Idaho SGCN Tier 3; Boulder Pine Mountainsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 3; Bald Eagle; Shortface Lanx (<i>Fisherola nuttalli</i>); Western Toad, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017 a and b)	Botany ORV: <i>Lobaria scrobiculata</i> - Lung Lichen, Idaho S1 rare sensitive species (NPT data)

Slate Creek	17.76	Cultural ORV: TU area, Early habitation (NPT data)	Fish ORV: NPT data	Wildlife ORV: Selway Forestsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 1; Marbled Disc (<i>Discus marmorensis</i>), Idaho SGCN Tier 1. The river also provides habitat for American Beaver, a culturally-important species to Nez Perce, a river-dependent species, and one that has a positive impact on watershed function and structure.
South Fork Squaw Creek	1.22			Wildlife ORV: Boulder Pile Mountainsnail, Idaho SGCN Tier 3 (IDFG 2017 a and b)
Orogrande Creek	All			Wildlife ORV: Western Toad, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017 a and b). The river provides habitat for Bald Eagle and Northern River Otter, culturally-important species to Nez Perce.
Weir Creek	All			Wildlife ORV: Harlequin Duck, Idaho SGCN Tier 2 (IDFG 2017a and b). The river also provides habitat for Northern River Otter, a culturally-important species to Nez Perce

Citations

Beatty, B.L., W.F. Jennings, and R.C. Rawlinson (2003, November 12). *Botrychium ascendens* W.H. Wagner (trianglelobe moonwort), *B. crenulatum* W.H. Wagner (scalloped moonwort), and *B. lineare* W.H. Wagner (narrowleaf grapefern): a technical conservation assessment. [Online]. USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region. Available: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/projects/scp/assessments/botrychiums.pdf> [date of access].

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Mazzacano, C. 2017. Mayflies: lolo mayfly (*Caurinella idahoensis*). The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation. <https://xerces.org/lolo-mayfly/>. Accessed 29 November 2017.