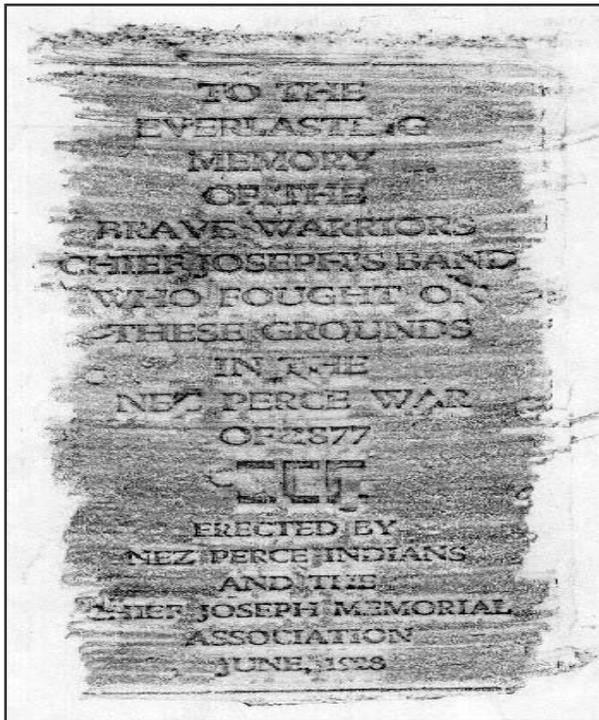


## Looking Glass Village Site

Kooskia National Fish Hatchery/Idaho

The Looking Glass Village is an archaeological site of both prehistoric and historic significance at Kooskia National Fish Hatchery. The area's natural resources made the site an important camping place for the Looking Glass Band of Nez Perce during their seasonal food gathering cycle. In the summer of 1877, the band retreated permanently to this seasonal village, which they called Kam'-nak-ka, to demonstrate neutrality and avoid becoming involved in the conflict escalating between non-treaty Nez Perce bands and the U.S. Government. On the morning of July 1, 1877, military troops and volunteers ambushed the waking village. Enraged by the unprovoked attack, Chief Looking Glass



**Figure 2. Rubbing of Nez Perce Commemorative Marker**

and his people joined Chief Joseph and other non-treaty bands on a fateful journey to find freedom that lasted four months and covered 1,300 miles.

On July 1, 2000, the FWS and Nez Perce Tribe dedicated an interpretive wildlife-viewing trail that is located on the site of the historic Chief Looking Glass Village. Descendants of Chief Looking Glass, other Nez Perce Tribe members, the Service, and the public were on hand to participate in a ceremony that occurred 123 years to the day after the unprovoked attack by U.S. troops on the Looking Glass Band. Three years later at another well-attended ceremony, the hatchery and its partners unveiled a bronze replica of a tribute marker (Figure 2) found at the hatchery.

It was one of six that had originally been placed at Nez Perce battle sites in Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. The Service curated the original marker and found partners to help fund replicas for each site.

The National Park Service and Nez Perce Indian Tribe have been partners in this project. They have provided funding to support it, along with the Clearwater National Forest and the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. This rich village site offers numerous opportunities for heritage education and Native American partnerships.