

Hells Canyon Stewardship and Restoration Collaborative Charter and Operating Guidelines

June 20, 2006

The Hells Canyon Stewardship and Restoration Collaborative seeks to explore a new path to honor and sustain the land within the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and the communities of people who value this special place. We are a diverse group of citizens, organizations, agencies and businesses working together to think beyond individual interests. We embrace the entire biological and social community and recognize the values and needs of many interests for future generations. The Hells Canyon Stewardship and Restoration Collaborative will also be known as The Hells Canyon Collaborative.

Mission: To protect, restore and enhance the culture, ecology and economy of sustainable landscapes for the long-term benefit of the land within Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and the communities of people associated with this landscape. Working within the framework of existing state and federal laws and recognizing Nez Perce Tribal Treaty rights, we will recommend stewardship goals, opportunities and actions to implement the Comprehensive Management Plan.

Operating Guidelines: The core membership will represent diverse interests and views. Additional individual and organizational representatives will be included as needed for specific issues. Membership will not be fixed and will reflect representative needs for planning and specific actions. The Hells Canyon Collaborative will act under consensus. When full consensus is not possible, objections and/or concerns will be detailed for the record and the potential future actions or group recommendations will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

We recognize that the National Forest land within the HCNRA boundary is publicly owned and all meetings of the Hells Canyon Collaborative are open to the public. We also recognize that the HCNRA is located within the boundaries of Wallowa and Baker Counties in Oregon and Adams, Idaho and Nez Perce Counties in Idaho. We recognize the significance of these counties and their governments.

Nez Perce Tribe members are invited to attend all meetings, participate in discussions and be part of the collaborative process, in an informal basis. The Hells Canyon Collaborative recognizes the Tribe's long-standing history in the Hells Canyon region, and the unique relationship the Tribe has with the federal government and its agencies, derived from the 1855 Treaty.

Facilitation and scheduling of meetings will be handled by the Hells Canyon Collaborative membership. Meetings will be held at least every other month, with additional meetings and/or field trips scheduled as needed. Correspondence will be done by electronic mail.

The charter and organizing guidelines will not be revisited unless there is consensus to revise, review or update it.