



# Nez Perce Chief White Bird

*piyóopiyo xayxáyx*





**White Bird was born in 1807 in the Lamtáma band of the Nez Perce Tribe located on White Bird Creek.**

**His Indian name piyóopiyo xayxáyx means extinct crane-like bird, white.**

**White Bird was among the most adamantly against selling Nez Perce land during the 1863 Treaty proceedings. He was also a prominent, experienced leader among the non-treaty bands who were involved in the Nez Perce War of 1877.**



White Bird Battlefield is the location of the first battle of the Nez Perce Flight of 1877. On June 17, 1877, Captain David Perry and his troops moved into the canyon to strike the Nez Perce who were sheltering in one of their winter villages. The soldiers encountered a peace party of six warriors carrying a white flag riding towards them. A civilian volunteer shot twice at the peace party and the battle began. The U.S. cavalry was defeated with heavy losses and the Nez Perce began their long journey to find safety and sanctuary.



# Flight of 1877 Sites

Event Locations of the Nez Perce Flight of 1877



This epic journey of the Nez Perce covered more than 1,170 miles across four states and multiple mountain ranges, and about 250 Nez Perce warriors held off the pursuing US Army troops in 18 battles.



The small town of White Bird, Idaho was named after Chief White Bird.



Wallowa Valley, Oregon,  
to Kooskia, Idaho



Experience the  
**Nez Perce  
Trail**





# Additional Resources



Nez Perce  
Words & Phrases



Nez Perce  
Language Program  
Website



Nez Perce  
Language Program  
Facebook

[www.Lapwai.org](http://www.Lapwai.org)



Nez Perce  
Place Names



Kaya  
Nez Perce  
Words

qe'ciyew'yew'  
Nez Perce Language  
Program

qe'ciyew'yew'  
Harry Slickpoo Jr

Indigenous Role Model Exit Ticket Next Page

# Indigenous Role Model Exit Ticket

