

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

MAR 28 1977

DATE ENTERED

JUL 21 1977

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

**

AND/OR COMMON

Fort Fizzle Site

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Lolo National Forest, 5 miles west of Lolo, MT

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

on Lewis & Clark Hwy. (U.S. 12) __ VICINITY OF

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Montana

30

Missoula

063

CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY****OWNERSHIP****STATUS****PRESENT USE** DISTRICT PUBLIC OCCUPIED AGRICULTURE MUSEUM BUILDING(S) PRIVATE UNOCCUPIED COMMERCIAL PARK STRUCTURE BOTH WORK IN PROGRESS EDUCATIONAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE SITE**PUBLIC ACQUISITION****ACCESSIBLE** GOVERNMENT RELIGIOUS OBJECT IN PROCESS YES: RESTRICTED ENTERTAINMENT SCIENTIFIC BEING CONSIDERED YES: UNRESTRICTED INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION NO MILITARY OTHER:**AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

Northern Region - USDA, Forest Service

STREET & NUMBER

Federal Building

CITY, TOWN

Missoula

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Montana

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Missoula County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

West Broadway

CITY, TOWN

Missoula

STATE

Montana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Volume II, Montana Historic Sites Compendium

DATE

1974

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Montana Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Helena

STATE

Montana

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Present: Cement corner markings and sign.

Original: Log and earth breastworks about 4 feet high by 200 feet long; also included a few rifle pits.

The last remnants of Fort Fizzle were destroyed by a forest fire in 1934.

The physical appearance of the site today is very much the same as described by Chauncey Barbour, Editor of the Weekly Missoulian on August 3, 1877:

. . . the mountains on the south side of the Lo Lo are precipitous and densely covered with standing and fallen timber . . . on the north side grassy ridges (steep slopes nevertheless) stretched away from the stream1/

On October 18, 1968, the United States purchased the 120.4-acre Fort Fizzle site from The Anaconda Company.

Since that time the area has been maintained as a dispersed recreation site including a large information sign relating the historic highlights of the past. U.S. Highway 12 bisects the purchased property so there are many travelers that stop, read the sign and go on their way. Others spend the night south of the highway on a pine-covered flat adjacent to Lolo Creek.

Over the past 5 years visits have increased and limited developments have been installed to control use and prevent deterioration of the site. This included blocking side roads, signing, providing sanitary facilities, garbage pickup, and installation of rail fences.

The future management of the area and development of the site centers around historic site interpretation, preservation and day use such as picnicking, fishing and relaxing.

Specifically, the entire highway frontage will be fenced with rustic rails with only walking paths up to the site. Installed log barriers and pits will simulate the actual Fort barricades, plus a written account of the historic events on metal photographic plates. Opposite the site, on the south side of the highway, a parking area will accommodate recreationists interested in picnicking, fishing and other day use activities. Restrictions will include off-road vehicle use, overnight use, shooting, and damaging or defacing historic or developed improvements over the area.

Distant future developments could include a visitor center with historic artifacts of the area and an overnight campground. Because of the proximity to Missoula, it is doubtful that these developments will occur, but the area is adequate to accommodate the proposal.

1/Brown, Mark H., The Flight of the NezPerce, Putnam Sons, New York, 1967, p. 222.

PHO 356174

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Cement markers placed between 1934 and 1937 by W. W. White (Forest Service employee, Northern Region).

The entire area proposed for nomination was utilized during the period July 25 through 28, 1977; in fact the acreage only takes in the "Fort" and encampment area of the soldiers--the Nez Perce crossed the ridge in the northernmost portion of the area, but their actual encampment covered an area about 10 miles in length a couple of miles northwest of "Fort Fizzle" and probably encompassed several hundred acres (this area is entirely privately owned).

The present sign was placed at the site in 1967, just off U.S. 12, which dissects the site.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES July 25-28, 1877

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Captain Rawn assembled a small force of 30 soldiers and left Fort Missoula on July 25, 1877, to intercept the Nez Perce, led by Chief Joseph, in their eastern flight from Idaho. "The Captain selected a narrow place in Lolo Canyon and erected a breastwork of logs across the canyon."^{1/} Several appeals were sent out calling for volunteers. This stimulated the citizens to the extent several hundred were assembled at the mouth of Lolo Creek when the Nez Perce reached that place on July 28^{2/}. Several other volunteer forces were assembled and took strategic blocking positions at various places across western Montana.

The crude but sturdy barricade erected 8 miles from the mouth of Lolo Canyon, later to be known as Fort Fizzle, was manned by the 30 soldiers in Captain Rawn's command, 200 volunteers, and a band of Flathead Indians under Chief Charlot. Captain Rawn met with Nez Perce Chiefs Joseph, White Bird, and Looking Glass and told them they could pass if they surrendered their arms, ammunition, and stock. No agreement was reached.

On the 28th the Indians moved from Lolo Canyon to the ridge and went into the Bitter Root Valley. This strategical movement by the Nez Perce was characterized as ". . . the boldest, most fearless, audacious, and confident tactical movement. It surpasses McClellan's flank movement from Chickahominy to James River, or Grant's from Rapidon to Richmond. They moved armies . . . moving by night. But Joseph moved his entire possessions of effects and families."^{2/} The Indians were not pursued. "The Nez Perce had left General Howard and his war in Idaho."^{3/}

The soldiers returned to Fort Missoula and the volunteers to their homes.

This account was taken from I Will Fight No More Forever by Merrill D. Beal.

^{1/} Merrill D. Beal, I Will Fight No More Forever, Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce War (Seattle and London: University of Washington Press, 1963), pp. 94-101.

^{2/} T. J. Kerttula, Dillon Examiner, October 23, 1940.

^{3/} L. V. McWhorter, Yellow Wolf: His Own Story, (Caldwell, Idaho: The Caxton Printers, 1940), p. 108.

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An interesting sidenote is that 72 years earlier the Lewis and Clark Expedition encamped at a site that is now on the National Register, Traveller's Rest, on the night of September 10, 1805, and the following day proceeded 7 miles passing through the canyon at which "Fort Fizzle" was later constructed and stopped that night at an area known today as Woodman Flat (the same area at which the Nez Perce camped during their 1877 encounter with the soldiers at Fort Fizzle). The Expedition again passed through the canyon on June 30, 1806, and spent the night at Traveller's Rest. Unfortunately the exact route through the narrow canyon will probably never be located inasmuch as Highway 12 bisects the canyon and much of the canyon floor has been disturbed by prior agricultural use. The Lewis and Clark Journals do not indicate their exact route through this area.

The flight of the nontreaty Nez Perce began in June of 1877. Several bands (among them Joseph's, White Bird's and Looking Glass's) arrived at a decision they would not lead the life of "reservation Indians," but would seek a new home among the Crows in Montana (their hoped-for destination was actually Canada where the Sioux would welcome them). In July the Indians reached Western Montana and on July 28 simply walked around a redoubt which soon became known as "Fort Fizzle." The flight of the Nez Perce ended at the Battle of Bear Paws on October 5, 1877--the Nez Perce were approximately 50 miles from the Canadian border (having travelled 1,600 miles in 11 weeks with women, children and horses).

In the formal surrender of Nez Perce Chief Joseph he immortalized the epic struggle between Whites and Indians with the speech known to almost every schoolchild:

"Hear me, my chiefs, I am tired; my heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever."

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet for partial listing.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 120.4 acres

UTM REFERENCES

DA	1,1	71,5	3,8,0	5,1	8,0	9,1,0	CB	1,1	71,5	3,9,0	5,1	8,0	4,2,0	
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
AC	1,1	71,6	3,9,0	5,1	8,0	9,6,0	BD	1,1	71,6	4,0,0	5,1	8,0	4,6,0	

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George E. Deschamps

ORGANIZATION

USDA, Forest Service

STREET & NUMBER

Lolo National Forest, 2801 Russell

CITY OR TOWN

Missoula

DATE

12/1/76

TELEPHONE

(406) 329-3749

STATE

Montana

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

Director of Recreation Management

DATE

3/23/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

7/21/77

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE

7-21-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE One

1. Chief Joseph, "An Indian's Views of Indian Affairs," North American Review, April 1879, page 426.
2. Beal, Merrill D., I Will Fight No More Forever, University of Washington Press, Seattle, 1963, pages 90-104.
3. Brown, Mark H., The Flight of the NezPerce, Putnam Sons, New York, 1967, pages 220-230.
4. Garcia, Andrew, Tough Trip Through Paradise, Edited by Bennett H. Stein, Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1967, pages 262-281.
5. Haines, Francis, The Nez Perce Tribesmen of the Columbia Plateau, University of Oklahoma Press, 1955, pages 246-248.
6. History of Montana--1739-1885, Warner Beers and Company, Chicago, 1885, pages 137-141.
7. Josephy, Alvin M., The Nez Perce Indians and the Opening of the Northwest, Yale University Press, New Haven, 1965, pages 566-572.
8. Kalispell Times Newspaper, December 6, 1934.
9. McWhorter, Lucullus V., Hear Me My Chiefs, Caxton Printers Ltd., Caldwell, Idaho, 1952, pages 346-356.
10. McWhorter, Lucullus V., Yellow Wolf: His Own Story, The Caxton Printers, Caldwell, Idaho, 1940, pages 106-108.
11. Rawn, Captain Charles C., Letters, Fort Missoula Letterbook, July 1, 1877-June 30, 1879, microfilm Reel No. 1, University of Montana Library.
12. Weekly Missoulian Newspaper, August 3, 1877, microfilm, University of Montana Library.

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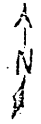
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Beginning at a point in T. 11 N., R. 21 W., section 1, where U.S. Highway 12 right-of-way intersects the west line of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of said section; thence north 1,489.0 feet; thence east 2,646.3 feet; thence south 201.3 feet; thence east 1,197.0 feet; thence south 330.0 feet; thence east 124.6 feet; thence south 646.0 feet; thence west 1,321.0 feet; thence south 482.7 feet; thence west 1,329.0 feet; thence north 330.0 feet; thence west 918.1 feet; thence southwesterly along the northern boundary of U. S. Highway 12, 441.5 feet to point of beginning.

FORT FIZZLE SITE
 SKETCH MAP
 (NO SCALE)



SW 5E SEC 36

SE. SE. SEC. 36

T12N R21W
 T11N R21W

36

36 31

1

1 6

LEGEND

- CEMENT POSTS LOCATED IN 1970
- ⊠ CEMENT POSTS RELOCATED IN 1977
- DIRT ROADS
- .- RIDGE NEZ PERCE CROSSED TO BYPASS REDOUBT
- ▭ REDOUBT

FLAT

TOE OF SLOPE

LOG SIGN

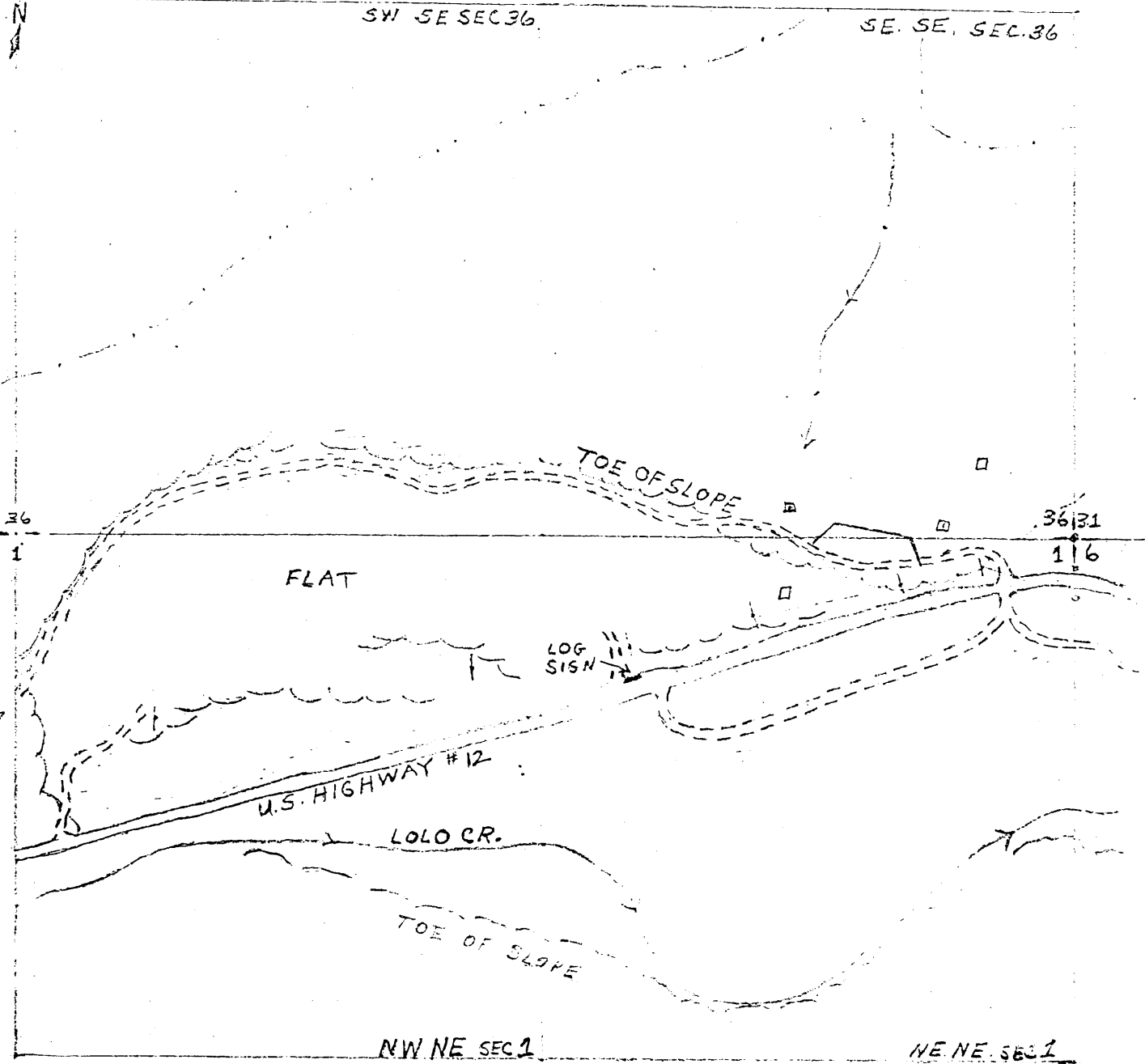
U.S. HIGHWAY #12

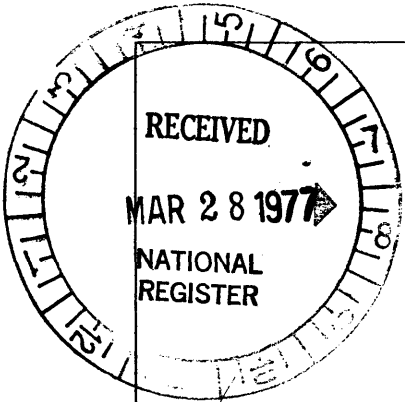
LOLO CR.

TOE OF SLOPE

NW NE SEC 1

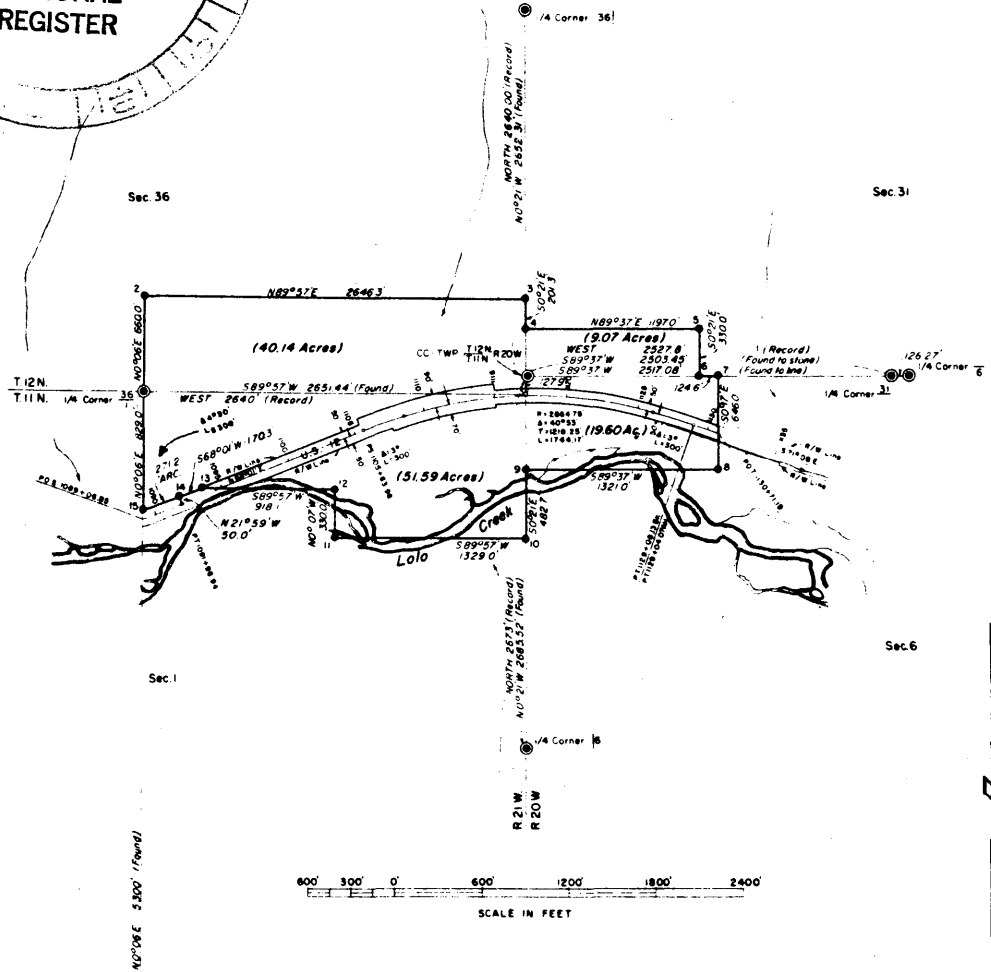
NE NE SEC 1





METES AND BOUNDS SURVEY OF A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN

Sec. 31, T.12 N., R. 20W; Sec. 6, T.11 N., R. 20W;
 Sec. 1, T.11 N., R. 21W; Sec. 36, T.12 N., R. 21W;
 PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, MONTANA



LEGEND:

- Original G.L.O. corners found, see Recordation Form for details.
- Corner set for this survey. All corners set, except cor. 10, are 2"x30" iron pipes with brass caps stamped (see sample of typical monument). Corner 10 is a 16" Ponderosa Pine scribed Cor. No. 10 FF.
- Proportional point for corner.



TYPICAL MONUMENT

This survey was made in 1968 at the request of the supervisor of the Lolo National Forest for the purpose of defining a tract of land under option for purchase from the Anaconda Company for development as a National Forest recreation site.

Although the boundaries of this tract appear to be along legal subdivision lines within the interior of the four sections, they are not true subdivision lines and should not be used for further section subdivision.

The origin of bearing for this plat is the centerline of U.S. Highway 12 between PT. 1091+96.94 and PS 1105+63.96 from the official Highway Department plat thereof.

This survey was done by a combination of photogrammetry and conventional ground survey methods. The photography and field notes are filed with the Lolo National Forest, Missoula, Montana.

CERTIFICATE:

I hereby certify that I am a registered land surveyor in the State of Montana that the survey shown on this plat has been correctly executed in accordance with the requirements of law, that the survey is true and complete as shown, that all monuments and marks set together with those found are of the type and occupy the positions shown thereon and are sufficient to enable the survey to be retraced.

Stanley J. Sause
 STANLEY J. SAUSE
 Montana Registration No. 2532 S

1. NAME			
COMMON:		Fort Fizzle Site	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Lolo National Forest, 5 miles west of Lolo, Montana on			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Lewis and Clark Highway (U.S. #12)			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Montana	30	Missoula	063
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
USDA Forest Service, Metes and Bounds Survey			
SCALE: 7/16-inch equals 600 feet			
DATE: 1968			

JUL 21 1977

/ FORT FIZZLE



1. Ridge the NezPerce mostly likely ascended.
2. Site of cement markers and probable redoubt location.
3. Proposed Fort Fizzle Interpretive Site.

Fort Fizzle Site

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

5 miles west of Lolo

VICINITY OF

STATE
Montana

COUNTY
Missoula

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

unknown

DATE OF PHOTO about 1968

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Missoula District, Lolo NF

JUL 21 1977

