Pursuant to the Nez Perce Tribal Code Section 3-1-11, the Nez Perce Tribe Fish and Wildlife Commission has the authority to promulgate annual and seasonal hunting and fishing regulations and prescribe the manner and methods which may be used in taking fish and wildlife. Pursuant to that authority, the Nez Perce Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted the following fishing regulation for the Nez Perce Tribe.

**NEZ PERCE TRIBE**

**Fishing Season Regulation NPTFWC #19-126**

**2019 Snake River Basin Spring and Summer Chinook Ceremonial and Subsistence (C&S) Treaty Fisheries**

*Season Open Until Closed*

The following subbasins reflect key tributary areas where the Nez Perce Tribe will prioritize harvest based upon forecasted returns of adult spring and summer Chinook salmon.

**CLEARWATER RIVER SUBBASIN**

**Mainstem Clearwater:** Confluence with the Snake River upstream to the confluence with the Lochsa and Selway rivers. There is a closure area of 60 foot radius around the fish ladder entrance to the Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery complex located on the Mainstem Clearwater River near Cherry Lane.

**North Fork Clearwater:** Confluence with the mainstem Clearwater River upstream to the Dworshak Dam.

**South Fork Clearwater:** Confluence of the South Fork Clearwater River with the Middle Fork Clearwater River upstream to 10 feet below the weirs/traps located on Newsome Creek, Red River, and Crooked River, with the area above the weirs/traps closed to fishing.

**Clear Creek:** Confluence with the mainstem Clearwater River upstream to 10 feet below the hatchery weir, with area above the weir closed fishing.

**Lochsa River:** Area directly below the hatchery trap on Walton Creek, tributary to Lochsa River, downstream to the confluence of Lochsa River with Selway River and the Middle Fork Clearwater River (Three Rivers area).

**Selway River:** Area from mouth of Selway River upstream to upper reaches where fish can migrate to spawn.

**Lolo Creek:** Confluence with the mainstem Clearwater River upstream to 60 feet below the weir/trap, with area above the weir closed to fishing.

**SALMON RIVER SUBBASIN**

**Rapid River/Little Salmon River:** Area of the Little Salmon River from its mouth upstream to upper reaches where fish can migrate, and on the Rapid River from its mouth upstream to 60 feet below the hatchery trap on Rapid River, with area above the weir closed to fishing.
South Fork Salmon River: Area open to fishing would include the South Fork Salmon River from its mouth (confluence with the Salmon River) upstream to 10 feet below the weir (RM 72), with area above the weir closed to fishing.

Secesh River: Area open on Secesh River will be from its mouth (confluence with South Fork Salmon River) upstream to upper reaches where fish can migrate to spawn.

East Fork South Fork/Johnson Creek: Area open to fishing on the East Fork South Fork Salmon River is from its confluence with South Fork Salmon River upstream to Johnson Creek and on Johnson Creek from its mouth upstream to 10 feet below the weir, with area above the weir closed to fishing.

Big Creek: Area open on Big Creek will be from its mouth (confluence with Middle Fork Salmon River) upstream to upper reaches where fish can migrate to spawn.

Bear Valley: Area open on Bear Valley Creek will be from its mouth (confluence with Middle Fork Salmon River) upstream to upper reaches where fish can migrate to spawn.

Marsh Creek: Area open on Marsh Creek will be from mouth (confluence with Middle Fork Salmon River) upstream to upper reaches where fish can migrate to spawn.

Yankee Fork: Area open on Yankee Fork will be from its mouth (confluence with Upper Mainstem of the Salmon River) upstream to upper reaches where fish can migrate to spawn.

Upper Salmon River: Area of the mainstem Salmon River from the mouth of Yankee Fork upstream to 10 feet below the Sawtooth Fish Hatchery weir and trap, with area above the weir closed to fishing.

IMNAHA RIVER SUBBASIN*

Imnaha River: Prior to weir installation the area open to fishing on the Imnaha River will be from confluence with mainstem Snake River upstream to upper reaches of the river where fish can migrate to spawn—after the weir is installed, the upper most area open to fishing will be up to 10 feet below the weir, with area above the weir closed to fishing.

*Prior to weir installation fishing area will include the area of the Blue Hole and other areas located above the Gumboot weir.

GRANDE RONDE RIVER SUBBASIN

Lostine/Wallowa Rivers: Area open includes the reach of the Wallowa River from its confluence with Minam River upstream to the confluence with the Lostine River, then from the mouth of the Lostine River upstream to 10 feet below the end of the permanent concrete sill and weir structure, with area above the weir closed to fishing.

Lookingglass Creek: Area open to fishing for Lookingglass Creek will be from its mouth upstream to 10 feet below the adult trap, with area above the trap closed to fishing.

Minam River: Area open on Minam River will be from mouth (confluence with Wallowa River) upstream to upper reaches where fish can migrate to spawn.

Wenaha River: Area open on Wenaha River will be from its mouth (confluence with Grande Ronde River) upstream to upper reaches where fish can migrate to spawn.

Grande Ronde River: Area open on the Grande Ronde will be from its mouth (confluence with the Snake River) upstream to its upper reaches where fish can migrate to spawn.
TUCANNON RIVER SUBBASIN

Tucannon River: Area open on the Tucannon will be from its mouth (confluence with the Snake River) upstream to 60 feet below the adult trap at the Tucannon Fish Hatchery, with area above the adult trap closed to fishing.

MAINSTEM SNAKE RIVER

Snake River: Area open on the mainstem Snake River from Lower Granite Dam upstream to the accessible portions below the Hells Canyon Dam.

Tribal members are prohibited from fishing from, and directly on, fish weirs and traps that are specified in the above regulations for those rivers and areas where the weirs and traps are used and operated for salmon management purposes. Release wild fish (adipose fin present) when possible if caught by hook-and-line or by net fishing (dip net, hoopnet, other) is encouraged for Tribal members fishing at Imnaha and Lostine/Wallowa rivers, and Lookingglass Creek and in the South Fork Salmon River watershed, by doing so will help the Tribe minimize the impacts to wild fish low and keep a fishery open longer.

Season Length: Tributaries ceremonial and subsistence fishing seasons are “open until closed” by Tribal regulation. The Nez Perce Tribe Fish and Wildlife Commission hereby authorizes the closure of tributary fisheries when one of the following conditions result: tributary-specific harvest goal is reached, wild spring and summer Chinook impact levels are attained, or natural spawning begins, whichever comes first.

Harvest Reporting: Tribal members participating in the treaty fishery are encouraged to regularly report their catch to Nez Perce Tribe Department of Fisheries Resources Management Harvest Monitoring Program staff members. This will help in managing our spring and summer Chinook fisheries in a responsible and timely manner.

Gear Types and Fishing Methods: Fishing methods permitted for use by tribal members may include, but is not limited to, the following traditional fishing gear: gaff, dip net, hoopnet, bow, spear, scaffold, and hook and line.

If the Tribe authorizes a commercial fishing season, the season will be addressed in a separate fishing regulation with specific areas, gear types, periods, and requirements.

If you have fishing enforcement concerns, please contact the Nez Perce Tribe Department of Fisheries Resources Management Enforcement dispatch at 208-843-7143 or toll free 1-877-790-3474.

All sections of the Nez Perce Tribal Code and other Nez Perce regulations applicable to this fishery remain in effect. Not complying with these regulations may be cause for civil or criminal penalties per the Tribal Code or NPT fishing regulations. Tribal Code Section 3-1-8 (a) Any person who is a member of the Nez Perce Tribe and who hunts, fishes or traps within the Tribe’s territorial jurisdiction shall have in his possession a Nez Perce Tribal Identification card issued by the Tribe.

Respect the water and earth by putting litter in its place, and catch only what you can properly handle. Please help elders and others that cannot fish for themselves.

For additional information on Nez Perce Tribal regulations, please contact the Nez Perce Tribe Fish and Wildlife Commission at 208-843-9376.