HUNTING WITH NON-LEAD BULLETS: The Nez Perce Tribe Fish and Wildlife Commission and Wildlife Division recommends all hunters use non-lead ammunition to harvest food for the health and safety of our community.

There are multiple benefits to hunting with non-lead ammo. *(Fin and Field: April 28, 2016).* Like lead-core bullets, non-lead bullets (copper) expand rapidly upon impact, but stay in one piece and leave no contamination behind. Copper bullets have comparable accuracy and impact on game and superior penetration compared to lead due to higher weight retention. Non-lead bullets have been improved since they first came out in the mid-1980s and are designed as premium ammunition for big game. Studies show that copper bullets have higher velocity and set the standard for penetration and energy transfer. With copper, you can use a 15-20% lighter grain bullet and get performance increases with no compromise (if you are a long-distance shooter look into Cutting Edge copper bullets designed for this). When switching, site it in your rifle and expect a flatter trajectory because of the velocity is higher with copper. Premium lead ammo and non-lead ammo are very similarly priced.

Copper ammo is deadly accurate. With good shot placement it stops big game in its tracks eliminating the threat of an injured animal charging, the risk of losing a wounded animal across property lines, and reduces meat wastage.

**Lead from spent ammo impacts wildlife:** The average jacketed lead-core bullet loses 30%-40% of its weight upon impact as the shank of the bullet mushrooms. Research with X-rays show this weight loss translates into hundreds of tiny small fragments that spread into meat and discarded gut piles. Whether a lead-core bullet hits bone or not, lead dust and tiny particles can move 18 inches or more away from the wound channel and can easily be absorbed into the blood stream if ingested (by people, or wildlife). These fragments are routinely ingested by scavengers such as, eagles, ravens, vultures, wolves, foxes, etc. that search out hunted left-overs as a food source.

**Lead is a toxic metal with no “safe” level of exposure.** Ingesting lead fragments can cripple, or kill our wildlife. Raptor rehabilitation centers have shown that this is a widespread problem in all birds of prey. *Consider the sacred trust responsibilities we have with those we share our homeland with as stewards. Choosing to hunt (and fish) lead free is a way to give back after harvesting food.* Doing so not only provides a clean food source for eagles and other wildlife, it also ensures you are taking home healthy meat. Lead has been removed from many products including, paint, gasoline, toys, and plumbing. It is a known neuro-toxin and it is wise to keep it out of our food and off our land.

Even though the impacts of sub-lethal exposures are difficult to detect, **the effects of lead poising are permanent and untreatable.** Even small amounts of ingested lead can impact the human nervous system, suppress immunity, increase blood pressure, decrease sex drive, cause anemia and memory loss and contribute to a poor appetite. Pregnant women and growing children are especially vulnerable. Lead exposure contributes to miscarriages and can permanently lower a child’s IQ, cause learning disabilities, increase aggressive behavior and lower impulse control (studies show a direct correlation with particle lead exposure and increased crime rates, *U.S. National Library of Medicine and National Institutes of Health: June, 2004*). Lead ammunition is still a good choice for the shooting range, just remember to sight your scope in with copper rounds to harvest food. **One shot, one kill: shoot clean.**

Barnes, Nosler E-Tip, Hornady GMX, Federal Trophy Copper, Winchester Deer Season XP Copper Impact, Browning BXS and Remington Hog Hammer are some of the more popular non-lead ammo brands available. To find a variety of non-lead options check online: [www.ammoseek.com](http://www.ammoseek.com) Enter "lead-free" in the search box and prioritize by price for the best deals. For videos, research, and tips on switching visit: [www.huntingwithnonlead.org](http://www.huntingwithnonlead.org), or [www.leadfreehunting.com](http://www.leadfreehunting.com)
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee has been empowered to act for and in behalf of the Nez Perce Tribe, pursuant to the Revised Constitution and By-Laws, adopted by the General Council of the Nez Perce Tribe, on May 6, 1961 and approved by the Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs on June 27, 1961; and

WHEREAS, in the Nez Perce Treaty of 1855 (12 Stat. 957), the Nez Perce Tribe (Tribe) reserved, and the United States secured, the exclusive right to hunt buffalo/bison on open and unclaimed lands, including those that now adjoin Yellowstone National Park; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Nez Perce Tribal Code §3-1-80, the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee (NPTEC), after consulting with the Nez Perce Tribe Fish and Wildlife Commission (NPTFWC), has the authority to authorize an annual ceremonial and subsistence season for hunting and harvesting buffalo/bison on those open and unclaimed lands that adjoin Yellowstone National Park (Treaty Buffalo Hunt); and

WHEREAS, the NPTEC, in consultation with the NPTFWC, has authorized a 2019-20 Treaty Buffalo Hunt; and

WHEREAS, the NPTEC adopts the attached 2019-20 Treaty Buffalo Hunt Regulations along with the attached 2018-19 Treaty Buffalo Hunt Permit Application, General Permit, Beattie Gulch Permit, and Harvest Report form; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the attached 2019-20 Treaty Buffalo Hunt Regulations, the NPTFWC is responsible for planning and conducting all buffalo hunter orientations for any Nez Perce Tribal member listed on a 2018-19 General Permit or Beattie Gulch Permit as a hunter, assistant, designated hunter, or designated shooter prior to issuance of the Permit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NPTEC approves the attached 2019-20 Treaty Buffalo Hunt Regulations, and the 2019-20 Permit Application, General Permit, Beattie Gulch Permit, and Harvest Report form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the NPTFWC is responsible for planning and conducting all buffalo hunter orientations for any Nez Perce Tribal member listed on a 2019-20 General Permit or Beattie Gulch Permit as a hunter, assistant, designated hunter, or designated shooter prior to issuance of the Permit.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the NPTEC Chairman and Secretary are hereby authorized to sign all necessary correspondence and the NPTEC Treasurer is hereby authorized to disburse funds accordingly.
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee in Regular Session, January 14, 2020 in the Richard A. Halfmoon Council Chambers, Lapwai, Idaho, a quorum of its Members being present and voting.

BY:  

Chantel L. Greene, Secretary

ATTEST:

Shannon F. Wheeler, Chairman
APPENDIX B: West Yellowstone (Bison Hunting District 395)

Bison Hunting District 395 - West Yellowstone

Legend:
- Hunting District Boundary
- Hunting Closure
- U.S. Forest Service
- Private
- National Park Service
- Private Conservation

Map only intended as a guide - Please refer to the legal descriptions in the regulations for actual boundaries.
- Additional Resource: East and West Gallatin National Forest Maps