

"At the Spalding site," said the NPS report, "we have reached agreement with the owners of 39 tracts involving 20 separate landowners which virtually completes our acquisition there except for three tracts, all three of which must be condemned to clear title."

BOUGHT FROM NEZ PERCE

Land also has been acquired at the White Bird site, a principal battleground of the 1877 Nez Perce war and the East Kamiah site, also in Idaho County, where 10 acres have been acquired from the Nez Perce Indians for \$10,000.

Total land acquisition cost to date has been \$428,650 and according to the Park Service, it appears the \$630,000 limitation ordered by Congress "will be adequate to purchase the three units comprising the federally owned portion of the historic site."

"It is hoped," said the report, "that the Lolo Trail and Lolo Pass can be included in the park. Both of these features, which will require at least several interpretive facilities, are on land administered by the Forest Service. In fact, we hope that the eastern contact point for park visitors will be at Lolo Pass in a visitor center and information office already planned by the Forest Service for its own purposes."

The report notes that during the feasibility study and legislative phases of the park project, Mr. and Mrs. John Pfeifer, owners of the St. Joseph's Mission at Slickpoo, expressed a willingness to have the old First Presbyterian mission church included in the park.

STRUCTURE CLOSED

"Since the establishment of the area, however, the increased visitation has placed too much of a burden upon them and they have recently closed the structure to the public," said the park service. "This service has been attempting to draw up an agreement which might provide the Pfeifers a reasonable amount of financial assistance in the maintenance and interpretation of the building but terms have not yet been found which will be likely to be agreeable to the Pfeifers and still comply with the provisions of the authorizing legislation."

"We feel," the report concludes, "that steady and purposeful progress is being made toward the completion and operation of the park as envisioned by the authorizing legislation and in the approved master plan. Facilities on park lands already acquired are being improved and agreements for interpreting sites in nonfederal ownership are being drawn. We hope to have most of the nonfederal portions of the park at least marked by the next visitor season and to have an adequate wayside exhibit functioning at Canoe Camp by the same time. Visitors to the Spalding site will find the grounds and picnic facilities more attractive than ever before and an active interpretive program with demonstrations of Nez Perce art will be in operation."

Senator CHURCH. Finally, I would like to enter into the record a letter received from Ernest Day, chairman of the State park board, in which he expressed the board's general endorsement and support of the pending bill.

(The document to be furnished follows:)

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
Boise, Idaho, January 26, 1968.

Hon. FRANK CHURCH,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: We have received a copy of S. 1401, 90th Congress, Second Session, relative to amendment of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (P.L. 88-578).

The Idaho Parks Board and the Department of Parks have reviewed this proposed amendment, and we believe that the State of Idaho will benefit from its enactment.

The State of Idaho has been moving forward quite rapidly in implementing the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. We now have 39 active outdoor recreation projects, totaling \$2,951,400.38. All of the funds appropriated to the State under this Act, through fiscal year 1967, have been obligated. Money apportioned to the State for fiscal year 1968 will be obligated prior to June 30, 1968.