

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Nez Perce Tribe is coordinating with United States Forest Service and the state of Montana law enforcement in the investigation of a shooting incident that occurred on Forest Service land near Gardiner, Montana over the weekend. According to preliminary reports, a Nez Perce Tribal member participating in the Nez Perce Tribe's reserved 1855 treaty rights bison hunt was grazed by a bullet from an unknown hunter while engaging in an active hunt in the field. While the Nez Perce Tribal member was not seriously injured, federal law enforcement is conducting an ongoing investigation of this incident.

“The Nez Perce Tribe's top priority is a safe treaty bison hunt for its members, other Treaty hunting tribes, State hunters and the surrounding community. We will continue to coordinate closely with our federal, tribal, and state partners to ensure a thorough investigation is completed and to prevent this type of dangerous incident in the future,” stated Samuel N. Penney, Chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee.

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