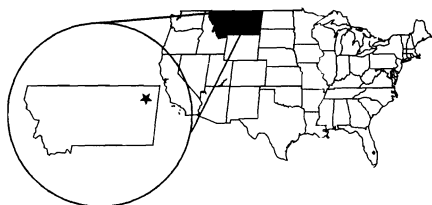


ASSINIBOINE & SIOUX



In northeastern Montana, sprawling across five counties, lies the 905,000-acre Fort Peck Reservation, home to the Assiniboiné and Sioux tribes. It was established in 1871 to serve both groups (*Tribal History of the Fort Peck Reservation*, Fort Peck

Tribes, undated pamphlet). Today, the reservation is home to several bands from each tribe. The Assiniboiné include the Canoe Paddler Band and the Red Bottom Band [see Assiniboiné & Gros Ventre]. The Sioux include parts of the Sisseton, Wahpeton, Yanktonai, and Hunkpapa Teton bands (the great Chief Sitting Bull was a Hunkpapa).

According to Ray K. Eder, vice chairman of the Fort Peck Tribes, “. . . the flag was designed and sketched by the renowned Indian artist Roscoe White Eagle . . .

The colorful flag of the Fort Peck Tribes is contrastingly depicted on a field of blue sky. The two chiefs displaying the robe of the prairie buffalo is befitting of the fact that two Tribes, Assiniboiné and Sioux, reside together in harmony on the same forty-by-eighty-five-mile reservation. The sacred robe of the buffalo symbolizes the tight and lasting bond of friendship and understanding between the two Tribes. Native Americans find this to be very gratifying during these trying years of our Indian self-determination era.” (Letter, Ray K. Eder, 25 Jan. 1995).



Upon the sky-blue field is a goldenrod-yellow hide bearing “FORT PECK TRIBES” in red. The tribes’ names appear in white on red along the trail of the two chiefs’ headdresses. The chiefs and their costumes appear in full natural colors (Letter, Carol Lenz, Interim Business Manager, Fort Peck Community College, 25 Jan. 1995). ♡