

Seasonal Cycle for the Nimíipuu

(Generalized approximation)

Wilúupup (January)

“Season of cold”

Height of ceremonial and oral tradition season - winter hunting continues

Ha’óqoy (December)

“New life begins in the cow elk”

'Alatam’áal (February)

“Fires are needed”

Large semi-permanent winter villages of tule-mat longhouses

Foods are adequate

Foods becoming scarcer

Sexliw’áal (November)

“Trees shed leaves”

Latíit’aal (March)

“First flowers bloom”

Prepare winter villages

Hunting continues

Small mobile groups with foods scarce

Begin root digging and continue hunting

Hóopl'al (October)

“Needles fall from Tamarack”

Qaq’iit’áal (April)

“Time to dig qaq’iit roots”

Smaller mobile groups

foods are adequate

Begin larger summer camps

continue root digging and begin fishing

Pik’unmaayq’áal (September)

“Fish go downstream and salmon to ocean”

'Apa’áal (May)

“Time to dig cous roots”

After the horse, travel to buffalo country

Large summer camps with foods superabundant

Fishing continues with berry gathering and root digging throughout summer

Waw’amaayq’áal (August)

“Chinook salmon to headwater’s and spawn”

Tustimasáat'al (June)

“Late season for cous roots”

Travel to falls for trading and gathering

Tay’áal (July)

“Time of blueback salmon at Wallowa Lake”

