

onions we also find in abundance and boil it with our meat.” [(6) p. 388] According to Clyman “The ladies gathered wild currants and choke cherries which grow in great profusion in this region and of the finest kind.” [(4) p.97] And also he “Saw and pickd a considerable fine mess of ripe strawberries.” [(4) p.72] James Pattie tells how “Our two Indian guides - They also were roasting mascall and the tender inside heads of the palm trees for food which when prepared and cooked after the Indian fashion, becomes a very agreeable food.” [(3) p. 123] From Stephen Long’s experience we learn that “One of the men claimed that it was possible to survive by eating moss and lichens which the fur traders called ‘tripe de roche’” [(1) p.206] In the same account he also states “To make matters worse, that day the hunters saw no game, and the discouraged men had only a few grapes and unripe persimmons to eat.” [(1) p. 155-156] From the Lewis and Clark Journal we learn that “Shannon went upstream to hunt, but we could find nothing of him. This is the same man who was separated from us 15 days and subsisted 9 days of that time on grapes only.” [(6) p.179] During hard times Russell writes “This place being entirely destitute of game, we had to live chiefly upon roots for 10 days.” [(5) p. 9] But on a more promising entry he relates “Here are some fine Salt Springs, the salt forms on the pebbles by evaporation to the depth of 5 or 6 inches in a short time. We gathered a supply of salt.” [(5) p.12]

Not all of the food was killed, caught or gathered but was obtained through trade with the Indians. Stephen Long reports that “The party traded some tobacco for a half basketful of turtle eggs.” [(1) p. 47] and again “13th Sept. Staying at a Bonnack Village the 13th, I left the village with a good supply of boiled Buffalo tongue.” [(1) p.29] Lewis and Clark tell how “We halted here for breakfast and with much difficulty purchased 2 lean dogs, the inhabitants were miserably poor. We obtained a few large cakes of half baked bread made of a root which resembles the sweet potato, with these we made some soope (soup) and took breakfast.” [(6) p.371] On another occasion Clark “bought from Indians about 20 lbs. of very fat dried horse meat.” [(6) p.251] They also tell of how on “17 Oct. Several men and woman offered dogs and fish to sale. We purchased all the dogs we could.” [(6) p.252]