10-23
(November 1954)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
(Area)

FILE CODE:

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT DECEMBER 1960

FROM:

TO:

IMPORTANT

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ACCIDENTS & PUBLIC SAFETY:	Tort claim paid to Mrs. June S. Parker as result of scalding at Beryl Spring, September 4.	3
PUBLICITY:	Yellowstone News issued each Thursday.	4
RELIGIOUS & CHAPEL USE:	Sunday services and Sunday School held weekly; Christmas Eve service held Dec. 24.	4
INTERPRETIVE SERVICES:	Mammoth Museum kept open 7 days a week.	4
RESEARCH & OBSERVATION:	Water and algae samples sent Colusa High School; Sapphire discharging dense glacial conglomerate; Ledge Geyser erupts for 1 hour, 15 minutes; new geyser in Pithole Springs; increased activity in Fountain Paint Pot area.	4
GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS:	Madison River gage read; water measurements in Lamar River taken; snow courses read.	4
FIELD RESEARCH SEMINAR:	Yellowstone Field Research Seminar to be held in Old Faithful area February 14-24 with Dr. Vincent Schafer.	4
CONCESSIONERS:	Yellowstone Park Company selects Mr. LaMarr Bittinger as new Executive Vice President and General Manager; annual financial report for Hamilton Stores, Inc., received; meetings on status of cooperative fire department at Old Faithful held with YPCo. representative.	5
NEW ROAD:	Forest Services announces contract to be let for road to reopen Madison River Canyon.	5
RANGER ACTIVITIES:	Regular boundary patrols made; uniformed personnel meeting parties entering Park via Snowmobile; South District personnel meet with Superintendent to discuss boat patrols.	5
LAW ENFORCEMENT:	Two traffic violations taken before U.S. Commissioner; fines of $25.00.	5
BUILDING FIRE PROTECTION:	Building inspections for fire hazards conducted in Mammoth.	5
FOREST FIRE PROTECTION:	Fire cache remodeling continued with more storage space provided.	5
WILDLIFE & FISH CULTURAL ACTIVITIES:	Bald Eagle and waterfowl survey preparations made; Bighorn rams, lambs and ewes observed; Bison in Hayden Valley and Midway Basin; Deer wintering in Old Faithful area; "three antlered" elk returns to Old Faithful; elk stay at higher elevations; waterfowl on Madison River more abundant than previous seasons.	6
DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION:	Listed.	7

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

January 13, 1961

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for December 1960

General

Weather. Precipitation and snow depths for December were ahead of the same month last year. Thirty inches of snow was reported at the Snake River Entrance Station on December 23. Maximum temperature at headquarters was 59 degrees on December 1 and the minimum was -11 degrees on the 6th. Precipitation .45 inch. There was about four inches of snow on the ground at the end of the month.

Snow depth at Snake River station at the end of the month was 37 inches. Snow Depths south of West Thumb are about twice the depths of 1959, with about three times the moisture content.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. During the month 662 visitors entered the Park, as against 611 for last December. Travel for December was 8.4 per cent above December 1959. Total visitors for the year was 1,443,288, as against 1,408,667 for 1959, an increase of 2.1 per cent.

Mr. Harold Young of West Yellowstone started Snowmobile service to Old Faithful on December 22. Seven trips were made between December 27 and 31, carrying a total of 78 passengers.

The road from Norris to Lake closed to public travel for the season on December 7. The only road open to public travel in the Park is the North Entrance, Gardiner to Cooke City. This road is kept open the year around.

Special Visitors. Dr. Edward Oberg, University of Iowa, spent the Christmas holidays in the Park to photograph wildlife.

Inspections. Mrs. Lorena [illegible] Tannehill, Power Operations Supervisor, Tenth Civil Service Region, Denver, was in the Park on the 5th and 6th inspecting the operations of the Yellowstone Power of Gardiners.

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Special Activities. On December 1 Assistant Superintendent Castellum met with officials of Grand Teton National Park to discuss the proposed joint fee for the coming summer, and to work out Grand Teton to Yellowstone winter patrols.

Assistant Superintendent Castellum, Chief Park Ranger Murdock and South District Ranger Reynolds attended the Wyoming Outfitters and Guides Association Convention at Jackson, Wyoming, on December 2 and 3. Mr. Castellum delivered an address to the group on the Northern Elk Management Program, and land use in Yellowstone National Park.

Superintendent Garrison, Chief Park Naturalist McIntyre and Biologist Howe attended the Montana Wildlife Federation Convention at Bozeman, Montana, on the 2nd and 3rd. Mr. McIntyre presented a talk on "Fishing Our Fun".

At a meeting with the Skyline Sportsmens Association in Butte, Montana, on the 6th, Biologist Howe accompanied by Canyon Park Ranger William Burgan, participated in a discussion of our elk management program and hunting in national parks.

Superintendent Garrison, Chief Park Ranger Murdock, and North District Ranger William S. Chapman traveled to Bozeman for a meeting with the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association on the 9th, 10th and 10th. Mr. Murdock gave a progress report of the proposed zoning of Yellowstone Lake.

A Superintendent's Staff meeting was held December 13.

Yellowstone Lake froze over on December 13.

On December 30, Secretary Seaton announced approval by the Department of the Interior of the Service's proposed regulations designed to govern the use of power boats on Yellowstone Lake, Shoshone Lake and the Lewis River between Lewis Lake and Shoshone Lake. After more than a year of special studies of wilderness qualities and natural conditions and patterns of public use prevailing in these waters, and a prolonged, intensive period of public relations activity aimed at promoting public understanding of the issues involved, approval of the proposed zoning measure is viewed as a major endorsement of fundamental National Park Service policies and public use objectives.

No earth tremors were reported during the month. A year ago reports were being received almost daily.

Administration

Personnel. Mr. Aubrey L. Haines, Reassignment to Historian (Park) GS-11, from Construction & Maintenance Superintendent (BGU), effective December 25, 1960.

Rolla D. Everett, Reassignment and change of headquarters to Mount McKinley National Park, Administrative Assistant, effective December 25.

Judy M. Gault, Reassignment to Office Services Supervisor, GS-5, from Clerk, GS-5, effective December 25.

George G. Jump, Operator General (Light Duty) Conversion to Career, effective December 18.

Clifford A. Ludwig, Promotion to Storekeeping Clerk, GS-4, effective December 25.

Evelyn A. McCann, Conversion to Reinstatement (Career) Subject to Furlough), Secretary (Stenography) GS-5, effective December 25.

In-Service Training. Lecture material from the Law Enforcement Training School was sent to Region Two Office and the National Park Service Training Center in Yosemite.

Park Ranger Paul L. Swearingen returned on the 16th from the National Park Service Training Center at Yosemite National Park.

Miscellaneous. The regular monthly meeting of the National Federation of Federal employees was held December 5.

The American Federation of Government Employees held their regular monthly meeting December 12.

The Christmas vacation at the Yellowstone Park School and the Gardiner Schools started at the close of school December 23.

Births. A daughter, Karen Holt, was born to Mr. and Mrs. William Burgan, on December 27 in the Memorial Hospital, Livingston, Montana. Mr. Burgan is a Ranger in the Canyon District.

Accidents and Public Safety. A tort claim amounting to $287.50 was paid to Mrs. June S. Parker, 9534 Jersey, Portland 3, Oregon. This claim was the result of her being scalded on the lower left leg and foot at Beryl Spring on September 4.

Cooperative Activities

Publicity. On each Thursday, the Yellowstone Weekly News was issued to keep employees, concessioners and others, currently informed of Park happenings.

Religious and Chapel Use. The Chapel was used every Sunday for the regular Sunday School and Protestant church services. A special Christmas Eve service was held December 24 at 7:00 p.m., conducted by Reverend Allen Line.

Interpretive Services. The Mammoth Museum was kept open seven days a week during the month.

Research and Observation. Mr. Wayne H. Maier, Biology Instructor, Colusa High School, Colusa, California, requested algae and water samples from thermal pools.

Sapphire has been discharging water only on the east and south sides of the crater, and for the past few weeks has discharged a few pieces of very dense glacial conglomerate, indicating that its roots are in glacial gravels.

On December 9, Ledge Geyser in the Norris Geyser Basin erupted for one hour and fifteen minutes.

A new geyser has developed in the Nichole Springs, which erupts to a height of approximately 15 feet.

Increased activity has been observed in the Fountain Paint Pot area with steam issuing from the guardrail posts and from beneath the flagstone walk. Corrective safety measures may be required in the spring.

Geological Surveys. Park personnel assisted in reading the Madison River Gage and taking water measurements in the Lamar River and submitted necessary records to the U.S. Geological Survey.

Park personnel took readings of all Snow Courses in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service.

Field Research Seminar. Plans have been completed with Dr. Vincent Schafer of Schenectady, New York, for the Yellowstone Field Research Seminar to be held in Old Faithful area February 14-24, 1961. West District personnel will assist Dr. Schafer and his party during their stay in the Park.

Concessioners. Superintendent Garrison was advised on December 12 that the Board of Directors of the Yellowstone Park Company had elected Mr. Kalmar Bittinger of Fargo, North Dakota, as their new Executive Vice President and General Manager and he will assume his new duties immediately. Mr. Bittinger has had 24 years experience in hotel management, eight years of which were with the Knutson Hotel Corporation. He will make his home in Helena, Montana, and will spend a great deal of time in Gardiner.

The Annual Financial Report for 1960 for Hamilton Stores, Inc., was received December 2.

Meetings were held with Mr. Tom Vallir of the Yellowstone Park Company regarding the future status of the cooperative fire department at Old Faithful. Several proposals were made which will be considered at a future meeting.

New Road. The Forest Service has announced that a contract may be let late this winter for construction of 2½ miles of road that will reopen the Madison River Canyon to through traffic. The road will link the east end of Earthquake Lake with the top of the slide where ceremonies were held last summer to dedicate a memorial plaque to those who lost their lives in the 1959 earthquake. If construction can be started soon, the Forest Service hopes that the route through the canyon may be usable next summer.

Ranger Activities. Regular boundary patrols are being made throughout the Park.

Uniformed personnel are meeting all parties entering the Park via Gardiner from West Entrance.

South District personnel attended a meeting with the Superintendent on the 8th to discuss Yellowstone Lake boat patrols for the past season and to consider plans for regulating lake use for the coming season.

Law Enforcement. Two cases for traffic violations were taken before U.S. Commissioner Brown. Fines totaled $75.00, of which $10 was collected and the balance suspended.

Building Fire Protection. Inspections of buildings for fire hazards began in the Mammoth Village December 5. The Fire Inspectors this year were Delmar G. Peterson and George J. Tracy, who reported unusually good conditions in all buildings they inspected.

Forest Fire Protection. Work of remodeling the Fire Cache continued throughout the month. More storage space and heat in the building is necessary for better operations.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. BALD EAGLE AND WATERFOWL. Preparations were made for the annual Bald Eagle and Waterfowl survey to be taken January 4-6.

BIGHORN. Rams, lambs and ewes have been observed on Mt. Everts.

BISON. Approximately 60 bison were counted in Hayden Valley on the 13th, and 75 were counted from the road to Cooke City near the Northeast Entrance. Fifty-four bison are wintering in the Midway Basin.

DEER. Several are wintering in the Old Faithful area.

ELK. The "three antlered" elk has returned to winter at Old Faithful and reports indicate he has become quite tame.

Elk are staying at higher elevations due to favorable winter conditions.

WATERFOWL. More waterfowl have been seen on the Madison River at this time of the year than during the previous three seasons.

Design and Construction

Plans, Maps, and Surveys: The Tower Junction part of the Master Plan was received from WODC, reviewed, and recommended for approval by the Director.

New Construction: Shellmaker, Inc., completed the dredging of Bridge Bay in late November and moved all his equipment out by December 9. We are glad to see this project complete this season and appreciate the part that good weather played in allowing completion. Nance Engineering did a fine job of supervision on the project.

The only construction jobs underway at the end of the month are the installation of the sprinkler system in the warehouse by Grinnell, construction of the seasonal apartments at Mammoth by Nelson Brothers, and construction of the teacher's residences by Easton and Hiller. Grinnell is progressing well and should finish in January; Easton and Hiller have footings and foundation poured and most of the material assembled and cut (using Mission Homes pre-cut materials); but Nelson Brothers are still going slowly with the heating plant completion holding up the job now.

Taggart Construction Company continued work on production of materials for the Madison Junction Road Relocation and Gibbon River Bridge until December 9 when a stop order was issued by Project Engineer Lucas.

The Division of Maintenance and Construction has done a great deal of planning for spring work and will have materials ordered and tables, latrines, and fireplaces fabricated for completion of all going campground and picnic area work by June 1961.

Lemuel A. Garrison
Superintendent

In triplicate

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Two
Management Assistant
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Design and Construction

Plans, Maps, and Surveys: The Tower Junction part of the Master Plan was received from WODC, reviewed, and recommended for approval by the Director.

New Construction. Burlingame, Inc., completed the realignment of [illegible] Bay in late November and moved all his equipment out by December 1. We are glad to see this project completed this season and appreciate the part that good weather played in allowing completion. [illegible] Engineering did a fine job of supervision on the project.

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The Division of Maintenance and Construction has begun a program of planning for spring work and will need materials covering new tables, latrines, and fireplaces [illegible] going campground and picnic area work [illegible].

[illegible]
Superintendent

In triplicate

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UNITED STATES
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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

January 13, 1961

Summary of the December 1960 Monthly Narrative Report

		Page
WEATHER:	Precipitation and snow more than last year, maximum temperature 59°, minimum -11°.	1
INCREASE OR DECREASE IN TRAVEL:	Visitors for month 662, 8.9% above December 1959, total for year 2.5% increase; Snowmobile service begun on 22nd; Gardiner to Cooke City road only road open to public travel.	1
SPECIAL VISITORS:	Listed.	1
INSPECTIONS:	Mrs. Ludema Tannehill, 10th Civil Service Region, inspecting operations of Yellowstone Board of Examiners.	1
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:	Assistant Superintendent to Grand Teton, Dec. 1; Assistant Superintendent, Chief Park Ranger, South District Ranger to convention of Wyoming Outfitters and Guides on Dec. 2 and 3; Superintendent, Chief Naturalist and Biologist to Montana Wildlife Federation Convention on 2nd and 3rd; Skyline Sportsmens Association meeting attended by Biologist Howe and Ranger Burgen; Superintendent, Chief Ranger, and North District Ranger attend Montana Outfitters and Guides meeting on Dec. 8, 9, 10; staff meeting held Dec. 13; Yellowstone Lake freezes; zoning measure passed; no earth tremors reported.	2
PERSONNEL:	Aubrey L. Haines reassignment to Historian; Nellie G. Everett to Mr. McKinley; Jack M. Gault, reassignment to Office Services Supervisor; George C. Jump, conversion to Career; Clifford A. Ludwig, promotion to Storekeeping Clerk; Evelyn A. McCann, conversion to reinstatement (Career) Subject to Furlough.	3
IN-SERVICE TRAINING:	Law Enforcement Training School material and Cooke Tour and Training Center; Park Ranger Swearingen returns from Training Center.	3
MISCELLANEOUS:	GNPA monthly meeting Dec. 5; AFGE regular meeting Dec. 12; Christmas vacation for schools starts Dec. 22.	3
BIRTHS:	Daughter to Ranger and Mrs. William Burgen on Dec. 17.	3

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