Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2013

http://archive.org/details/superintendentso00uns_f3m

10-23
(June 1941)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 207-02.3

	FORBES	
✓	JOHNSTON	TJ
✓	JOFFE	
✓	SOHL	S
	MACKEY	
	SHOCKEY	
	QUIST	
	SOMERVILL	
✓	BAUER	HB
✓	BARROWS	NB
	ELLIOTT	
	EVANS	
	CHAPMAN	
✓	WOHLBRANDT	
	ROBINSON	

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

MONTHLY REPORT

NOVEMBER

1 9 4 4

IMPORTANT

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge. All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room. Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure to observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the integrity of the official records.

NEWTON B. DRURY,
Director.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—22371

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

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

December 4, 1944.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park for the month of November 1944:

Weather Conditions. November was a rather normal month, with not an unusual amount of snow and with no sub-zero temperatures recorded. A heavy rain and snow in the high country on November 1 closed the Red Lodge-Cooke highway and the Continental Divide and south entrance roads were temporarily closed. The following day all park roads were declared closed to tourist travel. A car went from Mammoth to the south gate by way of Norris and Canyon on November 4. Another storm occurred on the 10th, which lasted through the 14th. Heavy snow on the 12th closed all roads to travel. However, it was necessary to open the roads to Old Faithful and Lake on the 14th and 15th to get meat to the winterkeepers at these points and these sections, as well as the roads to Cooke and West Yellowstone, were still open by the end of the month. The road to the northeast entrance and Cooke will be kept open throughout the winter for the benefit of Cooke residents

There were 9 clear days during the month, 3 partly cloudy, and 16 cloudy. The maximum temperature was 48° on the 4th and the minimum temperature 5° on the 19th. Total precipitation for the month was 1.67 inches, as against .30 inch in November 1943 and 2.54 inches in November 1942. The mean precipitation for November is 1.05 inches.

Snow depths were somewhat in excess of what they were a year ago, and a comparison of snow depths for the past five years at some of the points in the park on November 30 follows:

Comparative Snow Depths 1940-44

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Bechler River	28"	9"	39"	6"	19"
Buffalo Ranch	4"	4"		9"	
Cascade	32"	12"	54"*		
Gallatin	16"	3"		4"	8"
Lewis River Divide	40"			12"	
Madison Junction	9"	6"			3"
Mammoth	2.5"	1"	5"	2"	4"
Northeast Entrance	18"	3"	29"	7"	
Old Faithful	14"	6"	42"	6"	12"
West Yellowstone	16"	7"	32"	6"	12"
Tower Falls	4"	4.5"		1"	6"
Game Ranch					2"
Crevice					7"

*Measurement taken at [illegible]

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers spent the entire month in the park but made a trip outside from November 3 to 5 to Billings with Assistant to the Superintendent Joffe to attend the Dude Ranchers' Convention, and another to Livingston on the 30th to confer with Dr. G. A. Windsor, the park medical officer.

The Sixth War Loan Drive got underway on November 20, to run through December 16, with a National quota of 14 billion dollars. However, all sales during the months of November and December are to be credited. The park was given a quota of $23,000.00, operating as a unit of the State of Wyoming, and 55% of its September pay roll was designated as its Interdepartmental quota. By the end of the month sales totalling $33,000.00, or 143% of the State quota, were reported. Pay roll deductions and cash purchases by employees to the end of November totalled $14,137.49, or 58.6% of the Interdepartmental quota.

On November 6 the park received authority designating Personnel Clerk John Macbeth to administer Civil Service oaths and sign other Civil Service papers. Similar authority previously had been received for Superintendent Rogers, Assistant Superintendent Johnston, Assistant to the Superintendent Joffe, and Chief Clerk Soule.

On November 10 Clerk Evelyn Kumor went to Helena, Montana for her physical examination in connection with her enlistment in the WAVES. She was accepted and expects her orders to report for duty early in December.

Inspections. Tom Miller, U.S.G.S., Boise, Idaho, in November 6 for water gauge readings.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. Office work consisted mostly of working up equipment lists for needs (1) within the next year and (2) within two or three years after the war when the park is operating under normal conditions.

General Publicity. A press release on the closing of the park highways to tourists was sent out to local papers on November 2.

The 1944 Annual Report was mimeographed and distributed on November 16.

Road Maintenance. A heavy snow fell on the 12th and 13th, closing most of the roads and necessitating plowing around Mammoth and from Mammoth to Cooke Approximately 10 inches of snow fell at Mammoth. It was necessary to open the roads to Canyon, Lake and Old Faithful on the 14th and 15th, so the Yellowstone Park Company could get its winter meat supplies to the winterkeepers.

All maintenance crews were laid off at the close of the month.

All snow fences and snow stakes are in place and stock piles of sand are ready for use when needed.

One short stretch of new guard rail was placed and some broken rail repaired on the Mammoth to Gardiner section. The steel rail on the bridge over Willow Creek on the road to Panther Creek campground was removed, welded, straightened and replaced. Some concrete work around the posts will be required in the spring.

A new log bridge was partially built on Soda Butte Creek at the northeast entrance on the road to the old ranger station. Cold weather and snow made work difficult and operations were halted by the end of the month, to be resumed again in the spring.

The disc sand spreaders ordered for the park were received, and they have been assembled and are ready for use this winter when roads become icy.

Other Maintenance. The routine maintenance work on buildings at Mammoth and in the interior of the park was carried on by the carpenters, painters, and plumbers.

Park Operators. Mr. J. E. Haynes closed his Mammoth shop on November 2 and departed for Bozeman where he maintains his winter residence and has an office. He returned on November 22 and departed on the 26th.

The general store at Mammoth will remain open throughout the winter to take care of local residents. Mrs. Anna K. Pryor and her sister, Miss Belle Trischman, operators of the Pryor Stores, departed on November 23 for California via the west gate.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. Park Naturalist Brodrick continued the checking of catalogue cards for the location of specimens, in order to bring the cards up to date as to certain items in storage which have been moved from one room to another or from one shelf to another. This requires checking at least every 3 or 4 years and the work will be continued until all storage items have been checked and the cards brought up to date.

Research and Observations. District Ranger Bauman of the Old Faithful District reported that on November 16 at 1:15 p.m. the Giant, Grotto, Riverside, Grand and Old Faithful Geysers were all in eruption at the same time.

The copying of the manuscript by the late Professor James C. Hamilton on the "History of Yellowstone National Park" is being continued and the work should be completed sometime next month.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. Two hundred thirty-three persons entered the park during November, as compared with 276 for the same month in 1943. The total persons entering the park for this travel year is 4,085, as compared with 2,920 for 1943, an increase of 39.8 per cent.

One hundred motor vehicles entered the park in November, as compared with 99 for the same month in 1943. The total motor vehicles for this travel year, 1,336, as compared with 935 for 1943, shows an increase of 42.9 per cent.

Visitors. Taygoara Fleury de Amorim, Agricultural Chemist, Department of Agriculture of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, in north November 20, out north 22nd.

Ranger Service. Poaching activities in the Gallatin area along Highway 191 made it necessary to maintain night patrols on this road during the month. An extra ranger from headquarters was detailed to assist in this work.

Hunting patrols, game observations, care of the Government horse herd, gate duty, and other routine work occupied the greater part of the protection forces' time during the month.

A new log bridge was partially built on the Sakte River at the northeast
[illegible] on the road to the old ranger station. Old rubber and some new cor-
[illegible] and operations were halted by the end of the month, to be resumed
[illegible] in the spring.

The dike and spreaders ordered for the new work project, and they have
[illegible] been assembled and are ready for use this winter when work begins again.

Other maintenance. The roaring maintenance work on buildings at headquarters and
[illegible] the interior of the park was carried on by the carpenters, painters, and
[illegible]embers.

Park protection. Mr. L. [illegible] reports close cooperation with the rangers. [illegible]
[illegible]pared for possible work in maintaining the winter residences and has [illegible] on file.
[illegible] returned on November 22 and departed on the 28th.

The general store at headquarters will remain open throughout the winter to [illegible]
[illegible]re of local residents. Mrs. Anna L. Tyler and her sister, Miss Stella Jacobson,
[illegible]ructors of the Tyler Stores, departed on December 23 for California via the
[illegible]t gate.

Unusual hospitalities and activities. Park naturalist Dorothy Lawrence continued the
[illegible]making of catalogue cards for the collection of specimens, in order to bring the
[illegible]ress up to date as to certain items in storage which have been moved from one
[illegible] to another or from one shelf to another. This requires measuring of items
[illegible]very 3 or 4 years and the work will be continued until all the storage items have
[illegible]en checked and the cards brought up to date.

Rangers and operations. Activity ranger [illegible] of the Old Faithful Ran-
[illegible] reported that on November 16 at 11:[illegible] p.m. the [illegible], Lorenzo,
[illegible] and Old Faithful operators were all in structure at the same time.

The copying of the manuscript by the Lake Yellowstone [illegible] Jensen on
[illegible] "History of Yellowstone National Park" is being continued and [illegible] have
completed somewhat more than [illegible].

Increase in [illegible] in travel. The [illegible] visitors entered
[illegible] park during November, as compared with [illegible] for the same month in 1[illegible]. The
[illegible]tal persons entering the park for this travel year is [illegible], as compared with
[illegible] for 1[illegible], an increase of [illegible] for each.

The hundred motor vehicles entered the park in November, as compared with
[illegible] for the same month in 1[illegible]. The total motor vehicles for this travel year,
[illegible], as compared with [illegible] for 1[illegible], shows an increase of [illegible] per month.

Visitors. Inquiries about to months. Calculated [illegible] department of
[illegible]ntelligence of travel, [illegible] in [illegible] [illegible], one [illegible].

Ranger service. Regular activities in the military area [illegible]
[illegible] made it necessary to maintain night patrols on this road during the year.
[illegible] entire ranger force headquarters was detailed to assist in this work.

Hunting matters. Game observations, some of the [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]y, and other routine work occupied the greater part of the [illegible]
[illegible]e during the month.

Five rangers attended the F.B.I. school in Livingston, Montana on November 9th.

The east gate was permanently closed for the winter on November 13 and no ranger will be stationed there during the winter. The winterkeeper at Pahaska Lodge has been employed to make observations at the station several times during the month.

Police Protection. One arrest was made during the month. The violation consisted of killing a coyote in the park. The case will be held when Commissioner Wilcox returns from annual leave. He left the park on November 8, expecting to be on annual leave until sometime in February.

Wildlife Administration. Elk. Snowstorms which occurred from November 13 to 15 left 11 inches of snow at Mammoth and 5 to 6 inches at Tower Falls and Lamar. This storm brought practically all of the northern elk herd onto the winter range, but because of the small amount of snow which remained, the animals were well distributed and utilization of the abundant forage was light and no noticeable browsing occurred. No more storms of importance were recorded during the balance of the month so some elk moved back to areas normally used as summer ranges. Approximately 200 elk appeared in the vicinity of the Game Ranch after the storm and remained there. No other large bands were observed on the lower portions of the winter range.

Pronghorn. Special observations were made to collect data regarding the migration of pronghorns down the Yellowstone River Valley north of the park boundaries. On November 20 a total of 99 was counted from the park boundary to Mol Heron Creek, a distance of about four miles. On the 25th, 129 were counted outside the park and all but five of these were seen just north of the Corwin Springs Post Office. The pronghorns in the park were well distributed and were not utilizing the forage in the Game Ranch to the excessive extent noted during more severe winters.

Hunting Season. Gallatin Area: By the end of the month hunters had taken 449 elk in the Gallatin area where the season closes on December 1. It is expected that the total kill will approach the desired number of 500 animals which had been set for that area. A total of 79 deer was taken during the season which closed on the 15th.

Gardiner-Jardine Area: Due to the mild character of the winter and the lack of snow, which left abundant feed available in the park, very few elk moved out into open hunting areas. The Montana Game Checking Station at Panigan was in operation during the month, but most of the elk and many of the deer were taken by local hunters who did not check their game through, and accurate figures on the kill will not be available until the deputy game warden completes his check of local hunters. The total number of elk taken from the northern herd this season probably does not exceed fifty at this time.

Fishing. The annual fish planting report was prepared during November and submitted on the 18th. This report shows that the following fish were planted in park waters during the 1944 season:

Blackspotted trout	6,984,043
Rainbow trout	97,441
Loch Leven trout	119,558
Eastern Brook trout	39,990
Total	7,241,012

YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYOMING