10-23
(November 1954)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
(Area)

FILE CODE:

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT SEPTEMBER 1960

FROM:

TO:

IMPORTANT

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

A2823
Report 2ml

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Summary of the September 1960 Monthly Narrative Report

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

REPLY TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

UNITED STATES
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ICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

October 21, 1960

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for September 1960

General

Weather. September was a beautiful month with warm days and very little precipitation. Maximum temperature at headquarters was 82 degrees on September 3. Minimum temperature was 19 degrees on the 7th. Precipitation was .20 inch.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. September travel showed a 60 per cent gain over the same period last year. Visitors entering the Park were 150,263, as against 91,867 for 1959. Yearly travel was 1.4 per cent above 1959 with 1,411,787, as against 1,392,196.

Range. Biologist Robert K. Rose spent three days on the northern range photo plots.

Special Visitors. Congressman William Colmer of Mississippi and a group escorted by U. S. Forest Service Officials, arrived September 10.

Mr. and Mrs. Edmund B. Rogers were visitors to the Park September 9, 10 and 11.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Ward visited the Park during the month. Mr. Ward is Forester in the Division of Ranger Activities in the Washington Office and is a former Yellowstone ranger.

Mr. Phillip H. Wohlbrandt, Regional Engineer, Region Three, while on annual leave visited his children and friends in Yellowstone and Gardiner.

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Foreign Visitors. A group of international forestry officials visited Yellowstone National Park on September 14 and 15, following the Fifth World Forestry Congress in Seattle, September 6-13. Leading forestry officers representing 23 foreign nations and a group of 85 administrators, technicians and guests toured national parks and national forests of the northern Rocky Mountain region after the two weeks of meetings in Seattle. Superintendent Garrison and Chief Park Naturalist McIntyre visited the Fifth World Forestry Congress in Seattle.

The city of Seattle and the University of Washington served as hosts to the Fifth World Forestry Congress where more than 1,900 forestry officials from all parts of the world met to discuss technical and modern scientific aspects of forest management and to exchange views on national and international forestry and related conservation problems.

Arrangements were made for post-Congress tours of forests, parks, forest experiment stations, private forestry operations and industrial plants in the United States. The tours permitted visiting foreign officials the opportunity to see at first hand, techniques of American forest management, national park administration and public use of outdoor recreation resources as well as private enterprise in forest management and forest industries. The northern Rocky Mountain region tour was one of five such tours arranged to meet the special interests of Congress members in these matters in the eastern, southern and western portions of the United States.

Among the many prominent forestry officials who chose to tour the Rocky Mountain region were Sir Arthur Gosling, Forestry Commission of England; Mr. Erick Wilhelm Hojer, Director General of Forests, Government of Sweden, who was elected a vice president of the World Forestry Congress by his fellow delegates; Mr. Miroslav Vyskot of Czechoslovakia, Chairman of the Congress Section on Silviculture and Management; Mr. A. P. Thomson of New Zealand, Vice Chairman of the Congress Section on Genetics and Forest Improvement; Dr. Rudolf Ender of Austria, Vice Chairman of the Section on Forest Products; Mr. Ram Bahadur Thapa of Nepal. Vice Chairman of the Section on Forest Recreation and Wildlife; Mr. Josef Jungo of Switzerland, Chairman of the Section on Logging and Forest Operations; Mr. V. S. Rao, Inspector General of Forests to the Government of India, and Mr. Jean de Vaissiere, Inspector General of Waters and Forests of France, were tour members who made important addresses at sessions of the Congress.

The tour was headed by Mr. Kenneth Keeney, Assistant Regional Forester, Division of Information and Education, Northern Region, United States Forest Service, Missoula, Montana. Accommodations for the foreign guests during their stay in Yellowstone Park were provided at Old Faithful Inn. Biologist Howe and Naturalist Marlar of the Yellowstone staff addressed the group on the evening of September 14 to acquaint them with Yellowstone's remarkable wildlife resources and unique geological and thermal phenomena. Mr. Keeney and Robert N. McIntyre, Chief Naturalist, Yellowstone National Park, reported that the tour members thoroughly enjoyed the scenery, wildlife and natural features of Yellowstone Park, World-renowned and regarded by many of the officials from distant lands as a landmark in conservation movements, not only of the United States but throughout the world.

Mr. Rocco Knobel, Director National Parks for the Union of South Africa, Pretoria, visited Yellowstone September 11 to 17 enroute to Washington from the Fifth World Forestry Congress in Seattle. Mr. Knobel is visiting the United States on a grant from the Unites States State Department. He is interested in administration of national parks, tourism in parks, influence of tourists on wildlife and conservation practices.

Inspections. Mr. Robert Hall, Landscape Architect, WODC, was in the Park on official business September 5 and 6.

The following geologists were in the Park approximately the first two weeks of September making a study of geyser actions: Drs. Fournier and Henley from Denver; Drs. White and Morey from Washington, and Dr. Sigvaldson, Geologist from Iceland. Dr. L. C. Craton, Professor of Geology at Yale University arrived September 3 to study the thermal activity and give assistance to the above geologists.

The following personnel from the Bureau of Public Roads were in the Park September 10 through the 13: Mr. Dave Goodall, Regional Bridge Engineer, San Francisco; Victor L. Grimm, Division Bridge Engineer, Cheyenne; Mr. King Berghardt, Regional Bridge Engineer, Denver; and Charles Frey, Personnel Officer, Regional Office, Denver.

Mr. Houston Turner, Assistant Chief, Property Management Section, Washington Office, was in the office September 18 through the 22nd consulting with various personnel.

Mr. Ralph McFadden, Supervisory Electronics Engineer, WODC, arrived September 6 to meet with Park personnel and Land-Air representatives for the purpose of resolving final differences in the radio contract. Mr. McFadden will make a written report to Superintendent Garrison.

[illegible]

Special Activities. Chief Park Ranger Murdock met with Assistant Regional Director J. Tom Barnaby, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland, Oregon, on September 7. More basic research in Yellowstone on the grayling was discussed. The Bureau of Sport Fisheries will submit a draft of a working agreement between Fish and Wildlife and Yellowstone.

Chief Park Ranger Murdock and Park Ranger (General) Janda acknowledged correspondence favoring the Lake zoning proposal and prepared material for transmittal to the Director.

Law Enforcement Officer Howard H. Chapman met with FBI Special Agent Carmody in Butte on the 27th for the purpose of reviewing the schedule for a one-week law enforcement school, November 14-18. He also attended a firearms training session while there.

Messrs. Dick, Bean, Rowe, Mattson, Minish, Wohlbrandt, Viklund, and Valder were on an inspection trip in the Bechler area September 27-30. New sites for the Bechler Ranger Station were investigated, also trail relocation was considered.

Nine people went on a canoe trip to Shoshone Lake on September 24 for the purpose of making an up-to-date inventory of the geyser basin at Shoshone Lake, the birds and animals, the campgrounds and evolve a pattern for public use under zoning for hand-propelled craft only. Messrs. Hugh D. Galusha, Certified Public Accountant for Galusha & Meloy, Helena, Dr. Alfred Lueck, Yellowstone Park Medical Service, Superintendent Garrison, Chief Park Naturalist McIntyre, North District Manager John Good, Biologist Robert E. Howe and Forester Marion Myers crossed Lewis Lake in two canoes and one motor boat to Shoshone Lake. Management Assistant Lawrence C. Hadley and Curator Mary Meagher hiked in from Lone Star Geyser.

Assistant Superintendent Luis A. Gastellum took annual leave and attended the National Convention of the National Federation of Federal Employees in New York City. For the past six years, Luis has been a National Vice President of the organization, but he retired at the end of the present term on September 30. As a national officer his services for speaking engagements have been much in demand from all sections of the country. Although many appeals were made to Luis to continue in office, he felt the honor should go to others who had more time than he to contribute to the organization.

Superintendent Garrison and Management Assistant Hadley attended the Montana Motor Hotel Association Convention in Billings on September 30.

On September 6, Chittenden Bridge was closed to automobile traffic. After exploratory drillings were made last month of the bridge structure, it was concluded that the bridge was unsafe for further public use. Test drilling revealed that the inner concrete core of the bridge had deteriorated to mere powder and that the steel structural members were being subjected to abnormal stresses. A survey by engineers, review by technicians and staff members and a decision by administrators as to the replacement of the bridge will be made.

Superintendent Garrison was Chairman of the Board of Review of the project fires that occurred in the Park during July. Personnel attending the review were Robert Murphy, Rocky Mountain National Park; Stanley Spurgeon, Grand Teton National Park; Donald Barnum and James Thompson, Glacier National Park; and Ernest K. Field, Region Two.

Park Ranger Paul L. Swearingen was selected to represent Yellowstone National Park at the Frank Pinkley Session of the National Park Service Training Center in Yosemite National. The seventh session started September 19, 1960.

Yellowstone National Park has been chosen as the location for the Region Two Superintendents' Conference, October 2-7. The primary theme of the conference is national park wilderness preservation and use. Preparations are being made for the conference.

The Yellowstone Park Council met on Saturday, September 17, with 22 persons in attendance. The Council comprises three members from each of the states of Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming, the National Park Service and the Yellowstone Park concessioners. Purpose of the Council is to bring understanding and closer cooperation among interested businesses, local government agencies, the Service and the concessioners in matters of mutual interest that affect the Park, the concessioners, individuals and segments of industry in the three-state region. In the evening a color movie, "The Four Seasons in Yellowstone" was shown to the group.

September 5, Labor Day, was a holiday for all whose services were not essential to adequate staffing and operation of public use facilities.

The National Park Service mess at Canyon closed September 24.

An earth tremor was experienced about 4 o'clock in the morning on September 30.

The Superintendent's Staff meetings were held September 1 and 21.

Administration

Personnel. Mr. Jesse D. Wharton, Power Plant Operator, conversion to Career Conditional Appointment, effective September 3, 1960.

Mr. Ivan L. Catlett, Power Plant Operator, TAPLA appointment, effective September 2, 1960.

A meeting on proposed changes in the Promotion and Lateral Transfer Policy was held on the 19th and attended by 18 key employees, including division and district chiefs and representatives of the NFFE and AFGE.

A Clerk-Stenographer examination was given for one examinee. A Tour Leader Examination was conducted for one examinee.

In-Service Training. Tentative dates for the Law Enforcement Training school to be held in the Park have been set for November 14-18.

Special Assignment. Supervisory Park Ranger Nancy is on special assignment under Region Two office to assist them in their current nationwide recreation plan studies. This is a cooperative effort between the National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management whereby we review and evaluate areas which BLM calls to our attention as of potential park and recreation value.

Deaths. Joseph Joffee, age 64, passed away September 29 at his home in Livingston. The place of his birth was St. Joseph, Missouri. Funeral services will be October 1 at Garnett Funeral Home.

Miscellaneous. The National Federation of Federal Employees Union held its regular monthly meeting on September 6. Assistant Superintendent Luis A. Gastellum flew to New York on September 9 to attend the National Convention, September 12-15 as a delegate from Yellowstone Park Local 465. Mr. Gastellum was fourth National Vice President and everyone was disappointed that he found it necessary to resign from this office.

The regular monthly meeting of the American Federation of Government employees was held September 12.

The first fall meeting of the Yellowstone Park PTA was held September 8. The Yellowstone Women's Guild held their first fall meeting on September 15.

A community farewell potluck supper was held September 23 in the canteen for Supervisory Accountant Thomas J. Somerville, Jr., who transferred to Rocky Mountain National Park.

"The Battle of Gettysburg" was shown September 22 in the Canteen. This is a masterful production filmed on the Gettysburg battlefield by MGM under the direction the direction of Dore Schary. J. Walter Coleman, former Superintendent of the Gettysburg National Military Park wrote the script.

Whitney North Seymour, outstanding New York lawyer whose "exceptional contributions to the honor and standing of the bar in this community" won him the coveted Medal of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, has achieved a distinctive new honor. Mr. Seymour was elected president of the American Bar Association this week at the organization's convention in Washington. Mr. Seymour was a Yellowstone ranger in 1919 and 1920.

Progress was made on the accumulation and identification of unneeded property and scrap. The shed and red barn on Capitol Hill were sold as salvage. The South Storehouse was advertised at the same time, but was not sold because of the high cost of removing unsalvable materials from the Park.

Cooperative Activities

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

There were two press releases in September, one on wildlife and the other on International Forestry Officials' visit.

Religious and Chapel Use. The Latter-Day Saints and Roman Catholic services throughout the Park terminated September 4. Protestant services were held throughout the month.

Interpretive Services. Mammoth Museum and the Old Faithful Museum remained open to the public throughout the month. Norris and Madison Junction Museums closed after Labor Day. The Fishing Bridge Museum was closed for the season on September 10. Canyon Visitor Center closed on the 18th.

Seasonal Naturalists Beal, Germeraad, and Higgins remained on duty at Old Faithful throughout the month. One Park Ranger (Naturalist) remained on duty in the Mammoth area.

Mr. Rocco Knobel, Director of National Parks for the Union of South Africa, gave a special interpretive program at Mammoth on September 12. Mr. Knobel showed a moving picture and series of slides on the parks of South Africa.

"The Battle of Gettysburg" was given September 22 at the Carnegie. This is a narrated production filmed on the Gettysburg Battlefield by NBC under the direction of [illegible]. J. Walter Coleman, former Superintendent of the Gettysburg National Military Park wrote the script.

[illegible], representing the York [illegible] for "meaningful contributions to the [illegible] of the [illegible]" was [illegible] Medal of the Association at the [illegible] of the [illegible]. Mr. [illegible] was elected president of the [illegible] Association [illegible] as the organization's [illegible] in Washington. Mr. [illegible] was a [illegible] in 1915 and 1916.

Progress was made on the [illegible] and [illegible] of [illegible] property and [illegible]. The [illegible] on Capital Hill were sold at auction. The [illegible] was advertised at the same time, but was not sold because of the high cost of removing [illegible] materials from the tract.

Cooperating Activities

Publicity. On each Thursday, the Independence Park [illegible] was issued to keep employees, concessioners and others currently informed of Park happenings.

There were ten press releases in September, one on wildlife and the other on International [illegible] Officials' visit.

Religious and Funeral Services. The [illegible] services throughout the Park [illegible] September 4. [illegible] services were held throughout the month.

Interpretive Services. [illegible] House and the [illegible] remained open to the public throughout the month. [illegible] and [illegible] Museum closed after Labor Day. The [illegible] was closed for the season on September [illegible]. [illegible] closed at the end.

[illegible] Naturalist [illegible] and [illegible] were [illegible] at many of the [illegible] throughout the month. The Park [illegible] program [illegible] only in the [illegible] area.

Mr. [illegible], Director of National Parks for the Union of South Africa, made a special [illegible] on September 11. Mr. [illegible] showed a moving picture and series of slides of the parks of South Africa.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. The museum acquired a number of obsolete National Park Service insignia for exhibit purposes and an album of 1901 snapshots taken in Yellowstone National Park, also a 1901 diary of a horse and buggy trip through the Park.

Research and Observation. During September, 14 eruptions of Old Faithful of two-minute duration were followed by intervals of 60 minutes or over. On two occasions, a half dozen four-minute eruptions were successively followed by longer than average intervals.

Professor Kenneth B. Armitage, Collaborator, who previously conducted research on the yellow-bellied marmots near South Entrance Station, has written he wishes to return to the Park in April of 1961. The purpose of his study will concern, particularly, the social behavior and other events that occur after the marmots emerge from hibernation.

Natural History Association. Mrs. Lucile Wagner, Librarian for Association, terminated her services on September 19.

Park Ranger (General) Paul Swearingen obtained 20 slides of Yellowstone scenes for use at the Yosemite Training School.

Grizzly Bear Studies. Drs. John J. and Frank C. Craighead, with their assistant Mr. Maurice Hornocker, moved into quarters at Lake to continue the cooperative Grizzly Bear study throughout the Park. Dr. John J. Craighead returned to the Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Montana, Missoula, on September 30.

Concessioners. Operations of the concessioners were closed by the end of the month except at Mammoth, Lake and Old Faithful. The Yellowstone Park Company facilities at Canyon Village closed on September 19.

The Mammoth Hospital closed for the season on September 13.

Messrs. Castellum, Hadley, Murdock, Rowe and Haines attended the monthly meeting of Concessioners and National Park Service on September 7 at Hebgen Lake Lodge. The Montana Power Company was host.

The Postal station at Fishing Bridge and West Thumb closed for the season on September 12. The Canyon station closed September 20.

The Yellowstone Park Company Audit Office moved from Mammoth to Helena, Montana, on September 28.

The telegraph office in the hotel closed and the teletype machine was moved to the Administration Building in the Mail & Files Office.

The railroads ceased serving the various Park gateways on September 3. Bus service in the Park ended on the same date.

Maintenance. All phases of road activities were carried out. Park General crews half-soled 3.9 miles of primary road between Bridge Bay and East Entrance. All South District roads were center-striped.

A steam vent broke out in the road surface at Beryl Spring on September 6. The excavation and recapping was completed on the 7th.

Protection and Ranger Service. Law Enforcement Officer Howard H. Chapman participated in an 8 day trip into the Thorofare area for purpose of reviewing law enforcement problems in this wilderness section of the Park.

The hunting season opened September 6 in the Hellroaring-Cooke City area necessitating hunting patrols along the north boundary of the Park.

Entrance station operations were curtailed sharply after Labor Day, operating on a 12 hour basis.

All patrol cabins in the Park were rationed for winter use.

Chief Park Ranger announced, on September 27, the winter assignments for several rangers.

At Lake, boat permits issued during the month totaled 52, and 8 fire permits were issued.

Law Enforcement. Twelve violations were presented before U. S. Commissioner Brown during the month, and seven of the 12 persons charged were employees in the Park. Fines totaled $395, of which $80 was suspended.

Building Fire Protection. Inspection of concessioner and Government facilities were continued during the month. Mr. Tom Simmons, Fire Chief, Old Faithful, terminated September 30,

Insect and Tree Disease. Blister Rust Control work terminated September 30. Work completed this season included 7,410 acres of initial eradication, 2,080 acres of re-work and 3,480 acres on maintenance. A total of 628,000 ribes were destroyed.

Forest Fire Protection. All fire lookouts were closed during the month. Mt. Washburn was the last to close on September 23.

The parachute loft at West Yellowstone was closed on September 27 and James T. Manion, Fire Control Technician returned to Mammoth.

Action was taken September 29 on a fire on Pitchstone Plateau. The fire was burning at the end of the month.

One small fire was extinguished on the east side of Goose Lake on September 15.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. ANTELOPE. Two bands of approximately 25 were observed in the Lamar Valley all month. Many were observed at Reese Creek.

BEARS. Black. A few beggar black bears remained along the highway during the month.

BEARS. Grizzly. Fire Control Aid Richard Hite observed a grizzly bear kill an elk on the slopes of Mt. Washburn on September 21.

BIGHORN SHEEP. A small group was observed September 10 to 12 near Pebble Creek.

BISON. Approximately 80 buffalo have been observed daily at the Northeast Entrance. A herd of about 30 have been seen in the Lamar area. A herd of 35 were observed in the Lower Basin meadows on September 18. Approximately 39 buffalo have been observed near Madison Junction during the month.

ELK. The elk have remained in the higher ranges during the month. There has been very little movement to lower elevations. The bulls have been heard bugling in all areas of the Park. About 50 elk have been observed in the Bechler area.

RED FOX. Three observations of Red Foxes were made between the insect infestation and the crusher site on the Tower Fall-Mammoth road.

Contracts.

McLaughlin Construction Company Livingston, Montana	$352,418	Grant Village Spur Road

The BPR road projects have progressed well except for the North Entrance slide stabilization by Nelson Brothers, who terminated the services of the sub-contractor. This project is almost complete except for the paving which will be laid by Burggraf Construction Company from the "hot plant" at the Mesa Pit. The West Entrance final road inspection will be held on September 29. The Madison Junction road relocation and bridge construction and the Bridge Bay bridge and road construction have progressed so well that the contractors will complete all but final finish and cleanup this fall.

The dredging of Bridge Bay is progressing on schedule and, barring accident, will be completed by November 1. The bulkhead piling installed by Charles M. Smith is mostly in place also.

Final inspections were held and the work accepted on the repair of the shop floor at Mammoth. This was work by Reed Nielsen. The bonding company, Glens Falls Insurance Company, has an assignment of payments from Reed Nielsen who is having difficulty in paying his bills for materials.

Utilities: WODC Engineer Ralph McFadden again spent considerable time in the Park helping us negotiate a settlement on radio service by Land-Air. The system was determined to be acceptable with some modifications needed, but no direct settlement has yet been made for the services rendered before acceptance of the system or for the liquidated damages. We expect to complete these negotiations this next month.

Lemuel A. Garrison
Superintendent

In triplicate

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Two