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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 207-02.3

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

NOVEMBER 1948

	ROGERS
	JOHNSTON
✓	JOFFE
	ANDERSON
	STANTON
	CRABB
	FULLER
✓	[illegible]
✓	CONDON
✓	SEIBERT
	EVANS
	CHAPMAN
	KITTAMA
✓	WORKMANNET
	ROBINSON
	WIGGINS
	SEASHOLTZ

IMPORTANT

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NEWTON B. DRURY,
Director.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—22371

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Yellowstone National Park
Yellowstone Park, Wyoming

ffice of the Superintendent

Summary of the November 1948 Monthly Narrative Report for
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

		Page
WEATHER:	Cloudy, stormy weather entire month. Above normal precipitation. Mammoth maximum 44°, minimum -3°. -23° at West Yellowstone. Snow depths Mammoth 7.2", Northeast Entrance 26", Snake River 24".	1
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:	Supt. Rogers to Bozeman with Mr. Haynes; attended Rotary and library. Rogers, Johnston, Mattson, Wohlbrandt and Robinson inspected Sec. C, Moran-Yellowstone approach road. Supt. left 14th for Denver. Johnston Acting Supt. Rogers attended meeting, Denver, on concessioner employee wages and hours. To Omaha in December, return to Denver, and later to Wash., D. C. Johnston and Mattson to Bozeman to discuss considered airport legislation with Mr. King of CAA. Earthquakes at Old Faithful 9th and 10th; no damage. Gerald Ford, former seasonal ranger, elected to Congress from Michigan.	1
INSPECTIONS:	Maynard Barrows, Ashton R. Codd and O. W. Monson in. E. H. Cowan left park.	2
PLANS, MAPS AND SURVEYS:	Preparation of annual road estimates and PCP sheets covering proposed developments at West Thumb and Old Faithful. West Thumb Sites 2 and3 reviewed with Forester Barrows.	2
PUBLICITY:	Story sent AP and UP regarding poaching of two elk in Bechler region.	2
MAINTENANCE:	Winter weather all month necessitating snowplow operation almost daily between Gardiner and Cooke and much sanding of hills. No road crews out but one foreman retained and working on road signs for maintenance crews. Red Lodge road blocked on 1st and most other roads closed 3rd. Two aggregate spreaders received.	2
NEW CONSTRUCTION:	Sec. C of South Approach Road completed and work on Canyon project closed down for winter, 50% complete.	2
	Coal bin completed and furnace being installed School Building, and new furnace installed Chapel Building.	3

FIRE CONTROL: Plan Planning Report for pre-Admiral Club. 1

FOREST FIRE PROTECTION: Lake Plan Atlas material ready for reproduction. Five equipped lookout towers ready for publication. Portions of annual Forestry Report prepared. Several fire reports in Records Fire Index. 1

TRAILS: Trail estimates for 1960 fiscal year being prepared. 2

WATER PUMP REPAIR & HOUSE CONTROL: Pen letters and applications. Final pending final reports from Bureau of Reclamation & Plan Commission. 1

EQUIPMENT: 7 motor vehicle accidents reported, one involving 4WD vehicles and one 4WD vehicle. Non-covered roads largely responsible. 6

PROCUREMENT: Procial T. Baker and Ada B. Chase terminated. Advice received all records to be checked from CPO to Gen. Rep B. Topics transferred to the Department, Mr. Barron, pending. 6

MAINTENANCE: Lloyd G. Blanks and Dorothy Blanchard married. 1

MISCELLANEOUS: Federal employees Union meeting November 1. 1

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Yellowstone National Park
Yellowstone Park, Wyoming

Office of the Superintendent

December 7, 1948.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of November 1948.

Weather Conditions. Cloudy and stormy weather was predominant during the entire month with precipitation being recorded on 21 days amounting to 2.50 inches. This compares with 1.43 inches in 1947, 1.64 inches in 1946, 1.59 inches in 1945 and 1.67 inches in 1944. Only two days were clear, seven days partly cloudy and 21 days cloudy. A maximum temperature of 44° was recorded on the 14th and a minimum of -3° on the 27th at headquarters. The lowest temperature recorded in the park was -23° at West Yellowstone on the 27th. The average maximum temperature at headquarters for the month was 29°. The snow depth at Mammoth at end of month was 7.2 inches with depths of 26 inches being recorded at Northeast Entrance and 24 inches at Snake River Station.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers went to Bozeman on November 2 with Mr. J. E. Haynes. He attended Rotary and spent some time in the library there in connection with his project covering National Park Service legislation. On November 4 a trip was made to the South Entrance with Messrs. Johnston, Mattson, Wohlbrandt and Robinson to make final inspection of Section C of the Moran-Yellowstone Approach Road under contract with McLaughlin, Inc. He left the park on November 14 via the West Gate for Denver, where he expects to work on his legislative history project. Assistant Superintendent Johnston was Acting Superintendent in his absence. Mr. Rogers attended a meeting in Denver on November 30 as representative of the Director in connection with wages and hours for concessioner employees. He is scheduled for a trip to Omaha during the week of December 5-11 for a discussion of park matters in the Region office and will take some annual leave after he returns. After the first of the year he expects to go to Washington, D. C., on an assignment in the Director's Office.

Acting Superintendent Johnston and Mr. Mattson met in Bozeman on November 17 with Mr. Charles King of the Civil Aeronautics Administration to discuss airport legislation now under consideration.

A slight earthquake was reported by District Ranger Frank Hirst at Old Faithful at 4.23 p.m. November 9. Another quake was reported by Ranger Hirst at 12:47 a.m. the next day which woke both him and the Old Faithful winterkeeper. The second shock was more severe than the first but no damage was reported.

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Yellowstone National Park
Yellowstone Park, Wyoming

Office of the superintendent

December 7, [illegible]

MEMORANDUM for the director.

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of November 1934.

Weather Conditions. Cloudy and rainy weather was prevalent during the entire month with precipitation being recorded on 21 days amounting to 4.50 inches. This amount was [illegible] in July, 1.01 inches in June, 1.29 inches in May and 1.27 inches in July. Only one day was clear, seven days partly cloudy and 21 days cloudy. A maximum temperature of [illegible] was recorded on the 14th and a minimum of -12 on the 27th and 28th. The lowest temperature recorded in the park was -23 [illegible] the 27th. The average maximum temperature at Mammoth was [illegible] 29°. The snow depth at Mammoth at the end of month was 7.2 inches with depth of 24 inches being recorded at Yellowstone [illegible] and 2 inches at Lake River Station.

Special activities. Superintendent [illegible] went to Helena on November 2 with Mr. G. T. Aspinwall. Mr. Aspinwall [illegible] what plan in the library there in connection with the [illegible] Emergency Relief [illegible] legislation. Mr. Aspinwall [illegible] with [illegible] Helena. Johnston, Matthews, Whitehead and [illegible] as park [illegible] of section C of the Forest-Yellowstone [illegible] contract with [illegible] Inc. Mr. [illegible] on November 10 [illegible] Denver, where he attends to work on the Yellowstone History project. [illegible] and superintendent Johnston was [illegible] to his office. Mr. Rogers attended a meeting in Denver on November 20 as representative of the Director in connection with [illegible] for concessioner employees. He is scheduled for a trip to Cody during the week of November 5-11 for a discussion of park matters in the Cody office and will [illegible] leave after he returns. After the first of the year he intends to go to Washington. [illegible] on assignment in the director's office.

Acting superintendent Johnston and Mr. [illegible] left in Cheyenne on November 17 with Mr. Charles King of the Civil Aeronautics Administration to discuss airport installation for Cody [illegible].

A slight earthquake was reported by Yellowstone Lake Park at the Natural at 4:35 p.m. November 9. Another quake was reported by Lake Park at 12:17 a.m. the next day which woke both Mr. and Mrs. Old Faithful Ranger. The second shock was more severe than the first but no damage was reported.

Gerald R. Ford, who served as a seasonal ranger in the Yellowstone in 1936, was elected to Congress as a Representative from the Fifth Michigan District.

Inspections. Maynard Barrows, Forester, Region Two, in North November 7, out 11. Ashton R. Codd, Hydromatic Engineer, Soil Conservation Service, Division of Irrigation Snow Surveys, Montana State College, Bozeman, Montana, and C. W. Monson, Irrigation Engineer, Agricultural Experiment Station, Montana State College, Bozeman, in November 12 in connection with snow gauge readings. E. A. Cowan, PRA Engineer, departed from the Park November 9.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. Work in the Park Engineer's office consisted mostly of the preparation of the annual road estimates and PCP sheets covering proposed new developments at West Thumb and Old Faithful. During Forester Barrows' visit in the park the West Thumb Sites 2 and 3 were reviewed in the field.

Publicity. A story regarding the poaching of two elk in the Bechler River section of the park by Clarence Robarge of Provo, Utah, and Roy Sumter of Blackfoot, Idaho, was phoned to the United Press and Associated Press on November 9.

A total of 47,800 1947 Yellowstone broadsides remained on hand at the end of the month.

Maintenance. Winter weather set in the first of the month and continued at the end of the month. Snowplow operation between Cooke and Gardiner was almost a daily operation and the slippery roads caused much sanding of the steeper hills. No road crews were out during the month but one foreman was retained to build some additional road signs for use of the maintenance crews.

The Red Lodge-Cooke Road was blocked by the storm on November 1 and signs were put up. On November 3 the east and south entrances, Dunraven Pass and the Continental Divide were closed and barricaded, and traffic into the interior of the park was discontinued for visitors via the north and west gates.

Two aggregate spreaders were received during the month, which completed delivery on all road equipment purchased with 1948 fiscal year road equipment money.

New Construction. Construction work on Section C of the South Approach Road, Moran to Yellowstone, was completed and the contractor, McLaughlin, Inc., moved out November 8 just ahead of some bad weather.

Work on Project 1-F3, G4 on the grand loop at Canyon was closed down for the winter on November 6 and the contractor, Strong and Co., moved much of his heavy equipment out of the park. Most of the heavy grading has been completed and the project is about 50% completed.

Gerald R. Ford, who served as a seasonal ranger in the Yellowstone in 1936, was elected to Congress as a Representative from the Fifth Michigan District.

Inspections. Regional Director Merrill, [illegible], in Park November 7, and 11. [illegible] S. [illegible], Hydraulic Engineer, Soil Conservation Service, Division of Irrigation Snow Surveys, Montana State College, Bozeman, Montana, and C. W. [illegible], Irrigation Engineer, Agricultural Experiment Station, Montana State College, Bozeman, in November 10 in connection with snow course readings. H. A. [illegible], Fire Engineer, departed from the Park November 1.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. Work in the Park Engineer's office consisted mostly of the preparation of the annual road estimates and [illegible] covering proposed new developments at West Thumb and Old Faithful. During Forester [illegible] visit to the park the East Road Sites 2 and 4 were [illegible] in the field.

Publicity. A story regarding the planting of [illegible] in the [illegible] River section of the park by [illegible] of Provo, Utah, and Roy [illegible] of Blackfoot, Idaho, was given to the United Press and Associated Press on November 9.

A total of 17,000 1949 Yellowstone [illegible] remained on hand at the end of the month.

Maintenance. Winter weather set in the first of the month and continued to the end of the month. Snowplow operation between Cooke and Gardiner was almost a daily operation and the slippery roads needed much sanding of the steeper hills. No road crews were out during the month but one foreman was retained to build some additional snow signs for use of the maintenance crews.

The Red Lodge-Cooke road was closed by the snows on [illegible] and signs were put up. On November 5 the East and South entrances, Dunraven Pass and the Continental Divide were closed and barricaded and traffic into the interior of the park was discontinued for visitors via the North and West gates.

Two aggregate spreaders were received during the month, which completes delivery on all road equipment contained with 1948 fiscal year road and bridge money.

New Construction. Construction work on Section C of the North Approach Road, Mammoth to Yellowstone, was completed and the contractor, [illegible], Inc., moved out November 8 just ahead of snow and bad weather.

Work on Project 1-B, G1 on the grand loop at Canyon was closed down for the winter on November 6 and the contractor, [illegible] and Co., moved most of his heavy equipment out of the park. Work on the heavy grading has been completed and the project is about 70% complete.

The coal bin was completed, the furnace set up and connecting pipe lines are being installed in the School and Community Building, Job 201-23. Installation of a new furnace was completed in the Chapel Building, No. 17, Job 201-15.

Concessioners. Messrs. Trevor Povah and Gar Helppie of Hamilton Stores, Inc., departed for Helena and California on November 1. Mr. J. E. Haynes closed his shop at Mammoth on November 6 and moved to his winter quarters in Bozeman. Mr. W. M. Nichols left Helena on November 9 for New York and Washington. He attended the meeting in Denver on November 30 to discuss wages and hours for National Park Service concessioners' employees. Mrs. Pryor departed from the park via the West Gate on November 14 for California. The Yellowstone Park Company crew engaged on work in connection with the Canyon Hotel laundry moved out from the Canyon on November 16. Automatic sprinkler system was installed in the Mammoth Hotel this fall and work was discontinued about the middle of October.

In-Service Training. Effective the 18th Acting District Ranger Thomas F. Ela was assigned as Training Officer, the job that has been vacant since September 1 when former Training Officer Frank Kowski was reassigned. Comparatively little actual in-service training was accomplished but plans and outlines were being prepared for use during the winter months.

The regular Weekly News Letter was published four times during the month of November. Employees of the Naturalist Division were given an opportunity to learn the routine necessary in the operation of the multilith.

Interpretive Services. The Chief Park Naturalist gave a talk to the Livingston Rotary Club at their regular noon luncheon on November 15.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. About 16 full days working time of personnel has been given over to checking museum accession materials and reviewing museum accession cards.

Research and Observation. One field trip was made to Norris and Old Faithful for the purpose of observing thermal phenomena in those areas and making the final check of wayside exhibits and museums.

Natural History Association. The November-December issue of Yellowstone Nature Notes was placed in the mail on November 19. Three hundred and eighty copies were mailed and one hundred and five copies were distributed locally.

The Natural History Association multilith was used for the purpose of reproducing 2200 copies of an elk report prepared by Curtis K. Skinner. This particular project required a lot of labor.

An additional 150 copies of the "Fur Trappers and Traders of the Far West" were multilithed and assembled.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. All the roads in the park, except the one from the North Entrance to the Northeast Entrance, were closed to public travel the first week in the month due to heavy snowfall throughout the park. Official travel to the interior of the park continued on a limited basis until the middle of the month. The last vehicle over the road from Mammoth to West Yellowstone was on the 17th.

A total of 510 vehicles carrying 1199 persons entered the park during the month as compared with 304 vehicles and 1,111 persons for the same month last year.

Ranger Service. Hunting patrols along the park boundaries adjacent to areas open for big game hunting constituted one of the major activities for park rangers. All hunting seasons, except for elk in Park County, Montana, closed after November 15 but intensive patrols and game checking in the Gallatin area were necessary all month to prevent poaching. Poaching activities along the north boundary between Gardiner and Stevens Creek Station where one deer and two elk were illegally killed at night made it necessary to maintain a night patrol of the road in that section. Open season on fur-bearing animals required some special patrols especially in the Snake River District. Thorofare, Lake and Bechler Stations were closed for the winter during the latter part of the month but special patrols of these areas will be made from headquarters. Special assignments in making analysis of Law Enforcement Cases, preparation and distribution of Manual Revisions, completing the work in connection with lost and found property and preparing special reports required several man-days.

Law Enforcement. Two cases were brought before the U. S. Commissioner at Mammoth. One case involved the killing of two elk in the Bechler River District, one and one-half miles inside the park from the southwest corner. by two hunters. The men pleaded guilty to the charge and each were fined $50.00 and their guns confiscated. The other case consisted of taking fish illegally and also out of season in a small lake below Gardiner. This defendant also entered a plea of guilty and was fined $10.00 by the U. S. Commissioner.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. ANTELOPE. Antelope left the intermediate range early in the month and were found from the lower slopes of Mt. Everts and Mammoth to the mouth of Mol Heron about four miles north of the park boundary.

BUFFALO. A herd of 200 of these animals frequented the Horseshoe area and ranges up to the mouth of Cache Creek all through the month. Other smaller herds were seen near lower Slough Creek and on Specimen Ridge. Fish and Wildlife Service observers, engaged in making an aerial waterfowl census, counted 118 in Hayden Valley. Several applicants for live buffalo were advised that their requests would be filled next winter when reduction operations will be carried on.

COYOTES. Coyotes were generally numerous in the northern part of the park but rangers have had little success in collecting tagged animals. More emphasis will be placed on this work as the winter advances. Several reports of predation by coyotes on deer fawns were reported.

Increase or decrease in travel. All but three in the park, except the one from the North entrance to the Tuckahoe entrance, were closed to public travel the first week in the month due to heavy snowfall throughout the park. Official travel to the interior of the park continued and yielded basic until the middle of the month. The last vehicle over the road from Tuckahoe to East Valley entrance was on the 17th.

A total of 316 vehicles carrying 1,[illegible] persons entered the park during the month as compared with 304 vehicles and 1,[illegible] persons for the same month last year.

Ranger Service. Limited patrols along the park boundaries extended to areas open for hog pen hunting conducted one of the major activities for park rangers. All hunting seasons, except for elk in Jack County, remained closed after December by our interpretive patrols and game checking in the Gilfith area were necessary all month to prevent poaching. Trapping activities along the north boundary between Gatlin and Jackson Creek resulted in above one deer and two elk were illegally killed at night made it necessary to maintain a night patrol of the road in that section. Some number of fur-bearing animals required some special patrols especially in the south River District. Protection, late and hunting trapping were closed for the winter during the latter part of the month by special patrols of these areas will be made from headquarters. Special assignments to hunting analysis of law Enforcement Cases, prosecution and distribution of Annual Reviews, completing the work in connection with lost and found property and preparing annual reports required several man-days.

Law Enforcement. Two cases were brought before the U. S. Commissioner at Mammoth. The case involved the killing of two elk in the Gatlin District, one and one-half miles inside the park from the northwest corner, by two hunters. The men pleaded guilty to the charge and each were fined $50.00 and their game confiscated. The other case dealt with of taking game illegally and also out of season in a small lake below Jackson. This defendant also entered a plea of guilty and was fined $10.00 by the U. S. Commissioner.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. [illegible] Jackson Park on intermittents range easily in the north and are found from the lower elevations of Mt. Ogden and Jackson to the south of the Jackson about four miles north of the park boundary.

Bison. A herd of 300 of these animals frequented the Jackson area and ranged up to the north of Jacks Creek all through the south. Other smaller herds were seen near Lower Sloughs Creek and on Tuckahoe Ridge. Fish and Wildlife Service observers, assisted in making an aerial count of bison, counted 113 in Hayden Valley. Several applicants for bison hunting were advised that their requests would be filled next winter when reduction operations will be carried on.

Coyotes. Coyotes were generally numerous in the northern part of the park but rangers have had little success in collecting bounty animals. More emphasis will be placed on this work as the winter advances. Several reports of predation by coyotes on deer fawns were reported.

DEER. Deer appeared on the lower park areas in fair numbers during early November but only in small bunches. Thirty-one deer were checked through the Carabella Station but the kill probably reached 75. Only a part of the deer taken by hunters in southern Park County come from the park as the outside areas support a fair native population of these animals.

ELK. About November 7 elk started moving to the winter ranges in large numbers and were concentrated from Soda Butte and Cache Creek to Mt. Everts and Stevens Creek by the end of the month. Little snow remained on the ground at the lowest elevations in the park but that on the intermediate parts of the winter range remained loose which allowed the animals to secure forage easily. Only 19 elk had been checked through the Carabella Checking Station by November 28 but it was estimated that total elk killed in southern Park County so far this season does not exceed 60 animals. Conditions for a movement from the park to hunting areas has improved steadily and the take by hunters should increase rapidly next month. The open elk season in the upper Gallatin area will close on December 1 and available information indicates that the maximum kill of 400 may be reached.

FISH. The annual Fish Planting Report was submitted on November 23.

Forest Fire Protection. The 1948 inclusions for the Fire Atlas, including Fire Distribution Maps, Personnel Location Maps and Weather Charts were prepared and are ready for transmittal to the Director and Regional Director. Assistant Chief Ranger Chapman and Property Clerk Kopisch spent considerable time recapping fire equipment inventories from the Canyon, Lake, and Snake River districts. Portions of the Annual Forestry Report dealing with forest fires and personnel were prepared. Upon receipt of the 1948 Blister Rust report from the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, final portions of this report can be prepared. Several man-days of work were done in the Mammoth Fire Cache reconditioning fire tools, rolling hose and straightening it up for winter.

Trail Maintenance. Trail Estimates for July 1, 1949 to June 30, 1950 are being prepared at this time.

White Pine Blister Rust Control. Letters of inquiry regarding Blister Rust work have been sent to a few applicants during the month but there does not seem to be a great interest shown in this type of employment as yet. It will not be possible to start any plans for spring Blister Rust work until the final report is received from the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

Accidents. Seven motor vehicle accidents were reported during the month, three being Class A and four Class B. Two of the accidents involved government vehicles, two being National Park Service and one belonging to the Public Roads Administration. Minor damage was suffered by the National Park Service vehicles but considerable damage was done to the Public Roads Administration car when it skidded into a ditch and turned on its side. The snow and ice covered roads were largely responsible for all the accidents.

Personnel. The services of Muriel P. Baker, Seasonal Stenographer-Comptometer Operator, CAF-3, and Iris E. Chase, Seasonal Clerk-Typist, CAF-3, were terminated at the close of business November 5.

A memorandum from the Regional Director, dated November 4, 1948, advised that all ranger positions were to be changed in designation from CPC to CAF grades. All park rangers and district park rangers were changed in designation from CPC to CAF effective November 14.

Roy B. Kopisch, Storekeeper (General), CAF-6 was transferred to the War Department, Fort Francis E. Warren, at the close of business November 17.

Marriages. Lloyd R. Winkle, Operator, General, Ungraded, was married to Miss Dorothy Rinehart of Klein, Montana, at Klein on November 28.

Miscellaneous. The regular monthly meeting of the Federal Employees Union, No. 465, was held in the Canteen on November 1.

Fred T. Johnston,
Acting Superintendent.

cc: Region Two, in quintuple.
File (2)

JJ/ekm

[redacted]