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EVERGLADES NATIONAL MICK







Superintendent, Everglades NP

Park Naturalist, Everglades NP

Monthly Narrative Report for March 1962

Interpretive Services

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Utilization of interpretive facilities and programs continued to remain high throughout the onth. The full interpretive staff was on duty during March with extra assistance derived from two WAE ranger-naturalists and on week-ends, the ranger-aide girl scouts.

Program	Number	Attendance
Mallie	,	
Talks Royal Palm	53	5,169
Flaingo	32	3,482
Long Pine Key Campfire	9	540
Parachute Key Sunday Eve	4	209
THE RESERVE THE PARTY OF THE PA		
Guided Walks or Auto-Cades		
Flamingo	19	275
Nicht Prowl	4	36
Royal Palm .	75	3,875
Special walks and talks	16	850*
		14,486
Talks outside area		
March		
1 Miami Museum Group (Christense	en)	50
2 Junior Tropical Audubon Societ		35
7 South Dade Audubon Society (Ka		45
9. South Miami Womens Club (Chris		62
13 West Homestead Elementary Scho		110
14 Florida City Moose (Christense	en)	26
20 Perrine Women's Club (Karraker	:)	40
27 Coral Gables Elementary (Giddi	ings)	300
•		668
AAA - 1 2 00 A 1		
Attended Stations		21 100
Flamingo		31,100
Royal Palm Parachute Key		29,100
ratachute key		17,330



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Unattended St tions

Anhinga Trail	31,100
Gumbo Limbo Trail	19,100
Pineland Trail	18,000
Pa Hay akee Trail	10,321
Mahogany Hamock Trail	9,565
Meagrove Tr 1	8,600
	176,440
Grand Total	191,594

Of particular I port nee was the appoint ent of Mr. Saul Schiffman to a GS-7 natur list pos ton.

Interpretave Facilities & Planning

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Special Public & Value

A study is being made of the audio-visual progress at Parachute Key Visitor Center with the hope of isproving it. In this connection Mr. Robert Jessup was in the park to photograph ater al needed for the wide acreen ovic. Mr. Jessup produced the original park film. Also, National Park Service photographer Jack Baucher and Ger an national Rugen Schuracher worked in the park during March.

Research and Observation

Unseasonal rains care at the last possible mo ent and the drought stricken wildlife at Anlinga Trail has had a brief reprieve with the rising water levels. Prior to the rains purping had been necessary and still alligators, garfish, otter, birds and turtles were dying in the rapidly disappearing slough. Taylor Slough is still the only natural body of water for many wiles. of the worth, is applying during the mobile believes and a female former.

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK P. O. Box 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

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May 4, 1962

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Memorandum

To:

Superintendent

From:

Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for April, 1962

Interpretive Services

During the month, the Interpretive staff experienced the loss of two Seasonal Naturalists. Roger Giddings departed on the 3rd and Dick Young left April 22 to accept a permanent position at Blue Ridge. The services of William M. Taylor, Ranger-Naturalist WAE were enlisted to fill in on the week-ends. Also, Jeanette Ward has entered on duty in a seasonal capacity. Naturalist Schiffman was on annual leave in the Virgin Islands from April 22 to the end of the month. Members of the Headquarters staff assisted with the evening programs at Flamingo during this period.

Evening programs were continued nightly at Flamingo throughout the month. Attendance was varied; less than half capacity during the first two weeks of the month, an upsurge during the Easter holidays and a decline toward the end of the month. The information desk was manned daily at Head-quarters, Royal Palm and Flamingo Visitor Centers. Average visitor use at Flamingo was 22 people per day.

The interpretive staff contributed to the program of the Annual Convention of the Association of American geographers by providing talks and guided trips for the group on two days. Bayshore walks were discontinued at Flamingo on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning with the week of April 22 and scheduled only for Saturday and Sunday mornings during the summer months.

Program

Talks	Number	Attendance
Royal Palm	75	4355
Flamingo	29	2029
* Long Pine Key Campfire	6	170
* Parachute Key Sunday Even.	3	91
Guided Walks		
Flamingo	14	196
* Night Prowl	3	30
Royal Palm	75	3173
Special Walks & Talks	13	811

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Talks outside area

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April 3 West Palm Beach Rota	ary Club (Christens	en) 275
April 4 South Dade Audubon So	ociety (Christensen) 32
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Asserted Charles		
Attended Stations		
Flamingo		24,100
Royal Palm		20,000
Parachute Key		14,497
		-3,5427
Unattended Stations		
Control of the Contro		
Anhinga Trail		20,000
Gumbo Limbo Trail		15,000
Pinelands Trail	4,000	хххххххххх
Pa Hay Okee	7,854	
Company of the Compan	PALL AND	5,951
Mahogany Hammock Trail		5,000
Delivered by Paris I Alan and Paris and	-	Transporting and Property September 1997
The second secon		116,402
	Grand Total	127,559

Interpretive Facilities & Planning

Mr. Erskine, Audio Visual Specialist, WASO, was here during this period and inspected audio visual equipment both at Headquarters and Flamingo. His recommendations and observations have been submitted to the superintendent. It is hoped work can being in the near future on necessary renovations.

Also the exhibit plan for the Royal Palm Visitor Center was completed during the month.

Research and Observation

The seasonal migratory movement of certain species of bird life began this month. Most of the white pelicans and ducks have departed and the summer visitors such as swallow-tailed kites, night hawks, chuck will's widow, gray kingbirds and black whiskered vireos were either heard or seen during the month. Many of the shore birds and gulls were observed in their colorful spring plumage.

Training - William Committee of the Comm

The two new employees were given general orientation instruction during the month, and five seasonals members of the staff were given instruction on the operation and maintenance of the Bell & Howell Motion picture projector.

Interest of Table Torong was recognized to the property of

As the first of a series of informal seminars on the natural history of the Everglades, Dr. Barry Tomlinson of Fairchild Tropical Gardens addressed the members of the Interpretive staff in April. His subject was the general physiology and morphology of the palms.

Ernst Christensen Chief Naturalist

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

May 1, 1962

SUPERINTENDENT ALST. SUPT. PROTECTION NAZURAL HISTORY ADMINISTRATION BY (SA) PASS. FILES

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject:

Monthly Narrative Report for April, 1962

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Evening programs were continued nightly at Flamingo throughout the month. Attendance was varied; less than half capacity during the first two weeks of the month, an upsurge during the Easter holidays, and a drop to almost rock bottom starting with Sunday evening April 29th when only six visitors attended the evening program.

The information desk was manned daily with the same pattern of visitor use as experienced with the evening programs. An average of 22 visitors per day took advantage of the available information services during this month.

Bayshore walks were discontinued on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning the week of April 22 and scheduled only for Saturday and Sunday mornings during the summer months.

Mr. Erskine, Audio Visual Division, WASO, inspected the audio visual equipment in the museum on April 21.

Interpretive Services

Seasonal Naturalist Dick Young was terminated on April 22 and accepted a permanent ranger position at the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Naturalist Schiffman was on annual leave in the Virgin Islands from April 22 to the end of the month.

Naturalists from Headquarters assisted with the evening programs during this period on four evenings and at the information desk on two days.



Interpretive Contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks	29	2,024
Walks	14	196
Special Talks	2	55
Information Desk	30 days	667
	Total	2.9/12

Research and Observation

The seasonal migratory movement of certain species of bird life began this month. Most of the white pelicans and ducks had departed and the summer visitors such as swallow-tailed kites, night hawks, chick will's widow, gray kingbirds and black whiskered vireos were either heard or seen during the month.

Many of the shore birds and gulls were observed in their colorful spring plumage.

Vincent J. Mrazek Park Naturalist

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Chief Naturalist

Monthly Narrative Report for May 1962

Interpretive Sersices

The summer schedule of interpretive services continued throughout the month with an expected seasonal drop in visitation making its appearance. However, an average of 31 people attended the 75 talks presented at Royal Palm V. C. Also, an average of 26 attended 74 nature walks at that location, and 33 people were at each of the 31 evening programs at Flamingo.

Park Naturalists Schiffman and Adams were utilized on fire fighting duties on several days, and during the month Vincent Mrazek underwent surgery to relieve a very troublesome sinus condition.

On May 20, the portable park exhibit was viewed by approximately 6,000 people at Camp Owaissa Bauer, Homestead. Ranger-Naturalist Mendlen provided information services at the annual Campers Day program at Owaissa Bauer program. The meeting was sponsored by the Dade County Recreation Association.

Talks	Number	Attendance
Royal Palm	75	2,368
Flamingo	31	1,041
School Gro	oups 1.5	648
Guided Wal	lks	
Royal Palm	74 Constitution on the I	1,911
Flamingo	TO SHALL MAKE A PARK THE PARK	57
Off-site I	Programs	
May 1	South Dade Audubon Society	25
-1	Allapattah Lions Club	76
v 9	University of Miami Geology Classes (2) 42
L17	Buena Vista Exchange Club, Miami	28
20	Campers Day, Owaissa Bauer	6,000
L24	Little River Lions Club	60
24	Homestead, Odd Fellows	60
	HIXLE	12,316

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Attended Stations	Attendance
Parachute Key	8,221
Royal Palm	6,489
Flamingo	7,000
Prid June 1 To 10	2
Unattended Stations	
Anhinga trail	15,000
Gumbo Limbo Trail	10,000
Pinelands trail	3,000
Pa-Hay-Okee trail	2,481
Mahogany Hammock trail	2,096
Mangrove trail	2,000
Tooal	56,287
Grand Total	68,603

Interpretive Facilities & Planning

Royal Palm Visitor Center was robbed of \$40.00 on May 2, 62. Recovery of the money was not made.

A plan for additional, badly needed interpretive facilities for the Flamingo area has been prepared and presented to the Superintendent. The plan includes easily constructed, inexpensive wayside devices designed to help the visitor see and enjoy the bay and salt prairie country at Flamingo.

Thirteen aluminum, photo-processed labels have been installed on Pa-Hay-Okee trail on an experimental basis. Also during the month Mr. James Keen, Audio-Visual specialist from Homestead AFB was employed on a part-time basis to help solve the re-current AV problems of Everglades National Park.

Observation and Research

Park Naturalist Karraker took annual leave on five days late in the month to help with the Fort Jefferson tern banding project. Four- thousand eighty-seven (4,087) sooty terms and 84 noddy terms were banded.

Personnel

Ranger Naturalist Gale Zimmer was re-instated during the month and Information Receptionist Maude Harriott was re-classified as a Park Guide.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTE

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUME P. O. Box 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

June 1, 1962

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NATURAL HISTORY
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PARK FILES

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for May, 1962

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Visitation was generally poor throughout the month. The nightly evening programs at Flamingo were attended by half the number of visitors as had attended the programs during the previous month. Likewise, the Information Desk usage fell off. An average of 10 visitors per day availed themselves of informational services. This is less than half the figure for the preceding month.

Attendance on the morning Bayshore walks varied from zero to fourteen on the eight mornings these walks were scheduled.

Plans were formulated for a self guiding nature trail system along the Buttonwood creek and the Flamingo area. Numbered markers with an accompanying mimeographed sheet would serve to identify some of the intersting features of the area to visitors whether on boat or land-bound.

Plans were also formulated for changing the planter at the head of the ramp from an air-plant display to a re-created beach scene. With shell-sand as a base, various shells and sherds could be displayed and labeled.

Interpretive Services

Naturalist Mrazek entered on sick leave May 12, 1962. He returned May 26. During his absence Naturalists from headquarters assisted by giving five of the Evening Talks. Seven talks all told were given by Headguarters personnel during the month.

Naturalist Schiffman gave a special talk on survival in the Everglades to Explorer Scout Post 444 at the Homestead Air Force Base on May 8, 1962. Twenty five senior explorer scouts attended.



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L. I. Box 279
L. I. FOLLE, "LOTIDA"

June 1, 1962

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Interpretive Contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks	31	1041
Walks	7	57
Special Talks	1	25
Information Desk	29 days	299

Research and Observations

On Tuesday, May 15, 1962 Naturalist Schiffman flew with the Park Pilot to count Great White Herons in the Florida Bay area. Before reaching Florida Bay the plane was dispatched to the Trail east of Cooperstown to check a smoke. This smoke was ultimately to grow into the worst fire in recent park history. Almost all hands at Flamingo were called to fight the Shark River Vally fire in the following three weeks, including Naturalist Schiffman. On several nights the glow of the great fire was easily visible from the bridge which sapans Buttonwood Creek.

The Draught which has plagued the glades for months and added fuel to the fires has at last come to an end. In the dwindling hours of the last day of the month, the rains came heavy and good to a parched, seared earth.

Naturalist Mrazek with Doctor Craighead checked the recovery plots on May 8, 1962 in the district.

On May 29 Naturalist Mrazek and the District Ranger took the University of Miami Marine Lab collaborators through Whitewater bay and the headwaters to check salinities.

The largest wave of Migrating $^{\mathrm{B}}$ ob-O-links seen in many years passed through $^{\mathrm{F}}$ lamingo and the park during the first two weeks of the month. The area was literally alive with them.

Waves of northbound warblers also graced the Flamingo area, reaching a peak during the second week of May. Particularly abundant were the Blackpolls, Redstarts, Cape Mays, and water thrushes.

A swllow tailed kite's nest with two young was located on the Snake Bight Road by a Park Visitor on May 14, 1962. The nest has been observed since that time on several occasions.

A Panther has been seen in the power-plant vicinity by company employees several times d during the month.

Saul W. Schiffman

Park Naturalist

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UNITED STATES GO _RNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Chief Park Naturalist

Chief Ranger

FROM: Maude Harriott.

Headquarters Visitors Center

SUBJECT: Visitation Month of June, 1962, Hq Visitor Center

	01
1	81
2	159
3	729 (Incl bus group 29)
4	351 (school group of 137 included)
5	120 195
6	175
8	114
9	203
10	800
11	121
12	215 (incl Presbyterian Day Camp gp 36)
13	200
16	148 (bus group 22)
15	202 (Baptist School group of 75)
16	230
17	526
18	190
19	173
20	695 (120 Cuban Refugees)
21	75
22	414 (120 Cuban Ref)
23	324
24	541 (Bus group of 41)
25	222
26	296
27	235
28	254 (school group of 71)
29	232
30	269

Mande Harriott

DATE: July 3, 1962



EVERGLADES WATIONAL PARK P. O. BOX 275 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

	HOMEOTERA, FIOREDA			
HLY	PUBLIC USE REPORT, MANGROVE DISTRICT	June		,196_2
		·	CURRENT . MONTH	CALENDAR YEAR TO DATE
FI Ca Ca FI	L VISITS (entry by boat) lorida Bay, non-commercial lorida Bay, commercial fishermen ape Sable, non-commercial lamingo, slip rentals stimated uncounted boats (1/3 of a & c)	3972 250 35 18 130 1335	5740	35836
	1740 VIGHT VISITS Ecommodations, concessioner	5740	3054	18003
	commodations, private inholdings			
	esignated campsites, tents, Flamingo Campground esignated campsites, trailers, Flamingo Campgro		555 77	7526 5735
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/ H H () F	Aboard private boats, Cape Sable Aboard private boats, Florida Bay Primitive sites reached by boat, Cape Sable————————————————————————————————————	7	1402 10820	10485 83761
			20020	MONTH
Pe Bo	EAL USE DATA Persons, entering by boat from Keys and West Coast Pats, entering from Keys and West Coast Persons in vehicles actuating traffic counter at		wood Creek	5610 1703
	rivate autos X 3.5b. Private boats X 3.5 c. Co	mmercial	l boats X	5
. Cc	mmercial fishermen are included in lines 1, 2g	, 4b, a	nd 4e	
F1 F1 F1	SPECIAL BOAT USE (visitors) .amingo rental skiffs .amingo sightseeing tours .amingo ramp boats .amingo charter boats			ts - People 310 816 95 911 334 3269 45 166

BOATING USE - - VISITOR DAYS (lines la - lf, 2g, 7a - 7d)

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Assistant Chief Naturalist MANUAL PROPERTY OF THE PERSON OF THE PERSON

Monthly Narrative Report, July 1962

Interpretive Services

MARKETY STYLETS.

Interpretive programs in the Park continue on a twelve month basis. During recent weeks the training of the Seasonal staff has involved the fields of audio visuals, specimen preparation and the presentation of talks.

The most pressing problem area centers around the evening programs at Plamingo. The talks of Naturalists Mrazek and Schiffman are excellent and well attended. However, on sultry nights when air conditioning must be used, the noise from the machine is almost prohibitive. A solution to this problem is most urgent.

posses with the same widow with the case. Although the course to the

Talks	Number	Attendance	
Royal Palm	68	2390	
Flamingo	31	1119	
Cut lad Wallia			
Guided Walks			
Royal Palm	67		
Flamingo	8	105	
Special on-site program	miles sentito Tarria mone		
special oursite program	10		
	mestead (Zimmer-Mendlen)	35	
U. Of Miami Microbiolog	gy Class (Karraker-Mrazek)	16	
Special off-site Progra	ims.	THE PART NOT THE PARTY.	
operate var vare a regard	Christensen)	24	
Homestead Optimists Clu			
	Tptal	5368	
Attended Stations		-9864	
Parachute Key		9864	
Royal Palm		7000	
Flamingo		8000	
Unattended Stations			
Anhinga Trail		12000	
Gumbo Limbo Trail		10000	
Pinelands Trail		3000	
PaHayOkee Mahogany Hammock Trail		4767 5617	
Mangrove Trail		2000	
mulificate trait	Total	62248 Grand T	ota

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Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Due to heavy construction the mangrove trail was closed for several days during the month. Labels were replaced on both the mangrove and mahogany hammock trails.

DERARTMENT OF THE INTENSES.

Audio visual problems were again in evidence with the burning out of the power switches in two slide projectors. Also, the transformer in the automatic motion picture projector at Paradise Key burned and the device was thereby inoperative for three weeks.

An exhibit plan was prepared on the importance of water to the Everglades.

Research and Observation

A flock of 20 - 30 white pelicans apparently decided to spend the summer here and could be seen almost daily on the spoil banks near the Visitor Center.

Spoonbills were frequently seen in the evenings to the delight and enjoyment of visitors and alligators made an occasional appearance in the boat basins and in front of the Visitor Center during the month.

A systematic method of recording Natural History observations was innaugerated during the month.

Public Relations.

Mrs. Morrell Bradley, widow of Buy Bradley's oldest son, visited in the Flamingo area for the first time on July 15 and was contacted by interpretive personnel. She enjoyed the area in general and was very pleased with the Guy Bradley exhibit in the museum.

David O. Karraker
Assistant Chief Park Naturalist

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and

FORT JEFFFRSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

August 1, 1962

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Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for July, 1962

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

There was little change in facilities and planning this month. Heat and mosquitoes continued to be deterfents to enjoyable visitor use of the area. Nightly programs for visitors were held in the Visitor's Lounge with an average attendance of 36 visitors per program, or about the same as last month. The disturbing clatter of the air conditioner in the Visitor's Lounge was felt more than ever during the hot evenings when acoustical quality had to be sacrificed for bodily comfort.

Work on the self-guiding device installation awaited delivery of aluminum signs from a local manufacturer.

The proposed visitor boat tour to Cape Sable by the Everglades Park Company bogged down in the planning stage and was not initiated this month as planned.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive Contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks Walks Information Desk	31 8 31 days	1,119 105 403
	Total	1,627



Miscellaneous

Mrazek accompanied Prof. Oppenheimer of the University of Miami Marine Laboratory with a party of 12 students on a tour of the Flamingo area and the Bear Lake road on July 14th.

Schiffman accompanied Dr. Work, U.S. Pept. of Health on a boat tour to Rookery Branch, Cape Sable and Lake Ingraham on July 27th.

Mrs. Morrell Bradley, widow of Guy Bradley's oldest son, visited in the Flamingo area for the first time on July 15th and was contacted by interpretive personnel. She enjoyed the area in general and was very pleased with the Guy Bradley exhibit in the museum.

Research and Observation

A flock of 20 to 30 white pelicans apparently decided to spend the summer here and could be seen almost daily on the spoil banks near the Visitor Center.

Spoonbills were frequently seen in the evenings to the delight and enjoyment of visitors and alligators made an occasional appearance in the boat basins and in front of the Visitor Center during the month.

Park Naturalist

6 • .

Chief Naturalist

Monthly Narrative Report for June, 1962

Interpretive Services

The fourteen percent drop in visitation during the month was reflected in attendance at interpretive programs. However, special presentations for school groups and off-site talks continued to be effective adjuncts to the overall effort. At Flamingo, one new type of program was tried on an experimental basis. This involved meeting with visitors around the big floor map and discuss things to do and see, and various phases of the area's natural history.

<u>Talks</u> <u>Number</u>	Attendance
Royal Palm 61 Flamingo Evening 30 Flamingo Orientation 2	1745 1089 16
Guided Walks	20
Royal Palm 53	1178
Flamingo 6	41
Special On-site programs	
4 Melrose School, Miami	140
7 Palm Springs Elementary School	37
12 IST Presbyterian Church, Homestead	37
15 Homestead Baptists Bible School	50
20 Naranja Elementary School	65
21 Cuban Welfare Group, Florida City 23 Cuban Welfare Group, Florida City	125 75
29 Perrine Elementary School	50
ar restrict Demotically concor	30
Off-Sity Programs	
A market management of the second of the sec	
Native Plant Workshop, Homestead (Karraker)	12
4 South Dade Garden Club (Karraker) 4 Zoological Society of South Florida (Christensen)	60
Zoological Society of South Florida (Christensen) Reference Club, Miami (Karraker)	198 39
9 Pan Hellenic Club, Miami (Christensen)	87
4 South Shore Kiwanis Club, Miami (Karraker)	52
4 Little River Lions Club, Miami (Christensen)	47
TOTAL	5,143

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July 5, 1993

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ATTENDED STATIONS	Attendance
Parachute Key Royal Palm Flamingo	8,489 5,700 6,000
Unattended Stations	
Anhinga Trail Gumbo Limbo Trail Pinelands Trail Pa Hay O-Key Mahogany Hammock Trail Mangrove Trail	13,000 8,600 2,800 3,920 4,630 2,000 TOTAL 55,139 TOTAL 60,282

Interpretive Facilities & Planning

Considerable curatorial and exhibit planning work was accomplished during June, including the following:

The entire study collection was inspected and treated for insects and fungi.

easel

9

- Four new easie type exhibit boxes were constructed.
- Ten new label holders and labels were added to the Gumbo Limbo Trail.

book and a

NAME AND ADDRESS OF TAXABLE PARTY.

- The Ernest Coe exhibit plan was prepared and sent to the Region One Office.
- An aborigine exhibit was completed and installed at Royal Palm Center. Visitor
- Fifty additional 35mm slides were added to the Park's duplicate collection.
- 7. The black and white work print of the Park film was received, and work writing a script for it has begun.
 - Work has begun on the self-guiding system for the Plamingo area.
- 9. The exhibit aquarium at Royal Palm was refurbished and restocked with fish, etc. TRAINING

Don Miller, student from Duke University presented a seminar on Crabs, particularly fiddler crabs for the members of the Interpretive Division

Research & Observation

Badly needed rains finally came early in the month and ended one of the most disasterous fire seasons in the history of the Park. In the northwest

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Badly resolat rains ficably cases world to the county and united one of these most Management flag scooms in the history of the Park. In the northwest DANTED STATES.

corner of the Park many tropical hammocks were severly pruned back and a number were completely destroyed,; A great loss to south Florida and the nation.

The Park Biologist lead a group of thirty biologists attending the International Congress of Ornithologists on a tour of Bouth Florida and the Dry Torgugas. Some of the world's most renown ornithologists were among the group.

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Toronto

Ernst Christensen Chief Naturalist

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

July 2, 1962

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flaminge

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for June, 1962

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Visitor use of the area was at the normal low for the time of the year. Evening program attendance varied from 2 on June 4th to 100 on the 14th. The average attendance was 36 per program. Mosquitoes were certainly a limiting factor in the overall enjoyment of the area by the park visitor. The complaints about mosquitoes were too numerous to record. Evening programs attendance and nature walk participation were curtailed to an alarming degree by the annoying insects.

Plants and points of interest along Buttonwood Canal, along the road between Flamingo and West Lake and on the Bear Lake Trail were located for the planned Flamingo Nature Guide. The self-guiding descriptive leaflet was prepared in rough draft form.

The planned all day boat trip to Cape Sable for park visitors is rapidly approaching reality. The E.P.C. have completed the dock and the visitor shelter and rest rooms are nearing completion at Cape Sable. This trip will give the visitors a chance to explore this pristine wilderness beach area and enable them to dunk their toes in the briny deep at the southernmost point in the continental United States.

A brief informal orientation program for park visitors was begun during the month at 10:30 AM outside the museum, but the absence of personnel on other assignments prevented a fair trial of the program during this month.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive Contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks	30	1,089
Walks	6	妇



	Total	1,455
Information Desk	23 days	300
Orientation Program	2	16

Research and Observation

With the rise of water in the glades from heavy rains, it was gratifying to see small mosquito fish in great abundance where just a few weeks before was nothing but dry ground. Many egrets and herons were to be seen along the roadsides feeding upon these small fish and frogs which appeared magically a few days after the flooding of the glades.

An AVocet was seen in the Flamingo area for several days during the month.

The bird show on the mud flats south of the on-the-job quarters has been just slightly less than sensational at low tide during the past few weeks. In addition to all kinds of shore birds, ibises, great white herons and reddish egrets, there have been three spoonbills seen during the evening low ebb tides.

Vincent J. Mrazek

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

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September 6, 1962

Memorandum

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PART HANDSHIPTORS

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To: Superintendent

From: Chief Naturalist

Municipal Trail (Classic + Sourcesonius)

Subject: Division of Interpretation Monthly Narrative Report, August 1962

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES:

The interpretive staff was greatly depleted during the month by a death in the family, sickness and annual leave; however, through stop-gap measures, all stations were manned and the summer program of activities continued without interruption.

TOTAL SEPARATION A

FOR STREET, SHA

Regional Naturalist Schultz visited the Park during the month and aided greatly in the preliminary planning of interpretive facilities for Fort Jefferon, Flamingo, and Everglades City. Also, he offered many valuable suggestions toward making the Headquarters Visitor Center more us ful to the Park visitor. It was generally agreed that the provision of facilities for evening programs at Flamingo and revamping the Headquarters Visitor Center are of prime importance.

The analysis when how the "water" and then he had been been any and any

the Brouger's Service training and the steam of Louisvertian as, a called Mr. Schultz also attended several interpretive programs while in the Park. to for Reports to the month. Then, significant postportions on to-

ON-SITE PROGRAMS;

Talks		Attendance	<u>e</u>
Royal Palm	version: 78 Live Ling Anguist.	3,369	salara sales s
Flamingo	the Bull 31 resure faculty.	1,323	a Demised the
PUBL'S past solls for a	may yours and proversal	If there is no work to	CEL STORY.
Guided Walks	MY stringer.		
Royal Palm	60	1,856	
Flamingo	7	116	
Special off-site Progra	ams		
	ernarians, Miami (Christ	ensen) 127	
8/15 U. of Miami Geogra	aphy Class (Christensen)	42	1
8/15 Perrine Kiwanis E	lub (Dodd)	35	
8/31 Homestead Air For	ce Base (Miele & Christe	nsen) 150	- 1
	m	7 010	
	Total Attendance	7,018	
	for Programs		

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PAPE STRVICE

AMERICAN COLOTONS	Dillion at our side	Attendance
ATTENDED STATIONS Park Headquarters Royal Palm	A Line	10,562 7,350
Flamingo	Surveyor 7, LMS	8,400
UNATTENDED STATIONS Anhinga Trail Gunbo Limbo Trail Pinelands Trail Pa-Hay-O-Kee Trail Mahogany Hammock Trail Mangrove Trail (Closed	- construction)	12,600 10,500 3,150 6,135 5,309
Tend Park Street	Total Attendance for Stations	64,006
	GRAND TOTAL	71,024

INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES AND PLANNING:

The exhibit plan for the "water" exhibit at Royal Palm has been completed and forwarded to the Regional Office. Also, interpretive plans for Fort Jefferson and the Headquarters Visitor Center have been prepared.

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DOUGHT BY NOW

RESEARCH AND OBSERVATIONS:

A long experienced need for a systematic method for reporting observations of natural history value has been remedied through the joint efforts of the Ranger's Activities Division and the Division of Interpretation. A dairy of observations is kept by each of the uniformed field people and submitted to the Superintendent each month. Then, significant observations are incorporated into the master natural history file. Please see attached form.

Biology seminars continued with an excellent discussion of peat and the mangrove forest being presented during August. Discussion leaders were members of the Pennsylvania State University faculty. These men have studied the Park's peat soils for many years and presented a most provoking story. Ten members of the Park staff attended.

Ernst T. Christensen Chief Park Naturalist Enclosure Chief Fark Naturalist

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12,600 11,500 3,150 6,135 4,100	- construction)	LATIE LED S' TI hing Tr il Genbo Limbo Trail nelands " P -Hay-O-Ke Tr il hog ny H Tr i
64,006	Total Attendance for Stations	
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The exhibit plan for the "ster' exhibit at Roy 1 Palm has bon concleted and form ded to the Const Office . Heo, the contract of the House of the Hou

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

September 2, 1962

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject:

Monthly Narrative Report for August, 1962

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Nightly programs were held in the visitor's lounge with an average attendance of 43 visitors per evening or an increase of 20% over the average attendance last month. Morning walks were conducted on Saturday and Sunday mornings throughout the month with good attendance.

Interpretive Services

Naturalist Schiffman was on annual leave from August 6th to August 25th. During his absence naturalists from headquarters and Royal Palm filled in for evening programs on 10 days of the month. Ranger Schesventer conducted one evening program with a showing of the eagle film.

Interpretive opptacts for the month:

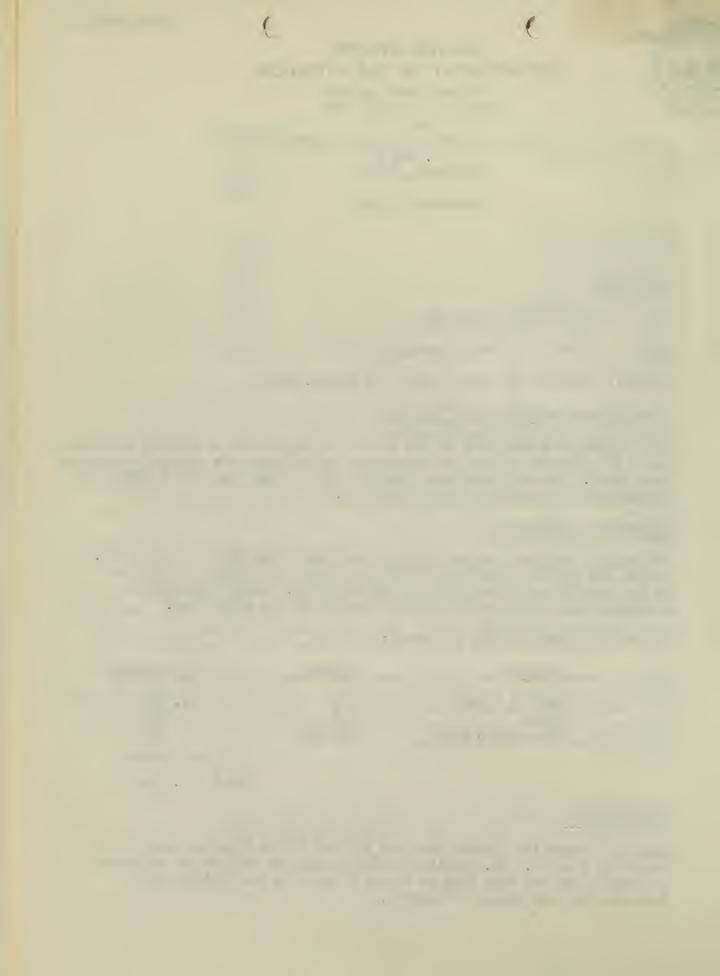
Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks Walks Information Desk	31 7 22 days	1, 323 116 395
		- 0-1

Total

1, 834

Miscellaneous

Regional Naturalist Schultz with son visited in the Flamingo area August 1, 2 and 3. Mr. Schultz was accompanied by Naturalist Schiffman to Snake Bight and Bear Lake on August 2 and on a boat trip to Lake Ingraham and Cape Sable on August 3.



Mrazek accompanied Biologist Robertson with Berlin Zoo Director Heinz Claus and wife to Oyster Keys and House's Ditch by boat on August 29th. A fine show of shore birds including an Avocet and Hudsonian Curlew and a large flock of white ibis with a solitary spoonbill and one glossy ibis were seen in the flats at House's Ditch at flood tide. Several reddish egrets in the white phase were also seen.

Research and Observation

Great white Herons were observed nesting on Catfish and Oyster Keys during the month.

Six immature bald eagles were seen along the roadside opposite the entrance to Mahogany Hammock road on August 22nd. Several of these young birds could be seen with regularity in the Flamingo area.

Mrazek spent several days in the field with Dr. Craighead checking mangrove recovery plots on some **66** the Florida Bay keys during the month.

Vincent J. Mrazek Park Naturalist



Naturabet Files

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OTHER DIVISION,

V. BLADA

P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

October 5, 1962

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Division of Interpretation Monthly Report, September 1962

Interpretive Services:

Travel to Everglades National Park was in the lowest part of the yearly pattern and somewhat depressed by three factors. Considerable apprehension was in evidence concerning the encephalitis epidemic elsewhere in Florida. Stories of heavy mosquito infestations also seemed to keep people away from the Park and finally there has been a falling off of interest in the Park on the part of people living in the surrounding areas. A program of two daily programs at Royal Palm was maintained throughout the month with an extra program Saturdays and Sundays. Evening talks were regularly scheduled at Flamingo and morning walks were scheduled during the weekends.

Following is a statistical summary of interpretive contacts made during the month:

	Number of	
	Talks	Attendance
Royal Palm	34	844
Flamingo	29	511
Special	1	22
Alath. The second sector in		1377
		STILL AL CHITTA OF
Talks Outside Area:		hidan Thront Like
Air Force Pilots		179
Bayan Garden Club		38
Alumni Association		89
(306
Guided Walks:	0 10 10 10	DESIGNATION OF THE PERSON.
Gumbo Limbo	35	535
Flamingo Shoreline	6	38
1		38 573

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Informational Contacts: Hq. Visitor Center Flamingo V.C.	3469 126
	3595
TOTAL PERSONAL CONTACTS:	5851
Manned Interpretive Stations:	
Hq. Visitor Center	3500
Royal Palm V.C.	7300
Flamingo	6200
NAME AND POST OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF	17000
Unmanned Interpretive Facilities:	
Anhinga Trail	11200
Royal Palm	8100
Pinelands Trail	4200
Pa-Hay-Okee	6135
Mahogany Hammock	5309
Mangrove Trail (Closed)	
TOTAL	34944
TOTAL INTERPRETIVE CONTACTS:	147795

Miscellaneous:

Ranger-Naturalist Mrazek accompanied Drs. Hammer and Dezner, plant physiologists from Venezuela who are studying storm mortality of mangroves, on a boat trip into Coot Bay and Whitewater Bay on September 11th.

ST HOLY . I. HOLD

Ranger-Naturalist Mrazek accompanied by boat three members of the multinational communications specialists seminar, organized by the Brandeis
University Communication Research Center with the cooperation of the
U.S. Department of State to Lake Ingraham and Whitewater Bay on September
15th. The members were: Mr. Watt Seng Koh, Dep. Director of Basic
Education, Singapore; Mr. Tadashi Yoshida, Chief of Radio Culture Division,
Tokyo, Japan; Mr. Isuo Saito, Specialist in Audio Visual Education,
Okayama, Japan.

Research and Observation:

About 40 nests of Little Green Herons were discovered along the Homestead Canal between Bear Lake and Gator Lake on Sept. 19th. Young birds were

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observed in various stages of development - from the newly hatched to well feathered fledglings about ready to leave the nests. There were generally two to three young to A nest.

Interpretive facilities and curatorial work has been initiated on the Seminole Indian exhibit and on the exhibit plan for the replacement of the exhibits in the Headquarters Visitor Center.

Special Events:

Assistant Park Naturalist Karraker and Seasonal Naturalist Mary J. Ward were married on September 22nd in Denver, Colo.

Ernst T. Christensen Chief Park Naturalist

Copy to: Div. Of Interpretation
Flamingo

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. 0. Box 279
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

October 1, 1962

Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for September, 1962

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Evening programs were held nightly in the visitors' lounge with generally poor attendance. The average nightly attendance was 17 visitors, or a decrease of 60% under the average attendance last month.

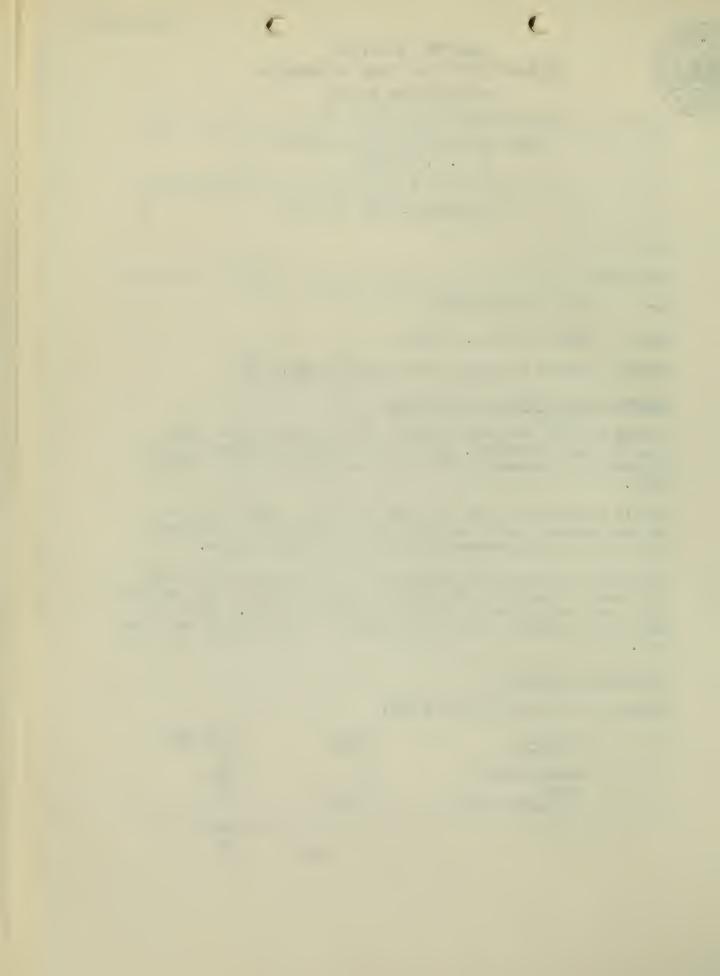
The air conditioner in the visitors' lounge was finally repaired and the resultant cooler and less noisy atmosphere was appreciated by visitors and interpreters alike during evening programs.

The bayshore nature walks scheduled for Saturdays and Sundays were also poorly attended and on four of the days when walks were scheduled during the month there was no show of visitors at all. There is no doubt that September is one of the months of least visitor use in the park.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks Walks Information Desk	29 6 16 days	511 38 126
	Total	675



Miscellaneous

Mrazek accompanied Drs. Hammer and Gezner, plant physiologists from Venezuela who are studying storm mortality of mangroves, on a boat trip into Coot Bay and Whitewater Bay on Sept 11th.

Mrazek in boat with three members of the multi-national communications specialists seminar, organized by the Erandeis University Communication Research Center with the cooperation of the U.S. Department of State to Lake Ingraham and Whitewater Bay on Sept. 15. The members were:
Mr. Watt Seng Koh, Deputy Director of Basic Education, Singapore;
Mr. Tadashi Yoshida, Chief of Radio Culture Division, Tokyo, Japan
Mr. Isuo Saito, Specialist in Audio Visual Education, Okayama, Japan.

Research and Observation

About 40 nests of Little Green Herons were discovered along the Homestead Canal between Bear Lake and Gator Lake on Sept. 19th. Young birds were observed in various stages of development; from the newly hatched to well feathered fledglings about ready to leave the nests. There were generally two to three young to a nest.

Vincent J Mrazek

Park Naturalist



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT

P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

November 6, 1962

Memorandum

To:

Superintendent, Everglades National Park

From:

Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly Marrative Report, October 1962

Interpretive Services

Although Park visitation decreased slightly during the month of the Cuban Crises, attendance at interpretive programs experienced an increase. Visitor interest heightened with the lowering of the water table and the return of small numbers of wading birds to the Park.

On Site Programs

Talks	Number	Attendance
Royal Palm Flamingo Special	49 31 5	1211 632 111
Mature Walks		
Royal Palm Flamingo Special	43 6 5	968 60 111
Off Site Talk		
October 9, Bay Shore Womens Club,	Miami	48 3141
Informational Contacts		
Royal Palm Parachute Key Flamingo		4000 3448 143

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Self Guiding Trails Attendance 6000 Anhinga Gumbo Limbo 4000 Pine Lands 3000 Pa-hay-okee 3395 Mahogany Harmock 3307 Total 27,293 Grand Total 30,434

Interpretive Facilities

Vandalism was responsible for significant damage during October. Trees and wayside signs were destroyed on Gumbo Limbo and Anhinga Trails

Maintenance of fixed audio-visual devices has been assumed by the Division of Maintenance following a directive from the office of the Director. Work progresses on the self guiding interpretive system for the Flamingo area.

Miscellaneous

At the October 11 meeting of the Board of Directors of the Everglades Natural History Association plans were formulated for the annual meeting. Also, the publications program was discussed.

Chief Park Naturalist

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK And FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P.O. Box 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

November 1, 1962

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist Schiffman, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for October, 1962

INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES AND PLANNING

Evening programs were held nightly in the visitors lounge with slightly better attendance than the preceding month. The average nightly attendance was 20.

Interpretive signs for the self guiding trails for the Flamingo area were at last received and the Naturalists in the area have commenced painting them.

Park Naturalist Schiffman worked at Royal Palm one (1) day early in the month, and members of the interpretive staff from headquarters came down to Flamingo to give Evening Talks on fifteen (15) occasions during Park Naturalist Mrazek's annual leave.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks	31	632
Walks	6	60
Information Desk	16	143

Miscellaneous

A rive foot rattler was removed from the Motel linen room by Schiffman and Ranger Schesventer, and later released in the back-country.

Don Erskine, Chief Audio-visual Division, WASO, spent a day in the area.

Schiffman and Mrazek made several field trips in the area, by boat and truck.

Park Naturalist

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTER

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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April 1, 1962

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Subject: Lontily Morrative Report for March, 1762

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Evening programs continued rightly in the Visitor's Lounge, with a noticeable dry in attendance coincident with the first bad mosquito infostation of the season on or about March 17th. Or at r than seating capacity attendance was exprienced on 16 derings during the early part of the month.

An experimental night Auto-cade consisting of 11 cars and 30 vicitors was conducted by Materalist Dick Moung to 2 tile Pond of the bis evening program on Harch 25th. Lauticipating of itors expressed enjoyment of the adventure with the ence tion of the pre care of amonging mosquitos. It may be worth while tring such scheduled mount during the maguitofree finter months.

Intorprotive Derrices

Interpritive cont cts for the month:

Irogram	Number	Literdance
Tvening Talks	31	3,467
Valks	17	27
Je, oleh Talks	1	15
Special Malks	2	60
Special Auto-cales	2	70
Information Tesk		
	Total	4,708

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So iffron conducted a pool of the Maringo area for the South Plorida Auduben Terk shop group of forty persons on Earch 1.8th. He presented a special talk to a girl arout group at Planingo on the same day.

Trigok accompanied Dr. Rol rt. on and Dr. Oliver Lustin with pirty of the or a birding tri, to Talot libt and March Little of the Country tri, to Talot 200 Laborts in the lake north of the ditch was not revaring.

Lerbers of the interpretive at ff at Planings agent considerable time with Ir. Eugene Schumacher, photographer for the International longress For The Conservation of Natural Resources, in the field and also with NF3 photographer Jack Toucher Turing his to o rap , in the Florings area.

Fark Naturali t



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK AND

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. O. BOX 279
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

December 7, 1962

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Naturalist

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for November, 1962

Interpretive Services

Despite the Cuban crisis occurrence, visitation to Flamingo held up well, and although guest registration at the lodge was off 30% for the month, evening programs were well attended. The average nightly attendance at these programs was 46 visitors or an increase of 170% over last month.

Naturalist personnel from headquarters and Royal Palm filled in for eight evening programs until the return of Park Naturalist Mrazek from annual leave on November 17th.

A group of graduate students from Florida State University received special assistance during their study of the ecology of the Everglades. Special field trips were led by Naturalists Mrazek and Taylor and collaborator Craighead. An evening seminar on plant ecology was conducted by Naturalist Karraker.

Many guests of the U.S. State Department were given special tours during the month.

Naturalist Schiffman accompanied Italian Economic Specialists Messrs. Messra and Linberger on a tour of the Bear Lake and Snake Bight areas on November 2nd. Also, Naturalist Schiffman excorted U.S. State Department visitors from Thailand and Cyprus to Bear Lake and Snake Bight on November 12th.

Naturalist Mrazek accompanied Dr. Craighead and Professor Andre F. Clewell, instructor of Botany at the Florida State University, with five students on a tour of the Flamingo area on November 17th. Naturalist Mrazek provided interpretive commentary for a group of six Guatemalan Naval Officers on a boat tour into Whitewater Bay on November 23rd.

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Hundreds of Army personnel currently stationed in South Florida have attended programs at Royal Palm Visitor Center.

Naturalist Zimmer guided a group of Finnish students on the 5th.

On Site Progr	ams Number	Attendance
Talks Royal Palm Flamingo	62 29	1,625 1,331
Nature Walks Royal Palm Flamingo	72 7	1,580 147
Offsite Talks		
November 23 - November 27 -	Ft. Lauderdale Women's Club (Christensen) Plymouth Congregational Church (Christensen) Collier County Audubon Society (Karraker) Florida State University Seminar (Karraker) Exchange Club of Bayshore (Christensen)	66 67 80 20 69
Informational	Contacts	
Parachute Key Royal Palm Flamingo	Total	5,508 6,210 162 16,865
Self Guiding	Trails	
Anhinga Gumbo Limbo Pinelands Pa-hay-o-kee Mahogany Hamm Mangrove Trai	1	7,000 5,000 3,100 4,522 4,704 500
	Total Grand Total	24,826 41,691

Intrepretive Facilities

The interpretive signs for the self-guiding system at Flamingo were completed this month. The installation of the trail awaits the arrival of posts for mounting the signs and completion of the guide leaflets.

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Research and Observation

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Excellent bird shows were to be seen in the Flamingo and nearby areas this month. Several hundred white pelicans could be seen daily on the spoil bank near the Visitor Center. Hundreds of egrets, and white ibis along with scores of wood ibis and spoonbills were to be seen in the Coot Bay Pond area and Bear Lake canal for several weeks during the month.

A scissor-tailed flycatcher and western kingbird were seen in the employees' residence area during the bird banding project there this month.

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

January 4, 1963

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Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Everglades

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report, December 1962

Interpretive Services

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The easel exhibit on fish has been redone and placed on the Anhinga Trail. The final proof reading of the text of the ernest Coe exhibit was accomplished. Burned trail labels were replaced on Mahogany Hammock and the Mangrove Trails. Work on the stake and leaflet trail at Flamingo is progressing very well and this interpretive facility will be in operation during the coming winter, The winter schedule of interpretive programs began with five programs daily in the Royal Palm area and campfire programs five nights a week at Long Pine Key Campground. Nature walks are conducted each norning at Flamingo.

Considerable service to special groups was provided during the holidays. A WAE naturalist has been added to the staff at Flamingo; a seasonal naturalist at Royal Palm and an additional Park Guide at the visitor center.

Programs

Talks	Number	Attendance
Royal Palm	92	4,524
Flamingo	30	2,219
Guided Walks		
Anhinga Trail	31	1,638
Gumbo Limbo Trail	62	1,872
Bayshore	18	406
Special - Flamingo	3	310
Roving Contacts		2,000

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Manned Interpretive Station

Visitor Center	12,800
Royal Palm	8,400
Flamingo	675

Self-guided Interpretive Trails

Anhinga Gumbo Limbo Pineland Pa-Hay-Okee Mahogany Hammock Mangrove	15,200 13,400 5,700 6,828 7,327 5,100
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Total 88,399

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. 0. Box 2 79 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

1 emorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for December, 1962

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

An accelerated winter schedule of interpretive programs was started on Dec. 15th. Bayshore walks were conducted daily at 8:30 AM with the exception of Saturdays. A wilderness hike down the Pear Lake road starting at 8:30 AM was conducted each Saturday morning beginning Dec. 15th. This hike was very well received and on the three Saturdays the hike was conducted this month a total of 100 visitors participated.

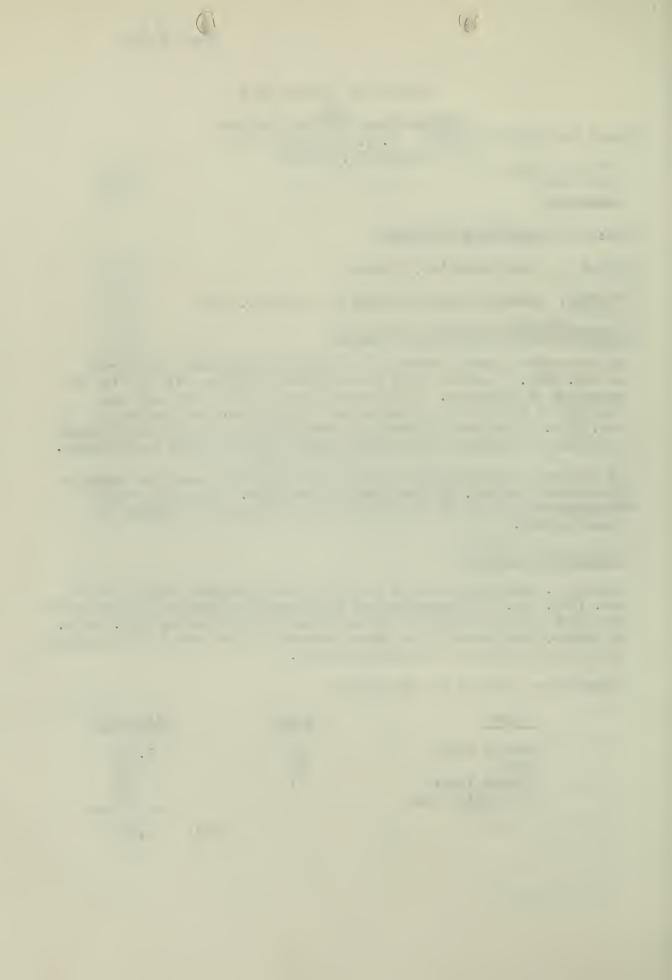
As last year the seating capacity of the Visitor's Lounge was taxed to the utmost from Dec. 22 throughout the holidays. The usual crowds thronged to Flamingo and attended all the interpretive programs in large numbers.

Interpretive Services

Richard L. Cunningham entered on duty as a WAE Seasonal Naturalist on Dec. 15th. Er. Cunningham has had considerable experience as a research biclogist with the National Audubon Society in the Florida Keys. He is, of course, familiar with the natural history of the area and has adapted himself very rapidly to interpretive work.

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number		Attendance
Evening Talks Walks Special T alks Information Desk	30 18 3		2,219 406 310 675
	Т	otal	3,610



Miscellaneous

Naturalist chiffman spent several days in the field birding with Senator and Mrs. Spessard Holland during the month.

razek accompanied a group of 20 ranger aids on an orientation bost tour to whitewater Bay on Dec. 2.

Mrazek out with 8.S. State Dept. guests Ar. Song from Korea and Mr. Lieu from Viet Nam to Bear Lake and Coot Bay on Dec. 4th.

Naturalists Schiffman and Cunningham participated in the Christmas bird count on Dec. 30th.

Special programs were presented to the Timpano Florida Science Study group on Dec. 25th and 26th. There were 125 students in the group.

Research and Observation

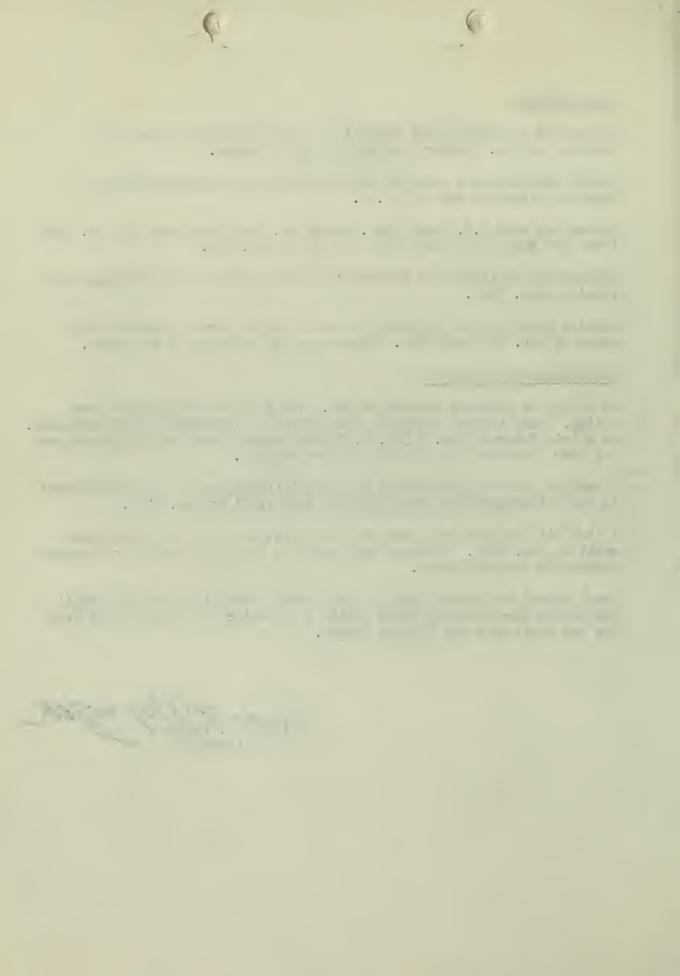
On a trip to Cuthbert Rookery on Dec. 17th 400 wood storks were seen mating, going through courtship performance and carrying nesting material. On a trip later on Dec. 2 9th, 1,500 wood storks were seen on rookery key and over a hundred and fifty nests were counted.

A scarlet ibis was observed by Naturalist Cunningham and 42 participants in his wilderness hike along the Bear Lake Trail on Dec. 22nd.

A fish kill of many thousands of jacks occurred after the recent cold spell on Dec. 13th. Vultures were having a field day along the Flamingo shores for days afterward.

Snook seemed to bite on anything for several days after the cold spell and people were catching their limits in a matter of a few minutes from the sea walls near the Visitor Center.

Park Naturatist



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 Physics Dunker Totaling HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

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February 6, 1963

Memorandum

Superintendent, Everglades

From: Chief Naturalist, Everglades

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report, January 1963

Interpretive Facilities

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Special states

Finish

CHESTLY

In the Flamingo area, 24 of the numbered guide signs for the Mangroveland Nature Guide were installed along Buttonwood Canal. The Guide pamphlets themselves have been provided for Boat-a-caders.

An exhibit panel to house and interpret the aquarium in the Royal Palm station has been designed and is near completion by Naturalist Taylor.

The peak attendance recorded at the Flamingo evening programs this month is a constant reminder of the need for larger and more suitable facilities for these audio-visual programs. On many nights visitors were unable to get inside the door of the Visitors' Lounge in order to stand for the program.

Interpretive Services

All during January the winter schedule of talks, walks and evening programs has been in full swing. Campfire programs are presented five nights a week at Long Pine Key campground. In addition, each Wednesday a special audio-visual program is given in the Visitor Center auditorium.

P. 2 daily talks and walks at Royal Palm mean that at almost any time of the day, visitors can take in an interpretive program.

In the Flamingo area a guided nature walk occurs each morning. On Saturdays this is an extensive hike up the Bear Lake Road, emphasizing birds and botany. This is becoming one of the most popular of the Park programs. DESCRIPTION OF PERSONS ASSESSMENT

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1620/3		Attendance
Talks	Number	Accendance
£ 65 & 65 d		, 11
Royal Palm	149	5078
Flamingo	`31	3601
Visitor Center Eve		277
Campfire	24	1381 1658
Special talks	12 220	10832
	220	10832
Roaded Nalks		
Anhinga	57	1915
Gumbo Limbo	83	2010
Bayshore	27	415
	167	4340
12000	107	4340
Roying Contacts	b ,	Maria Violant, sesso
		The particular from the state of the
Flamingo		600
Royal Palm		1000
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Visitor Center Par	rachute Key	8272
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Anhina	Via many of the comment	4.5 200
Gumbo Limbo	ranies alt.	19,400
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· Pa-hay-okee		8,778
Mahogany Hammock		10,097
Mangrove Trail		9,600
		81,275
Lauren .		Membras
Talks Outside Area		-
100000		3.80
January 15, Tropic		60
January 27, Kansas		97
		157
Total		109,814

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for January, 1963

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

The normal let-up in visitor use after the holidays did not occur at Flamingo this year. Attendance at evening programs remained at a peak with the exception of a few evenings. There were many nights when the inadequacy of the seating capacity in the Visitor's Lounge w as felt acutely and many visitors were unable to get inside the door. In spite of crowded conditions and poor ventilation and acoustics, visitors unanimously expressed their enjoyment and appreciation for these programs.

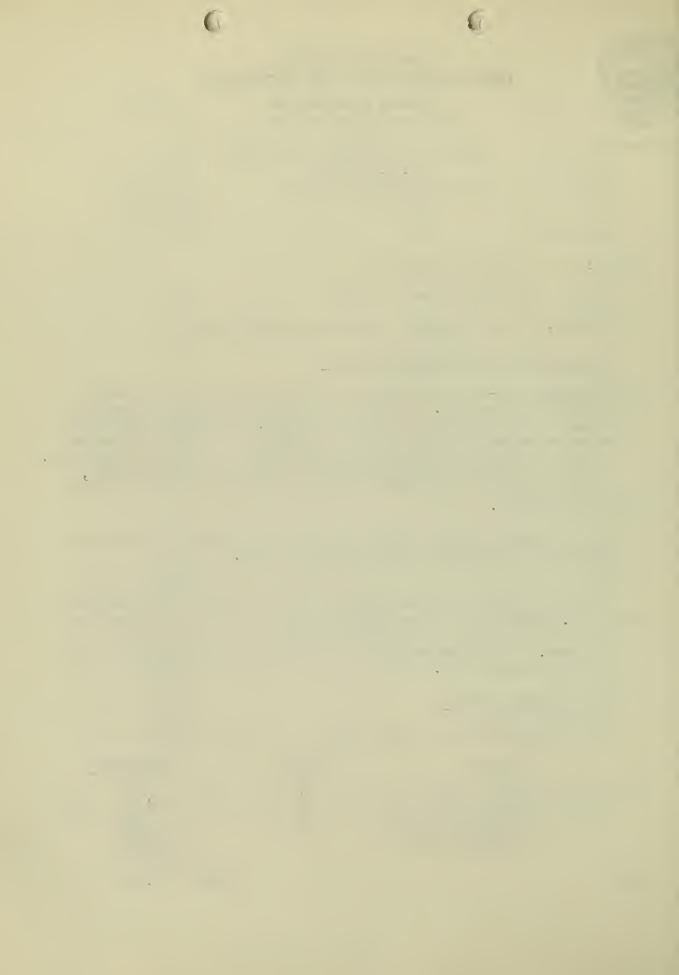
Nature walks, which were conducted each morning, were also very well attended and enjoyed by participating visitors.

24 of the numbered signs for the Mangroveland Nature Guide were installed at their designated locations along the Buttonwood Canal this month. Forty more of these signs are yet to be installed along the Bear Lake Road and the main park road when additional materials are received. A satisfactory method of distributing the leaflets has not yet been decided upon.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number		Attendance
Evening Talks Walks Special Talks Information Desk	31 27 2		3,601 415 55 1,178
		Total	5,249



Miscellaneous

Naturalist Mrazek spent the day of Jan 15th and the morning of Jan 16th with Messrs. Jose Pojan and Albert Bruzual, Venezuelan National Park officials on Mahogany Hammock Trail, Mangrove Trail, Flamingo area, Bear Lake Trail and East River Rookery.

Naturalist Schiffman conducted a campfire program for 30 members of the Athletic Class of South Dade High School on Jan 28th.

Naturalist Cunningham presented a special program on birds to 25 members of the Florida Audubon Society from Maitland, Florida on Jan 12th.

Research and Observation

Perhaps the most important observation for this report is the successful formation of the Cuthbert and East River Rookeries. If all goes as expected, boat trips for visitor viewing of the Cuthbert Rookery can start sometime after mid-February.

Park Naturalist

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

March 5, 1963

Memorandum

N2615

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report, Interpretive Division, February 1963

Interpretive Pacilities

Nearly all of the effort of the Naturalist staff was directed at public contact work. A few projects were completed. The turtle exhibit for the Anhinga Trail was redone and relocated. The cabinet for the aquarium exhibit was finished except for the photo transparencies. The Ernest Coe exhibit arrived from the Branch of Museums in Washington and preparations for its installation are in progress.

During the month considerable effort was made to get replacement slides for the rookery exhibit at Flamingo. It is hoped that a set of captioned slides will result.

Interpretive Services

Perhaps the most surprising development of this season in public contact work has been the phenominal attendance at both campfire programs and the Wednesday evening program in the Visitor Center. Attendance has considerably more than doubled from last year for the same month in face of reduced Park visitation. Talks at both places are given to over capacity audiences consistantly. This is attributed directly to the large population of campers at the Long Pine Key Campground. Very surely much more suitable seating and a capacity at least double the present must be provided before another season.

On Site Programs

Talks	Number	Attendance
Royal Palm	142	7,223
Flamingo	28	4,061
Campfire	2.0	2,066
Visitor Center, evening	4	454
	146	7520

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Talks	Number	Attendance
Special Talks	6	236
Guided Walks		
Anhinga	67	2,022
Gumbo Limbo	80	2,488
Bay Shore	26	448
	373	18,998
Manned Stations		
Visitor Center		18,125
Royal Palm		25,500
Flamingo		1,260
		44,885
Self Guiding Trails		
Anhinga		32,100
Gumbo Limbo		26,000
Pinelands		9,200
Pa-hay-okee		10,900
Mahogany Hammock		13,900
Mangrove		9,600
		100,800
Roving Contacts		7,000
Off-site Talks		
Closed circuit T.V.		6,000
North Miami Women's	Club	90
Bal Harbor Rotary		100
West Homestead School		100
Dorsey Highschool, M		105
Kendall Methodist Chi	urch	18
		6,413
Total		192,136

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFFRSON NATIONAL MONUNENT
P. O. Box 279
HONESTEAD, FLORIDA

March 3, 1963

Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Warrative Report for February, 1963

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Evening programs were very well attended. Again, as last month, on at least 2 5 evenings during the month there just was not enough room in the Visitors' Lounge even for standees.

The Nangroveland Trail numbers were all installed along the main park road and Beak Lake road. The numbers along the canal had been installed previously. There still seems to be some confusion as to the method of leaflet distribution. To date, there have been 32 copies sold at the NPS information desk.

Interpretive Services

Interpetive contects for the month:

Program	Number		Attendance	
Evening Talks Walks Special Talk Information Desk	28 26 1	4,061 448 36 1,260		
		Total	5,805	

Special TV Program

6,000 H.S. Stuxdents

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liscellaneous

Naturalist Mrazek spent 4 days in the field with Mr. Frank Masland, former Chairman of the National Parks Advisory B oard and now special advisor on national parks to Sec. Udall. Trips were made to E. River Rookery, Cuthbert Rookery, Shark River and Cape Sable,

Maturalist Cunningham presented a special 15 minute T.V. program on Conservation in South Florida on Channel 17 on Feb. 12th. The program was viewed by 6,000 High School biologystudents.

Naturalist Prazek escorted Monsieur and Madam A. Freyens on a tour of the Flamingo area on Feb. 18th. Monsieur Freyes is Commissioner of Belgium Mational Parks.

Naturalist Cunningham gave a short orientation talk to 36 members of the Coral Gables Garden Club on Feb. 11th.

Naturalist Cunningham accompanied U.S. State Dept guest Mr. Vichien from Thailand on tour of Flamingo area on Feb. 5th.

Naturalist Brazek spent the day at E. River Rookery with Dade Thornton and Asst Chief Naturalist R. Haugen assisting with photography and transportation.

Research and Observation

The E. River and Cuthbert Rockeries seemed to have suffered to some extent from cold and rainy weather. On a trip the on Feb. 19th with Mr. Masland and Biologist Robertson at least 30 black and turkey vultures were seen around the rockery feeding on dead young in the nests.

White ibis, wood storks, Anhingas, Snowy and Common Egrets and Touisiana Herons were seen nesting in Rookery Branch on Feb. 5th. The size of this rookery could not be estimated because of limited visibility from a boat.

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FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

N2615

April 5, 1963

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Acting Chief Park Naturalist

Monthly Narrative Report, Interpretive Division, March 1963 Subject:

Interpretive Facilities

Naturalist Taylor built a very satisfactory rear projection box that was used at the Homestead Fair. It worked very well, even in bright sunlight. Since it is very portable, it should serve the Park wherever and whenever a display is needed.

The Naturalist staff has just received from the Chief, Branch of Museums, the exhibit plan for the Anhinga and Gumbo Limbo trail shelters at Royal Palm.

Interpretive Services

Chief Naturalist Christensen is at Harper's Ferry attending the first Naturalist training session. He reports a very heavy schedule of work, but is finding it very enjoyable and interesting.

The combination of Mr. Christensen's absence, additional commitments, and continued heavy travel has kept the remaining staff very busy.

The Mangrove Nature Trail Guide leaflets are being sold both at the Visitor Center at Flamingo and at the West Lake boat landing.

Research and Observations

Naturalist Mrazek reports that both Cuthbert and East River Rookeries seem to be holding up normally, although some concern was expressed by biologists about the dwindling food supply due to the rapid drying of the glades and lowered water tables. Taylor Slough is rapidly drying up and there is a considerable increase in the number of alligators around the available

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water. The main pond in front of the Royal Palm Station is now so full of algae that gar fish are not visible unless very close to the surface. Water level along most of the board walk is very low except for a few holes.

Programs

Talks	Number	Attendance
Royal Palm Flamingo Campfire & Audio-	155 31 5 6 Visual 24 7 8 6	6,649 3,661 1,812 0,3 0 12,122
Guided Walks		
Anhinga Gumbo Limbo Flamingo	50 88 30 Total 168	1,840 2,754 499 5,093
Special Programs	19	1,114
Off-Site Programs	5	23 0
Roving Contacts		8,149
Manned Interpretive	Stations	
Visitor Center Royal Palm Flamingo	Total	17,070 25,155 1,085 43,310
Self-Guided Trails		
Anhinga Gumbo Limbo Pa-hay-okee Mahogany Hammock Mangrove	Total	32,500 27,500 11,592 13,251 9,489 74,332
Grand Total		164,350

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATI NAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

April 1, 1963

Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for March, 1963

Interpretive Facilities and Blanning

Attendance at evening programs began to drop about mid-month due to the decrease in the number of campers which is normally experienced at this time of the year.

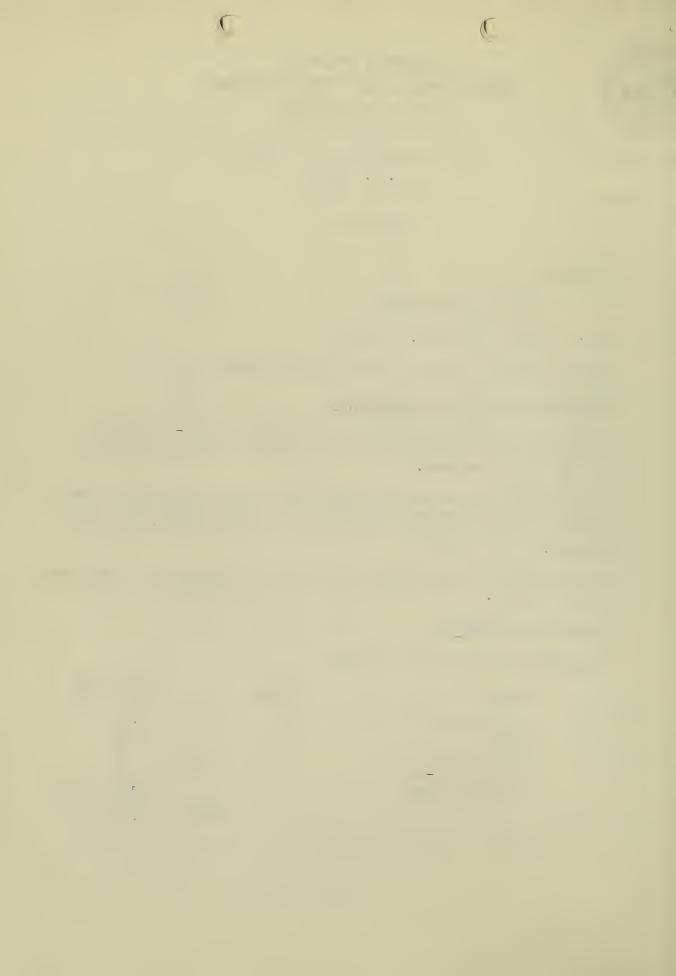
The concessioner purchased 550 copies of the Mangroveland Nature Guide leaflets and they were being sold for 10¢ a copy at the Visitor Center and West Lake boat landing, as well as at the naturalists' desk at Flamingo.

Work was begun on replenishing the orchids and bromeliads in the planters near the museum.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks Walks Special Talks Special Auto-cade Information Desk	31 30 3 1	3,661 499 390 60 1,085
	Tota	1 5,695



Miscellaneous

Naturalist Schiffman presented a program on Park Landscapes to the Velcome Club in Niami Shores on March 5th.

Naturalist Mrazek conducted a special Auto-cade of Tropical Nature Workshop members numbering 12 cars and 60 people from West Lake To Flamingo on March 24th.

Naturalist Schiffman gave a talk on the park to the Temple Israel Men's Club in Miami Beach on Merch 26th.

Naturalist Schifffman gave a special talk to the Florida Park Personnel Assoc. numbering 40 members on March 28th in the Flamingo Visitor's Lounge.

Research and Observation

Cuthbert and E. River Rookeries seemed to be holding up normally, although some concern was expressed by biologists about the dwindling food sup ly due to the rapid drying of the glades and lowered water tables.

Naturalist Mrazek accompanied Dr. Craighead and Sub-District Ranger Wickware on a survey of the Australian Pine infestation on Cape Sable on March 20th.

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Vincent J. Mrazek Park Naturalist

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT

P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

May 7, 1963

Memorandum

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To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report, Interpretive Division, April 1963

Interpretive Facilities

Almost all effort of the interpretive personnel has been devoted to public contact work for the past three and one half months. Only those other projects that were entirely urgent have been undertaken. During the month exhibit plans for the Anhinga and Gumbo Limbo Trails were reviewed. Preliminary steps to accomplish the mural exhibit for the Parachute Key Visitor Center were made. Work was begun to study all nature trail labels with the thought of revising and rewriting antiquated labels.

Interpretive Services

The pattern of travel for the month of April followed the usual pattern of continuing high until Easter and then dropped off. This year, because of a somewhat earlier Easter and the absence of insect pests, travel continued high during the week following Easter and then slumped suddenly. Consequently, the winter schedule of Naturalist activities was continued until the slump occurred. Then a revised summer schedule was instituted.

April travel contained many college students and visiting scientists, and heavy use was made of interpretive facilities and activities.

Special Programs

On April 18, the exhibit depicting the story of how Everglades National Park came into being and the part of Ernest Coe in it, was shown at a special meeting of the Miami Rotary Club. Assistant Superintendent Dodd, Chief Naturalist Christensen and Park Guide Zimmer gave talks at the meeting at which the Rotary Club presented the exhibit to the National Park Service. This exhibit will be installed at the Visitor Center at Parachute Key.

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Programs

Talks	Number	Attendance
Royal Palm Flamingo Campfire & Audio-visual	119 149	4,280 2,483 570
Guided Walks		
Anhinga Gumbo Limbo Bay Shore & Bear Lake	`48 76 23	1,049 1,884 304
Special Off-Site	17 3	3237 860 304
Manned Interpretive Stations	3	
Parachute Key Visitor Center Royal Palm Flamingo Museum Self-guided Facilities Anhinga Gumbo Limbo Pinelands Pa-hay-okee Mahogany Hammock		12,936 18,400 17,750 19,084 22,900 19,200 9,100 8,676 16,201
Mangrove Trail Roving Contacts		13,300 59377 2,700 153,155

Ernst T. Christensen

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

May 1, 1963

Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Seasonal Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for April, 1963

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Attendence at evening programs and on morning walks continued to decrease due to drop in numbers of campers and Lodge visitors which is normal for this time of year. Laximum monthly attendence occurred from April 11 to April 14 (Easter Sunday) and quickly dropped after the latter date.

Morning walks were reduced to three days a week: Saturday, Sunday, and Tuesday. The Saturday morning wilderness Hike down the Bear Lake Road was changed to the Bayshore Trail due to excessive heat and an increase in mosquitos.

Naturalist Schiffman finished work on replenishing the orchids and bromeliads in the planters near the museum.

Naturalist Schiffman left on April 24 for two weeks leave.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendence
Evening Talks Walks Special Talks Information Desk	30 23 1	2,483 304 15 750

Total 3,552



Miscellaneous

Naturalist Irazek conducted British Air Force Group Captain Reginald Coleman and family to East River Rookery on April 8.

Naturalist Irazek conducted Fr. J. C. F. Marton, Deputy Director, Fish and Wildlife Service of Australia to East River Rookery on April 15.

Naturalist Cunningham gave a short talk to a college biology group accompanied by Mr. Durbin Tabb of the University of Miami Parine Laboratory. Talk was given to 15 students on April 27.

Research and Observation

Naturalists Mrazek and Cunningham visited Sandy Key twice (April 9 and April 23) for purposes of wildlife investigation. Naturalist Cunningham filed a report of observations of ornithological value with the Park Biologist. On the April 23 trip we discovered about 40 to 50 pairs of nesting Louisiana Herons; several nests contained eggs.

Naturalist Mrazek took Fred Truslow to East River Rookery on Aprilll for photography purposes.

Naturalists Mrazek and Cunningham began a study of road killed animals along the Main Park road.

Naturalist Cunningham located nest, with 3 eggs, of a Wilson's Plover for a photographic study by Fred Truslow.

> Richard L. Curningham Richard L. Cunningham Seasonal Park Naturalist

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

June 5, 1963

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Memorandum

To: Superintendent

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PRINCIPAL PROPERTY.

From: Chief Naturalist

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report, Interpretive Division, May, 1963

Revised summer schedule has given staff time to continue work on special projects. Chief Park Naturalist Christensen completed the draft of the Visitor Use Brief. Naturalist Taylor has finished laying out the Loop Trail at Royal Palm. Rita Shields, a local art student working under the direction of the Chief Naturalist is making a series of sketches that will be used on nature trails. Some sixty trail labels have been redone and about forty labels have been replaced.

Interpretive Services

Frequent storms in the area and the usual slump in travel at this time of the year is reflected in the interpretive contacts of this month. Special groups continue to arrive during weekends at Royal Palm. Naturalist Haugen was on annual leave during the first half of the month and Naturalist Mrazek was on emergency leave for two and a half weeks. Naturalist Schiffman was transferred to the Blue Ridge Parkway on May 11.

Research and Observation

The very dry situation at Royal Palm has ended and Taylor Slough is beginning to carry considerable volume of water. Right after the first heavy rain the narrow part of the slough just below the board walk was choked with fish, including some very large bass, apparently waiting for higher water to move out into the glades.

Programs

Talks	Number	Attendance
Royal Palm	67	2,150
Flamingo	33	1,187
Campfire & Audio-visual	700	333
Guided Walks	,	3
Anhinga	36	1,065
Gumbo Limbo	25	501
Special	14 6	659 54

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The same of	Number	Attendance
Off-Site Programs	5 AL PIN SCHOOL	387
Manned Interpretive Stati	ons	,
Parachute Key Visitor Royal Palm Flamingo Museum	Center	7,821 15,557 9,200
Self-Guiding Facilities		32 578
Anhinga		14,700
Gumbo Limbo Pinelands		10,300 6,300
Pa-hay-okee		5,701
Mahogany Hammock Mangrove Trail		5,505 7,500 50,006
Roving Contacts		1,800
	Total	90,333

E. T. Christensen

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERCLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL LONULENT P. O. Box 279 HOLESTEAD, FLORIDA

June 2, 1963

Lemorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for May, 1963

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Evening programs were continued nightly with light visitor attendance. However, there was an increase of 10% over the attendance at programs for the corresponding month last year.

Torning walks which were scheduled for Sunday, Tuesday and Saturday mornings were poorly sttended with "No shows" on 4 of the scheduled days.

Several interpretive markers for the mangroveland self-guiding trail were replaced this menth.

Interpretive Services

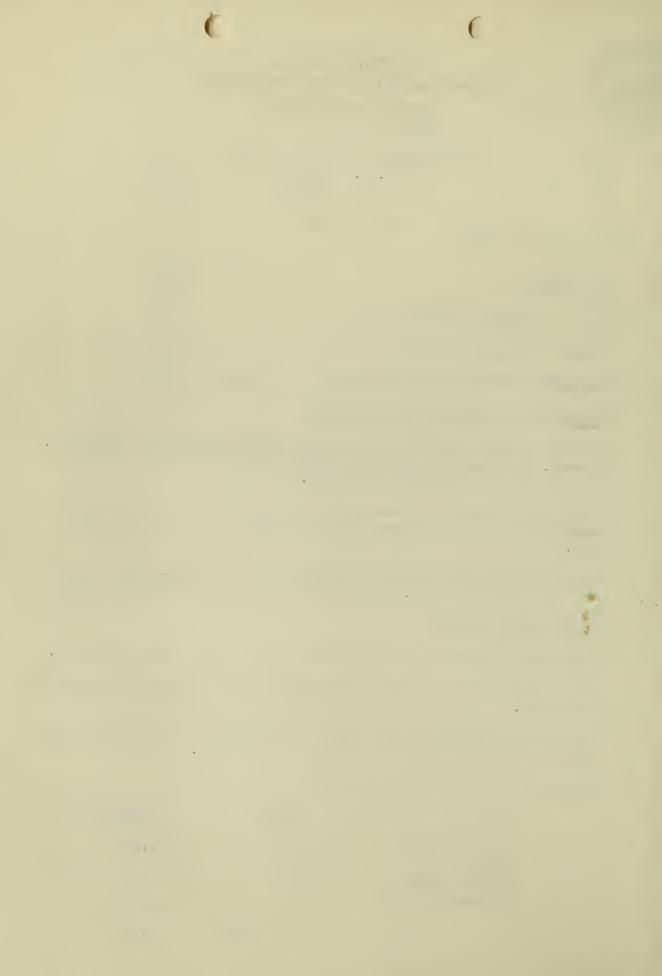
Naturalist Schiffman was transferred to Blue Ridge Parkway on May 11.

Naturalist Brazek war absent on emergency annual leave for 2 \frac{1}{2} weeks this month.

Interpretive personnel from headquarters filled in on many nights for evening programs and ranger personnel on one night.

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks Walks Special Talks Information Desk	31 6 2	1,159 29 28 390
	Total	1.606



Liscellaneous

Naturalist Cunningham gave a special museum talk to 20 YICA Indian Guides from Lake Torth on May 25th.

Naturalist Erszek gave a museum talk to 8 French Naval officers from Key est on May 30th.

Research and Observation

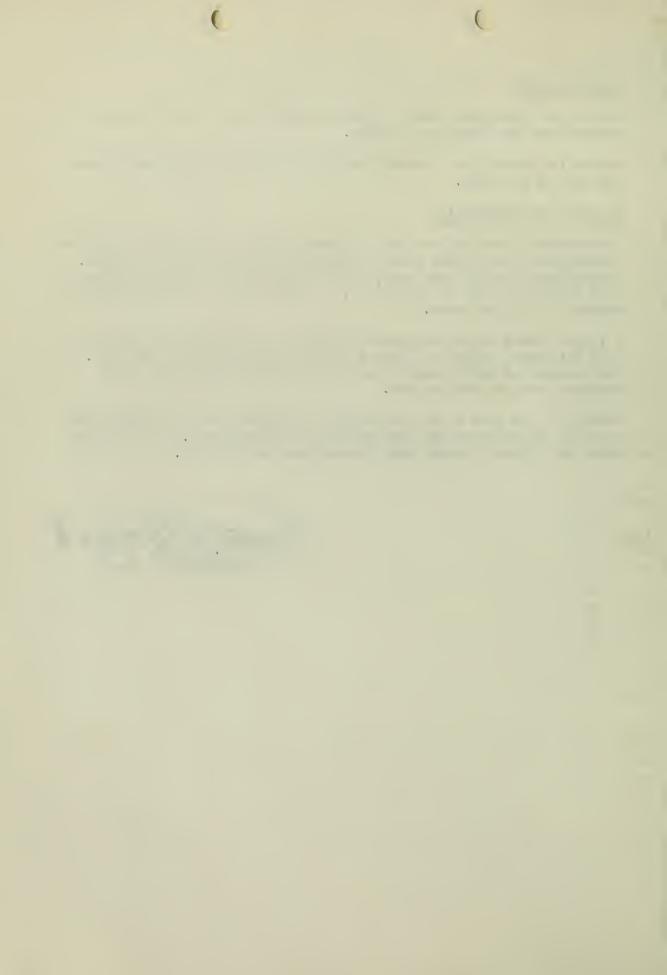
Interpretive personnel and the langrove District Ranger made an evening inspection of sea turtle nesting activity at Cape Rable on May 31st. Several fresh crawls were seen, but no burtles were observed laying eggs during the time of inspection. A great deal of nest predation by raccons v as in evidence.

A 7 foot parous female alligator was found in the road just south of Mine rile Bend, killed by a motor vehicle on the night of May 31st. The carcass was badly mangled and fully developed eggs were found extruded from the body cavity.

Nesting in the East River and Cuthbert Rookeries was near completion and most of the birds had left by the end of the month. Visitor boat trips to Cuthbert Rookery were discontinued on May 19th.

Vincent

P·rk Natoralist



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT FOR P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA OF STREET PERSONS NAMED IN to provide the party flower or the same

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Hills Park Date Date Direct

July 3, 1963

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Interpretive Division Monthly Report - June 1963

The recently completed Ernest Coe exhibit has been installed in the Visitor Center. It presents the history of Everglades National Park in the form of a newspaper and trakes for an unusual and interesting display.

Contract for a map of the Park area for the Headquarters assembly room has been given to Russell Smiley, a local artist.

A maintenance crew under the supervision of Charles R. Smith did an excellent job of brushing out the new loop trail at Royal Palm.

Interpretive Services. Travel is picking up again as schools all over the country close. Much of the weekend crowd at Royal Palm still made up of Florida visitors that have been here several times.

Park Naturalist Vincent Mrazek left June 7 for a six month assignment in the Washington office. Mrazek's move made it necessary to reassign Naturalist Taylor to the Flamingo area.

Naturalist Cunningham reports a falloff in attendance of the naturalist programs at Flamingo this month. The heavy mosquito population, no doubt, accounts for some of the drop.

Research & Observation. Dr. Frank Craighead, Park Collaborator, checked a stretch of beach along Cape Sable on June 7 and reported that of 81 turtle nests he located, 76 had been destroyed by raccoons and five by humans. Later reports given verbally indicate that other stretches of beach gave a little more encouraging picture.

Chief Park Naturalist Christensen and Naturalist Haugen were taken to Buzzards Key by Rangers Stokes and Carlson. Fishermen had reported this to be the new roosting place of the white ibis that before Donna roosted CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE

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at Duck Rock. From 6:20 pm to about 7:30 pm the party observed some 70,000 birds come to the key. It is hoped that additional protection can be given this area and that also the inspiring sight can be developed into a trip to show Park visitors.

A check of Duck Rock on the way back to Everglades City revealed only a few ibis and probably some 500 frigate birds roosting at this key.

Naturalist Cunningham has recorded seeing a Scarlet Ibis near East Cape.

Programs

Talks Royal Palm Flamingo	Number 73 42	Attendance 2,370 1,781
Guided Walks Anhinga Gumbo Limbo Special	22 37 5 ¹ / ₁	1,079
Off-site Programs	2	160
Manned Interpretive Stations		1
Parachute Key Visitor Cent Royal Palm Flamingo Museum	ter	9,330 / 15,242 \ 11,046 35,618
Self-guiding Facilities		
Anhinga Gumbo Limbo Pinelands Pa-hay-okee Mahogany Hammock Mangrove Trail Roving Contacts		13,000 8,400 5,900 6,902 5,530 6,200 3,732 1,430
	Total	
	lotal	89,606

Ernst T. Christensen

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JUFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

July 1, 1963

Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Seasonal Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Lonthly Narrative Report for June, 1963

Interpretative Pacilities and Planning

Evening programs were continued throughout the month with light visitor attendance. There was a total of eight less people attending the evening programs in comparison with June, 1962. No evening talk was given on June 3 due to complete lack of visitor attendance.

Morning walks were scheduled for Saturday, Sunday, and Tuesday mornings and were poorly attended. Fourteen walks were scheduled but park visitors failed to show for six of the walks. Of the four scheduled Tuesday morning walks only one was taken.

Abundance of mosquitos throughout month, and especially during the first quarter of the month due to lack of spraying, no doubt greatly affected visitor participation in walks and talks and in overall Flamingo visitation.

A Naturalist guided Nuseum Tour was started on an experimental basis on Saturday and Sunday afternoons to give an added program for Flamingo visitors. Of the six scheduled tours, four were attended with numbers ranging from 4 to 21.

Interpretative Services

Naturalist Brazek left during middle of month for assignment duty in Mashington, D. C.

Naturalist Taylor and family moved down from Pine Island keeping the Flamingo Naturalist number at two.

Interpretative contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Fvening Talks Forning Valks Special Valks Luseum Valks Information Desk	29 8 1 !4	1,081 57 42 51 550
		Total 1.781

liscellaneous

Naturalist Taylor gave a special walk for 42 children and adults from the Presbyterian Church of Homestead.

On Monday, June 17 and Tuesday, June 18, Naturalist Cunningham accompanied Ranger Wickware and three German women (Misses hargrette Burgsfaller, Freida Nobakk, and Maryanne Diffoch), who are friends of Senator Holland, to East River Rookery, Lake Ingraham, Cape Sable, and Sandy Key.

Research and Chservation

A Scarlet Ibis, probably same one seen in Pecember by Maturalist Cunningham, was seennear Fast Cape Canal by Ranger Schesventer (date not known).

Two Barn Swallows and 4 Sandwich Terns, all unusual for this time of year, were seen by Maturalist Cunningham on June 18 at Sandy Key and Lake Ingraham.

Richard L. Cunningham Seasonal Park Naturalist



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT

P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

August 6, 1963

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Interpretive Division Monthly Report - July 1963

General .

The water level continues to drop at Royal Palm and is reflected by an increase in the alligator population at Royal Palm.

The contractor has moved into a trailer and is starting construction of trail shelters at Royal Palm.

Lithograph prints have been put into lift devices on the Anhinga Trail and 80 trail labels have been readied for reproduction by the Metal Photo process.

Naturalists Cunningham and Taylor have reported much interest in the new telescope they have at Flamingo. The spoul bank across the channel in Florida Bay has a good bird show at low tide and with the aid of this new scope, the naturalists at the information desihave been able to _ake rany interpretive contacts.

The position of the information desk at Flamingo has been changed to make it easier for visitors and naturalists to make contact as they enter the Visitor Center.

Guided tours of the museum have been initiated on an experiment I basis and it has been found that the visitors have responded well and seem to enjoy it.

Seasonal Naturalist Sullivan with the aid of Dr. Craighead is making up a series of plant mounts that will be used for a Layman's Herbarium at Royal Palm. The plants used will be the ones the visitor is most likely to observe.

Because of the intense heat, all guided walks have been on the Gumbo Limbo Trail and none on the Anhinga trail.

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Programs

Talks Royal Palm Flamingo	Number 72 31	Attendance 2,641 1,485
Walks Anhinga Gumbo Limbo	 72	1,520
Flamingo Special	15 8	258 777
Manned Interpretive Stations Parachute Key Visitor Cente Royal Palm Flamingo	r	13,569 2,566 640
Self-Guiding Facilities Anhinga Gumbo Limbo		14,200 15,300
Finelands Pa-hay-okee Mahogany Hammock		46, 8 00 8,830 7,437
Mangrove Offsite Programs	3	7,7c0 60,267 250
Television Programs	2	
Roving contacts		2,831
Total		86,822

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Interpretive Services

Chief Park Naturalist Christensen made two special television appearances during July. On July 16, he gave a program on Mammals of South Florida on Channel Two, and July 18, he appeared on the Molly Turner program called Spotlight on Channel Ten. This program dealt with values and problems of Everglades National Park.

Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen was on a photographic and orientation trip to Fort Jefferson from July 12 to 15.

Ernst T. Christensen

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EVERGLADES
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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

August 1, 1963

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Seasonal Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject:

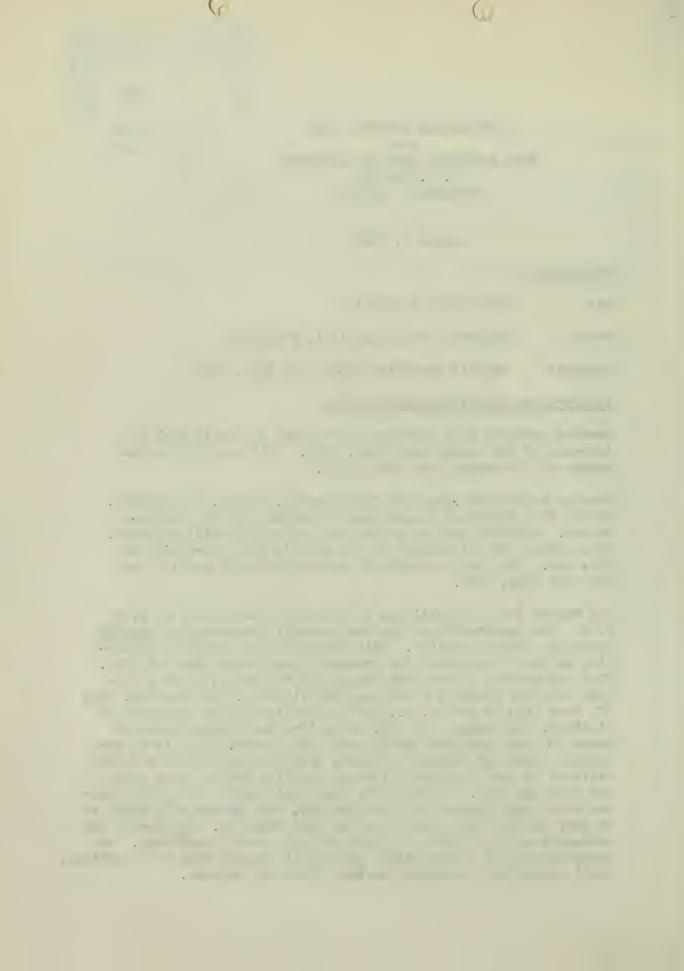
Monthly Narrative Report for July, 1963

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Evening programs were continued throughout the month with an increase of 366 people over July, 1962. This was also an increase of 404 people over June, 1963.

Morning walks were scheduled for Saturday, Sunday, and Tuesday. Of the five Scheduled Tuesday morning walks only one was attended. Saturday morning walks were the most heavily attended, with almost 50% (41 people) of the month's total occurring on this day. The total attendence for morning walks was 15 less than for July, 1962.

The Museum Tour was continued on Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00 P. M. The procurement of the new Bushnell telescope has greatly increased visitor contact. With favorable low tides we are setting up the telescope on the breezeway overlooking the mud flat. This has proved, on the last weekend of the month, to be a natural magnetic appeal for passing Park visitors. On Saturday, July 27, from 2:00 to 3:00 P. M., Park Naturalist Taylor contacted 31 visitors. On Sunday, July 28, Naturalist Cunningham contacted about 100 Park visitors during this time period. This is an excellent method of informal contact, with the opportunity for Park visitors to easily observe Flamingo birdlife and to learn about the Flamingo area. I feel that, especially during the winter season with large numbers of birds present, this system will prove to be very popular and informative for Park visitors. The use of the telescope will of course be dependent upon tidal conditions. On those afternoons of high tides the regular Museum Tour will continue, still providing a scheduled weekend afternoon contact.



The Naturalist Information desk has been moved from in front of the Naturalist's Office to a position nearer the Museum. We hope to increase visitor contact by this rearrangement.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendence
Evening Talks	31	1,485
Morning Walks	8	90
Special Walks	0	0
Museum Tours	7	168
Information Desk		640
		2,383

Miscellaneous

Nothing of a miscellaneous nature semmed to happen at Flamingo during July in the Naturalist division. Perhaps in August!

Research and Observation

On July 27 Naturalist Cunningham observed a male Black-faced Grassquit at Royal Palm. This is the second record for Everglades National Park of this West Indian species. The first record was that of a female seen at Mahogany Hammock on October 29, 1960, shortly after Hurricane Donna.

On July 28 and July 29, up to three Bald Eagles (one adult and two immatures) were observed on the mud flat across from the Visitor Center. With the new telescope set up approximately 120 Park visitors were able to see our national bird.

On the evening of July 29 four Roseate Spoonbills were seen on the mud flat across from the Visitor's Center. Records of Barn Swallows, Purple Martins and other migrants were observed by Naturalist Cunningham.

Richard L. Cunningham
Seasonal Park Naturalist

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

September 5, 1963

technical language of the pro-

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Acting Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Interpretive Division Monthly Report - August 1963

General General

Richard Cunningham, WAE Naturalist stationed at Flamingo, was terminated August 24. He has done a good job while here and it is hoped he will be returned to duty at the start of the winter season.

service of the eventual or property buildings and other

Chief Naturalist Christensen is on annual leave visiting his mother and relatives in Colorado and Montana, and plans to return via the southwest.

Park Naturalist Vincent Mrazek returned to duty August 30, after a three months assignment in WASO working with the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in connection with the Wild Rivers Study.

Park Guide Mrs. Gale Zimmer is on a two week leave, visiting her mother in Colorado.

Staff has been working on improving the æt of slides used in the automatic program shown visitors in the Headquarters Visitor Center.

Titled slides have been installed in the rookery exhibit in the Flamingo Visitor Center.

The lift devices and trail labels on the Mangrove Trail have been redone and recently installed.

Mrs. Russell has started the work of indexing and cataloging the books and reprints in the Park library. The new system will make it easier to find books and also to check them in and out to borrowers.

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The water exhibit for Royal Palm station is completed and will be installed once the exhibits for Pine Lands Trail, Anhinga, and Gumbo Limbo trails are taken down and placed in their respective shelters.

Screen doors installed at Royal Palm station have been greatly appreciated by the staff on duty there.

Research & Observation

15 to 20 alligators hatched in the pond near Gumbo Limbo Trail. A female 'gator is around the area most of the time.

Recent rains have brought the water up in Taylor Slough and in the pond at Royal Palm.

Travel

Weekend travel at Royal Palm and the Visitor Center slipped through August because of the mosquitos and frequent thunderstorms that either threatened or actually wet down the area.

Evening crowds at the nightly programs at Falmingo continued to be quite large throughout the month.

Programs

Talks	Number	Attendance
Royal Palm	61	, 1,724
Flamingo	35	1,527
	13 5	3-51
Walks		
Gumbo Limbo	52	1,204
Flamingo	6	49
	2 b	1253
Specials	10	514
Manned Interpretive Stat	ions	
Parachute Key Visitor	Center	10,581
Royal Palm	' -	1,775
		12,356
Self Guiding Facilities		1 %) -
Anhinga		₹8,200
Gumbo Limbo		9,400
Pinelands		6,500
Mahogany Hammock		6,800
Mangrove Trail		7,100
Pa-hay-okee		8,130
		100
Off Site	1	46 100
Roving Contacts		1,844
		total 65,448

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LVERGLALIS MAPROLAL PARK FORT JERFERSON NATIONAL HONUNENT P.O.Box 279 Homestead, Florida

September 1, 1963

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To: Chief Park Natura list

Bark Maturalist, Flamingo From:

Subject: Monthly Marrative Report for August, 1963

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Evening programs were continued throughout the month with an increase of persons over August, 1962; and an increase over July, 1963. NAME AND POST OF PERSONS AND PERSONS AND

The usual morning walks on Tues, Sat., and Sun. were continued, with only of the thirteen attended. The 'museum' talk, on Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00PN was attended by persons -most of those attending when the program was given on the breezeway with the aid of the Bushnell telescope.

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Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Nimber	Attendance
Evening Talks Morning Walks	31	re listen in the
Museum Tours Information Desk		
Specials	1	.574

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A PARTIE SHAPE

A special trip was given to Mr. Fred Minni lately of WJO, newpaper columist from the Palm Beaches on fish and fishing, to Bear Lake. Mr. Minni caught no fish, but was much impressed by the number of fish hitting -- especially tarpon.

Approximately & persons used the key to Snake Bight to observe the birds -- of which there have been a number of roseate spoonbills, white phase reddish egrets, white pellicans, great white herons, and numerous other more common xxxxixlx species in evidence there.

THE SHOWING Reaserch and Observation

Seasonal Naturalist @wwwikam Cunningham has been making regular trips to the Snake Bight area -- his observations have been reported separately.

O e bobcat and two kittens have been seen in the campground area.

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

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FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

October 4, 1963

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

In Description of the second

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Interpretive Division Monthly Report - September, 1963

Observation & Research

Nearly 15 inches of rain for the past month has flooded the glades and coastal prairie and brought hundreds of egrets and herons to feed on tadpoles, crawfish, small fish, leeches, and other aquatic life. As an added attraction six to ten Flamingos have regularly been seen near Snake Bight.

In cooperation with Archie Carr's green turtle restoration project, 2800 green turtle hatchlings were released in Florida Bay on the night of September 27. The project was undertaken jointly by Interpretive and Protection personnel under the supervision of the Chief Park Naturalist.

discellaneous

On September 14, several members of the Park staff were taken to the Chokoloskee Bird Roost.

A special boat-a-cade was held during month for the Caloosa Cruising Club of Ft. Myers with 12 boats and 43 persons participating.

Curatorial

Approximately 250 plants have been processed and added to the Park's study collection.

A great deal of work has been accomplished on the nature trails. 67 metal-photo labels have been received from Prison Industries and are being installed. These will replace those plastic ones with labels with some life expectancy. The easel labels for the Mahogany Hammock have been refurbished and two exhibits for the Anhinga Trail have been replaced.

Interpretive Services

September as usual, has been a month of light travel. Heavy rainfall and the resulting mosquitos have cut deeply into visitor participation of

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Approximately 130 states from the property and belled in the rest to

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Anterpretate Services

Signature of many that their same a more than the state of the state of the same of the sa

in interpretive programs. The use of the spotting scope at Flamingo continues to provide good opportunity for visitor contact.

At Everglades, Ranger Stokes gave an interpretive talk to 18 Exchange Club members, and on another occasion showed the Heritage film to 20 members of the Everglades Lion's Club.

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Enclosed is a statistical summary of interpretive contacts for the month.

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	Talks	Number	Attendance
	Royal Palm	38	437
	Flamingo		1298
	& Lemman Land	27.5	735
	Walks	0	/53
		28	278
	Gumbo Limbo		42
	Anhinga	4	
	Flamingo .	-6	193,41
Spe	cials	5って .	193'
	THE RESIDENCE IN CO.	15.000g	
Man	ned Interpretive Stations	1 Transfer	1 8
	Parachute Key Visitor Cent	er -	4,549
	Royal Palm	An policy to the second	2,660
			1,272
	Flamingo	O FAMERICAN	8 481
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	Anninga , a -	make the later than the self-time	1 43700
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			5,000
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	Mahogany Mangrove	CONTRACTOR AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY.	6,900
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	to continue.		5-665
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	Interpretive Sarvices		

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REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT

P. O. Box 279

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

October 1, 1963

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject:

Monthly Narrative Report for September, 1963

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Evening programs were continued nightly with the exception of one cancellation and two evenings with no one in attendance. The lowest attendance for this month of the year was recorded since the programs were begun on a nightly basis. This can be attributed to a heavy infestation of mosquitoes and several weeks of rainy weather. The same applies to the poor showing at morning walks which were scheduled for Saturdays and Sundays.

Excellent results in visitor contact continued with the use of the spotting scope from the Visitor Center breezeway on weekends. The scope was set up during periods when concentrations of birds could be seen on the spoil banks nearby.

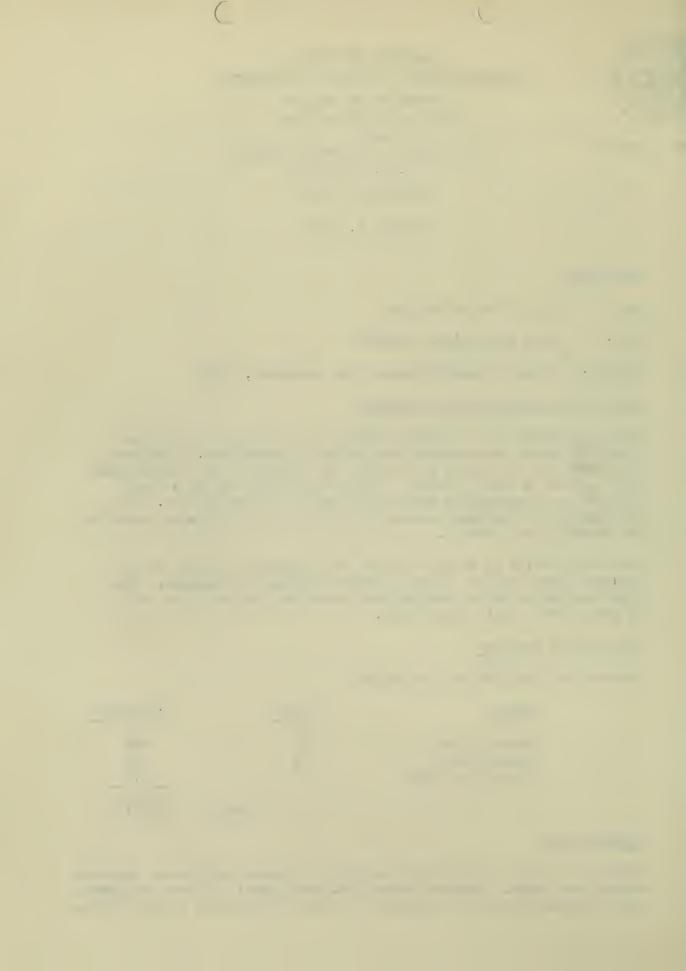
Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks	27	298
Morning walks	6	21
Information Desk		272
	Total	591

Miscellaneous

Several changes in interpretive personnel assigned to Flamingo occurred during this month. Seasonal Naturalist Cunningham's 180 day assignment was completed and he was replaced by Seasonal Naturalist Kenneth Morgan.



Naturalist Taylor took annual leave upon the return of Naturalist Mrazek from a Washington D. C. assignment and annual leave on Sept. 22nd. At the end of the month it was Mrazek and Morgan holding the fort with Taylor on leave.

Research and Observation

15 inches of rain for the month caused a flooding of the coastal prairie around Flamingo and brought in hundreds of egrets and herons and some spoonbills to feed on the tadpoles, frogs and small fish that appeared in the flooded areas. As an added attraction, from six to ten flamingos were seen with regularity in the Snake Bight area during the month.

About 3,000 hatchling green turtles that were received by air from Archie Carr's Honduras Hatcheries were released in Florida Bay on the night of September 27. The project was undertaken jointly by interpretive and protection personnel under the supervision of the Chief Park Naturalist.

Vincent J. Mrazek

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

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FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT

P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

November 6, 1963

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly narrative report for October 1963

General

Regional Chief of Interpretation, J. C. Harrington, spent several days in Headquarters with Chief Park Naturalist Christensen and the remaining part of his stay in the Flumingo and Everglades City area.

RH L

Ranger Naturalist Taylor returned from annual leave on October 11, and Ranger Naturalist Morgan was furloughed October 19.

Training sessions were held during the afternoons of the 16th and 17th, with the entire interpretive staff attending.

Considerable planning has gone into making arrangements for the 1,000 Audubon Society conventioners who will make a field trip into the Park November 12.

Material is being gathered for the displays that will be used at West Lake and Royal Palm in the new exhibit shelters.

The Maintenance Division has painted the benches at Royal Palm station,

Research & Observation

In spite of what appeared to be a very good supply of water, the water level has dropped very fast.

Many birds are still to be observed around the ponds at Headquarters and wildlife abounds on the Park road.

Travel

Travel increased slightly over September. October is usually a slow month, but because of the cancelling of four programs during the hurricane alert, attendance at evening programs was less than October of last year. However, with fine weather and an abatement of the mosquito infestation,

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attendance at individual programs increased during the latter part of the MATICALL PART SETT. S. month.

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Below is the breakdown of visitor contacts for the month.

UTTO Programs

Talks	Number	Attendance
Royal Palm	62	1,096
Flamingo	26	728
Walks		1
Gumbo Limbo	34	476
Anhinga	`43	569
Flamingo	5	62
Specials	d -6	161

Manned Interpretive Stations

Parachute Key Royal Palm	Visiter	Canter
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Self Guiding Facilities

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REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

November 2, 1963

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject:

Monthly Narrative Report for October, 1963

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

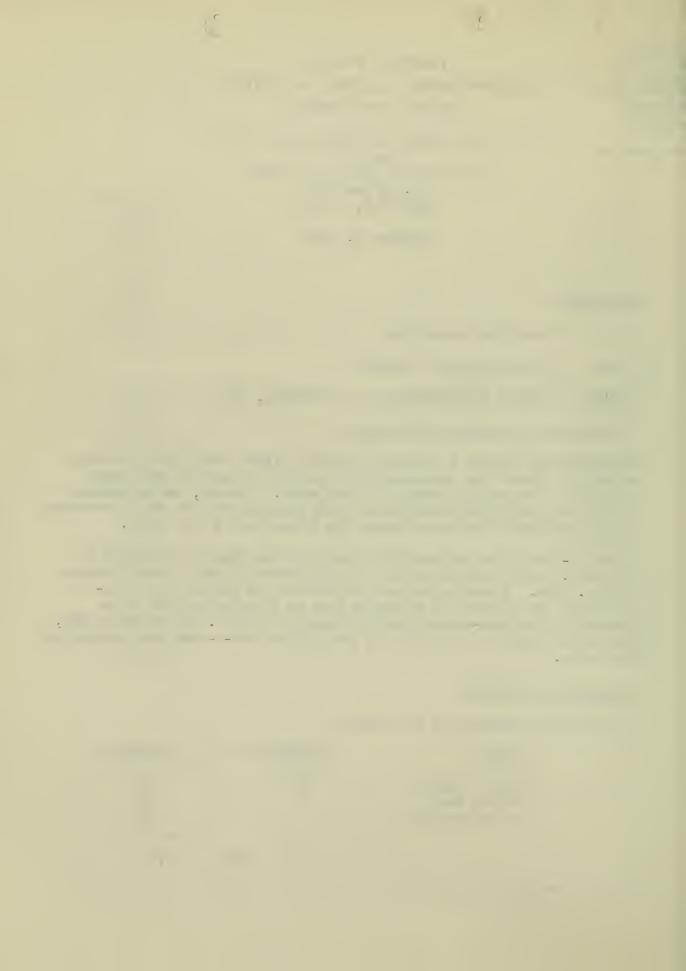
Evening programs were interrupted for four nights during the hurricane watch for "Flora" and consequently the monthly attendance fell below average for the month, normally a slow month. However, the attendance picked up sonsiderably with unseasonably pleasant weather and an abatement in the mosquito infestation during the latter half of the month.

A boat-a-cade route through Hell's Bay and Blue Creek was explored by the Asst. Chief Naturalist, the district naturalist and district ranger on Oct. 29th. A landing was made on Falm Key in Florida Bay to investigate the possibility of making this an interpretive stop on a naturalist led boat-a-cade into the Snake Bight area. Ranger Cunningham, who is expected to participate in leading the boat-a-cade also accompanied the group.

Interprétive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks Morning Walks Information Desk	26 5	728 62 341
	Tota	1,131



Miscellaneous

The naturalists attended a training program on the 16th and 17th of this month at Headquarters.

Regional Chief of Interpretation J.C. Harrington visited in the area on Oct. 27 and 28th. He and Mrs. Harrington and Mrs. Burroughs were taken on a boat excursion to Rookery Branch and Avocado Creek accompanied by the district ranger and district naturalist.

Naturalist Tayler returned from annual leave in Oct. 11th and Naturalist Morgan was furloughed on the 19th.

Richard L. Cunningham entered on duty as Career Conditional Park Ranger and is helping out with the interpretive program part of the time at Flamingo.

Research and Observation

The white pelicans were back in their usual numbers and could be seen almost daily on the spoil banks near the Visitor Center during low tides.

At least four doe deer were known to have been killed along the park road by speeding cars during the month. Apparently they were driven to the roads and road shoulders by the high water in the glades.

> Vincent J. Mrazek Park Naturalist

Description !!

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

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HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

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December 3, 1963

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Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly narrative report for November, 1963

proportionally. They are he excelled the last loss in the Persy.

General

Large groups and off-site programs kept the interpretive staff busy this month over and above the increase in travel as the bugs decreased and the days cooled.

Altigratery are notified from the or agent to be decipoled

Chief Park Naturalist Christensen gave a talk in Miami to members of the Audubon Convention numbering some 1200 and showed the group the Park movie, Highlights of the Everglades.

One of the high points of this month's visitation was the Audubon Convention Field trip which came to the Park in nine buses on November 12. It took all hands of the interpretive staff and the help of the ranger and maintenance staffs but we feel it was a job well done.

Three hundred and nine junior high school children from an all colored school in Miami came to the Park November 22. This was very close to the total Audubon group of 400. Again the rangers gave us assistance directing the buses. The entire group ate lunch in the picnic area at Long Pine Key after their walks and talks at Royal Palm. Chief Park Naturalist Christensen took members of the South Dade Biology class to Seven Mile Tower on November 30.

Demands for off-site talks are increasing. Four audiences were in the 400 to 1200 range. Naturalist Sloane had an interesting experience of giving an off-site talk to a group of blind people.

All members of the staff that could be spared from public contact attended the one day session of the Superintendent's Administrative School.

A very noticable drop in visitation occurred during the weekend of November 22.

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December 1, Mai

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Prom: Chief Ware meteration

Subject: Monthly metrelive report for Monadour, 1962

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SAME WITH THE

Royal Palm Station is now much improved by the efforts of the maintenance division who have painted the museum section of the station, the garbage cans, drinking fountain and benches.

The new shelters on the trails are completed except for the final clean up by the contractor. Maintenance has installed the slough exhibit in the shelter on the Anhinga Trail. Workmanship on these shelters is exceptional. They are an excellent addition to the Park.

The Flamingo naturalists are experiencing a very heavy attendance at their evening programs, with one evening 190 persons trying to get into the room.

Research & Observation

Excellent bird shows are to be found at Coot Bay Pond and Anhinga Trail. Alligators are coming to Royal Palm. The water seems to be dropping very fast.

N. Allendaria de la constante	S. S. SHOULD R. S.	
Programs		
Talks ,	Number	Attendance
Royal Palm	69	2,204
Flamingo .	: 29	2,471
Walks	98	4675
Anhinae	. 39	1,096.
Gumbo Limbo	45	1,062
Flamingo	9	1167
Specials	800	289825
Manned Interpretive Stations	0.5	
	- 41011 20 1 1	7,743
Parachute Key Visitor Center	T means of	
Royal Palm	1-1	13,800
Flamingo	The roots in the	15,585
Self-guiding facilities	. AUCK OR Desiration to	37,120
Anhinga	1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1	75,787
Gumbo Limbo		1 12,160
Pinelands		5,400
Mahogany Hammock		6,300
Mangrove		
		5,400
Pa-hay-okee		6,384
Off-site	12	2,893
Roving Contacts		3,945
		71/3
Total		103,295
		103,233

Officials (Tarior)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
and
FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. O. Box 279
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

December 1, 1963

Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for November, 1963

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

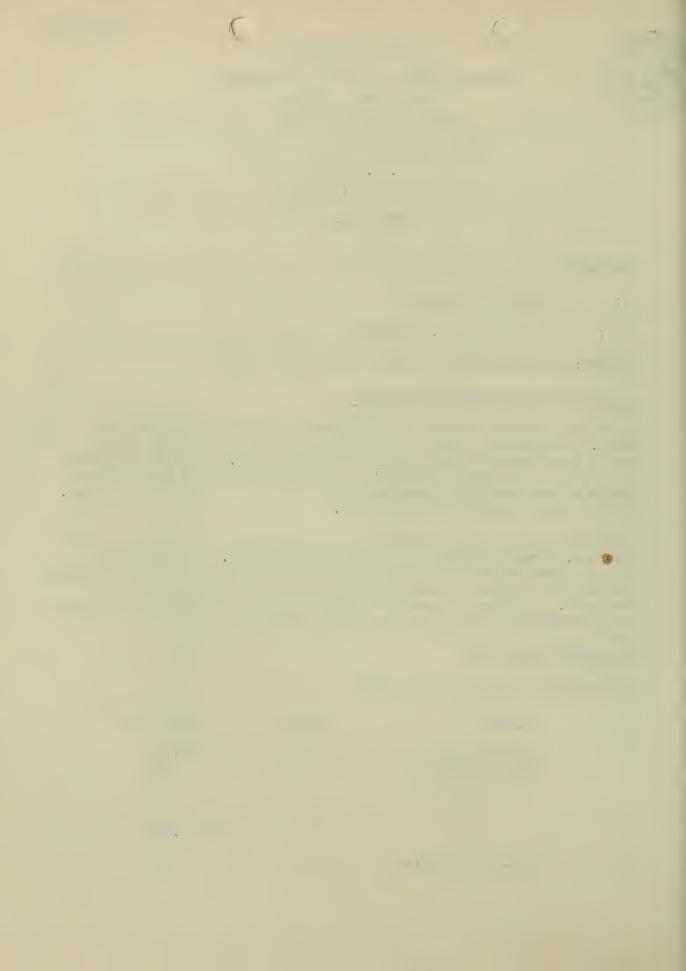
There was a marked increase in attendance at eveniing programs this munth. Attendance figures were triple that of last month and nearly double the attendance for the same month last year. A record attendance of 190 visitors packed the grossly inadequate capacity of the Visitors Lounge on the evening of November 29th during the Thanksgiving holidays. Morning walks also were well attended.

The planters in the lobby outside the museum have been a problem for some time now. Orchids placed on exhibit soon disappear. Glassing in the planters seems to be the only means of preventing the stealing of orchids, however, this cannot be accomplished until the necessary funds become available. An effort is now being made to stock the planters with plants less desirable to collectors, such as bromemulads and cacti.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks Morning Walks Information Desk	2 9 9	2,471 167 630
		Total 3,268
Off-site (Taylor)	2	630



Miscellaneous

The Flamingo naturalists assisted with the successful visit of 10 bus loads of members of the National Audubon Society Convention, during their visit in the park on November 12.

Naturalist Mrazek accompanied Lord and Lady Beadle of S. Rhodesia (guests of the State Dept.) on a tour of Pa-hay-O-kee and Mahogany Hammock on november 5.

Naturalist Taylor presented two off-site programs in Miami during the month.

Naturalist Mrazek participated in the annual Adminstrative Training Conference, presenting the topic "Hilites of our Safety Record and Treatment of Poisonous Plants and Snake Bites".

Research and Observation

Mrazek accompanied Dr. Craighead and several visiting scientists on his inspection tours of hurricane recovery plots on Cape Sable and some of the keys in Florida Bay.

An excellent bird and alligator display developed in the Coot Bay Pond area during the month. Spoonbills and most of our other large wading birds could be seen there with regularity.

Bald eagle nesting activity was observed at the Coot Bay nest and on several of the Florida Bay Keys.

Three white-w inged doves could be seen almost daily feeding in the grass in front of the Visitor Center among the mourhing doves.

Wood storks were seen in fair numbers flying about and feeding in roadside pools for the first time this season.

It was XXXXXXX quite evident by the end of the month that the winter season had arrived.

Vincent J. Mrazek Park Naturalist

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

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January 6, 1964

Memorandum

PARCE N.

To: Superintendent

PROPERTY AND ADDRESS.

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly narrative report for December, 1963

Interpretive Facilities & Services

Heavy increase in travel started with the middle of December and reached a peak during the holidays. At that time facilities and manpower were heavily taxed.

The winter schedule of naturalist activities went into effect December 15 at Flamingo and December 26 at Royal Palm and Long Pine Key.

The programs have been well attended with Flamingo reporting 84% increase on Morning Walks and 75% on Evening Programs.

The parking lot at Royal Palm was jammed several times, but trails were adequate to the load, difficulty being experienced only during the guided walks.

Several large groups came during December. The largest, The Florida Science Study Group, consisting of 120 high school students, plus teachers and amny parents, visited the Park on December 27.

Receipts for the Everglades Natural History Association also took a decided jump during the holiday rush.

Five off-site talks were given during the month to a total of 1276 people.

Regional Naturalist Schultz spent about ten days in the Park discussing plans and looking over the area.

Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen spent one day at Everglades City looking over the area with District Ranger Stokes.

Ranger Cunningham organized the 14th Annual Christmas Bird Count held on December 29. A record of 173 species was established.

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Remover Committee organized the 14th Armed Committees March Court Seld on December 20, A record of 173 ared or one or to blilling.

Metal Photo labels were installed on the Gumbo Limbo Trail. Several new labels were added.

Research & Observation

SALL LANGEST GOZAN

Royal Palm continues to present an excellent bird show, with 'old timers' saying there are more species along the Anhinga Trail now than in previous years.

2,000

The pair of anhingas that raised three young last year across the pond from the station are building again in the same place.

Coot Bay Pond, West Lake and several other ponds along the main road near Flamingo continue to produce an excellent bird show.

Recent flights over the rookery areas and boat patrols indicate no nesting activity.

Visitation

Below are visitor contact figures for the month.

Programs		
Talks	Number	Attendance
Royal Palm	86	4,000
Flamingo	30	3,081
	116	7481
Walks		7501
Anhinga Trail	57	2,544
Gumbo Limbo Trail	42	× 1,795
Flamingo	19	748
	118	5182
Special groups	9	405
Manned Interpretive Stations		,
Parachute Key Visitor Center		13,923
Royal Palm		23,200
Flamingo Information Desk		1,350
		= 4 473
Self guiding facilities		301/
Anhinga Trail		24,400
Curro Limbo Trail		22,300
Pinelands Trail		10,100
Mahogany Hammock		11,800
Pa-hay-okee		10,600
Flamingo Museum		10,050
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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Off-site talks

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Total visitor contacts

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. O. Box 279
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

January 1, 1964

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for December, 1963

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

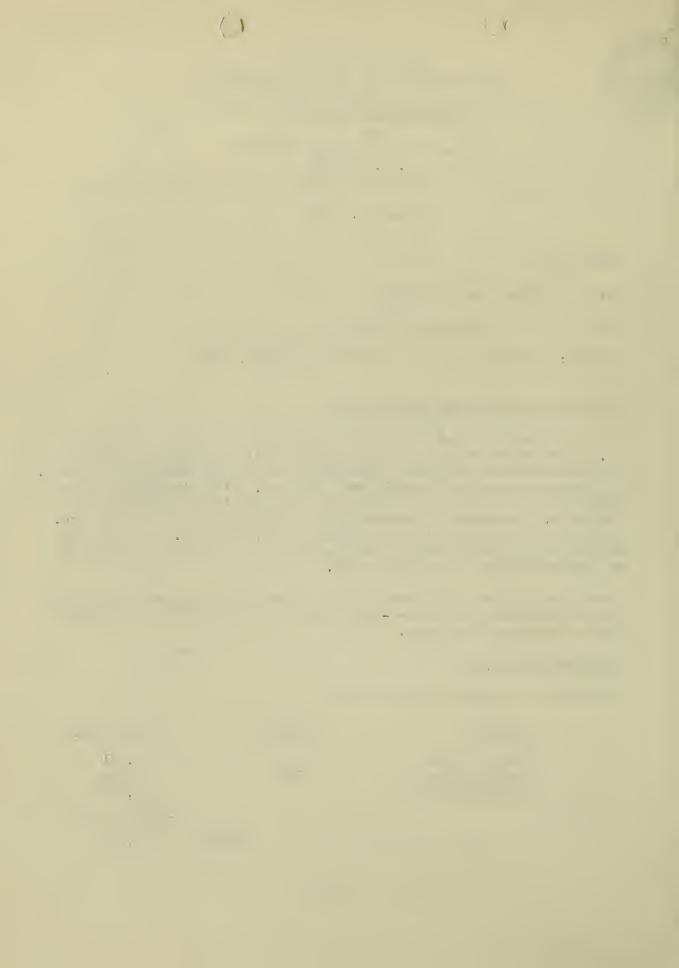
The increased schedules of interpretive programs was begun on December 15. Bayshore walks were conducted daily at 8:30 with the exception of Saturdays when the wilderness hike down the Bear Lake road was conducted. All programs were exceptionally well attended. Facilities and interpretive personnel were taxed to the utmost from December 20th until the end of the month. Attendance at morning walks increased 84% over that of Dec. last year and evening program attendance was 75% higher. It seems that we are having growing pains in all phases of the interpretive programs at Flamingo during the winter season.

Several exploratory trips were made into the Hell's Bay area in planning for the naturalist led boat-a-cade that is to be conducted weekdy each Sunday beginning next month.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks Morning Walks Information Desk	30 19	3,081 748 1,350
	Total	5,179



Miscellaneous

Naturalist Cunningham organized the very successful Christmas bird count that took place on December 29th. A record 17% species of birds were counted in the designated area around Flamingo.

1445

Naturalist Taylor participated in the count around the area of Slagle's Ditch.

Research and Observation

A pair of smooth billed anis were seen in the vicinity of the motel and visitor center during most of the month and were recorded during the Xmas bird count.

The bird show at Coot Bay and surrounding ponds continued to be an attraction for the park visitors during the month. Spoonbills, wood storks and other lærge wading birds could be seen there almost daily.

A trip to East River Rookery on December 16th revealed no nesting activity in the area.

Vincent J. Mrazek
Park Naturalist

* Regional Naturalist Paul Schultz visited the Flamingo area on December 18th and stayed for a period of about 10 days. While here Mr. Schultz attended several of the evening programs and morning walks and offered many helpful suggestions for their improvement.

Mr. Schultz and his family were taken on a boat trip to Key Largo Ranger Station by Naturalist Mrazek and while there the adjoining hammock was inspected from the standpinint of a proposed nature trail in the area.

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

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FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

February 6, 1964 Memorandum

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Subject: Interpretive monthly narrative report - January

Travel while heavy during the last part of December increased in January. The results were reflected in all of the interpretive activities, with all contact points indicating more vis tors than personnel and faculities could satisfactorily handle.

The weekend attendance at the campfire program at Long Pine Key ranged from 250 to 300 per night. Campers here bring their own chairs and completely close the circle, forcing the interpreter to talk with his back to some of the group.

Wednesday evening crowds at the Visitor Center more than fill the available chairs.

Flamingo naturalists report that they continue to experience growding of the "visitors' lounge" where their evening talks are given, with an estimated 50 to 100 turned away on 16 nights of the month. The situation was helped some by the two campfire programs given each week.

Personnel

Naturalist Sloane spent the last week of the month working between Royal Palm and Flamingo in preparation for his transfer of duty station. He will fill in while William Taylor attends the training school at Grand Canyon.

Interpretive facilities & services

Several lift boxes were installed at the Pinelands Trail and at the coontie patch at the main visitor center.

Planning for the Seven Mile Tower area is taking a considerable amount of the Chief Naturalist's time.

Off-site talks continue and one exhibit was made for the Florida Historical Society meeting of January 28.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

MATIENAL MARK DERVICE

Research and observation

Park Biologist William Robertson and Pari Naturalist Haugen spent the 18th through the 21st at Fort Jefferson gathering pictures and data on the oil spill.

The January 15th drop in temperature to below freezing had some interesting effects. Mainly, the hit and miss effect of browning some plants and sparing others of the same kind and relatively same location was noted.

The rookery areas continue to be free of nesting birds with the exception of Cuthbert, which does contain a few cormorants and anhingas.

Visitor contact

On-site services		
Guided Walks	No.	Attendance
Gumbo Limbo	59	1,994 '
Anhinga	37	1,955
Flamingo '	30	645
Specials ,	19	1,209
the accusated and the second		5,805
Talks	Titlian	a something because
Royal Palm Con in the	102	4,080 -
Flamingo	(31)	(4,080)
Campfire & audiovisual	35	2:3:12
Specials	18	1,164
echodring to leading.		430
Roving Contacts		8,783·
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Attended Stations		290
Parachute Key Visitor Center	to the same of the co	14,800-
Royal Palm		
Flamingo		11,850 ←
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Self-guiding devices	account	
Anhinga		24,500 -
Gumbo Limbe		23,7 00 ^c
Pinelands		11,000
Manogany Harmock		12,300
Pa-hay-oxee	STREET, STREET,	12,000
Flamingo Museum	TO SHARE	10,200=
Boat-a-cade	, 0.	5.3022
Boat-a-cade	4	55
Off-site services	2	200
Corrige Organizations	2	(83 -
Service Organizations Other	2	657
other	2	297 -

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		787

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. O. Box 279
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

February 1, 1964

Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From : Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for January, 1964

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

The Visitors Lounge was filled to capacity and beyond on 24 days of the month and after the 15th even standing room was hard to find. This crowded condition is expected to continue and increase for the next two months, especially when the 60 new lodge units are ready for occupancy about Feb. 15th. It is estimated that on 16 nights of the month between 50 and 100 visitors were denied attendance because of crowded conditions in the Visitors Lounge.

Two new interpretive programs were added this month. Campfire programs were given on Friday and Saturday nights. This stretched our manpower scheduling to the utmost, but the campfires did much to alleviate crowded conditions in the Visitors Lounge on those two nights. The programs were well attended and well received. Also a weekly naturalist led Boatacade was started on Sunday, Jan. 5th. The first two tries met with fair success with 1 and 6 boats participating respectively. These were led into the Hell's Bay area where there are many winding mangrove channels but very little wildlife. The next two were more successful when the naturalists took advantage of a good bird show and a basking 10 ft. alligator in lower Joe River.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the Month:

Program	Number		Attendance
Evening Talks Campfire Talks Special Talks Morning Walks Boat-a-cade Information Desk	31 9 5 30 4		4,087 562 226 645 55 1,395
		Total	6,970

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Research and Observation

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Perhaps the most notable and least heartening observation was the absence of nesting activity by wood storks, egrets and herons at the Cuthbert, East River and Rookery Branch rookeries. There were just a few cormorants and anhingas nesting at Cuthbert Rookery.

On the morning of Jan 15th the temperature at Flamingo dropped to a low of 30 degrees and there was ice on the evaporation tank at the weather station and on the windshields of cars. There was some frost damage to the vegetation, notably to the buttonwoods, pisonia vines, morinda and species of morning glory. The damage was not extensive, but rather spotty and most of the affected vegetation is expected to recover.

Vincent J. Mrazek
Park Naturalist

and Liveand, Low Street, Co.

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030 A prospection for the proof of the latest and the formula for

March 4, 1964

Memorandum

Superintendent To:

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From: Chief Park Naturalist

the Visitor Course and Lines

Subject: Interpretive monthly narrative report - February 1964

Travel to Everglades National Park during the month of February exceeded all previous records for a single month with over 100,000 visitors. This heavy travel was reflected in the attendance to all naturalist activities. Significantly, the basic plan of in situ interpretion of the Park, with its built-in visitor dispersal features, has proved the soundness of its planning, as even with record shattering crowds, prolonged congestion anywhere is avoided. Only at the facilities for the Park's evening programs are real difficulties experienced. The frustration of many Park visitors who are turned away from the evening program continues. Additional evening programs scheduled at Flamingo is the form of weekend campfire programs significantly help on the nights when weather is not relement. Shortage of personnel makes it impossible to expand this program.

Attiohisms

At the Entrance Visitor Center, the Wednesday evening programs also had "turn away" crowds. On one evening 187 visitors were crowded in. Poor accoustics in the auditorium prevented further expansion of seating space.

On the last two Sunday afternoons of the month so many visitors were present at Royal Palm by mid-afternoon that conducting scheduled programs proved impossible. Instead, a roving type of personal contact was tried out. This may prove to be a good way to handle peak crowds at this station.

A total of 176,350 visitor contacts was made during the month. Of this number, 26,440 either listened to a Naturalist talk or followed him on a walk.

Personnel

Naturalist William Taylor has been sent to the Horace M. Albright Training Center, Grand Canyon. Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen is attending the Stephen T. Mather Training Center at Harper's Ferry, Seasonal Naturalist Victoria Sullivan was terminated because of the 180 days limitation. Mr. Kelly Motherspaugh has been employed as WAE Naturalist to help out during the season's peak visitation.

Chief Park Naturalist Christensen is teaching a course in the Conservation of Natural Resources. The class of 34 students is taught as an extension

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Subject: Interpretive outhly normative recorders.

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At the Entrance Villian Center, the Wednesday sounded program also des "turn wit crowle. On on eventon 187 miles are crowled in tour ecoupties in the udicorter provented funt or established about a section of

On the last two Standay attornoons of the south so tary visitors were present to Royal Polo by ald-alterson that contact a committee started proved impossible. In said, a rowing ty of patental saids wile color out. This say prove to be specially to what few accounts that services.

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Maturalist William Tylor has been saws to the Morane M. , Whilipe articles Conter, Grand Conyon, Addistant Coles Materalian Manger is etcending the Stephen T. Mither Tribul Center at Marper Force, Second Securalist Victoria sulliven and continued because of the law one limitation, Mr. Lally Metherspace, her been seployed as the Maturalist to belp our during the spacenn's past visitution.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

MALUSKAL BENEFICE

course of the Florida State University.

Tours Inc. Talker Name Les Tilles

Interpretive Facilities and Services
A new Anhinga lift box exhibit was installed along the Anhinga Trail. A prospectus for the painting of the large mural exhibit intended for the Visitor Center was accomplished and copies sent to various artists throughout the state.

Visitor Contacts

A breakdown of the contacts made during the month follows.

Guided Walks Gumbo Limbo Anhinga Flamingo 27	2,741 3,667 697
Talka Royal Palm Flamingo Campfire & Audiovisual Specials 138 29 32 14	6,102 4,707 4,078 672
Rowing Contacts	2.136 / - 4 6 7
Attended Stations Parachute Key Visitor Center Royal Palm Flamingo	14,574 27,720 7 12,000
Self Guiding Devices Anhinga Gumbo Limbo Pinelands Mahogany Hammock Pa-hay-okee Flamingo Museum	25,160 23,970 11,220 9,807 15,000 10,420
Boat-a-cade 4	16 mm 2 139 my 17
Off-site Services Schools 2 Service Organizations 2 Other 2	780 60 118
TV Program	176,350

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

UNITED STATES

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. O. Box 279
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

March 1, 1964

Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for February, 1964

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

The motel accommodations at Flamingo were increased from 60 units to 120 and the additional units were ready for occupancy on Feb. 10 th. The new motel capacity averages about 250 visitors nightly. This combined with about 650 visitors in the campground results in a nightly total of about 900 visitors in the Flamingo area during this busy season. The seating capacity of 120 persons in the Visitors Lounge for presenting evening programs in contrast appears glaringly inadequate at this time of the year.

Campfire programs and weekly Sunday boat-a-cades were continued throughout the month. Visitor turnout for campfire programs was somewhat limited by weather conditions upon several of the scheduled evenings and two campfires were cancelled entirely for that reason this month.

It has/definitely established that a great deal of the participation in the naturalist's boat-a-cades has not been especially for the interpretation presented on these trips. Most participants have either missed the ranger led Saturday boat-a-cade or it had been cancelled because of weather, or they are interested in new fishing areas. Only a few exhibit interest in the interpretation presented on the trips. It must be added, however, that there is not a great deal of wildlife to be seen onthese trips and when the ospreys and eagles have completed their nesting this will be reduced even more.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive Contacts for the Month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks	29	4 , 707
Campfire Talks	7	365

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Interpretive contacts for the month: (cont'd)

Morning walks	27	697
Boat-a-cade	4	39
Information Desk Off Site	2	1,595 258
	Total	7,661

Miscellaneous

Naturalist William M. Taylor left for the Horace M. Albright Training Session at Grand Canyon National Park on Feb. 2nd. He was replaced by Naturalist Bruce C. Sloane from the Royal Palm area.

Naturalist Cunningham gave two off-site programs during the month: one to about 200 tenth grade biology students at Miami High School and one to 58 members of the University Yacht Club at the Homestead Airforce Base Officer's Club.

Naturalist Cunningham accompanied Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Hall, wildlife lecturer, photographer and member of the National Parks Advisory Board on a photography trip to Snake Bight on Feb. 20th and Mr. and Mrs. James Bond, noted ornithologist on a birding trip on Feb. 21st.

Other wisitors of note contacted by interpretive personnel while in the Flamingo area were:

Mr. and Mrs. August Burghard, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Mr. and Mrs. Russ Grader. Head of Harper's Ferry Tra ining School

Mr. Paul Phillips, member of National Parks Advisory Board

Research and Observation

Swallow Tailed Kites arrived on schedule toward the end of the month.

A small cobtonmouth water moceasin was found in the Flamingo campground during the month.

A striped skunk was seen on several occasions in the Paurotis Pond area usually at night.

Two Egyptian geese were observed along the roadside near Paurotis Pand on Feb. 27th. Two also were seen in this area in 1961.

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

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April 7, 1964

Memorandum

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N26

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To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Interpretive monthly narrative report - March 1964

Interpretive Services

March duplicated February in being a record high month for visitor numbers. All interpretive facilities and programs were swamped. Several Sundays, for example, more visitors came to Royal Palm than there was parking space for, and as many as 30% of those who came between 2:00 and 3:00 PM were unable to stop. Since these visitors in all probility came back later, the inadequacy of the parking lot to handle peak loads probably acts favorably as a method of distributing peak visitor loads and prevents congestion of the areas facilities.

All scheduled programs were continued during the month, but because of the poor attendance on the interpretive boat-a-cade, this feature was discontinued at the month's end.

Following is a summary of interpretive contacts made during the month:

Guided Walks	Number	Attendance
Gumbo Limbo	94	3,140
Anhinga	61	4,515
Flamingo	30	494
Specials	12	1,509
Talks		~
Royal Palm	155	7,394
Flamingo	(31)	4,493
Campfires and Audiovisual	34	3,102
Specials	16	1,939
Roving Contacts		2,738
Attended Stations		
Parachute Key Visitor Center		16,724
Royal Palm		25,780
Flamingo		11,160

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Specials	7.7	506-1	
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Royal Palm		100, 20	

Boat-a-cade 25 Auto-a-cade 110 Off-site programs THE INTERIOR Self-guiding Devices 27,170 Anhinga 25,690 Gumbo Limbo 12,200 Pinelands 15,344 Mahogany Hammock 15,800 Pa-hay-okee 10,590 Mangrove 11,240 Flamingo Museum 201,163 Total Visitor Contacts To:

Interpretive Facilities

Interpretting stollers

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Pressure of interpretive services left little time for other naturalist activities. During the month some progress was made on the tree snail exhibit for Royal Palm. The lift exhibit torn apart on the Mangrove Trail was repaired and replaced. Exhibits at Pa-hay-okee were vandalized and the plexiglass covers stolen. These exhibits are in such poor repair that they must be refurbished before they are replaced in the exhibit shelter. Four contract proposals for the mural exhibit for the Visitor Center were submitted and have been forwarded through the Regional Director to the Museum Branch for comments and recommendations.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and Fort Jefferson National Monument P. O. Box 279 Homestead, Florida

April 1, 1964

Memoranddm

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject:

Monthly Narrative Report for March, 1964

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

There was a slight decrease in attendance at interpretive programs this month, but overcrowded conditions in the auditorium existed on 22 evenings of the month. Campfire programs were continued on Friday and Saturday nights with good visitor participation on most of the scheduled evenings. Boat-a-cades were very poorly attended with only 2 boats and 6 persons participating in the 5 scheduled trips during the month.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number		Attendance
Evening Talks Campfire Talks Morning Walks Boat-a-cade Auto-cade Special Talk Information Desk	31 8 30 2 1		4,493 370 494 6 50 25 1,240
		Total	6 678

Miscellaneous

Naturalist Sloane gave a special talk to a group of 25 visitors from the E. Ridge Lutheran Retirement Home at Perrine, Fla. on March Lth.

Naturalist Cunningham conducted an auto-cade with 50 students of the U. of Miami Nature Workshop course on March 8th.

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Research and Observation

The two young eagles from the nest at Coot Bay were flying around by the end of the month.

The good bird shows at Coot Bay pond and the other ponds nearby were about over by the end of the month and a great many of the migratory birds were beginning to leave for points north during the month.

Naturalist Mrazek assisted Dr. Craighead and Glenn Simmons in planting 90 mahogany seedlings at several locations along the Crocodile Point road on March 14th.

Vincent Jarazek Park Naturalist

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MCNUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

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May 11, 1964

Memorandum

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Superintendent To:

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Chief Park Naturalist From:

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Interpretive monthly narrative report - April 1964

Interpretive Services & Facilities

photographer entirings Stilling

Because of the drop in visitation, summer interpretive schedules went into effect April 12. Campfire programs at Long Pine Key and Flamingo and the special Wednesday evening programs at Headquarters were discontinued. The evening programs at Flamingo continue on a nightly basis. Good attendance at these was reported through April 25. The morning nature walk at Flamingo has been curtailed to three a week: Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday at 10:30. THE PERSONS IN COLUMN

The interpretive staff supplied speakers for a number of off-site programs during the month. The film Highlights of the Everglades is being used several times a week by various groups and organizations.

While the general visitation has dropped, we now come into the school field trip season. On most Fridays and Saturdays we have had one to three groups of school children visit the Park.

The liguus snail exhibit has been completed and installed in the exhibit room at Royal Palm.

Below is the tabulations of visitor contacts made during April.

Guided Walks		Number	Attendance
Gumbo Limbo	appropriate for	51	1,425
Anhinga	Laws Child source	41	1,764
Flamingo	Sell I	19	÷ 409 €
Specials		7	522

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May IX, 1966

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LIMITED STATES

Talks	Attendance
Royal Palm 91	3,126
Flamingo 30	(2,543)
Campfires & Audiovisual (11	373
Specials 8	522
Roving contacts	2,052
Attended Stations	
Parachute Key Visitor Center	9,552
Royal Palm	13,212 3
Flamingo	600
* *************************************	
Self-guiding Devices	
Anhinga Trail	13,470
Gumbo Limbo Trail	12,980
Pinelands Trail	9,640
Mahogany Hammock	9,370
Pa-hay-okee	12,480
Mangrove Trail	8,370
Flamingo Museum	8,880
Lightingo Maseam	0,000
Off-site Programs 7	454
OIT-OFFE ITORISMO	434
Total Intermedian Contests April 106/	111,744
Total Interpretive Contacts, April, 1964	111,/44

Research & Observations

On April 11 about 350 birds were observed nesting on Cuthbert Rookery. The majority were common egrets, snowy egrets, cormorants and anhingas. There were about 250 wood storks, but they did not display any nesting activity. On April 24 about 80 storks were observed merely standing around and only one stork nest (with two half grown young in it) was seen. This probably is the only stork's nest in South Florida.

There is also nesting activity on Frank Key where a blue heron's nest was observed containing two blue and one white young. Over 100 roseate spoonbills could be seen roosting daily over the western mangrove fringe of the island.

Personnel

Ranger Naturalist Samuel W. Mendlen was promoted from GS 4, to GS 5.

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to the last three beautiful th

Miscellaneous

Ranger Cunningham accompanied Dr. Shoemaker and 17 students from the U. of Illinois ecology field course to Snake Bight, Bear Lake Road, and Flamingo on April 3.

Among others who were assisted and guided were Dr. Kai Curry-Lindahl and Dr. Leslie Tuck, wildlife photographer Frederick Truslow, and NPS photographer Woodridge Williams

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Personnel

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and
FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. O. Box 279
Homestead, Florida

May 3, 1964

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for April, 1964

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

The summer schedule of naturalist activities went into effect on April 13, however, there was good attendance at evening programs until the 25th of the month when there was the usual seasonal drop in visitation.

Evening campfire programs were discontinued as of the 10th of the month. Boat-a-cades were discontinued because of lack of response and interest in this activity during the months it was scheduled. Morning nature walks were curtailed to 3 a week beginning April 13th. They are now scheduled for Sat. Sun. and Wed. at 10:30 AM. Evening programs are continued on a nightly basis.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks Campfire Talks Mogrning Walks Information Desk	30 2 19	2,543 115 409 600
		Total 3,667

Miscellaneous

Naturalist Cunningham accompanied Dr. Shoemaker and 17 students from the Ecology Field Course of the U. of Illinois to Snake Bight, Beak Lake Road and Flamingo area on April 3rd.

Naturalist Mrazek condukcted Dr. Long and group of 11 plant taxonomy students from U. of South Florida on a field trip in the Long Pine Key area on April 4th.

Mrazek transported and assisted the following on a field trip to E. and N.W. Cape Sable and Shark and Joe Rivers on April 22nd: MPS Thotographer Woodridge Williams, Dr. Leslie Tuck, Biologist, Canadian Wildlife Service, Newfoundland, Canada: and Dr. Kai Curry-Lindahl, ornithologist, Nordiska Museum, Stockholm, Sweden.

Mrazek took Wildlife Photographer Proderick Truslow to Palm Key on April 26 to take his last pictures of the nesting ospreys for the forth roming article in the National Geographic Magazine.

Poth Mrazek and Cunningham spent a great deal of time this month with Drs. Lindahl and Tuck and NPS photographer Williams guiding and assisting them in their work in the park.

Mrazek and Sloane took part in transporting and accompanying Bill Bolte and newspaperman Bischoff and party of 6 others on a trip to Frank Key on April 29th. The purpose was to obtain pictures of bird banding for a story to appear in the Ft. Lauderdale Daily News in May.

Research and Observation

Two trips were made into Cuthbert Rookery: on April 11th Naturalist Mrazek with Chief Naturalist Christensen and Naturalist Zimmer, and on April 24th Naturalist Cunningham and Ranger Castleberry. There were about 600 birds nesting altogether. Mostly Common Egrets, snowy egrets, cormorants and anhingas. On April 24th there were 80 wood storks standing around and only one wood stork nest with two half grown young in it. Probably the only stork's nest in South Florida.

Frank Key was the scene of nesting activity also. Pelicans and cormorants dominated the rookery, but there also were a few nests of common egrets, snowy egrets, La. herons, great white herons and great blue herons. Perhaps the most notable observation was that of a great blue heron's nest containing two blue and one pure white young. This phenomenow has been observed before, but this is the first of such nests to be photographed. Over a hundred roseate spoonbills could be seen daily roosting along the western mangrove fringe of the island.



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT

P. O. BOX 279

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

June 5, 1964 PLONE TONIO CLAP, FL. 1-17-6101

Memorandum

N26

To: Superintendent

Flamingo Museum

MARYTAN DESCRIPTIONS

From: Acting Chief Naturalist

Subject: Monthly narrative report, Interpretive Division, May, 1964

"werail visitor contacts were only about half of last month's total. Evening programs at Flamingo were continued nightly with light visitor attendance. Morning walks there, scheduled for Saturday, Junday and Wednesday showed an increase of 78 people over April. There was an increase also in special groups mostly school groups on field trips, over last month. On May 15 and 16 the portable exhibit was used at the Family Camping Clinic at Owaissa Bauer.

Following is a tabulation of the visitor contacts for the month of May:

Guided Walks	Number	Attendance
Gumbo Limbo	32	704
Anhinga	21	713
Flamingo	12	107
Special	18	1,069
On their 20th Samples Constitution and	Distance of the last	middle was some
Talks		
Royal Palm	54	1,737
Flamingo	(31)	(1,062)
Specials	18	1.069
Matheallah Elmis begen a trioly o	C promotion of the last of	the filmings ages
Roving contacts	to Deliver to 1 to 2	998
		2 3 4
Attended Stations	your tied limiting t	the test of the second
Parachute Key Visitor Center	Me has been been been all a	7.162
Royal Palm		12,000
Flamingo Information Desk		280
Self-guiding Devices	of house arrespond at day	per division where where the
Anhinga	had his begin mostley o	10,430
Gumbo Limbo		9,100
Pinelands		6,750
Mahogany Hammock		5,090
Pa-hay-okee		6,180
Mangrove	or manifestation of year to	5,860
		2,000

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From: Acting Chief Volumellat.

Subject: Mountly natractive report, incomprehe Styleton, Nay, 1944

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Off site programs
Schools (Avocado school) 1 90
Service Organizations
Northwest Hollywood Civic Ass'n 99
Other (Ohio Club, Ft. Lauderdale) 98

Total Visitor Contacts

76,598

Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen returned from Harpers Ferry and Naturalist Taylor returned from Grand Canyon.

On May 19, the interpretive staff strended an all day training session at Park Headquarters.

Naturalist Mrazek began a study of the Plant ecology and plant succession of the recently formed spoil bank offshore from the Flamingo Campground. He and Ranger Cunningham made two trips to study the ecology of the area and to census the Least Tern and Wilson's Plover population.

On May 20 Ranger Holden assisted Cunningham in bird banding operations. However, of over 100 previously counted term nests with eggs the week before, no intact nests or eggs could be found on May 20. Eggs that could be found were broken, and a ground predator, possibly the raccoon was suspected. Three Wilson's Plover young were banded.

On May 20, Rangers Cunningham and Holden observed two adult and one sub-adult American Flamingos fly by heading towards Snake Bight. These three birds are apparently the first observed in the Park since October 1963. Flamingos were also observed at West Lake on May 25, 26, and 27.

Naturalist Sloane began a study of possible trails in the Flamingo area and submitted plans for a trail on Christian Point to Snake Bight.

Ranger Cunningham is revising the Park Bird Checklist to be published as a separate for Park Visitors and in serial form in an ornithological publication. He has recently become the editor for the Florida Region for Audubon Field Notes.

Naturalist Sloane began a study of beach erosion at Cape Sable and made trips to the Cape with Ranger Holden to begin staking and other preliminary work.

Mrs. Ruth Mendlen was promoted from Park Guide, GS 4 to same, GS 5.

The project for the protection from predation of the Iggerhead turtle

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nests was started during the month, with many of the Park staff spending hours on the Cape Sable beach most evenings. Records will be kept on the effectiveness of various repellents and methods of protection.

Robert T. Haugen

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JUN 2 1964
EVERGLADES
NATIONAL PARK

EVERCLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279

P. O. Box 279
Homestead, Florida

June 1, 1964

Memorandum:

To: Chief Park Maturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for May, 1964

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Evening programs were continued nightly with light visitor attendance. There was a slight drop in attendance of 97 people as compared with May of 1963.

Morning walks were scheduled for Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday mornings. The morning walks were well attended. Of the 14 scheduled walks 12 were carried out, showing an increase of 78 people over May of 1963.

Interpretive Services

District Naturalist Mrazek was absent on annual leave for two weeks.

Naturalists Sloane and Cunningham attended a Naturalist Training session at Park Headquarters on May 19.

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number		Attendance
Evening Talks Morning Walks Information Desk	31 12		1,062 107 280
		Total	7 1/1/9

Miscellaneous

Naturalist Sloane began a study of possible trails in the Flamingo area and submitted plans for a trail on Christian Point to Snake Bight.



Research and Observation

Maturalist Sloane began a study of beach erosion at Cape Sable and made trips to the Cape with Ranger Holden to begin staking and other preliminary work.

Naturalist Mrazek began a study of the plant ecology and plant succession of the recently formed spoil bank offshore from the Flamingo Campground.

Naturalists Mrazek and Cunningham made two trips to the Flamingo Campground spoil bank to study the plant ecology of the area and to census the Least Tern and Wilson's Plover population. On May 20 Ranger Holden assisted Naturalist Cunningham in bird banding operations. However, of over 100 previously counted tern nests with eggs the week before, no intact nests or eggs could be found on May 20. Eggs that could be found were broken and a ground predator, possibly the Raccoon, was suspected. Three Wilson's Plover young were banded.

At the Flamingo Campground spoil bank on May 20 Ranger Holden and Naturalist Cunningham observed two adult and one subadult American Flamingos fly by heading towards Snake Bight. These three birds are apparently the first observed in the Park since October, 1963.

On May 18 Park Biologist Robertson met with Park Naturalist Cunningham to discuss research problems of mutual interest and with relation to Everglades National Park.

Naturalist Cunningham is revising the Park Bird Checklist to be published as a separate for Park Visitors and in serial form in an ornithological publication. Naturalist Cunningham has also recently become the editor for the Florida Region for Audubon Field Notes and will be able to reach several thousands of people on information about the birds of the Park.

Richard L. Cunningham

Park Naturalist

• EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

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N26

July 8, 1964

Memorandum

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To: Super intendent

Acting Chief Naturalist From:

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Subject: Monthly narrative report, Interpretive Division, June 1964

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Interpretive Facilities and Services: Travel was only slightly lower than last month. This slump should end and an upward trend start with July if summer travel follows the last year's pattern.

Several off-site talks were given. One was a TV program on WINK, Ft. Myers, Fla. which featured Chief Park Naturalist Christensen. Naturalists Cunningham and Haugen returned from annual leave.

Twelve exhibits were received from the Museum Laboratory for installation on the Anhinga, Gumbo Limbo trails and the wayside shelter at West Lake. The text and drawings for 73 metal photo labels have been completed and the plates ordered.

Naturalists Mrazek and Sloane have started the changing of the labels on the Mangrove self-guiding trail. New signs are being used and the signs now face both directions on road and canal to make them easier to read and also they can be seen from a greater distance.

Vandals have destroyed several lift boxes and have removed several trail labels.

On Sunday, June 21, Mrs. Hayse of the Miami Public Library Tech. Services Division and 26 members of the staff organization, plus lins. Beverly Russell of the Maturalist Division and volunteer helper Mrs. Helen Burroughs took the first step in cataloging and indexing the Park library. The work consisted of writing out order slips for Library of Congress cards for each of the publications in the library. The entire group worked most of the day and Mrs. Burroughs and Mrs. Russell have continued to put in many hours to complete the task. Once the project is complete the library will be much more usable and easier to manage.

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On Bonday, Jone 11, Not. Separate of the Phros Statist Library cost. Surviews States and 25 contemps of the mostly or emission of the States in States Lancouries and the most states of the states and t

Mr. Art Olsen of the Washington Audio Visual Laboratory visited the park on his annual leave. Art took about two and one-half hours of his time to clean and adjust the Bogen units that run the Visitor Center slide program.

DEPARTMENT OF THE HATBAIGH

Research and Observation: Several night trips have been made to Cape Sable area to check on the turtle nesting. Again this year raccoons have destroyed many of the nests.

The insect situation has made the use of many of the trails in the park rather unpleasant.

Following is a tabulation of the visitor contacts for the month of June:

Guided Walks: Num	ber Attenda	ance
	2 501	
- Anhinga 2	4 504	
Flamingo	7 39	
Special	4 207	e Ior
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Talks: The automorphism of the second of the	ala dur	Line White
Royal Palm	8 1,505	and the
Flamingo	0 (742	
Specials	5 244	
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Attending Stations:	77. Let C 4 4 1000	0
Parachute Key Visitor Center	7,916	7
Royal Palm	11,500	
Flamingo Information Desk	310	
Audiovisual	2,63	8 170 1100
Self-Guiding Devices:		
Auhinga and manager and and are	12,000	
Gumbo Limbo	7,000	
Pinelands	5,000	TIE .
Mahogany Hammock	5,000	
Pa-Hay-Okee 1 1 1	6,100	The second secon
Mangrove 'man and in lare	5,000	
Flamingo Museum	7,000	33
Defendance tree		2 3
Off-Site Programs:		
Schools	and to	
Service Organizations	200	120
Ft. Hyers TV Program	35,000	
TOTAL VISITOR CONTACTS	106,709	

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and
FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. 0. Box 279
Homestead, Florida

July 1, 1964

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject:

Monthly Narrative Report for June, 1964

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Attendance at evening programs dropped 31% below the attendance for the same month last year. This has probably been due to the unusually heavy infestation of mosquitoes following deluges of rain during the early part of the month. Participation in morning walks also was discouraged to a great extent by the mosquitoes.

Work has begun on rehabilitating the self-guiding mangroveland nature trails. Missing signs are being replaced and the others repainted and placed in more conspicuous positions with the numbers on each side so that they can be seen when approached from either direction.

Interpretive Services

Naturalist Cunningham was on annual leave for two weeks during the month.

Interpretive Contacts for the Month:

Program	Number		Attendance
Evening Talks	30		742
Morning Walks	7		39
Special Talk	1		35
Information Desk			310
			THE STREET OF THE PROPERTY OF
		mat-7	7 706

Total 1,126

Miscellaneous

Naturalist Mrazek gave a 20 minute talk to a group of 35 Turkish teachers (through an interpreter) on Jume 15th.

Research and Observation

A great deal of emphasis was directed toward the sea turtle nesting on Cape Sable during this time of the year. Several night trips were made to the beach with little success at spotting a nesting turtle. As normally occurs, there has been almost 100% predation on the eggs by raccoons. A program of raccoon removal, (possibly by trapping) shortly before the turtle nesting season next year, should be given serious consideration.

After the torrential rains at the month's start - many birds, including six glossy ibis were seen feeding in the grassy area between the service station and the bridge. Curious as to their food supply, Mrazek waded out to take a look. Several full grown fresh water crawfish were eaught by hand. These creatures must have some method of burrowing and existing beneath the dry marl crust during the winter months - to reappear within a few days after the area floods over.

Vincent J Araze

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

P. O. BOY 279

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

August 5, 1964

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Naturalist

Subject: Monthly narrative report, Interpretive Division, July 1964

Interpretive Facilities and Services: Visitor, have increased over last month although total travel figures show a decrease. This is caused by the 35000 contacts claimed for the T.V. program given in June.

Off-site programs continue to be given by members of the staff and ten special groups came to the Visitor Center and Royal Palm this month.

Forty science teachers studying plant ecology under a National Science Grant at University of South Florida made their second annual field trip to the Park. They were accompanied by Naturalist Mrazek and Collaborator Dr. Craighead.

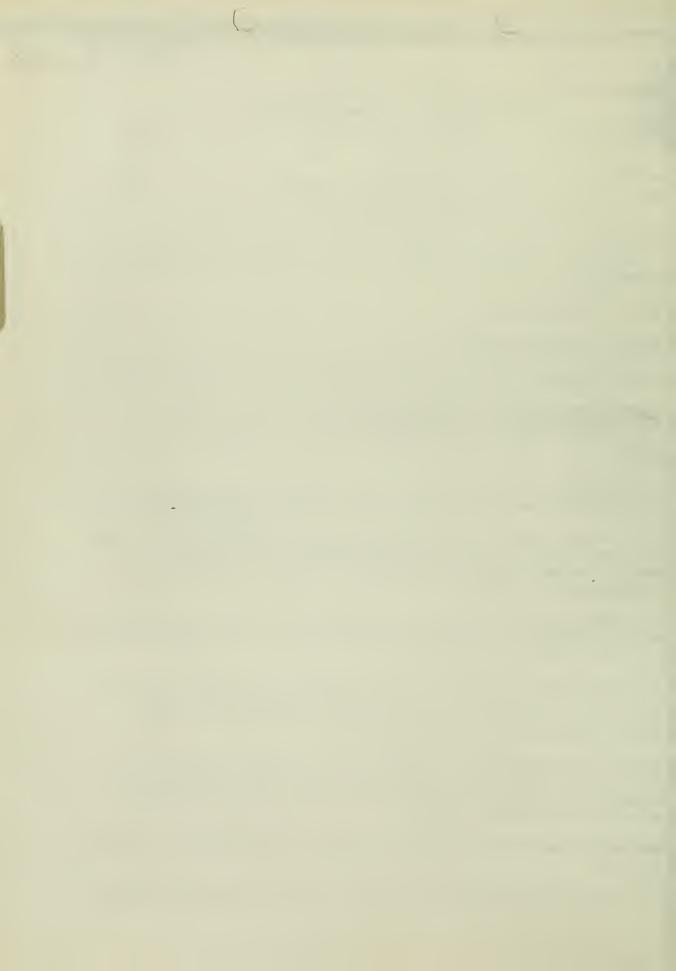
Chief Naturalist Christensen and Naturalist Zimmer spent several days at Fort Jefferson inspecting interpretive facilities and planning for future additional facilities and exhibits.

Ranger-Naturalist Victoria Sullivan resigned and the entire Park staff was sorry to see her leave. Miss Sullivan is taking an extensive trip through the Western United States and in September will enter graduate school at Florida State University.

Research and Observations: Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen went to the White Ibis night roost in Chokoloskee Bay on the concessioner's (Sammy Hamilton) boat. It is without a doubt the finest bird "show" we can offer the summer visitor.

Many White-Crowned Pigeons have been reported in the Flamingo - Florida Bay area.

The water level has dropped very rapidly in Roval Palm area this month.



Following is a tabulation of the visitor contacts for the month of July:

Guided Walks: Gumbo Limbo Anhinga	Mumber 10 51	Attendance
Flamingo Special	11 10	1,428 112 420
Talks: Royal Palm Flamingo	51	2,045
Roving Contacts:	5	1,402
Attending Stations: Parachute Key Visitor Center Reyal Palm		9,613 15,000 601
Flamingo Information Desk Acrolic Viscos! Self-Guiding Devices: Arhinga	I will a little that	3 204
Gumbo Limbo Pinelands Hahogany Hammock	. Date of At 1879	6,800 5,840
Pa-Hay-Okee Hangrove Flamingo Museum	the same of the same of the same	
Off-Site Programs: Schools Service Organizations	1	48 457
TV Program It myers		35,000
Special Lilling	Tital	35,000

Ernst T. Christensen

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and
FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. 0. Box 279
Homestead, Florida

August 2, 1964

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for July, 1964

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Attendance at evening programs continued slightly below that of the corresponding months last year, however, there was an increase in the number of participants for morning walks.

Work continued on the Mangroveland Nature Guide markers during the month. Completion of the project now awaits delivery of aluminum sign plates which have been on order for several weeks.

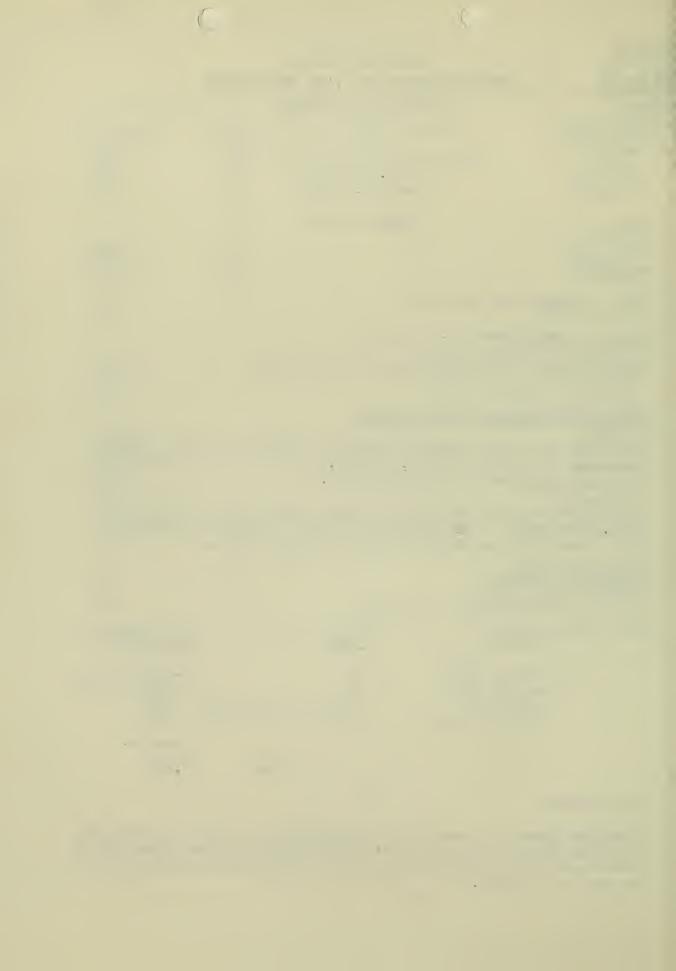
Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number		Attendance
Evening Talks Morning Walks Special Walk Information Desk	31 11 1		1,240 112 40 601
			Article - November and resident and resident (
		Total	1.993

Miscellaneous

Naturalist Mrazek accompanied Dr. Craighead and a charter bus group of 40 science teachers who are studying plant ecology at the University of South Florida on a inspection tour of the various plant communities of the park on July 28th.



Research and Observation

Naturalist Cunningham is working on the preparation of material for a forthcoming publication on birds of the park.

A pair of night hawks raised their two young along the road shoulder near the Flamingo bridge in the face of dangers from motor vehicles and predation by bob cats and racoons. The eggs hatched on July 2nd. Cunningham banded both young on July 10th and on July 25th one of the young was found dead in the road near the nesting site. Apparently it had just begun to fly and was hit by a passing automobile.

Many White Growned Pigeons were observed flying over the road in the vicinity of Nine Mile Bond from July 9th through the end of the month.

The East River Rookery was visited by the Flamingo naturalists on July 19th with no nesting of any kind observed.

Vincent J. Mrazek Park Naturalist



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

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FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

September 8, 1964

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Memorandum

Superintendent To: religious is the talebaries of wishout surjects for expect.

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Acting Chief Naturalist

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Monthly narrative report, Interpretive Division - August 1964

Interpretive Facilities & Planning

A meeting was held August 19 with Regional Naturalist Schultz, Regional staff member Squiers, Superintendent Joseph, Assistant Superintendent Burroughs, Chief Park Naturalist Christensen, and Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen attending to discuss the revaluation of the entire interpretive plan for Everglades.

A meeting was held about the Shark Valley Loop Abad. It was decided that signs would be produced from Park funds by Park personnel to provide interim interpretation for that area. Chief Naturalist Christensen and Naturalist Zimmer have been hard at work on this project.

Interpretive facilities were closed the afternoon of August 26 to permit personnel to secure the stations for protection from hurricane Cleo. Personnel were excused to go home upon the completion of the yellow alert preparations. All were on duty the following morning and the Visitor Center, Royal Palm, and Flamingo provided their regular programs.

Mrs. Mendlen has completed the project of putting all the slides in the slide library into plastic slide protectors. 2,754 6,000.

PERSONNEL

10 Carpowe

The Chief Naturalist left August 31 on annual leave. The naturalist secretary, Mrs. Russel was on annual leave at Fort Jefferson the early part of the month. Naturalist Zimmer started her annual leave August 12 to visit with her mother some of the western parks. Mr. John Leppert, a local teacher, was added to the interpretive staff on a WAE appointment. Seasonal Park Naturalist Sam Mendlen completed his season with the Park and is now on furlough.

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To: uperintendert

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Subject: Nouthly nairet we report, Interpretive of the out of August 1944

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Water Day of the Control

Research & Observation

Naturalist Sloane submitted his plan of study on the Cape Sable erosion research project. The first Marsh Hawk of the season was seen near the Flamingo bridge on August 25.

Interpretive Services

Gustio Visual

Following is the tabulation of visitor contacts for August.

Guided Walks	Number	Attendence
q Gimbo Limbo Tr	eil 44	1,261
Anhinga Trail	17	535
Flamingo	12	203
Specials	2	200
Talks	MILITIAN IN PLEASE	
Royal Palm	Ule 41 61	1,994
P1 and man	190:	(10152)
Specials	2 7 5 . 7 7	200 to
Roving Contacts	sions were made by as	1,565
Attended Stations	ra beourding the soon	seales necessaries for to
Parachute Key	Visitor Conter	8 631
Royal Palm	2 Company of the Comp	•
Flamingo Infor		465
Self Guiding Devic	es .	
Anhinga Trail		15,300
Gumbo Limbo	ontacts in the small	13,000
T THO TWENT		7,200
Mahogany Hammo	P	5,348
Pa-hay-okee		5,866
Mangrove Flamingo Museu	union Talle	6,000
r ramingo museu	era de lastice	3,768
	Porceti on Beek	47
1 1		81,892

2,877 The one off-site program was given to the South Miemi Rotary Club. There were visitors from 26 foreign countries and 44 states. Visitation was approximately 15% less this month over last (visitor contacts).

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Naturalist Sloame Demitt of the control of the specific to the first the first control of the bridge on Aunt 5.

Interpretive Ourview

Following is the tabulation or visit I secure for August.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279 Homestead, Florida

September 1, 1964

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for August, 1964

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Visitor use of the area and attendance at interpretive programs was below normal for the month. Heavy mosquito infestations, hot, humid weather and the threat of Hurricane "Cleo" acted as deterrents to enjoyable park use.

Several discussions were held by interpretive personnel both at Flamingo and Headquarters regarding the scope of interpretive programs for the coming winter season at Flamingo. It was generally agreed that with no increase in personnel, programs would essentially be the same as last year.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number		Attendance
Evening Talks Morning Walks Information Desk	28 12		1,156 103 465
		Total	1.72/1

Research and Observation

Naturalist Sloane submitted his study plan for the Cape Sable beach erosion research project.

The first Marsh Hawk pf the season was seen near the Flamingo bridge on August 25th.

Migrating barn swallows have been moving through the park area for several weeks.

An epidemic of stinkbugs invaded the Flamingo area this month. They are somewhat of a nuisance at times with their offensive odor, especially when squashed by hand or underfoot.

Vincent J. Mrazek Park Naturalist

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

ACCRECATION &

October 7, 1964

Memorandum

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Superintendent To:

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section of Persons

Chief Park Naturalist From:

Subject: Monthly narrative report, Division of Interpretation - September

Although overall Park travel was up again this month, the sharp rise in the mosquitoes in the middle of the month cut down the number of interpretive contacts this month. This drop is reflected mostly in the conducted wolks. People would arrive and even start some of the programs, but give up in spite of the protection offered by repellents.

A temporary reduction in manpower at Flamingo has forced a cutback in the number of interpretive services offered the visitor. A similar situation takes place at Royal Palm during the morning and afternoon talk and walk. At this time, the window at the information desk has been closed during the slowest days of the week.

Considerable time is still being spent on the materials that are to go to the Shark Valley Loop Road. Six exhibits were prepared for printing. These will be used in "lift" boxes.

District Naturalist Mrazek left September 23 for the two month interpreter's training course at Stephen T. Mather Training Center, Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. Naturalist Cunningham is Acting District Naturalist during his absence.

Park Naturalist Taylor was on a two weeks duty a WASO working as Biology Editor in the Publications Section. His transfer has since come through, and he left close of business October 5.

Metalphoto labels were installed on Mangrove Trail to replace laminated labels which do not hold up in the sun.

Considerable time has been given to overall interpretive problems of the coming season and the rewriting of the Master Plan, Chapter Three.

Two thousand hatchling green turles were released in Florida Bay on September 26. This is a continuation of the project commenced last year in cooperation with Dr. Carr of the University of Florida.

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Following is a tabulation of the visitor contacts made this month:

Guided Walks		made this month:
Anhinga Trail	Number	
Gumbo Limbo	28	Attendance
Flamingo	8	388
Specials	5	74
SPECIALS	4	226
Talks	•	49
Royal Palm		
Flamingo	35	
Specials	25	496
	4	345
Roving Contacts		49
Attended Stations		401
Parachute Vo		
Parachute Key Visitor Ce Royal Palm	enter	
		3961
Flamingo Information Des	k	1007
Self-guided Devices		310
Anhinga Trail		
Gumbo Limbo Trail		
Pinelands Trail		4000
Pa-hay-okee		6000
Manage Manage		6000
Mangrove Trail		4277
Flamingo museum		5000
ff-site		7000
orfe.	1	. 550
_		20
Total interpretive	Contents	
1 0		42108
Custivesural		
		1,320

Ernst T. Christensen





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279 Homestead, Florida

October 2, 1964

Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist Sloane

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for September, 1964, Flamingo

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Visitation dropped sharply, as is to be expected during this month. However, attendance was still far above that for September, 1963, and topped the all time September high of 1962 by about one per cent. Attendance was heavier during the first half of the month; in part this was caused by seasonal factors, but the appearance of an astounding number of mosquitoes around the middle of the month no doubt had a deleterious effect on travel. Evening programs were cancelled for three nights in a row because of lack of attendance. The morning walks were very poorly attended: seven out of the 12 scheduled walks were no-shows.

The last week of the month programs were cut back because of a temporary reduction in available manpower. Wednesday morning walks and Sunday evening talks were eliminated. At present, morning walks are held Saturdays and Sundays; evening programs are conducted six nights a week.

Interpretive Services

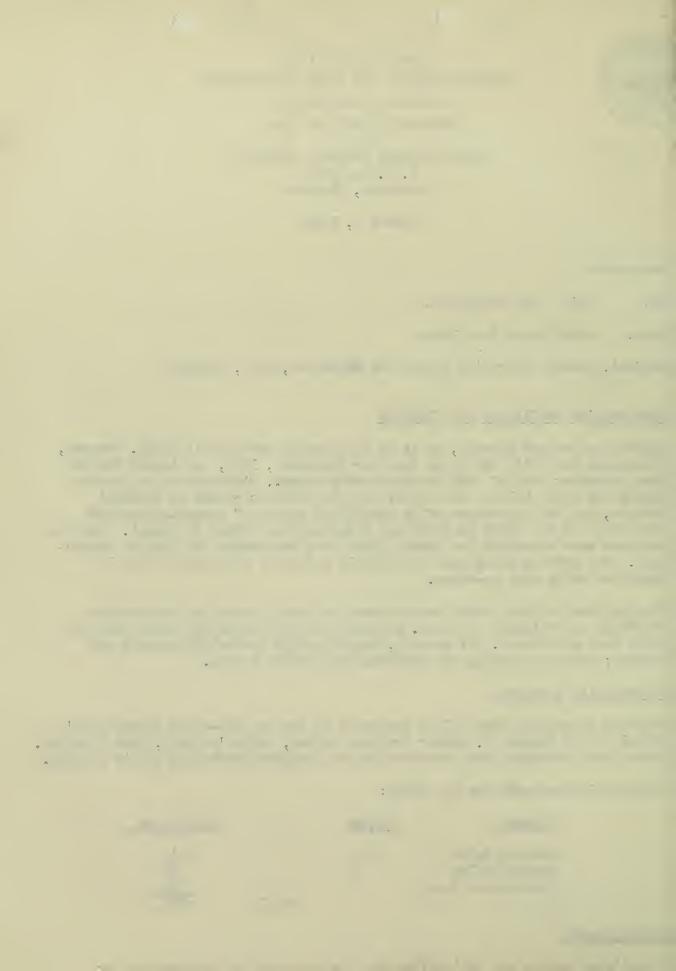
District Naturalist Mrazek left September 23 for the two-month interpreter's school at the Stephen T. Mather Training Center, Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. Naturalist Cunningham was appointed Acting District Naturalist in his absence.

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number		Attendance
Evening Talks	25		345
Morning Walks	5		26
Information Desk			310
		Total	681

Miscellaneous

A mistletoe cactus was stolen from the planter outside the museum on or



September 25.

On September 8 a Green Alert was called for Hurricane Dora, but cancelled the next day as the storm moved north.

Two bird feeders were built by Naturalists Cunningham and Sloane and Ranger Holden; these will be used during the winter in the Flamingo area.

Research and Observations

About 2,000 hatchling green sea turtles received by air from Archie Carr's hatchery in Honduras were released in Florida Bay on September 26-27. The Chief Park Naturalist was assisted in this operation by Naturalists Zimmer and Sloane and Ranger Holden.

Representative marine life samples caught by the Institute of Marine Science in their study nets beneath the Button Canal bridge were presented to the Park.

Mosquitoes have been the most numerous forms of wildlife present. A combination of fair amounts of rain, abundant flows of water through the mangrove country from the everglades, and extra high tides around the autumn equinox helped by strong off-shore winds have provided near ideal conditions for the breeding of saltmarsh mosquitoes.

Naturalist Cunningham conducted several field trips in the Flamingo area in connection with research on fall bird migration in the Cape Sable region.

Bruce C. Sloane Park Naturalist

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

November 3, 1964

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly narrative report, Division of Interpretation - October 1964

The rains produced by the October storms raised the water levels in the Park and will serve to bring about the normal Fall accumulation and concentration of aquatic life in the permanent water holes. Water passing through the culverts is loaded with the smaller fish such as gambusia, etc.

The passage of Hurricane Isbell across the western and northern areas of the Park seemed to have had little effect on the Flamingo and Royal Palm areas. Many of the trees along Bear Lake and Snake Bight Roads, killed by Hurricane Donna and still standing, were either blown down or had branches broken off. No destruction of wildlife or displacement of pelagic birds was noted.

During the recent Fall migration, Naturalist Cunningham added three new species of birds to the Park list - Wilson's Phalarope, Philadelphis Vireo, and Chestnut-sided Warbler.

Quite a number and variety of birds are in evidence along the Park road and in the Taylor Slough area.

During the month, work progressed on exhibit material as well as on signs and markers to be installed along the Shark Valley Loop Road. Two lift exhibits were refurbished and reinstalled on the trails. Exhibits for the Gumbo Limbo and Anhinga Trails are being readied for installation as are the refurbished exhibits for Pa-hay-okee.

Interpretive Services

While there was an increase in Park use, it did not reach the level anticipated. This was due in part to the hurricane and the easterly wave. The rains also precipitated a new brood of mosquitoes which made the Gumbo Limbo and Mahogany Hammock pretty uninviting.

Naturalist Mrazek was absent the entire month on annual leave and attending the Stephen T. Mather Training Center. Naturalist Sloane was on annual leave for three weeks; thus the interpretive programs at Flamingo had to be curtailed to some degree. Naturalist Cunningham served as Acting District Naturalist during this time.

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Following is a tabulation of visitor contacts for October:

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Guided Walks	Number	Attendance
Anhinga Trail	49	878
Gumbo Limbo	0	0
Flamingo	8	96
Specials	3	140
Talks		
Royal Palm	49	877
Flamingo	17	767
Specials	4	190
obectare	- T	270
Roving Contacts		600
CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF		
Attended Stations		
Parachute Key Visitor Center	r	5116
Royal Palm		2621
Flamingo Information Desk		420
AND ROOM OF STREET, AS IN IN CO.		No. would not be
Self-guiding Facilities		Min. Ramspall Land
Anhinga Trail		8320
Gumbo Limbo Trail		6000
Pinelands		6960
Pa-hay-okee		4600
Mangrove Trail		5900
Mahogany Hammock		3380
Flamingo Museum		8100
Mangroveland Trail Leaflet		1200
Off-site Programs	4	678
VII-bite II Oglamo	"	070
Total Visitor Contacts		56843
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Ernst T. Christensen

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. Box 279 Homestead, Florida

November 1, 1964

Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report, October, 1964

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Interpretive programs were necessarily reduced during the month due to periods of absence of both District Naturalist Mrazek and Naturalist Sloane. However, even with this reduced schedule the overall attendance at interpretive programs was higher for the month than for October 1963. Even though there were nine less evening talks than in 1963 the total attendance was higher by 39 people. Three more morning walks were given than in 1963 with an increase in attendance of 34 people.

With the absence of District Naturalist Mrazek evening programs were held nightly except for Sundays; morning walks were scheduled for Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday. During the three week absence of Naturalist Sloane evening programs were given only on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday nights; morning walks were scheduled only for Saturdays and Sundays.

Hurricane Isbell passed across the Gulf side of the Park near Everglades City on October 14. No Park visitors were allowed in the Flamingo area on that date.

Interpretive Services

District Naturalist Mrazek was absent the entire month attending the Stephen T. Mather Training Center. Naturalist Sloane was absent on annual leave for three weeks. Naturalist Cunningham officially joined the Naturalist Division during the month and was Acting District Naturalist until the return of Vince Mrazek.

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Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number		Attendance
Evening Talks	17		767
Morning Walks	8		96
Special Talks	1		50
Information Desk			420
7/14/20-1 (1-1)	1 - 3	Total	1,333

Miscellaneous

The passage of Hurricane Isbell across the western and northern areas of Everglades National Park seemed to have had little effect upon the vegetation and wildlife in the Flamingo area. Naturalist Cunningham spent several hours in the field on several days following the storm investigating possible affects. Many trees, mostly mangroves although several hammock treex along Bear Lake and Snake Bight Roads, were either blown down or branches broken off. The majority of these trees had been killed by Hurricane Donna in 1960 and were still standing prior to Hurricane Isbell. I found no evidence of wildlife destruction in the area, nor any displacement of pelagic birds into the area.

Naturalist Cunningham began organization for the Coot Bay Christmas Bird Count to be held on December 27, 1964.

Naturalist Cunningham conducted a Dr. Williams, a viriologist and ornithologist with the government of Uganda, through the area on two days with field trips to Snake Bight and other areas. Dr. Chamberlain of the U.S. Public Health Service accompanied us frequently.

Naturalist Cunningham gave a special talk and auto-cade on October 31 for about 50 Dade County biology teachers who were studying under the auspices of the National Science Foundation.

Research and Observation

Naturalist Cunningham continued his field research work on bird migration in the Flamingo-Cape Sable area. Some very significant data are being obtained for this area which is of ornithological importance to the state of Florida. Results of these findings are being published in Audubon Field Notes for which Naturalist Cunningham has been appointed an editor for the Florida Region. The spring migration issue (August, 1964) discussed the discovery of the possiblity of a coastal hiatus for the Flamingo-Cape Sable area. Field research for the fall migration periods of 1963-64 has disclosed another significant migration theory - an eastward directional flight of diurnal migrants along the coastline. This will be reported in the February, 1965, issue of Audubon Field Notes. Reprints of published material have been sent to the Naturalist Office in care of Park Biologist Robertson.

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 During the recent fall migration Naturalist Cunningham added three new species of birds to the Park list (Wilson's Phalarope, Philadelphia Vireo, and Chestnut-sided Warbler) and observed several other species of rare occurrence in the Park. Continued field work in the Flamingo-Cape Sable area has made many extremely significant contributions to the knowledge of the ornithology of Evergldes National Park and the overall knowledge of Park birds is increasing at a rather rapid rate.

Richard L. Cunningham

Park Naturalist

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. O. BOX 279
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

December 10, 1964

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly narrative report, Interpretive Division, November 1964

During the month interpretive material for the Shark Valley Loop Road have been constructed in the naturalist workshop. These consist of roadside markers cued to an information leaflet, lift box exhibits, and road signs.

An arrangement has been made with the Miami Museum of Natural Science whereby they will make study skins of road killed animals for the study collection in exchange for the long term loan of such materials that are in excess of Park needs. This will make it possible to catch up on the back log of skins needing preparation.

Interpretive Services

A number of groups - school groups, boy scouts, girl scouts - visited the Park in November.

The Air Stream Trailerites had a rally in Homestead and groups from this came out to the Park off and on for about a week. Three of these days there were several groups scheduled each day.

Naturalist Cunningham led a special autocade and bird walk for 45 members of the Tropical Audubon Society from Miami.

The Geological Society of America held a convention in Miami and scheduled several field trips into the Park. Naturalist Sloane was on several of these and gave a special talk to approximately 40 members of the Society. Quite a few of the members and their wives made additional unofficial visits to the Park.

On November 27, there was an estimated 250 people attending the evening program at Flamingo. This is of course, far more people than the small room should hold - people were sitting on the floors and standing outside looking in.

Chief Naturalist Christensen and Assistant Cheif Naturalist Haugen gave several talks in the Miami area.

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The monthly travel figures for the Park during November, 1964 show an increase of 13% over the same month last year. However, participation in regularly scheduled interpretive programs is somewhat lower than November of 1963. In analyzing this, several factors should be considered: First of all, over-all travel counts include laborers at the missle site in the Hole-in-the-Donut; construction workers driving back and forth from Flamingo add to the total, and a larger number of hunters on their way to the Hole-in-the-Donut add their numbers to the total. The nuisance of misquitos produced by Fall rains have discouraged Park use, and finally personnel shortages and the need to divert some of the interpretive energies toward the preparation of interpretive material for the Shark Valley Loop Road have made it necessary to reduce the number of public contact personnel. Most of these factors will terminate soon and the number of interpretive contacts will increase markedly during the coming month.

A summary of the interpretive contacts for the month follows:

Guided Walks	Number	Attendance
Gumbo Limbo	2	29
Anhinga	54	1465
Flamingo	11	237
Specials	9	440
Calks		
Royal Palm	58	1572
Flamingo	25_	2125
Specials	1	40
Autocade	1	45
Loving Contacts		82 0
elf Guiding Device:	3	
Anhinga		16000
Cumbo Limbo		15000
Pinelands		6102
Mahogany Harmock		5533
Pa-hay-ohee		6541
Mangrove		4000
Flamingo		17600
ttended Stations		
- Parachute Key Visi	itor Center	7160
· Royal Palm		14214
Flamingo Informat:	ion Desk	540
ff Site Programs	8	1071
otal		100,534
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Research and Observations Water is dropping at Royal Palm and wildlife is beginning to gather along the Anhinga trail.

At Coot Bay Pond there is an excellent bird and alligator show. Roseate Spoonbills and several of other wading birds, including Redish egrets, can be viewed from the road. A great many Park visitors have been able to photo and view these birds at a very close range. Also there is a Bald Eagle nest visible from the road at Coot Bay Pond. On West Lake There are a number of coots, ducks, teals, red-heads, and canvas backs.

Naturalist Cunningham reports a new bird species for the Park bird list. A gannet was seen on Sandy Key on November 23.

Miscellaneous Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen taught first aid courses during the month and spent several Monday evenings training the Ranger Aides for the coming winter season.

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Ernet T. Christensen

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. 0. Box 279 Homestead, Florida

December 1, 1964

Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report, November, 1964

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

As to be expected for the time of year visitation increased as the month progressed. Morning walks and evening programs were generally well attended. On the night of November 27 Naturalist Sloane estimated a crowd of 250 people attending the evening program, many of the people sitting on the floor or standing up. To my knowledge this is possibly the largest single audience for an evening Naturalist program at Flamingo. Because there were no Sunday night programs overall attendance was down about 346 people from November 1963. However, two more morning walks were given than for November 1963, with an increase of 70 people.

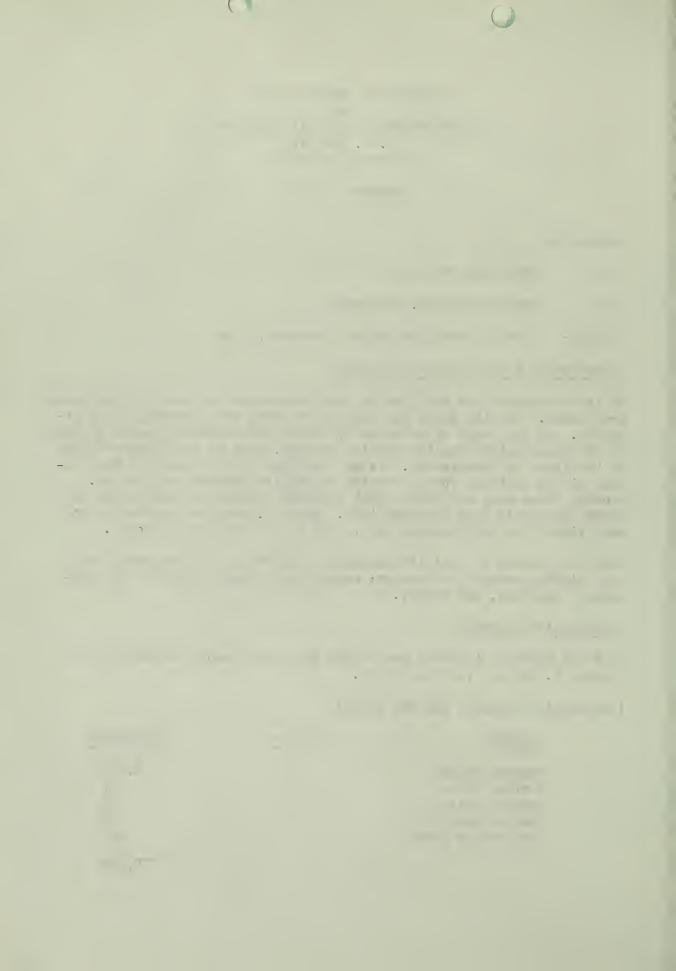
With the absence of District Naturalist Mrazek evening programs were held nightly except for Sundays; morning walks were scheduled for Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Interpretive Services

District Naturalist Mrazek was absent the entire month attending the Stephen T. Mather Training Center.

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks Morning Walks Special Talk	25 11 1	2,125 237 40
Special Autocade Information Desk	1	45 540
		2,987



Miscellaneous

During the week beginning November 16 the Geological Society of America, while holding a convention in Miami, made several field trips into the Park and were assisted on some trips by Naturalist Sloane. On November 17 Naturalist Sloane gave a special talk to about 40 members of the G.S.A. From November 19-21 Naturalist Sloane attended meetings of the G.S.A. in Miami.

Naturalist Cunningham led a special autocade and bird walk for 45 members of the Tropical Audubon Society from Miami. The trip was a great success as it was the largest number to attend a T.A.S. field trip this year. Plans were discussed to hold another field trip to Flamingo next April.

Research and Observation

An excellent display of birds and alligators began during the month at Coot Bay Pond. Roseate Spoonbills, mostly adults, and several other species of wading birds could be seen there daily, including a Reddish Egret. Also, large numbers of ducks (including Redheads and Canvasbacks) and Coots were to be seen at West Lake Pond.

The Bald Eagle's nest at Coot Bay Pond was active and the adults could be seen daily; actions of the sttting bird indicated eggs or very small young.

Naturalist Cunningham observed another new bird species for the Park list when a Gannet was seen about one mile northwest of Sandy Key on November 23. Up to 12 White-winged Doves (the largest*I have ever seen in Florida) could be seen daily at Christian Point. Four Am. Avocet were seen at the new sewage ponds in the new Flamingo Campground on November 30.

Richard L. Cunningham Park Naturalist

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The second of the last EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

THE RESERVE TO A REAL PROPERTY. January 6, 1965

Superintendent To:

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly narrative report, Division of Interpretation - December 1964

Interpretive Facilities & Services
Visitation during the Christmas week (December 25 - 31) was extremely high. During this time, personnel was spread very thinly to provide the services expected by the visitors to Everglades National Park. At the Visitor Center approximately 9,618 people were contacted at the desk, viewed the exhibits, and about 3,206 saw the orientational slide program.

At Royal Palm 3,158 visitors attended the talks and 2,965 went on the guided walks. Personal contact with about 1,630 people was made along the wall in back of the station, and about 4,720 people went through the

At Flaming the evening program was doubled starting December 29 and for the last three days of the month approximately 1000 visitors attended these programs. The programs naturally had to be shortened to save the voice of the naturalist giving both programs and to allow the auditorium to be emptied and aired before refilling and to complete the programs in the two hours alloted.

During the month a number of school groups and scout groups visited the Park, and in many instances because of the shortage of personnel had to be scheduled with the regular walk and talk instead of having a special program as is much more desirable.

Last year five walks and five talks were offered daily at Royal Palm on the winter schedule. However, this year, because of this shortage, we have had to delete one talk and one walk, having only two walks on the Gumbo Limbo and Anhinga trails each and four talks.

At Flamingo, the morning nature walk went on a daily basis December 26.

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The project of installing metalphoto labels on all the Park's interpretive trails was completed this month. The signs and interpretive devices for the Shark Valley Loop Road are completed also and are ready to be installed.

Assistant Chief Haugen assisted in the judging of social science projects for the Dade County School System in Miami December 6 and 7. On December 30 he conducted the Ranger Aids on a field trip to the Shark Valley Tower.

Other off-site services included talks to the Kiwanis Club of Miami Beach, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Herpetological Society and the Redland Junior High School.

Research & Observation

Naturalist Cunningham directed the annual Coot Bay Christmas Bird count this year. A total of 174 species set a new record for the count, as did the total attendance of 86 observers (representing 8 states and two foreign countries - England and Canada). Without a doubt, this was the most successful of all previous Coot Bay Counts.

Miscellaneous

The Everglades Natural History Association held their annual meeting following a field trip to the Shark Valley Tower on December 12. The Florida Science Study Group under the direction of Mrs. Doris Timpano were in the Flamingo area December 27 and 28. Special programs were given on both nights. A number of special visitors were assisted, among them were Senator & Mrs. Spessard Holland, Mr. & Mrs. B.G.E. St. Aubyn (she is Assistant to the Secretary General of Jamaica). Naturalist Sloane accompanied the Whitewater Bay Sightseeing boat on December 5. He and Naturalist Cunningham made suggestions for improving the interpretation on this trip. Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen conducted the Standard First Aid Course for members of the Protection Division.

Attached is a statistical summary of the visitor contacts for the month.

Ernst T. Christensen Chief Park Naturalist The property of the state of th

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Guided Walks Gumbo Limbo Trail Anhinga Trail Flamingo Specials	Number 30 58 16 9	Attendance 1,626 2,704 610 649
Talks		
Royal Palm	86	4,625
Flamingo	30	3,742
Roving Contacts		3,475
Self Guided Devices		
Anhinga Trail		28,792
Gumbo Limbo Trail		26,324
Pinelands Trail	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	11,918
Mahogany Hammock		9,908
Pa-hay-okee		10,552_
Flamingo Museum		11,859
4 me 100		8. Hw
Attended Stations		
Parachute Key Visitor	Center	15,331
Royal Palm		5,990
Flamingo Information	Desk	1,500
Off-site Programs	5	669
Audio Visual		5,110
Campfire Programs	4	432
	Total	145,816

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and
FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. 0. Box 279
Homestead, Florida

January 1, 1965

Memorandum

To: Ch

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Reprot, December, 1964

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

The winter season schedule began on Monday, December 28. Visitation was extremely heavy the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. Attendance for the evening Naturalist's talks set a new all time high for December. In order to try to cope with the overcrowded conditions at these programs, and because many people could not attend for lack of space, two evening programs were held nightly begginning on December 29. Estimated attendance for the three nights of December 29, 30, and 31, was estimated at 1000 people (over one-fourth the total attendance for the whole month).

Up until December 26, the morning Naturalist walks were held on Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesdays.

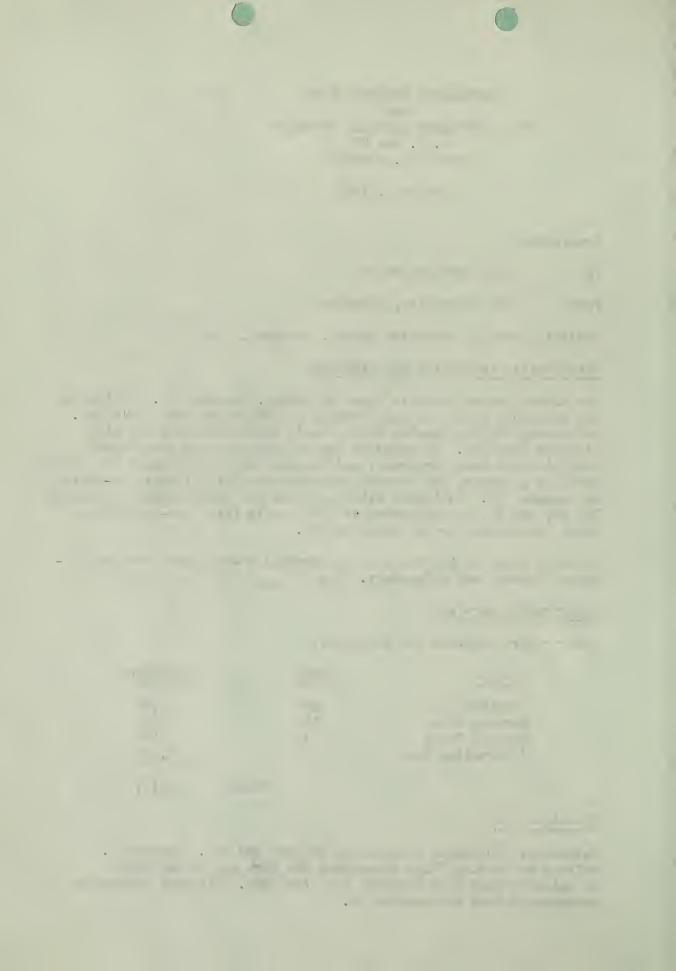
Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks Morning Walks Special Talks Information Desk	30 16 3	3,742 610 255 1,500
	Tot	tal 6,107

Miscellaneous

Naturalist Cunningham accompanied Senator and Mrs. Spessard L. Holland on birding trips throughout the Park and to Key Largo on dates ranging from December 8 to the 19th. District Naturalist accompanied them on December 16.



Naturalist Cunningham accompanied Mr. and Mrs. B. G. E. St. Aubyn to Coot Bay Pond on December 20. Mrs. St. Aubyn is the assistant to the Secretary General of Jamaica.

On December 27 and 28 Mrs. Doris Timpano's Florida Science Study group stayed overnight at Flamingo. A talk was given by Naturalist Sloane to the 120 students on the night of December 27, and on the following evening Naturalist Cunningham led a question and answer discussion on the ecology of Everglades National Park.

Naturalist Sloane accompanied the Whitewater Bay sightseeing boat trip on December 5 and both he and Naturalist Cunningham made suggestions to the EPC on improving visitor interpretation.

District Naturalist Mrazek accompanied Park Biologist Robertson and engineers of the U.S. Corps of Engineers to Lake Ingraham and Cape Sable.

Naturalists Mrazek and Sloane accompanied Biologist Robertson and Dr. Ruhle, WASO, to the East River Rookery on December 9.

Naturalist Sloane gave a special talk and walk to 28 students of the Hearing and Speech Center of Florida on December 12.

Research and Observation

The annual Coot Bay Christmas Bird Count was held on Sunday, December 27, with Naturalist Cunningham in charge of the count and the compiler. A total of 174 species set a new record for the count, as did the total attendance of 86 observers (representing 8 states and two foreigns countries - England and Canada). Without doubt, this was the most successful of all previous Coot Bay Counts. A formal report is being prepared.

Richard L. Cunningham Park Naturalist

n 0

Miscellaneous

The Everglades Natural History Association held their annual meeting following a field trip to the Shark Valley Tower on December 12. The Florida Science Study Group under the direction of Mrs. Doris Timpano were in the Flamingo area December 27 and 28. Special programs were given on both nights. Anumber of special visitors were assisted, among them were Senator & Mrs.



the Shark Valley Loop Road are completed also, and are ready to be installed. A

Assistant Chief Haugen assisted in the judging of social science projects in Mi Miami on December 6 and 7. On December 30 he conducted the Ranger Aids on a field trip to the Shark Valley Tower.

Other off-site services included the Kiwanis Club of Miami Beach, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Herpetological

Society and the Redland Junior High School.

AC Long condustra Straft Mourse for member of perstal de A number of school groups and scout groups visited the Park. In many

instances, because of the personnel shortage we were unable to

for the groups as is more desirable.

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Naturalist Cunningham directed the annual Coot Bay Christmas Bird count this year. A total of 174 species set a new record for the count, as did th2 total attendance of 86 observers (representing 8 states and two foreign countries, England and Canada). Without a doubt, this was the most successful of all previous Coot Bay Counts.

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
and
FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT

N26

P. O. BOX 279

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

February 5, 1965

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Assistant Chief Naturalist

Subject: Monthly narrative report, Interpretive Division, January 1965

Research and Observations

The wonderful display of wading birds, which this year included many spoonbills, at Coot Bay Pond and the other two ponds in that area was very short lived this year. Food supplies were apparently depleted very soon and the birds have moved away from the roadside ponds.

Huge concentrations of birds were observed northwest of Bear Lake by the Park aircraft and also by members of the Park staff on a canoe patrol along the Homestead Canal.

Flights over the rookeries show that Cuthbert, East River, Miele, and Rookery Branch are forming. The question is, will water remain long enough for the parent birds to be able to feed the young.

Fish in the shallows of Florida Bay were so slowed by the 33° temperature on January 17 that several snook were caught by hand.

On January 27 brim and the larger bass in the main pond at Royal Palm were gasping for air at the surface and some died. Wind and bright sunlight postponed the die-off until another date as the water level is dropping very fast and the oxygen level must be at a critical point.

Interpretive Services

This season the naturalist at Royal Palm are operating on a four walk schedule instead of a five as they did last year. Many times though, groups have been too large for one trail and one naturalist to adequately accommodate. When this happens, the group is split into two groups and after the introductory talk, one is led on the Anhinga and the other on the Gumbo Limbo

Special groups and outside talks for which we were already committed have been honored, but the situation demands that most outside talks be

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declined and that special groups fit into the regularly scheduled walks and talks.

A guided walk every Tuesday has been given on the Pinelands trail this month. Attendance and comments indicate that the venture has been very successful.

At Flamingo, the morning Bayshore walks and the Saturday wilderness hike have proved very popular so far this year.

The staff there have started a two programs a night schedule and they still find the room full each time. Questions raised by a safety inspection of this room have not been answered by having the two programs a night, but it has possibly helped. The Flamingo staff does find giving two programs, one right after the other, each evening, somewhat of a strain.

The new benches at Long Pine Key have made the campfire circle much easier to work and more comfortable for the people attending. We still have many people bringing chairs and putting them wherever possible, and this means that the speaker still has people sitting behind him. The programs have been well attended and the improved circle is appreciated by the visitors.

The evening programs on Wednesday nights at the Visitor Center continue to be very popular and people are having to be turned away because of lack of room.

The Royal Palm area is still one of the most popular of the Park. Two signs hanging over the doors to the building entrance have no doubt helped to guide people to the information desk.

Final plans for the Shark Valley Loop Road interpretive installations were completed and all signs, etc., installed. Mr. Brown from Fort Myers gathered some material to support the Park's need for water with the help of the staff.

Naturalist Zimmer projected for Chief Historian Robert Utley of the Historical Association of Southern Florida.

Attached is the summary of visitor contacts for January.

(SGD) ROBERT T. HAUGEN
Robert T. Haugen

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Below is a summary of the visitor contacts made during the month of January:

Guided Walks Gumbo Limbo Anhinga Flamingo Specials Pinelands	Number 64 64 30 6. 3	Attendance 2,396 2,969 727 270 75
Talks Royal Palm Flamingo Campfire Specials	124 62 29 6	4,829 5,905 3,584 270
Audiovisual program Roving contacts Attended Stations Parachute Key Visitor Royal Palm Information Flamingo Information	n Desk	3,718 4,740 12,105 8,446 1,550
Self guiding Devices Anhinga Trail Gumbo Limbo Trail Pinelands Mahogany Hammock Pa-hay-oree Mangrove Trail Flamingo Museum		29,020 26,160 12,860 11,190 9,408 10,200 11,000
Off-site services Schools Service Organizations Other	1 i 9 Total	400 75 746 161,422

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
and
FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. 0. Box 279
Homestead, Florida

February 1, 1965

Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for January, 1965

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

The inadequacy of the present auditorium and the need for a larger one has been hashed and rehashed and we hate to belabor the point, but even with two programs a night which each naturalist is presenting on his scheduled evenings there is a glaring need for more room.

New highs were reached on both attendance at evening programs and morning walks. This excess taxing of facilities and manpower is expected to continue for the next two months.

A new route for a morning walk was tried on Friday, Jan 29th with good results. The trip ends at the sewage lagoon where quite often during the winter months concentrations of ducks and other birds can be seen. This route can be used as an alternate to the regular bayshore walk. Naturalist Sloane conducted the first walk.

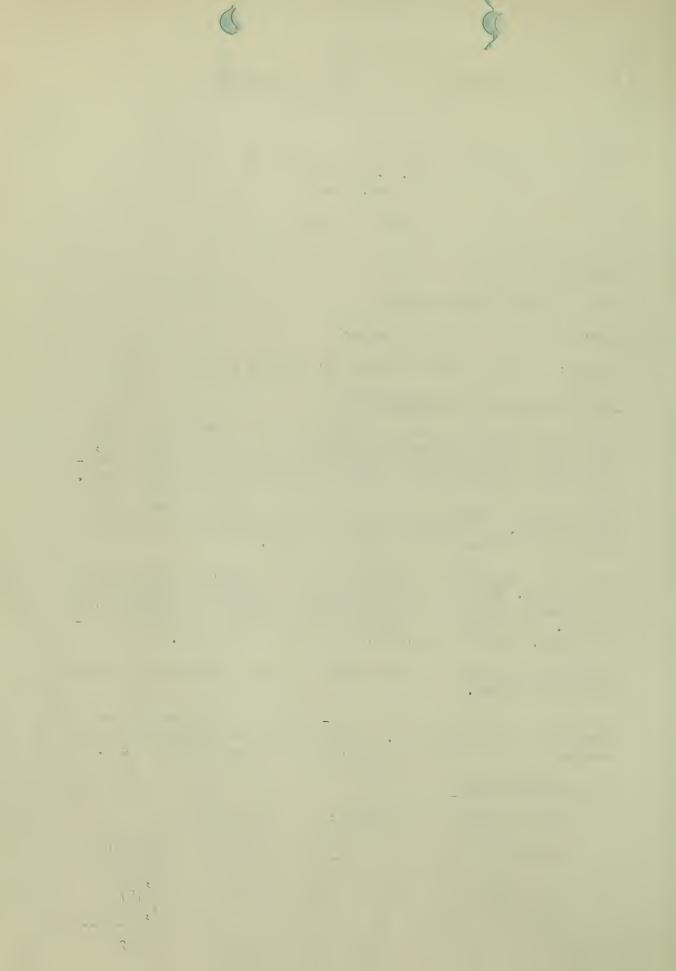
The wilderness hike, as in past years, is being continued and meeting with great success.

A sign calling attention to the self-guiding mangroveland markers has been put up at Coot Bay Pond. It has elicited a greater interest and response to this interpretive device than was previously evinced.

Interpretive Services

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening Talks Morning Walks Information Desk	62 30	5,905 727 1,550
	Total	8.182



Miscellaneous

On the evening of January 16th Naturalist Cunningham participated in a Florida Audubon Society meeting and program at the Flamingo auditorium.

Research and Observation

The restriction imposed on the use of boats and other vehicles by the Flamingo naturalists has greatly reduced wildlife observations and precluded entirely the pursuance of research projects requiring the use of these vehicles. The interior of the office at Flamingo, however was very thoroughly scrutinized.

The spectacular concentration of birds at Coot Bay Pond moved, upon depletion of the minnow supply, to the two ponds $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to the north the first week of January. The bird show at the latter ponds continued good until Sunday, the 21st. Then suddenly, as if at a given signal, the birds left with the exception of a dozen or so spoonbills. This is an unprecedented occurrence, since in previous years the birds stayed until the ponds dried up. A sampling was made to see if there were any fish left and the results were positive, with the most abundant fish identified as Gambusia. Until a better reason is found, we must conclude that the fish are not as plentiful as in previous years.

Vincent J. Mrazek
Park Naturalist

Addendum to Research and Observation:

Plummeting temperatures on Jan 17th reached a low of 33 degrees in the Flamingo area. Resultant cold waters stunned some of the more tropical of our fishes to such a degree that many were lolling about in the shallows and could easily be caught by hand. Naturalist Cunningham and Mrs. Sloane were two of the many fortunate that caught 7 or 8 pound snook in this manner.

Dr. J.E. Hoffmeister, Geologist, Professor at Institute of Marine Science, U. of Miami, with Naturalist Sloane studying stratigraphy of Miami Oolite, on January 7.

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March 8, 1965 that the time that the part of the part of

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Memorandum

To: Superintendent

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From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly narrative report, Interpretive Division - February 1965

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As was expected, facilities were jammed with the record crowd of visitors in the Park. no name to time Best Do Live Inc Add.

The Shark Valley Loop Road is well received and while many problems continue to arise, the visitor reaction to the facilities and the area are very rewarding. All indications point to the fact that it will be a very heavy use area in the near future. In the short time it has been opened and in spite of several cloudy and windy weekends 13,169 people have entered the area.

news on temperature site diviness. Walks and talks at Royal Palm are as popular as usual. Many times, the size of the group on a walk has limited the effectiveness of a single naturalist, and staffing has not always permitted splitting the groups.

Campfire talks at Long Pine Key are well attended again this month with crowds of 200 not unusual. Campers have been giving their own talks by putting an extension cord through the window of a restroom and projecting on the restroom wall. They are continually requesting illustrated talks and a place where they can be given on an impromptu basis. The Chief Naturalist had the experience of having his audience at a campfire arrive about 20 minutes late because the impromptu program ran past the 8:00 pm starting time of the regular scheduled National Park Service program. Consideration should be given to this situation before next year.

that were distanced in the second street in appearance of

Capacity crowds jammed the small room at Flamingo each evening program, in spite of the two programs a night schedule.

Interpretive Services

Manning of the Shark Valley Loop Road made it necessary to pull Naturalist Cunningham from Flamingo to Royal Palm, leaving only two men to try to carry on at Flamingo.

Two audio units are not working, leaving quite a gap in the overall program. The Florida Bay exhibit has been out of order for months and letters and telegrams are answered but the much needed message

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repeater remains at the factory. Highlights of the Everglades continues to be popular and has been sent to various places during the month.

Seasonal Naturalist Ross was accepted by the training school at Grand Canyon, making it necessary for additional rescheduling to cover the Royal Palm area. The small leaflet mimeographed for the Shark Valley Loop Road has been replaced with one printed by offset press and funded by Everglades Natural History Association. The leaflet will be given out on the honor basis in hopes that money received will offset the cost of printing.

The exhibit materials requested by the Sarasota Garden Club about the Park's water problem have been compiled and mailed by Naturalist Zimmer.

Off-site talks scheduled before the cut in money and staffing were given to several organizations and schools this month. Many scheduled and unscheduled school groups have come to the Park to take the Anhinga Trail.

Director Hartzog, accompanied by Superintendent Joseph, inspected Royal Palm and the Anhinga Trail during the Director's brief visit to the Park.

Research and Observation

Several flights have been made over the rookeries with Biologist Robertson. A series of photographs have been taken with an idea of determining numbers of nesting birds.

Several rains have helped the water levels especially in Taylor Slough area. Spring migration has started with the appearance of swallow-tail kites and other birds moving through.

The presence of seals at the mouth of Shark River has been reported by two separate parties of visitors.

Visitor Contacts

A tabulation of the visitor contacts for the month is attached.

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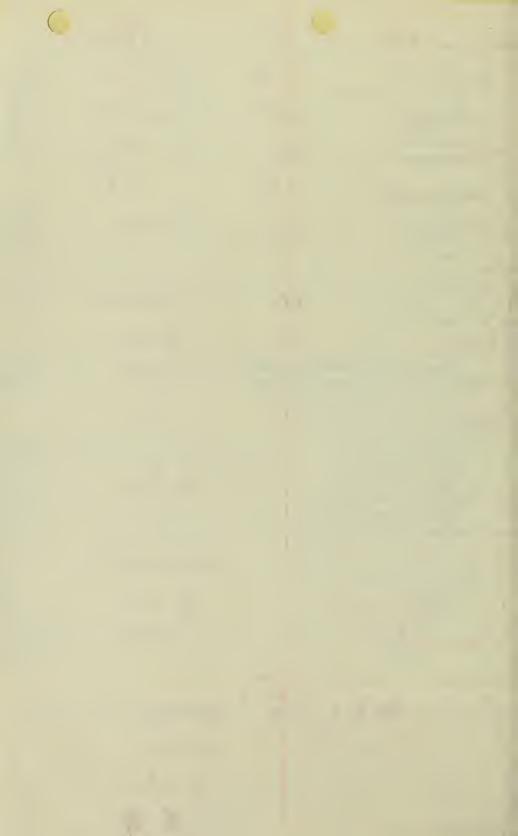
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Guided Walks	Number	Attendance	
Gumbo Limbo Trail	56	2,501	
Anhinga	5`5	3,188	
Flamingo	25	562	
Pinelands	4	68	
Specials	11	535	
Talks	144 P 2		
Royal Palm	111	5,645	
Flamingo	56	7,400	
Campfire	21	3,715	
Specials	11	535	
Audiovisual		5,110	
Roving Contacts		2,190	
Attended Stations			
Parachute Key Visitor Center		15,335	
Royal Palm Information Desk		7,188	
Flamingo Information Desk		1,300	
Self-guiding devices			
Anhinga Trail		34,220	
Gumbo Limbo Trail		28,500	
Pinelands Trail		15,433	
Mahogany Hammock		13,524	
Pa-hay-okee Overlook		11,362	
Flamingo Museum		13,200	
Shark Valley Loop Road		13,169	
AVE			
Off-site Services			
Schools	2	215	
Others	2	57	
Total		197,132	

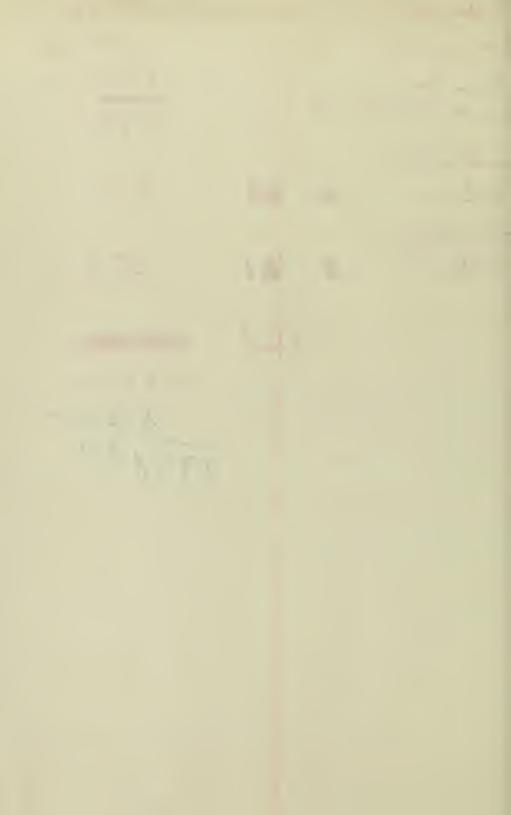
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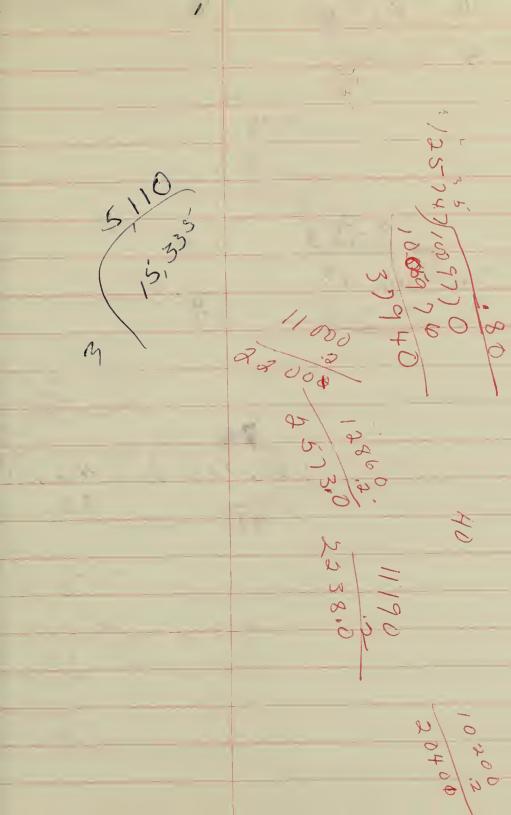
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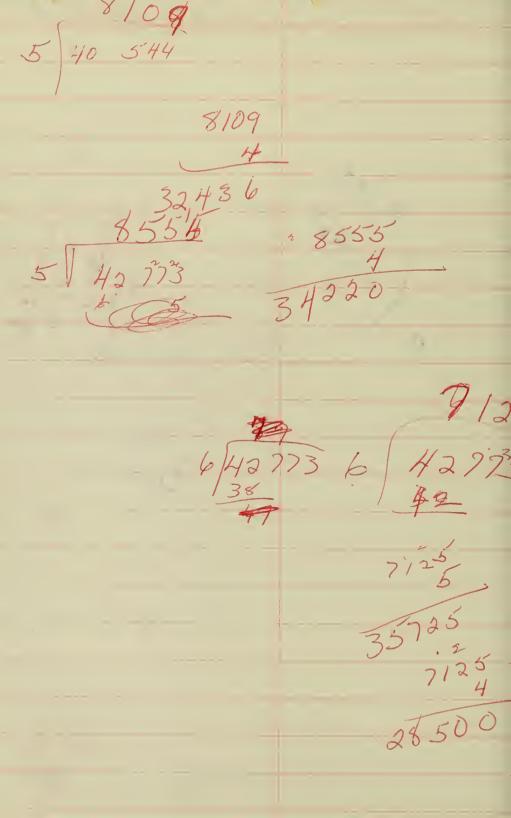
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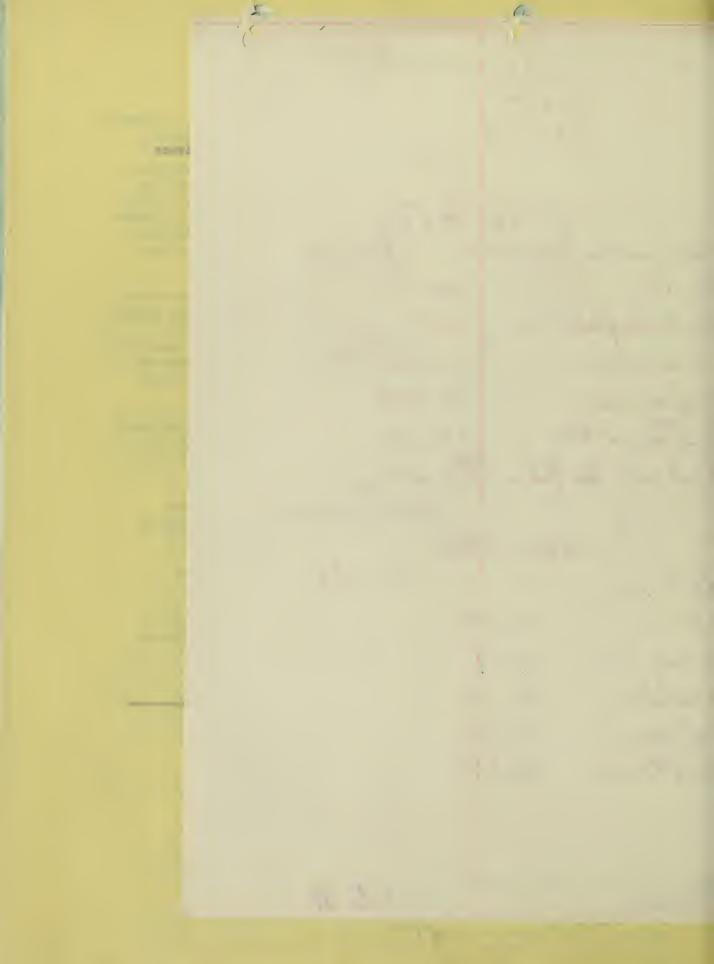
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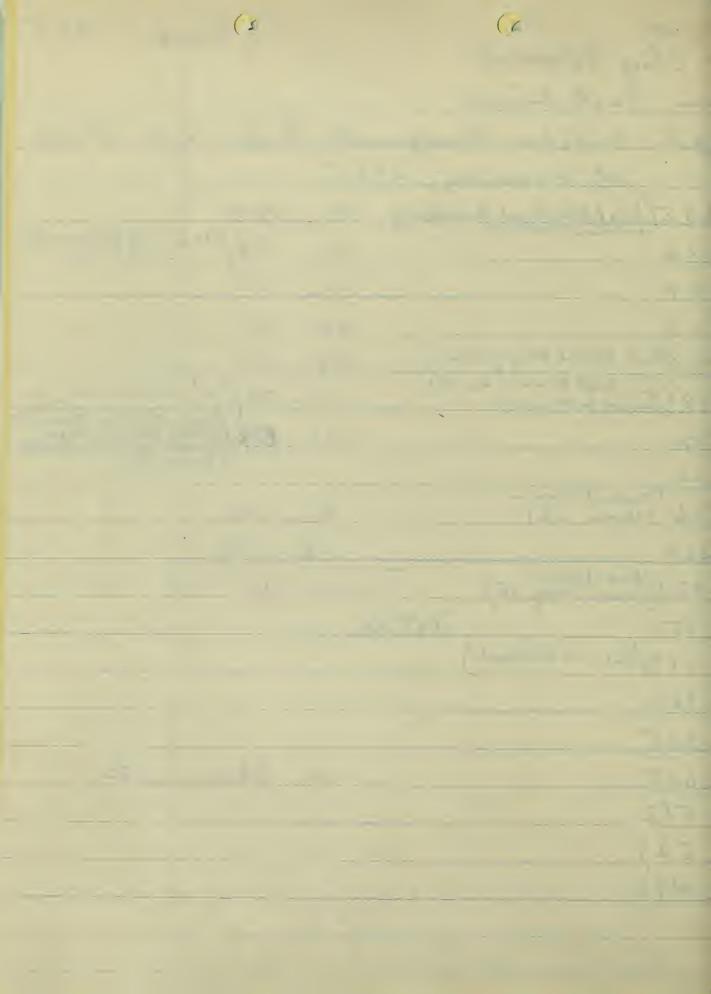
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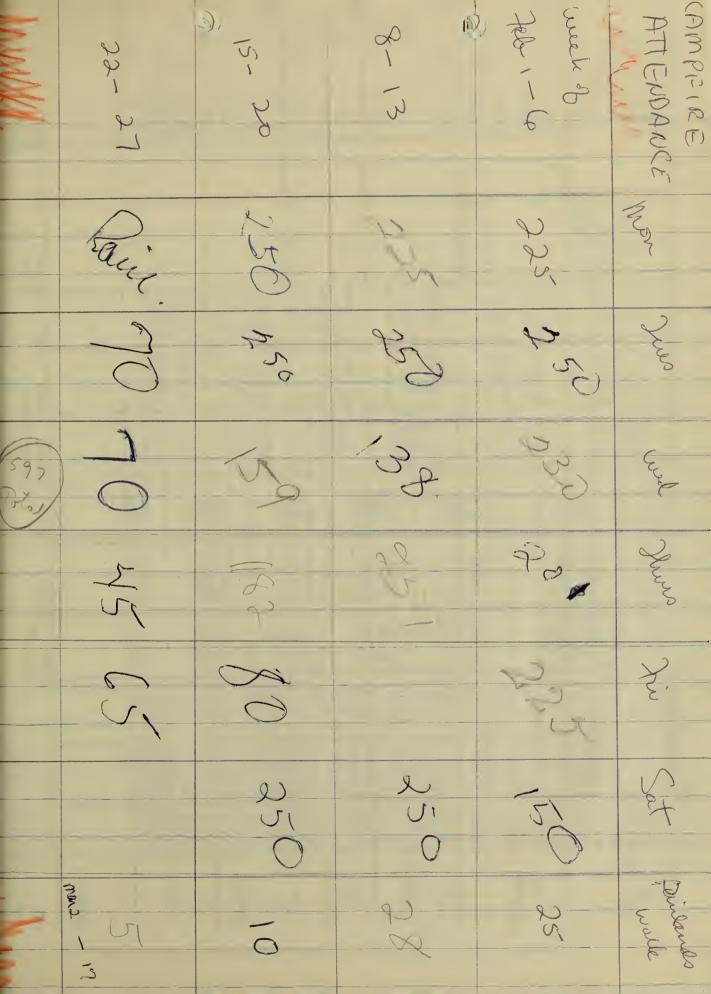


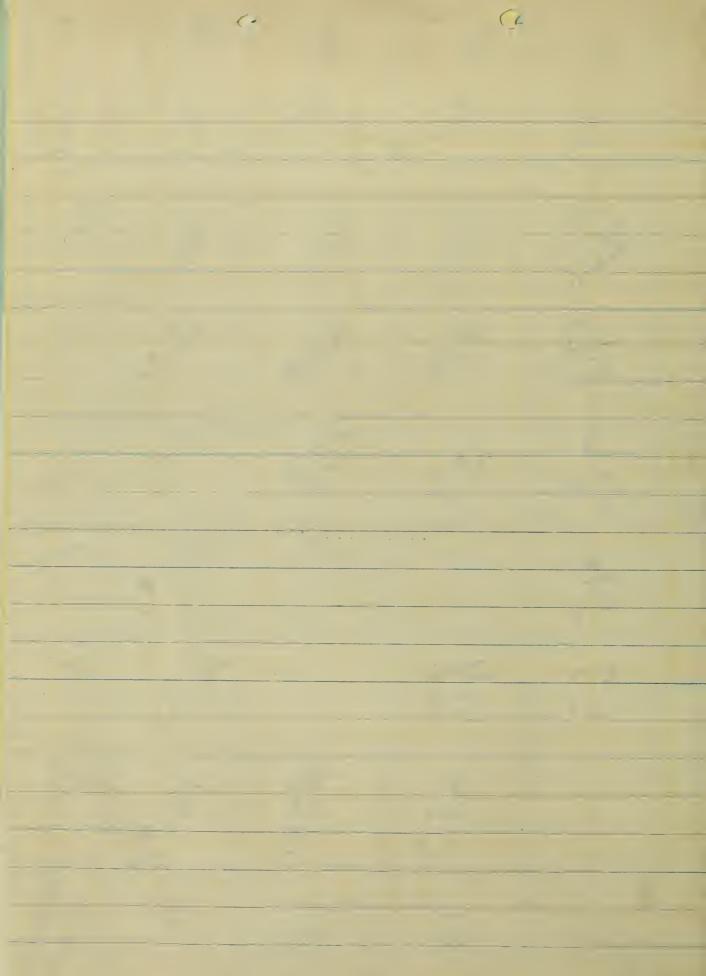
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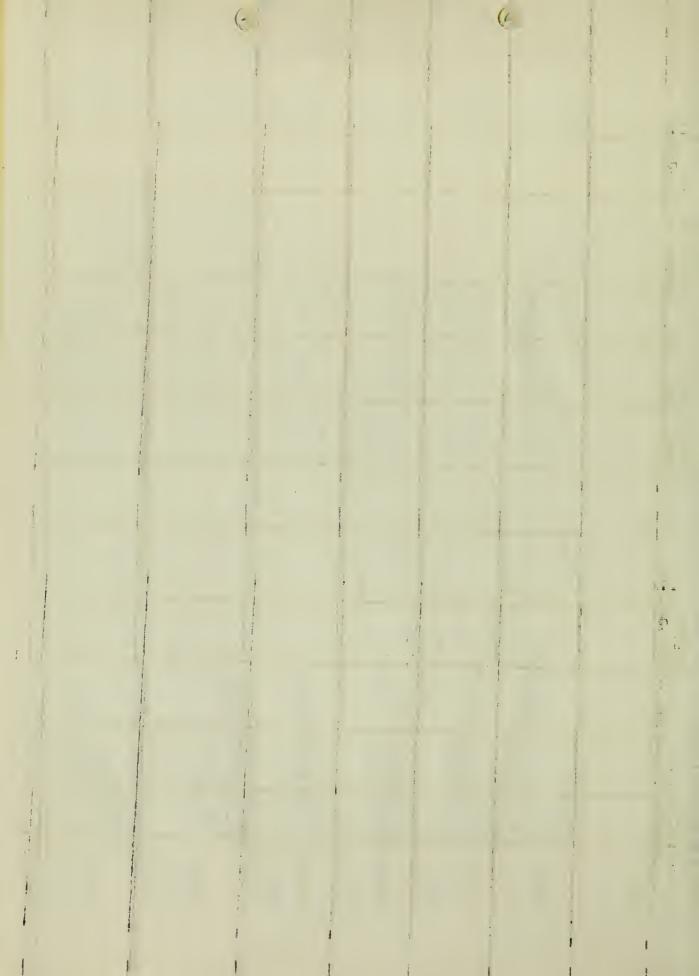
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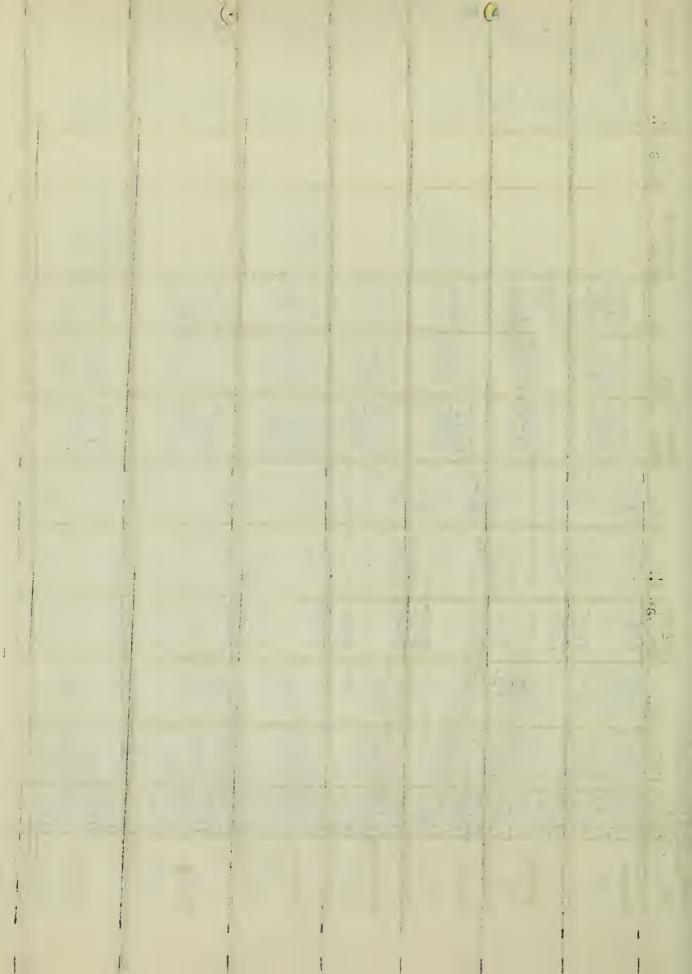




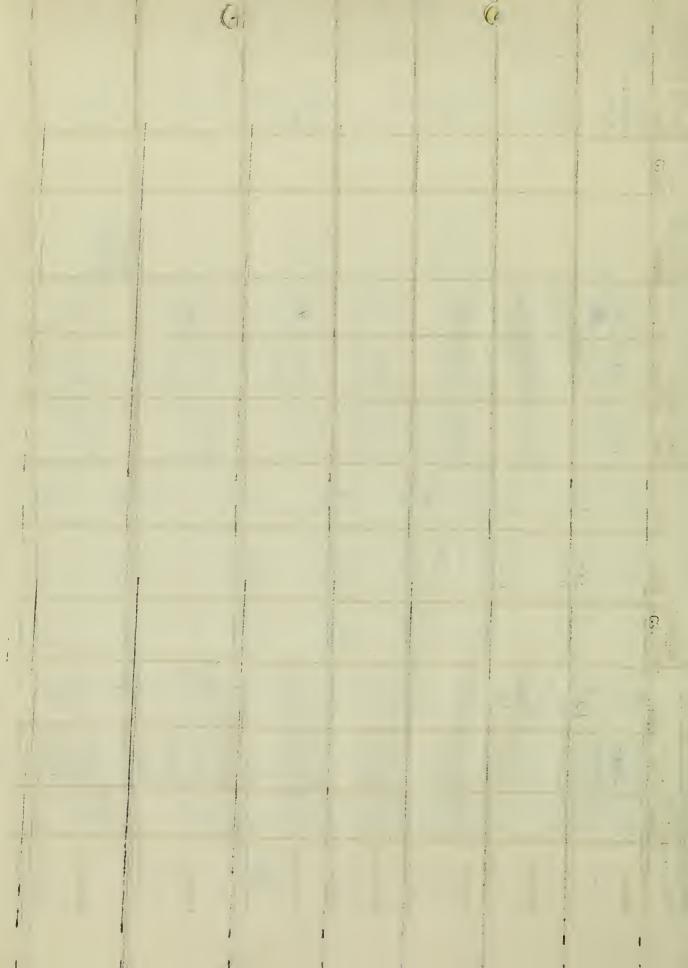
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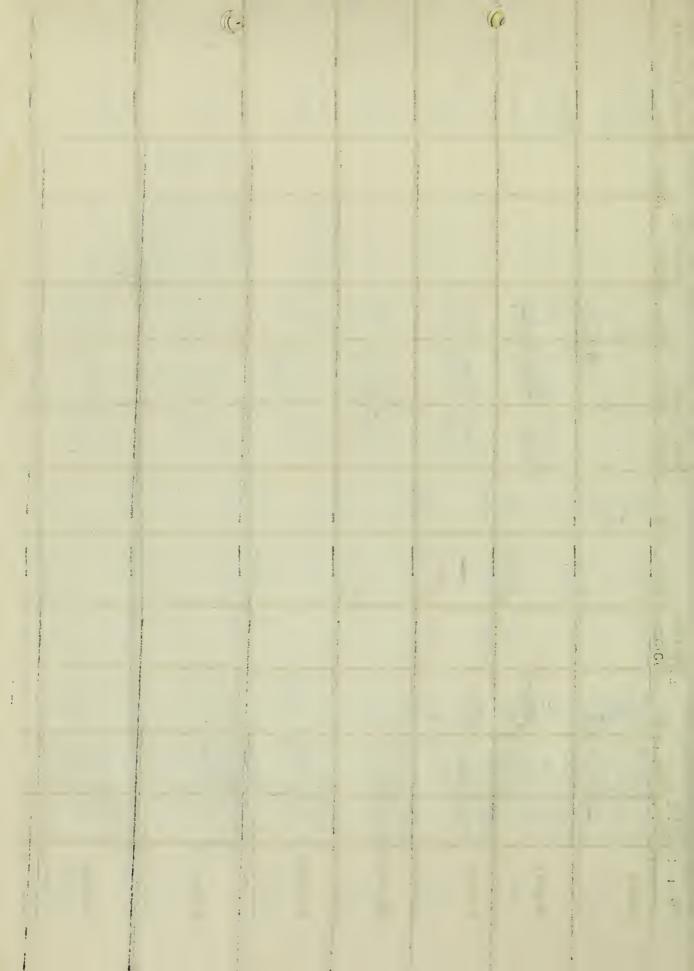
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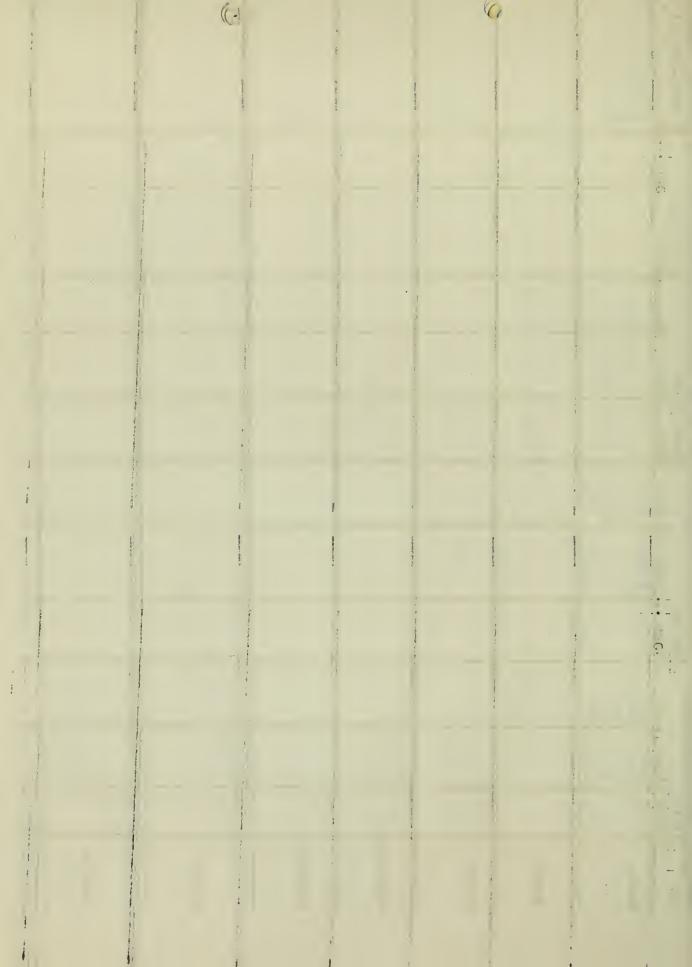
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REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT

P.O. Box 279 Homestead, Florida March 1, 1965

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject:

Monthly Narrative Report for February, 1965

Interpretive Facilities and Planning

Capacity crowds jammed into the auditorium nightly, even with two programs, and most performances were on a standing-room-only basis. The naturalists reduction in manpower has led to a slight reduction in information desk services, although over-all totals reached a new high.

Restrictions on boats and vehicles have continued to hinder activities.

Interpretive Services

Despite a one-third reduction in manpower a new all-time record high in interpretive services was reached this month. It shows an increase of 12% over last month, and is more than 17% above travel for February, 1964. Morning walks, however, were poorly attended, down 30% from last month's high. Three walks were cancelled because of inclement weather. The Saturday morning Wilderness Hike continued to remain popular, with 48 people in attendance one morning.

Interpretive contacts for the month:

Program	Number	Attendance
Evening talks	56	7,400
Morning walks	25	502
Special talk	1	22
Information desk		1,300
	TOTAL	9,224

Miscellaneous

February 2 - Park Naturalist Richard L. Cunningham gave a special talk to 22 members of the Hobe Sound Garden Club.

Eebruary 12 - Naturalist Cunningham was transferred to Royal Palm.

February 15-17 - Mr. & Mrs. Q. Boyd Evison spent several days in the area. Mr. Evison is Chief Park Naturalist, Hot Springs.

February 21 - Dr. Rankin, head of the Biology Division of the National Science Foundation, and his wife were escorted by District Park Naturalist Vincent J. Mrazek and Park Naturalist Bruce C. Sloane on a boat trip to Tarpon Bay in a driving rain.

February 23 - Naturalist Mrazek accompanied Mr. Mason of the U.S. State Department with two Dutch visitors, Mr. Venekamp and Mr. Hagen, on a birding trip.

Ranger Activities

February 27 - Naturalist Mrazek, accompanied by Maintainanceman Bill Mills and Ranger Max Holden rescued Ranger Bob Benton when his boat broke down in Hell's Bay. Ranger Benton was accompanying Superintendent Stanley C. Joseph and National Park Service Director George B. Hartzog, Jr. at the time.

Research and Observations

The spring migration appears to be underway with swallowtail kites and tree swallows making an appearance toward the end of the month.

Heavy rains February 21-23 refilled Mrazek Pond, and flooded much of the area. Roseate spoonbills and other birds which had frequented the pond in great numbers disappeared. Apparently the rains thinned out the fish population to such an extent that the birds left for better feeding grounds.

Nine fulvous tree ducks have been seen in Nine Mile Pond for the last ten days of the month.

Harbor seals were reported by two separate parties of visitors in the mouth of the Shark River.

Bruce C. Sloane Park Naturalist

for the District Park Naturalist

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 Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

PARK

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for April, 1965

Ceneral

There was a marked tapering off in visitation at the beginning of the month, however, it quickly built up at the Easter holidays and remained so until about April 26th.

The weather during April was remarkably pleasant - cool and dry with a conspicuous absence of the mosquitoes which were so bothersome to visitors last month.

Informational and directional signs and markers Several signs disappeared during the influx of Easter holiday college students. Notably the perennial pilfering of the Whiskey Creek and Alligator Crossing signs.

Visitor information and orientation stations Approximately 600 visitors were contacted at the Information Desk at Flamingo.

Informational publications Nothing to report.

Status of museum exhibits and collections A second supplement to the collection of marine and estuarine fishes of Everglades National Park, comprising 25 specimens, was received this month from the Institute of Marine Science, University of Miami.

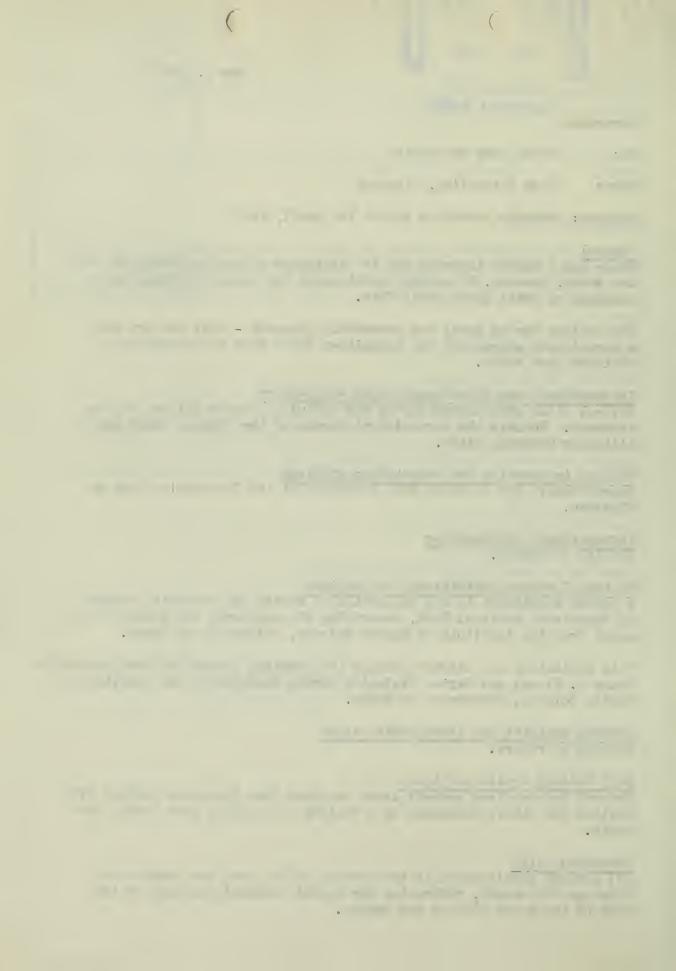
This collection was started through the combined efforts of Park Naturalist Bruce C. Sloane and Marine Biologist Martin Roessler of the Institute of Marine Science, University of Miami.

Wayside exhibits and interpretive signs Nothing to report.

Self Guiding trails and tours Several Mangroveland markers along the Bear Lake Road were riddled with bullets and others succumbed to a variety of vandalic acts during the month.

Conducted trips

133 persons participated in the morning walks along the bayshore at Flamingo this month, reflecting the normal seasonal decrease at the wane of the heavy visitor use season.



Talks and campfire programs

Evening programs were continued at Flamingo with the reduction to one a night and excepting Sundays. This is in accordance with the decrease in visitation and a great lessening of the demand for this service.

Off-site talks
Nothing to report.

Interpretive personnel and training

Park Naturalist Bruce C. Sloane rave notice of his intention to resign effective the 13th of May to pursue his graduate studies in geology.

Audiovisual devices and programs Nothing to report.

Miscellaneous interretive activities
Sloane made a trip to Lake Ingraham and Big Sable Creek with Dr. KaiCurry Lindahl, Swedish ornithologist and Director; Zoological Department,
Nordiska Museet, Stockholm on April 15th. Dr. Lindahl is making field
studies of new world herons.

Mrazek accompanied and assisted Dr. Craighead on April 17th in obtaining peat samples Wear the headwaters of Roberts River for carbon dating.

Sloane made a trip to inspect Cuthbert Rookery with Dr. Robertson and National Geographic Society phtographer Otis Imboden on April 23rd. The nesting, which was about 15% of a normal year, was near completion.

Mrazek provided the boating wherewithal on a trip with Dr. Craighead and Sir Harry Champion to Cape Sable and Shark River on April 28th. Sir Champion is a member of the United Nations Forestry Board.

Park Naturalist

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. O. BOX 279

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

April 6, 1965

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly narrative report, Interpretive Division, March, 1965

General

The month of march marked the beginning of the end of the heaviest winter travel season on record for Everglades National Park. Barly in the month all facilities were overloaded. Daytime and evening programs had huge attendance, but a mosquito brood and a lessening of winter weather up north served to move campers and other visitors to higher latitudes. Towards the month's end there was an influx of college students and teachers. This is expected to continue until Easter.

Informational and directional signs and markers Nothing to report.

Visitor information and orientation stations.

Approximately 15,708 people visited the Parachute Key Visitor Center during the month.

Approximately 1,000 visitors were contacted at the Information Desk at Flamingo.

A total of 6612 visitors attended the guided walks offered in the Park and 11,605 attended the daytime talks. A more complete tabulation of visitor contacts will be reported on the new visitor contact report form 10-769 due later this month.

Informational publications

The two trail guide pamphlets, Mangroveland and Shark Valley Loop Road continue to do very well. The guide to the Shark Valley Loop Road being sold on the honor system is doing particularly well with enough revenue being realized from it to perpetuate its publication.

Status of museum exhibits and collections
Approximately 100 slides were added to the slide library.

The portable exhibit panels and slides were prepared for the family camping day at Owaissa Bauer, where the Park exhibit was manned by members of the Protection Division.

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Visitor Information and preparation stations.
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This portable exhibit suffered rough treatment at the Homestead Fair where it had to be left unattended. These panels will no longer be used for unattended exhibition.

Wayside exhibits and interpretive signs

The planning and designing of permanent exhibits to replace the temporary ones at the Shark Valley Tower was started.

A dozen metalphoto labels were stolen from the various trails. Copy for the replacement of these were prepared and sent to the Prison Industries for processing.

Self-guiding trails and tours:

Travel on these facilities will appear on the 10-769.

Conducted trips

Naturalist Mrazek conducted a field trip along the Crocodile Point Road for 11 students from Culver Stockton College, Missouri, March 30.

A group of foreign meterologists, guests of meterologists of this country, from USSR, West Germany, Canada, Malagasy Republic, and Bahamas were given special attention on their trip in the Park by Chief Naturalist Christensen. They were given a trip along the Anhinga Trail and later used other trails in the Park after lunching at Flamingo.

The conducted walk on the Pinelands Trail was discontinued in mid-March as campground visitation dropped. It was considered a successful program and will probably be used again next winter.

Naturalist Mrazek conducted an autocade for the Audubon Workshop to Mahogany Hammock on March 14.

Talks and campfire programs

The full winter schedule of Naturalist programs except for the cancellation the last of the month of the guided walks on Monday and Thursday and one evening program nightly at Flamingo was continued and will continue until the summer schedule is adopted.

With the urging of Frank Masland, the Park Story evening program has been altered to give more attention to water problems of the Park.

Off-site talks

The Chief Naturalist accompanied by Mrs. Chirstensen and Assistant Superintendent and Mrs. Burroughs addressed the University Yacht Club at the Coral Gables Country Club on March 24.

Engagements for speakers for off-site programs were deferred until later in the year because of the shortage of personnel and the pressure of the winter programs in the Park.

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Interpretive Personnel and Training

There are presently eight permanent uniformed employees, two seasonal employees and one WAE. One seasonal is at the Shark Valley Loop Road, two permanents are at Flamingo and the remainder are occupied with duties at Headquarters, the Visitor Cepter and at Royal Palm.

The new forms for the servicewide career development and placement plan have been completed.

Audiovisual devices and programs

The Florida Bay recording was installed again in the museum at Flamingo after being out for repairs for several months.

The projection equipment in the Parachute Key Visitor Center continues to be most undependable.

Highlights of the Everglades was loaned to six groups during the, month.

Miscellaneous interpretive activities

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Masland were in the Flamingo area March 6-22. Mr. Masland is former chairman of the National Park Service Advisory Board. They were conducted by Naturalist Mrazek on several field trips, and showed enthusiasm and understanding of the operations there.

Flamingo naturalists treated four first-aid cases this month.

Thirty mahogany seedlings were planted along the Crocodile Point Road by Dr. Craighead, Gene Simmons and Bruce Sloane.

Mrazek, Sloane, and Mrs. Sloane checked East River Rookery for nesting activity on March 26. The rookery was operating at about 20% capacity of former years.

Ernst T. Christensen

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

N2615

June 7, 1965

Memorandum

To:

Acting Superintendent, Everglades

From:

Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly Marrative Report for May 1965

Daily visitation is down, as expected, but large school and Scout groups and other organized groups continue to enter the Park. During this particular month 15 special groups have appeared at Royal Falm and have been given some sort of special attention.

With so such in the newspapers about the water condition weekend travel has picked up a bit as people came down to see the conditions for themselves. Water level in the main pond at Royal Palm is very low. The shoreline extends well out into the pond. Water along the boardwalk has been maintained only by pumps. At times these have broken down and except for two small holes water level fell until the mud dried and cracked in the area around and about the main boardwalk on the Anhinga Trail.

About six-tenths of a mile and two holes were partially cleaned out by the Hayes Crane Construction Co., working under a seven-day contract digging silt out of the canal along the Shark Valley Loop Road. Excellent results were obtained with a clam shovel since the ditch was, for the most part, completely dry. After digging, a foot to a foot-and-a-half of water was available in the ditch area dug. Had funds permitted the digging of the entire length of the ditch water would have been maintained along most of the ditch. even during the extreme drought that we have been experiencing. This work was done during the closure of the road for repairs and during the time of extreme fire danger.

Flatingo operation continued with light visitation as was expected during this month with heavy use during the weekends when large numbers of local fishermen use the area to launch boats. The weather has continued cool throughout the Park, for this time of year, and very dry, therefore Losquitoes all over the Park have been less of a problem than in March.

Informational and Directional Jigns and Markers: Some additional trail labels have been installed at the Mangrove Trail and some new labels at Pa-hay-Okee to replace those stolen.

Visitor Information and Orientation: Approximately 450 visitors were contacted at the information desk at Flamingo.

Informational Publication: Mr. Roger Rogers, Regional Publications Officer spent two days in the office working with the staff on revisions of Park pauphlet.

Self-Guiding Trails and Tours: At Flamingo work has begun on replacing signs for the Mangrove Nature Trail that were destroyed by valdalism.

Conducted Trips: The bayshore walks at Flamingo were conducted on weekends only because of the seasonal reduction in visitors and the loss of available interpretive personnel. At Royal Palm the number of people have dropped as is usual during this season of the year; however, the special groups that will continue to come until the closing of school will bring it up on weekends and near the end of the week.

Talks and Campfire Frograms: Evenig programs in the Headquarters area have ceased and down at Flatingo they are reduced to three a week temporarily during the loss of services due to personnel changes at Flatingo.

Off-Site Talks: Several off-site talks have been given in the Miami area during the month of May.

Interpretive Personnel and Training: Park Naturalist Bruce C. Sleane resigned effective May 13 to continue his graduate studies. The Naturalist's secretary Mrs. Beverly A. Hite left on May 28 to join her husband who is now stationed at Blue Ridge Erkway. Naturalist Burce E. Paige reported for duty on May 30 from Death Valley National Monupent. He will fill in Sloane's place at Flamingo.

Audio Visual Devices and Programs: One of the main Bogan units that amplify the programs at the Headquarters Visitor Center is not working. There is some difficulty in replacing the particular type of condenser that was blown. Therefore, we are now on a one-unit basis which has continued to operate up until this time.

Miscellaneous: Considerable time has been given to the press going along with cameramen showing them various aspects of the drought.

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June 1, 1965 B.

Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for May, 1965

General

Normally a month of light visitation, there were fewer visitors this month than last, however, weekends were heavy, with large numbers of local fishermen visiting the area.

The weather continued rather cool for the time of year and very dry. Mosquitoes were less of a problem than in March.

Informational and directional signs and markers Nothing to report.

Visitor information and orientation stations.

Approximately l_450 visitors were contacted at the Information Desk at Flamingo.

Informational publications Nothing to report.

Status of museum exhibits and collections Nothing to report.

Wayside exhibits and interpretive signs Nothing to report.

Self-guiding trails and tours

Work was begun on replacing signs for the Mangroveland Nature Guide that were destroyed by vandalis m.

Conducted Trips

Bayshore walks were conducted on weekends only because of the sessonal reduction in operations and loss of available interpretive personnel.

Talks and campfire programs

Evening programs were reduced to three per week temporarily due to an interim loss of services during personnel changes at Flamingo.

Off-site talks Nothing to report.

(. ... Interpretive personnel and training
Park Naturalist Bruce C. Sloane resigned effective May 13th, to continue his graduate studies.

Park Naturalist Bruce B. Paige reported to duty on May 30th from Death Valley National Monument.

During this change in personnel the interpretive program at Flamingo was conducted on a one-man basis.

Audiovisual devices and programs Nothing to report.

Miscellaneous interpretive activities
Naturalist Mrazek spent several hours on May 25th revriewing the cacti
of the Flamingo area in the field with Dr. Lyman Benson, Professor of
Botany, Pomona College, Claremont, Calif. Pr. Benson is preparing a book
on the cacti of the United States.

Vincent . Mrazek Park Naturalist the contraction of the contracti

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT
P. O. BOX 279
HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

May 7, 1965

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Assistant Chief Naturalist

Subject: Monthly narrative report, Interpretive Division - April, 1965

General

Visitation remained high through the week following Easter, and since has been heavy on weekends at Royal Palm.

Water level at Royal Palm is going down in spite of efforts by the maintenance crew who have worked manfully to keep the mud along the main board walk wet. Many fish have moved into the area where the discharge pipe is located. The main pond in front of the station is very low and dropping rapidly. Water is below sea level. The pumping and aerating of water has been continuous since April 16.

The Anhingas left the area once the water dropped to a level where they could no longer dive.

The absence of mosquitoes in Royal Palm and Flamingo area has made it very pleasant for visitors.

Informational and directional signs and markers
The Whiskey Creek and Alligator Crossing signs have disappeared again and

are now probably in someone's den.

Visitor information and orientation stations.

Approximately 600 visitors were contacted at the information desk at Flamingo and 13,028 at the Parachute Key visitor center.

Informational publications

Park Naturalist Zimmer's book, Turtle Lore, a 60 page book illustrated in full color was received this month and is now on sale. The Natural History Association is also handling two other publications new to the sales shelves. They are Dr. Craighead's Annotated Checklist of the Vascular Plants and Land, Mangroves and Hurricanes.

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Status of museum exhibits and collections

A second supplement to the collection of marine and estuarine fishes of Everglades National Park, comprising 25 specimens was received this month from the Institute of Marine Science, University of Miami.

This collection was started through the combined efforts of Park Naturalist Bruce C. Sloane and Marine Biologist Martin Roessler of the Institute of Marine Science.

Wayside exhibits and interpretive signs Nothing to report.

Self guiding trails and tours

Several Mangroveland markers along the Bear Lake Road were riddled with builtets and others succumbed to a variety of vandalic acts during the months

Conducted trips

Attendance at walks is falling off as we go into a alump of travel.

However, school groups are picking up in number and probably will continue
to do so until June.

Talks and campfire programs

Evening programs at Long Pine Key ended with Easter weekend. But they continue with a one program a night schedule at Flamingo.

Off-site talks

There were three off-site programs this month, one a church group, another a Kiwanis group, and the other a school group. A total of 321 attended.

Interpretive personnel and training

Mr. Kelly Motherspaugh was furloughed April 30. The reports of his experiences at the tower have helped us plan for future interpretive coverage there.

Audiovisual devices and programs

At this particular time, the staff is happy to report that all audio units are working.

Miscellaneous interpretive activities

The Flamingo naturalists assisted with several special study groups in the Flamingo area. Dr. Kai Curry-Lindahl, Dr. Craighead and Sir Harry Champion, and Dr. Robertson and National Geographic Society photographer Otis Imboden were a few.

Robert T. Haugen

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

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FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT

P. O. BOX 279

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

July 6, 1965

Memorandum

N251.5

To: Acting Superintendent, Everglades

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for June 1965

Interpretive Facilities: During the month the Chief Naturalist met with Miss Henry and Mr. Pancoast to discuss the scope of the proposed memorial to Guy Bradley.

In line with the directive on the closing hours of public use areas. The Parachute Key Visitor Center and the Royal Palm Station were kept open two hours beyond the normal closing time and records of their use documented. Generally, it was found that late afternoon, at both stations, was extremely light and that keeping these stations open until after dark was not warrented.

One of the lift box exhibits along the Shark Valley Loop Road was damaged by water and has been refurbished.

Interpretive Services: While visitation to Everglades National Park in June fell below that of Mya it still set an all-time record for the month. The increase of approximately 37% is in line with the travel for the year.

Generally the weather was favorable for Park use and for most of the month insect pests were not a real problem. Towards the end of the month a moderate infestation was experienced making the use of wooded trails less appealing.

The influx of representatives from various communications media continued to seek information about drought conditions here. However, the type of information has changed considerably from that of the previous month. During May it was more or less for immediate, local consumption. Now it is for articles in nationally circulated magazines and for TV documentors. In all cases every effort has been made to supply material, B/W pictures, colored slides and even



movie film.

The vater situation in the Park improved after a series of reins in June. The rains were for short of meeting the needs of the drought-stricken area. Evidence of this appeared in the form of a heavy infection of Argulus that overwhelmed garfish at the pond in front of the Royal Palm Station. These aquatic parasite, apparently an undescribed species, have killed almost all garfish in the pond. Approximately 2,000 dead fish were removed from the water. Very few remain. Apparently the parasite is somewhat specific to garfish. Although they have been found attached to other fish they apparently do not have the other species.

All scheduled conducted trips were continued. Bayshore walks at Flamingo on weekends and the two daily guided walks at Royal Palm were also continued. Use of the Gumbo Limbo Trail for guided walks was restricted because of the mosquito infestation. The three evening program at Flamingo were continued.

A temporary Naturalist, James A. Denslow, entered on duty during the month and after suitable training is now working both at the Shark River Leop Road area and at Royal Palm.

Ernst T. Christensen

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6 1965 EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

July 2, 1965

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Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for June, 1965

General

It was a normal mothh of visitor use. A drop-off after the Memorial Day weekend and a gradual increase when schools let out toward the middle of the month. The weather was hot and humid, however, with less than normal rainfall. Thus the mosquitoes were less of a nuisance than usual and there was a concomitant increase in the number of campers.

Informational and directional signs and markers Nothing to report.

Visitor information and orientation stations. Approximately 120 visitors were contacted at the Flamingo information desk.

Informational publications Nothing to report.

Status of museum exhibits and collections A beginning was made on a marine shell collection representative of the Flamingo and Cape Sable areas with the thought in mind of preparing an exhibit in the lobby outside the museum.

Wayside exhibits and interpretive signs Nothing to report.

Self-guiding trails and tours

A model of a new type of reference marker for the Mangroveland Nature Guide was prepared this month. Institution of the new marker system is pending approval from headquarters and availability of funds.

Conducted Trips Bayshore walks were conducted on weekends only.

Talks and campfire programs The reduced scheduled of evening programs remained in effect during June while half of our two-man complement was on leave.

Off-site talks Nothing to report.

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Interpretive personnel and training
Newly arrived Naturalist Bruce Paige was given a two week orientation
and training period during the first part of the month.

District Naturalist Mrazek was on leave the last two weeks of June.

Audiovisual devices and programs Nothing to report.

Miscellaneous interpretive activities
Naturalist Paige conducted a group of 38 teachers from the U. of Miami
National Defense Institute for Advanced Study in Geography on a nature
walk along the Mahogany Hammock trail on June 19th. He gave the same
group a special talk in the auditorium that evening.

Vincent J. Wrazek

. P. O. BOX 279 HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

N2615

August 1, 1965

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Division of Interpretation Monthly Narrative Report for July, 1965

General

Increase or Decrease in Travel: Daily visitation has increased.

Parachute Key Visitor Center showed an increase of 27% over last month.

There was a 35% increase in the number of visitors to the Flamingo area over the corresponding month last year. Attendance at programs in Flamingo dropped by about 12%. This can be directly attributed to the heavy mosquitoe infestation. Campers were reluctant to leave their tents and trailers after dark and even those that braved the mosquitos from the motel and campground were harassed by them throughout the program as intermittent late comers brought with them a fresh supply of the pesky little arthropods. Weekend bayshore walks ended with less than half the beginning complement in attendance for the same reason.

Visitors: Mr. Lester Pancoast, Architect representing the Audubon Society, again met with Chief Park Naturalist Christensen and Naturalist Zimmer on July 11. On this occasion they traveled to Flamingo to look over the proposed site for the Guy Bradley Memorial as planned by the Park Service.

A group of seven college students from Rigaud College, Bourget, Quebec were conducted on field trips by Naturalists Mrazek and Paige on July 17 and 18. The group was under the supervision of Father Genest.

Miscellaneous: Park Guide Maude Harriott returned from a 10 weeks camping vacation. Sherand her husband, Bill, visited 15 National Parks and Monuments; traveling 12,000 miles reaching Cape Flattery the northwestern most point in the continental United States - the point furthest away from Everglades National Park.

Assistant Chief Naturalist Robert Haugen and his family also embarked on a camping vacation which encompassed several of the eastern National Forests and one Park.

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Auministration

Personnel: John D. Leppert's appointment as a WAE Park Ranger (Naturalist) has been extended to 7/02/66. Marion B. Goble, former secretary to the Administrative Officer, received a transfer and promotion to fill the vacant Secretary (DMT) position.

Conservation, Interpretation and Use

Interpretive Facilities: Work continued on the collection, identification, and habeling of representative marine shells of the Flamingo and Cape Sable areas.

Flamingo naturalists explored the beginning of the canoe trail to Pearl Bay to inspect its condition and weigh the possibilities of improving it for public use. At present it is in need of clearing and remarking its course.

Approximately 40 new slides were added this month of the Park's slide collection.

Since the tape and repeater used to tell the Pa-hay-okee story are inoperative, they were returned to the Audiovisual Section, WASO. One tape used in the program at Parachute Key Visitor Center was also returned. Summer humidity has caused more difficulty in the operation of the audiovisual program at Parachute Key Visitor Center and in addition the transformer has gone on the projector used to show the wide screen movie.

Interpretive Services: With the return of District Naturalist Mrazek from vacation, evening programs have been scheduled each evening except Sunday. These programs continue to be a favorite with the visitor.

With the onset of the rainy season, mosquitos have become quite a problem. Because of this, the conducted walks at Royal Palm have centered around the Anhinga Trail where there is still a moderately good "show' and where the water problem is still in evidence and can be discussed with the visitor. No walks were conducted on the Gumbo Limbo Trail as, even after fogging, the trail was alive with mosquitos.

The new closing hours at Parachute Key Visitor Center (8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday) have been in effect throughout the month. A tally of persons who entered the visitor center during this time has been kept with the resultant totals:

5:00 - 5:30: 248

5:30 - 6:00: 140 (4 of these stopped to feed the baby; 3 to report a car in difficulty)

6:00 - 6:30: 43

6:30 - 7:00: 10

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Research and Observations: There were several indications of an early bird migration at Flamingo. Observations included: Redstarts, Yellow-throated Warblers, Barn Swallows, Spotted Sandpipers and Kingfishers.

Reports received from Shark Valley Loop Road indicate that the Deer herd has increased due to low water years and increase in food supply because of vegetational changes and few predators. The lubber grasshoppers are appear to be increasing due to the drying out of the Glades allowing more eggs to survive. This drought, though, has caused a tree die back along the Shark Valley Loop Road. But, happily otter have frequently been observed in this area.

Resource Planning

Cooperating Non-Government Agencies: Naturalist Zimmer and Park Biologist Robertson compiled information and photographs pertaining to the Park which had been requested by Richard Carrington an author who is undertaking a volume about parks of the world.

The stock of Everglades Natural History sales books has been moved from the stockroom of the University of Miami Press to the Naturalist's workshop. The move was necessitated by the poor storage conditions which were causing deterioration of the books.

10 Class A Collecting Permits were issued during the month.

Ernst T. Christensen

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DESCRIPTION OF PERSONS

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Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Marrative Report for July, 1965

There was a 35% increase in the number of visitors into the Flamingo area over the corresponding month last year. However, attendance at programs dropped by about 12%. This can be directly attributed to the heavy mosquito infestation this month. Campers were reluctant to leave their tents and trailers after dark and even those that braved the mosquitoes from the motel and campground were harassed by them throughout the program, as intermittent late comers brought with them a fresh supply of the pesky little arthropods. Weekend bayshore walks ended with less than half the beginning complement in attendance, for the same reason.

Informational and directional signs and markers Nothing to report.

Visitor information and orientation stations
Approx imately 310 visitors were conatcted at the Flamingo information desk.

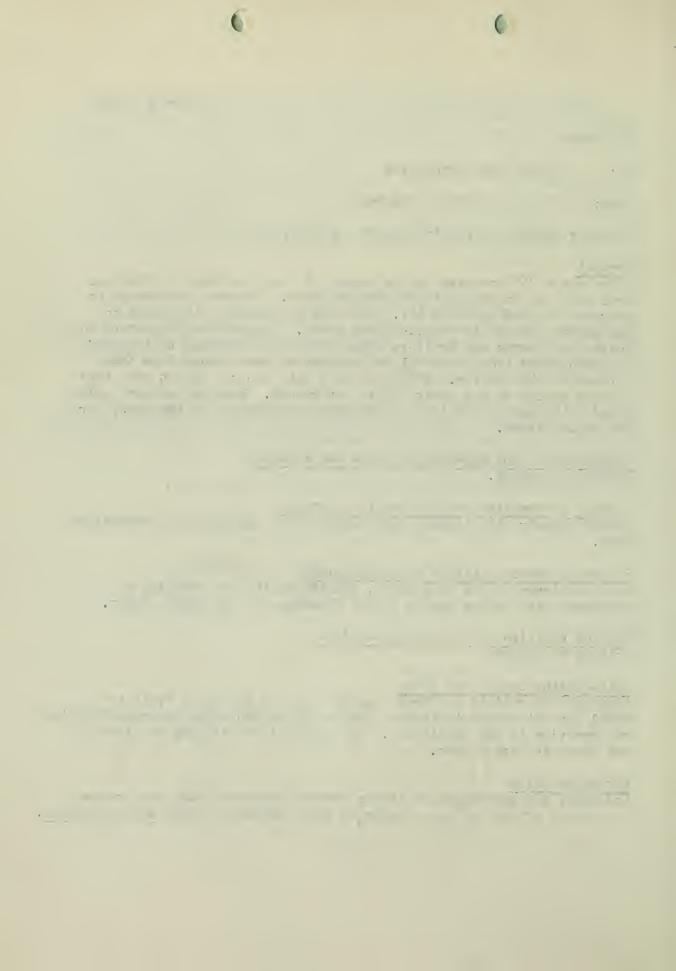
Status of museum exhibits and collections Work continued on the collection, identification and labeling of representative marine shells of the Flamingo and Cape Sable areas.

Wayside exhibits and interpretive signs Nothing to report

Self-guiding trails and tours
Flamingo naturalists explored the beginning of the cance trail to
Pearl Bay this month to inspect its condition and weigh the possibilities
of improving it for public use. At present it it in need of clearing
and remarking its course.

Conducted Trips

Fnjoyment and perticipation in the weekend bayshore walks was reduced to a great extent by the presence in great swarms of Aedes teeniorhynchus.



Talks and campfire programs

An increased scheduled of evening programs went into effect this month.

Programs are now presented every night except Sunday.

Off-site Talks
Nothing to report

Interpretive personnel and training Nothing to report

Audiovisual devices and programs Nothing to report

Miscellaneous interpretive activities

A group of seven college students from Rigaud College, Pourget, Quebec were conducted on field trips by Mrazek and Paige on July 17th and 18th. The group was under the supervision of Father Genest.

There were several indications of an early bird migration. Observations included: Redstarts, YellowOthroated Warblers, Barn Swallows, Spotted Sampipers and Kingfishers.

Vincent J. Mraze

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September 10, 1965

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To: Swerintendent

Acting /Chief Park Naturalist From:

Subject: Division of Interpretation Fonthly Marrative Teport for

August, 1965

CERRITAL

Increase or Jecrease in Trav. 1: Visitor use has been good for this time of the year with mostly out of state cars. Attendance at walks and talks at Royal alm was very good for this time of the year in spite of heat and mosquitos. Planingo staff reports incre se of attendance at their evening programs.

Visitors: Park Maturalist Trazek stent two days in the field with Drs. Craighead and Kriteler studying marine plants and animals. Pr. Kritzler is a noted marine biologist and instructor at Fard College, New York and Florida State University.

Park Naturalist Paige act with Drs. B.Q. Ward, research microbiologist, and E. Spencer Carrett, microbiologist, both from the Eureau of Commercial Pisheries, Pascagoula, iss. on August h. They spent the day around Flamingo talding and and figh samples as a part of their research on botulish along the Florida coasts.

"iscellaneous: Park Naturalists Track and Paige scent Augu t 22 on orient tion and photography in the Shark Valley Loop Foad area and Dverglades. The day was topred off like icing on the cake with the bird roost trip into Chokoloskee Bey which produced splender galer in the form of seemingly endless string like flights of white ibis and a spectacularly colorful sunset.

APTIMETRATION

Personnel: Seasonal Fanger Naturalist Samuel W. Fendlen was furloughed onding his 5th season with the Park and we are looking forward to his return for the inter season.

Seasonal Panger Naturalist James A. Penslow was converted to Seasonal Park Janger General.

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Park Maturalist Pavid B. Ames from Moss Verde joined the staff on August 30 and is busy becoming acquainted with this entirely different area.

Training: All available nembers of the Interpretation staff were called in for a one day training session.

CONSERVATION, INTERPETATION AND USE

Interpretive Facilities: Our troubles continue with the audicvisual equipment. The unit at Pa-Nay-Okee is still not fixed. The machine that has been in for repairs for over a year continues to be not available. In the Parachate Key Visitor Center we are operating the slide program on one unit. The wide acreen movie projector is down and repair cost makes its repair questionable.

Members of the staff are making progress on the Cuy Bradley Memorial Trail plans which are being made in cooperation with the Audubon Society.

Additional work was carried out on the marine shell study collection this month .

A review was made of several suggestions for new signs for the Mangroveland Nature Guide.

Interpretive Services:

The number of visitor who took advantage of the later closing hours at Parachute Key Visitor Center decreased over last month. The talley of persons who entered the visitor center is as follows:

5:00 - 5:30: 216 5:30 - 6:00: 139 6:00 -6:30: 5 6:30 - 7:00: 6

Feccarch and Observations: Weather for August was very dry and our much needed water has not arrived. Mater level at Poyal Falm and Taylor Slough has not been high enough to drown out the weeds in the canal area which are now chocked with vagetation.

Very little reproduction seems to be taking place in the ponds.

Mosquitos have been heavy no t of the month causing a great deal of discomfort to stiff and visitors.

Pescurce Planning

Cooperating Non-Covernment Agencies: 7 Class A Collecting Permits were issued during the worth.

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Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for August, 1965

The weather during August was unseasonably dry, but not dry enough to discourage the mosquitoes and they were here in swarms throughout the month. Several timely rain squalls on the last day of the month served to temperarily alleviate drought conditions around Flamingo, however we are still about 12 inches below normal for the year.

Visitor use of the area and attendance at interpretive programs was normal for the time of year.

Informational and directional signs and markers Nothing to report

Visitor information and orientation stations
Approximately 560 visitors were contacted at the Flamingo information desk.

Status of museum exhibits and collections

Additional work was carried out on the marine shell study collection this month.

Wayside exhibits and interpretive signs Nothing to report

Self-guiding trails and tours

A review was made of several suggestions for new signs for the Mangroveland Nature Guide.

An on-site survey was made for the proposed Coastal Prairie Trail near the new campground at Flamingo with the Chief and Asst. Chief Naturalists.

Conducted trips
Bayshore nature walks were conducted on a weekend basis during the month.

Talks and campfire programs

Evening programs were well attended during August, an increase of 30% over last month.

Off-site talks Nothing toreport

Interpretive Personnel and training
Two seamonal naturalists from the Royal Palm area were conducted on
orientation trips by boat and car in the Mangrove District during August.

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Audiovisual devices and programs Nothing to report

Miscellaneous interpretive activities
Mrazek spent two days in the field with Drs. Craighead and Kritzler
studying marine plants and animals. Dr. Kritzler is a noted marine
biologist and instructor at Bard College, New York and Florida State
University during the summer.

Mrazek and Paige spent August 22 on orientation and photography in the Shark Valley Loop road and Everglades City areas. The day was topped off like icing on the cake with the bird roost trip into Chokoloskee Bay which produced splendor galor in the form of seemingly endless string like flights of white ibis and a spectacularly colorful sunset.

Paige met with Drs. B.Q. Ward, research microbiologist and E. Spenser Garrett, microbiologist, both from the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Pascagoula, Miss. on August 4. They spent the day around Flamingo taking mud and fish samples as a part of their research on botulism along the Florida coasts. They asked our cooperation in the collection of mud samples from various marine areas of the park.

Vincent J. Mrazek
Park Naturalist

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

October 4, 1965

Memorandum

To:

Superintendent

From:

Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Division of Interpretation Monthly Narrative Report

for September, 1965

GENERAL

Increase or Decrease in Travel: The number of visitors using interpretive facilities at Flamingo and Royal Palm dropped markedly during the month. It is interesting to note that the Sunday following the hurricane 1,117 people were counted entering the Park through the Entrance Station. Since the Dade County parks, the Miami beach areas, and the Florida Keys were closed to the public, apparently a goodly number of Sunday travelers (and perhaps in this case curiosity seekers) and boaters chose to visit the Park.

ADMINISTRATION

Personnel: Park Naturalist Richard Cunningham left on September 20 to attend the Horace M. Albright Training Center fall session.

Park Naturalist Gale Zimmer, while on annual leave, visited Great Smokies, Blue Ridge, Shenendoah, and several monuments.

Park Naturalist Vincent Mrazek is currently on annual leave and is using the time to visit relatives in Kentucky.

CONSERVATION, INTERPRETATION, AND USE

Interpretive Facilities: Hurricane Betsy has left her scars on Everglades National Park. Damage to man made developments will soon be cleaned up, repaired, or rebuilt, but her damage to the natural features of the area will take years to replace, if they ever do come back. The fact that the Murricane itself was a natural feature has helped the interpretive staff very little. Betsy has left the interpretive staff with the problem of how to interpret what we have left - the story of hurricanes can only be told so often.

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At this writing, the Headquarters (Parachute Key) Visitor Center is out of operation and will be so until it is redone which may be many months from now. Therefore, the Entrance Station is being used as the initial visitor contact point. Because of the traffic problem, little can be done here. The best that the staff can do is to hand out brochures; give a quick, but pleasant, greeting; and suggest they visit Royal Palm where further information is available.

Royal Palm area suffered greatly. The Gumbo Limbo Trail was not reopened until the last week of this month and is still in rather bad shape. The top of the hammock was removed allowing sunlight to flood most of the area. Anhinga Trail was notdemaged.

Of the rest of the trails along the main Park road, only Pineland and Mangrove Trails are open. Mahogany and Pa-Hay-Okea will stay closed until money is made available for reconstruction.

The trails at Bear Lake and the road to Snake Bight are also closed due to extensive damage. .8 miles of downed trees and shrubs were cleared from the Snake Bight road by naturalist personnel.

Architect Lester Pancoast submitted a drawing reflecting his concept of the Guy Bradley Trail. This drawing was forwarded to SERO for comments.

Interpretive Services: On several nights, due to the light visitation, the scheduled program at Flamingo was cancelled. At Royal Palm, there were so few visitors that the majority of the talks and walks had "no takers".

Evening programs at Flamingo were reduced to Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday to permit the District Naturalist to take leave.

Sightseeing boat trips to Whitewater Bay and the sunset cruise are operating on schedule. The Cape Sable trip has been cancelled until about November 1, as the dock at East Cape was destroyed in the hurricane.

All talks to be presented this winter season at Flamingo have been brought up to date. New talks will be offered on birds, Park water problem, and Florida Bay. The present talks are being taped for use as a second evening program this winter.

Research and Observations: There was apparently very little bird mortality due to the hurricane; however, fish kill was high.

The fall migration is well under way. Large flocks of warblers have been observed in Royal Palm and Flamingo areas. Vireos and Gnatcatchers

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are foraging in the mangroves. Lark Sparrows, Pigeon Hawks, and shorebirds of all kinds have been coming through in numbers.

After Betsy, one new species of bird new to the Park was noted and several species were displaced.

The water at Royal Palm is dropping on an average of .1" a day.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities: Dr. Archie Carr of the Carribean Conservation Corporation arranged for 1800 Green Turtles to be flown here again this year. They arrived the night of September 27 and were promptly taken to Flamingo; transferred to a waiting boat for release in the surrounding waters. 800 were sent over the side at Bradley Key and 600 at Cape Sable. The next morning 400 were flown to Fort Jefferson and released in the Dry Tortugas.

On September 29, Assistant Chief Naturalist Robert Haugen and District Ranger Stokes accepted a donation of three 9 month old female panthers, one 2½ year old male Black Bear, and one 10 foot male crocodile from Bill and Lester Piper of Bonita Springs. The animals, who were in excellent condition, were released inside the Park. These animals represent a very valuable gift to the National Park Service.

COOPERATING ASSOCIATIONS

Closing of the Visitor Center has effected the Everglades Natural History Association. There was a drop in sales for this month - at a time when we can ill afford it.

Ernst T. Christensen

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Everglades National Park October 1, 1965

Memorandum:

To: Chief Park Naturalist, Everglades

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for September, 1965

General

Weather Conditions: Hurricaine Betsy brought about 5 inches of rain to the Flamingo area, raising water levels to near normal. By the end of the month, however, water levels had dropped again as there was little other precipitation during what is normally one of the wettest months.

Flamingo Weather Data

Maximum Temperature 92
Minimum Temperature 72
Precipitation 8.07
Precipitation To Date 26.90

Increase or Decrease in Travel: Travel decreased markedly from August at Flamingo. Attendance at the evening programs was less than a fourth of that recorded in September, 1964. The decrease can be attributed to; 1) the closure of Flamingo to visitation for a week following Hurricaine Betsy: 2) lack of overnight accommedations due to damaged facilities: 3) high winds prevailing over Florida Bay through most of the month reducing use by boaters, and; 4) mosquitoes.

Visitors: Mr. Gibson Johnston, US Public Health Service

Dr. George Sudia, US Public Health Service

J. D. Pennekamo, Associate Editor, Miami Ferald

Mr. Lewellyn, Soil Study, University of Florida

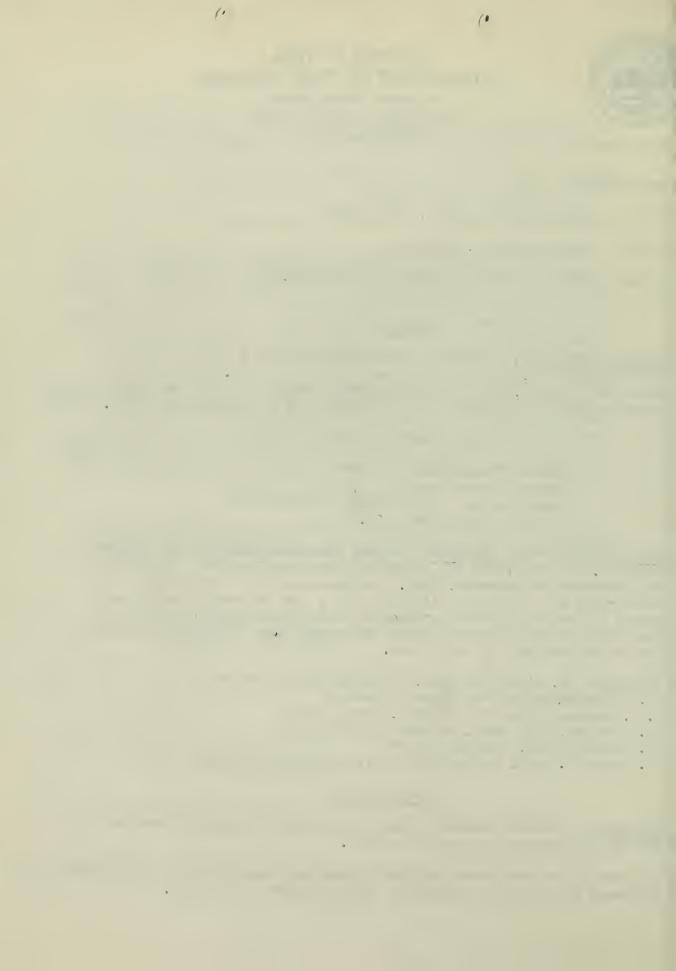
Mr. Horace Sutton, Saturday Review

Dr. Durwin C. Tabb, Marine Laboratory, University of Miami

Administration

Personnel: Flamingo personnel were evacuated for Hurricaine Betsy on the 7th and returned to duty on the 9th.

District Naturalist Mrazek and Park Naturalist Paige attended an employment follow-up interview with Personnel Officer Taylor on the 17th.



District Naturalist Mrazek was on annual leave from the 24th through the end of the month.

Conservation, Interpretation and Use

Interpretive Facilities: The self-guiding auto trail and the Mangrove trail at West Lake suffered minor hurricaine damage. The Mahogany Hammock and Bear Lake trails and the road to Snake Bight are closed due to extensive damage. .8 miles of downed trees and shrubs were cleared from the Snake Bight road by naturalist personnel.

Interpretive Services: Evening Programs were reduced to Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 8:30 to permit personnel to take leave. On several scheduled nights programs were cancelled, a reflection of light visitation during the month.

Sight-seeing boat trips to Whitewater Bay and the sunset cruise are operating on schedule. The Cape Sable trip has been cancelled until about November 1. The dock at the East Cape was destroyed in the Hurricaine.

All talks have been brought up to date. New talks will be offered this winter on birds, park water problems and Florida Bay. The present talks are being taped for use as a second eveming program this winter.

Research and Observations: A report was submitted to Park Biologist Robertson concerning the damage to wildlife populations at Flamingo due to Betsy. No damage was noted in the Fast River Rookery.

The fall migration is well under way, with large flocks of warblers, vireos and gnatcatchers foraging in the mangroves. Lark Sparrows, Pigeon Hawks and shorebirds of all kinds have been coming through in numbers.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities: Park Ranger Holden and Park Naturalists Zimmer and Paige released 2,000 Green Turtle young received from Costa Rica on the 27th and 28th. 1,400 were released near Guy Bradley Key, the rest on East Cape Sable.

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EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

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FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT P. O. BOX 279

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY.

November 9, 1965

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Division of Interpretation Monthly Narrative Report

for October, 1965.

GENERAL

<u>Visitors</u>: Mr. Gosta Vogel-Rodin, Managing Director, Tourist Traffic Association of the Provience Vastergotland, Tallhattan, Sweden visited with the Chief Park Neturalist and was given assistance with visual materials furnished.

District Ranger Mrazek accompanied Mr. Hugh Cortney Lane, Asst. Editor, The Evening Post, Wellington, New Zealand, on a field trip October 23.

ADMINISTRATION

General: Chief Park Naturalist Christensen and staff worked on the preparation of the Everglades Natural Sciences Research Plan as well as the Shark Valley Loop Road Area Interpretive Prospectus. Work was also started by Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen on the Interpretive Prospectus for Fört Jefferson National Monument.

Personnel: Naturalist Bruce Paige was assigned the Culvert Study Research Program since Ranger Holden's reassignment to the Tamiami area.

CONSERVATION, INTERPRETATION, AND USE

Interpretive Facilities: Much as been done this month to renovate interpretive devices damaged or antiquated by Hurricane Betsy: The Liguus exhibit was refreshed and replaced at Royal Palm; work was begun on rewriting trail labels which were antiquated; "lift" exhibits were removed from Anhinga and Mangrove Trails and along the Shark Valley Loop Road for refurbishing; and, panel exhibits in need of redoing were removed from the museum at Flamingo, West Lake exhibit room, and Pa-hay-okee and sent to the Museum Laboratory, WASO.

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THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF

 Work was started on new signs for the Mangroveland Self-guiding auto tour. The design will be similar to that used along the Shark Valley Loop Road. The two interpreters assigned to Flamingo have undertaken the task of routing, painting, and constructing 22 two-sided interpretive signs along 5 miles of the main Park road from the bridge to the Snake Bight Boad.

A fresh set of slides was placed in the rookery exhibit in the museum at Flamingo and preventive maintenance was performed at that time.

Interpretive Services: Much rain, many mosquitos and few visitors was the story for October. The decrease in visitor use was reflected in the generally poor attendance at programs during the month.

With the closing of the visitor center, first because of damage by the hurricane, and now for remodeling, initial contact with the visitor is at the entrance station. As indicated in last month's report, it is virtually impossible to properly discuss the various aspects of "what to do and see" while in the Park and still keep traffic moving at a reasonable pace. To overcome this, Park Guide Maude Harriott has compiled and is now preparing mimeographed sheets to give the visitor which will indicate "what to see where" and will incorporate the winter schedule of naturalist programs.

One copy of "Highlights of the Everglades" is missing. Inquiries have been sent out, but to no avail. Any information about this missing film will be appreciated.

Research and Observations: A concerted effort is being made to record field observations. Forms for this have been given out in great number; consequently, many observation reports have been received from field personnel this month - most significant enough to be further recorded and placed in the permanent observation record file.

The windows at Park Headquarters have proved to be an excellent collecting and observation spot. At the present time, carefully being watched and photographed by Park Naturalist Zimmer, are varieties of spiders and spider egg sacs. One sac was dissected under the microscope and yielded scads of minute and lively young who immediately spun sild and lowered themselves from the scope to the table.

The lowest water level at Taylor Slough for the month was recorded on October 1 - 2.70"; the highest on October 23 - 4.14".

On October 17, a medium-sized alligator was found wandering in the Royal Palm parking lot. The front 3 inches of its lower jaw was hanging by a flap of skin. This was apparantly caused by an argument with a fellow reptile. He was moved from the area.

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The power line along the Anhinga Trail may be reducing the bird life. Two dead Florida Gallinules were found dead below the wires. A coot with a broken leg was found beneath the boardwalk spur.

A Cape May Warbler, earliest fall record, was seen at Flamingo Marina on October 16.

On October 26, Coots were observed at Snake Bight - 5,600 strong!

A panther seemingly about nine months old was seen at West Lake. It is possible that this animal was one of those released last month.

Curatorial Activities: Herpetological and icthyological specimens received during the past year were cataloged.

Seasonal Naturalist John Ogden, who is assisting the Park Biologist, has prepared seven bird specimens for the study collection.

Approximately 70 new slides were added to the Park's slide collection.

Many insects heretofore not found in the study collection were collected (mainly from around the Headquarters area), pinned and added to the collection.

COOPERATING ASSOCIATIONS

The annual Board of Directors of the Everglades Natural History Association was held the night of October 21.

Ernst T. Christensen Chief Park Naturalist

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Memorandum

To:

Chief Park Naturalist

From:

Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for October, 1965

General

Much rain, many mosquitoes and few visitors was the story for October, 1965. There was a 20% decrease in visitation to the Flamingo area under that for October of last year. The decrease in visitor use was reflected in the generally poor attendance at evening programs during the month.

Informational and directional signs and markers Nothing to report

Visitor information and orientation stations Approximately 155 visitors were contacted at the lamingo information desk which was manned only part time, usually on weekends.

Status of museum exhibits and collections The two hurricane exhibits in the Flamingo museum and one from the West Lake exhibit room were removed and sent to the Museum Lab for updating since the visit by "Betsy" in September.

Wayside exhibits and interpretive signs Nothing to report

Self-guiding trails and toucs Work was started on new signs for the Mangroveland Self-guiding Auto tour. The design will be similar to that used along the Shark Valley Loop read. The two interpreters presently assigned here are undertaking the task of routing, painting and construction of 22 two-sided interpretive signs along 5 miles of the main park road from the bridge to the Snake Bight road.

Conducted Trips

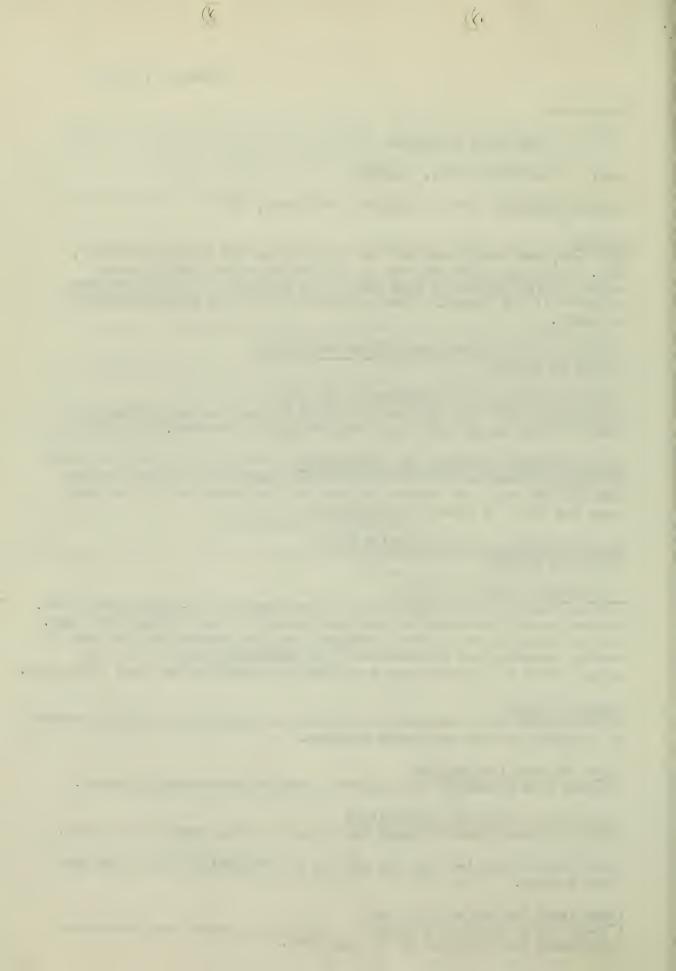
Bayshore walks were conducted on weekends and were poorly attended because of inclement weather and insect nuisance.

Talks and campfire programs Programs were presented three nights a week and were poorly attended.

Interpretive personnel and training Naturalist Mrazek was on annual leave the first two weeks of the month.

Mrazak took Naturalist Ames and wife on an orientation trip to the East River Rookery.

Audiovisual devices and programs A fresh set of slides was placed in the rookery exhibit and preventive maintenance was performed at the same time.



Miscellaneous interpretive activities Naturalist Paige was assigned the Culvert Study Research Program (i.e., recording water depth, fish and wildlife concentrations etc.) since Ranger Holden's reassignment to the Tamiami area.

Mrazek accompanied Mr. Hugh Courtney Lane, Asst. Editor, The Evening Post, Wellington, New Zealand on a field trip Oct. 23rd.

Some bird migration observations of note:

Cape May Warbler, earliest fall record - seen at Flamingo Marina on Oct. 16.

Cliff Swallow - on Oct. 15 near Visitor Center.

Veery - Oct. 17 at West Lake.

Swainson's Thrush - at 9 mi Pond on Oct. 22.

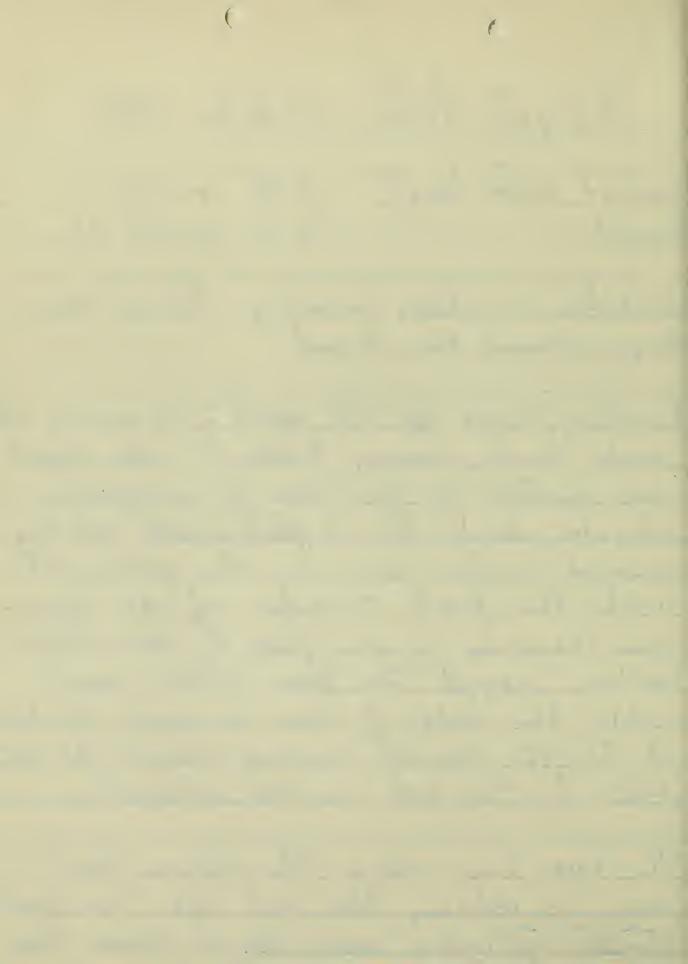
Chesnut-sided Warbler along Buttonwood Canal road on Oct. 23rd.

Coots - 5,600 strong at Snake Bight on Oct. 26.

Park Naturalist

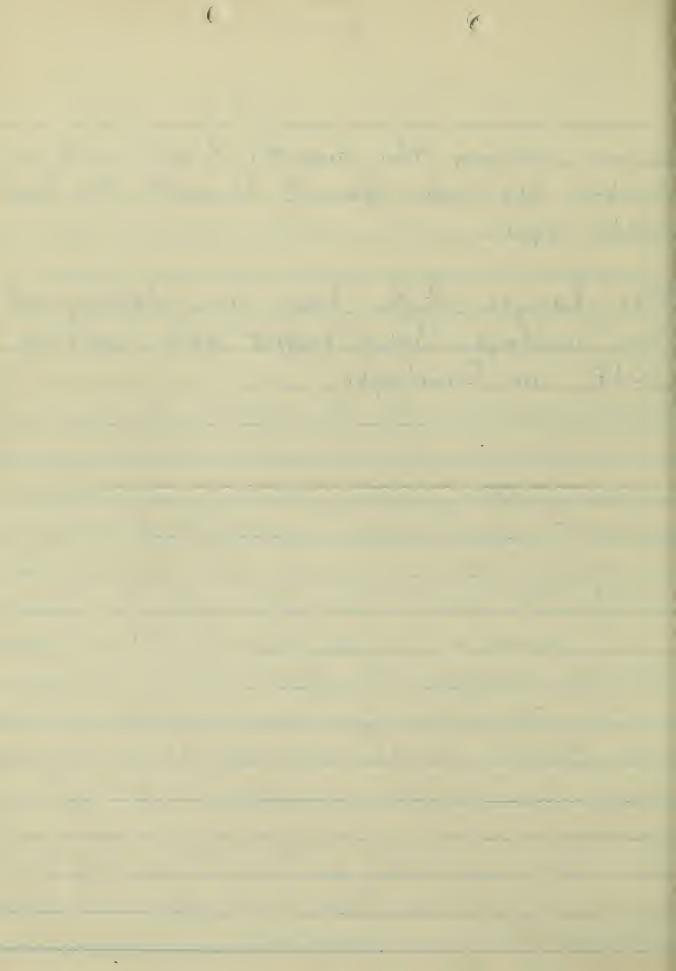
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October 1965 Royal Palm Lowest water level Heighest " 2.70 on Oct. 1 4.14 on Oct 23 Visitation is slowly increasing. Several rainy days slowed this trend. Excelling cerent for the month: On aniving at work Sounday morning October 17 John Leppert was queted by the Losen in a possible alignator dual. The 7 footer was crawling ceround under cars in the parking lot with the front 3 inches of its lower jaw hanging 6, a flap of skin. Cowley Carlson repeal the poor critter and with the help of Lim Synagogue trucked it to the canal running down the east side of the hole in the doughnot. The Voever Line along the Anninga trail may be reducing the bird life. Two dead florida gallindes were found believe the



wires during the month. A coot with a broken leg was found beneath the board-walk spor.

The Ranger-Fides have been helping out on Sundays. John Leppert also working WAE on Sundays.



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK NAME AND POST OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE OWNER, WHEN and FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MORRHENT P. O. BOX 279

N2615

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA 33030

December 3, 1965

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Memorandum

Superintendent To:

Chief Park Naturalist From:

Subject: Division of Interpretation Monthly Marrative Report for

November, 1965

GENERAL

Visitors: Mr. John Carey from Burlington, Ontario, consulted with the interpretive staff regarding an educational film he has been compiling during visits to the Park over the past several years. The greater portion of this film was reviewed by the staff and was found to be excellent. In order to fill in several background sounds he was not able to record - i.e. alligator and limpkin - he borrowed several sound tracks from the Park library.

Naturalist Mrazek accompanied Dr. John H. Davis, Professor of Botany, University of Florida and eight graduate students to Mahogany Nammock and Mangrove Trails on November 20. Dr. Davis will be a member of the Research Team who will visit early in December.

ADMINISTRATION

General: A draft of the Everglades Natural Sciences Research Plan and the final draft of the Interpretive Prospectus for the Shark Valley Loop Road area were completed and submitted. The first draft of the Interpretive Prospectus for Fort Jefferson will be ready for submission to Southeast Regional Office early in December; however, it will be held at Everglades until Mr. Manucy arrives and can review it.

CONSERVATION, INTERPRETATION, AND USE

Interpretive Pacilities: The lift boxes on all operating trails have been replaced after the "face lifting" made necessary by Hurricane Betsy.

The interpretive staff at Flamingo have been spending most of their spare time in the completion of 22 interpretive signs for the selfguiding auto tour along 5 miles of the main Park road near Flamingo. ORIGINAL PROPERTY.

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It is planned to hang the signs from angled pipe at the brush side of the road berm to prevent interference with roadside mowing operations.

Interpretive Services: The winter schedule of naturalist conducted programs has been compiled and printed. The program which in previous years was offered on Wednesday evening in the Headquarters Visitor Center will be given as a campfire program at Long Pine Rey Campground until the remodeling of the Visitor Center is completed. Because of the excellent response last year to a once-a-week guided tour along the Pineland Trail, this has been incorporated into the winter schedule and will be led by Maturalist Gale Zimmer.

The evening programs at Flamingo were increased to six nights a week and were well attended at the end of the month. During the four day Thanksgiving weekend the "auditorium" was crowded to the last square foot of space and many visitors were unable to get in at all.

The Bayshore walks on weekends were also well attended and well received this month.

The visitation at Royal Palm as well as the number of visitors who afforded themselves of the services available there showed a marked increase.

Several American Bitterns and Purple Gallinules at Royal Palm have enhanced the services of that area. They spend most of their time in spots where they can be easily seen and seem to delight in posing for those two legged meanals with cameras in hand.

Research and Observations: Not too many alligators were to be seen at Royal Palm this month.

Rangers Stokes and Winte reported evidence of a deer kill by a panther in the Tamismi Sub-District.

A pair of Bald Eagles at Coot Bay began rebuilding their nest which has been destroyed by Hurricane Betsy about November 15.

White Pelicans sgain adorned the mud flats in front of the Flamingo Visitor Center, making their first appearance early this month. They numbered well over 500 by the month's end.

Roseate Spoonbills began making their seasonal appearances at the various roadside ponds this month. These birds have also been observed nesting at the Tern Keys. The hurricane fairly well denuded the trees of these islands and the Roseate Spoonbills' nest, can be essily viewed from a boat standing off shore.

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Avocets and shore birds.

Curatorial Activities: A very valuable collection of Liguus and other land snail shells was donated to the Park by Mr. Richard Deckert of Miami. This is an enormous collection comprised of an estimated 8,000 specimens. Curatorial work has been delayed on this collection until Mr. Deckert and Mr. Ralph Humes are able to visit the Park to explain certain aspects of this collection to us. In the meantime Regional Reserve Funds have been requested to purchase proper equipment in which to store these shells.

Approximately 25 more insects were added to the study collection this past month,

RESOURCE PLANNING

Cooperating Non-Government Agencies: Three collecting permits were issued this month.

Superintendent Joseph and Chief Naturalist Christensen were members of a panel which discussed the water situation as part of Fort Myers' Conservation Week. Mr. Dail, Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District was also a member of this panel. This discussion panel was very well received and several requests for speakers were received from other organization in this area as a result.

Each day more and more requests for a speaker are received from schools, clube, and other organizations. Chief Park Naturalist Christensen and Assistant Chief Park Naturalist Haugen contacted the better part of a thousand people in the Mismi-Homestead area this month alone as a result of these requests.

Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen escorted the Ranger Aides to the town of Everglades where Sammy Hamilton, Concessioner, took them of a boat trip in the area.

COOPERATING ASSOCIATIONS

The National Park Service auditors have been auditing the Everglades Natural History Association's records and will meet with officials here during December to discuss their findings.

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Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for November, 1965

General

The weather cooled, rain and mosquitoes dropped off, and the number of visitors increased substantially during November. Attendance at evening programs toward the end of the month was near capacity, compared to an average of 25% or less during Sept and Oct.

Informational and directional signs and markers Nothing to report

Visitor information and orientation stations

Approximately 460 visitors were contacted at the Flamingo information desk, manned only part time during the month.

Status of museum exhibits and collections
The hurricane exhibits from the Flamingo museum and the West Lake exhibit room were still undergoing changes at Museum Lab in Washington.

Wayside exhibits and interpretive signs Nothing to report

Self-guiding trails and tours

Most spare time was spent in the completion of 22 interpretive signs for the self-guiding auto tour along 5 miles of the main park road near Flamingo. It is planned to hang the signs from angled pipe at the brush side of the road berm to prevent interference with roadside mowing operations.

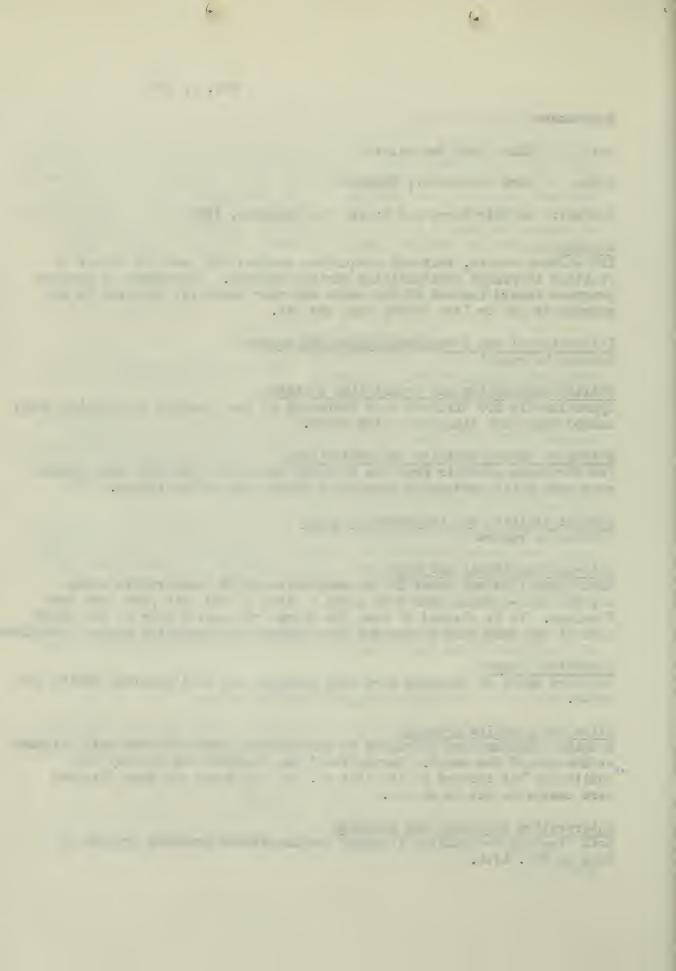
Conducted Trips

Bayshore walks on weekends were well attended and well received during the month.

Talks and campfire programs

Evening programs were increased to six nights a week and were well attended
,at the end of the month. During the 3 day Thanksgiving holiday the
auditorium was crowded to the last sq. foot of space and many visitors
were unable to get in at all.

Interpretive personnel and training
Both Flamingo naturalists attended the in-service training program at
Hdqs on Nov. 17th.



Audiovisual devices and programs Nothing to report

Miscellaneous Interpretive Activities
Naturalist Paige devoted day a week to the Culvert Study research
project.

Naturalist Mrazek accompanied Dr. John H. Davis, Prof of Botany, U. of Florida and eight graduate students to Mahogany Hammock and Mangrove trails on Nov. 20th.

Notable bird observations:

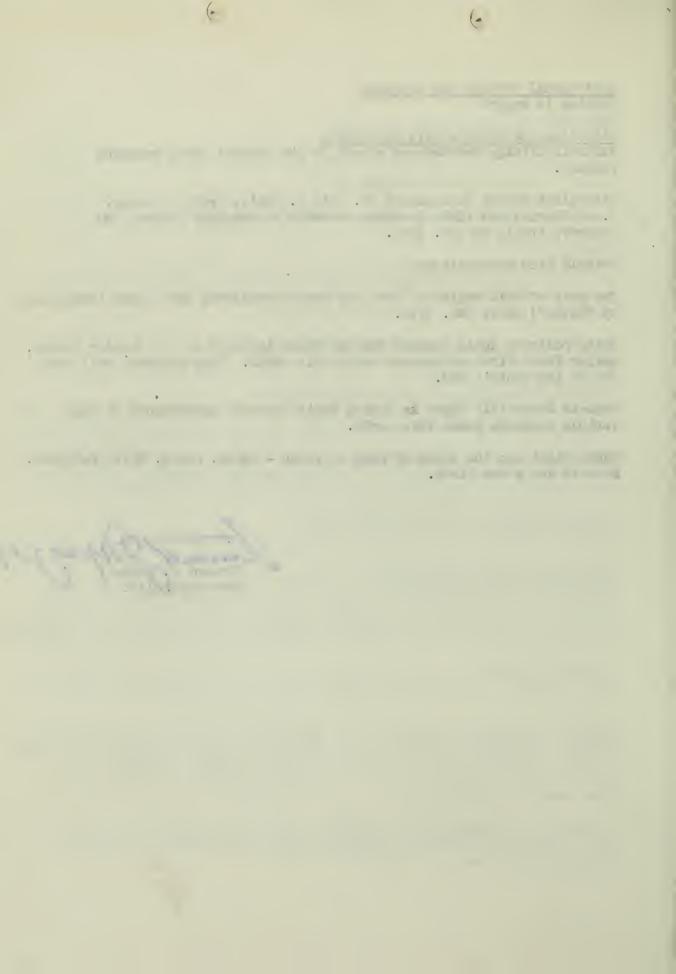
The pair of bald eagles at Coot Bay began rebuilding their nest (destroyed by "Betsy") about Nov. 15th.

White pelicans again adorned the mud flats in front of the Visitor Center, making their first appearance early this month. They numbered well over 500 by the month's end.

Roseate Spoonbills began km making their seasonal appearances at the various roadside ponds this month.

Snake Bight was the scene of many migrants - ducks, coots, White Belicans, Avocets and shore birds.

Vincent J Wraze





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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Naturalist Tile

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

and

FORT JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT

P. O. BOX 279

HOMESTRAD, FLORIDA 33030

January 5, 1966

Memorandum

To: Superintendent

From: Chief Park Naturalist

Subject: Division of Interpretation Monthly Narrative Report for

December, 1965

GENERAL

Visitors: Dr. Clyde L. Porter, Jr., University of Miami, spent an afternoon researching the herbarium and library. Before leaving he stated that our Park library contained a weakh of information on South Florida while the University's library did not and thus our library was much superior to the University's.

Mr. Ralph Humes donated a day of his time to work on the Deckert collection. The main purpose, at this time, was to separate the foreign shells from those inhabiting the everglades. The foreign shells will not be included in the collection donated to the Park instead they will be offered to various museums.

Mrs. Lura Dickson, authoress of Yellowstone Wonderland for Boys and Girls, and who is currently working on another children's book pertaining to wildlife incidents in National Parks, arrived at Park headquarters to begin research of the library and observation file to secure material for a section on Everglades National Park.

Mr. Alfred Bester, representative of Holiday magazine and who is currently doing an article on the water situation, was escorted to various places in the Park by Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen. To aid his research further, he was also given the existing printed information and a bibliography pertaining to the water problem and the background of the Park.

Mr. George Page, NBC News, reporter for the Huntley Brinkley program, was in the area preparing a documentary on the water situation. Maturalists Gale Zimmer and Vince Mrazek escorted him to various places where he could best see the water story.

Maturalist Bruce Paige spent several days in the field birding with Senator and Mrs. Holland and on December 12 accompanied by District Naturalist Vince Mrazek the group cruised to Lake Ingraham.



The Science Study Group from New York headed by Mrs. Doris Timpano visited the Park over the Christmas holiday again this year. They were treated to special programs at both Royal Palm and Flamingo.

Miscellaneous: Marion and Lister Goble spent their Christmas holiday visiting friends in Guatemala. They had the unusual opportunity of spending Christmas Eve and Christmas Day on a coffee plantation where they joined the Indians in traditional celebrations including the breaking of the pinata.

ADMINISTRATION

Personnel: Since the return of Naturalist Richard Cunningham from the Horace M. Albright Training Center and the return to duty of Kelly F. Motherspaugh and Samuel Mendlen, Naturalist David Ames has been transferred to Flamingo. David is still helping out at Royal Palm on Mondays and is scheduled to give the evening campfire program at Long Pine Key.

Our new WAE Naturalist, George E. Neusaenger, received his indoctrination under fire ... the thousands of visitors who flocked to Royal Palm during the holidays. George is a welcome addition to the staff displaying an eagerness and understanding for the job which is so catching.

Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen attended the U.S. Civil Service Commission Management Institute in Atlanta. He felt this was an excellent course and one which certainly made him appreciate the value of a secretary.

Maturalist Bruce Paige continued the Culvert Research Study, taking weekly measurements and observations from culverts along the Park road.

Seasonal Naturalist Kelly Motherspaugh has been stationed at Shark Valley Loop Road again this year. Here he has learned to handle an airboat and is assisting in patrol and law enforcement work in addition to his interpretive assignments.

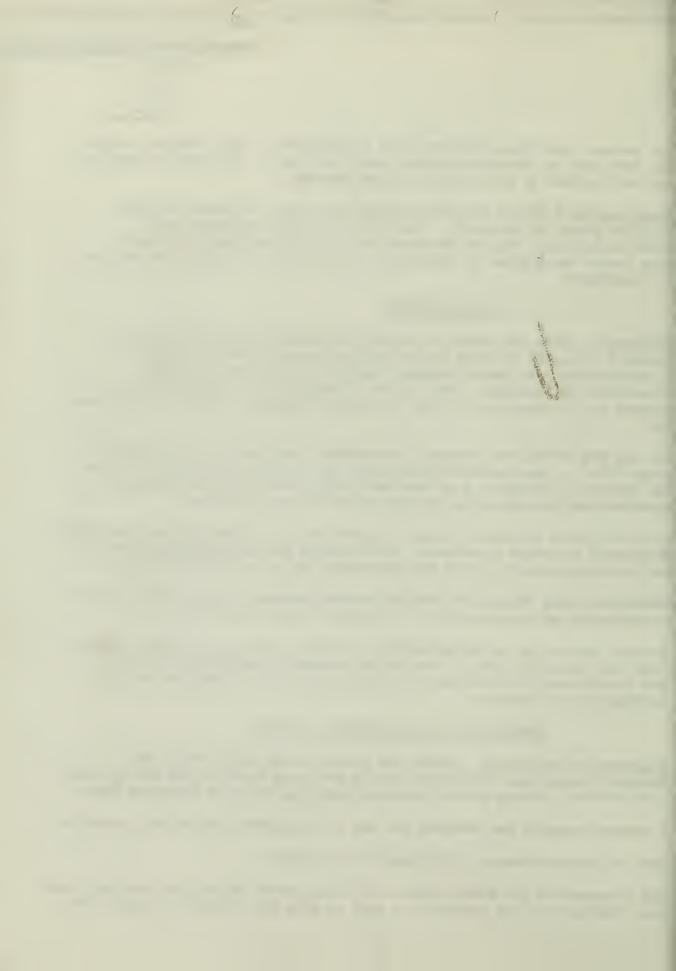
CONSERVATION, INTERPRETATION, AND USE

Interpretive Facilities: During the middle of the month, both the Mahogany Hammock and Pa-Hay-Okee Trails were open again to the public after considerable cleaning up and renovating made necessary by Hurricane Betsy.

A message repeater was received for use at Pa-Hay-Okee and is now operative.

Work on Mahogany Hammock lift boxes is in progress.

The placement of the newly constructed interpretive signs along the Park road near Flamingo will be completed as soon as pipe and fittings are delivered.



The Entrance Station continued to be the first visitor contact point until the erection on December 30 of a small wooden "shanty" in the Headquarter's parking lot. This new information point was extremely necessary because of 1) the tremendous traffic through the Entrance Station and 2) overloading of the restroom system at Royal Palm. On one of the peak days cars (including farmers and missilemen headed toward the Hole-in-the-Donut) were backed up almost to the entrance of the Park. Thus, information which could be dispensed was very limited indeed. The new structure, although rustic, is alieviating this problem greatly and in addition is taking a lot of the burden of answering basic question away from the staff at Royal Palm.

Interpretive Services: By the end of the month, the winter schedule of naturalist's programs was in effect. See schedule attached. At Flamingo beginning Dec. 21 and lasting through the end of the month, hundreds of visitors were turned away each night at the evening program due to lack of space in the Everglades Park Company's lounge. District Mrazek feels that there will probably be a rash of complaints about the inadequacy of the "auditorium". At Royal Palm, cars overflowed the parking area and many were forced to park along the roadways a good walking distance from the station. The talks and guided walks both at Royal Palm and Hamingo were exceptionally well attended with groups at Royal Palm numbering a hundred or more people each program. The campfire circles were also well received and most nights the count was a full house plus.

Research and Observations: The bird show at Coot Bay began as usual for this time of year, but the food supply was quickly exhausted and there were only a few birds to be seen there most of the month.

The East River Rookery stated to form late this month. On December 29 there were about 100 pairs of Wood Ibis and 40 pairs of Common Egrets along with 10 pairs of Anhingas in the rookery. According to Dr. Wm. Robertson, Park Biologist, if the water level continues to recede, the Wood Ibis' chances of rearing their young must be considered doubtful at this time.

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The Royal Palm area which thousands of people have come to love for its profusion of wildlife in the winter months has a drastically reduced number of animals this year. The fish on which the wading birds and alligators feed are so few in number are not enough to sustain the wildlife there.

Observed are small fish, but few large gar, bass and bream. At this writing there are three large and 14 to 16 small gators, 2 purple gallinules; one each bittern, Snowy Egret, Louisiand Heron, Common Egret, Little Blue Heron; many Anhingas; and occasional Wood and White Ibis to be seen. Previously, at this time of year, three to four of each species could be readily pointed out to visitors.

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The East River Rowery taged to fore interior none, on each ber there were about 1.0 pairs of "god lbis now "o on rest Gracen & for along with 10 pairs of willnyse in the converge. . converge to dr. in. Robertson, far Biologiet, if the water let the continuous reseden, the Wood Ibis chance of reaster their your must be constanted at this time.

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The water level at Royal Palm dropped about 1'2" inches during the month. When it began dropping, small fish were observed jumping over a weir in an attempt to move upstream in to the pond.

A Black Bear weighing approximately 125 lbs. was observed by Earl Jackson, Maintenance Foreman, on December 14. The bear was crossing the Park road from the glades in to Long Pine Key near the campground turn in the road.

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500, three month old, Atlantic Green Turtles which had been raised by Dr. and Mrs. Robert Schroeder of Lower Matecumbe Key were released at Cape Sable on December 23. The project of raising hatchlings to a fairly good size before release was undertaken as part of the work of the Caribbean Conservation Corporation under the direction of Dr. Archie Carr. 10 boats carrying 45 very interested folks made up the boat-a-cade cruising from the keys to Cape Sable and included Dr. and Mrs. Carr who came down from Gainesville for the launching. The Park Service was represented by Chief Naturalist Ernst Christensen, Naturalist Gale Zimmer, and Ranger Don Castleberry.

A 10 ft. Manatee was injured by a 30 foot cruiser in Tarpon Creek about December 12. It was swimming around in the Buttonwood Canal for several days, showing signs of distress from a large gash in its back. It was last seen swimming back in to Coot Bay on December 18 and its ultimate fate is not known at this time.

Resource Planning

Cooperating Non-Government Agencies: Two collecting permits were issued during the month. At the request of Princeton University George Neusaenger collected a sample of sludge from Taylor Slough on December 30. This sample is to be used in their research on Testaceans.

Requests for a speaker at schools and local clubs are still being received. During December Chief Park Naturalist Christensen, Assistant Chief Park Naturalist Haugen, and Naturalist Ames contacted 1,760 as a result of these requests:

Again this year Assistant Chief Naturalist Haugen helped to judge the various entries in the Dade County Junior High Schools' annual conservation contest. Many of the student's projects revolved around the theme of Everglades National Park and its need for water. It was quite obvious the Corps of Engineers and the FCD had spent considerable time responding to requests from these children just as the staff of the Park had.

Cooperating Associations

The annual meeting and fish fry for the members of the Natural History Association was held on December 11. This was their most successful meeting yet. 150

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Cocrete se Association

The space, meeting and sish fry for the normals of the decimal lintery r surfactor was held on Dagember 11. Thus was thair with r cessis and r in r

members and guests partook of the fish dinner prepared by the Ranger Aids. The Everglades Wark Company donated 100 lbs of uncleaned fish for which the Ranger Aids were most grateful. The girls spent a good part of the day cleaning fish in addition to the other necessary preparation. After the meal, Dr. Gilbert Voss gave an excellent talk on the deep sea research in Gulf of Guines and a general discussion was held on the water situation here in the Park.

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Grant T. Christensen Enclosure

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Memorandum

To: Chief Park Naturalist

From: Park Naturalist, Flamingo

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for December, 1965

Ceneral

The usual crowding of facilities and interpretive activities began about Dec. 21 and continued at an unprecedented pace through the holiday season. The weather was pleasant and the mosquitoes had abated. The usual bird show began at Cobt Bay pond but the food supply was quickly exhausted and there were only a few birds to be seen there most of the month.

Informational and directional signs and markers Nothing to report

Visitor information and orientation stations
Approximately 1,295 visitors were contacted at the Flamingo information desk.

Status of museum exhibits and collections Nothing to report.

Wayside exhibits and interpretive signs Nothing to report.

Self-guiding trails and tours

The placement of the newly constructed interpretive signs along the main park road awaited procurement of pipe and fittings.

Conducted Trips

Bayshore and wilderness walks were exceptionally well attended during the holidays.

Talks and campfire programs

Beginning on Dec. 21 and lasting through the end of the month, hundreds of visitors were turned away each night at evening programs. There will probably be a rash of complaints about the absurd £nadequacy of the E.P.C. "auditorium2, originally intended as a visitors lounge, for the presentation of interpretive programs. Two programs a night were started after the Timpano Science Study group left on the 28th, but even this was not enough.

Interpretive personnel and training
Naturalist Ames was indoctrinated into the various interpretive programs and procedures at Flamingo after his arrival here Dec. 21.

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Audiovisual devices and programs Nothing to report

Miscellaneous interpretive Activities Frazek spent the day with the Science Research Task Force group on Cape Sable and Lake Ingraham on Dec. 5th.

Paige spent several days in the field birding with Senator and Mrs. Holland, for which they were most appreciative. Prazek accompanied the group to Lake Ingraham on Dec. 12th.

Mrazek took out George Page, NBC News, reporter for the Huntley Brinkley Program to Cape Sable for a possible story on the Park water problem on Dec. luth.

Paige continued with the Culvert Research Study, taking weekly measurements and observations from culverts along the park road.

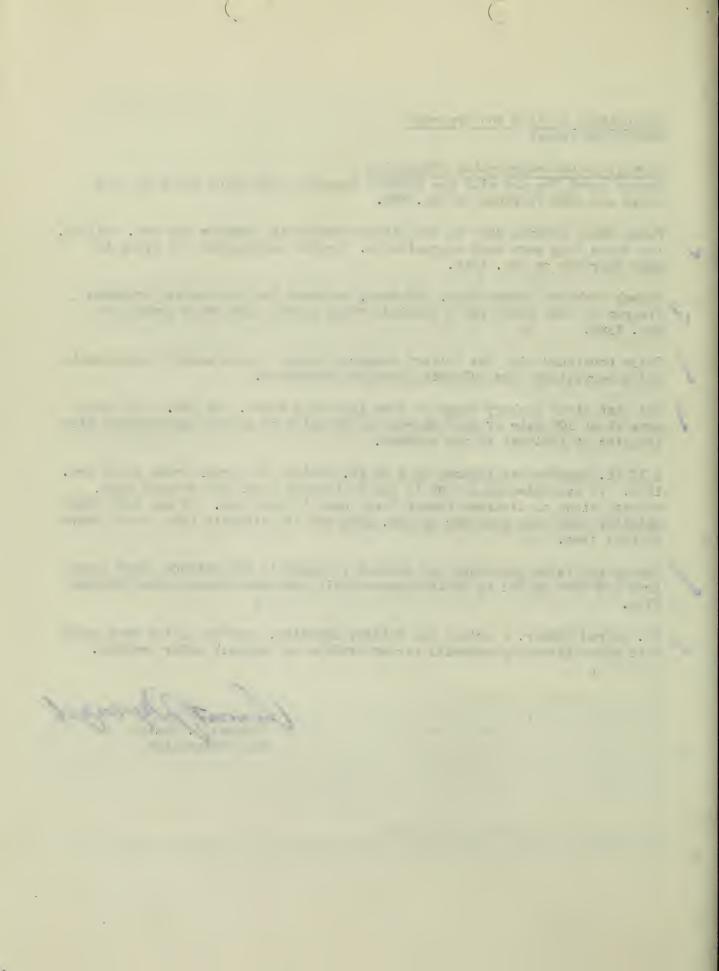
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A 10 ft. manatee was injured by a 30 ft. cruiser in Tarpon Creek about Dec. 12th. It was swimming around in the Buttonwood Canal for several days, showing signs of distress from a large gash in its back. It was last seen swimming back into Coot Bay on Lec. 18th and its ultimate fate is not known at this time.

Mrazek and Paige presented two special programs to the Science Study Group from New York headed by Doris Timpano while they were here on the 26th and 27th.

Mr. Alfred Bester, a writer for Holiday magazine, visited in the area early this month gathering material for an article on the park water problem.

Park Naturalist



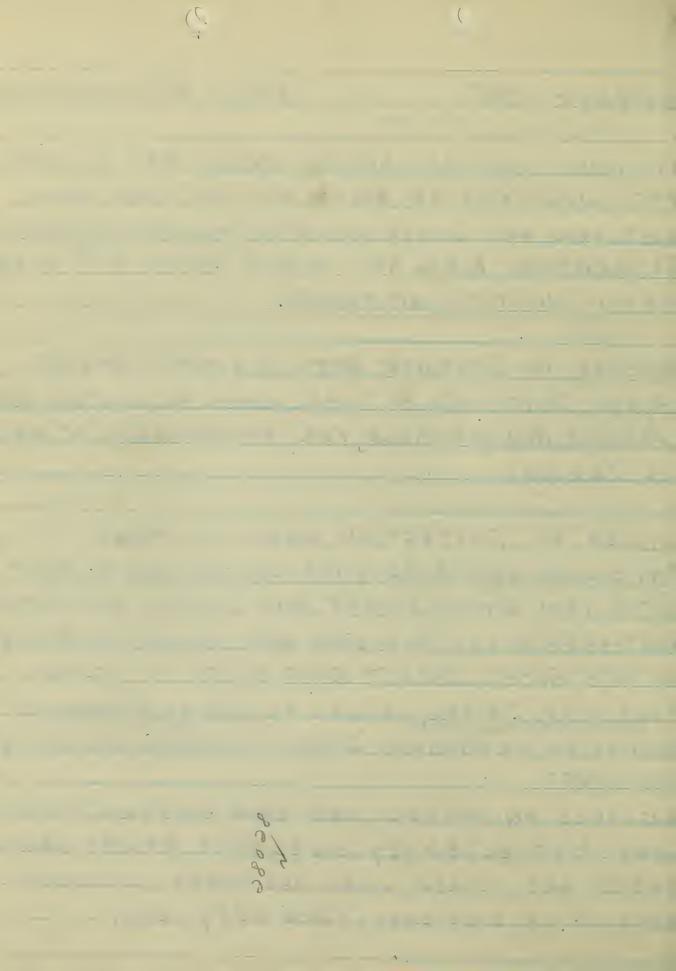
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AUTHOR
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