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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

	ROGERS	
✓	JOHNSTON	FJ
✓	JOFFE	
✓	SOULE	
	MACBETH	
	SHOREY	
	QUIST	
	SOMERVILLE	
✓	BAUER	
✓	BARROWS	MB
	ELLIOTT	
	EVANS	LE
	CHAPMAN	
✓	WOHLBRANDT	
	ROBINSON	

FILE NO. 207-02.3

MONTHLY REPORT

* YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK *

APRIL
1944

IMPORTANT

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NEWTON B. DRURY,
Director.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—22371

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

FICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

May 4, 1944.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

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

Weather Conditions. The weather during April was very unsettled and there were a number of stormy days. The snow around Mammoth disappeared very rapidly and by the 10th of the month there were only occasional drifts. There was very little noticeable heavy run-off in the streams. Snow depths throughout the park were considerably less than last year and less than normal. The Bureau of Reclamation reports snow and water conditions over the Jackson Lake Watershed about the same as was found last month when the snow was 79% of normal and the water content 64% of normal. The maximum temperature for the month was 62° on April 4 and the minimum 17° on the 16th. Total precipitation for April was .52 inch as against 1.92 inches in April 1943. Only 6 clear days were recorded during the month, 10 partly cloudy and 1 cloudy. The snow plows expected to start out on May 1 to clear the highways of snow.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers spent the greater part of the month in the park but made a trip to Chicago on April 2 to attend a meeting of the Western Conference of National Park Operators and to confer with officials in the Director's Office and Regional Director Merriam on Yellowstone matters. He returned on the 19th. Other trips were made outside the park on April 3 to Livingston with Messrs. Johnston, Joffe and Judge Wilcox to attend a Rotary Meeting and confer with officials of the Absaroka Wildlife Conservation Committee and the U. S. Employment Service office, and on April 28 to Bozeman with Chief Ranger Barrows to attend a meeting of the Montana Forest Fire Fighters Service. During his absence Assistant Superintendent Johnston was acting.

On April 4 President Roosevelt signed a bill authorizing payment of $1,894.95 to Mrs. Christine Hansen, mother of Miss Martha Hansen, Superintendent of Nurses, Twin Falls, Idaho, who was killed by a bear at Old Faithful during the summer of 1942. The attack occurred on the night of August 23, 1942 and Miss Hansen died on August 27, 1942.

Purchasing Clerk Ladd Shorey, District Park Ranger Hugh Albert and Assistant Chief Ranger William S. Chapman all received orders to report for induction about the middle of April but on April 12, the day preceding their induction date, they were further deferred due to new regulations. Messrs. Albert and

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Chapman returned to duty in the park but Mr. Shorey, who had moved his family to California, enlisted in the U. S. Army and entered on duty on April 26. Personnel Clerk John Macbeth was ordered to report for his pre-induction physical on May 3 and as he is under 26, there is little possibility of his being deferred. The loss of Messrs. Shorey and Macbeth from our fiscal office will greatly reduce the efficiency in that part of our organization. The Communications and Electrical Division has also been hard hit with the loss of Foreman-Electrician Berl W. Sexton, who received a War Service Transfer to the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company. Our inability to fill the Chief Electrician vacancy vice Lloyd W. Seacholtz, now on military furlough, and the loss of Mr. Sexton, will seriously handicap the work in that division.

The National Park Service and the Yellowstone lost a fine friend and adviser in the death of Richard Lieber in Indiana on April 15. Colonel Lieber was one of the country's leading conservationists and National Park Service enthusiasts. He visited the Yellowstone on a number of occasions and was intensely interested in its problems. His daughter, Jeannette, was employed in the park some 20 years ago.

The park was the recipient, on April 22, of a second plaque, the gift of Hon. Lester C. Hunt, Governor of Wyoming, for the park's showing in the Fourth War Loan Drive. The Yellowstone finished with 267% of its quota, leading all Wyoming units, while in the Third War Loan Drive it finished first with 136% of its quota. The two plaques have been placed on display in the Mammoth Hot Springs Post Office.

The Yellowstone received the loan of an unusual and interesting artifact on April 26, to add to its Indian collection in the Mammoth Museum, through the generosity of William A. Bandy, Cadastral Engineer, General Land Office, Helena, Montana. A "stone cup" or goblet was found by Mr. Bandy in July 1932 on the east shore of a small mountain lake near the summit of the Absaroka Range along the east boundary of the park while engaged in surveying the park's eastern boundary. After retaining the goblet in his possession for some 12 years and having had suggestions at various times to place it in the Smithsonian Institute or the Montana State Historical Library, Mr. Bandy decided its proper place was in the Yellowstone Museum because of its historical connection with the area.

The area around the Lamar Ranger Station in the Lamar Valley has taken on a new appearance with the removal of a part of the old buffalo drift fence. A crew of regular employees began work on the project on April 27 and within three days all of the old fence across the road from the ranger station and extending to the river had been removed. The drift fence had been used for a number of years in connection with the rounding up of the buffalo for "Buffalo Stampedes," which were held during the summer, and for bringing the buffalo into the corrals during the winter in connection with the reduction programs. During the past few winters it has been possible to entice the animals into the corrals by the feeding of hay. The "Buffalo Stampedes" are no longer held in the park.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. The Park engineer spent considerable time in the office assembling data for the Deferred Maintenance Report, due August 15, and assisting in the collection of data for the Building Valuation Report. He also visited all buildings at Mammoth in connection with a Building Maintenance Inspection Report.

General Publicity. No press releases were sent out from the park during the month but several Yellowstone articles appeared in connection with operations for the coming summer and the loan to the Yellowstone Museum of the "stone cup" or goblet by Mr. William H. Sandy.

Road Maintenance. A load limit of 500 pounds per inch width of tire was placed on the Gardiner to Cooke section of highway and also on the Gallatin section because of the soft condition of the surfaces. The limit was removed from the Gardiner section after two weeks when the road had dried out.

The only snow plowing this month was on the Mammoth to Swan Lake section which was done for the convenience of the Sanitation Division in reaching the water intake on Indian Creek.

It was necessary to send two men by way of Livingston and Bozeman to the Gallatin section to open ditches and culverts. They reported the north end in poor condition.

On April 10 the Mammoth maintenance crew was organized and the remainder of the month was spent in the Gardiner River canyon doing protection work along the concrete retaining wall. This wall had been undercut in several places by the high water of 1943. Over 1,000 cubic yards of large boulders were placed along the foot of this wall with many of them cabled together. It is expected that the work will prevent further damage to the concrete wall. About 800 cubic yards of earth were removed and placed along the road shoulder in this same area.

Other Maintenance. The regular maintenance work on buildings at Mammoth was carried on by the carpenters, painters and plumbers.

Park Operators. Mr. J. S. Haynes, who arrived in the park on March 30, remained until April 8. He made another trip to the park on the 13th for one day.

The general store at Mammoth was open throughout the month to take care of local residents.

A meeting of the Western Conference of National Park Operators was held in Chicago on April 13 and 14. Due to illness, Mr. W. M. Nichols was not able to be present. The Yellowstone operators were represented by Mr. S. E. Moorman, Manager of the Lodges and Camps, Yellowstone Park Company. Superintendent Rogers attended the meetings. The operations to be undertaken in the park during the summer were discussed and it was decided that the park would be operated on very much the same basis as last year. No hotels, lodges or cafeterias will

operate and there will be no bus service available. Meals and lodgings will be provided at the general stores at Old Faithful, Fishing Bridge and Mammoth and the tourist cabins at Fishing Bridge will also operate.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. Four hundred sixty-seven persons entered the park during April as compared with 171 for the same month in 1943. The total persons entering the park for the travel year is 4,364 as compared to 6,143 persons for 1943, a decrease of 28.9%.

One hundred eleven cars entered the park in April as compared with 55 for the same month in 1943. The total cars for this travel year, 1,359, as compared with 2,138 for 1943, shows a decrease of 36.4%.

Visitors. Mr. Frank Ramsey, Cameraman for the Scientific Films, Inc., Hollywood, California, arrived in the park on April 7 to obtain wildlife pictures. He departed on the 10th. Due to unfavorable weather, Mr. Ramsey did not take any pictures but expects to return at a later date.

Police Protection. No law enforcement cases were held during the month.

Accidents. No automobile accidents occurred during April.

Ranger Service. Protection Department personnel engaged in a variety of duties during April.

A park ranger sharpened, set and filed a large number of axes and saws during the month.

Raking the lawns was done by a number of rangers as well as other ground improvement jobs.

Game observations were made throughout the month to ascertain numbers, losses, and migration of game animals.

Fourteen rangers worked on the drift fence removal at the Buffalo Ranch on April 27 to 29.

On April 27 District Ranger Arthur Jacobson drove from West Yellowstone to Madison Junction with no trouble, even though the road had not been plowed.

Wildlife Administration - Elk. The northern elk herd came through the winter in good condition and the total loss from natural causes has been estimated at 100 animals. The spring migration began early in April, but many of the animals remained on the winter range where abundant old forage became available as to the snow melted. Due to the cold and cloudy weather, little green grass became available and so contributed but little toward the subsistence of game animals.

Chief Ranger Barrows, Assistant Chief Ranger Evans, and District Ranger Jacobson attended the spring meeting of the Upper Gallatin Conservation Committee held at the Cinnamon Ranger Station on April 16. The Committee has

[illegible] and there will be no [illegible] available. [illegible] will be provided in the general [illegible] of the [illegible]. [illegible] Kenneth and the [illegible] [illegible] fishing [illegible] will also [illegible].

Increase or decrease in travel. [illegible] [illegible] attended the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the total [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

recommended to the Montana Fish and Game Commission that hunters be permitted to remove 500 elk from the Gallatin herd during the 1944 hunting season. Forest Service officers estimate that the herd will number 2,700 by fall.

Bison. Bison concentrated in the Horseshoe and Slough Creek areas during April, but smaller bands consisting mostly of bulls were observed on the Bell-rearing slopes, and the Little Cottonwood drainage area. The first calf was seen on the 15th, but only four were noted by the close of the month.

A crew composed of regular park personnel worked at Lamar on April 27, 28, 29 and removed all of the drift fence between the highway and the river. The large highway gates were also removed. Since the practice of holding bison roundups has been discontinued, the fence has served no important useful purpose.

Pronghorn. The migration from the lower winter range to their summer range started early in the month and by April 30 some bands were seen in the vicinity of Soda Butte. The animals are in good condition and winter losses were very light.

Fish Planting. On April 25, the Fish and Wildlife Service delivered 8,100 No. 4 blackspotted trout which were planted in the Gallatin River inside the park. This was the first fish planting for this year.

Building Fire Hazard Inspections. Inspections were made of all Government-owned buildings at Mammoth and most of the undesirable conditions found were corrected at the time of inspection, so that relatively few recommendations remain to be carried out.

All of the fire extinguishers were checked and unserviceable ones were replaced. New extinguishers were installed where needed, and all soda-acid, foam, non-freezing, and carbon-tetrachloride extinguishers were serviced and refilled.

Inspections of patrol cabins were made during the winter and buildings in the interior of the park will be inspected as soon as they are occupied for the summer.

Miscellaneous. The regular monthly meeting of the Federal Employees Union Local No. 465 was held in the Canteen on April 3.

The Sunday School classes held special Easter services in the Chapel on April 9.

A son was born to District Park Ranger and Mrs. Lloyd Astle at Logan, Utah on April 20. The new arrival was named Lee Verne.

Edmund B. Rogers,
Superintendent.

cc- Region Two

File
JJ/san

recommended to the Montana Fish and Game Commission that consent be given to remove 500 elk from the Gallatin herd during the 1949-50 hunting season. Lowest surplus estimates [illegible]

Plants. [illegible] in the [illegible] April, but smaller [illegible] rearing slopes, and the [illegible] on the list, but only [illegible]

[illegible] regular park personnel [illegible] 27 and [illegible] all of the [illegible] large [illegible] were also removed. [illegible]

Pronghorns. [illegible] range started early in the month and by April 30 [illegible] vicinity of [illegible]. The animals are in good condition [illegible] were very light.

Fish Planting. On April 26, [illegible] blackspotted trout which were planted in the [illegible] park. This was the first fish planting for this year.

Building Fire Hazard Inspections. [illegible] owned buildings [illegible] corrected at the time of inspection, so that [illegible] remain to be carried out.

All of the fire extinguishers were checked and [illegible] refilled. The extinguishers [illegible] foam, [illegible] refilled.

Inspections of [illegible] were made during the [illegible] the interior of the park will be inspected as soon as [illegible] the summer.

Miscellaneous. The regular monthly meeting of [illegible] Local No. [illegible] was held in the [illegible] on April [illegible].

The [illegible] school classes held special Easter services in the [illegible] on April [illegible].

A son was born to [illegible] on April 22. The new arrival was named [illegible].

Edmund B. Rogers,
Superintendent.

cc- Region Two
File
JJ/san


YELLOWSTONE PARK
FOR
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
FOURTH WAR LOAN, 1944
267% OF QUOTA
JOSEPH JOFFE, CHAIRMAN
PRESENTED BY
LESTER C. HUNT, GOVERNOR

1—612

ALL STATUS CHANGES SHOULD BE REQUESTED AND JUSTIFIED ON THIS FORM

	Director of Person
	Recruiting & Selec
	Training & Placem
	Organization Sum
	Employee Relation
	CCC Unit
	Appt., Records & Statistics
	Director of Classification

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

In re proposed { temporary / permanent / excepted } appointment, transfer, reinstatement, promotion, extension, separation, request for eligibles, change in designation, etc. (Cross out those not applicable.)

of _____ of _____
(First name, initial, surname) (Legal residence)

as _____
(Designation)

at _____ per { hour w. a. e. / diem w. a. e. / month / annum } for _____
(Probable length of service)

to (if promotion) _____ at _____ per { hour w. a. e. / diem w. a. e. / month / annum }

to be employed in _____ Division of the _____

and effective _____ vice _____

*Justification:

Previous Government service:

_____
(Signature and title)

*Give full information, including necessity for employment, qualifications of appointee, and duties to be performed. (If additional space is necessary, use the reverse side "head to foot", i. e., make the bottom on the obverse the top on the reverse.)

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