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May 1929)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

✓	ROGERS	
✓	EMMERT	
✓	JOFFE	
✓	NEILSON	
	SMITH	
	WILLIAMS	
	SHOREY	
	A HARRIS	
✓	LANDUE	
	SKINNER	
	SCHWEITZER	
	BAUER	
	BARROWS	
✓	LORD	
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MONTHLY REPORT

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

July, 1941

IMPORTANT

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ARNO B. CAMMERER,
Director.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 6—7410

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

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

August 5, 1941

MEMORANDUM for the Director:

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park for the month of July, 1941.

Weather Conditions. The rainy weather of June continued throughout the month of July and a total precipitation of two inches was recorded at Mammoth, which was .77 inch more than normal. The rainy weather with frequent thunder storms had little effect on travel, but resulted in the park being kept green and beautiful and reduced the fire hazard to a minimum. The flower show throughout the month was particularly noteworthy and caused much comment from park visitors.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers made trips outside of the park on July 18 to Cody to meet Governor Smith of Wyoming and his guest Jessica Dragonnette and on the twenty-first to Cody to meet Senator Bennett Champ Clark of Missouri. On July 24 a trip was made over the old Reclamation road between Ashton and the south entrance with Messrs. Hill and Capes.

The first serious accident of the season occurred on July 23 when Major J. T. Flock, 35, of the Ninth Bombardment Squadron, Fort Douglas, Utah, was drowned in Yellowstone Lake. His companion, on a fishing trip near West Thumb, was Captain R. H. Carmichael, 28, of the same squadron, who was rescued after being six hours in the water. Their boat capsized due to a severe storm. Major Flock's body had not been recovered by the end of the month.

A second serious accident occurred on July 31 when a CCC truck containing 23 enrollees overturned as the truck was returning from work at the Game Preservation Ranch. Ten of the occupants of the truck were badly hurt, necessitating their being sent to the hospital. One of the injured enrollees, Fred Jacques, who sustained a broken neck, was not expected to live.

Two other deaths occurred in the park during the month--Mr. Paul B. Klugh, 62, Summit, New Jersey, who died of heart failure at the Fishing Bridge Tourist cabins on July 14 and Earl R. Ward, 39, of Auburn, Kansas, who died at the Mammoth Hospital following an operation on July 18.

Four registration offices were established in the park on July 1 to register young men who had reached the age of 21 since October 17, 1940, under the Selective Service Act. Offices were established at Mammoth, Old Faithful, Lake and Canyon with Messrs. Jeffe, Peyton, Skinner and Evans as chief registrars respectively. One hundred fifty-three registrations were made and all of the cards were forwarded the next day to Guy Dunlavy, Secretary of Local Board No. 1, Park County, Powell, Wyoming.

The Devils Tower National Monument was transferred to the jurisdiction of Yellowstone National Park on July 15, to operate with Superintendent Rogers as coordinating superintendent.

Inspections. The following NPS and other government officials visited the park during the month: Ned J. Burns, Chief, Museum Division, NPS, Washington, July 6; J. S. Barrows, Associate Forester, NPS, Washington, July 7; Charles E. Jackson, Assistant Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, July 7; Colonel Richard Lieber, Consultant to NPS, July 12; Arthur F. Lindberg, Field Supervisor, Region II, Omaha, July 12; Charles L. Gable, Chief, Park Operators Division, Branch of Operations, NPS, Washington, July 24; Philip C. Coyle, Chief Project Control Engineer, NPS, Region II, Omaha, July 28; S. M. Dodd, Chief Budget Examiner, Bureau of the Budget, and Sam R. Broadbent, Principal Budget Examiner, Bureau of the Budget, July 29; A. W. Burney, Assistant Chief of Engineering, NPS, Washington, July 29; H. B. Homren, Senior Sanitary Engineer, U.S.P.H.S., San Francisco, July 30; Albert S. Anderson, CCC Auditor, July 31.

Status of Private Lands. There has been no change in the status of alienated lands in Yellowstone National Park during the last month. Correspondence has been carried on and frequent calls have been made to Assistant to the U. S. Attorney Buntin regarding the continuation of the condemnation proceedings now in progress.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. Surveys were made for construction of sewer and water system at Fishing Bridge and roads and sewer at the Lake Cabin area. Location surveys were made for the new cabin area at West Thumb. Final costs were figured for the Old Faithful Sewer system.

General Publicity. Numerous press releases and some park pictures were prepared and released by A. Tyler Upham, Publicity Director.

General Complaints. A considerable number of complaints were received during the month, particularly with regard to beds in the tourist cabins and lodges and in general against these operations. Replies were made and copies furnished the operators and the Director.

Maintenance. Several cloudbursts throughout the park blocked highways temporarily with washouts. A road striping crew started painting a new centerline stripe. The oiling on the C-A4 section, between Tower Falls and Northeast Entrance, newly graded last fall, was completed. On the Norris-Mammoth trail 120 feet of corduroy was installed at the Nymph lake crossing by the regular trail crew.

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Road striping machine in operation near Mammoth Hot Springs
Yellowstone National Park July 28, 1941

New Construction. The Canyon Power System work began with excavation for the power house and three vaults completed. The bases for the vaults were poured and form work for the power house and vault walls finished. The regular trail crew reconstructed a 45-foot span of bridge on the North Clear Creek on the Thorofare trail.

Special Improvement Activities. During the month there were four CCC companies in the park: Camps NP-1, Mammoth; NP-7, Glen Creek; NP-15, Old Faithful; NP-16, Yellowstone. The main jobs for the four camps were as follows: Grading Mammoth Housekeeping Area; Campground Maintenance, Yellowstone Park; Cottage, Mammoth; Nursery, Game Ranch; Circulating Systems, Old Faithful Lodge Cabin Area and Lake and Fishing Bridge Cabin Area; Fire presuppression and fire suppression, Yellowstone Park.

Progress on all jobs was slow due to the low company strengths. On July 16 Camp NP-1, Mammoth, received 59 new enrollees and Camp NP-7, Glen Creek, received 45. Camp NP-15, Old Faithful, received 51 new enrollees on July 26.

Jobs No. 3, Fireplaces, No. 4, Table and Bench Combinations and No. 5, Garbage Cans and Stands, all in the Mammoth Campground, were completed during July.

Park Operators. The unusually heavy travel increase of 11% over last year taxed the accommodations to capacity at most places throughout the month. The work of improving Lake Lodge was under way and orders were placed by the Yellowstone Park Company for new mattresses and springs to improve sleeping accommodation conditions throught their operations. The Yellowstone Park Company has also been building cabins and placing utilities in the Lake Cabin area and finishing the installation of utilities in the Fishing Bridge Cabin area.

Cooperating Governmental Agencies. Public Roads Administration Projects - Peter Kiewit Sons Company completed 15% of the Old Faithful-Lake road, all grading work; E. A. Studer and Sons completed 25% of the West Thumb development; Lowdermilk Brothers finished a large box culvert, the excavation on the Cascade Creek Culvert and a total of 40% of the whole job; Peter Kiewit and Sons have completed 90% of the East Entrance approach road.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. The total number of visitors for the 1941 season through July 31 was 338,427 compared with 304,913 for the same period in 1940--an increase of 33,514 visitors or 11 per cent. The month of July shows a gain of 21,322 visitors or 12.3% over the same month for last year. California ranks first in travel again in July, with 32,281 visitors; Montana second with 28,868 visitors; and Illinois has moved from

sixth place last month to third place this month, with 22,489 visitors. Hawaii led all territories and surpassed five states in amount of travel with 256 visitors. Canada led all foreign countries with 456 visitors. Practically all foreign cars this year are from the Western hemisphere. Motorcycle travel has decreased 35.4% with 300 visitors for 1941, compared with 438 in 1940. Rail, air and bus travel is up 10.0% this year, with an increase of 955 visitors.

Visitors. July 9, Federico E. Capurro, Minister of Public Works, Montevidio, Uraguay, South America, with Mrs. Capurro; July 10, Frank C. Walker, Postmaster General, Washington; July 10, Irving M. Brant, Special Consultant, Department of Interior, Washington; July 12, Mrs. Louis J. Lemstra, National President, American Legion Auxiliary; July 14, Mrs. Joseph E. Davies, Wife of former Ambassador to Soviet Russia; July 15, Doris Duke Cromwell, wealthy heiress; July 18, Governor Nels Smith of Wyoming; July 18, Jessica Dragonnette, well-known singer and radio star; July 21, U. S. Senator Bennett Champ Clark of Missouri; July 23, John W. Kern, Member of U. S. Board of Tax Appeals, Washington; July 25, Antonio Picasso Panizo, Consul General of Peru; July 27, Dr. Federico Pinedo, Minister of Finance, Argentina.

Ranger Service. Routine work was extremely heavy due to the large volume of park travel. There was an unusually large number of accidents, mostly of a minor nature, bear incidents and requests to locate visitors. Sixty-seven identification notices were issued to locate persons for urgent reasons and 29, or 42.2%, were located by this Service. Eighteen other notices were posted and six of the subject located. The Assistant Chief Rangers conducted investigations of operators' practices including wages and hours of employment, prices, gasoline pumps, sale of liquor, service to the public and complaints. Each of the nine ranger district organizations was carefully inspected and recommendations made for improvement.

Police Protection. Twenty-six cases were presented before the U. S. Commissioner during July, summarized as follows:

Charge	No. Cases	No. Persons Involved	Fines	Jail Sent.
Traffic violations	18	18	$ 309.00	
Fishing violations	6	19	200.00	
Petty larceny	1	1	15.00	
Disorderly conduct	1	1	25.00	
Assault	1	1		19 days
TOTALS	27	40	$ 549.00	19 days.

One person who had escaped from a State of Missouri penal institution was apprehended and held for authorities of that state.

Accidents. Sixty-two automobile accidents were investigated and reported during July. Government-owned vehicles were involved in six

Ranger Naturalist Harry Woodward leading a party over the Observation Trail at Old Faithful in Yellowstone National Park
July 1941

Photo by Condon

mishaps. The only one of a serious nature involved CCC truck Service No. 87146, driven by Lemoin Gill and carrying 22 other enrollees, which overturned about five miles from the north entrance on the Game Preservation Ranch Road. (Discussed under "Special Activities".)

Irene Kunkle, age six, suffered severe burns on legs in a hot pool at West Thumb on July 10. May Nagerman (child) fractured arm at West Thumb on July 12. Louise Chrisman fractured ankle at Old Faithful. R. R. Rousseau suffered broken knee cap and other injuries in automobile accident near Fishing Bridge on July 17.

Wildlife Protection and Fish Cultural Activities. Bears: A comparative table of bear injuries and damages is given below:

	1941			1940			Ten Year Average 1931-1940		
	June	July	Season To Date	June	July	Season To Date	June	July	Season To Date
Personal Injuries	6	43	49	7	14	21	7	22	29
Property Damages	17	51	68	6	22	28	10	57	67
Total Incidents	23	94	117	13	36	49	17	79	96
Bears Killed	0	18	18	0	0	0	2	10	12

A relatively high number of personal injuries and damages caused by bears occurred during the month. This was due, principally, to the large number of mother bears with cubs "too cute to resist", which frequented the roadsides generally around the park. One of these mother bears is believed to have accounted for eleven injuries within a few days' time before she could be disposed of.

Special emphasis was placed upon the danger of approaching bears closely for any purpose through posters, cartoons, warnings at information desks and in public talks and by patrolmen, by press releases and other educational means. Bears known to be causing injuries and damages were summarily killed and the general situation around the park appeared to be considerably improved at the end of the month.

In analyzing the causes of bear injuries, it was found that feeding of the animals by the public is not the most prevalent direct cause of injury and this fact is being stressed by emphasizing the danger of any close approach to a bear.

An analysis of causes of injury follows on the next page. Note that feeding by person injured was direct cause of injury in only about 10% of cases reported.

Personal Injuries from Bears - 1941

Cause	Number of Injuries June	July	Season to Date
Victim taking photograph	1	14	15
Undetermined	2	8	10
Others Feeding - Close approach		7	7
Allowing bear to approach car window	1	4	5
Victim feeding	1	4	5
Petting Bear	1	1	2
Sudden approach to bear (surprise)		2	2
Bitten while asleep in camp bed		2	2
Too close approach to animal		1	1
TOTALS - ALL CAUSES	6	43	49

Fish Planting. A total of about 7,500,000 blackspotted, rainbow and Loch Leven trout and Montana Grayling eggs, fry and fingerling have been planted in the park this season. This is approximately half of the total number to be planted.

Trumpeter Swan: Plans have been made to conduct a trumpeter swan census on August 15 and sixteenth. The Fish and Wildlife Service plans to conduct a similar survey in areas outside the park on the same dates.

Forest Fire Protection. Fire danger for the park has ranged from 2.0 to 4.2 during the month. While 27 lightning storms have been recorded, forest cover has been exceptionally moist and only four Class A fires have needed suppression action. Seven fire guards and four lookouts were on duty throughout the month. Fires occurring were as follows: July 16, Raven Creek Fire in Lake District; July 20, Slough Creek Fire in Tower Falls District; July 27, Cub Creek Fire in Lake District; July 27, Mariposa Lake Fire in Lake District.

Miscellaneous. A daughter was born to Motor Truck Driver Joe J. Way and Mrs. Way at the Lott Hospital, Livingston, Montana on July 27, 1941.

Superintendent.

RC