



10-23 une 1941)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 207-02.3

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

DECEMBER 1947

IMPORTANT

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge. All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room. Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure to observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the integrity of the official records.

NEWTON B. DRURY,

Director.



UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

FICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Summar	y of the December 1947 Monthly Narrative Report for YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK	
	THE LIMITIAN GIVIGIOUS	Page
WEATHER:	Moderate seasonal temperatures prevailed with sub- zero temperatures on 3 days.	1
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:	Supt. Rogers on leave in Denver all month. Johnston, Joffe, LaNoue, Condon and Kittams attend Park County Rod & Gun Club meeting. Restrictions on penalty mail usage handicapping work.	1
IN-SERVICE TRAINING:	"Military Training" film shown. Instructional outlines and lesson plans on duty assignments prepared for future use. Firearm training program initiated.	1
INSPECTIONS:	J. R. Spofford, Geological Survey, in.	1
PLANS, MAPS AND SURVEYS:	Drawings for West Thumb development prepared. 1949 fiscal year road estimates completed.	2
GENERAL PUBLICITY:	114,000 broadsides on hand. Penalty mail usage restrictions prevented sending out press releases.	2
MAINTENANCE:	Only 2 permanent maintenance foremen and 1 equipment operator on duty. Snow removal about normal. Federal truck being fitted to snow plow. 6 dump trucks received.	2
NEW CONSTRUCTION:	Contractor closed down Moran approach road project for winter. Road opened to south entrance. Basements poured on 2 new residences at Mammoth and walls and roofs in place and roofs shingled. Two new temporary houses at Mammoth completed and occupied and third nearly complete. Oil furnaces ordered for Mammoth Chapel.	2
CONCESSIONERS:	Drs. Lueck and Pearson purchased Park Hospital.	2
INTERPRETIVE SERVICE	: Regular educational movies shown in Canteen.	3
MUSEUM ACTIVITIES AND EXHIBITS:	Large number of artifacts accessioned, catalogued and filed. Several tanned hides received. Rock shipments made to fill requests. Considerable work	3
RESEARCH AND	Antelope trapping operations observed and photographed.	3
RESEARCH AND OBSERVATION:	accomplished on Place Names file.	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PALK YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYC.

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NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION:	\$1,000 loaned Rocky Mountain Nature Assn. to assist publishing "Plants of Rocky Mt. National Park."	Page 3
INCREASE OR DECREASE IN TRAVEL;	657 visitors in 254 vehicles entered park. Road open north to northeast entrance.	3
RANGER SERVICE:	Daily and occasional night patrols necessary during hunting season. Rangers assisted in trapping 58 antelope. Ski patrols made to Bechler and in south end park. Rangers assisted with preparing corrals, chute and facilities at Lamar for buffalo reduction. Conference held to discuss Protection Division problems.	14
WILDLIFE & FISH CULTURAL ACTIVI- TIES - ANTELOPE:	Trapping operations resulted in capture 58 animals, 57 of which transplanted near Dillon. Trapping operations not too successful. Antelope census planned early January.	-
BUFFALO:	Necessary preparations made for buffalo testing and reduction in January; plan start 12th.	ļ
ELK:	Park County elk hunting season closed 18th; hunters kill 970. Large concentrations elk noted in Lamar area in early December.	4
	Requests received for 25 live elk shipments and trapping to be undertaken in February.	5
FOREST FIRE PRO-	Work on fire atlas for 1947 concluded. Annual Forestry report section dealing with forest fire protection prepared.	5
TRAILS:	Estimates for trail maintenance for 1949 prepared. Funds requested for trail work and equipment. Pocket Trail Manual prepared and multilithed.	5
ACCIDENTS:	2 motor vehicle accidents occurred during month.	5
PERSONNEL:	Stanton transferred from Devils Tower; Kathleen Evans resigned; Frank Kowski promoted to District Park Ranger; Julia Seasholtz promoted to Clerk-Stenographer, CAF-4; Semingsen transferred to Everglades; Grant Anderson transferred to Glacier.	5
MISCELLANEOUS:	Federal Employees Union meeting held Dec. 1. After- noon Dec. 24 declared holiday.	5
	Mammoth School children Christmas program Dec. 19; Christmas Eve program in Chapel; Christmas party for adults Dec. 29. Daughter born to Alcorns; daughter born to Harvey Reynolds. Father of Besse Carr dies. Kathleen Evans and Bob Hall married Dec. 20.	6

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

FICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

January 6, 1948.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of December 1947.

Weather Conditions. Moderate seasonal temperatures prevailed throughout most of December with sub-zero temperatures being observed on three days of the month. General stormy weather continued most of the month but the total precipitation recorded for December was below the normal for that month. Following is a summation of the weather data for Mammoth: Maximum temperature, 42° on the 27th; minimum temperature, -8° on the 20th; and amount of snowfall, 19.2". Total precipitation was 0.74 inches as compared with 1.11 inches in 1946, 1.15 inches in 1945, 0.34 inches in 1944 and 0.58 inches in 1943. The snow depth at Mammoth on the 31st was 12 inches, with 21 inches at Norris, 19 inches at West Yellowstone and 29 inches at Snake River.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers was on annual leave in Denver during the entire month of December. Assistant Superintendent Johnston was Acting Superintendent.

A meeting of the Park County Rod and Gun Club, Livingston, on December 18 was attended by Acting Superintendent Johnston, Assistant to the Superintendent Joffe, Chief Ranger LaNoue, Park Naturalist Condon and Park Biologist Kittams.

On December 1 F0-623, dated November 25, was received, restricting penalty mail usage, and on December 4 a wire was received allowing only 5,000 mailings for the rest of fiscal year from November 1. Approximately 2,000 were used in November before receipt of the wire advising of allotment for remainder of the fiscal year. Hundreds of requests for information, rates, reservations, etc., and inquiries regarding employment have had to go unanswered.

In-Service Training. In-Service Training this month for the Protection Division totaled 53 man days. The training included the showing of the film "Military Training" to all available Protection Division personnel to acquaint potential instructors in approved and effective methods of training. Instructional outlines and lesson plans concerning seven phases of Protection Division duty assignments have been prepared for use during the following month. A firearm training program for Protection Division personnel was initiated.

Inspections. J. R. Spofford, U. S. Geological Survey, Boise, Idaho, entered park December 11 for water gauge readings.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK YELLOWSTONE PARK, W.O.

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Plans, Maps and Surveys. Six sheets of Drawing No. YEL-2197, West Thumb, were prepared by Resident Landscape Architect Mattson during the month. They are all in connection with the study of development for the West Thumb area. The plans have been submitted to the Regional Landscape Architect for a preview before continuing further with the studies.

The 1949 fiscal year road estimates for Yellowstone were completed by the end of the month.

General Publicity. A total of 114,000 Yellowstone broadsides were on hand at the end of the month. No press releases were issued during the month. The restrictions on penalty mail usage have prevented sending out press releases to our general mailing list.

Maintenance. The special crusher crew and the guard rail crew were laid off the 19th and only the two permanent maintenance foremen and one permanent equipment operator remain. Snow removal has been about normal during the month, with the Gardiner to Cooke road in very good condition. Sanding of roads in the Mammoth area has been heavy. Emergency sand boxes have been placed at strategic locations on the hill below Mammoth. A snow plow is being fitted to one of the Federal $7\frac{1}{2}$ -ton trucks acquired from surplus. This will be a big help in our snow plowing operations.

At the end of the month the last shipment of latton dump trucks (6) was received. These were ordered last May.

New Construction. Project, Moran to Yellowstone Approach Road, Section C, under contract to McLaughlin, Inc., was the only active road project. The concrete footing for the south pier was poured this month. The north pier was completed in November and excavation for the abutments is well underway. The contractor closed down for the winter and moved out.

On December 9 contractor McLaughlin employed the Park Service to plow open the road from Mammoth to the South Forest on a reimbursable basis, so that he could move out by way of the North Entrance. Extremely heavy snow handicapped his work during the month.

Projects 431 and 432, Residences at Mammoth, both have the basements poured and the walls and roof in place and both have been shingled. Partitions are being installed and the chimneys are being built. Of the three temporary houses, Mammoth, Account 401, two have been completed and are occupied and the third is nearly complete, requiring the placing of some wall board and the building of cabinets.

Orders were placed for 2 new oil burning furnaces for the Mammoth Chapel (Building No. 17), Job 201-15.

Concessioners. An item in the Livingston Enterprise, December 18, stated that Drs. A. M. Lueck and J. A. Pearson had purchased the Park Hospital from Mrs. G. A. Windsor.

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J. E. Haynes, of Haynes, Inc., was in the park for the day December 10.

Interpretive Service. The only interpretive services rendered by the Naturalist Division during the month have been the regular Tuesday night educational motion pictures which have been operated in the Manmoth Canteen for the people in the community.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. During the month a large number of artifacts have been accessioned, catalogued, and filed. This work required much time since this material had been allowed to accumulate because it is more convenient to accession a large number of artifacts at one time than to periodically do a small number.

The Yellowstone Park museum received back from Lentfer Bros. Taxidermy, in Livingston, Montana, one full-sized Bighorn sheep hide tanned, which it is anticipated at some future date to make into a life-size mount; one red fox hide; two beaver hides; and one badger hide which had been sent to them for tanning. The skins will be used as part of the Yellowstone Park study skin collection.

During the month a large number of rock specimens were prepared for shipment to scientific and educational institutions which have requested them. Shipment of these was not made until the institutions had provided transportation costs in view of the recent limitation on franking privilege. At the present time all requests for specimens have been satisfied.

A great deal of work has been accomplished on the Place Name file during the month and individual cards are rapidly being properly placed in the new 5x8" visible card files.

Research and Observation. One field trip was made to the Stevens Creek area for the purpose of observing attempts at trapping antelope by the State of Montana and also to make a photographic record of these activities.

Considerable time was spent during the month in reviewing historical reference sources for the purpose of answering correspondence received on matters pertaining to Yellowstone history.

Natural History Association. The Yellowstone Library and Museum Association transmitted to the Rocky Mountain Nature Association on December 5, 1947, the sum of \$1,000 for the purpose of aiding them in having published the book "Plants of Rocky Mountain National Park" by Ruth Ashton Nelson.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. The only road open for travel during December was between the North and Northeast Entrances, which is kept open all winter. A total of 657 visitors entered the park in 254 vehicles as compared with 303 visitors in 138 vehicles for the same menth last year. The increase in travel is attributed to the large number of hunters that visited the area during the month.

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Ranger Service. Intensified hunting activities in the areas adjacent to the north boundary of the park necessitated daily patrols with occasional night patrols through the 18th when the hunting season for elk closed in Montana in the areas adjacent to the park.

Several man days were required in assisting representatives of the Montana State Fish and Game Department in erecting an antelope trap and trapping 58 antelope the latter part of the month. Night patrols on the road in the Gallatin section of the park were discontinued at midmonth. A ski patrol was made of the Bechler area the first part of the month to check on conditions in that area. Ski patrols were also made in the south end of the park from the Snake River Station. All available rangers were used at Lamar Unit during month in preparing the corrals, chute and facilities for the bison reduction next month. All available rangers attended a conference on the 12th at headquarters to discuss Protection Division problems.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. ANTELOPE. On December 16 the State of Montana's portable antelope trap was set up on Stevens Creek. First attempt to trap the animals on December 19 was unsuccessful. On the following day, however, 58 were corralled. One of these was accidentally killed and the 57 remaining were allotted to the State of Montana for transplanting near Dillon, Montana.

Because of crusted snow conditions, considerable difficulty was experienced in herding the antelope. They quickly became fatigued and many groups stalled in depressions from which it was not possible to dislodge them by airplane. Due to this situation, the trap was removed for use in various sections of Montana until a later date. The State has agreed to set up the trap again in January or February if so desired by this Service.

Census of the antelope is planned for early January, results of which should form the basis for further management measures.

BUFFALO. All repairs and improvements of facilities have been put in readiness for testing and reduction of buffalo in January. It is tentatively planned to commence this operation on January 12 and about three weeks will be required to complete the project.

ELK. Elk hunting season in Park County, Montana, closed on the evening of December 18 with a total hunters' kill of 970. The hunting season was one of the most orderly of recent years and old evils of the so-called "firing-line" did not develop.

Large concentrations of elk were noted within the park in early December, particularly in the Lamar River area. Here on December 2 a strong downward migration occurred and a single herd of 1500 head was observed near Lamar Canyon. Within a three-mile radius fully 3000 elk could be counted. A moderation in weather conditions followed early December storms, and elk remain in scattered bands all of the way from Reese Creek to Soda Butte Creek without any present indication of further down-mountry migration.

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Requests have been received for 26 live elk shipments, and it is probable that some additional requests will come in. Elk trapping to fill these requests will probably be undertaken in February.

Forest Fire Protection. Work on the Fire Atlas for 1947 was concluded and the material including fire occurrence maps, personnel location maps and weather charts was transmitted to the Regional Office.

The Annual Forestry Report section dealing with forest fire protection was prepared and this will be incorporated with sections on forest insects and disease as soon as they are prepared.

Trails. Estimates for trail maintenance requirements for the 1949 fiscal year were prepared for the eight groups of horseback trails as described in the Master Plan. A total of \$8,422.00 was requested for 968.5 miles of trail. An allotment of \$811.76 was also requested for necessary equipment. Equipment requested included twelve new Decker pack saddles and kitchen and mess outfits for use by trail maintenance crews.

A pocket trail manual for use by personnel engaged in trail maintenance was written and 150 copies were multilithed.

Accidents. Two motor vehicle accidents were reported during the month, one involving a park visitor and one involving a government vehicle. No injuries occurred and only minor damage was done to the vehicles.

Personnel. Willis Stanton, Payroll Supervisor, CAF-5, entered on duty December 1 by transfer from Devils Tower National Monument.

Kathleen E. Evans, Clerk-Stenographer, CAF-4, resigned effective December 12 to be married.

Frank F. Kowski, Park Ranger, was promoted to Pos. No. 28, District Park Ranger, CPC-9, effective December 14.

Julia K. Seasholtz, Clerk-Stenographer, CAF-3, was promoted to Clerk-Stenographer, CAF-4, in the Chief Ranger's Office, vice Kathleen Evans, effective December 14.

District Park Ranger Earl M. Semingsen transferred to the position of Chief Ranger, CPC-10, at Everglades National Park, effective December 18.

Warehouseman, CAF-4, Grant D. Anderson transferred to Glacier National Park as Storekeeper, CAF-5, effective 8:00 a.m. December 28.

Miscellaneous. The regular monthly meeting of the Federal Employees Union was held in the Canteen on December 1.

A half holiday the afternoon of December 24 was declared by Executive Order. Yellowstone employees were excused and the few who did have to work received holiday pay.

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Kathleen T. Evans, Clerk-Stemographer, CAF-1, resigned effective December 12 to be married.

Frame F. Momaki, Park Langer, was promoved to Pos. We. 20, Statelos. Park Banco, GPC-9, effective December 14.

Julia E. Sessholtz, Cltrk-Lenographer, CAF-6, n.s pronot & to Cll.k-Stenographer, CAF-6, in the Walef Ranger's Office, whos Luthicen Lenes, effective Decomber M.

District Park Parger Perl . Semingson transferre to the position of Cotof Park, effective benefice it.

Warshousemen, CAF-1, Grant D. Anderson transferred to Clacker Wational Park as Storekeaper, CAF-5, effective 8:00 a.m. Recember 25.

Missellansons. The regular monthly meeting of the Mederal Apployees Union was held in the Canteen on December 1.

A half holiday the afternoon of peospher Zi, was declared by stransis or Order. Yellowstone exployees were excused and the few who did have to work received holiday pay.

The Manmoth school children's Christmas program was enjoyed by the entire community the evening of December 19.

A Christmas eve program was held at the Manmoth Chapel.

On the evening of Jecomber 29 a Christmas party was given in the Canteen for the adults of the Mammoth community.

A daughter was born to District Park hanger and Mrs. layne B. Alcorn at the Park Hospital. Livingston, Montana, on December 16, and has been named Joyce Louise.

A daughter was born to Park Manger and Mrs. Harvey B. Heynolds on December 28 at the Park Hospital in Livingston and has been named Loas Jean.

John W. McClelland, 79, father of Clerk Stanographer Besse M. Sarr, died at Jardine, Montana, December 24. Funeral services were held in Livingston December 27 and burial was in Mountain View Cometery.

Kathleen E. Evans and Robert W. Hall were married becember 20 at the Mammoth Chapel. Miss Evans is the daughter of Assistant Chief Hanger W. Leon Evans and Telephone Operator Irene Evans and was employed as Clerk-Stenographer, CAF-4, until December 12. Mr. Hall is a resident of Gardiner.

Fred T. Johnston, Acting Superintendent.

cc: Regional Director, Region Two, in quintuple. Files (2)

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