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10-23
June 1941)

# UNITED STATES
# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
# NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ROGERS | |
| ✓ | JOHNSTON | |
| ✓ | JOFFE | |
| ✓ | SMITH | |
| | MACBETH | |
| | SHOREY | |
| | QUIST | |
| | SOMERVILLE | |
| ✓ | BAUER | |
| ✓ | BARROWS | |
| | ELLIOTT | |
| | EVANS | |
| | CHAPMAN | |
| ✓ | WOELARANDT | |
| | ROBINSON | |

FILE NO. 207-02.3

MONTHLY REPORT

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

JUNE
1 9 4 3

## IMPORTANT

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NEWTON B. DRURY,
*Director.*

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—22371

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

FFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

July 3, 1943.

MEMORANDUM for the Director:

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park for the month of June 1943:

Weather Conditions. As has been the case during the past two years, June was a cold, disagreeable month, with considerable precipitation. The backward spring and summer resulted in a slow run off of the snow in the high country but when a few warm days occurred about the middle of June, the run off was very rapid, resulting in most of the streams overflowing their banks and causing much anxiety and fear in the country below the park due to floods. Even by the end of June practically all streams were overflowing their banks, which was unusually late for high water. The wet weather and late run off was extremely beneficial for the fire situation and by the end of June there had been little fire danger. Because of the small amount of travel, there was little inconvenience to visitors due to the rainy and unsettled weather. There were only 6 clear days during the month, 9 partly cloudy and 15 cloudy. The maximum temperature was 79° on the 21st and 27th and the minimum 29° on the 3rd and 6th. Total precipitation for the month was 2.85 inches as against 1.21 inches in June 1942.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers, who left the park on May 24 for Denver and Omaha, left Denver on June 1 by plane and upon arrival at Billings that day, made a trip to the Custer Battlefield National Cemetery, returning to Billings for the night. He returned to the park the following day. On June 12 he left by train for Omaha to attend a meeting of the American Civic and Planning Association, returning to the park on the 18th. He was in the park the remainder of the month. Assistant Superintendent Johnston was acting Superintendent in Mr. Rogers' absence.

The park snowplows reached the east gate on June 8 and the east entrance highway was open to travel as scheduled on June 10. The plows reached the south entrance on June 19 and this gateway was open to admit travel on June 25. The Continental Divide road from Old Faithful to West Thumb was open to travel on June 24 and the Sunrayon Pass road from Canyon to Tower Falls on the 27th. As no funds are available for opening the northeast entrance road from Red Lodge to Cooke, the permitting of travel over this highway is still indefinite. The Red Lodge Commercial Club has been making an effort to get a plow to open the highway but by the end of the month had been unsuccessful, so it appears this highway will have to open this year of its own accord.

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The Yellowstone Park Company started its boat operations at Fishing Bridge on June 10. Meals and lodgings were obtainable throughout the month at the general store and Coffee Shop at Mammoth and the C. A. Hamilton stores at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge. The Yellowstone Park Company started operating some tourist cabins, both furnished and unfurnished, at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge beginning June 25. No hotels, lodges or cafeterias were operating and there was no bus service available. Travel during the month was confined entirely to persons having their own transportation. While the amount of travel was quite small in comparison with other years, it was surprising to see so many cars from great distances. Most of this travel was composed of men in uniform moving from one station to another or on furlough, and persons going across country in connection with employment. The number of fishermen was also quite surprising and Fishing Bridge was proving much more popular than Old Faithful in the matter of overnight visitors. The Haynes Picture Shop at Old Faithful opened on June 21.

Because of the high and muddy water, stream fishing was very poor throughout the month, although several of the lakes, including Yellowstone Lake, afforded good fishing. The footbridge to the old target range and golf course near Gardiner, which affords access to fishermen to reach the Yellowstone River above Gardiner, was washed out by high water on June 1.

A crew of Japanese from the Heart Mountain Relocation Project near Cody arrived in the park on June 15 to start dismantling the old Mammoth C.C.C. Camp which had been turned over to this organization.

Inspections. Tom Miller, Assistant Engineer, U.S.F.S., Boise, in June 14 and again on June 23; Curtis S. Barton, Investigator, Civil Service Commission, Denver, in June 17 to investigate a former park employee; Edward S. Luce, Superintendent, Custer Battlefield National Cemetery, in June 20; Lawrence C. Merriam, Regional Director, Region Two, N.P.S., in south June 26; Roy Casey, Federal Prison Inspector, in June 26 to inspect Mammoth jail; Carl A. Krueger, Forest Supervisor, Shoshone National Forest, Cody, and Maurice Gallaher, of the Casper Fire Department and O.D.T., in June 29.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. The office work in the Engineer's Office consisted mostly of routine matters and the recruiting and organizing of personnel for the maintenance crews.

General Publicity. No press releases were sent out from the park during the month. The circular of general information sheet covering accommodations and services available in the park for the summer was revised on June 25 and a copy is attached. The Yellowstone Park telephone directory, which has been printed free of charge for a number of years by the Yellowstone Park Company, was mimeographed by the National Park Service and distributed on June 21.

Road Maintenance. During the month maintenance crews were moving into their stations as fast as the roads were opened and labor became available. By the end of the month nine maintenance crews were operating, some of them at half strength because of the inability to secure truck drivers and laborers.

Approximately 28,000 gallons of RC-2 seal coat oil was placed during the month, a large portion of it on the Mammoth-Lower Falls section.

The snowplows finished plowing the park roads on June 26, the Dunraven Pass section being the last to be opened. All roads were opened for traffic on June 27.

Streams continued abnormally high throughout the month and caused some damage to the road along the Gardiner-Mammoth section. These washes are being repaired by placing large rock rip-rap.

The 3/8 yard shovel was moved to the Gallatin section and coarse material is being placed in a number of low, swampy places where the road has no base except the natural clay soil, and during the months of May and June became almost impassable.

Heavy winds this spring downed an unusually large number of trees, causing additional maintenance. In most cases these are being salvaged for wood.

Several of the paths in the Canyon area were damaged during the winter. Some of these have been repaired by the maintenance crews. The wooden stairs that extend from the Canyon rim to the top of the lower falls were damaged by wash and by trees falling on them. This stairway was temporarily repaired by the carpenters but it will need a major overhauling in the future.

During one night the Madison River rose to such a height that a short section of the Madison-West Yellowstone road was under water. This road shoulder was sand bagged and no damage resulted to the road.

Roads in general are in good condition, with the exception of the Gallatin section.

Special Maintenance and Construction. Job 509, Improve River Channels under Bridges, Tower Falls to Cooke, was completed during the month, approximately 2,500 yards of material being removed from the stream channel.

Other Maintenance. The carpenters completed about two-thirds of the shingling of building 5A and B, but they are being delayed awaiting shipment of additional shingles. The front porch of building No. 30 was reshingled and repairs to the sills on buildings 4 and 5 were being made. In places these sills were rotted through completely. Minor repairs were made on a number of other buildings. The painters have nearly completed painting of window sash and casings on the outside of the Museum building (No. 1). Some time was spent on repairing and repainting a number of road signs.

Park Operators. Mr. Nichols and Mr. Moorman of the Yellowstone Park Company were in the park on June 9. Crews for the Fishing Bridge and Old Faithful tourist cabins arrived on June 21 and these accommodations were opened to visitors on June 25. The Yellowstone Park Company did not open its regular offices in the park for the season but an office was opened for Mr. A. R. Moorman, the Manager of Lodges and Camps, in the Haynes Mammoth Shop on June 21.

The Haynes Old Faithful picture shop opened on June 21.

Cooperating Governmental Agencies. The star mail route service began on June 28, trips to be made Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays each week.

Mr. Nichols arrived in the park on June 30 to inspect the company's operations.

No construction work was underway during the month.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. Eight thousand three hundred thirty-seven persons entered the park during June as compared to 36,925 during the same month last year. The total entering the park for this travel year to date is 16,085, compared to 62,154 persons for 1942, a decrease of -74.1%.

Two thousand six hundred eighty-nine cars entered the park in June, compared with 11,304 for the same month in 1942. The total cars entering the park for this travel year is 5,358 compared to 20,192 for 1942, a decrease of -14,834 or -73.5%.

Ranger Service. By the end of June all of the permanent rangers had been moved to their summer duty stations, with the exception of Thorofare Ranger Station which is isolated yet due to high waters.

Much trail work was done in the lower elevations. The higher trails were still under too much snow to allow much maintenance work to be accomplished.

A major telephone maintenance job was carried out in the Slough Creek area by rangers and electrical department personnel. This consisted of replacing a large number of poles and restringing much of the wire.

Permits were placed on sale at the gates on June 15, 1943.

By the end of June the full seasonal ranger force of 15 positions had been filled.

District Park Ranger Frank Anderson left on June 23 for enlistment in the Seabees. He enlisted on June 28.

Police Protection. One law enforcement case involving a person charged with speeding was held before the U. S. Commissioner during the month.

Accidents. Two automobile accidents of a minor nature occurred during the month of June.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. Bears. There has been a marked decrease in difficulties experienced with bears this season. Visitor education regarding bears and efforts to make garbage and other unnatural food unavailable to bears have been quite successful. Further, reduction in travel has reduced the bear problem along the roads and in campgrounds.

Comparative Bear Injuries and Damages

| | 1943 Season to June 30 | 1942 Season to June 30 |
|---|---|---|
| Personal Injuries | 1 | 9 |
| Property Damages | 4 | 24 |
| Total Incidents | 5 | 33 |
| Bears Killed* | 1 | 9 |

(*Does not include two killed for museum specimens)

The one bear killed was responsible for three of the four damages reported.

The one personal injury resulted from an attempt to take pictures of a black bear accompanied by cubs.

On June 16 one large male grizzly and one female grizzly were secured as specimens for the Los Angeles County Museum. The request for these bears had been previously approved by the Director.

Fish Culture and Fish Planting. Abnormally high water seriously hampered the spawn taking activities of the Fish and Wildlife Service at Yellowstone Lake but approximately 9,000,000 blackspotted trout eggs were secured by the end of June. Trout Lake yielded about 386,000 rainbow trout eggs, and operations at that station were terminated on June 30.

A total of 3,300,000 grayling eggs were taken at Grebe Lake by June 25 when spawn taking operations were stopped since no more eggs were needed.

No fish were planted during June as it was considered advisable to defer planting until the abnormally high waters receded and survival of fish planted would be much higher. Fishing was generally poor throughout the park due to the swollen condition of the streams.

Range Conditions. Frequent rains proved favorable to the growth of vegetation over the lower winter range and a good winter forage crop is assured. Lower than normal temperatures during the early part of June retarded plant growth on the higher areas of the range but soil moisture is sufficient for the production of a good forage crop. The general condition of the winter range is satisfactory.

Fire hazard Inspection. Inspection of occupied buildings on Government property to detect and eliminate existing fire hazards were completed during June.

Inspection of Mammoth Fire Organization. On June 30, Mr. Maurice Kelleher, Office of Civilian Defense for northern Wyoming, made a courtesy inspection of the building fire protection equipment and organization at Mammoth. He expressed complete approval of the building fire protection set up and stated that the equipment was the best he had found in northern Wyoming.

Forest Fire Protection. Cool weather during the first half of the month retarded the melting of the winter snow in the higher elevations of the park and thus materially reduced the danger of forest fires and the normal length of the fire season. Fire weather stations were put into operation at Lower Falls, Lake, West Yellowstone and Old Faithful on June 10.

A five day fire guard training school was held from June 15 through June 19. Only three guards, who have previously had experience in the park, were available for re-employment this season. Nine new fire guards attended the school and were given as thorough a course in fire protection as time permitted. Twelve regular fire guards and four presuppression crewmen were on the payrolls at the end of the month. All guards and crewmen have been employed in clearing trails and repairing telephone lines to lookouts in districts where snow conditions permitted them to work.

A partial inspection of the Snake River District on June 22 and 23 revealed that snow and high water conditions would make it impracticable to attempt to clear trails, repair telephone lines to lookouts or man fire guard stations until well after July 1.

Miscellaneous. A daughter was born to Acting Chief Ranger and Mrs. Maynard Barrows in the Park Hospital in Livingston on June 3.

Edmund B. Rogers,
Superintendent.

Encl.
cc- Region Two.
JJ/san

Department of the Interior
National Park Service

June 25, 1943.

# ACCOMMODATIONS AND SERVICES

## YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

## SEASON OF 1943

Yellowstone National Park will be open during the 1943 season to take care of such visitors as might be able to reach the park. None of the hotels, lodges or cafeterias will be in operation during the season. None of the railroads serving the park will deliver passengers to the various gateways with the exception of the Northern Pacific, which will run daily bus service, except Sundays, from the main line at Livingston, Montana, to Gardiner, Montana, the north entrance.

No buses will be operated in the park so that travel will be confined entirely to persons having their own transportation.

### ROADS

All park roads now open to travel and all approach roads, except northeast entrance road from Red Lodge to Cooke. Opening date this highway indefinite.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS - Pryor general store and gasoline filling station; Pryor coffee shop (meals and lodgings and fountain service).

OLD FAITHFUL - Hamilton general store and gasoline filling station; garage service; meals and lodgings and fountain service in general store. Tourist cabins (furnished and unfurnished).

FISHING BRIDGE - Hamilton general store and gasoline filling station; garage service; meals and lodgings and fountain service in general store. Tourist cabins (furnished and unfurnished). Boats for hire.

### HAYNES PICTURE SHOPS

Haynes Picture Shops at Mammoth Hot Springs and Old Faithful. Film, postcards, Haynes Guides, etc. available at Fishing Bridge at Hamilton store.

### RATES

Meals at Pryor coffee shop at Mammoth and Hamilton stores at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge; breakfast 75¢; lunch $1.00; dinner $1.00. Fountain service available at these three locations.

Lodging at Pryor coffee shop at Mammoth and Hamilton stores at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge; $1.50 per night single; $2.50 per night double.

Tourist cabins at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge: furnished cabins (not including cooking utensils), one person, per night $1.75; two persons, per night, $3.00. Partially furnished cabins: $1.00 for one person, per night; $1.25 to $4.00 for two to four persons per night.

### BATHING

Neither the swimming pool at Mammoth Hot Springs nor the swimming pool at Old Faithful will be open. Public baths at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge tourist cabins - shower baths 25¢.

### SADDLE HORSES

No saddle horses for hire in park.

### MAIL

Only the main post office at Mammoth Hot Springs, the park headquarters, will be open. Mail must be called for at this post office.

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## TELEPHONE SERVICE

Telephone booths for long distance and park service available at the Haynes Picture Shop at Mammoth, Hamilton store and tourist cabins at Old Faithful and Hamilton store and tourist cabins at Fishing Bridge.

## TELEGRAPH SERVICE

No telegraph stations will be operated in the park. Incoming telegrams for the park will be received at the Northern Pacific Depot at Gardiner and 'phoned into the park. Outgoing telegrams from the park will be 'phoned to the telegraph office in the depot at Gardiner.

## MEDICAL SERVICE

The Mammoth hospital will not be operated. Nurse available at Mammoth; nurses may be available later at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge if obtainable.

## LAUNDRY

No laundry service will be available in the park.

## CHURCH SERVICES

No regularly scheduled church services in the park. Ministers from Livingston will conduct services in the chapel at Mammoth about once a month.

## FISHING

Fishing season: May 30 to October 15, except in special areas. NO FISHING LICENSE REQUIRED. Boats for rent at Fishing Bridge. Fishing regulations available at ranger stations and contained in 1942 folder, which are available at park entrances and ranger stations.

## MUSEUMS

The museums at Mammoth and Old Faithful will be open on scheduled hours. No guide or lecture service. Self-guiding trails at Mammoth and Old Faithful.

## HOURS FOR GATES

The park gates will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

## CAMPGROUNDS

The following campgrounds will be open for campers: Madison Junction; Lewis Lake; Pebble Creek; Mammoth; Indian Creek; Lava Creek; Old Faithful; Fishing Bridge West Thumb; Specimen Creek; Norris.

The following campgrounds will not be open: Snake River; Canyon; Tower Falls; Yellowstone Cascades.

## LITERATURE

As funds are not available for the publication of a Government folder for the 1943 season and due to changing conditions the 1942 folder for the park, containing a good map, general regulations and information on the park features, will be available at all entrance and ranger stations.

## FIREWOOD

For sale at tourist cabins at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge.

## BUFFALO SHOW HERD AND GRIZZLY BEAR GROUNDS

The buffalo corral at Antelope Creek and the Grizzly Bear Grounds at Canyon will not be open to the public.

## ENTRANCE FEE

The regular $3.00 motor vehicle license fee and $1.00 house trailer fee will be charged.

MAXIMUM SPEED 35 MILES - STRICTLY ENFORCED. DON'T FEED THE BEARS!

Edmund B. Rogers