

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

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✓	ROGERS	<i>VB</i>
✓	JOHNSTON	<i>77</i>
✓	JOFFE	<i>8</i>
✓	SOULE	
	MACBETH	
	SHOREY	
	QUIST	
	SOMERVILLE	
✓	BAUER	<i>Cur</i>
✓	BARROWS	<i>MB</i>
	ELLIOTT	<i>228</i>
	EVANS	<i>72</i>
	CHAPMAN	
✓	WOHLBRANDT	<i>AM.</i>
	ROBINSON	

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER
1944

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NEWTON B. DRURY,

Director.

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

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

November 6, 1944.

MEMO HANDOUT for the Director.

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

Weather Conditions. Weather conditions continued favorable throughout the month, with very few bad days and there was little interference with travel. The storm of late September closed the Red Lodge-Cooke highway but travel again came over it beginning October 6. This road was again temporarily closed by the storm of October 17 which also closed for a part of that day the Dunraven Pass, Sylvan Pass and Continental Divide roads. Several inches of snow fell in these sections, while rain occurred in the lower elevations. Cars started coming over the Red Lodge-Cooke highway again on the 25th. Last year the Red Lodge-Cooke highway was definitely closed on October 19 and the east and south entrances were closed to travel on the 23rd.

There were 16 clear days during the month, 9 partly cloudy and 6 cloudy. The maximum temperature was 74° on October 8 and the minimum 22° on the 6th. Total precipitation for the month was 0.89 inch, as against 1.78 inches for October 1943 and 0.64 inch for October 1942. The mean precipitation for October is 1.51 inches.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers spent the entire month in the park, making only one trip out, to Bozeman on October 17 with Chief Ranger Barrows to attend a meeting of the Montana Fire Fighters Service.

A large part of the travel during the first half of the month consisted of fishermen who took advantage of the excellent weather to fish the lakes and streams. All park waters closed to fishing on October 15. Mr. C. A. Hamilton kept his Old Faithful store open throughout the month to serve meals and to take care of overnight guests, closing his operations on the afternoon of the 31st. The general store at Mammoth was open throughout the month but did not serve meals and take care of overnight guests. It will be open throughout the winter to take care of local residents.

Mr. M. W. Lincoln, Curator of Habitat Groups and Mr. H. I. Beck, Taxidermist, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California, arrived in the park via the south gate on October 2 to obtain an elk specimen for a habitat group in their museum and to secure wildlife pictures. On October 4 Mr. Lincoln became separated from Mr. Beck and spent the night camping out in the Hayden Valley. A searching party was sent out for him the following morning, but

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he was located before noon. He became confused in his directions, and because of darkness spent the night out instead of attempting to locate the main highway. Messrs. Lincoln and Beek remained in the park until the 26th.

On October 2 Mr. C. A. Hamilton, President of Hamilton Stores, Inc., donated \$1500 to be used for the purchase of a Hammond organ for the Mammoth Chapel after the war when such instruments again become available. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton were married in the Mammoth Chapel in September 1920.

The regular annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Yellowstone Library and Museum Association was held in the Park Naturalist's office on the afternoon of October 2 with Chairman Rogers presiding. Superintendent Rogers, Chief Ranger Barrows, Assistant Chief Ranger Evans and U. S. Commissioner T. Paul Gilcox were re-elected for 3-year terms. Superintendent Rogers was re-elected as Chairman, C. Max Bauer as Executive Secretary and J. S. Haynes as Treasurer. Work has been started on the copying of the manuscript by Professor J. M. Hamilton, entitled "The History of Yellowstone National Park," loaned to the park by Mrs. Hamilton. Four copies are being made, one for Mrs. Hamilton, one for the college at Bozeman, Montana, one for Mr. J. S. Haynes and one for the Yellowstone Park Library.

Three distinct earthquake shocks were felt at the Snake River Ranger Station on the evening of October 2, the first occurring at 8:27 p.m., followed immediately by the rapid shaking of the buildings which caused frames to creak loudly several times. Dishes rattled and a suspended lantern was noticed swinging after the tremor had subsided. The duration of the first two shocks was estimated at about 4 seconds. The third shock occurred at 8:36 p.m. and was very slight. The three shocks were felt by three persons in two separate buildings at the station. No material damage resulted. The shocks were also felt by a number of persons at the Flag Ranch, about two miles south of the station. Park Ranger Harvey B. Reynolds reported the tremors.

Chief Ranger Barrows, who was kicked in the jaw by a horse on September 28, returned to duty on October 16. He suffered the loss of a number of teeth, as well as the splintering of some bones in the upper part of his mouth.

By the end of the month the Yellowstone had turned in \$722.50 to the Park County, Montana Committee in the National War Fund Drive. Contributions were received from 152 people, averaging \$4.75 each, which was considerably above the average of donations received by other communities in the vicinity of the park. Assistant Superintendent Johnston was chairman of the Yellowstone Committee.

Inspections. Clarence E. Persons, Field Auditor, N.P.S., who arrived in the park on September 11, departed via the west gate on October 4; Keith P. Neilson, Chief, Account Section, N.P.S., who arrived in the park on September 11, departed via the west gate on leave October 4, returning again October 18 and leaving via the north gate on the 20th; Evan R. Kelley, retiring Regional Forester, U. S. Forest Service, Missoula, and his successor, Percy D. Hanson, called at the office for a visit on October 14; Ed Seatty, Chief Park Naturalist, Brent Finch, Chief Ranger and Don Barnum, Assistant Chief Ranger, Glacier

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DEPARTMENT OF THE HISTORY OF ARTS
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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National Park, in north October 17, out north 19th; Arthur E. Burney, Assistant Chief Engineer, U.P.S., Chicago, in north 19th, out north 25th; Edwin Cowan, Highway Engineer, P.R.A., Denver, in east October 19, out south 26th; Clyde E. Learned, Senior Highway Engineer, P.R.A., Denver, in north October 23, out south 26th; Carl K. Mueller, U. S. Game Management Agent, Casper, Wyoming, in south October 21, out south same day; Victor E. Cahalane, Biologist, U.P.S., Chicago, in south October 24, out south same day; J. J. Murie, Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Jackson, Wyoming, in October 24 with Mr. Cahalane, out same day.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. Assistant Chief Engineer Burney of the National Park Service, Senior Highway Engineer Clyde E. Learned and Highway Engineer Ed Cowan of the P.R.A., Denver, spent most of a week in the park, going over road maintenance problems. All phases of the proposed new set-up where road maintenance funds will be allotted from "roads and trails" were discussed.

General Publicity. A supply of Yellowstone pictures was furnished Mr. F. Hicks Cadle, Governor, Rotary District No. 113, Denver, Colorado, on October 6 for use in a Rotarian publication which he edits. A press release on road conditions and park operations was sent out to newspapers and Chambers of Commerce in the vicinity of the park on the 26th.

Road Maintenance. One of the old C.C.C. cabins in the Old Faithful area was moved to the road camp at Madison Junction to be used as a bunkhouse for the road maintenance crew. The crew at this location has been living in tents for several seasons.

When the ^{wind} ~~sand~~ blows from the northwest the water discharged from Old Faithful geyser has been overflowing the rock gutter along the parking area and depositing formation material on the main road. The channel was repaired and enlarged.

Practically all of the trees blown down along the roads in the Lake, Fishing Bridge and Thumb areas by the storm of August 25 have been cleaned up.

The water flowing through the concrete bridge over Alum Creek between Canyon and Lake had washed out a hole 5 to 6 inches deep on the lower end of this bridge. This washout was repaired by placing approximately 60 cubic yards of large rock as rip rap before any damage occurred to the bridge.

A new plank deck was placed on the Gardiner River bridge about two miles north of Mammoth. Traffic was routed over the old high line road for about two days. Difficulty was experienced in obtaining sufficient bridge planks for this work.

Both of the park's push plows were out of commission awaiting parts for repair. No snowplow operations were required during the month.

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

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Park Operators. Mr. W. M. Nichols, President of the Yellowstone Park Company, visited the park on October 18 and 19.

The general store at Old Faithful remained open until October 31 to take care of the late travel, serving meals and taking care of overnight guests. Mr. Hamilton departed via the north gate on October 31 to go to California for the winter. The general store at Mammoth was open throughout the month and will remain open during the entire winter to serve local residents. Beginning on October 15 the store closed on Sundays. The Haynes picture shop at Mammoth remained open throughout the month.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. A project was started by the Naturalist Division to check the exhibit catalogue cards for the location of specimens, particularly those specimens now in storage at Mammoth, in order to bring this record up to date.

Research and Observations. Superintendent Rogers, J. R. Haynes and Chief Naturalist Bauer spent two days in taking kodachrome pictures of peculiar types of sinter and geyserite. An effort was made to get a representative picture of the most colorful minerals that may be included in the hot spring deposits, such as realgar, orpiment, sulphur, scorodite, spiny sinter, pearly sinter, and the little spherical shells which float on the water of Cinder Pool. There are also some peculiar combinations of these which present some unusual colors in some of the spring deposits.

The preparation of a new manual for the Naturalist Division of the park was begun. The articles in the old manual will be edited and certain ones selected for the new manual. Additional subjects not covered by the old articles will be prepared for the new manual.

The Chief Park Naturalist prepared a memorandum on the name of Snow Mountain, Beartooth Mountains, Absaroka Mountains and other names which have been used synonymously with these.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. Three thousand eight hundred fifty-two persons entered the park during October, as compared with 2,644 for the same month in 1943. The total persons entering the park for the travel year is 3,852 as compared with 2,644 for 1943, an increase of 45.6 per cent.

One thousand two hundred thirty-six motor vehicles entered the park in October as compared with 836 for the same month in 1943. The total motor vehicles for this travel year, 1,236, as compared with 836 for 1943, shows an increase of 47.8 per cent.

Ranger Service. A thorough reconnaissance was made of the Three Rivers Junction area by District Ranger Astle and Park Ranger Kila. This was done in order to properly establish the place names of the various natural features of the area, especially the waterfalls and cascades. The status of the buffalo in this area is also not known and a temporary camp was established there in order that winter trips may be made to this area for further observations.

A crew of seven rangers assisted in the razing of the old Lake C.C.C. camp. This job required about six days.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DIVISION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES

REPORT OF THE
COMMISSIONER OF THE
BUREAU OF MINES
ON THE
PROGRESS OF THE
WORK DURING THE
YEAR 1900

BY
JOHN W. GAST
CHIEF OF BUREAU

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The old Fountain patrol cabin was moved to Gallatin and set up on Highway 191 at the north entrance to that portion of the park. This will be used to assist in checking cars during the winter months when poaching incidents are most likely to occur.

One seasonal ranger was retained throughout the month.

The vacancy in the permanent ranger force which occurred when Park Ranger Robert G. Fleet resigned on September 15 has as yet not been filled.

Police Protection. No law enforcement cases were held during October.

Wildlife Administration. Bears. A female black bear and two cubs were collected near Tower Falls for the Colorado Museum of Natural History. Two black bears were trapped at Mammoth and transported to other parts of the park. Very few bears were seen along the roads or in the areas of human habitation during the month.

Elk. Elk have left the summer ranges and during late October were frequenting the highest portions of the winter range. There was little snow and the animals showed no tendency to move down to the intermediate or lower ranges or beyond the park boundaries. No noticeable use has yet been made of the winter range forage which is more abundant this year than at any time during the past fourteen years. The small amount of precipitation this fall was not sufficient to leach out the grasses and as a result the forage cured well and, in most instances, the bunch grasses are still green to a considerable height above their bases. A large bull elk was collected as a specimen for the Los Angeles County Museum.

Hunting Season. Preliminary reports indicate that hunting conditions were good south of the park in Wyoming. The size of the hunters' take has not been determined, but reliable figures are expected to be available later.

A young bull moose was killed illegally very near the south boundary of the park and was dressed out on the boundary swath. The other moose was killed farther south and west. Regular patrols of the boundary by park rangers have apparently prevented poaching within the park.

Hunting was very poor along the west and north sides of the park as the elk remained in the park where a lack of snow left abundant forage available. A few elk were taken in the Gallatin area but no movement of elk to open hunting areas is expected until heavier snowfall occurs. Game checking stations are in operation on the Gallatin highway and at Manigan, between Gardiner and Livingston.

Accidents. One automobile accident occurred during the month.

Miscellaneous. The first fall meeting of the Federal Employees Union No. 465 was held in the Canteen on October 2.

Mr. Robert S. Thomson, laborer with the National Park Service, died in the Park Hospital in Livingston on October 12. Mr. Thomson became ill while on his job in the park and was sent to the hospital in Livingston a few days prior to his death.

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