Director Mollie Beattie Remembered

As you may be aware, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Director Mollie Beattie passed away at a private hospital in Vermont on June 27, 1996. Director Beattie lived a life marked by dedication, vision, and accomplishment. She was the first female to be appointed Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and was deeply committed to wildlife protection through the Endangered Species Act.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service credits Beattie for the positive impact she had on the Service. She guided the Department with a steady hand through a difficult time when their fundamental mission to conserve wildlife for future generations was challenged. Because of Beattie’s leadership the agency believes they are stronger and better prepared for the future. She inspired those who worked with her because of her indomitable spirit, her great sense of humor, and the integrity of her character. She will be dearly missed by her colleagues, family and friends.

Before her death, Yellowstone Park Superintendent Mike Finley drafted a letter to Mollie which in part is reprinted here.

"Dear Mollie:

It was with a heavy heart that I learned of your recent resignation as Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It is a rare occasion when an appointed director is able to capture the loyalty and respect of career employees. You have captured that loyalty and respect not only from within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, but also from those of us in the greater conservation community with whom you worked. Despite polarized politics, alienation of government, and downsizing, you have done a great job! Thank you for accepting the challenge and sharing your dedication and leadership.

While you leave behind many important contributions to wildlife conservation, we in the National Park Service and particularly the staff at Yellowstone National Park are most appreciative and grateful for your unflagging support of the Gray Wolf Restoration Program. There are many dedicated professionals who would have adroitly folded their tents and finessed a quasi face-saving withdrawal when faced with the oftentimes nasty politics of restoring wolves to Yellowstone and Idaho. You were true to your beliefs and lived your ethic and for that we are eternally grateful.

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As a token of our respect and affection the staff at Yellowstone would like your permission to name a Yellowstone wolf pack the "Mollie Beattie Pack". (Mollie's Pack, it has a nice ring—don't you think?) The pack we will select will embody many of the characteristics we associate with your tenure as director—strength, loyalty, determination, courage, and a free-ranging and enthusiastic spirit—to name but a few.

We hope you will agree to our proposal as an enduring recognition of your commitment. Moreover, it is our expectation that future park naturalists will be able to tell the story of wolf reintroduction in Yellowstone Park and invite visitors to seek out and listen to the howls of the Mollie Beattie pack.

PROJECT WOLFSTOCK

The successful Yellowstone Gray Wolf Reintroduction Project, began January 12, 1995, was given the name PROJECT WOLFSTOCK. Since that time the numbers of Gray Wolves have increased from 14 to over 30.

Hamilton Stores has pledged 50 percent of the profit from the sale of this product to the Yellowstone National Park Gray Wolf fund for continued reintroduction and preservation efforts of this native species.

Thank you for your contribution.

Project Wolfstock Team

Project Wolfstock Hats to Benefit Wolf Restoration (Reprinted from Buffalo Chip)

Former Yellowstone protection ranger Steve Mazur spent the 1995 and '96 winter seasons along with 14 fellow rangers, patrolling the gray wolf acclimation pens in the park's interior. He said it was an unique opportunity to help with a historic project. Spending many hours doing surveillance work in the snowy backcountry, he says, also gave him a lot of time to think.

The ranger used his thinking time to come up with a way of helping to fund the Gray Wolf Restoration Project. A former business student, Mazur created Project Wolfstock hats. He developed a marketing scheme with Hamilton Stores to sell baseball caps with the Wolfstock logo at their gift shops throughout the park. Mazur says he noticed many park divisions with their own hats, such as the Fire Cache and the Helitack team, and wanted a team hat for the wolf reintroduction crew. He said the hats went over so well, everybody wanted one—even President Clinton, Mrs. Clinton, and Chelsea got hats during their visit to Yellowstone last summer. This gave Mazur the idea for the Wolfstock hats, and he received the go-ahead from Superintendent Finley to sell the hats in the park.

Hamilton Stores will sell the dark green baseball caps for $19.50. They are already on the shelves in their Mammoth, Canyon, Old Faithful, Lake and Grant Village stores. A hang-tag on each hat explains the date of introduction, success of the project, and how the profits will be used, and thanks customers for their contribution. Fifty percent of the profits will go to the wolf project, says Mazur, who won't receive any of the profits. The money made from the hats will go into an endowment fund for the wolf restoration project, which will accrue interest every year, Mazur says, and he hopes it will be enough to sustain the fund for many years. He says he would like to see the money go for research, for uses such as tracking and telemetry flights. He called the Lamar Valley a "magical place" and said he appreciated seeing the wolves there. "I'm happy that I was a part of the reintroduction," he said, "instead of the extermination effort in the 1930s and 40s."
COMMUNITY EVENTS

* Vet Visit Veterinarian, Dr. Jim Murray, will be at the Gardiner Exxon on Friday, July 12 from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. No appointment necessary. Housecalls available upon request. Next visit: July 26.

* All Employees Meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 8, 1996, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The location is the Mammoth Rec Hall. The Yellowstone Federal Employees Association will sponsor a coffee beginning at 8:00 a.m. Due to scheduling changes, Director Kennedy will not be attending this meeting.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: 1984 Ford Bronco II, high miles but in good condition and runs great. 4x4, AC, $2,300 or best offer. Call Ed Humphries at Canyon Maintenance, 242-2530.

For Sale: Hagstrom (Swedish) guitar with case, picks, capo, and brand new steel strings. Good condition, but missing finger rest. Neck is slightly smaller than full-size; good for smaller hands. Ideal for someone just learning. $50 or best offer. Call Neysa at 242-7459 eves.

For Sale: Peugeot 12 speed road bike. 22" frame, $80. Wet suit, Farmer John style, like new. $90. Sony CD player, portable, will work with either home or auto system. Anti-shock base, remote control, power adaptors, $100. Boom box by Sony, $45. Contact Dave Price at 242-2603 or 242-2620 and leave a message.

For Sale: Suzuki motorcycle, GS 850. Full Faring, side bags, trunk, oil cooler, new tires, nice bike. $800. Call Joe at 646-9295.

For Sale: Saucony G.R.I.D. Shadow running shoes, navy/teal/white, wms size 9W. Worn twice, too big for me! Original $70, will sell for $50 or best offer. Double size mattress and boxspring, two sets of sheets, and mattress pad. Call Elizabeth, 344-2307 or 344-9242 after 5 p.m.

For Sale: 190 mile antenna. VHF, UHF, FM, with original box and papers. In good shape, asking $45. Call Al at 545-8028.

For Sale: Dark brown, three sectional hassock, fake fur, new condition. 21x23x12 high when folded, $25. Mini trampoline, $25. Two walnut folding snack tables, both for $30. Folding metal stool with padded seat. $15. Call Mary at 344-2152.

For Sale: Jonsered 520SP chainsaw. $175. Call 344-7788.


Service Provided: Responsible 12 year-old would like to walk your dog. Contact Brigitte Demasi at 344-8905.

Multi-Family Yard Sale: GIGANTIC multi-family yard sale will be Saturday, July 13, at 9:00 a.m. until ? (Please no early birds). Lower Mammoth, near Little People's Learning Center. Follow signs to the participating houses. Lots of great deals, housewares, furniture, kids/infant clothing, kayak, exercise equipment, skis, baby equipment, and much more!!

Kayak Instruction: The Waterdance Kayak School is now offering kayak instruction out of Gardiner, MT. First-time beginner through advanced clinics offered on flatwater, moving water, and whitewater. $20 for group lesson and $35 for private. American Canoe Association Certified Instruction. For more information contact Bryan Peterson after 5 p.m. at 848-7777 and leave a message.