



## RANGER ACTIVITIES INFORMATION EXCHANGE



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### Chief Ranger's Comments

I am presently en route to FLETC to spend an evening with NPS rangers attending three basic classes there and talk with them about their concerns and recent developments in WASO.

We continue to be swamped with unplanned, reactive kinds of demands on our time - a daily reality that many of you also face. In order to at least partially deal with such demands, we have again prepared work plans which specify the projects that we intend to accomplish this year. A summary of the Resource and Visitor Protection work plan is appended to this newsletter; the work plan for the Branch of Fire will appear next. Without this planned approach, we would be entirely in the reactive mode and our focus would be changing constantly.

The approved work plan is the backbone of each person's performance standards. The first element of my own standards states that I will "ensure that each branch operates with an approved annual work plan." By making the work plan a key component of all performance standards, we have taken a considerable step toward assuring that we accomplish the projects we feel are most important. If we are not actively responding to something, we're working on planned projects. If my supervisor proposes a significant new project, we pull out the work plan. If the project is more important than something already planned, we remove something of similar complexity from the work plan and replace it with the new project.

The work plan is dynamic. It is reviewed on a quarterly basis by the supervisor, and individual adjustments are made as necessary. Quarterly status reports are also prepared. Our next effort in planning our work will be to take each of our program areas, determine where we want to be three to five years from now, and figure out what projects we need to undertake in order to get there.

### Field Incidents

**Sequoia:** In November of 1986, a ranger from another park was sexually assaulted while on a bike trip through Sequoia. She had been bicycling near park headquarters when she was overtaken by a pickup truck with two men in it. They forced her off the road, then assaulted her. The ranger was able to report the incident to the park dispatcher shortly after it happened, and the two men were arrested within twenty minutes by Tulare sheriff's deputies. The two - brothers Claude and Mickey Shook - were found guilty of rape in January, and have been sentenced to life imprisonment by US District Court Robert Coyle, who declared from the bench that the sentence would send a message that violent crimes in our national parks will be severely punished. The defendants plan an appeal based on the judge's decision to deny their pre-trial motion to suppress evidence.

**Yellowstone:** John Williams, an employee with TW Recreational Services at Old Faithful Snow Lodge, was on a ski trip with friends on February 8th; he was reportedly walking alone in the Shoshone Geyser Basin near his group's campsite when he apparently fell into one of the thermal pools and suffered second degree burns to approximately 60 - 70% of his body. When he returned to the campsite, his companions administered basic first aid, then two of them began skiing north towards the Old Faithful area to obtain further help. At about 4 a.m., park rangers were notified and began a ground rescue effort. Heavy falling snow, high winds, very poor visibility and about 2' of new snow greatly hindered rescue efforts and prevented use of aircraft. At about 10:30 am, Williams apparently stopped breathing and his companions began CPR. Rangers who had skied in arrived at the scene at 11:30 and continued CPR until 1 pm, when a Mammoth Clinic physician advised them to stop via radio.

**Shenandoah:** A four-year-long undercover investigation into widespread poaching activities culminated on February 24th with the arrests of at least 23 people across the United States by almost 100 Federal and state wildlife agents. Eleven of the arrests were directly associated with bear poaching in and around Shenandoah. Bobby and Leo McCray, John Haden, Norman Michael, Leon Huffer, Steve, Mike and Bob Ralston, Rick Rexrode and James and Sammy Jarrell - all residents of small communities bordering the park - were charged with a wide variety of felony and misdemeanor charges, including violations of the Lacey Act, conspiracy, hunting in a national Park, and inter- and intra-state transport and sale of bear gall bladders. All have been released on their personal recognizance.

The arrests came about as a result of an undercover operation which was initially aimed at guides who assured "guaranteed hunts" and then violated Federal and state wildlife laws in order to provide their clients with promised trophies. To gather more information on these operations, Fish and Wildlife Service special agents established a company named Abrams Creek Outfitters in Purcellville, Virginia, southeast of Winchester. They advertised the bogus storefront office as a booking agency by which hunters could arrange big-game expeditions. The above-named persons offered to guide such hunts at a cost of \$500 per client per hunt, and took Fish and Wildlife undercover agents on hunts in and around Shenandoah in 1985 and 1986, during which black bears were illegally hunted and killed.

The guides also told these agents about numerous prior hunting trips in the park, and most said that they'd been hunting in the park for years and had learned their skills from their fathers, who'd done the same. They said that they had no fear of hunting there because they were too smart to be caught. They employed a number of techniques to minimize risks: Lookouts were posted along Syline Drive in the park. Members of the hunting parties carried radios to keep in touch with each other; in order to assure secrecy in case they were overheard, unit numbers were used instead of names and pre-determined grid locations were employed instead of geographic locations. Only one man carried a gun, and a partner carried his shells so that, if caught, the man with the gun could not be charged with having a loaded weapon in a park.

In 1987, Fish and Wildlife began following-up on sale and distribution of the products of these hunts. The hides were traced to a taxidermist in West Virginia, and the gall bladders to the illegal black market for such items that thrives in the Orient. Undercover agents purchased 16 bear hides from the defendants, and bought 25 gall bladders on the morning of the arrests.

There are about 2200 bears in Virginia. In 1987, 557 of them were taken and officially checked in during the state's bear hunting season. It's estimated that another 250 or so were poached during the same period; the majority of these were around Shenandoah, which Fish and Wildlife agents say is a "reservoir" for poachers because of the high density of bears there.

#### Law Enforcement and EMS on Forest Service Lands

We have received a response from the chief of the Forest Service concerning the use of EMS and law enforcement qualified NPS rangers on lands under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service. You may remember that Forest Service requested such assistance during each of the last two fire seasons, but uncertainties about statutory authority led to a decision that such assistance would not be approved until the matter was clarified. The Forest Service now advises that they "plan to pursue new legislation to provide for cross designation (of) enforcement authority" both to "help resolve our fire camp security needs and provide an improved ability to engage in interagency 'task force' investigations of wildland arson and other crimes which often occur on a mix of Federal public lands." Until that time, the Forest Service will rely on its own enforcement personnel and local officers to provide enforcement during emergency fire incidents. The Forest Service also agreed that EMT's should only be used in states where they have valid certification.

#### EMS Program Summary

While in the process of compiling the information submitted on the annual EMS report for 1987, it occurred to us that we'd never printed the program summary from 1986. Here's some info gleaned from that report: Of the 258 areas which submitted reports, 141 had active EMS programs. There were 1,124 Level IV basic EMT's (629 permanent and 515 seasonal), 126 Level V IEMT's (113 permanent and 13 seasonal), and 18 Level VI paramedic/cardiac techs (14 permanent and 4 seasonal). The parks reported 7,328 basic life support cases, 1,408 advanced life support cases, and 245 fatalities.

#### Team Resources

Team Resources is a new Servicewide cultural and natural resource management program which has been established to attain the following goals:

- foster employee awareness of NPS resource management goals and objectives;
- educate employees on their roles and responsibilities toward resource management;
- provide non-resource management employees with selected natural and cultural resource management skills to improve Servicewide capabilities;
- develop techniques for improved resource management teamwork.

A key element of Team Resources is its multi-disciplinary approach, which involves employees from all divisions and grades in attaining resource management objectives. The program has been in the formative process for the better part of the last year. A multi-disciplinary group representing all regions first met at Mather last August to participate in a program development workshop. This group determined that the first priority would be to develop a cadre of trained instructors along the lines of the regional interpretive skills teams, so a two-week training session was held at Mather in January to develop teams of regional instructors. The forty people who

attended (four from each region) represented every division - interpretation, maintenance, natural and cultural resource management, administration, and resource/visitor protection.

The class prepared lesson plans and a curriculum for a 16- to 40-hour course entitled "Orientation to NPS Resource Management" (program code 8108). The course has been created to provide a basic orientation for all employees and can be tailored to the specific park or group of parks where it is held. The core curriculum for the 16-hour course covers the philosophy, objectives and history of NPS cultural and natural resources management; laws, regulations, policies and guidelines; resource management processes (inventories, assessments, monitoring and maintenance); and resource management as part of an employee's daily work. Parks may then extend the course to as long as 40 hours by selecting from 18 additional modules which present more detailed information on a variety of resource issues. More will be developed as needed. Each region has received \$2,000 in seed money from WASO to cover the costs of supplies and materials and instructor travel. Training courses can be arranged through regional training officers.

Ranger Activities and Employee Development will monitor and evaluate the program during the remainder of fiscal 1988 and report program progress to the Director in October. Another instructor training session will be held early in fiscal 1989. Larry Belli in this office is serving as Servicewide coordinator, and there are program coordinators for each region. Contact any of them for further information.

#### Briefly...

- Last year, the NPS logged just over 20% of the total flying hours run up by the ten DOI agencies employing aircraft. We were third behind BLM (27%) and USFWS (25%). We had 7,320 hours of contract aircraft flight time, 5,090 hours of rental time and 6,880 hours of fleet (i.e. NPS-owned) time for a total of 19,290 flying hours Servicewide.
- We continue to hear that people in the field - including chief rangers - are not aware that a Special Directive (87-5) has been issued concerning required occupancy. The directive came out on December 17, 1987, and was transmitted to the directorate and all superintendents. The purpose of the document is to "clarify the NPS policy pertaining to required occupancy and to define the respective responsibilities of park managers, supervisors and employees who are subject to that policy." Persons who are affected by or administer this policy should try to obtain a copy.
- Samaritan Health Service will be putting on a park medic course between April 18th and May 10th in Phoenix, Arizona. Course enrollment will be limited to 30 people. For additional information, call Julie Wurch at 602-495-4285.

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The Ranger Activities Information Exchange is produced by the Washington Division of Ranger Activities. Walt Dabney, Chief Ranger. Address letters, comments and inquiries to: Bill Halainen, Ranger Activities (650), Stop 3310, National Park Service, Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127; FTS 343-2981 or (202) 343-2981.

## Ranger Activities Work Plans

Program/Project	Objective	Priority	Specialist
NPS Housing	Coordinate development of policy revisions on required occupancy	1	Ringgold
Emergency Assistance	Develop agreement with State Dept. re: NPS assistance on international emergencies	*	Farabee
Aircraft Management	Complete NPS-60	1	Farabee
SCUBA	Complete/issue NPS-4	1	Farabee
	Develop listing of NPS divers	2	Farabee
Health & Fitness	Develop second draft of health and fitness guideline and release for Servicewide review	1	Farabee
EMS	Release revised NPS-51	1	Farabee
	Coordinate NPS-51 ratification by remaining 22 states	1	Farabee
Lifeguards	Develop first draft of lifeguard standards	1	Farabee
Search and Rescue	Develop draft SAR guideline	2	Farabee
	Develop standardized EMS, SAR and SCUBA forms (if needed)	2	Farabee
	Develop Servicewide ICS cadre for major SAR; develop mobilization plan	1	Farabee
	Conduct minimum of 3 audits of SAR (PWE 178) funding	1	Farabee

\*State Department to initiate

Program/Project	Objective	Priority	Specialist
Wilderness Management	Meet with regional wilderness coordinators and review wilderness TF report; determine need for mgmt. guidelines	1	Belli
	Develop strategy for accomplishing NPS wilderness mgmt. program	1	Belli
	Develop contacts and relations with other agency wilderness coordinators	1	Belli
Commercial Fishing	Complete analysis of NPS commercial fishing activities	1	Belli
	Prepare briefing/decision paper on commercial fishing	2	Belli
River Management	Develop contacts and relations with other agency river coordinators	2	Belli
Grazing Management	Meet with regional grazing coordinators to evaluate NPS grazing mgmt. needs	1	Belli
	Prepare summary of NPS grazing activities	1	Belli
	Coordinate grazing mgmt. training course	1	Belli
Backcountry Use	Develop support package and submit for OMB approval of backcountry use permit	1	Belli
Team Resources	Coordinate Team Resources program	1	Belli
	Monitor and evaluate Team Resources training team and prepare end of year report	1	Belli
Reservation System	Prepare list of potential additions to system	2	Ringgold Ward
	Develop strategy for expanding system	1	Ringgold Ward
Regulations	Review, edit and process approx. 25 rulemaking documents	1	Loach Ringgold

Program/Project	Objective	Priority	Specialist
Jurisdiction	Revise master jurisdiction listing; research and incorporate missing info	1	Loach
	Prepare jurisdiction status report for Directorate	2	Loach
	Review and process approx. 8 jurisdiction documents	1	Loach
Special Park Uses	Review and process approx. 25 rights-of-way	1	Loach
	Initiate review of right-of-way regs in 36 CFR Part 14	1	Loach
	Identify and assemble task force to revise regs	1	Loach
Structural Fire	Complete Servicewide needs assessment in areas of structural fire apparatus and training	1	SFC*
	Implement NPS-58	1	SFC
	Establish liaison with DSC, Concessions and Engineering/ Safety Services; develop SOP's for review of facilities for fire protection	1	SFC
Uniforms	Provide field updates on program status	1	Halainen
	Develop appearance and grooming standards	1	Halainen
	Draft revisions of NPS-43 for review by regional coordinators	1	Halainen
	Develop proposal for standardized LE leather equipment for uniform contract; develop specs	1	Halainen
	Revise operations evaluation standards	1	Halainen

\*Structural fire coordinator. Tasks pending filling of position.

Program/Project	Objective	Priority	Specialist
Communications	Prepare/distribute 12 issues of <u>Exchange</u>	1	Halainen
	Prepare/distribute morning reports/messages via electronic mail	1	Halainen
	Prepare/distribute field incident reports	1	Halainen
	Develop communications links with fire office in Boise	1	Halainen
	Develop communications SOP's	1	Halainen
	Develop communications net on CompuServe and extend to all interested parks	1	Halainen
Law Enforcement	Complete NPS-9 revisions	1	Zarger
	Review/process approx. 10 emergency L&O requests	1	Zarger
	Conduct at least one L&O audit	1	Zarger
	Conduct at least two LE field audits	2	Zarger
	Plan/coordinate training session for regional LES	2	Zarger
	Conduct review of NPS LE reporting and revise requirements accordingly	1	Zarger
	Maintain info base to support drug interdiction and eradication programs	1	Zarger
Fees	Review passport ordering procedures and develop program to expedite process	1	Kreis Esser
	Review/revise 87 user fee schedule	1	Kreis
	Develop training program for regional fee coordinators	1	Kreis
	Review non-fee parks for inclusion in FY 89 program	1	Kreis

Program/Project	Objective	Priority	Specialist
Fees	Review and revise fee publications	1	Kreis Esser
	Prepare project list for allocating Director's 10% funds	1	Kreis
	Review 36 CFR Part 71 for needed revisions	1	Kreis Loach
Aircraft Overflights	Implement Sections 2 & 3 PL 100-91 as follows:		
	- Prepare draft task directive	1	Hodapp
	- Distribute quarterly reports	1	Hodapp
	- Prepare scope of work for acoustical study	1	Hodapp
	- Coordinate aircraft mgmt. workshop	1	Hodapp
	- Coordinate sociological workshop	1	Hodapp
	- Coordinate award of acoustical contract and develop scope of work for sociological contract	1	Hodapp
	Provide support to regional and park staffs to resolve overflight problems	2	Hodapp
	Maintain liaison with FAA and DOD to resolve overflight problems	1	Hodapp