

The YELLOWSTONE

News



June 16, 1994

NPS Employee Newsletter

Next Deadline: June 27

Thank You

The Jack and Jacque Roberts family would like to thank the NPS Maintenance Division for their thoughtfulness during our time of sorrow. The beautiful flowers were a comfort to my mother and the entire family.

Also, thank you to our wonderful friends at the Mammoth Clinic, the park and Gardiner who have remembered us with cards, calls, and food.

Yellowstone was a special place to my father...we wish he had known how special the people are, too!!

Nancy Tyson from ADP says, "Thanks for the quick responses to my urgent request for telephone directory changes. You all came through and made my job a whole lot easier!"

Phil and Deborah Perkins and family would like to thank everyone for the cards, flowers and phone calls after the death of Phil's mother recently. "Knowing that friends were thinking of us helped make things a little easier."

Phonebooks Available

The mailroom has a large supply of the "MONTANA GREEN" phonebook. Stop by and pick one up for your office or home.

Babbitt Signs Wolf EIS

by Jan Laye, Superintendent's Office

On June 15, 1994, Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt signed the Record of Decision for the Reintroduction of Gray Wolves to Yellowstone National Park and Central Idaho EIS which could allow for the reintroduction of wolves to the park as early as this fall. Babbitt made no changes to the preferred Alternative I for wolf recovery thus designating the wolves to be considered non-essential, experimental populations. Biologists with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the NPS are confident that the wolves will be able to reproduce; hopefully to a total number of 10 packs (approximately 100 wolves total) by the year 2002.

Park officials say that after final rulemaking has been completed, work will begin for preparing the transplantation of Canadian wolves to Yellowstone and Idaho. "Our job will begin by working with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, surrounding states, and local tribes on the detailed planning which will bring in 15 wolves yearly, to each area. Then, in three to five years we hope to reach our recovery goal of a reproducing population." said Wayne Brewster, the park's Deputy Director for the Yellowstone Center for Resources (YCR).

Yellowstone has been one of a number of cooperating agencies that has seen the entire wolf reintroduction process through from the very beginning. Participation in writing the draft environmental impact statement has been a long, arduous process which began in 1991 after a Congressional mandate. "If the core team members hadn't worked so hard and well together, this would have never been possible so quickly." stated John Mack, a core team member and research biologist for the YCR.

Once wolves have been re-established in the Yellowstone area, the mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Endangered Species Act will have been accomplished. Visitors to the park should have the opportunity to see or hear wolves or their sign and the "conservation, protection and enhancement of wildlife populations and their habitats for the continuing benefit of people," could then become a reality.

Dr. Farmer to Leave Mammoth Clinic

Yellowstone Park Medical Services announced recently that Dr. Pamela Farmer will be resigning her position at the Mammoth Clinic effective the end of this year. Dr. Farmer has enjoyed being a part of the Gardiner/Mammoth community and will miss all her friends and patients. She will be leaving to pursue her interest in academic medicine.

Little People's News

Little People's Learning Center (LPLC) would like to extend a big welcome to **Marci Herriford** as our new Infant-care provider. Marci recently graduated from Eastern Montana College in Billings with a degree in Early Childhood Education.

LPLC has some information on financial assistance for day-care. Applicants must be Montana residents. Contact Janet Lewis for more information, 344-7712 (h) or 344-2353 (w).

LPLC is accepting applications for Cook/Toddler Care Provider, and substitutes. Call Pam at 344-7785.

Spotlight on Yellowstone

There's been lots of media interest in the park recently. Here are a few of the highlights:

Day One, a news magazine program on ABC, recently aired a segment on poaching in Yellowstone. The show included comments from **Mary Taber** and **Dan Sholly**. The Public Affairs Office (PAO) has a tape of the program if you missed it.

Sunday Morning, CBS, will run a segment on wolves on June 26 at 7:00 a.m. The crew filmed **Nancy Loren's** interpretive wolf program, and also interviewed **John Varley**. PAO will have a tape of the program to loan.

A BBC children's educational program entitled **Cats' Eyes** was filmed here June 15 - 17. **Erin Perkins**, 12 year old daughter of **Phil and Deborah Perkins**, Mammoth, was chosen to be a co-host for the segment. The program may air on PBS sometime after the fall 1994.

Two Park Employees Injured by Grizzly Bears

In two separate incidents occurring within six days, two park employees were injured by bears. In both cases the areas where these incidents occurred have been closed; no management action will be taken against the animals. Other areas closed due to recent bear activity include Mt. Holmes and Grizzly Lake Trail.

In the first incident, off-duty National Park Service maintenance employee **Glen Lacey**, 39, was hiking alone the morning of June 15 in the Dry Creek area about five miles northwest of West Thumb geyser basin when he came over a knoll and around a curve and surprised an adult female grizzly bear and two yearlings. The bears were approximately 50-60 feet away. Glen attempted to run to a nearby tree. As he approached the tree, the adult female bear ran toward him and nipped him on the right forearm as it went by. Glen received two puncture wounds and minor abrasions. He was able to hike back to his vehicle and drove himself to the Lake hospital where he was treated and released.

On June 20, TW employee **Randy Ingersoll**, 37, of Gardiner was hiking alone off-trail about four miles in on the Thunderer Cutoff Trail near the Northeast Entrance when he came over a knoll and startled a sow with two yearlings. The bears were approximately 20 feet away. The adult female bear started to leave the area, but charged Ingersoll when he ran for a tree. She pulled him from the tree he was attempting to climb and continued to maul him as he yelled and struggled. Once Ingersoll played dead, the sow bear immediately quit her assault, and she and her cubs left the area. Ingersoll received a laceration to the forehead, fracture of the left shoulder, and multiple puncture wounds. He was able to hike back to the road where he was picked up by park visitors and taken to the Lamar Ranger Station. Rangers administered emergency medical treatment and transported Ingersoll via ground ambulance to the Lake Hospital for additional care. He was later taken to Bozeman Deaconess Hospital for further medical treatment.

Prior to these incidents, the last bear-caused human injury occurred July 29, 1992, when a Montana woman was mauled by a female grizzly bear with two cubs in a northern area of the park. Yellowstone averages approximately one bear-caused human injury each year.

Park employees, as well as visitors, are urged to take appropriate precautions when hiking in bear country; don't travel alone, stay on designated trails, make noise, and be alert. Try not to surprise bears or any other wildlife while hiking, and never approach wildlife with young.

Yellowstone Recording Goes Gold

The musical recording, *"Yellowstone-The Music of Nature"*, recorded by composer **Chip Davis** and performed by **Mannheim Steamroller**, has been certified a "gold record," with sales of more than 500,000 copies. The Yellowstone recording was produced in an effort to enhance public awareness of Yellowstone's natural beauty after the 1988 fires. The proceeds from this recording and related concert tours to date total over \$467,657 and have gone directly to aid the park's fire restoration efforts, which include trail maintenance and hazard tree removal. Superintendent **Barbee** flew to Atlanta on June 5, to accept the gold record at the Goodwill Games ceremony. The presentation will be televised locally on PBS in July.

CLASSIFIED ADS (con't)

Living in Bear Country



Their
FUTURE

Depends On You!

Free:

Mom calico cat and two cute fluffy kittens, one orange/white, one gray/white. Call 848-7798 evenings or 344-2031 days.

For Sale:

Large moving/storage cartons, used once, \$3.50 each or make deal on 50+. Call 848-7798 evenings or 344-2031 days.

For Sale:

Nordic Flex Gold Weight machine, excellent condition, \$650 OBO. Call 848-7052.

For Sale:

*Full-size collapsible metal ironing board w/cover and multi-setting Black & Decker steam iron, \$25.
*Portable electric heater, \$15.
*Specialized brand bicycle helmet, size med., little used, too big for me, \$35. Call 344-9242 evenings.

Moving Sale:

King size mattress and box spring, four sets of sheets and comforter, \$150. Call 344-7980 evenings.

Wanted:

Cheap big tire bicycle, men's or women's, to cruise the park. Will pay \$35+. Call Al 545-2730 (w) or 545-8028 (h).

For Sale:

14½ foot kayak, new last year, \$300. Call 344-9240.

Wanted:

Felt ranger flat hat, approximately size 7. Also boots/shoes (size women's 9 or men's 7), windbreaker, skirt, and trousers. Call Mary at 848-7192 evenings.

For Sale:

Eureka 2-person tent, 9lbs., excellent condition, \$100. Call Lynne 344-7755 evenings.

For Sale:

Avenir bike helmet, white w/blue letters, fit child or small adult, excellent shape, \$20. Call 344-2251 days or 848-7497 evenings.

Every Yellowstone employee and resident has a shared responsibility for the future of the park's bears.

The park's Bear Management Policy requires that all food or garbage which will attract bears, shall be properly stored where it is not accessible to bears.

Park regulations requiring proper handling of foods and garbage will be enforced. Also, failure to fully comply with this policy may result in the loss of housing or trailer facility privileges.

Dumpsters or bearproof garbage cans are provided in each housing area:

- * All garbage shall be placed in these receptacles;
- * Depositing garbage outside receptacles and littering about the containers is prohibited;
- * Be aware that it may be difficult for children, because of their height and weight, to place garbage in dumpsters;
- * Plastic bags will be used in all garbage cans, and only garbage in plastic will be put in cans and dumpsters;
- * Cans provided for the disposal of woodstove ashes shall be used only for that purpose;
- * Non-bearproof garbage cans shall not be outdoors at anytime regardless of intended use.

The following items are considered to be food items and attractants to bears. Proper storage must be provided.

- * beverage cans and bottles (empty or full)
- * ice chests and beverage coolers
- * fish/meat smokers
- * cookstoves
- * cooking and eating utensils
- * charcoal grills/LP gas barbeque systems (must be thoroughly and immediately cleaned after each use if not stored indoors)
- * pet foods and their containers
- * all animal food including horse feed
- * all human food
- * bird feeders
- * soaps and cosmetics
- * any item with a food odor

Bears are dangerous whether they are grizzly bears or black bears. Please keep this thought in mind and review the pamphlet *Living in Bear Country*. Contact your district or area ranger with questions you may have regarding proper food/garbage storage procedures. Report all bear sightings.

Let's all do our part to live, work, and enjoy our magnificent environment safely! Your personal cooperation is appreciated.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

➤ NPS All-Employee Family Picnic

Come one, come all to an all-employee family picnic on June 25 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Norris picnic area. Bring something to grill, a salad or dessert to share, and tableware. Call Mary Danno for more information, 344-7397.

➤ Vet Visit

Veterinarian, Dr. Jim Murray, will be at the Gardiner Exxon on Friday, June 24, from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. No appointment necessary. Housecalls available upon request. Next Visit: July 8.

➤ Bear Creek Council Community Forum

On Tuesday, June 21, at 7:30 p.m. a Community Forum entitled "Weeds...Why Worry?" will be held in the Gardiner School Multipurpose Room. Speakers include MSU Extension Specialist, Park County Weed Supervisor, and various local government agency representatives.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Wanted to Buy Cheap:

Used blenders in working condition - for children's art class in late June. Please call Laura Long 344-2039 days/ 344-7789 evenings.

For Sale:

1992 18" Bridgestone mountain bike, MB-4, excellent condition, too large for me, \$450. Call Mary Beth 344-7758.

Wanted:

One or more serious hiking partners willing to commit to one day of the week, preferably Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday. Should be interested in hiking in and around Yellowstone. Call Dawn 545-7227.

Personnel News

New Permanent Employees and Promotions

Congratulations to the following individuals who have either been promoted or brought on in new permanent positions this spring:

Robert Blackwell
Robert Blaszak
Mark Donahue
Chris Drake
Milford Gragert
Matthew Graves
Dan Gregory
William Hanson
Amanda Hardy
Joseph Lang
Victoria Lendway
Cathleen Petrick
Ellen Petrick-Underwood
Nicholas Ricardi
Michael Ross
Tara Ross
Jeffrey Schnelbach
James Sykes
Steven Williams
Charles Wilson
James Youngblood
Michael Zuppo

Horse Handler
Carpenter
Carpentry Worker
Carpentry Worker
Engineering Equipment Operator
Interpretive Park Ranger
Maintenance Worker
Student Trainee (Landscape Architect)
Student Trainee (Park Ranger)
Carpentry Worker
Student Trainee (USO)
Interpretive Park Ranger
Environmental Education Specialist
Carpenter
Law Enforcement Park Ranger
District Clerk, Lake Rangers (job share)
Utility Systems Operator
Carpentry Worker
Carpentry Worker
Student Trainee (Water Treatment)
Law Enforcement Park Ranger
Utility Systems Operator

Leave Donations

Ron Harvey continues to experience a medical absence from work. We are making arrangements for his eligibility as a leave recipient. If you have leave that you would like to donate to him, please contact Mary Heller, 344-2047.

Administrative Careers With America Program

On June 22 in Bozeman, the tests for *Benefits Review*, *Tax and Legal Occupations* and *Law Enforcement and Investigative Occupations* will be given. This will be the last round of exams to allow people on the registers for this program. We have a limited number of the required forms available for those who did not call to request the test materials, but would like to attend these exams. Please call either Vanessa, 344-2044, or Mary, 344-2047.

Winter Seasonal Ranger Applications

The winter recruitment period, out of the Washington office, for seasonal park rangers is June 1 through July 15. Stop by or call the Personnel Office for Form 10-139 and information regarding how to find out who will be hiring for the winter.

"Balancing Work and Family" Video Available

A video of a May 25, 1994, satellite teleconference on "Balancing Work and Family" is available to borrow from the Personnel Office. It covers child/elder care, flextime/part-time, job sharing, family leave, employee assistance programs, and looks at innovative ideas in both the government and private sector.