

Yellowstone Today



• Official newspaper of Yellowstone National Park

Summer 1998



NPS file photo

Emergency—dial 911
Call a ranger—(307) 344-7381
 (long distance from some park locations)

Endangered Species: Here to Stay?

Yellowstone has relatively few species that are in danger of extinction and thus protected by the Endangered Species Act. Fortunately there are no endangered plants in the park, although there are several endemic species (found only here) and other rarities worthy of special concern. Five birds or mammals are currently threatened or endangered. Soon to be listed is the lynx, which has been infrequently seen in the park but likely still wanders greater Yellowstone. Protection and recovery of these rare and beautiful species is of high priority.

To read more about Yellowstone's endangered species, please turn to page 15.

Important road information for all visitors

Spring weather is unpredictable; roads may be closed temporarily by snow or other weather conditions. Snow tires or chains may be required. **Weather and snow conditions permitting, tentative road opening dates for automobiles are:**

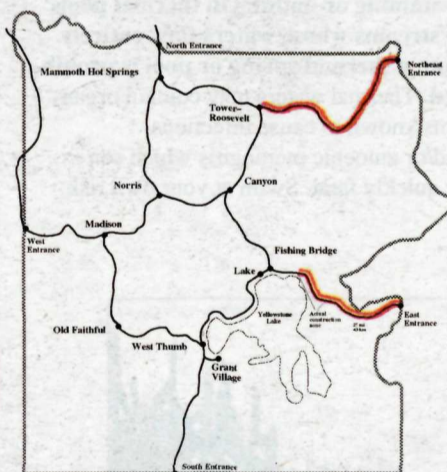
Mammoth to Norris - April 17
 West Entrance - Norris - Canyon - April 17
 West Entrance to Old Faithful - April 17
 East and South Entrances - May 1
 Tower Junction to Canyon - by May 22;
 earlier if conditions permit
 Beartooth Pass - May 22

The scheduled opening dates in May are the earliest possible dates; some routes may actually open later. **Please call or check locally to verify openings tentatively scheduled throughout the month of May.** For current road information, call (307) 344-7381 (long distance from some park locations).

Major construction begins this year on the Tower to Cooke City road on the park's northeast side (see map). From March 15 through May 31 the road will be open with up to 30 minute delays. Beginning June 1, access may be more limited; see the map on the back page of this newspaper for the full 1998 construction schedule.

Road construction on the East Entrance Road (see map) will continue this year. From road opening through June 16, the road will be open with up to 30 minute delays. Starting June 17, access will be more limited; see the map on the back page of this newspaper for the full 1998 construction schedule.

Hikers and Anglers: For information on hiking or fishing access in the construction area, please ask a ranger at the Lake Ranger Station or Fishing Bridge Visitor Center.



International visitors

Le Parc national de Yellowstone présente des risques particuliers. Regardez la page 2. Des renseignements en français sont disponibles aux centres des visiteurs dans le parc et aux kiosques d'entrée.

Der Yellowstone National Park hat gewisse Gefahren. Sehen Sie Seite 2. Sie können Information auf Deutsch an den Besuche-zentren und Parkeingängen bekommen.

Existen peligros únicos en el Parque Nacional Yellowstone. Vea página 2. Se puede conseguir información en español en los Centros de Visitantes en las entradas.

イエローストーン国立公園には、独特の注意事項があります。2ページを参照して下さい。公園来客センターズには日本語の公園情報が用意されています。

KEEPING BISON IN YELLOWSTONE'S FUTURE

Native Americans and early explorers enroute to Yellowstone saw millions of bison on the grasslands of the Great Plains and hunted them inside what today is park land. By 1900, bison were nearly extinct. Only a few remained in remote preserves such as Yellowstone, still home to one of the world's largest free-ranging bison herds. The recovery of bison following the slaughter of the late 1800s is one of the great success stories of wildlife conservation; more than 150,000 bison now live in private and public herds nationwide.

The animals you see today in Yellowstone are descended from a native population that



survived in Pelican Valley, numbering only 23 in 1902. In response to fears that the native herd would not survive, managers brought in 21 plains bison to ensure that "buffalo" would remain in the park. These animals were moved to the Buffalo Ranch in the Lamar Valley in 1907 and intensively managed much like livestock until the late-1930s. Later, these bison were allowed to range freely. With protection from poaching, the native and transplanted populations increased. In 1936, bison were transplanted to historic habitats in the Firehole River and Hayden Valley. In 1954, the entire population numbered 1,477. (continued on page 6)

Internet enthusiasts can find our home page at the National Park Service's address: <http://www.nps.gov/yell>

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WARNING!

**Some things all visitors must know...
Hazards in Yellowstone National Park**

Emergency —dial 911

Contact a ranger 344-7381

Yellowstone is a wilderness filled with natural wonders that are also potential hazards. **There is no guarantee of your safety.** Regulations are strictly enforced to protect you and the park's wonders.

All wildlife, especially bison and bears, are unpredictable and dangerous. **Keep a safe distance from all wildlife; view from your car. It is against the law to approach within 100 yards (91m) of bears or within 25 yards (23m) of other wildlife or any distance which causes disturbance or displacement of wildlife.** For your safety and the animals' welfare, avoid all wildlife with young.

Beware of falling trees

Following the fires of 1988, thousands of dead trees, known as snags, were left standing in Yellowstone. These snags may fall with very little warning.

Be cautious and alert for falling snags along trails and roadways, and in campsites and picnic areas.

Avoid areas with large numbers of dead trees. Again, there is no guarantee of your safety.

Avoid these situations

Your visit may be marred by tragedy if you violate park rules. **Law enforcement rangers strictly enforce park regulations to protect you and the park.** Please help keep our contacts with you pleasant by paying special attention to park regulations and avoiding these problems:

- speeding (radar enforced)
- driving while intoxicated (open container law is enforced)
- improper food storage
- camping violations

- pets off leash or left unattended
- littering
- swimming in thermal pools
- eating or drinking in thermal areas
- removal or possession of natural (flowers, antlers, etc.) or cultural (artifact) features
- feeding or approaching wildlife
- spotlighting (viewing animals with artificial light)
- boating and fishing violations
- failure to remove detachable side mirrors when not pulling trailers.

Scalding water can ruin vacations

Stay on boardwalks and designated trails; watch for frosty and icy trails and boardwalks. Scalding water underlies thin, breakable crusts; pools are near or above boiling temperatures. Each year, visitors off trail in thermal areas have been seriously burned, and people have died in the scalding water.

Thermal features are easily destroyed. Visitors throwing objects into these features have damaged a number of geysers and hot springs. Walking on them, carving or defacing them, or removing souvenir pieces of formation destroys decades or

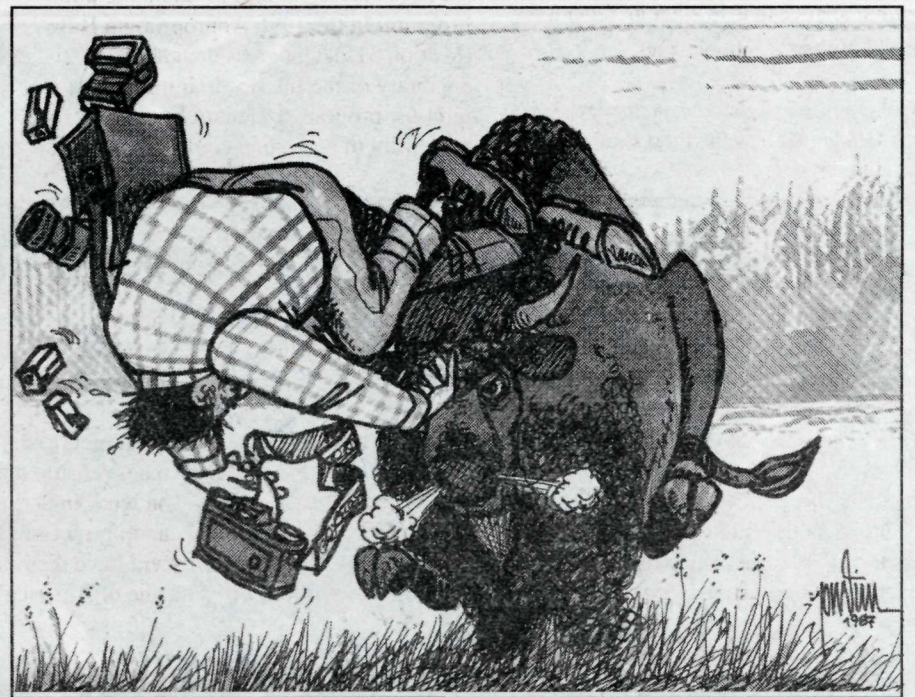
centuries of intricate natural processes. **It is illegal to throw objects into features, deface them or remove any natural features from the park.**

Pets are prohibited in thermal areas. Swimming or bathing in thermal pools or streams whose waters flow entirely from a thermal spring or pool is prohibited. Thermal waters may contain organisms known to cause infections and/or amoebic meningitis which can be quickly fatal. Swim at your own risk.



Watch your children

Your hand and your voice may be too far away if your child leaves your side...protect yourself and your park.



Bears are dangerous

All of Yellowstone is **Bear Country**. People have been seriously injured, maimed, and killed by bears. **Do not approach bears!** Observe them at a distance (you are at greatest risk if you are closer than 100 yards (91m)). Bears may appear tolerant of people but are known to attack without warning. **Feeding wildlife is unlawful.** Animals who are fed often become demanding and aggressive, cause personal injury, and must be destroyed.

Odors attract bears! Bears need your concern—not your food. **Never leave food or garbage unattended.** Dispose of garbage in bear-proofed trash or garbage cans. **To decrease the likelihood of personal injury, store all food and cooking utensils in a secure place** such as: the trunk of your car; suspended 10 feet (3m) above the ground and 4 feet (1.2m) horizontally from a tree or post; or in a food storage box, available in selected campground sites. See page 5 for more information.

The best way to avoid being injured by a bear is to take all necessary precautions to avoid surprise encounters with bears.

If precautionary measures fail and you are charged by a bear, your behavioral reactions can be used to defuse the situation in most cases. **Bear Pepper Spray** is a good last line of defense that has been effective in over 90% of the reported cases where it has been used. Take the time to become familiar with your bear spray and carefully read all instructions and **be aware of its limitations.** If you decide to carry bear pepper spray it must be immediately available, not in your pack. **Remember, carrying pepper spray is not a substitute for vigilance and good safety precautions.**

If you are involved in a conflict with a bear, (regardless of how minor) or if you observe a bear or bear sign, report it to a park ranger as soon as possible. Someone's safety may depend on it.

Unpredictable Wildlife - Keep your distance!

BISON are more dangerous than they appear. Each year visitors approach bison too closely and are gored. People have been killed by these animals which weigh up to 2,000 pounds (900 kg) and sprint at 30 miles per hour (48 kmph), three times faster than you can run.

All wildlife are unpredictable and dangerous; even small animals pose potential dangers. Do not approach bison or any wildlife; view and photograph them from the safety of your vehicle. If an animal reacts to your presence, you are too close.

Vocalizing (howling) to **WOLVES** is illegal. Wolves should not be approached. It is illegal to approach feeding wolves or wolves at their dens for any reason.

COYOTES can quickly learn bad habits like roadside begging. This may lead to aggressive behavior toward humans.

BEARS may be seen in early and late winter. Be alert for tracks and signs. Never approach animal carcasses. Report all bear sightings to a ranger.

High Altitude

The altitude in Yellowstone ranges from 5300 feet to almost 11,000 feet. Due to the lessened atmospheric pressure at these altitudes, medical conditions may be exacerbated and the effects of physical exertion magnified. Heart and respiratory problems are especially prone to worsening

at high altitude.

Be aware of your physical limitations, don't overexert, stop and rest frequently and drink plenty of fluids to forestall the dehydrating effects of the park's dry climate.

Yellowstone Entrance Fees

Entrance fees for Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks as of December 20, 1996, are as follows:

Private, noncommercial automobile	\$20 (7 days, both Yellowstone and Grand Teton)
Individual motorcycle	\$15 (7 days, both parks)
Single entry (foot, bike, ski, etc.)	\$10 (7 days, both parks)
Annual Permit, both parks	\$40 (one year from date of purchase)

NOTE: Remember to keep your admission receipt in order to re-enter the park.

The Golden Eagle Passport, valid for one year from the date of purchase and priced at \$50, allows the permit holder and accompanying passengers in a private, noncommercial vehicle to enter all federal parks which charge entrance fees.

The Golden Age Passport has a onetime \$10 fee; the Golden Access Passport is offered free of charge.

Yellowstone and Grand Teton are two of 100 National Park Service units selected to participate in the Congressionally-authorized Recreation Fee Demonstration Program. In the 1996 Appropriation Bill (Section 315), Congress mandated the Secretary of the Interior to implement a pilot fee program to demonstrate the feasibility of spreading some of the costs

of managing public lands among those who use them.

Under the recent changes to the fee demonstration program, the parks will be allowed to keep 80 percent of fees collected; the remaining 20 percent will be deposited in a special account for use in other park units.

Yellowstone anticipates collecting an estimated \$6-7 million in additional revenue during Fiscal Year 1998. Funds collected during the project will remain available to the park for a six-year period.

The additional funds generated by the fee increases will be used to accomplish projects the parks have been unable to fund through yearly Congressional allocations. Funded projects will increase the quality of the visitor experience and enhance the protection of park resources.

Some of the projects expected to be funded include the protection of the parks' road investment through overlays, patching, chipseal, drainage and erosion control; a major rehabilitation of the Canyon Visitor Center; removal of hazardous trees in campgrounds and along roads; upgrading of park campgrounds and amphitheaters; rehabilitation of historical park structures; and repair of failing elements in utility systems parkwide.

You Can Help Preserve and Protect Yellowstone

In our increasingly crowded and developed world, Yellowstone National Park provides a source of refuge and renewal for those who enter its quiet places. The park's magnificent wilderness areas offer a glimpse of what our continent was like when humans first gazed in wonder upon its steaming geysers, thundering waterfalls and abundant wildlife herds. However, Yellowstone exists today only because generations who came before us understood its value and made its preservation a priority.

Yellowstone is now challenged by increasing development along its borders and increasing visitation within its borders. Unfortunately, it does not have the resources to effectively deal with these challenges. Because so many visitors who love Yellowstone want to help ensure that it stands, wild and unimpaired, for our future, two separate organizations have been established. The Yellowstone Park Foundation and the Yellowstone Association work in partnership with the National Park Service and each other to provide a means for visitors to contribute to Yellowstone's preservation. Please help us do the very best we can to protect and preserve this national treasure. Your contribution of \$25 or more to either organization will designate you as a true friend of Yellowstone; contributors of \$1,000 or more will have their names displayed on the park's "Wall of Honor," receiving special recognition as a steward and benefactor of Yellowstone National Park. Yellowstone will exist tomorrow as one of America's most-treasured places only if our generation understands its value and makes its preservation our priority.

Yellowstone Park Foundation

Yellowstone National Park is one of America's greatest treasures. Every year, millions of people like you come to visit and experience the beauty and mystery of the world's first national park. During the last 20 years over 50 million people have visited Yellowstone. Unfortunately, shrinking federal budgets make it more and more difficult to protect and care for Yellowstone in perpetuity.

The Yellowstone Park Foundation is the only non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to raising money for projects that protect, preserve, and enhance Yellowstone National Park. The goal of the Foundation is to alleviate the environmental and financial pressures that Yellowstone faces by raising money for projects that would otherwise go unfunded. The Foundation supports many important projects, including:

- The Wolf Restoration Project which tracks and monitors the habits, habitat needs, and ecological impacts of Yellowstone's new wolf packs;
- A beaver population survey to determine the range and impact of beavers on the biological diversity of Yellowstone's aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems;

- A self-guiding trail through Fort Yellowstone that interprets the role of the U.S. Army in protecting Yellowstone during its early years;
- A landmark effort to restore the Park's native Westslope Cutthroat Trout population.

The Yellowstone Park Foundation receives no government support. It relies solely on the generous contributions of private individuals, foundations, and corporations to help protect and preserve Yellowstone for our enjoyment and that of future generations. Yellowstone needs your support now more than ever. Please help to preserve the beauty and wonder of the park by becoming a Friend of Yellowstone. With a donation of \$100 or more you will receive Yellowstone's limited edition 125th anniversary pin while supplies last. If you make a donation of \$1,000 or more, your name will be displayed on the park's Honor Wall at Old Faithful where you will receive special recognition as a Yellowstone National Park Steward.



Public appreciation and dedication have ensured Yellowstone's protection and preservation for the first 126 years of its history. The nonprofit Yellowstone Association has dedicated itself to fostering this critical public support through education since its founding in 1933 and, with the help of visitors like you, has provided funding of over \$5,600,000 to Yellowstone National Park in support of education, historical, and scientific projects.

How Can You Help?

First, visit a Yellowstone Association educational bookstore, located in all park visitor centers. **One hundred percent** of the profit from your purchase is returned directly to Yellowstone to fund critical education programs, scientific research, ranger-naturalist training and program supplies.

Second, become a member of the Yellowstone Association and provide substantial support to Yellowstone while receiving a year's subscription to *Wilderness Profile*, the Association's Yellowstone **newsletter** and to *Yellowstone Today*, the official park **newspaper**, both published quarterly. You will also receive a **15% discount** on your purchases in Association park bookstores and a discount on Yellowstone Institute **classes** (see page 13). A **book bag** is offered in appreciation of your contribution if you join while you are in the park.

For more information on Association membership or activities, ask one of our helpful staff members at any park visitor center, or write P.O. Box 117, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190; or call (307) 344-2296. You can also visit our website at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org

I want to become a Friend of Yellowstone National Park and help to preserve, protect and enhance the park's natural wonders.

☐ Contributor \$25 ☐ Supporter \$50 ☐ Guardian \$100 ☐ Steward \$1,000 ☐ Other

Enclosed is a tax deductible gift of _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip code _____ Phone (____) _____

The Yellowstone Park Foundation

**37 East Main Suite 4
Bozeman, MT 59715 (406) 586-6303**



YES!

I want to help preserve Yellowstone through education.

To receive all the benefits of membership, complete and mail this form with your dues to: The Yellowstone Association, P.O. Box 117, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 (or bring to any park visitor center).

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

Annual dues: ☐ Associate..... \$25 ☐ Patron \$250
☐ Contributing.....\$50 ☐ Sponsor..... \$500
☐ Sustaining.....\$100 ☐ Benefactor..\$1000

Make checks payable to "The Yellowstone Association"

Charge to ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover # _____

Expiration date _____ Signature _____

PNP

Regulations and other useful information

ACCIDENTS Report all accidents or injuries to a park ranger.

BICYCLING Bicycling is permitted on established public roads, parking areas, and designated routes. There are no bicycle paths along roadways. **Bikes are prohibited on backcountry trails and boardwalks.**

We strongly recommend that safety gear, including helmet and high visibility clothing, be worn by all bicyclists. Park roads are narrow and winding; most do not have a shoulder, or shoulders are covered with gravel. During April, May, and June, high snowbanks make travel more dangerous. Road elevations range from 5,300 to 8,860 feet (1,607–2,694 m); relatively long distances exist between services and facilities.

Motorists frequently do not see bicyclists or fail to give them sufficient space on the road. Drivers sometimes pass on hill crests, blind curves or in oncoming traffic. Vehicles, especially motor homes or those towing trailers, may have wide mirrors, posing an additional hazard. For more information about bicycling in Yellowstone, including a list of trails, stop at a visitor center.

BOATING A permit is required for all vessels (including float tubes) and must be obtained in person at any of the following locations: South Entrance, Lewis Lake Campground, Grant Village Backcountry Office, Bridge Bay Marina and Lake Ranger Station. Non-motorized boating permits only are available at the Canyon and Mammoth Backcountry Offices, Bechler Ranger Station, and West and Northeast Entrances. The fee is \$20 (annual) or \$10 (10 day) for motorized vessels and \$10 (annual) or \$5 (10 day) for non-motorized vessels. **A Coast Guard approved "wearable" personal flotation device is now required for each person boating.** Float tubes are required to have a personal flotation device available. Inquire at a ranger station to validate Grand Teton National Park boat permits. All vessels are prohibited on park rivers and streams except the channel between Lewis and Shoshone Lakes, where only hand propelled vessels are permitted.

CAMPFIRES Campfires are permitted in designated campgrounds and in picnic areas where fire grates are provided. Backcountry use permits are required for campfires in the backcountry. Any dead and down material may be used as firewood but chainsaws are prohibited.

CLIMBING Rock climbing in Yellowstone is dangerous due to loose, crumbly rock. Climbing is not recommended in most areas and is illegal in the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone.

DISTURBING PARK FEATURES Possessing or collecting natural or archeological objects, or removing, defacing or destroying any plant, animal, or mineral is prohibited. Travel into fragile thermal areas may result in damage to the area or serious injury from scalding water.

FIREARMS All firearms, including state-permitted concealed weapons, are not allowed in Yellowstone. However, unloaded firearms may be transported in a vehicle when the weapon is cased, broken down, or rendered inoperable, and kept out of sight. Ammunition must be placed in a separate compartment of the vehicle.

LOST AND FOUND Report lost and found items to any visitor center or ranger station. A report will be filed and the article returned when possible. For more assistance write: Yellowstone National Park, Visitor Services Office, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

MEDICAL SERVICES Outpatient medical services are offered at three park locations during the summer season—Lake, Mammoth, and Old Faithful (see pages 6, 19 for dates of operation). The Lake Hospital has ten inpatient beds, 24-hour ambulance and emergency service, and laboratory, pharmacy, and radiology services. Yellowstone Park Medical Services works closely with National Park Service emergency medical personnel to provide prehospital care. **In case of medical emergency while in the park, dial 911.**

MOTORCYCLES Motorcycles, motor scooters, and motor bikes must be operated on park roads; no off-road or trail travel is allowed. Operators must carry a valid state driver's license and vehicles must display valid state license plates.

PERMITS Permits are required for boating, fishing, overnight backcountry use, and transporting game or wildlife parts, such as antlers, through the park; ask at visitor centers or ranger stations. Please carefully read the regulations and safety information you receive with your permit.

PETS Pets must be leashed and are allowed only within 25 feet (7.6 m) of roads and parking areas. Leaving a pet unattended and/or tied to an object is prohibited. Pets are prohibited on trails, in the backcountry, on boardwalks, and in thermal areas.

PICNIC AREAS Overnight camping is not allowed in any of the park's picnic areas. Fires may be built only in fire grates available in picnic areas at Snake River, Grant Village, Bridge Bay, Cascade, Norris Meadows, Yellowstone River, Spring Creek, Nez Perce, and the east parking lot of Old Faithful. Liquid fuel stoves may be used for cooking at other locations. Most picnic areas have pit toilets, but none have drinking water.

SHOULD YOU DRINK THE WATER? Intestinal infections from drinking untreated water are increasingly common. Waters may be polluted by animal and/or human wastes. When possible, carry a supply of water from a domestic source. If you drink water from lakes and streams, boil it a minimum of two minutes to reduce the chance of infection.

STORMS Yellowstone's weather is unpredictable. A sunny warm day may become fiercely stormy with wind, rain, sleet, and sometimes snow. Lightning storms are common; get off water or beaches and stay away from ridges, exposed places, and isolated trees. Without adequate clothing and gear, an easy day hike or boat trip can turn into a

battle for survival. Exposure to wind, rain, or cold can result in hypothermia. This rapid loss of body heat can cause death if not treated. Early warning signs include shivering, slurred speech, memory lapses, drowsiness, and exhaustion. Cold water is a special hazard to anglers and boaters.

STREAM CROSSING Fording a stream can be hazardous, especially during spring snowmelt/high water. Check at local ranger stations for current trail and stream conditions.

SWIMMING There are no swimming pools in Yellowstone, and swimming, bathing, or wading in thermal features, or in streams whose waters flow from thermal features, is illegal. River, stream, and lake water is so cold that hypothermia is a serious possibility. Swimming is generally discouraged.

THEFT Theft is a potential problem. To avoid becoming a victim:
—lock your vehicle;
—keep all valuables out of sight;
—put your name, address, or identification number on all valuable property;
—report theft or vandalism to a ranger immediately.

TRAFFIC Yellowstone has over 350 miles (564 km) of roads. Most are narrow, rough, and busy! **Some sections are steep with sharp drop offs.** Drive cautiously and courteously; slow moving vehicles must use pullouts to observe wildlife/scenery and to allow safe passing by other vehicles. Watch for animals on the road, especially at night.

Bicycles and motorcycles present special hazards. Drive defensively and wear seat belts. Yellowstone has a mandatory front passenger seat belt requirement. **Be especially cautious of ice and road damage;** cool temperatures may occur any time of the year. **The maximum speed limit is 45 mph (73 km per hour) unless otherwise posted.**

Camping in Yellowstone National Park

FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVED SITES

There are 12 campgrounds in Yellowstone National Park. Seven of these campgrounds are operated by the National Park Service at Indian Creek, Lewis Lake, Mammoth, Norris, Pebble Creek, Slough Creek, and Tower Fall. Sites at these campgrounds are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

CAMPSITE RESERVATIONS

Amfac Parks and Resorts operates campgrounds at Bridge Bay, Canyon, Grant Village, Madison, and Fishing Bridge RV Park. Same-day reservations can be made by calling (307) 344-7311 or by checking at an Amfac operated campground

registration desk. Future reservations can be made by calling (307) 344-7311 or by writing Amfac Parks and Resorts, P.O. Box 165, YNP, WY 82190. **Fishing Bridge RV Park** is the only campground offering water, sewer, and electrical hookups, and is for **hard-sided vehicles only** (no tents or tent trailers are allowed).

Please make your reservations early and/or plan on securing your campsite as early in the day as possible; campgrounds may fill by early morning, especially during peak season (early July-late August).

CAMPING RULES Camping or overnight vehicle parking in pullouts, parking areas, picnic grounds, or any place other than a designated campground is not permitted, and there are no overflow camping facilities. However, camping is often available in neighboring communities and forests outside the park. Camping is limited to 14 days between June 15 and September 15, and to 30 days the rest of the year; there is no limit at Fishing Bridge RV Park. Check out time for all campgrounds is 10:00 am.

QUIET HOURS Camping in Yellowstone is a special experience. Each visitor

deserves the opportunity to hear the birds, wildlife, and streams in this beautiful environment. Respect the rights of other campers and comply with the law by adhering to quiet hours, **8:00 pm to 8:00 am (10:00pm–7:00am at Fishing Bridge RV Park)** which will be strictly enforced. No generators, loud audio devices, or other noise disturbances will be allowed during this time. Generators are only permitted in six campgrounds and the Fishing Bridge RV Park (see table at left).

GOLDEN AGE/ACCESS DISCOUNT

Holders of Golden Age and Access permits will be given a 50% discount on camping fees; this discount does not apply to Fishing Bridge RV Park.

GROUP CAMPING Group camping areas are available at Madison, Grant, and Bridge Bay campgrounds from late May through closing date for large organized groups with a designated leader such as youth groups, educational groups, etc. The fees range from \$35–60 per night depending on the size of the group. Advance reservations are required and can be made beginning January 1 by writing Amfac Parks and Resorts, P.O. Box 165, YNP, WY 82190 or by phoning (307) 344-7311.

Campground	No. of Sites	Approx. Dates**	Fee	Elev (ft)	Toilet	Showers/Laundry Nearby	Dump Station	Generators Permitted (8am–8pm)
Bridge Bay*	429	5/22-9/27	\$15.00	7800	Flush		X	X
Canyon*	271	6/5-9/6	15.00	8000	Flush	X	X	X
Grant Village*	425	6/21-10/4	15.00	7800	Flush	X	X	X
Madison*	280	5/1-11/1	15.00	6800	Flush		X	X
Mammoth	85	All Year	12.00	6200	Flush			X
Norris	116	5/15-9/28	12.00	7500	Flush			X
Indian Creek	75	6/12-9/21	10.00	7300	Vault			
Lewis Lake	85	6/12-11/1	10.00	7800	Vault			
Pebble Creek	32	6/12-9/28	10.00	6900	Vault			
Slough Creek	29	5/22-11/1	10.00	6250	Vault			
Tower Fall	32	5/15-9/28	10.00	6600	Vault			
Fishing Bridge RV*	340	5/15-9/27	27.00	7800	Flush	X	Sewer	X

*Reserve through AmFac Parks and Resorts; call (307) 344-7311 or TDD (307) 344-5395.

**Dates are approximate and may depend on weather or resource management concerns.

Off the Beaten Track

Yellowstone National Park, with 2.2 million acres, is one of America's premier wilderness areas. Most of the park is backcountry and managed as wilderness. Over 1,100 miles (1,771 km) of trails are available for hiking. However, there are dangers inherent in wilderness—including unpredictable wildlife, changing weather conditions, remote thermal areas, cold water lakes, turbulent streams, and rugged mountains with loose, "rotten" rock. Visiting wilderness means experiencing the land on its terms. If you choose to explore and enjoy the natural wonders of Yellowstone, **there is no guarantee of your safety.** Be prepared for any situation! Carefully read all backcountry guidelines and regulations.

Backcountry rules

To preserve Yellowstone's backcountry and enhance your wilderness experience, the National Park Service has established the following regulations and guidelines. **Contact a park ranger before you begin a day hike or overnight trip.**

PERMITS Yellowstone Park has a designated backcountry campsite system; **permits are required for some day hikes and all overnight trips.** Permits must be obtained at a ranger station and no more than 48 hours before your camping date. Advance reservations for some backcountry campsites may be made in writing or in person for a \$15 fee. To obtain the necessary forms, write the Backcountry Office, P.O. Box 168, YNP, WY 82190 or

check at a ranger station. Each designated campsite has a maximum limit for the number of people and stock allowed per night. The maximum stay per campsite varies from 1 to 3 nights per trip. Due to bear activity, some hiking and camping restrictions may apply. Permits are also required for boating and fishing. Information and permits are available at ranger stations and some visitor centers.

CAMPFIRES Campfires are permitted only in established fire pits. Burn only dead and down wood. Wood or ground fires are not allowed in some campsites. Your fire must be attended at all times and be completely extinguished before you leave.

STOCK USE Overnight stock (horses, mules, burros, and llamas) use is **not permitted prior to July 1**, due to range readiness and/or wet trail conditions. Horses are not allowed in frontcountry campgrounds.

SANITATION Bury human waste 6 to 8 inches (15-20 cm) below the ground and a minimum of 100 feet (30 m) from a watercourse. Waste water should be disposed of at least 100 feet (30 m) from a watercourse or campsite. Do not pollute lakes, ponds, rivers, or streams by washing yourself, clothing or dishes in them.

PACK IT IN - PACK IT OUT

All refuse must be carried out of the backcountry. This includes items partly burned in fire pits (foil, tin, glass etc).

FIREARMS, PETS, MOTORIZED VEHICLES

Firearms, pets, motorized equipment, and wheeled vehicles are prohibited in the backcountry.

NATURAL FEATURES Removing, defacing, or destroying any plant, animal, or mineral is prohibited. Leave historical and archeological items in place. Report your findings to a park ranger.

Hiking and camping in bear country

Yellowstone Park is home to both grizzly and black bears. **Although the risk of an encounter with a bear is low, there are no guarantees of your safety.** Minimize your risks by following the guidelines below.

A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR

Do not leave packs containing food unattended, even for a few minutes. Allowing a bear to obtain human food even once often results in the bear becoming aggressive about obtaining such food in the future. Aggressive bears present a threat to human safety and eventually must be destroyed or removed from the park. Please obey the law and do not allow bears or other wildlife to obtain human food.

WHILE HIKING Make bears aware of your presence on trails by making loud noises such as shouting or singing. This lessens the chance of sudden encounters, which are the cause of most bear-caused human injuries in the park. Hike in groups and use caution where vision is obstructed. Do not hike after dark. Avoid carcasses; bears often defend this source of food.

IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BEAR

Do not run. Bears can run over 30 miles per hour (48 km per hour), or 44 feet per second (13 meters per second), faster than Olympic sprinters. Running may elicit an attack from otherwise non-aggressive bears. If the bear is unaware of you, detour away from the bear. If the bear is aware of you and nearby, but has not acted aggressively, slowly back away.

Tree climbing to avoid bears is popular advice, but not very practical in many circumstances. All black bears, all grizzly cubs, and some adult grizzlies can climb trees. Running to a tree may provoke an otherwise uncertain bear to chase you.

IF A BEAR APPROACHES OR CHARGES YOU

Do not run. Some bears will bluff their way out of a threatening situation by charging, then veering off or stopping abruptly at the last second. Bear experts generally recommend standing still until the bear stops and then slowly backing away. **If you are attacked, play dead.** Drop to the ground, lift your legs up to your chest, and clasp

your hands over the back of your neck. This technique has been especially successful with female bears that have cubs.

WHEN CAMPING Never camp in an area that has obvious evidence of bear activity such as digging, tracks, scat, or where animal carcasses are present.

Odors attract bears. Avoid carrying or cooking odorous foods. Keep a clean camp; do not cook or store food in your tent. All food, garbage, or other odorous items used for preparing or cooking food must be secured from bears. Hang all food, garbage, and odorous items at least 10 feet (3 m) above the ground and at least 4 feet (1.2 m) out from tree trunks. Treat all odorous products such as soap, deodorant, or toiletries in the same manner as food.

Sleep a minimum of 100 yards (91 m) from where you hang, cook, and eat your food. Keep your sleeping gear clean and free of food odor. Don't sleep in the same clothes worn while cooking and eating; hang clothing worn while cooking and eating in plastic bags.

BEARS & MENSTRUATING WOMEN

Considering bears' highly developed sense of smell, it may seem logical that they could be attracted to odors associated with menstruation. Studies on this subject are few and inconclusive. If a woman chooses to hike or camp in bear country during menstruation, a basic precaution should be to wear internal tampons, not external pads. Used tampons should be double bagged in a zip-lock type bag and stored the same as trash.

REPORT YOUR ENCOUNTER

If you are involved in a conflict with a bear, regardless of how minor, report it to a park ranger as soon as possible. Another's safety may depend on it.

BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS

Exceptional combinations of food, shelter, and space draw grizzlies to some parts of Yellowstone more than others. In these Bear Management Areas, human access is restricted to reduce impacts on the bears and their habitat. Ask at ranger stations and visitor centers for more information.

Yellowstone Fishing

FISHING PERMITS

A current Yellowstone fishing permit is required. Anglers 16 years of age and older are required to purchase either a \$10 ten-day or a \$20 season permit. Anglers 12-15 years of age are required to obtain a non-fee permit; those 11 years and younger may fish without a permit but must be supervised by an adult who knows the regulations. Permits are available at all ranger stations, visitor centers, and Hamilton General Stores. **No state fishing license is required in Yellowstone National Park.**

FISHING SEASON

With some exceptions, Yellowstone's fishing season begins on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend and continues through the first Sunday of November. Major exceptions are Yellowstone Lake, where fishing season opens June 1 (with restrictions), and Yellowstone Lake's tributary streams, which open July 15. The Yellowstone River and its tributaries between Canyon and Yellowstone Lake open for fishing on July 15. Please refer to park fishing regulations for additional special information.

EXOTIC ORGANISMS

Yellowstone fisheries are threatened by two potentially damaging exotic organisms. Whirling disease has been implicated in the decline of wild trout in the Madison River in Montana outside the park. The New Zealand Mud Snail, which occurs in the Firehole and Madison Rivers, may impact aquatic insect communities within the park. Please help prevent further spread of these invaders by thoroughly cleaning mud, plants, and debris from your fishing equipment, and by inspecting footwear before leaving your angling site. Drain livewells and only clean fish near the body of water where they were caught. Reports sightings of the tiny 1/4 inch snails to a park ranger.

NON-TOXIC FISHING

Yellowstone National Park has implemented a non-toxic fishing program. Fishing tackle such as leaded split-shot sinkers, weighted jigs (lead molded to a hook), and soft lead-weighted ribbon for nymph fishing are no longer allowed. Only non-toxic alternatives are allowed to accompany these types of fishing tackle.

For more information, contact the Chief Ranger's Office, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

FISHING REGULATIONS

In Yellowstone, bald eagles, osprey, pelicans, otters, grizzly bears, and other wildlife take precedence over humans as consumers of fish. Additionally, all fish are wild (there is no stocking), so there must be sufficient adult fish to reproduce and maintain populations and to assure genetic diversity. These facts require both a philosophical and literal distinction between recreational angling and consuming fish. In Yellowstone, angling is based on fishing for native species of wild trout in a natural setting.

Fishing regulations in Yellowstone National Park have evolved as ongoing research reveals population trends and interrelationships with the rest of the Yellowstone ecosystem. Increasing numbers of anglers have also influenced the development of regulations by their impact on certain species and aquatic habitats.

Park fishing regulations are available at any ranger station, visitor center, or Hamilton Store. For more information on lake trout in Yellowstone Lake, see article on page 16.

GRIZZLY OR BLACK?

A small grizzly is often difficult to distinguish from a large black bear. The best way to tell them apart is by body shape, with the grizzly's "hump" being characteristic. Remember, all bears are dangerous; treat them with extreme caution. Sows with cubs to protect are especially ferocious. If you discover an animal carcass, be alert; bears will aggressively defend their food caches.

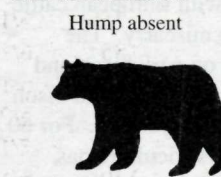
GRIZZLY BEAR



Hump

Rump lower than shoulders

BLACK BEAR



Hump absent

Rump higher than shoulders

Exploring Yellowstone: getting started

"Now that I'm here, where do I go?" It's not an unusual question, especially for first time visitors. Consider the facts: Yellowstone encompasses 2.2 million acres or 3,472 square miles. It is larger than the states of Delaware and Rhode Island combined and spreads across the borders of three states—Wyoming, Montana and Idaho. Three hundred fifty miles (564 km) of paved road wind through the park, crossing the Continental Divide three times. Elevations range from approximately 5,300 feet (1,608 meters) at the North Entrance to almost 12,000 feet (3,640 m) at Eagle Peak on the park's east boundary; most roads lie at 7,500–8,000 feet (2,275–2,427 m).

Historically, visitors often referred to Yellowstone as "Wonderland," and that may be even more appropriate today. An unparalleled array of geothermal phenomena—geysers, hot springs, steam vents and mud pots—are preserved here, evidence of a volcanic past (and future?).

The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone is famous for its colors, shapes, and waterfalls (the Lower Falls, at 308 feet (103 m), is the highest in the park). The park shelters a variety and abundance of wildlife found in few other places. Yellowstone Lake and numerous rivers, streams, and waterfalls constitute a major Western water resource.

With so much to see and do, it's easy to be overwhelmed. The following tips and information will help you plan your time to suit your interests and energy level. Rangers at visitor centers can fill in the details and help you make the most of your visit to Yellowstone.

The park's major scenic attractions are located along the Grand Loop Road, the roughly figure-eight shaped road in the center of the park. The total mileage around the Loop is 142 miles (229 km). The distance around the Upper Loop is 70 miles (113 km); the Lower Loop, 96 miles (155 km). Actual driving time is difficult to

estimate because the maximum speed limit is 45 mph (73 km per hour) or lower where posted, roads are narrow, winding, and full of pot holes and frost heaves, and traffic may be heavy and slow moving. While it is possible to drive the Grand Loop in a day, major attractions like Old Faithful Geyser and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone can only be seen by driving to a parking area and walking to the feature.

If you have limited time, consider spending it at just one area instead of trying to "see the park" from the road. Many people believe that to fully appreciate just the major attractions in Yellowstone requires a minimum of three days.

GEYSERS & HOT SPRINGS

Yellowstone's volcanic past is evidenced in its geysers and hot springs. The world's greatest concentration of thermal features is located in Yellowstone: about 10,000 thermal features are known, of which 200 to 250 are geysers. Many of the most famous features can be found along the 50 mile (81 km) road between Mammoth Hot Springs and Old Faithful.

Areas of thermal activity include the Mammoth Hot Spring Terraces, Norris Geyser Basin, Fountain Paint Pot, Firehole Lake Drive, Midway Geyser Basin, Biscuit Basin, Black Sand Basin, and the Old Faithful area. Visitor Centers along this road are located at Mammoth Hot Springs and Old Faithful.

GRAND CANYON

The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone extends from Canyon Village north to Tower Junction. However, the most famous and spectacular section, including the Upper and Lower Falls of the Yellowstone River, is seen from overlooks along the North and South Rim Roads in the Canyon Village area. The northernmost extent of the canyon is visible from Tower Fall and Calcite Springs overlooks 19 miles (31 km) north of Canyon Village.

The drive between Tower Junction and

Canyon Village goes over Dunraven Pass, the highest road in the park at 8,859 feet (2,687 m). Along the way you will find spectacular views of the Absaroka Mountains, the Yellowstone caldera and, on a clear day, the Teton Mountains to the south. During June and July, wildflowers carpet the slopes of Mt. Washburn. A visitor center is located at Canyon Village.

LAKE AREA

Yellowstone Lake, with 110 miles (170 km) of shoreline and a 136 square mile (354 sq km) surface area, is North America's largest mountain lake. Its relatively high elevation (7,733 feet or 2,345 m) is one reason why the lake is ice-locked at least half of the year. The area is prime habitat for a variety of birds and mammals, and spectacular scenery plus fishing and boating have long made the area popular with visitors. Nearby, Mud Volcano and West Thumb Geyser Basin hint at a complex geologic history; present activity is unique and ever-changing.

Permits, required for fishing and boating, are available at Lake Ranger Station and Grant Village Visitor Center (note that the general fishing season begins May 23; June 1 on Yellowstone Lake (with restrictions; consult fishing regulations); July 15 on the lake's tributary streams and the Yellowstone River). A museum is located at Fishing Bridge.

WILDLIFE VIEWING

Yellowstone is home to a variety and abundance of wildlife unparalleled in the lower 48 states. Nearly all wildlife species inhabiting the park when it was first officially explored more than 100 years ago survive today. It is difficult to describe exactly where wildlife may be seen; habitat preferences and seasonal cycles of movement determine, in a general sense, where a particular animal may be at a particular time.

Early morning and evening hours are when animals tend to feed and thus are more easily seen. But remember that the numbers

and variety of animals you see are largely a matter of luck and coincidence. Check at visitor centers for more information. Please use pullouts when viewing wildlife, and remember that Yellowstone's animals are wild; use binoculars or telephoto lenses for your safety and to avoid disturbing them.

HISTORY

Mammoth Hot Springs is the site of park headquarters. It is also the site of Fort Yellowstone, built during the Army era (1886 to 1918) of park administration. The former Bachelor Officers' Quarters is now the Albright Visitor Center where the story of Yellowstone's colorful history is told. A self-guided walking tour through the historic district is also offered. The Museum of the National Park Ranger is located at Norris.

SERVICES AND FACILITIES

See page 11 for a directory of commercial services. All facilities, accommodations and services are available from approximately mid-June to late August. However, limited facilities and services are available before and after that period. Please note opening and closing dates.

General park information is available by calling National Park Service headquarters at (307) 344-7381 (long distance from some park locations). Reservations for lodging, camping, and activities such as bus tours, horse rides, boat rental, etc. may be made through Amfac Parks and Resorts company; call (307) 344-7311.

These highlights will help you plan your visit to Yellowstone, but much is left for you to discover. If you supply the time and curiosity, Yellowstone's wonders will be revealed to you. May your visit be safe, rewarding, and memorable.

Bison (continued)

Bison were trapped and herds periodically reduced until 1967, when only 397 bison were counted parkwide. After herd reductions stopped, the bison population was allowed to naturally increase; they numbered about 3,500 in 1996.

Bison are nomadic grazers, wandering high on Yellowstone's grassy plateaus in summer. Despite their slow gait, they are surprisingly fast for animals that weigh more than half a ton. In winter, they use their large heads like a plow to push aside snow and find winter food. In the park interior where snows are deep, they seek out thermal ground around the geyser basins. But others move to winter range at lower elevations, on the grasslands in northern Yellowstone, or areas outside the park.

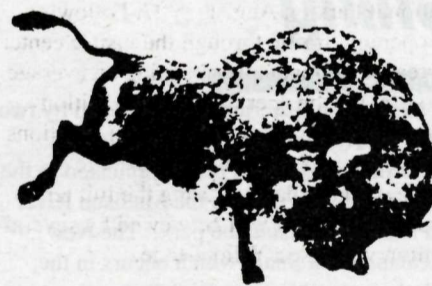
Bison are enjoyed by visitors, celebrated by conservationists, and revered by Native Americans. Why are they a management challenge? One reason is that about half of Yellowstone's bison have been exposed to brucellosis, a bacterial disease that probably came to this continent with European cattle and may cause cows to miscarry. The disease has little effect on park bison and has never been transmitted from wild bison to a visitor or to domestic livestock. For 60 years the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture has supported efforts to eliminate brucellosis in livestock. Despite the low risk to humans

and livestock today, since the possibility of contagion exists, the State of Montana believes its "brucellosis-free" status may be jeopardized if bison are in proximity to cattle. If cattle become infected, ranchers are prevented from shipping livestock out of state until stringent testing and quarantine requirements are met. Although scientists are studying new possibilities, there is yet no safe, effective brucellosis vaccine for bison. Ironically, elk in the ecosystem also carry the disease, but this popular game species is not considered a threat to livestock.

Yellowstone wildlife freely move across boundaries set a century ago without knowledge of each animal's habitat needs. But bison, more than other species, are unwelcome outside the park, where they can damage fences, compete with cattle for grazing land, and cause safety concerns. While research on bison ecology and disease continues, managers have tried to limit bison use of lands outside the park by public hunting and hazing bison back inside park boundaries—efforts that have met with limited success. Since 1990, Montana has killed bison that leave the park. During the severe winter of 1996-1997, nearly 1,100 bison were sent to slaughter, sold at public auction, or shot, their carcasses given to Native Americans for traditional use. These actions reduced the bison population to about 2,200 in 1997-1998.

The NPS, U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and the State of Montana recently completed a *Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Interagency Bison Management Plan for*

Montana and Yellowstone National Park. Alternatives being considered include: allowing bison to freely range over a large portion of public land inside and outside the park; managing bison like elk and other wildlife through controlled hunting outside park boundaries; and attempting to eradicate brucellosis by capturing, testing, and slaughtering infected bison at numerous facilities constructed in the park. Additional options include purchase of additional winter range; attacking brucellosis with a (yet unknown) safe and effective vaccine for bison; and quarantine of animals at appropriate locations such as Indian Reservations or other suitable sites outside Yellowstone.



Help Determine the Fate of Yellowstone Bison

We are seeking your comments on bison management in greater Yellowstone. The *Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Interagency Bison Management for Montana and Yellowstone National Park*, is available for public review and comment until October 1, 1998.

Ask for a copy of the Executive Summary at a park visitor center or write:

Bison Management EIS Team
National Park Service
Sarah Branson, DSC-RP
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225-0287
(303)969-2310

or visit our web site: <http://www.nps.gov/planning/current.htm>

Discover Yellowstone

Summer 1998

A listing of things you can do on your own or with a Ranger-Naturalist, and other special events and experiences available in and around Yellowstone National Park, including information on Grand Teton National Park.

New Bison Exhibit at Canyon Visitor Center

Since its opening last summer, visitors to a special interpretive exhibition on bison in Yellowstone National Park have been deeply moved. The exhibition, "Where the Buffalo Roam," was a collaborative project undertaken by the Buffalo Bill Historical Center (BBHC) and Yellowstone National Park, focusing on the park's bison herd, its history, and the issues surrounding its management.

An important theme explored within the exhibit has to do with how bison are managed to reduce the risk of brucellosis transmission. Because some bison carry the disease, surrounding states have been threatened with the loss of their brucellosis-free status, which allows cattle producers to market their animals without expensive testing. As a result, approximately 1,000 bison were killed in the winter of 1996-1997 after they left the boundaries of the park, and another 700 to 1,000 animals starved inside Yellowstone.

A sampling of public comments reveals the strong emotions inspired by the shaggy beasts:

• "Preserving buffalo is one of the few things that the white man can do to help make up for past wrongs. It would be great to breed more and place them here. What a beautiful sight."

• "Our country made a commitment to preserve the area of Yellowstone and the animals within it. Don't today's buffalo have the same right to our continued commitment to this principle?"

• "Please, let's find an answer so buffalo can continue to roam freely."

• "Buffalo are beautiful creatures and stand for the vitality of our nation."

• "At one time we almost destroyed them. We need to find a way to keep them around. Buffalo in the wild...what an awesome experience!"

• "Buffalo are a beautiful and majestic heritage of North America. The responsibility for their preservation is all of ours. Perhaps the local ranchers should be compensated in some regard for the buffalo feeding on their land. The bottom line:

Buffalo must be protected from more killing."

• "I'd rather see a buffalo in Yellowstone than a cow in Montana."

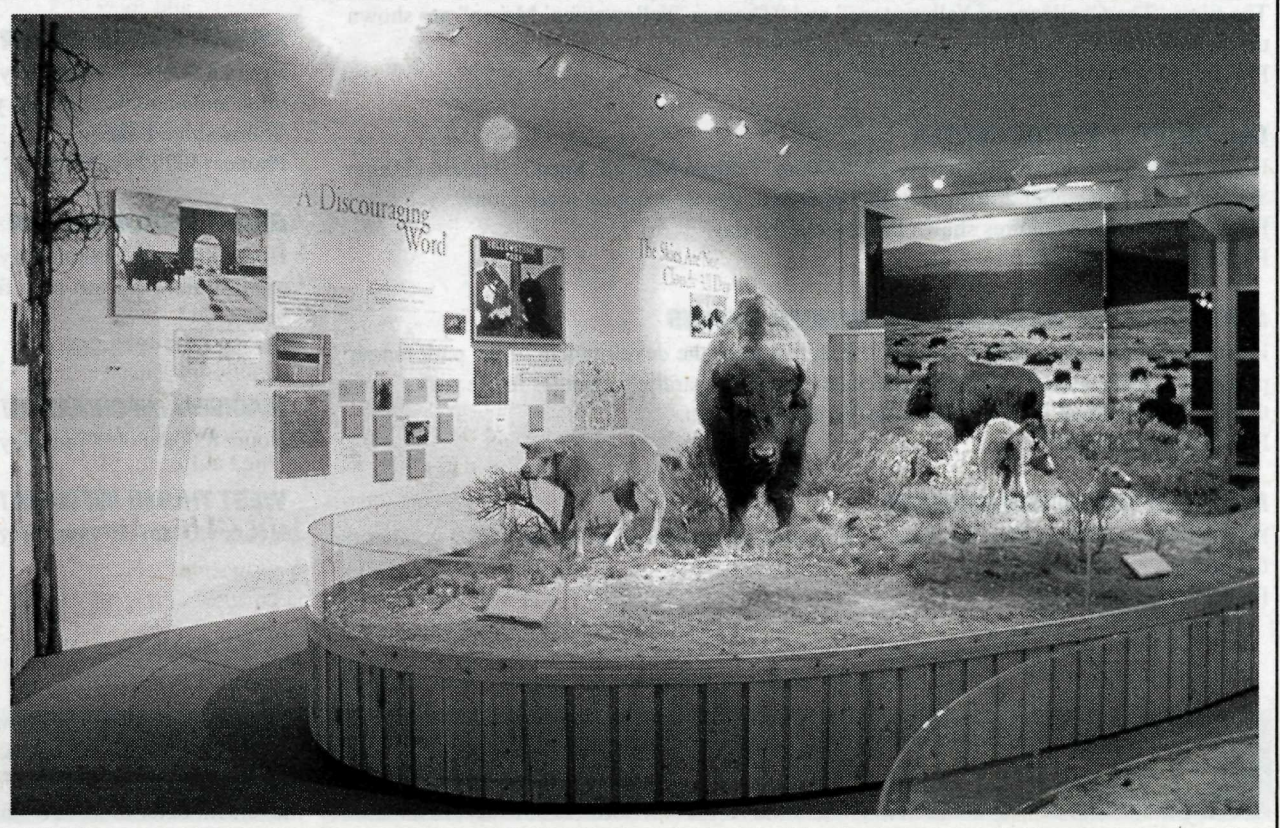
• "Ranchers do pay for their use of range. Not only can brucellosis kill the cattle herd, if not managed it will kill all the buffalo in the park as well as several other species of animals, both domestic and wild. Then there will be nothing here to see."

• "The buffalo and cattle can coexist. The West is big enough for both."

• "This was an excellent display! I think everyone who comes to Yellowstone should visit this display. Everyone needs to see all the things about bison. If there's no bison in Yellowstone, it just won't be the same park."

"Where the Buffalo Roam" opened at the Canyon Visitor Center in Yellowstone National Park on Aug. 1, 1997. Following its opening, traffic through the visitor center increased dramatically, reaching an average of 4,500 persons per day. The exhibition may eventually be moved to other locations in the park and will undergo periodic changes and updates. During the full term of its existence, it will be viewed by several million visitors in Yellowstone.

The idea for the collaboration had its roots in 1995, when the BBHC created a natural history exhibition on the bison in North



America called "Seasons of the Buffalo." The award-winning exhibition, recognized by the American Association of Museums, was viewed by Yellowstone Park Superintendent Mike Finley. He began talking with BBHC officials about developing a similar exhibition for display inside Yellowstone, to help educate visitors about the park's bison herd. An exhibition

planning team with representatives from both organizations developed the exhibit.

The project was funded by the Park County Travel Council, Shoshone First Bank of Cody, Historical Center Trustee Nancy-Carroll Draper, and the National Park Service.

If Your Time is Limited...

There are lots of ways to see Yellowstone, and, although a visit of at least several days is ideal, many visitors have less time than that. If you are time-limited or even if you're not, try the following:

• Decide which highlights are "must-sees" for you and those in your traveling party. See those first, giving lower priority to the many other features of the park.

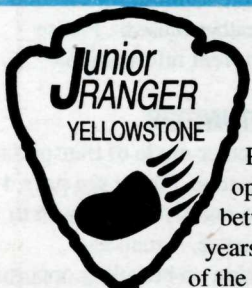
• Consider driving less and seeing several places in more depth. A windshield tour doesn't tell you much about the essence of this special place called Yellowstone.

• Take some quiet time away from traffic, other people, and the noises of "civilization."

• Remember that photographs are meant to document your experience in Yellowstone; they are not the experience itself.

• Talk to a park Ranger-Naturalist at one of the Yellowstone visitor centers or information stations early in your visit. He or she can help tailor your visit to create the unique experience you are seeking.

Junior Rangers



Yellowstone National Park has an official Junior Ranger Program open to children between 5 and 12 years of age. The goal of the program is to

introduce children to the natural wonders of Yellowstone and their role in preserving them for the future.

To become a Junior Ranger, children pay

a \$2.00 fee for the activity paper, *Yellowstone's Nature*, available in any visitor center. After completing the requirements described in the paper, children are awarded an official Junior Ranger patch. Requirements include attending a Ranger-Naturalist program, hiking on a park trail, and completing activities about Yellowstone National Park. Both children and adults will benefit by sharing the fun of becoming a Junior Ranger.

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Printing for this *Discover Yellowstone* has been funded by a generous donation from the Yellowstone Association.

Do-it-Yourself... discover Yellowstone's wonders at your own pace

Visitor Centers, Museums, and Information Stations

ALBRIGHT VISITOR CENTER, MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS

Open year round. Hours 9:00am–5:00pm through May 22; 8:00am–7:00pm May 23–Sept. 7; 9:00am–5:00pm beginning September 8. Information, bookstore, and exhibits of the early history, exploration, and establishment of Yellowstone National Park.

The films "The Challenge of Yellowstone" and "Thomas 'Yellowstone' Moran" are shown throughout the day.

Phone: (307) 344-2263.

OLD FAITHFUL VISITOR CENTER

Hours 9:00am–5:00pm through May 22; 8:00am–7:00pm May 23–Sept 7; 9:00am–5:00pm September 8–November 2. Information, bookstore, geyser eruption predictions.

Film on geothermal features shown throughout the day.

Phone: (307) 545-2750.

MUSEUM OF THE NATIONAL PARK RANGER, NORRIS

Hours 9:00am–6:00pm May 23–Sept. 7. Exhibits trace the development of the park ranger profession; from soldier to modern specialist, the story parallels changes in the parks themselves. National Park Service history video is shown.

Phone: (307) 344-7353.

NORRIS GEYSER BASIN MUSEUM

Hours 8:00am–7:00pm May 23–Sept. 7. Information, bookstore, and exhibits on geothermal features.

Phone: (307) 344-2812.

CANYON VISITOR CENTER

Hours 8:00am–7:00pm May 23–Sept. 7. Information, bookstore. A new exhibit on bison is opened.

Phone: (307) 242-2550.

FISHING BRIDGE VISITOR CENTER

Hours 8:00am–7:00pm May 23–Sept. 7. Information, bookstore. Exhibits on Yellowstone's birds and animals will help you identify some of the wildlife you may see in and around Yellowstone Lake.

Phone: (307) 242-2450.

GRANT VISITOR CENTER

Hours 8:00am–7:00pm May 23–Sept. 7. Information, bookstore. *Yellowstone and Fire* exhibit and film tell how fires have been a part of Yellowstone's history for thousands of years.

Phone: (307) 242-2650.

MADISON INFORMATION STATION

Hours 8:00am–7:00pm May 23–Sept. 7. Information, bookstore.

WEST THUMB INFORMATION STATION

Hours 9:00am–5:00pm May 23–Sept. 7. Information, bookstore.

Self-guiding Trails

With the aid of a 25¢ trail guide, explore the park's features on foot. Stay on trails and boardwalks; watch your step in thermal basins and along steep drop-offs.

MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS TERRACES

Surreal in appearance, travertine terraces such as these are not found anywhere else in the park. As an early visitor described them: "...The hot springs fall over a lofty hill of snowy whiteness, resembling cascades." A walking trail through the Lower Terraces and a one-way drive through the Upper Terraces offer views of these fascinating formations.

FORT YELLOWSTONE WALKING TRAIL

On this short walk, learn about the unique role the military played as the early guardians of Yellowstone prior to the establishment of the National Park Service.

UPPER GEYSER BASIN The world's greatest collection of geysers is located here, including Old Faithful Geyser. Several miles of trail begin at the Old Faithful Visitor Center; stop in for orientation and geyser eruption information.

GRAND CANYON OF THE YELLOWSTONE

The Canyon and the Upper and Lower Falls can be seen from overlooks along the rim drives. The North Rim Drive takes you to Inspiration, Grandview, and Lookout Points. A spur road leads to an overlook at the brink of the Upper Falls. The South Rim Drive leads to Uncle Tom's Trail and Artist Point. Trails also wind along both rims.

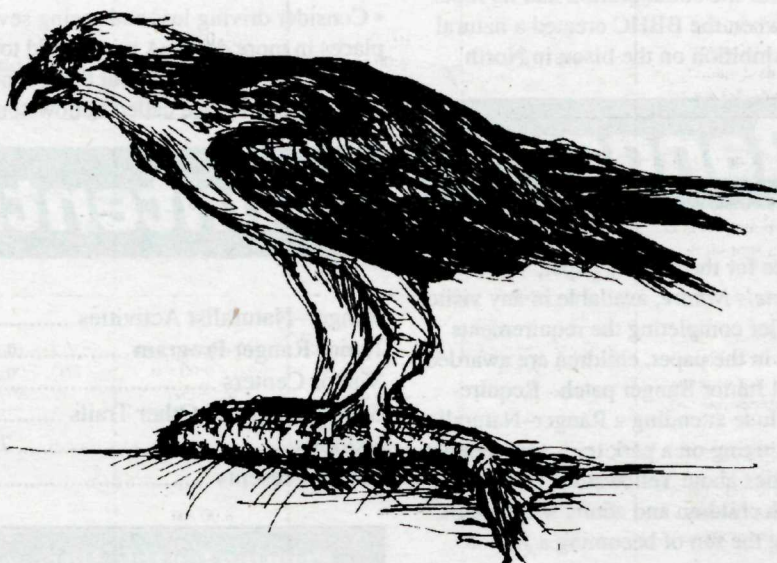
NORRIS GEYSER BASIN Explore the hottest, most active thermal basin in the park. Trails start at the parking lot and lead to colorful hot springs and a number of active geysers.

FOUNTAIN PAINT POT Located 8 miles (13 km) north of Old Faithful on the road to

Madison Junction. Active, ever-changing mud pots make this area special, as does the variety of thermal activity and color.

MUD VOLCANO Located approximately 6 miles (9.6 km) north of Fishing Bridge Junction (approximately 10 miles (16 km) south of Canyon Junction). Intriguing and explosive mudpots such as the Mud Volcano and the Dragon's Mouth have captured the imagination of park visitors through the years.

WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN Situated on the shore of Yellowstone Lake, boiling springs meet icy lake water. View West Thumb Bay, a volcanic explosion crater (or caldera).



Other Opportunities

ROADSIDE EXHIBITS You can find out about Yellowstone's fascinating geology, wildlife, scenery, and history on location! At scenic turnouts, points of interest, or trailhead parking areas, roadside exhibits give you on-the-spot information.

OTHER TRAILS

Calcite Springs Overlook & Tower Fall Calcite Springs overlook is located approximately 1.5 miles (2.4 km) south of Tower Junction. From the trail you can see Calcite Springs' activity plus unique geological formations in the northernmost extent of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. Two miles (3.2 km) south of Tower

Junction is the Tower Fall area. A short trail leads from the parking lot to an overlook of the 132 foot (40 m) waterfall.

Fire Trails Located 6 miles (9.6 km) east of Mammoth Hot Springs on the Mammoth-Tower road, the accessible **Children's Fire Trail** is a good place to look at the effects of fire on an easy, level trail. After the fires of 1988, contributions from children, educational groups, and other organizations helped build this trail; trail development and enhancement continues today. The short, accessible **Two Ribbons Trail** winds its way through burned forest along the Madison River, about 5 miles (8 km) east of the West Entrance.

LESS TRAVELED ROADS

Off the beaten path, one-way drives of several miles beckon to the Yellowstone visitor who has a bit more time to explore the park's offerings. These include the **Old Gardiner Road** (5 miles, 8 km), which starts in Mammoth, traverses open sage grasslands with great views, and ends in Gardiner, Montana. The **Blacktail Plateau Drive** (8 miles (13 km) east of Mammoth Hot Springs), with aspen, wildlife, and open views, provides another auto tour opportunity in northern Yellowstone. These rough roads, most of which are gravel, may be closed throughout the summer for resource management or weather reasons. Please check locally for current information.

CYCLING OPPORTUNITIES

Bicycling is yet another mode of transportation used in Yellowstone. Please see page 4 for information and regulations relevant to your cycling experience. A map and additional information on bicycling opportunities in Yellowstone are available at visitor centers.

Ranger-Naturalist Programs

9

A variety of programs led by Ranger-Naturalists, offered through the summer in Yellowstone, are listed here. While general descriptions are included, individual programs are developed by each Ranger-Naturalist and tailored to their interests and expertise. Also, Ranger-Naturalists rove through geyser basins, along the Canyon rim, in areas where wildlife gather and near other selected features. Watch for them during your travels, and feel free to ask them your questions. Most programs will run through September 7th. After this date, inquire at a Visitor Center about late season programs.

You are encouraged to attend evening campfire programs presented by Park Rangers nightly at Mammoth, Norris, Madison, Old Faithful, Grant, Bridge Bay, Fishing Bridge, and Canyon; three times a week at Lewis Lake; twice a week at Tower Fall; and once a week at Pebble Creek. Please refer to the Ranger-Naturalist program listings for each area for times and locations. Most programs take place later in

the evening so slides can be shown in the darkness. Come prepared with rain gear, warm clothes, and flashlights. Seven different themes will be explored through these programs, with each program being unique and original. These themes are:

The National Park Idea: The creation of Yellowstone National Park in 1872 has often been characterized as “the best idea America ever had.” Since Yellowstone’s creation, the number and diversity of parks has grown nationally and worldwide. Explore Yellowstone’s role in the evolution of the national park idea, its value in identifying our national character, and its global impact in the conservation and preservation of natural and cultural resources.

The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem: The park is part of something much larger, an interwoven system of biological processes and geological wonders, bound together by geography, climate and wildlife. Come celebrate this immense wilderness and find out how this natural ecosystem is affected

by political boundaries and differing management philosophies.

The History of Yellowstone: For 10,000 years humans have had a diversity of relationships with Yellowstone. From the early hunter-gatherer to the present park visitor, the value of Yellowstone has evolved from a place for subsistence to one of ecosystem preservation, enjoyment, and enlightenment. Explore some aspects of Yellowstone’s cultural history and discover its relevance to this era of park preservation and use.

Exploring the Issues of Yellowstone: Yellowstone National Park is a diverse and complex place. Managing its resources involves scientific research, education, and planning. This evening program topic will explore a variety of resource issues, some controversial, and each relating to the area of the park in which it is presented.

Geology of Yellowstone: Yellowstone and its scenic and living wonders are the result

of geologic processes. In many places here, you can see geology in action. Rock forms before your eyes in thermal basins and rivers carve tremendous canyons. Discover how these processes continue to set the stage for the unique ecosystem you see today.

Wildlife of Yellowstone: Yellowstone has been called the wildlife wonder of the continent. Within the park and the surrounding ecosystem are found a huge number of animals and a fantastic variety of species. Learn more about the habits and habitats of the wildlife of Yellowstone.

The Aquatic World of Yellowstone: Yellowstone National Park’s waters fuel its famous geysers, carve its Grand Canyon, provide spectacular waterfalls, and create the largest high-elevation lake in North America. The park gives birth to some of the great American river systems, providing rich habitat for a variety of wildlife. Learn more about Yellowstone’s aquatic world.

ALL OUTDOOR PROGRAMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS.

Canyon Area

Program Descriptions	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Walk—Hayden Valley Walk <i>Starting June 17</i> Meet at the pullout (either side of the road) just north of Alum Creek, 4.5 miles south of Canyon Junction. Hike through one of Yellowstone’s broad valleys, an ideal place for wildlife to gather. Learn more about who Hayden was and how the valley was formed. Be sure to bring your camera and binoculars, for you may see bison, swans, elk, pelicans, or perhaps a bear. <i>1 to 2 hours.</i>	3:00 P.M.			3:00 P.M.	3:00 P.M.	3:00 P.M.	3:00 P.M.
Walk—Walking the Canyon Rim <i>Starting June 7</i> Meet at Uncle Tom’s trail parking area on the South Rim Drive (road to Artist Point). Words can hardly express the startling beauty of the Yellowstone River, its Grand Canyon and spectacular waterfalls. Explore the geology and natural history behind the scenery. <i>1 to 2 hours.</i>	9:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.	11:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	9:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	9:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	9:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M.
Talk—The Yellowstone’s Canyon <i>Starting May 31</i> Meet on the lower platform at Artist Point on the Canyon South Rim Drive. From a classic viewpoint, enjoy the Lower Falls, the Yellowstone River, and the spectacular colors of the canyon while learning about the area’s geology and history. Discover why artists and photographers have been drawn to this special place. Accessible. <i>20-30 minutes.</i>	11 :00 A.M. 12:00 P.M. 2:00 P.M. 3:00 P.M.	3:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.	11:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M. 2:00 P.M. 3:00 P.M.	11:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M. 2:00 P.M. 3:00 P.M.	11:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M. 2:00 P.M. 3:00 P.M.	11:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M. 2:00 P.M. 3:00 P.M.
Evening Programs <i>Starting June 7*</i> Meet at the Canyon Campground Amphitheater.* Inquire locally on bulletin boards and at Visitor Centers for program titles and descriptions. Accessible. <i>45 minutes.</i> *Weather and snow levels permitting.	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter

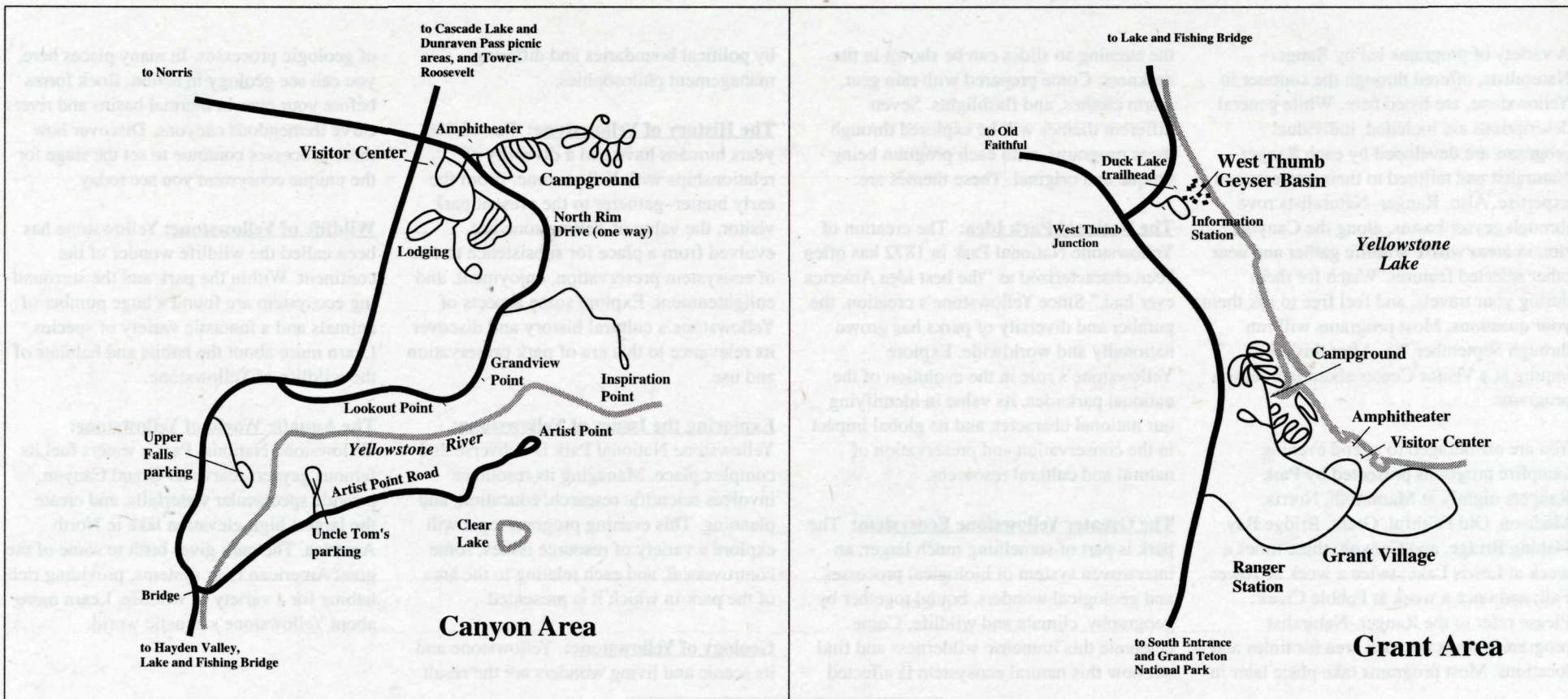
Grant Area

Program Descriptions	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Talk—Hidden Stories <i>Starting June 7– August 22</i> Meet on the back porch of the Grant Visitor Center. Discover behind-the-scene stories of Yellowstone’s fascinating wildlife, geologic curiosities, and natural processes. Explore the complex challenges of preserving and protecting these dynamic features for future generations. Topics may include bison, wolves, lake trout, geysers, thermophiles, fire, and more! Accessible. <i>20 minutes.</i>	11:00 A.M. 1:00 P.M.	11:00 A.M. 1:00 P.M.	11:00 A.M. 1:00 P.M.	11:00 A.M. 1:00 P.M.	11:00 A.M. 1:00 P.M.	11:00 A.M. 1:00 P.M.	11:00 A.M. 1:00 P.M.
Walk—Lakeshore Geologic Discovery <i>Starting June 14</i> Meet near the West Thumb Geyser Basin Information Station. Explore the origins of azure blue hot pools, belching mud pots, glittering geysers, and the area’s explosive geologic past. Watch for bison, eagles, and osprey as you stroll through this dynamic geyser basin on the shores of Yellowstone Lake. Accessible with assistance. <i>1½ hours.</i>	10:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.
Guided Hike—Summer of Fire <i>Starting July 7</i> Meet at the Lake Overlook Trailhead in the West Thumb Geyser Basin Parking Lot. Join a Ranger-Naturalist to explore the important role fire plays in nature, learn more about the events that took place in Yellowstone during the historic summer of 1988, and get a first-hand look at changes to the region ten years after the fires. Round-trip distance is 2 miles; moderately strenuous. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. To reserve a spot on this hike, call 242-2650 or stop in the Grant Visitor Center. <i>Allow 2 hours.</i>			2:00 P.M.				2:00 P.M.
Evening Program <i>Starting June 21</i> Meet at the Grant Campground Amphitheater. Join a Ranger-Naturalist for this slide-illustrated presentation focusing on the natural, cultural, or historic resources and issues of Yellowstone National Park. Inquire locally on bulletin boards and at Visitor Centers for program titles and descriptions. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight. Accessible. <i>45 minutes.</i>	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter
Lewis Lake Campfire Program <i>Starting July 7– August 22</i> Meet at the Lewis Lake Campfire Circle. Come join a Ranger-Naturalist around the fire to learn more about Yellowstone’s diverse wildlife, dynamic geology, colorful history, and other topics. Inquire locally on bulletin boards and at Visitor Centers for program titles and descriptions. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight. <i>45 minutes.</i>			8:00 P.M.				8:00 P.M.

SEE PAGE 10 FOR CANYON AND GRANT AREA MAPS.

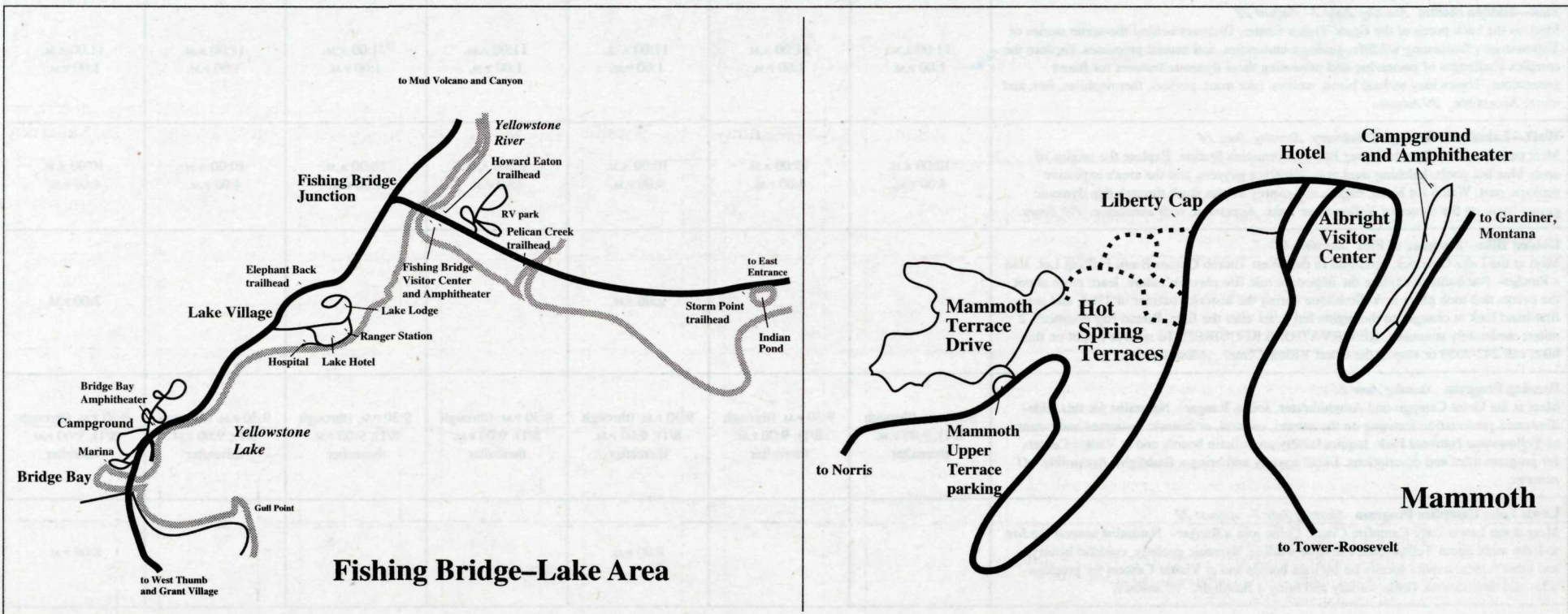
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Ranger-Naturalist Programs



Lake Area

Program Descriptions	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Talk—A Cutthroat Encounter: Fisheries Management Starting June 8 Meet on the west side of Fishing Bridge. People often wonder why no fishing is allowed from the "Fishing Bridge." The answer to this question tells of some of the greatest disasters and greatest triumphs of fisheries management. Observe cutthroat trout from this famous bridge. 20 minutes.	10:00 A.M. (through 8/14) 2:00 P.M. (through 9/7)	10:00 A.M. (through 8/14) 2:00 P.M. (through 9/7)	10:00 A.M. (through 8/14) 2:00 P.M. (through 9/7)	10:00 A.M. (through 8/14) 2:00 P.M. (through 9/7)	10:00 A.M. (through 8/14) 2:00 P.M. (through 9/7)	10:00 A.M. (through 8/14) 2:00 P.M. (through 9/7)	10:00 A.M. (through 8/14) 2:00 P.M. (through 9/7)
Walk—Mud Volcano Exploration Starting June 1 (3:00 P.M. walk) or June 8 (9:00 A.M. walk). Meet at the Mud Volcano parking area. Early explorers described the Mud Volcano area as "the greatest marvel we have yet met with." Find out what these intriguing mud pots have to tell us about Yellowstone's explosive past and future. Moderately strenuous. 2 hours.	9:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.
Walk—Yellowstone Lake Reflections Starting June 1 Meet at Indian Pond, 3 miles east of Fishing Bridge. As one of the park's most beautiful settings, Yellowstone Lake offers evidence of the powerful forces that continue to shape the face of Yellowstone. Walk through meadow, forest, and along the lakeshore to learn more about the largest high elevation lake in North America. 2 hours.	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.
Walk—Managing the Wild Starting June 8 It is the mission of the National Park Service to preserve resources while also providing for their use. From bears to bison to wolves, maintaining this balance can be challenging when the needs of wildlife and the desires of people collide. Inquire at the Visitor Center for today's specific topic and location. Allow 30 minutes travel time to the trailhead. Moderately easy. 1 1/2 hours.	1:00 P.M.	1:00 P.M.	1:00 P.M.	1:00 P.M.	1:00 P.M.	1:00 P.M.	1:00 P.M.
Evening Program Starting June 8 Meet at the Fishing Bridge Visitor Center Amphitheater. Inquire locally on bulletin boards and at Visitor Centers for program titles and descriptions. Accessible. 45 minutes.	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter
Evening Program Starting June 8 Meet at the Bridge Bay Campground Amphitheater. Inquire locally on bulletin boards and at Visitor Centers for program titles and descriptions. 45 minutes.	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1) 9:00 P.M. thereafter



Ranger-Naturalist Programs

Madison Area

Program Descriptions	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Walk—Evening Stroll <i>Starting June 8</i> Meet at the Harlequin Lake Trailhead, 1.5 miles west of Madison Campground on the West Entrance Road. From this trailhead we'll either walk along the river or hike to Harlequin Lake (mosquitoes will determine which). Aquatic habitats, wildlife, and the effects of fire on forests will be explored. Wear adequate walking shoes; bring a jacket and insect repellent. <i>1½ hours.</i>	7:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.
Evening Program <i>Starting June 1</i> Meet at the Madison Amphitheater. Each night, the Ranger– Naturalists will highlight a different aspect of Yellowstone's wonders. Join us to see slides and learn about fire, geology, rivers, and other marvelous things! Inquire locally on bulletin boards and at the Madison Information Station/Bookstore for program titles and descriptions. <i>1 hour.</i>	9:30 P.M. through 8/1/98; 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. through 8/1/98; 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. through 8/1/98; 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. through 8/1/98; 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. through 8/1/98; 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. through 8/1/98; 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. through 8/1/98; 9:00 P.M. thereafter

Mammoth Area

Program Descriptions	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Talk— Yellowstone's Wildlife <i>Starting May 27</i> Meet in front of the Albright Visitor Center. Within Yellowstone National Park is a diversity of wildlife, including some endangered species. Join a Ranger– Naturalist and explore the wildlife of Yellowstone and the latest issues surrounding it. Accessible. <i>20 minutes.</i>	12:00 P.M. 1:00 P.M. 2:00 P.M.	12:00 P.M. 1:00 P.M. 2:00 P.M.	12:00 P.M. 1:00 P.M. 2:00 P.M.	12:00 P.M. 1:00 P.M. 2:00 P.M.	12:00 P.M. 1:00 P.M. 2:00 P.M.	12:00 P.M. 1:00 P.M. 2:00 P.M.	12:00 P.M. 1:00 P.M. 2:00 P.M.
Walk— Mammoth Hot Springs: The Lower Terraces <i>Starting June 1</i> Meet at Opal Terrace, across the road from the Liberty Cap rock formation at the base of Mammoth Hot Springs. Explore Yellowstone's colorful geologic past and present through the rainbow hues of Mammoth Hot Springs. Discover the story behind these unique and dynamic terraces of travertine. Moderately strenuous. <i>1 to 2 hours.</i>	9:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.
Walk— The Army Years: Touring Historic Fort Yellowstone <i>Starting June 1</i> Meet in front of the Albright Visitor Center. On this short walk, learn about the unique role the military played as the early guardians of Yellowstone prior to the establishment of the National Park Service. Experience the history behind this 126 - year-old park. Accessible. <i>1 hour.</i>		7:00 P.M.		7:00 P.M.		7:00 P.M.	
Evening Program <i>Starting June 8</i> Meet at the Mammoth Campground Amphitheater. Inquire locally on bulletin boards and at Visitor Centers for program titles and descriptions. Accessible. <i>45 minutes.</i>	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter

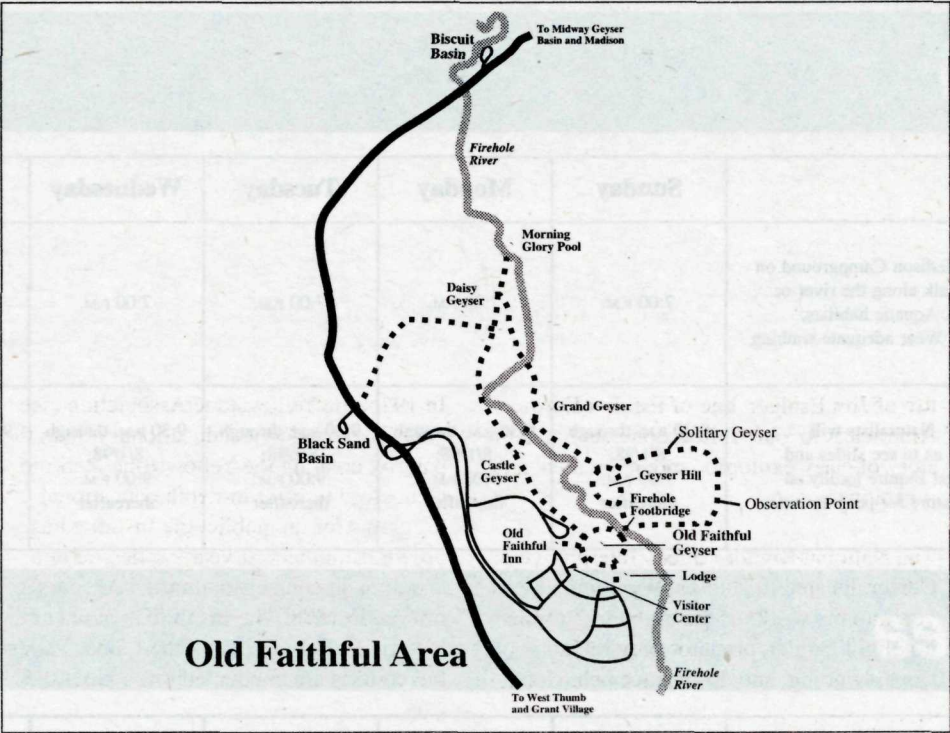
Norris Area

Program Descriptions	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Walk—Norris Geyser Basin Walk <i>Starting June 1</i> Meet at the Norris Geyser Basin Museum. Norris is the hottest, most dynamic, and oldest geyser basin in the park. Join us on a walk through this magical land of hot springs, geysers, steam vents, and other odd things. Bring water, sunglasses, and curiosity. <i>1½ hours.</i>	10:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M. 3:30 P.M.	10:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M. 3:30 P.M.	10:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M. 3:30 P.M.	10:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M. 3:30 P.M.	10:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M. 3:30 P.M.	10:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M. 3:30 P.M.	10:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M. 3:30 P.M.
Evening Program—Campfire Program <i>Starting June 1</i> Meet at the Norris Campground Campfire Circle, located near "C" loop. Remember old-fashioned campfire talks with a ranger; the ones without slides where you could ask your questions amid a small group of fellow campers? If you like those kinds of programs, this one is for you. Rangers will cover subjects ranging from wildlife to geology and history. Inquire locally on bulletin boards and at Visitor Centers for program titles and descriptions. Bring insect repellent. Marshmallows are welcome. <i>1 hour.</i>	8:00 P.M.	8:00 P.M.	8:00 P.M.	8:00 P.M.	8:00 P.M.	8:00 P.M.	8:00 P.M.

Tower/Roosevelt Area

Program Descriptions	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Walk— Hellroaring Trail <i>Starting May 31</i> Meet at the Hellroaring Trailhead, four miles west of Tower/Roosevelt. Learn about Yellowstone's Northern Range and the ecological role of fire on this two mile walk to the Yellowstone River and back. Strenuous. <i>2 hours.</i>	10:00 A.M.			10:00 A.M.			10:00 A.M.
Walk— Lost Lake Trail <i>Starting June 1</i> Meet at the Petrified Tree parking area, two miles west of Tower/Roosevelt. Northern Yellowstone's geology and climate are different than elsewhere in the park. See how this affects the plant and animal life of the area. <i>1½ hours.</i>		10:00 A.M.			10:00 A.M.		
Talk— Tower Fall <i>Starting May 28</i> Meet outside the Tower Fall Hamilton Store. Find out about the fascinating history, wildlife, and geology of the Tower area. Topics vary; inquire locally. <i>20 minutes.</i>	2:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M.
Evening Program—Tower Fall <i>Starting June 5</i> Meet at the Tower Fall Campground amphitheater for an illustrated program. Inquire locally on bulletin boards and at Visitor Centers for program titles and descriptions. <i>45 minutes.</i>	9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter		9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter			9:30 P.M. (through 8/1); 9:00 P.M. thereafter	
Evening Program—Pebble Creek <i>Starting June 17</i> Meet at the Pebble Creek Campground campfire circle. Join a Ranger– Naturalist for an informal evening talk. Inquire locally on bulletin boards and at Visitor Centers for program titles and descriptions. <i>45 minutes.</i>				8:00 P.M.			

Ranger-Naturalist Programs



Old Faithful Area

Program Descriptions	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Walk- Geyser Hill Walk <i>Starting May 23</i> Join a ranger for a walk amidst the greatest concentration of geysers on earth. This one-mile, 90 minute walk meets at the bridge located past the Old Faithful Lodge.	8:00 A.M.	8:00 A.M.	8:00 A.M.	8:00 A.M.	8:00 A.M.	8:00 A.M.	8:00 A.M.
Walk- Geyser Geology Walk <i>Starting May 23</i> Learn the ins-and-outs of one of the rarest geological features on earth- geysers! Accompany a ranger through the Upper Geyser Basin exploring the world of geysers. Meet at Castle Geyser, 1/2 mile west of Old Faithful (15 minute walk from the Visitor Center) for this 1 1/2 mile, 90 minute walk.	10:00 A.M.	10:00 A.M.	10:00 A.M.	10:00 A.M.	10:00 A.M.	10:00 A.M.	10:00 A.M.
Talk- Geology <i>Starting May 23</i> Yellowstone's history of volcanoes, earthquakes, and glaciers reveals a restless geological past (and present!). Learn about Yellowstone's geology and its effect on the ecosystem during this 20 minute presentation. Meet at the Old Faithful Visitor Center for this outdoor, accessible program.	10 :00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.	10 :00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.	10 :00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.	10 :00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.	10 :00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.	10 :00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.	10 :00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.
Walk-Daily Special <i>Starting May 23</i> Explore the Yellowstone Ecosystem in-depth during this moderately strenuous hike to Observation Point and/or Solitary Geyser. Possible topics include geology, the fires of 1988, or wildlife; check at the Visitor Center for the day's subject or call 545-2750. Meet at the bridge located past the Old Faithful Lodge. This hike is not recommended for people with heart, breathing, or walking difficulties and may include walking along muddy trails. Allow 90 minutes for this 1 1/2 mile hike (possible 200' elevation gain).	3:00 P.M.	3:00 P.M.	3:00 P.M.	3:00 P.M.	3:00 P.M.	3:00 P.M.	3:00 P.M.
Walk- Sunset Geyser Basin Walk <i>Starting May 23</i> This leisurely walk through the Upper Geyser Basin highlights the fragile nature of geysers and the role they play in the Yellowstone Ecosystem. Meet at Castle Geyser, 1/2 mile west of Old Faithful (15 minute walk from the Visitor Center) for this one mile, 90 minute program.	7:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.
Evening Program <i>Starting May 23</i> This is a narrated program about Yellowstone's cultural and or natural history. Check the bulletin board in the Visitor Center for tonight's topic or call 545-2750. Meet at the Old Faithful Visitor Center Auditorium and allow 1 hour for this accessible program.	8:00 P.M.	8:00 P.M.	8:00 P.M.	8:00 P.M.	8:00 P.M.	8:00 P.M.	8:00 P.M.

Special Program—Kodak Presents

Program Descriptions	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Photo Walk <i>Starting June 7- August 19</i> Join a Kodak photographer for a stroll and learn techniques for capturing the beauty of Yellowstone on film. All expertise levels and children welcome. 1- 2 hours.	Fishing Bridge Photo Walk 7:30 A.M. Meet at Fishing Bridge Visitor Center.	Clear Lake Photo Walk 9:30 A.M. Meet at Uncle Tom's Trail parking area on South Rim Drive.		Cascade Lake Photo Walk 8:00 A.M. (Meet at the Cascade Lake Picnic Area 1.5 miles north of Canyon Junction.) Sunset Walk, Storm Point 7:00 P.M. (Meet at Indian Pond, 3 miles east of Fishing Bridge.)	Artist Point 8:30 A.M. Meet at Artist Point. Mammoth Hot Springs Walk 3:00 P.M. Meet at Opal Terrace, across the road from the Liberty Cap Rock formation.		
Roving Photographer <i>Starting June 7- August 19</i> A Kodak photographer will be roving the area to answer your picture-making questions and give you useful tips. All levels and children welcome. 2- 3 hours.	3:00 P.M. North Rim of the Grand Canyon		2:00 P.M. The Old Faithful Geyser area				
Evening Program <i>Starting June 7- August 19*</i> A portrait of Yellowstone in slides and music. While touring the features of Yellowstone, you'll pick up picture tips to help you see, photograph, and appreciate the park's vast, yet simple beauty. Accessible with assistance. 45 minutes. *Dependent on construction—inquire at the Visitor Center.	7:30 P.M. *Canyon Auditorium	7:30 P.M. Grant Auditorium.			7:00 P.M. Mammoth Hotel, Map Room		
Children's Photo Workshop <i>Starting June 7- August 19</i> Let a Kodak photographer introduce your children to picture-making in this fun session designed especially for kids ages 6- 12. Parents welcome. 1 hour.		3:00 P.M. Meet in front of the West Thumb Information Station.		3:00 P.M. Meet at the Lake Hotel front desk.			
Photo Talk <i>Starting June 7- August 19</i> Bring your questions and camera, and learn various techniques for better photography in Yellowstone. All levels welcome. Accessible. 1 hour.			11:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M. Meet on balcony of the Old Faithful Inn.				

Other opportunities

Area museums

Five museums within a half-day's drive of Yellowstone's boundaries provide opportunities for additional knowledge and understanding of the natural wonders and history of the park.

The story of Yellowstone continues at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming. The Center's Plains Indian Museum tells the story of early humans in the area, and the collections of the Whitney Gallery of Western Art provide visitors with artists' interpretations of Yellowstone's landscape and unusual features.

The story of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem begins with dinosaurs and paleontology and geology exhibits at The Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, Montana. The museum houses the area's only planetarium for visitors who are interested in taking "the long view" of Yellowstone and its place on the planet.

At the National Wildlife Art Museum in Jackson, Wyoming, park visitors can see Yellowstone wildlife depicted in bronze and on canvas.

And in nearby Pinedale, Wyoming, the Museum of the Mountain Man examines the

life of Jim Bridger, one of the first Euro-Americans to visit Yellowstone, and tells the story of early explorers, mountain men, and fur trappers.

The National Bighorn Sheep Interpretive Center, located in Dubois, Wyoming, draws you into the world of the bighorn. Exhibits highlight habitat, predator-prey relationships, lambing, and dominance behaviors.

Visits to museums outside and within park boundaries will enhance the Yellowstone experience and perhaps even provoke further reading and investigation.

For more information about special exhibitions, hours of operation, and admission fees, contact each museum independently:

Buffalo Bill Historical Center
(307) 587-4771
Museum of the Rockies
(406) 994-2251
National Wildlife Art Museum
(307) 733-5771
Museum of the Mountain Man
(307) 367-4101
National Bighorn Sheep Interpretive Center (307) 455-3429

Yellowstone Institute

In 1976, the Yellowstone Association (see page 3) expanded its educational role in the park by creating the Yellowstone Institute. Conceived to offer in-depth educational programs for the public, the Institute has grown from the first year's schedule of a dozen or so courses to almost 100 courses offered in 1998. The Institute is based at the historic Buffalo Ranch in the Lamar Valley, but courses are conducted throughout the park.

Among the topics you can explore in multi-day courses are wildflowers, grizzly bear and wolf ecology, birds, geology, photography, writing and art, fly fishing, and history. The Institute program also includes a variety of backcountry experiences in alpine flowers, bear safety, and history. Llamas and

horses are used for most of these backcountry courses. Winter courses are offered in winter ecology, wilderness first responder and snow tracking.

Families and children can participate in courses designed especially for them. About one third of the Institute's courses are offered for college credit. All Institute courses are limited in size to ensure personal and individualized instruction. The Institute takes pride in its tradition of conducting high quality, yet informal and relaxed courses. For more information, or to receive a free catalog of Institute courses, call (307) 344-2294 or write: Yellowstone Institute, P.O. Box 117, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.



Concessioner activities

Yellowstone concessioner AmFac Recreational Services, Inc., in addition to lodging, food and beverage services, offers educational activities. Activities offered are listed below with respective dates of operation. Rates do not include applicable taxes. For reservations or more information, check at any hotel front desk or activity desk, or call (307) 344-7311.

FULL DAY MOTORCOACH SIGHTSEEING TOURS

The road system in Yellowstone highlights historic, wild, beautiful, and fascinating features. Motorcoach tours offer an opportunity for you to sit back, relax and learn about the park and those features you might have otherwise missed if you had been driving. All driver-guides have been extensively trained in park resource information. Short guided walks are included around areas of interest. Tours range from 6-1/2 to 10 hours. Grand Loop tours make fewer stops than Upper or Lower Loop tours because more miles are travelled. Children under 12 ride free (must be accompanied by an adult).

Lower Loop Tour

Adult \$27.50; child (12-16) \$14.00
Available from: Old Faithful (May 23-Sept. 26)
Grant Village (May 23-Sept. 26)
Lake Hotel (May 16-Sept. 26)
Fishing Bridge RV Park (May 16-Sept. 26)
Bridge Bay (May 23-Sept. 26)
Canyon Lodge (June 2-Sept. 12)

Upper Loop Tour

Departs from Lake Hotel, Fishing Bridge RV Park, and Bridge Bay Campground (June 2-Sept. 26)
Adult \$25.50; child (12-16) \$13.00
Departs from Canyon Lodge (June 2-Sept. 12)
Adult \$21.50; child (12-16) \$11.00

Grand Loop Tour

(June 1-Sept. 26)
Departs from Mammoth Hot Springs and Gardiner—
Adult \$31; child (12-16) \$16

Lamar Valley Wildlife Excursion

(June 15-Aug. 15)
Departs Bridge Bay Campground, Lake Hotel, and Fishing Bridge

Adults \$27.50; (Child 12-16) \$14.00

Departs Canyon Lodge
(June 15-Aug 15)
Adult 23.50 Teens \$12.00

HORSEBACK RIDES

For a western-flavored Yellowstone experience, saddle up and join a congenial guide for a trail ride from one of our three corrals located at Mammoth Hot Springs (5/16-9/20), Roosevelt Lodge (6/12-9/6), or Canyon Village (6/20-9/12).
1-hour ride—\$19.00
2-hour ride—\$30.00
Children must be at least 8 years old and 48 inches tall. Children 8-11 must be accompanied by a person(s) 16 years or older. Weight limit: 250 pounds. Only one rider per horse.

OLD WEST COOKOUT

June 13-September 6
Enjoy a delicious evening steak cookout dinner via horse-drawn wagon or horseback from Roosevelt Lodge. Reservations

required.

Wagon	Adult \$30.00
	Child (5-11) \$18.00
Horseback	Adult \$36.00
(one hour)	Child (8-11) \$24.00
Horseback	Adult \$46.00
(two hour)	Child (8-11) \$33.00

STAGECOACH RIDES

June 12-September 6
Relive a wild-west experience of a stage-coach ride at Roosevelt Lodge.
Adult \$5.95; child (2-11) \$4.95

SELF-GUIDED CAR AUDIO TOURS

If you are planning on travelling around the Park in your own vehicle, self guided audio units are available. The specially designed, self-contained unit (plugs into your vehicle's cigarette lighter and plays through your FM radio) uses the latest CD technology to instantly select fascinating information and entertaining stories on wildlife, geology, ecology, history, folklore and more.
Full day \$24.95; additional day \$18.00
Half day \$15.95; additional half day \$9.00

BRIDGE BAY SCENICRUISER RIDES

June 6-September 27
One-hour narrated cruises depart Bridge Bay Marina throughout the day for tours on the northern part of Yellowstone Lake. Enjoy views of the Absaroka Mountains, historic Lake Hotel, and Stevenson Island. A guide on board will provide interpretation for this spectacular area.
Adult \$8.50; child (2-11) \$4.5

BRIDGE BAY GUIDED FISHING TRIPS

June 15-Sept 13
Experienced guides tailor a trip which suits your interests; departs from Bridge Bay Marina.
22 ft. Cabin Cruiser (1-6 people) \$53.00/hour
34 ft. Cabin Cruiser (1-6 people) \$68.90/hour
Rowboats, outboards, and dock slips are also available to rent at Bridge Bay.

TOUR OF HISTORIC LAKE HOTEL

June 6-September 26, daily
Duration: 45 minutes
Meet under the porte cochere at 7:30pm (6:45pm beginning in mid-August) on the lakeside of the hotel; no charge.

TOUR OF HISTORIC OLD FAITHFUL INN

May 2-Oct. 1, daily
Duration: 45 minutes
Meet at the fireplace in the Old Faithful Inn Lobby. Tours begin at 9:30am, 11:00am, 2:00pm, and 3:30pm; no charge.

An evening slide program may also be available at the Mammoth Hotel beginning in July. Contact an activity desk for information regarding time and subject matter.

Grand Teton National Park

To the south of Yellowstone, Grand Teton National Park provides spectacular scenery, numerous hiking opportunities, and its own set of campgrounds, exhibits, ranger-led programs, and other activities. Pick up a copy of the park newspaper, the *Teewinot*, for complete information about services and facilities, and a more detailed map of Grand Teton National Park. Newspapers are available at the Colter Bay, Jenny Lake and Moose Visitor Centers, at the Flagg Ranch Information Station, and at the Moran Junction and Moose entrance stations.

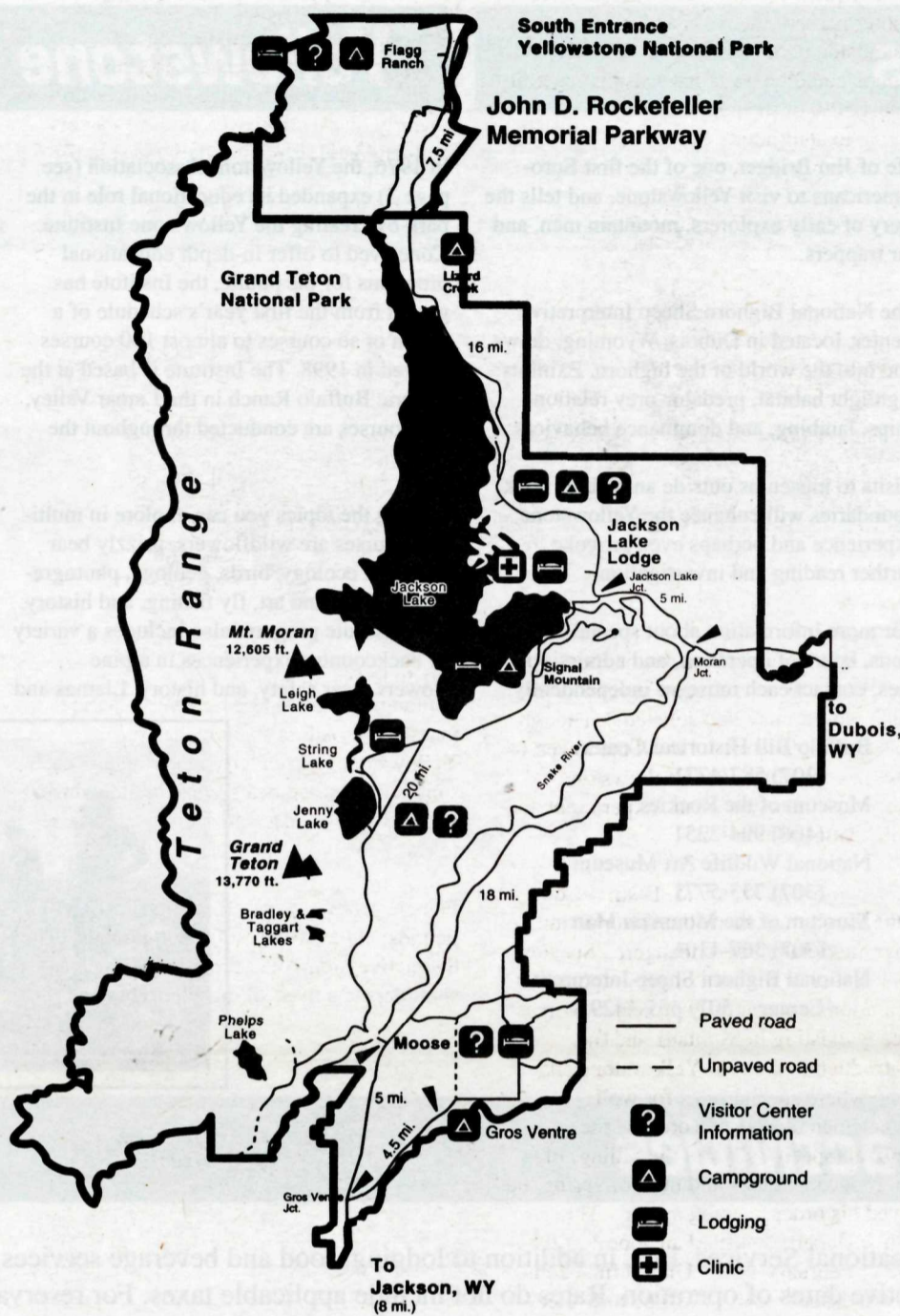
Camping

Five National Park Service campgrounds are available in Grand Teton National Park. The camping fee is \$12.00 per night per site. Jenny Lake Campground is open to tents only. Other campgrounds will accommodate tents, trailers and recreational vehicles. All campgrounds have modern comfort stations, but none has utility hookups. The maximum length of stay is 7 days at Jenny Lake and 14 days at all other NPS campgrounds.

NPS campgrounds operate on a first-come, first-served basis. Advanced reservations are not accepted. Campgrounds fill to capacity during July and August; see chart below for approximate filling times and closing dates. For current status of campgrounds, ask at entrance stations or visitor centers in Grand Teton National Park. Additional camping facilities are available in nearby national forests and other areas outside the park.

Camping is not permitted along roadsides, in overlooks, nor in parking areas. Doubling up in campsites is not permitted; there are no overflow facilities.

Trailer Villages: Colter Bay and Flagg Ranch Trailer Villages are concessioner-operated facilities with full utility hookups, showers and laundry. Colter Bay has 112 sites; Flagg Ranch has 100 trailer sites and 75 tent sites. Advanced reservations are advisable. Call (307) 543-3100 for Colter Bay or (307) 543-2861 for Flagg Ranch.



Road construction will be occurring on Highway 26-89-191 between the south park boundary and the airport. From mid-May to mid-July expect 15-20 minute delays. Other roadwork will be conducted throughout the summer.

If you are stopped by roadwork, please use the opportunity to view park scenery, look for birds and other wildlife, or enjoy the display of wildflowers.

Grand Teton info: (307) 739-3600
Emergency: dial 911 or 739-3300

Visitor Centers

Moose Visitor Center—Open daily. Hours 8:00am-5:00pm through May 25; 8:00am-6:00pm, May 26-June 7; 8:00am-7:00pm June 8-Sept. 7; 8:00am-5:00pm after Sept. 7. Information, audio-visual programs, exhibits, permits, publication sales. Park orientation video shown throughout the day. Telecommunications device for the deaf only (TDD): (307) 739-3400. Phone (307) 739-3399 for more information.

Colter Bay Visitor Center—Open daily. Hours 8:00am-5:00pm May 9-May 22; 8:00am-7:00pm, May 23-June 7; 8:00am-8:00pm June 8-Sept. 7; 8:00am-5:00pm Sept. 8-Sept. 27. Information, audio-visual programs, permits, publication sales. The Indian Arts Museum features the David T. Vernon collection of Indian Art. Native American guest artists demonstrate traditional craftwork daily, June-early Sept. Telecommunications device for the deaf only (TDD): (307) 739-3544. Phone (307) 739-3594 for more information.

Jenny Lake Visitor Center—Open daily June 8-Sept. 7. Hours 8:00am-7:00pm. Information, exhibits.

Flagg Ranch Information Station—Open daily June 8-Sept. 7. Hours 9:00am-6:00pm.

Lodging & Clinic

Lodging—Several different lodging options are available in Grand Teton National Park. Please make your reservations directly with the service providers listed below:

Jenny Lake Lodge (307) 733-4647
Colter Bay Cabins (307) 543-2828
or (307) 543-2811
Flagg Ranch Village (307) 543-2861
or (800) 443-2311
Jackson Lake Lodge (307) 543-3100
or (307) 543-2811
Signal Mtn. Lodge (307) 543-2831
Dornan's Spur Ranch Cabins (307) 733-2522

Other lodging can be found in Jackson and Dubois, Wyoming and in other areas surrounding Grand Teton.

Clinic—Grand Teton Clinic, located near Jackson Lake Lodge, is open 10:00am-6:00pm May 18-October 15. Call (307) 543-2514 or after hours (307) 733-8002.

Grand Teton Campground Summary

Campground Features and Filling Time

	Approximate 1998 Season	Approximate
Gros Ventre 360 sites trailer dumping station	Evening or may not fill	May 2-Oct. 8
Jenny Lake 49 sites restricted to tents	8:00 a.m.	May 16-Sept. 21
Signal Mountain 86 sites, trailer dumping station	10:00 a.m.	May 9-Oct. 5
Colter Bay 350 sites, showers, laundry trailer dumping station, propane	12:00 noon	May 23-Sept. 21
Lizard Creek 60 sites	2:00 p.m.	June 13-Sept. 7

Trailer villages are located at Colter Bay and Flagg Ranch (see description above left).

Activities

Ranger-led Activities—A full schedule of ranger-led activities is available throughout the summer. These range from short talks at visitor centers to hikes, kids programs, and much more! To find out what is going on during your visit, stop at Colter Bay, Jenny Lake, or Moose Visitor Centers or Flagg Ranch Information Station, or pick up a copy of the *Teewinot*, Grand Teton's park newspaper.

Other Activities—Summer visitor activities include hiking, sight-seeing, boating, floating the scenic Snake River, horseback riding, and fishing. High elevation hiking trails are usually snow-covered until July. Backcountry camping requires a free permit that can be obtained at the Moose Visitor Center year round. Boating requires a Grand Teton boating permit, sold at visitor centers. A Wyoming fishing license is required in Grand Teton National Park.

Endangered Species (continued)

Peregrine Falcons

Peregrine falcons reside in Yellowstone from April through October, nesting on large cliffs that overlook rivers or valleys where they prey on songbirds and waterfowl. The falcons winter as far south as South America; none spend the winter here. Young peregrines were reintroduced from 1984 through 1988, in hopes that they would reoccupy historic nesting sites in the park. All suitable habitat quickly appeared to be occupied; known peregrine nests, or eyries, increased from 1 in 1984 to 13 in 1997. A record 25 young falcons fledged from nests in 1997. Peregrines may be "downlisted" to threatened as their populations increase. For this endangered species, recovery is well underway. You may recognize the slate-colored bird by the distinctive "helmet" markings on its head as it makes a high-speed dive for prey.

Bald Eagles

Our national bird resides in Yellowstone throughout the year, nesting in large trees close to water. Adult birds are easily recognized by their dark bodies, white head and tail feathers; their wing span may reach 7 feet. During severe winters, some pairs move to lower elevations where food is more available. On the wintering areas, resident eagles are joined by migrant bald and golden eagles. An objective for the ecosystem is to have 62 breeding pairs produce an average of 53 young each year. By 1989, regional recovery objectives had been reached, and in July 1995, the bald eagle was reclassified as threatened. In 1997, 14 eaglets fledged from 21 active nests in the park, and we were meeting our goal of maintaining populations that are likely to persist. Even if removed from the endangered species list, eagles and their habitat will be monitored and protected in Yellowstone and elsewhere, as specified in the Bald Eagle Protection Act.

Whooping Cranes

Whooping cranes are one of the most endangered birds in North America. Standing more than 4 feet tall on their long, slender legs, the white birds with red facial markings are named for their trumpet-like call. Historical records show they were present in western Wyoming, and evidence that whooping cranes nested in Yellowstone does exist, but information is sketchy. One or 2 whoopers summer in the park, but the only wild nesting population is in Alberta and the Northwest Territories. These cranes migrate across the Great Plains between Canada and the Texas coast. In recent years the flock has grown to about 250 whooping cranes in the wild; more than 100 other birds live in captivity. Biologists are now attempting to reestablish a flock in Florida. A relative, the gray-brown sandhill crane, is commonly seen along Yellowstone's rivers in the summer.

Gray Wolves

Wolves roamed Yellowstone when it was first explored and made a park. But like

many predators, they were labelled "bad", killers of deer, elk, and moose, and eliminated from the ecosystem by the 1930s. After years of debate and planning, 31 wolves were brought to the park from Canada in 1995 and 1996. As of April, 1998 about 80 wolves inhabited greater Yellowstone. Well-established packs include several in the Lamar Valley, although wolves may occasionally be seen in other parts of the park, and some wolves live outside park boundaries. Another 40 - 50 pups could be born this season; generally at least 50% of the pups are likely to survive to adulthood.



The goal is to have 10 packs, or about 100 animals, for three consecutive years after which wolves may be "delisted." Though classified as endangered in all the lower 48 states except Minnesota, Yellowstone wolves are managed as an "experimental nonessential population."

In December 1997, a U.S. District Court judge found that the wolf reintroduction program violated the Endangered Species Act because of the lack of geographic separation between fully protected wolves already existing in Montana and the reintroduction areas in Yellowstone and Idaho where special rules for wolf management apply. He ordered the removal (specifically not the killing) of reintroduced wolves and their offspring, but stayed his order pending appeal. The Justice Department filed an appeal of the case in February 1998. Until a final court order is issued, wolves will be protected and managed just as they have been. Biologists continue to track Yellowstone wolves to monitor their progress and learn about their interactions with other park species.

Wolves are carnivores, weighing up to 130 pounds and living 10 years or more in the wild. Yellowstone wolves range in color from black to gray-brown to nearly white. Packs are led by an "alpha" pair who defend their territory from invaders, including other wolves. They seldom approach people and have almost no record of causing human injuries anywhere on the continent. Park staff and visitors have seen wolves competing with bears and coyotes for carcasses. Wolves have killed their own

kind, but have more often been killed due to conflicts with livestock or in collisions with vehicles.

Grizzly Bears

The grizzly is a subspecies of brown bear that still exists in only a few places in the lower 48 states. Grizzly bears are larger on average than black bears, and can usually be distinguished by their longer, curved claws, humped shoulders, and "dished-in" faces. Their name comes from the frequent presence of silver-tipped or "grizzled" hairs on their coats, which range from light brown to nearly black. However, both bears vary so much in color that it's the least reliable

way to tell them apart.

Although seeing a bear in never guaranteed, many park visitors see grizzlies in Yellowstone, particularly in spring and early summer when the bears graze on new, lush vegetation and search for young elk calves to eat.

Female grizzlies typically weigh 250 - 350 pounds; males weigh 400 - 800 pounds. The distinctive hump over the grizzly's shoulders is a mass of muscle. That and



their long claws enable grizzlies to dig for roots, bulbs, or small burrowing mammals. They rely on their size and aggressiveness to intimidate most other animals. It is said that grizzlies can't climb trees, but this is not entirely true. Though they appear to be lumbering slowpokes, they can swim the fast, cold waters of the Yellowstone River and sprint at up to 35 miles an hour!

A grizzly bear's home range must be large enough to contain adequate food, water, and cover (protection from the elements and other dangers) throughout the year. Female cubs often stay near their mother for years,

but male offspring must disperse farther in search of a home. Grizzlies live an average of 15 - 20 years in the wild, although in recent years Yellowstone had several bears that lived to be nearly 30 years old.

As part of its program to restore and maintain natural, wild populations of grizzly and black bears, Yellowstone closed its open pit garbage dumps from 1969 - 1972, and bears that had developed strong ties to human foods were relocated or removed. Since 1973 we have emphasized more positive bear management objectives: increased public understanding of bear biology and habitat needs, intensified law enforcement to reduce poaching, better sanitation in both developed and backcountry areas, and educating Yellowstone visitors and residents about safe human use in bear country.

If greater Yellowstone maintains sufficient habitat and if bear mortalities are minimized, it should be possible to protect and recover this threatened population. Based on extensive research of Yellowstone grizzlies, population recovery goals are to have:

1. 15 females with cubs born each year, calculated as running six-year average, both inside the recovery zone and within a 10-mile area immediately surrounding it;
2. 16 of 18 Bear Management Units occupied by females with young during each 6-year period and no two adjacent BMUs unoccupied. Occupancy requires verified evidence (sightings or tracks) of at least one female with young at least once during the period.
3. Known human-caused mortality shall not exceed 4% of the minimum population estimate, and no more than 30% of the known, human-caused mortality shall be females.

The Yellowstone ecosystem grizzly population is close to achieving these goals. In 1997, 31 females had 62 cubs-of-the-year. Bear mortalities averaged at or below target levels from 1983 through 1993, but in recent years have been too high. In 1997, the ecosystem lost at least 10 grizzlies, including eight killed by hunters in self defense and one bear killed illegally.

The grizzly bear population in the 9500-square-mile ecosystem is estimated to be 280-610 bears, and the population has been increasing 1 - 5% per year for the past decade. Managers are preparing a *Conservation Strategy* to guide long-term management of grizzly bears and their habitat. Whether or not the bear is "delisted" as a threatened species, the National Park Service and other management agencies in greater Yellowstone will continue to emphasize long-term protection of a viable grizzly bear population that can safely coexist with people.

Planning for the Future: Visitor Use Issues

Although we intuitively understand why only a certain number of people can attend a concert or sporting event at the same time, the idea of there being "no seats left" in a national park is more difficult to accept.

Questions about visitor limitations are some of the toughest facing parks like Yellowstone. Human use of the park has skyrocketed in the past 20 years, yet human effects on park resources have not been adequately documented. Visitors also affect each other; the more people there are, the less each person can be assured of the quality outdoor experience for which Yellowstone is so famous.

Budget constraints have prevented the addition of staff and facilities to accommodate rising visitation. But even if funds were increasing, the park's capacity is not. Many types of park use have been restricted for years: hotel rooms, campground sites, and restaurant tables in the park are fixed at what are regarded as manageable levels. Closures have historically limited human access to some key habitat for grizzly bears, wolves, pelicans, and other wildlife. Backcountry camping is limited to protect the wilderness and to make sure that those seeking solitude can find it.

Limits are rarely acceptable to everyone but they do represent a shared responsibility for Yellowstone's future. Winter use planning is underway, with research and workshops ongoing. Future options may include capping the number of day visitors, both

winter and summer, and encouraging visitors to use alternatives to the private automobile. Without sensible limits, Yellowstone will become a diminished and less wondrous place than we know today.

Your Opinion Counts!

If you have comments or issues which affect the park please send them to Superintendent Mike Finley, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

Atop the Volcano: Protecting the Dynamic Earth

THERMAL FEATURES AND DEVELOPMENT

Welling from a source of intense heat deep beneath us, the Yellowstone hot spot has powered some of the Earth's most massive volcanic explosions. Today the heat from this magma furnace drives a spectacular array of hydrothermal (hot water) features. Nowhere else in the world can we find the array or number of geysers, hot springs, mud pots, and fumaroles found in Yellowstone. More than 75% of the world's geysers, including the world's largest are here in 7 major basins. Steamboat, the world's tallest active geyser, is in the Norris Geyser Basin. Old Faithful, Grand, Castle, Giantess, Beehive, and Lion Geysers may be frequently observed in the Upper Geyser Basin. And each year something new happens to spark our interest, in 1998 the rejuvenation of Cascade Geyser, a 30-foot tall spouter seldom seen since 1912, provides visitors another opportunity to appreciate how Yellowstone changes, especially after earthquakes shake the ground.

The park's thermal features lie in the only essentially undisturbed geyser basins left worldwide. In Iceland and New Zealand, geothermal drill holes and wells 6 miles distant have reduced geyser activity and hot spring discharge. Despite the proximity of roads and trails in the largest basins, few park features have ever been diverted for human use (such as bathing pools or energy). Why, we are often asked, do we let all that geothermal energy go to waste?

Beneath Yellowstone's surface, rock fractures, thermal aquifers, and porous layers function much like the pipes, hot water heater, and holding tank serve to transfer water from your municipal water system or well to the faucets in your home. The difference is that natural plumbing systems are fragile, more intricate (and unmapped), and irreplaceable. Scientists do not yet understand how aquifers outside the

park connect to Old Faithful and other park geysers, but the features are sensitive to changes in heat, water, or pressure. While geothermal facilities could generate electricity by pumping superheated water into steam turbines, once the delicate plumbing system is disrupted, no plumber or engineer can make it work again. Even other subsurface drilling, such as for oil and gas, may change the balance of fluids and pressure underground, causing subsidence and earthquakes, which inevitably affect the above-ground resources.

Legislative restrictions on geothermal development around Yellowstone, such as the Old Faithful Protection Act introduced in 1992, have failed to pass Congressional approval. In 1994, the NPS and the state of Montana agreed to monitor and control the use of hot, warm, and cold groundwater in areas just north of the park. Proponents of water use must show that proposed geothermal development will not adversely affect park features. This Water Rights Compact could serve as a model for agreements between the park and other states to ensure the continued flow of heat and water to Yellowstone's famous geysers and hot springs.

BIOPROSPECTING FOR LIFE AT THE EXTREMES

Yellowstone offers visitors an opportunity to appreciate thermal features in their natural state. It also presents an unparalleled opportunity for scientists to work in a natural laboratory. Although the park prohibits extractive industries like mining, energy development, hunting, and commercial fishing, the controlled collection and removal of research specimens has long been permitted. Since the 1960s, scientists have increasingly discovered that thriving in Yellowstone's hot springs and mud pots, withstanding temperatures and chemistry once thought inhospitable to life, are communities of heat-loving (thermophilic) bacteria. These organisms represent Earth's

most elemental life forms and can be seen as dense layers of brightly colored bacterial mats at the edges of geyser runoff channels.

Researchers realized that thermophiles contained "environmentally friendly" enzymes that are stable under high temperatures and could be used in place of more dangerous chemicals used in industrial applications or "biotechnology." For example, making wine, beer, cheese, and leavened bread requires yeast, a single-celled fungus with enzymes that convert sugar into alcohol. Enzymes are protein molecules that carry out photosynthesis and digestion within a cell; most cells contain thousands of them. However, because enzymes may be destroyed by subtle changes in temperature or pH, they are often a weak link in biochemical reactions.

Then a private researcher in the 1980s, using a copy of an enzyme from an organism called *Thermus aquaticus* or Taq YT-1, a research specimen collected from the park and deposited into a non-profit repository of microbiological organisms, invented the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) process. PCR has become the cornerstone of modern medical diagnostic work, such as the most accurate test for HIV, and has revolutionized forensics through use of DNA fingerprinting technology. Annual sales of Taq polymerase since 1991 have grown to \$500 million. Other heat-stable enzymes from the park's thermal basins help convert cellulose from waste products for use as gasohol and aid in bio-leaching of gold ore, removal of paint from military aircraft, and food processing. None of the revenues from commercial patents of this "intellectual property" have benefited Yellowstone National Park and its resources.

Park managers are considering the need for new policy and control on the commercial use of publicly owned resources. The National Biodiversity Institute of Costa Rica (INBio) implements biodiversity preservation by marketing genetic resources to biotechnology companies, and could serve as a possible model for future use of resources developed from research done in our national parks. Yet the NPS recognizes concerns about "bioprospecting", the potential mining of biological resources for commercial use on public parklands.

In 1997, Yellowstone signed the nation's first "bioprospecting" arrangement with Diversa Corporation, a company specializing in the industrial application of biocatalysts. The new agreement allows Diversa to conduct research on microorganisms sampled at Yellowstone while pledging a portion of the company's future profits resulting from such research for conservation and related scientific and public education activities.

Parks and other preserves are important sources of genetic diversity for scientific study and products that may benefit mankind. More than 40% of the medicines in use today are based on natural products derived from plants. Park managers have neither authority nor desire to harm the resources they are charged to protect. But existing policies and laws already permit a kind of loophole in which research specimens result in considerable benefit to corporations. We believe that park resources can also reap some of this benefit through bioprospecting agreements, without commercialization and detriment, while protecting the biodiversity within natural habitats for the secrets yet to be revealed.

Lake Trout Netting Helping Native Species

In 1994, a visitor caught a large, non-native fish in Yellowstone Lake that was identified as a lake trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*) by park biologists. Subsequent investigations confirmed the presence of a lake trout population, which poses a significant threat to the native Yellowstone cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki bouvieri*) and to the associated food web.

Yellowstone cutthroat trout are already reduced to about 10 percent of their original range in North America. In Yellowstone National Park, at least 42 species—including threatened grizzly bears and bald eagles, ospreys, pelicans, otters, black bears, and numerous waterfowl—prey or scavenge on native trout because the native trout spawn in small, shallow tributaries and frequent the surface water. The larger, piscivorous (fish eating) lake trout live and spawn in deeper water, making them less available to most animals, including anglers. A decline in the native fishery would also have serious negative consequences for the regional economy.

Previous long-term monitoring and most angling targeted only native cutthroat trout, and thus failed to discover the lake trout invasion. Based on the recommendation of experts, NPS aquatic biologists have developed a new monitoring program to evaluate lake trout control efforts. This monitoring and control work requires more than half of the Aquatic Resources Center's time and budget.

During the summers of 1996 and 1997, biologists located spawning lake trout in the West Thumb of the lake. Fish were radio-tagged and released so biologists could track them to gain information about how and

where to control the invaders. Since 1994, biologists have netted more than 1,500 lake trout and anglers have caught nearly 500 more. In 1997 alone, biologists removed approximately 800 lake trout weighing a total of over 3,000 lbs. Because up to 80 percent of the lake trout's diet consists of cutthroat trout, the removal of these predators has saved nearly 150,000 cutthroat trout since 1995.

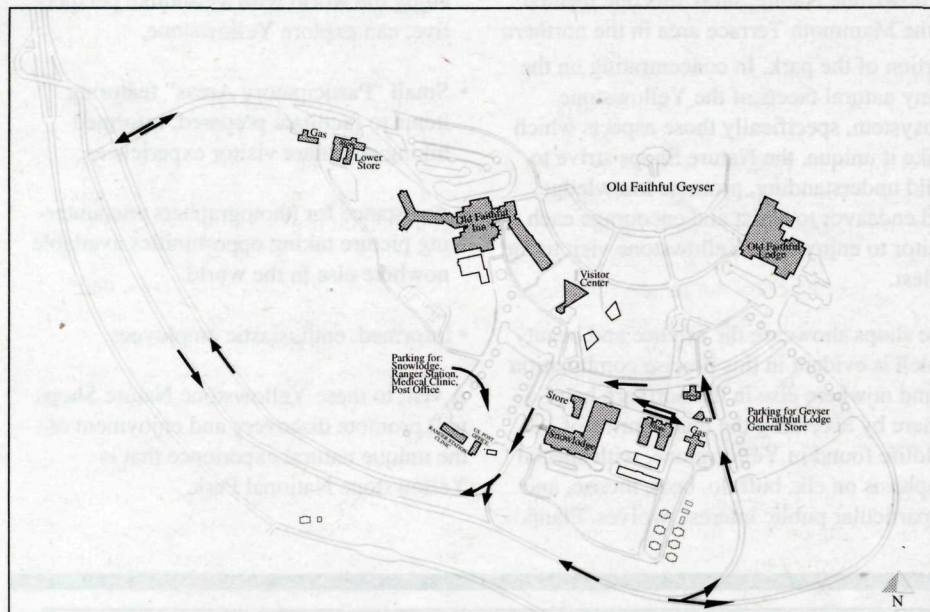
Although biologists have had a good deal of success removing large lake trout, total eradication is unlikely. Small lake trout are found throughout the lake and are probably much more numerous than large fish. A 1997 survey with sonar-type scientific fish finders counted more than 7,000 lake trout in the western portion of the lake. Many of these fish were between 13 and 18 inches—a size anglers have had a good deal of success catching recently because they inhabit shallow, near-shore water early in the year. Biologists are therefore asking for your help in removing these lake trout by fishing for them during June and early July.

The long-term goal for the lake trout control program is to limit lake trout numbers so they eat fewer cutthroat trout each year than anglers take home. Currently, anglers remove approximately 40 - 50,000 cutthroat trout each year. Cutthroat trout regulations implemented in 1975 have changed little in the past 23 years, and have helped cutthroat trout recover from previous over fishing. Therefore, if lake trout predation is held at similar levels as this past angler exploitation, we should be able to maintain a healthy cutthroat trout population. However, maintaining current exploitation rates from both lake trout predation and angler use suggests there may need to be greater angler restrictions for cutthroat trout in the future.



New Snow Lodge to Open at Old Faithful

Please note the map below for traffic information to avoid delays due to the construction in the Old Faithful area.



Construction began in 1997 to construct a guest lodge to replace the Snow Lodge at Old Faithful. The existing lodge was originally constructed as an employee dormitory and does not meet the National Park Service standards or guest expectations. The Snow Lodge is the only facility which is also open in the park's interior during the winter to accommodate visitors.

The new lodge will allow the National Park Service to remove many substandard facilities that are not compatible with the Old Faithful Historic District. The lodge will include 100 guest rooms, a dining room, lounge, fast food operation, gift shop and ski shop but will not result in an increase in guest accommodations in the Old Faithful area.

A two year, two phase construction program is planned for the Snow Lodge with no disruption in visitor services anticipated. Phase one is constructed directly behind the existing lodge with the second phase including demolition of the existing facility. Preliminary work included removal of several small cabins used for storage, employee housing, and a ski shop. Within

the next year the Four Seasons Snack Shop, located across from the Upper Hamilton Store at Old Faithful, will be removed.

The building design places special emphasis on compatibility with the Old Faithful Historic District. Style, sustainability, scale, material textures, and continuity with other buildings in the District were key elements in designing the new lodge.

The new Snow Lodge is just one of several major concessioner improvement projects underway in Yellowstone resulting from the contract between the National Park Service and Amfac Parks and Resorts. The concession contract requires an annual investment by Amfac of over 20% of its annual gross revenue. The funds are used to improve and maintain government owned facilities assigned to them for park operations.



Providing electricity to Yellowstone National Park since 1959. May your visit to Yellowstone be memorable.

The Montana Power Company

Yellowstone Today

is produced by the Division of Interpretation, National Park Service, Yellowstone National Park, in cooperation with the Yellowstone Association and park concessioners.

For more information, call (307) 344-2258.

Yellowstone Park Service Stations open for summer travelers

Each season large mammals are killed by vehicles in Yellowstone. These accidents cause damage to vehicles and personal injury to vehicle occupants. Vehicle speed is the most significant factor influencing the frequency of vehicle/wildlife encounters in the park.

Over the last few seasons, on average, the following numbers of wildlife have been killed annually by vehicles: antelope 2, beaver 2, bighorn sheep 1, bison 10, black bear 1, bobcat 1, coyote 8, elk 47, grizzly bear 1, moose 10, mule deer 36, raccoon 1, whitetail deer 1, wolf 2.

Please drive defensively in the park, lower your speed, and anticipate animals appearing in the roadway. Hit your brakes, not the bison. Keep your eyes on the road and avoid eradicating an elk. Ease up on

the accelerator and extend the days of a mule deer. Yellowstone will benefit; so will you.

Yellowstone Park Service Stations (YPSS) operates the service stations and automotive repair shops in Yellowstone. Elsewhere in this publication—see page 19—you will find a list of opening and closing dates.

The opening dates of service stations could be affected if weather conditions create changes in the opening of park roads. Call park headquarters for information regarding availability of gas and hours of operation.

Summer is a wonderful time to visit Yellowstone. An abundance of wildlife, beautiful snow-covered vistas, and plenty of time for YPSS employees to serve you should make your visit a good one. Enjoy!

YPSS
YELLOWSTONE PARK
SERVICE STATIONS



Yellowstone Park Service Stations has been serving visitors to Yellowstone National Park since 1947. We offer quality petroleum products at seven service stations located throughout Yellowstone. See page 19 for opening dates of YPSS stations.

Tires - Batteries - Automobile Accessories

LP Gas is available at Fishing Bridge beginning May 18

Towing service is available at Old Faithful beginning April 17

Conoco, MasterCard, Visa, American Express, and Discover credit cards are accepted.

Comprehensive Medical Care in a Wilderness Setting...

Lake Clinic, Pharmacy & Hospital
Emergency Room, 24-hour service
Clinic hours: 8:30am–8:30pm, daily,
May 18–September 15;
Phone (307) 242-7241.

EMERGENCIES—DIAL 911



Yellowstone Park Medical Services

A Division of West Park Hospital—Cody, Wyoming
We're there when you need us!

Old Faithful Clinic
Hours: 8:30am–5:00pm, May 1–Oct. 18,
closed for lunch; closed Monday and
Tuesday prior to May 30 and after Sept. 14;
phone (307) 545-7325.

Mammoth Family Clinic
Winter, spring, and autumn hours:
8:30am–5:00pm, Monday–Friday, closed
for lunch and on Wednesday afternoons.
Summer hours (June 1–August 31):
8:30am–5:00pm daily, closed for lunch,
phone (307) 344-7965.

Yellowstone Park Medical Services

West Park Hospital, Cody, Wyoming, through its Yellowstone Park Medical Services (YPMS) Division, has offered medical care to Yellowstone's visitors, employees, and residents since 1980.

Michael Kimbro, M.D., took over the Mammoth Clinic practice in the winter of 1994 - 95. Dr. Kimbro is a board-certified family practitioner providing year-round health care to the Yellowstone Park community. Experienced registered nurses and office staff complete the team offering courteous, professional family and emergency medical care.

In the summer, the operation grows to meet the needs of the park's increased number of visitors and the employees who serve them.

YPMS provides outpatient services at Lake Hospital and Old Faithful Clinic, as well as at Mammoth. Lake Hospital is also an acute care facility with ten inpatient beds, clinical laboratory, pharmacy, radiology, and 24-hour ambulance and emergency services. The staff is assembled from highly qualified, experienced professionals from across the country.

For information on employment for the current season (both professional and nonprofessional positions are available), send a resume to: Yellowstone Park Medical Services, 707 Sheridan Avenue, Cody, WY 82414 or call (307) 578-2461.



Hamilton Stores, Inc.

EST. 1915

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

Serving the traveling public since 1915, Hamilton Stores, Inc. offers a wide variety of merchandise including Yellowstone souvenirs, film and photo supplies, fishing and camping equipment, T shirts and sweatshirts, outdoor gear, groceries and food, hot coffee and other beverages.

You are cordially invited to visit the *Yellowstone Nature Shop at Canyon*, opening April 24th, and the *Yellowstone Nature Shop at Mammoth*, opening May 29th. Both are devoted to representing the many natural facets of Yellowstone National Park and its surrounding ecosystem. The Canyon shop, in an effort to better serve the Yellowstone traveler, also presents a selection of food and groceries.

The Directory of Visitor Services, found on page 19, can be of great assistance while in Yellowstone. We also invite you to visit our on-line catalogue at: <http://www.hamiltonstores.com>.

Hamilton Stores, oldest park concessioner

The first of two nature shops devoted to Yellowstone National Park and its surrounding ecosystem will open its doors to the public on April 24th of this year.

Located in the Canyon area of the park, it will be joined on May 29th by the second Yellowstone Nature Shop, this one located at the Mammoth Terrace area in the northern portion of the park. In concentrating on the many natural facets of the Yellowstone ecosystem, specifically those aspects which make it unique, the Nature Shops strive to build understanding, promote knowledge, and endeavor to assist and encourage each visitor to enjoy their Yellowstone visit to the fullest.

The shops showcase the science and beauty which is evident in this precise combination found nowhere else in the northern hemisphere by accenting the many forms of wildlife found in Yellowstone, with special emphasis on elk, buffalo, bear, moose, and of particular public interest, wolves. Plants

and other aspects of nature native to this ecosystem, such as geology, will also be highlighted. Nature Shop features include:

- Educational, interactive "Kiddie Areas," where children, as well as adults who enjoy the world with a childlike perspective, can explore Yellowstone.
- Small "Participatory Areas" featuring items to facilitate prepared, informed hiking and other visitor experiences.
- Assistance for photographers encountering picture taking opportunities available nowhere else in the world.
- Informed, enthusiastic employees.

A visit to these Yellowstone Nature Shops will promote discovery and enjoyment of the unique natural experience that is Yellowstone National Park.

AMFAC Parks & Resorts to Open

New Snow Lodge

As Summer 1998 unveils its colorful secrets through blossoms and spouts, Amfac Parks & Resorts is poised to present its latest accomplishment. The new Old Faithful Snow Lodge promises to become an icon of National Park accommodations, and Phase I is scheduled to begin welcoming guests in July.

The new multimillion dollar hotel is a collaborative effort between Amfac and the National Park Service. Here the comfort and convenience of modern design merges with the art and craftsmanship of the great lodges of the early 1900's. The Snow Lodge features heavy timber construction, hand-wrought iron accents, a center piece stone fireplace and an open cathedral ceiling in the Obsidian Dining Room. Specially designed furniture combines comfort and historic style in the rooms and common areas. This first phase includes 52 guest rooms, restaurant, and lounge.

Phase II, scheduled to open in 1999, will add another 48 rooms, a quick-service food outlet, and a gift shop.

As Yellowstone's largest concessioner, Amfac Park & Resorts operates the Park's lodging, restaurants, cafeterias, snack shops, RV Park, four campgrounds, cocktail lounges, and variety of adventures activities including stagecoaches, horses, tours and a marina. Amfac's mission is to be recognized as the leader in park and resort hospitality. Amfac pursues this mission in Yellowstone and other locations such as Zion, Bryce Canyon, Grand Canyon, Death Valley, and Everglades National Parks, Mt. Rushmore National Memorial, and other State Parks and Resorts. For further information and reservations for Amfac's Yellowstone services, please call (307) 344-7901. Our Website address is www.amfac.com. For those interested in joining our team of dedicated employees, call (307) 344-5324.

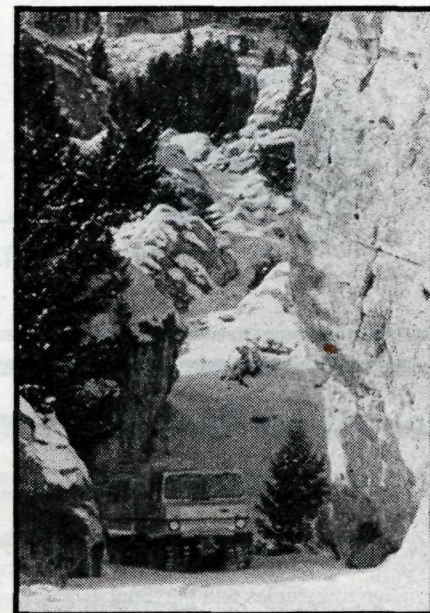
There's no place like it on earth!

The snowscape seems to be one with the sky, while through the "cloud-lands" emerges the soft shadowy images of bison and elk.

At this very moment your spirit is released from its real-worldy confines, and you begin your journey to a higher level.

Its Yellowstone in winter...a Nordic Heaven!

For more information on winter lodging and snow-bound adventures, please visit any hotel front desk or activity desk, or call (307) 344-5359.



Authorized Concessioner of the National Park Service
AA/EEO

CELLULARONE®

CellularOne of Cody is now serving Yellowstone with cellular service. Share your Yellowstone experience with a friend!

Phones for other nearby parks and forests

Grand Teton National Park (see page 14) (307) 739-3300	Gallatin National Forest (406) 587-6701
Glacier National Park (406) 888-5441	Bridger-Teton National Forest (307) 739-5500
Shoshone National Forest (307) 527-6241	Targhee National Forest (208) 624-3151

Yellowstone's Trails of Time

Many Native American tribes have had a long relationship with the Yellowstone National Park area. The Bannock Trail which runs across the northern part of the park was used for over 11,000 years by tribes hunting bison and other animals. The Nez Perce national Historic Trail follows the route that Chief Joseph and his band took in 1877 when they crossed through the park. Many other Native American Indian trails followed routes around the geyser basins, in some of the same locations as our current road system. This helps disprove an old myth that said Native Americans were afraid of Yellowstone's geysers. In fact, Sheepstealer Indians used the geysers to help soften bighorn sheep horns so they could be made into bows. Descendants of the Sheepstealers, a Shosone group, now live at the Wind River Shosone reservation in Fort Washakie, Wyoming, and the Shosone - Bannock reservation at Fort Hall, Idaho.

Current evidence indicates that in the past 1,000 years, the Sheepstealers were the only group known to have lived here year-round; however, other historic tribes have used the area on a seasonal basis. Those tribes

(Blackfeet, Crow, Eastern Shoshone, Nez Perce, Northern Arapahoe, Northern Cheyenne, Confederated Salish and Kootenai and Shosone - Bannock) are affiliated to the park, and are regularly consulted about issues which might affect the park's resources. Other tribes, such as the Lakota and Gros Ventre - Assiniboine are also included in consultations regarding Yellowstone's bison herd.

During the summer of 1998 you may see representatives from the Shoshone-Bannock tribes working on a survey near the Obsidian Cliff National Historic Landmark. They will inventory the area for ethnographic resources, and their recommendations will be included in a management program to balance cultural and natural resource objectives for Obsidian Cliff. Obsidian Cliff has been a primary source of obsidian for Native Americans who collected, used and traded it across the continent from approximately 8,800 B.C. Long considered a sacred site by Native Americans affiliated with Yellowstone, it was designated a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior in 1996.

Yellowstone Park Activities - Capture the Adventure!



Guided Horseback Rides at Roosevelt, Canyon and Mammoth; Old West Dinner Cookouts at Roosevelt; Stagecoach Rides at Roosevelt; Lake Cruises, Boat Rentals, Guided Fishing Trips at Bridge Bay Marina on Yellowstone Lake; Sightseeing Tours from all major locations; Self-guided auto tour rentals.

For information and reservations, contact a lodging front desk or activities desk located throughout the Park or call (307) 344-7311.



Authorized Concessioner of the National Park Service
AA/EEO

It is illegal to collect natural or cultural objects in Yellowstone National Park. If you find something please **leave it as you find it** and report it to a park ranger.

Directory of Commercial Services

Facilities & Services offered in Yellowstone National Park by

Hamilton Stores, Inc. * AmFac Parks and Resorts * Yellowstone Park Service Stations * Yellowstone Park Medical Services

Dates may be subject to change

Reservations are suggested for dining, lodging & activities; inquire at any lodging front desk or activities desk, or call AmFac Parks and Resorts at (307) 344-7311 or TDD (307) 344-5395.



Accommodations

Old Faithful Inn - Rooms. May 1–October 18
Old Faithful Snow Lodge - Rooms and cabins. July 1–October 12
Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel - Rooms and cabins. May 8–October 12
Old Faithful Lodge - Cabins. May 15–September 20
Lake Yellowstone Hotel - Rooms, cabins. May 15–October 4
Grant Village - Rooms. May 22–September 27
Canyon Lodge - Rooms, cabins. June 5–September 13
Lake Lodge - Cabins. June 10–September 14
Roosevelt Lodge - Cabins. June 12–September 7



Restaurants, Cafeterias

* Dinner reservations required. Inquire at any lodging front desk or dining room host stand.

* **Old Faithful Inn Dining Room** - May 1–October 18
Old Faithful Snow Lodge Restaurant - July 1–October 12
* **Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel Dining Room** - May 8–October 12
* **Lake Yellowstone Hotel Dining Room** - May 15–October 4
Old Faithful Lodge Cafeteria - May 15–September 27
* **Grant Village Restaurant** - May 22–September 27
Lake House at Grant - May 22–September 27
* **Canyon Lodge Dining Room** - June 5–September 13
Canyon Lodge Cafeteria - June 5–August 31
Lake Lodge Cafeteria - June 10–September 14
Roosevelt Lodge Dining Room - June 12–Sept. 7
Roosevelt Lodge Dinner Cookout - June 13–Sept. 6



Hotel & Lodge Gift Shops

Old Faithful Inn - May 1–October 18
Old Faithful Snow Lodge - July 1–October 12
Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel - May 8–October 12
Old Faithful Lodge - May 15–September 27
Lake Yellowstone Hotel - May 15–October 4
Fishing Bridge RV Park - May 15–September 27
Grant Village - May 22–September 27
Lake Lodge - June 10–September 14
Canyon Lodge - June 5–September 13
Roosevelt Lodge - June 12–September 7



Public Showers & Laundry

Fishing Bridge RV Park - Showers and laundry. May 15–September 27
Old Faithful Lodge - Showers. May 15–September 27
Canyon Village Campground - Showers and laundry. June 5–September 6
Lake Lodge - Laundry. June 10–September 14
Grant Village Campground - Showers and laundry. June 21–October 4



Automatic Banking

24-hour cash available at the Old Faithful Inn, Lake Yellowstone Hotel, and Canyon Lodge. CIRRUS and PLUS automatic network machines will be in service for cash anytime during these lodging facilities' seasons.



Light Meals & Fast Foods

Mammoth General Store - Open year round
Old Faithful Photo Shop - April 17–October 26
Canyon Nature Store - April 24–October 25
Old Faithful Basin (Lower) Store - May 2–October 18
Old Faithful Inn, Pony Express Snack Shop - May 1–October 18
Grant Village Ministore - May 1–October 5
Old Faithful Upper Store - May 9–September 22
Fishing Bridge General Store - May 24–Sept. 28
Mammoth Terrace Grill - May 8–October 12
Lake Yellowstone Hotel Deli - May 15–October 4
Lake General Store - May 15–October 4
Old Faithful Four Seasons Deli - May 15–November 1
Tower Fall Store - May 30–September 30
Old Faithful Lodge Snack Shops - May 15–September 27
Canyon General Store - May 16–September 24
Grant Village General Store - May 23–September 27
Bridge Bay Marina Store - June 5–September 23
Canyon Glacier Pit Snack Bar - June 5–September 12
Roosevelt Store - June 12–September 7



General Stores

Mammoth General Store - Open year round
Old Faithful Basin (Lower) Store - May 2–October 18
Grant Village Ministore - May 1–October 5
Old Faithful Upper Store - May 9–September 22
** **Fishing Bridge General Store** - May 24–September 28
Lake General Store - May 15–October 4
Tower Fall Store - May 30–September 30
Canyon General Store - May 16–September 24
Grant Village General Store - May 23–September 27
Bridge Bay Marina Store - June 5–September 23
Roosevelt Store - June 12–September 7
** This location offers one-hour film processing



Photo Shops, Gifts, Souvenirs

** **Old Faithful Photo Shop** - April 17–October 26
** **Canyon Nature Store** - April 24–October 25
Yellowstone Nature Store, Mammoth - May 29–September 21
** These locations offer one-hour film processing.



Service Stations

*** **Old Faithful, Lower Station** - April 17–November 1
*** **Canyon Village** - April 17–November 1
Grant Village - May 16–October 5
*** **Mammoth Hot Springs** - May 8–October 12
*** **Fishing Bridge** - May 15–September 25
Tower Junction - June 6–September 7
Old Faithful, Upper Station - May 23–August 23
*** Diesel fuel is available at these stations.

Old Faithful Repair Service - May 23–August 23
Wrecker service will be provided from the Old Faithful stations April 18–November 2.
Fishing Bridge Repair Service - May 23–September 6.
Wrecker service will be provided from Fishing Bridge station May 23–September 6.
Canyon Repair Service - May 23–September 6.
Wrecker service will be provided from Canyon station April 17–November 1.
Grant Village Repair Service - May 23–September 7.
Wrecker service will be provided from the Grant Village station May 16–September 27.

Fishing Bridge LP Gas Plant - May 18–September 25
Grant Village LP Gas Plant - May 23–October 5



Marina

Bridge Bay Marina - Dock rental May 25–September 20;
Scenicruiser excursions June 6–September 27;
Boat rental, guided fishing trips June 15–September 13



Horse Operations

Mammoth Hot Springs - Trail rides. May 16–September 20
Canyon Lodge - Trail rides. June 20–September 12
Roosevelt Lodge - Trail rides. June 12–September 6;
Stagecoach Rides, June 12–September 6;
Old West Dinner Cookouts: June 13–September 6
Parkwide - Backcountry tours, June–September;
write to Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
or call the National Park Service, (307) 344-7381
for a list of certified outfitters.



Medical Services

Mammoth Clinic - Open September 1–May 31 weekdays
(closed Wed. afternoons); June 1–August 31, daily;
(307) 344-7965
Old Faithful Clinic - May 1–October 18; (307) 545-7325
Lake Hospital - May 18–September 15; (307) 242-7241



Campgrounds

See page 4 for camping information; call for reservations and/or plan to select sites early.



Motorcoach Tours

Lower Loop Tour - Departs from locations along the Lower Loop only.
Upper Loop Tour - Departs from Lake Hotel, Fishing Bridge RV Park, and Canyon Lodge.
Grand Loop Tour - Departs from Gardiner, MT and Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel.

Nearby Parks and Forests

For more information on national parks and forests located in the Yellowstone region, please contact:

Grand Teton National Park (307)739-3300
Emergency # (307)739-3301
Glacier National Park (406)888-7800

Shoshone National Forest (307)527-6241
Gallatin National Forest (406)587-6701
Bridger-Teton Natl. Forest (307)733-2752
Targhee National Forest (208)624-3151

Area Chambers of Commerce

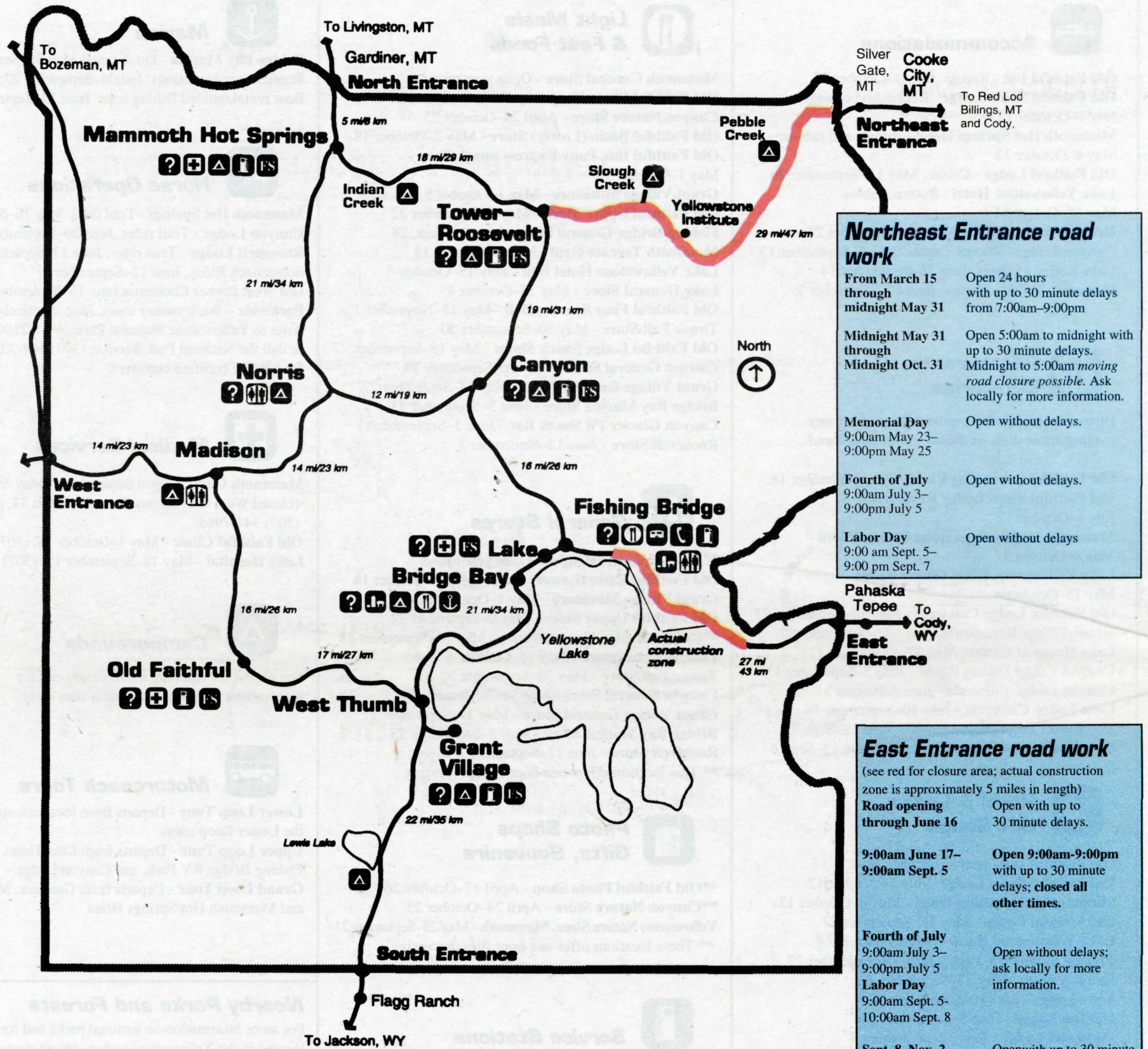
Services are available in communities near the park. For information, contact the Chambers of Commerce in:

Montana		Cody	(307)587-2297
Billings	(406)245-4111	Jackson	(307)733-3316
Bozeman	(406)586-5421	Dubois	(307)455-2556
Gardiner	(406)848-7971	East Yellowstone/Wapiti	
Livingston	(406)222-0850	Valley	(307)587-9595
West Yellowstone	(406)646-7701	Idaho	
Cooke City-Silver Gate	(406)838-2495	Idaho Falls	(208)523-1010
Red Lodge	(406)446-1718	Eastern Idaho Visitor Info Center	(800)634-3246

Wyoming

Yellowstone roads and facilities

Emergency: dial 911



Yellowstone roads and facilities

This map shows summer roads/facilities.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|--|
| Visitor center, ranger station, or info station | Gasoline/fuel | Campground |
| General store | Marina | Campground (hard-sided vehicles) |
| Food service | Clinic or hospital | Full services (includes lodging, food service, store, rest rooms, phone) |
| | Restroom | |

Important numbers

Yellowstone info: (307) 344-7381
TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf only): (307) 344-2386
Lodging info: (307) 344-7311
Lodging TDD: (307) 344-5395
Yellowstone home page:
<http://www.nps.gov/yell/index.htm>

Entrance fees information; see page 3.



This map courtesy of Conoco—providing petroleum products since 1917. All service stations in Yellowstone offer environmentally sensitive fuels, specially formulated by Conoco to reduce hydrocarbon emissions and decrease other pollution-related problems. Conoco is also a major contributor to the Museum of the National Park Ranger.