

**Joshua Tree National Monument  
Twentynine Palms, California**

**June 1, 1959**

**Cover Sheet for Annual Report, Fiscal Year 1959, Joshua Tree  
National Monument**

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**Joshua Tree National Monument  
Twentynine Palms, California**

**June 1, 1959**

**Memorandum**

**To: The Director**

**From: Superintendent, Joshua Tree National Monument**

**Subject: Annual Report - Fiscal Year 1959**

**Personnel:**

**Resignment**

**Elmer N. Fladmark, Superintendent - transferred to Yosemite National Park as Chief Park Ranger October 5, 1958.**

**William M. Supernough, Superintendent - reported for duty October 5, 1959.**

**Rosmel L. Harenfight, Supervisory Park Ranger**

**Bruce W. Black, Park Naturalist - transferred to Crater Lake National Park as Park Naturalist March 1, 1959.**

**James R. Youse, Park Naturalist - reported for duty March 1.**

**John B. Chaseman, Jr., Park Ranger - resigned July 30, 1958.**

**Arthur C. Hathaway, Park Ranger - reported for duty August 30.**

**Lawrence P. Knowles, Landscape Architect - transferred to Region Two Office as Supervisory Park Specialist, October 5, 1958.**

**Leroy S. Angden, Landscape Architect - reported for duty October 5, 1958.**

**Mildred I. Miller, Administrative Aid**

**Jean E. Pavelka, Clerk-typist**

**Robert D. Powell, Park Ranger - reported for duty November 30.**

**Charles T. Meier, Park Ranger - reinstated April 19, 1959.**

**Alva D. Connor, Mixed Gang Foreman - transferred to Coulson Dam National Recreation Area as Construction and Maintenance Engineering Technician January 11, 1959.**

**Kenneth D. Bachmeyer, Foreman II Maintenance - reported for duty February 8, 1959.**

**John R. Blaine, Operator General**

**Paul E. Epps, Custodian**

**Kenneth A. Van Tassel, Truck Driver, LD.**

**Joshua Tree National Monument**

**Seasonal**

**Personnel**

**Ronald D. Miller, Park Ranger (Naturalist) WAE**

**Three seasonal rangers are employed November through April, and one Fire Control Aid was employed in March because of early fire hazards.**

**Two Fire control Aids are employed May through October.**

Joshua Tree National Monument

**Lands:**

The demand for base lands to be used for exchange continues to be great. Several exchange applications have been filed for some time. However, action has been slow on the completion. Land prices continue to advance with sales and building very active in adjoining areas.

Final action was taken on Condemnation Action 18,045 under which 7144.01 acres were acquired in Pinto Basin at a cost of \$22,079.62.

Lands acquired by purchase during the year were:

Sylvia S. Bodley	30.19 acres
Emery Arnold Lanning	5.00 acres
Bessie Blatt	10.00 acres

Optioned and in the process of acquisition:

Martyn R. Turner	10.00 acres
R. V. Scott	<u>10.00</u> acres
Grand Total	65.19 acres

With the acquisition of these properties critical inholdings in the way of improvements still remain a major handicap.

**Joshua Tree National Monument**

**Agreements:**

As predicted, following the Blue Cut hearing last year, Riverside County reconstructed the old county road up Berdoo Canyon to give access to the Monument. Work was done one mile within the Monument on private inholdings. No work has been done, or contemplated, at this time on the section of desert trail within the Monument. Additional effort will probably be made by certain factions to force the Blue Cut. However, with the Berdoo road it will be easier to combat such pressure.

**Joshua Tree National Monument**

**Protection:**

We now have four men on our permanent protection staff. Since January 1, we have had over 167,000 visitors with 22,500 camper days. There is still considerable vandalism occurring at night. Additional rangers are needed for night patrol.

The appointment of a U. S. Commissioner has made protection of the area much easier. Visitors who violate regulations can be taken before local commissioner for action.

**Joshua Tree National Monument**

**Interpretation:**

For the first time it was possible to employ a seasonal ranger naturalist to inaugurate scheduled interpretative services during the heavy visitor season. A new self-guiding leaflet was produced, and put into use at the Cholla Cactus Garden Nature Trail, and the Arch Rock Nature Trail was expanded and signed.

The museum records program has been completed and brought up-to-date.

**File A 2623**  
**Report No. 1048**

**Joshua Tree National Monument**

**Wildlife:**

Due to the extremely dry winter and spring seasons, water for the wildlife will present a problem during the hot summer. The staff at Joshua Tree have been improving the waterholes.



**Joshua Tree National Monument**

**Plans, Maps, Surveys:**

Surveys were completed for the Lost Horse District Ranger Station Area, and the Oasis Headquarters Area.

Master Plan drawings were prepared for the Lost Horse District Ranger Station, M4-JT-2082; Jumbo Rocks Campground, M4-JT-2083; Indian Cove Campground, M4-JT-2084; Lost Horse Campground, M5-JT-2085. A Master Plan drawing was brought up-to-date for the Land Status Overlay to the General Development Sheet.

The Snake Tree Wash Well was drilled and capped. It will supply water to the Cottonwood Campground area. It was drilled 400 feet, and produced a flow of approximately 35 gallons per minute.

Twentyfour tables and fireplaces were constructed and installed in the various campgrounds.

A new Group Camp Area was created in the Battlesnake Canyon Section of Indian Cove Campground. Four units were established.

Quarter evaluations forms were revised and approved for existing trailers and proposed residences.

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**Joshua Tree National Monument**

**Research and Observation:**

The University of Southern California has continued to investigate Indian campsites in Joshua Tree National Monument.

The water supply available for wildlife continues to receive attention with a further study made of wildlife springs by Regional Research Biologist Sumner and Monument staff.

Wm. R. Supernough  
Superintendent