Yellowstone Today

A National Park Service Publication For Yellowstone Visitors

Summer 1995 * Information * Regulations & Safety * Activities

Important road information for all visitors _

About the roads

Road construction is perennial in Yellowstone. In general, park roads have either recently been repaired or reconstructed, or are scheduled for repair or reconstruction. Approximately 80% of main park roads (about 185 miles) are in a structurally deficient state with poor quality road bases failing under the weight, speed, and volume of modern traffic for which they were not designed. Harsh winter weather and short construction seasons provide additional challenges.

These needs are now being addressed under a 20-year, \$300 million Federal Lands Highway Program for Yellowstone National Park. In addition to the major construction described to the right, road repair crews will be working in other areas of the park throughout the 1995 season. Thank you for your patience with our road construction efforts.

Other road closures or delays are possible. For current road information, call (307) 344-7381 (long distance from some park locations).

Madison-Old Faithful

Major construction begins this year on the Madison to Old Faithful road on the park's west side (see arrow). Through May 31, this section of road will be open with up to 30 minute delays. **Starting June 1, the road will be open from 9:00am to 9:00pm with up to 30 minute delays; it will be closed all other times.** See the map on the back page for the full 1995 construction schedule.

Hikers and Anglers: For information on trailhead access, please ask a ranger at the Old Faithful Visitor Center, the Old Faithful Ranger Station, or the Madison Information Station.

Cyclists, walkers: please beware!

Motorcyclists and bicyclists: Yellowstone roads can be very rough, with large potholes. Please ride with care! **Pedestrians:** Be cautious when walking, especially near roadways and/or in congested areas. Please walk with care!

East Entrance

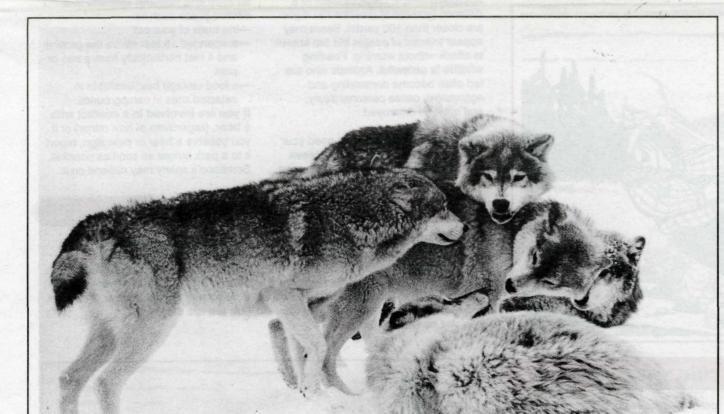
Road construction on the East Entrance Road (see arrow) will continue this year. Through June 15, the road will be open with up to 30 minute delays. **Starting June 16, the road will be open from 9:00am to 9:00pm with up to 30 minute delays; it will be closed all other times.** See the map on the back page for the full 1995 construction schedule.

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

Note: Construction will affect only the section from East Entrance to Sedge Bay. Lake Butte Overlook is closed for the year. Facilities at Fishing Bridge will operate as usual (see p. 15).

Emergency-dial 911 Contact a ranger-344-7381

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Yellowstone Today, which is distributed to visitors at park entrances, is published four times a year by the naturalist staff of Yellowstone National Park. As a member of the Yellowstone Association, you have contributed a portion of the production costs of this publication, which is a major source of information for the millions of The Yellowstone Association operates book sales facilities in visitor centers and museums; YA staff provide information and assistance to park visitors throughout the season. Ultimately, much of YA's revenue is returned to the park's educational, interpretive and research programs. As a YA member, you are a vital part of the team that strives to preserve Yellowstone "For the Benefit and Enjoyment of Future Generations."

Wolves arrived in Yellowstone during the winter of 1994-95; for more, see page 11.

Photo—Monty Sloan, Wolf Park

-Wildlife needs your help

Needed: Park visitors who care about Yellowstone's wildlife enough to <u>not</u> disturb them. The wildlife of Yellowstone is a special treasure—shared by every past, present, and future visitor to the park. In order to thrive—and in some cases, in order to survive—these animals need our respect. You can help by following the simple rule below, and by encouraging other park visitors to do likewise. Do not approach wildlife at close range. Their most basic needs include space to feed and roam, free from the influences of humans. When denied this, they may become stressed. There's a simple way to know if you are disturbing wildlife: if you cause an animal to move, you are too close.

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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. View animals at a distance or from your car. Keep a safe distance from all wildlife. It is against the law to approach within 100 yards of bears or within 25 yards of other wildlife or within any distance where harassment occurs. 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. Park rangers strictly enforce park regulations to protect you and the park. Please help keep contacts with you pleasant by paying special attention to park regulations and avoiding these problems: -speeding (radar enforced)

- -driving while intoxicated (open container law enforced)
- -driving off established roadways -improper food storage
- -camping violations pets off leash
- -littering
- -swimming in thermal pools
- removal of natural features
- -approaching wildlife too closely
- -spotlighting (viewing animals with artificial light)
- -boating and fishing violations
- -driving in the park with detachable side mirrors when not pulling trailers.

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). 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.

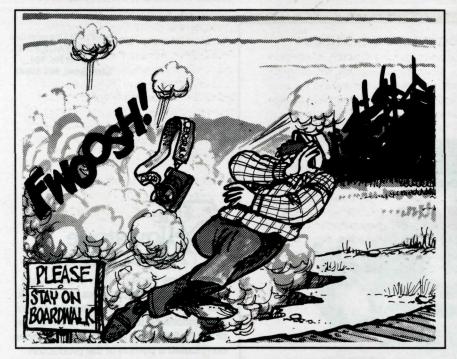
Odors attract bears! Bears need your concern-not your food. Never leave food or garbage unattended. Dispose of garbage in bear-proofed trash or garbage cans. To decrease the likelihood of personal injury, store all food and cooking utensils in a secure place such as:

- -the trunk of your car
- -suspended 10 feet above the ground and 4 feet horizontally from a tree or post
- -a food storage box, available in selected sites in campgrounds.
- 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.

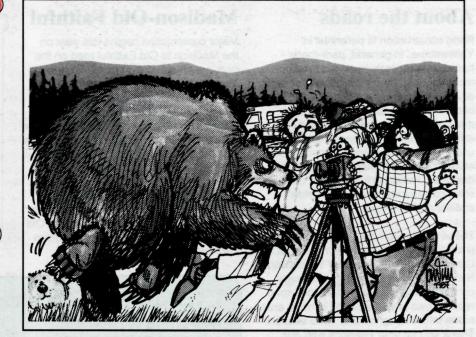
Animals are unpredictable

Warning: 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 and sprint at 30 mph, three times faster than you can run.

All wildlife are unpredictable and dangerous. 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.



Scalding water can ruin your vacation



Bears are dangerous



Stay on boardwalks and designated trails; watch for frosty and icy trails and boardwalks, especially in the morning. 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 formations

destroys decades or centuries of intricate natural processes. It is illegal to throw objects into features, deface them or remove natural features from the park. Yellowstone's thermal features are extraordinary natural wonders. Please help us to keep them that way.

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; for more information, ask at visitor centers.



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

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 is one of the largest national parks in the lower 48 states, encompassing 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 of paved road wind through the park, crossing the Continental Divide three times. Elevations range from approximately 5,300 feet at the North Entrance to almost 12,000 feet at Eagle Peak on the park's east boundary; most roads lie at 7,500-8,000 feet.

Historically, visitors often referred to Yellowstone as "Wonderland," and that may be even more appropriate today. An unparalled 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, 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. The distance around the Upper Loop is 70 miles; the Lower Loop, 96 miles. Actual driving time is difficult to estimate because the maximum speed limit is 45 mph or lower where posted, roads are narrow, winding, and full of pot holes and frost heaves, and traffic may be heavy and slow moving. Road construction is also a factor (see front and back pages). 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 and 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 fifty mile 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, Norris Geyser Basin, and Old Faithful. An information station is found at Madison. Geysers and hot springs are also found at West Thumb Geyser Basin.

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 north of Canyon.

The drive between Tower Junction and Canyon Village goes over Dunraven Pass, the highest road in the park at 8,859 feet. 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.

Lake area

Yellowstone Lake, with 110 miles of shoreline and a 136 square mile surface area, is North America's largest mountain lake. Its relatively high elevation (7,733 feet) is one reason why the lake is icelocked 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 everchanging. A visitor center is located at Grant; an Information Station is found at West Thumb.

Permits, required for fishing and boating, are available at Lake Ranger Station and Grant Visitor Center (note that the general fishing season begins May 27; June 15 on Yellowstone Lake; July 15 on the lake's tributary streams). A museum is located at Fishing Bridge.

Wildlife

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 moming 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 detailed information. Please use pullouts when viewing wildlife, and remember that Yellowstone's animals are wild; use binoculars or telephoto lenses for safe viewing and to avoid disturbing them.

History

Mammoth Hot Springs is 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. The Museum of the National Park Ranger is located at Norris.

Services and facilities

See page 15 for a directory of commercial services. All facilities, accommodations and services are available from approximately mid-June to late August. However, facilities and services are limited 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 TW Recreational Services, Inc.; 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.

Accessibility guide available

A free Guide to Accessibility for the Visitor is available at all visitor centers in the park. This guide describes which facilities have been

judged to be negotiable by wheelchair users. Additional facilities are being made accessible as quickly as possible within funding limitations.

For more information, write the Park Accessibility Coordinator, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190; TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf only (307) 344-2386).

Figuring out entrance fees

Entrance fees are \$10 for a private, noncommercial automobile, or \$4 for each visitor (ages 17-61, inclusive) entering by snowmobile, motorcycle, bus, bicycle, or on foot. Fees purchase a seven day pass to Yellowstone and Grand Teton parks. A \$15 annual pass (good from January 1-December 31) to both parks is also available.

The \$25 Golden Eagle Passport, valid for one year from date of purchase, allows the permit holder and accompanying passengers in a private noncommerical vehicle to enter all federal areas which charge entrance fees. The Golden Age Passport (for those over 62) can be obtained for a one-time \$10 fee. The Golden Access Passport (for the disabled) is still offered free of charge. The Golden Age and Access Passports admit the holder and accompanying passengers in a private, noncommercial vehicle to national parks plus provide a 50 percent reduction in camping and other fees.

If you did not pay your entrance fee as you entered the park, please be prepared to pay it as you exit Yellowstone.

Vellowstone Park Medical Services

COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL CARE IN A WILDERNESS SETTING...

Lake Clinic, Pharmacy & Hospital Emergency Room, 24-hour service Clinic hours: 8:30am-8:30pm, daily May 22-September 15 Phone (307) 242-7241

EMERGENCIES—DIAL 911

Old Faithful Clinic

Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm, May 5-Oct. 22; closed Thursday and Friday prior to May 27 and after September 15; Phone (307) 545-7325

Mammoth Family Clinic Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm; Monday-Friday, year round June-August, daily; Phone (307) 344-7965

YELLOWSTONE PARK MEDICAL SERVICES

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

If injury or sudden illness threatens to spoil your visit to Yellowstone, or you left your prescription drugs in last night's motel room, or you require periodic clinical laboratory testing throughout your travels—Yellowstone Park Medical Services (YPMS) is there when needed. YPMS, a division of West Park Hospital in Cody, Wyoming, has been providing health care for Yellowstone National Park's visitors and employees since 1980.

Outpatient services are offered at three convenient locations throughout the park —Lake, Old Faithful and Mammoth. The Lake facility is also a full service hospital with 10 inpatient beds, 24-hour ambulance and emergency service, and laboratory, pharmacy and radiology services. The medical staff includes experienced and highly qualified professionals from across the country. YPMS works closely with National Park Service Emergency Medical Technicians and Park Medics to provide up-to-date prehospital care. Patients requiring advanced medical care are transported to area hospitals or medical centers for further evaluation and treatment.

YPMS provides medical services to over 10,000 visitors and employees each year. Routine problems as well as unique ones are treated: scaldings from the super-heated waters of thermal features; gorings by bison, moose or elk; or, very rarely, bear maulings. Please be careful and cautious throughout your visit.

It is YPMS's goal to offer the very best medical care possible to Yellowstone's visitors and employees in this uniquely beautiful wilderness setting.

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 and 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 Visitor Center, Bridge Bay Marina and Lake Ranger Station. Non-motorized boating permits only are available at the Canyon and Mammoth Visitor Centers, Northeast Entrance and Bechler Ranger Station. The fee is \$20 (annual) or \$10 (7 day) for motorized vessels and \$10 (annual) or \$5 (7 day) for nonmotorized vessels. A Coast Guard approved personal flotation device is required for each person boating.

Grand Teton National Park's boat permit will be honored as a one-time 7 day permit or can be applied toward a Yellowstone annual permit. 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.

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.

DEFACING PARK FEATURES

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, Wyoming 82190.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Outpatient medical services are offered at three park locations during the summer season—Lake, Mammoth, and Old Faithful (see pages 3 and 15 for more information). In case of medical emergencies 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, and overnight backcountry use; 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 of roads and parking areas. Leaving a pet unattended and/or tied to an object is prohibited. Pets are also 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

Emergency—911 NPS Information—344-7381

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 and to support law enforcement in Yellowstone: —remain alert and aware;

- -lock your vehicle;
- keep all valuables out of sight;
 put your name, address, or identifica-
- tion number on all valuable property; —report theft or vandalism to a ranger immediately: and
- -call 911 if you suspect criminal activity, but do not contact suspects yourself.

TRAFFIC Yellowstone has over 350 miles of roads. Most are narrow, rough, and busy! **Some sections are steep with sharp drop offs.** Watch for animals on the road, especially at night. Bicycles and motorcycles present special hazards.

Be especially cautious of ice and road damage; roads may be icy any time of the year. The maximum speed limit is 45 mph unless otherwise posted. Drive defensively and wear seat belts. Yellowstone now has a mandatory front passenger seat belt requirement.

Slow-moving vehicles—please avoid accidents and aggravation by using pullouts to observe wildlife or scenery, and to allow safe passing by other vehicles.

Camping in Yellowstone National Park

FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVED CAMPSITES There are twelve 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 seven campgrounds are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

CAMPSITE RESERVATIONS

TW Recreational Services, Inc. operates campgrounds at Bridge Bay, Canyon, Grant Village, Madison, and Fishing Bridge RV Park. In 1995, reservations for Bridge Bay campground may be made no more than eight weeks in advance of

your camping date by calling Mistix Reservations at (800) 365-2267 (outside the U.S. (619) 452-5956). Mistix does not accept same day reservations. Reservations for the other four campgrounds may be made by contacting TW Recreational Services at (307) 344-7311 or by writing TW Recreational Services, Inc., P.O. Box 165, YNP, WY 82190. **Fishing Bridge RV Park** is the only campground offering water, sewer, and Please make your reservations early and/or plan on securing your campsite as early in the day as possible; campgrounds may fill early in the day, 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, most often camping is available in neighboring communities and forests outside the park. All camping is limited to 14 days between June 15 and Labor Day, and to 30 days the rest of the year. 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, which will be strictly enforced. No generators, loud audio devices or other noise disturbances will be allowed during this time. Generators are only permited in six campgrounds and the Fishing Bridge RV Park (see table at left).

electrical hookups, and is for hard-sided vehicles only (no tents or tent trailers); call (307) 344-7311 for reservations.

GOLDEN AGE/ACCESS

DISCOUNT Holders of Golden Age and Access permits will be given a 50 percent discount on camping fees (does not apply to Fishing Bridge RV Park).

GROUP CAMPING Group camping areas are available from late May through September for large organized groups with a designated leader such as youth groups, educational groups, etc. (family reunions or similar gatherings do not qualify). The fees range from \$20-50 per night depending on the size of the group. Advance reservations are required and can be made by contacting TW Recreational Services, Inc., P.O. Box 165, YNP, WY 82190 or phone (307) 344-7311.

	No. of	Approx.	incheq enuper originalité prise	and to another a violation of the		Showers/ Laundry	Dump	Generators Permitted
Campground	Sites	Dates***	Fee	Elev (ft)	Toilet	Nearby	Station	(8:00am-8:00pm)
Bridge Bay*	433	5/26-9/25	\$12.00	7800	Flush	X	X	X
Canyon**	272	6/9-9/6	12.50	8000	Flush	X	X	X
Grant Village**	408	6/21-10/10	12.50	7800	Flush	Х	X	X
Madison**	278	5/1-10/30	12.50	6800	Flush		X	X
Mammoth	85	All Year	10.00	6200	Flush			X
Norris	116	5/19-9/18	10.00	7500	Flush			X
Indian Creek	75	6/9-9/11	8.00	7300	Pit			
Lewis Lake	85	6/9-10/31	8.00	7800	Pit			
Pebble Creek	36	6/9-9/5	8.00	6900	Pit			
Slough Creek	29	5/26-10/31	8.00	6250	Pit			PARIC MERSION
Tower Fall	32	5/26-9/11	8.00	6600	Pit			
Fishing Bridge RV**	345	5/19-9/18	20.00 plus	7800	Flush	X	Sewer	X
*Reserve through M	listix (sun	nmer only); ca	II (800) 365-2	267.			hookup	S

**Reserve through TW Recreational Services; call (307) 344-7311 or TDD (307) 344-5395.

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

Hiking in Yellowstone country

Yellowstone National Park, encompassing 2.2 million acres, is one of America's premier wilderness areas. Most of the park is backcountry and managed as wilderness. Over 1,200 miles of trails are available for hiking. However, there are dangers inherent in wilderness: unpredictable wildlife, changing weather conditions, remote

thermal areas, cold water lakes, turbulent streams, and rugged mountains with loose, "rotten" rock are among them. Visiting wilderness means experiencing the land on its terms. You have chosen to explore and enjoy the natural wonders of Yellowstone, but 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. **Contact a park ranger before you begin a day hike or overnight trip.**

PERMITS

Permits are required for some day hikes and all overnight trips. Yellowstone Park has a designated backcountry campsite system and a non-fee permit is required for overnight stays. Permits can be obtained only in person and no more than 48 hours in advance. 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. A dayuse permit is required for some areas.

Bear activity sometimes require hiking and camping restrictions. Permits are also required for boating and fishing. Information and permits are available at ranger stations and 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 completely extinguished before you leave.

PACK IT IN-PACK IT OUT

All refuse must be carried out of the back country. This includes items partly burned in the fire pit such as foil, tin or glass.

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.

PROHIBITED IN BACKCOUNTRY

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

SANITATION

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

PROTECTING PARK 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.

Bear country

Yellowstone National 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, or 44 feet per second—faster than Olympic sprinters. Running may elicit an attack from otherwise nonaggressive 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.

Rump higher

than shoulders

WHEN CAMPING

Never camp in an area that has obvious evidence of bear activity such as digging, tracks, or scat.

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 above the ground and at least 4 feet out from tree trunks. Treat all odorous products such as soap, deodorant, or other toiletries in the same manner as food.

Sleep a minimum of 100 yards 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 AND

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.

Bear facts: characteristics of grizzly & black bears

GRIZZLY Hump Rump lowe

than should

BLACK

GRIZZLY BEAR (Ursus arctos horribilis Ord)

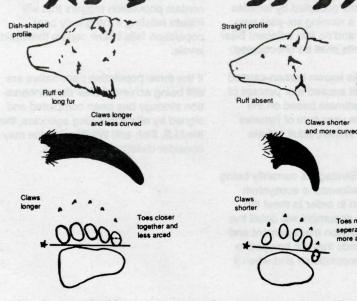
COLOR: Varies from black to blonde; frequently with white tipped fur, giving a grizzled "silvertip" appearance.

HEIGHT: About 3-1/2 feet at the shoulder: reaches 6 to 7 feet when

BLACK BEAR (Ursus americanus pallas)

COLOR: Varies from pure black to brown, cinnamon or blonde; in the Rocky Mountains about 50 percent are black with a brown muzzle.

HEIGHT: About three feet at the



A line drawn under big toe across top of pad runs through top 1/2 of little toe on black bear tracks and through or below bottom 1/2 of little toe on grizzly tracks.

standing on hind legs.

WEIGHT: Adults range from 200 to 700 lbs. and average 350 lbs. Females are generally smaller than males.

HOME RANGE SIZE: Males: 821-2,096 sq. mi. (2,106-5,374 sq. km.); Females: 211-542 sq. km (541-1,391 sq. km.).

LIFE EXPECTANCY: 15 to 20 years in the wild; 30 or more in captivity.

shoulder.

WEIGHT: Adults range from 135 to over 300 lbs. Females are generally smaller than males.

HOME RANGE SIZE: Males: 6-124 sq. mi. (15-318 sq. km.); Females: 2-45 sq. mi. (5-115 sq. km.).

LIFE EXPECTANCY: 15 to 20 years in the wild; 30 or more in captivity.

A small grizzly is often difficult to distinguish from a large black bear. However, all bears are dangerous; treat them with extreme caution. Sows with cubs are especially ferocious when protecting them from real or perceived danger. If you discover an animal carcass, be alert; these are important sources of food, especially during spring, and bears will aggressively defend their caches.

When bison leave the park..

Wild, free-ranging bison have been a part of the Yellowstone landscape since prehistoric times. Primarily because of poaching and market hunting, the bison population declined until just after the turn of the century when less than 50 bison were known to exist in Yellowstone National Park.

In this century, bison populations have made a remarkable recovery, now numbering over 150,000 animals in private and public herds nationwide. Bison are not listed as federally endangered or threatened species. By 1994, the Yellowstone bison population increased to about 4,000 animals. The park herd is the largest free-ranging (unfenced) bison herd in the country.

Maintaining a wild, inherently nomadic bison herd presents problems. Increased numbers of bison, weather conditions, and human activities all affect distribution of animals; attempts to manipulate bison movements have met with only limited success. A 2,000 pound wild bison can be a safety hazard when found in your front yard or on the highway at night. Private property can be damaged, and ranchers have concerns about the possibility of disease (brucellosis) transmission from bison to cattle. However, no documented case exists of wild, free-ranging bison from Yellowstone transmitting brucellosis to domestic cattle.

In response to increasing public interest and management concerns, the State of Montana, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Forest Service began working together to formulate a cooperative long-range Bison Management Plan which will attempt to minimize conflicts outside of Yellowstone while maintaining a self-supporting, free-ranging bison herd within the park.

An interim plan was developed to facilitate cooperative management of the bison population while the long range Plan and Environmental Impact Statement are prepared. Interim measures involve park personnel hazing bison into the park or assisting the State of Montana in removing bison which migrate outside of the park. Between 1984 and 1995, about 1,500 bison have been killed because of disease concerns or to protect private property. These removals have not threatened the long term survival of the Yellowstone bison.

For more information about the Bison Management Planning process, ask at any visitor center or contact the Superintendent's Office, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

Where are the bears?

Until about 20 years ago, bears were a common sight in Yellowstone—along the roads, in campgrounds and developed areas.

Massive traffic "bear jams," personal property damages, and injuries caused by bears were also common. From 1931 through 1969, bears, both black and grizzly, caused an average of 138 property damages and 48 personal injuries per year. Some roadside beggar bears were accidentally killed by motor vehicles, and aggressive bears involved in personal property damage or injuries had to be destroyed. The situation was not good for either people or bears, and the National Park Service sought to correct it.

What caused this situation? Bears were associating people with mealtime. The presence of open garbage dumps and the willingness of travellers to stop and feed bears along the roadsides only encouraged this situation. Simply put, bears had come to depend on peoples' food and garbage as a substitute for their natural diet.

During the late 1960s, an intensive bear management program began with the goals of restoring and maintaining natural populations of grizzly and black bears as part of the park's native fauna, and providing for visitor safety. The following objectives were designed to accomplish these goals:

1. **Public awareness:** Inform and educate people about the natural history and behavior of bears, how to minimize conflicts, and the importance of eliminating unnatural food sources. 2. Eliminate unnatural food attractants: All human food and garbage is secured and made unavailable to bears. Bearproof garbage cans, strict food security regulations, prohibitions on feeding wildlife, frequent garbage pickups, and hauling all garbage out of the park daily are measures taken to prevent bear-human conflicts from developing.

3. Prompt management response: When prevention does not deter a bear from frequenting an area where people congregate, we try to modify the bear's behavior. Trapping and relocation to an area away from people is the most common method used. If attempts fail and the bear continues to pose a threat to people, it may be removed from the population. 4. Continued research on and monitoring of bears and their activities: Facts about bear distribution, population dynamics, behaviors, and the ecology of bear-human interactions are essential for evaluating the effectiveness of management programs.

To insure the safety of people and the protection of bears, areas with high levels of bear activity are patrolled by rangers and posted with waming signs or restricted. Most information about bear activity comes from people who report sighting bears or signs of a bear, such as tracks or scat. Anyone who sees a bear, or is involved in a bear incident, should report it to a park ranger. The welfare of the bear and safety of other park visitors may be at stake. As garbage was eliminated from bears' diets, most bears switched to natural foods. As the program progressed, the numbers of property damages and injuries were reduced, and the need to remove problem bears declined. Today, bear management is no longer focused on correcting a problem but at preventing problems from developing. As of 1994, the grizzly bear population in the Greater Yellowstone area is believed to be stable or slightly increasing, compared to its declining state ten years ago (see article below).

Bears continue to be observed in Yellowstone, many from the roadways. Most bear observations occur during early morning or evening hours near tree cover along the edge of open areas.



Grizzly bears now roam wild and free in Yellowstone National Park.

Today, the bear population in Yellowstone is wild and exists as part of a natural system, providing visitors lucky enough to see a bear with a true National Park experience.

- Are grizzlies nearing recovery?

On July 28, 1975, under the authority of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the

demonstration that "adequate regulatory mechanisms" are in place to insure conservation of the species if and when it should be removed from the special protection granted by the ESA. When all these goals have been met, the grizzly bear may be considered for "delisting" from its threatened status. 2. Distribution of females with cubs— To have 16 of 18 recovery zone Bear is removed from the threatened species list. The conservation strategy will also

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listed the grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos horribilis*) as a threatened species.

A primary goal of the Endangered Species Act is to recover populations of species listed as threatened or endangered to self-sustaining, viable populations that no longer need protection under the Act. As part of this goal, recovery parameters for the grizzly bear were established in the 1993 Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan.

Under this plan, three population recovery goals must be achieved before the grizzly bear population is considered recovered. In addition to these three biological goals, there must be a In 1994, the Yellowstone ecosystem grizzly bear population met all three population recovery parameters for the first time. The three recovery goals achieved in 1994 are:

1. Females with cubs—To have an average of 15 adult females with cubs of the year on a six-year running average both inside the recovery zone and within a 10 mile area immediately surrounding the recovery zone.

Management Units occupied by females with young from a running six-year sum of observations, and no two adjacent Bear Management Units shall be unoccupied.

3. Mortality—The known human-caused mortality shall not exceed four percent of the population estimate based on the most recent three year sum of females with cubs minus known, adult female deaths.

A Conservation Strategy is currently being written for the Yellowstone ecosystem grizzly population in order to meet the fourth goal. This document will detail the habitat and population management and monitoring methods that will be used to perpetuate the population if and when it contain population triggers that will initiate relisting if the grizzly bear population falls below certain threshold levels.

If the three population parameters are still being achieved after the conservation strategy has been completed and signed by all cooperating agencies, then the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may consider delisting grizzly bears.

Around the Park Summer 1995

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

Join a ranger-naturalist...

If you think that "ranger-led activity" only means viewing a slide inventory of park plants and animals, think again! A variety of activities and programs led by rangernaturalists are offered throughout the summer in Yellowstone. Activities vary from short talks and demonstrations at visitor centers to walks and hikes. Watch for roving rangers throughout the park. Many activities are handicapped accessible.

Program schedules change daily and weekly. To find out what is happening during your visit, purchase *Discover Yellowstone*, a magazine featuring schedules of ranger-led activities plus other information about the park. *Discover Yellowstone* is available at visitor centers, hotel or lodge gift shops, and Hamilton Stores throughout Yellowstone. Campground and visitor center bulletin boards are also a good source for program information.

Special Note: Ranger programs begin the week of May 29 and continue until Labor Day. Here are a few highlights, presented by area:

CANYON

Evening programs are offered nightly at 9:30pm (9:00pm starting August 6) at the Canyon Campground Amphitheater. During the day, join a ranger for activities along the canyon rims or in Hayden Valley.

OLD FAITHFUL

Evening programs are offered nightly at 8:00pm at the Old Faithful Visitor Center Auditorium. Every day, rangers lead other activities in and near the Old Faithful area.

MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS

Evening programs are offered nightly at 9:30pm (9:00pm starting August 6) at the Mammoth Campground Amphitheater. Rangers lead walks through the Mammoth Hot Springs Terraces; other history and wildlife activities are also offered.

TOWER-ROOSEVELT

Evening programs are offered at Tower Campground Amphitheater. Check locally for dates and times.

LAKE-FISHING BRIDGE

Evening programs are offered nightly at 9:30pm (9:00pm starting August 6) at the Fishing Bridge Amphitheater and Bridge Bay Campground Amphitheater. During the day, rangers lead a variety of activities including wildlife watches, explorations of Mud Volcano and the lakeshore, and more.

GRANT

Evening programs are offered nightly at 9:30pm (9:00pm starting August 6) at the Grant Village Amphitheater. During the day and early evening, join a ranger to explore West Thumb Geyser Basin. Other activities highlight wildland fire and Yellowstone Lake.

NORRIS GEYSER BASIN

Evening campfire programs are offered at 8:00pm at the Norris Campground Campfire Circle; check locally for dates. During the day, explore the geyser basin with a ranger.

ROVING RANGER-NATURALISTS

Look for ranger-naturalists roving through areas near major park features. Feel free to ask them your many questions about Yellowstone!



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.

New this year

In 1995, we hope you'll join us at one or more of our new interpretive facilities; see page 8 for dates and hours of operation.

MADISON AND WEST THUMB INFORMATION STATIONS/ BOOKSTORES

Bangers and Yellowstone Association

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

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

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

NORRIS GEYSER BASIN MUSEUM Brand new exhibits describe the geothermal features of the intriguing Norris Geyser Basin, features found elsewhere in Yellowstone, and the significance of these features worldwide.

NORRIS BOOKSTORE

MADISON

Evening programs are offered nightly at 9:30pm (9:00pm starting August 6) at the Madison Campground Amphitheater. staff can answer your questions and help you plan your trip. Stop by for road construction updates before you travel to Old Faithful. An enhanced bookstore facility serves visitors to this interesting geyser basin.

Kids-become a Junior Ranger



Yellowstone National Park has an official Junior Ranger Program open to kids between 7 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, kids donate \$1.00 for the activity newspaper, *Yellowstone's Nature*, available in any visitor center. After completing the requirements described in the newspaper, kids are awarded an official Junior Ranger patch. Requirements include attending a rangerled program, hiking on a park trail, and answering questions about Yellowstone Park. Yellowstone's Nature also contains tips for predicting Old Faithful and a journal page to use and enjoy in the park or back at home. In the future we will expand the Junior Ranger program to include kids of different ages and abilities. Both kids and adults will benefit by sharing the fun of becoming a Junior Ranger.

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

Visitor centers & museums

ALBRIGHT VISITOR CENTER, MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS

Open year round. Hours 9:00am-5:00pm through May 28; 8:00am-7:00pm May 29-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information, publications, and exhibits of the early history, exploration, and establishment of Yellowstone National Park. "The Challenge of Yellowstone," a film on the national park idea is shown throughout the day. Call (307) 344-2263 for more information.

OLD FAITHFUL VISITOR CENTER

Hours 9:00am-5:00pm through May 28; 8:00am-7:00pm May 29-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information, publications, geyser eruption predictions. Video and/or film on geothermal features shown throughout the day. For more information, call (307) 545-2750.

CANYON VISITOR CENTER

Hours 9:00am-5:00pm through May 28; 8:00am-7:00pm May 29-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information, publications. The *Imagine Yellowstone* young people's art and writing exhibit is on display; this year's theme is "Endangered Species: Why Should We Care?" Artist-in-residence programs are also offered. Call (307) 242-2550 for more information.

MUSEUM OF THE NATIONAL PARK RANGER, NORRIS

Hours 9:00am-5:00pm through May 28; 9:00am-6:00pm May 29-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. 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. Call (307) 344-7353 for more information.

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.

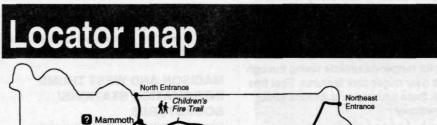
UPPER GEYSER BASIN The world's greatest collection of geysers is located here, including Old Faithful Geyser. Several miles of trail begin at the Old Faithful Visitor Center; stop in for orientation and geyser eruption information.

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. MUD VOLCANO Located approximately 6 miles north of Fishing Bridge Junction (approximately 10 miles 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).



NORRIS GEYSER BASIN MUSEUM

Hours 9:00am-5:00pm through May 28; 8:00am-7:00pm May 29-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information, publications, new exhibits on geothermal features open to the public in summer 1995. Call (307) 344-2812 for more information.

FISHING BRIDGE VISITOR CENTER

Hours 9:00am-5:00pm through May 28; 8:00am-7:00pm May 29-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information and publications. Exhibits on Yellowstone's birds and animals will help you identify some of the wildlife you may see in and around Yellowstone Lake. Call (307) 242-2450 for more information.

GRANT VISITOR CENTER

Hours 9:00am-5:00pm through May 28; 8:00am-7:00pm May 29-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information, publications, Kodak-sponsored park orientation slide program. *Yellowstone and Fire* exhibit and film tell how fires have been a part of Yellowstone's history for thousands of years. Call (307) 242-2650 for more information.

MADISON INFORMATION STATION

Hours 8:00am-7:00pm May 27-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information, publications. Call (307) 344-2821 for more information.

WEST THUMB INFORMATION STATION

Hours 8:00am-7:00pm May 27-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information, publications.

Roadside exhibits and more

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 Trail is located approximately 1-1/2 miles 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 south of Tower Junction is the Tower Fall area. A short trail leads from the parking lot to an overlook of the 132 foot waterfall.

Bunsen Peak Trail provides a winding, sometimes steep, gravel surface for hikers and experienced cyclists.

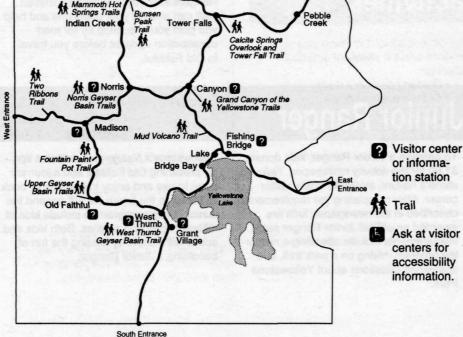
Fire Trails Located 6 miles east of Mammoth Hot Springs on the Mammoth-Tower road, the **Children's Fire Trail** is a good place to look at the effects of fire on an easy, level trail. After the fires of 1988, contributions from children, educational groups, and other organizations helped build this trail; trail development and enhancement continues today. The short, accessible **Two Ribbons Trail** winds its way through burned forest along the Madison River, about five miles 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 bark s offerings. These include the Old Gardiner Road, which starts in Mammoth, traverses open sage grasslands with great views, and ends in Gardiner, Montana. The Blacktail Plateau Drive, with aspen, wildlife and open views, provides another auto tour opportunity in northern Yellowstone. Other less-traveled roads include Virginia Cascades Drive and Gull Point Drive. These rough roads, most of which are gravel, may be closed throughout the summer for resource management or weather reasons. Please check locally for locations and current information.

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

FOUNTAIN PAINT POT Located 8 miles north of Old Faithful on the road to Madison Junction. Active, ever-changing mud pots make this area unique, as does the variety of thermal activity and color. Thank you for your patience with road construction in this area.



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.

Other exhibits, programs, activities

Artist-in-Residence

As part of the National Parks Touring Artists Program, Yellowstone National Park is sponsoring artist-in-residence Sidney Wildesmith this summer. An artist and naturalist, Mr. Wildesmith combines an understanding of the natural world with hands-on artistic learning. His three- and four-day drawing and landscape painting workshops cost \$75 and \$150, respectively. These classes are open to all students, from beginning to advanced.

Sidney Wildesmith will also offer free scheduled walks and talks, as well as other informal art programs for park visitors in the Canyon area. For more information, consult Discover Yellowstone, the listing of park educational and interpretive activities, available at all visitor centers, ask at the Canyon Visitor Center, or call (307) 242-2550.

Area museums

Like what you've seen? Here's more! Five museums within a half-day's drive of Yellowstone's boundaries provide opportunities for continued 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. There, a new natural history exhibition called "Seasons of the Buffalo" focuses on the ecological history of the American bison. 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. This summer, a special exhibit "Bears: Imagination and Reality" is on display.

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

IMAGINE YELLOWSTONE

And in nearby Pinedale, 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, as follows:

> **Buffalo Bill Historical Center** (307) 587-4771

Museum of the Rockies (406) 994-3466 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 expanded its educational role in the park by sponsoring 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 the more than 70 courses offered in 1995. 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 are wildflowers, grizzly bear ecology, birds, geology, nature photography, writing, art, fly fishing, lake canoeing, and Native American and mountain man history. The Institute program also includes a variety of backcountry experiences in alpine flowers, photography, bear safety and history.

Llamas and horses are used for most of these backcountry courses. Winter courses are offered in snow ecology, wildlife ecology, photography, and winter backcountry camping.

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.

The Yellowstone Association

The Yellowstone Association was founded in 1933 to assist with educational. historical and scientific programs for the benefit of Yellowstone National Park and its visitors. Among the Association's past and present projects are:

Operation of bookstores in all park visitor centers and information stations with proceeds going to fund interpretive programs and exhibits for visitors, as well as research projects and equipment in Yellowstone.

Sponsorship of the Yellowstone Institute (see related article on this page). Sponsorship of scientific conferences relating to Yellowstone resource management issues.

Publication of books, pamphlets and leaflets about Yellowstone for the visitor.

Maintenance of park research library.

YES! I want to help educate people about the natural wonders of Yellowstone.

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 leave at any Visitor Center sales desk).

Name Mrs.

the park newspaper. • A 15% discount on books sold by the Yellowstone Association in all visitor

· An informative newsletter and a

subscription to Yellowstone Today,

centers; discounts at many association bookstores in other national parks. Discounts on Yellowstone Institute class tuition.

You are invited to become a member

 A way for visitors to support educational, historic and scientific programs in

of the Yellowstone Association.

Membership benefits include:

Yellowstone.

 Memberships are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law. For more information about the Yellowstone Association, write P.O. Box 117, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 or call (307) 344-2296.

Young artists and writers from across the country have expressed their appreciation of the park and its wild inhabitants in the juried 1995 iMAGiNEYELLOWSTONE art and writing exhibit, Endangered Species: Why Should We Care? Showing at the Canyon Visitor Center this summer, the exhibit celebrates the most outstanding of these creations.

The iMAGiNEYELLOWSTONE Exhibit encourages lifelong appreciation of natural areas and involvement in preserving the values parks represent.

We hope you will take the opportunity to participate in iMAGiNEYELLOWSTONE. Let your imagination soar and join us in the celebration!

Park concessioner TW Recreational Services offers a variety of activities including:

Concessioner

activities

- Guided horseback rides
- Old West dinner cookouts
- Lake cruises and guided fishing trips
- Sightseeing bus tours
- · Self-quided auto tour rentals
- Historic tours of the Old Faithful Inn and Lake Hotel

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

State Zip_	Ph	ione	insvisas.
	ate \$25 outing\$50 ning\$100	Patron \$250 Sponsor \$500 Benefactor \$1000	
Make checks payable Charge to Visa	to "The Yellows astercard #	tone Association"	nasion
-		1525-528-COD . Constitution	PNP

The printing of the Around the Park supplement to Yellowstone Today has been funded by a generous donation from the Yellowstone Association.

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

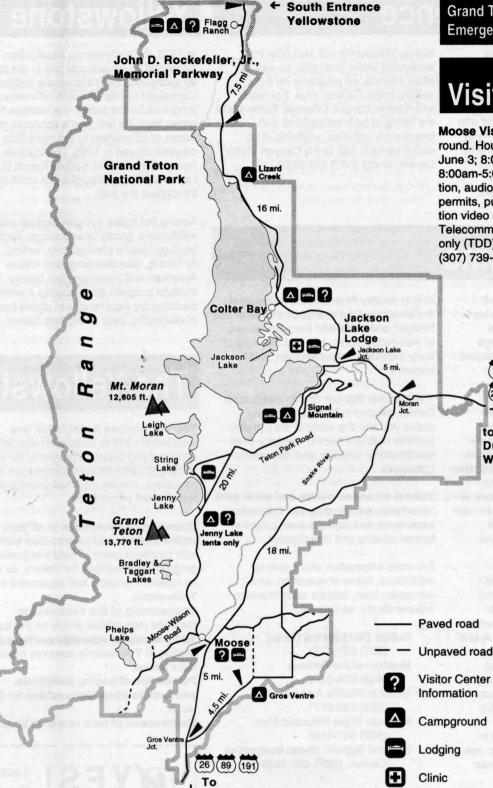
Five National Park Service campgrounds are available in Grand Teton National Park. The camping fee is \$10.00 per night per site. Jenny Lake Campground is open to tents only. Other campgrounds will accommodate tents, trailers and recreational vehicles. All campgrounds have modern comfort stations, but 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 firstcome, 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 permited; there are no overflow facilities.

Trailer Villages: Colter Bay and Flagg Ranch Trailer Villages are concessioneroperated 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) 543-2861 for Flagg Ranch; call (307) 543-2811 for Colter Bay.

Lodging & Clinic



Jackson, WY

(8 mi.)

-

Mileage marker

Activities

Grand Teton Campgrounds Summary

Grand Teton info: (307) 739-3600 Emergency: dial 911 or 739-3301

Visitor Centers

Moose Visitor Center-Open year round. Hours 8:00am-5:00pm through June 3; 8:00am-7:00pm, June 4-Sept. 4; 8:00am-5:00pm starting Sept. 5. Information, audiovisual 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.

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Dubois,

to

WY

Colter Bay Visitor Center-Open May 13-October 1. Hours 8:00am-5:00pm May 13-21; 8:00am-7:00pm, May 22-June 3; 8:00am-8:00pm June 4-Sept. 4; 8:00am-5:00pm Sept. 5-October 1. Information, audiovisual 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. Phone (307) 739-3594 for more information.

Jenny Lake Visitor Center-Open June 4-Sept. 4. Hours 8:00am-7:00pm. Information, exhibits.

Flagg Ranch Information Station-Open June 4-Sept. 4. Hours 9:00am-6:00pm.

Lodging—Several diffe	erent lodging		Approximate	Approximate	Ranger-led Activities—A full schedule
options are available in	Grand Teton	Campground and features	Filling Time	1995 Season	of ranger-led activities is available
National Park. Please r	make your		ALC: A LOCAL STREET		throughout the summer. These range
reservations directly wi		Gros Ventre	Evening or	April 24-October 6	from short talks at visitor centers to hikes,
providers listed below:		360 sites	may not fill	. Duranta	kids programs, and much more! To find
Jenny Lake Lodge	(307) 733-4647	trailer dumping station			out what is going on during your visit,
Colter Bay Cabins	(307) 543-2855	US 228			stop at Colter Bay, Jenny Lake, or Moose
	or (307) 543-2811	Jenny Lake	8:00 a.m.	May 20-Sept. 25	Visitor Centers or Flagg Ranch Informa-
Flagg Ranch Village	(307) 543-2861	49 sites		succession and a solution	tion Station, or pick up a copy of the
	or (800) 443-2311	restricted to tents			Teewinot, Grand Teton's park newspaper.
Jackson Lake Lodge	(307) 543-2855		ABMA ALL AND AND AND A		and the second
-	or (307) 543-2811	Signal Mountain	10:00 a.m.	May 6-October 11	Other Activities—Summer visitor
Signal Mtn. Lodge	(307) 543-2831	86 sites, trailer		etal-testau ana ana khates	activities include hiking, sightseeing,
Dornan's Spur Ranch	(307) 733-2522	dumping station			boating, floating the scenic Snake River,
Cabins		1 9			horseback riding, and fishing. High
Other lodging can be found in Jackson		Colter Bay	12:00 noon	May 20-Sept. 25	elevation hiking trails are usually snow-
and Dubois, Wyoming and in other areas surrounding Grand Teton.		310 sites, showers, laundry		spect congunal static astrona	covered until July. Backcountry camping
		trailer dumping station, propane			requires a free permit that can be
		······································			obtained at the Moose Visitor Center
Clinic —Grand Teton Clinic, located near Jackson Lake Lodge, is open 10:00am- 6:00pm May 26-October 15. Call (307)		Lizard Creek	2:00 p.m.	June 3-Sept. 5	year round. Boating requires a Grand
		60 sites		oune e copii e	Teton boating permit, sold at visitor
		00 0100			centers. A Wyoming fishing license is
543-2514 or after hours		Trailer villages are located at Colt	er Bay and Flagg Bang	the (see description above left)	required in Grand Teton National Park.

_Wolves return to Yellowstone

This past March, 14 gray wolves (Canis lupus) were released from three fenced enclosures in Yellowstone National Park. The releases represent one tangible outcome of a plan developed over nearly two decades under the authority of the Endangered Species Act, with input by more than 160,000 people, to restore wolves in Yellowstone.

This plan, evaluated in an environmental impact statement (EIS) in 1992-1994, and under rules published in the Federal Register in November 1994, is to restore wolves to Yellowstone and central Idaho by establishing experimental populations of gray wolves in both areas. Copies of the rules, and of a summary of the final EIS, are available at park visitor centers or by calling (307) 344-2013.

The goal for Yellowstone wolf recovery is to establish 10 packs of wolves reproducing in the area for three consecutive years by the year 2002.

The plan is to place approximately 15 wolves from Canada in three enclosures-about five wolves per one acre pen-each year for 3-5 years. Each group of wolves will be allowed to acclimate to their new surroundings in Yellowstone for several months before being released into the wild. The purpose of the acclimation period is to let them recover from the stresses of being captured and moved, and to reduce the likelihood that wolves might travel widely or try to return to their former homes.

The first group of wolves were captured and moved from Alberta in January, 1995. The removal of wolves for this restoration project will not significantly affect abundant wolf populations there. The gray wolves of western Canada are the same as those naturally recolonizing northern Montana, and that might have eventually reached Yellowstone on their own. They also feed primarily on the same prey that is abundant in Yellowstone elk and deer. Wild wolves are shy, and may become frantic if

unable to retreat. For this reason, the three acclimation sites were closed to the public when occupied by wolves. The areas were posted against entry, and park rangers were on duty 24 hours daily when wolves were in the pens.

While the wolves were temporarily penned, they were fed road-killed deer, elk, moose and bison. Security boxes, like large dog houses, were provided in the acclimation enclosures so the wolves could hide from humans or other wolves.

The reasons for winter release are numerous. Deep snow may discourage the wolves from attempting long distance dispersal. Nearly 20,000 elk, many of them vulnerable to wolf predation, are within a 30-mile radius of the wolves. Pups born in spring are large and strong enough to make a living on their own after release. And, historic denning sites are located within a few miles of the release sites. Wolves could possibly reoccupy these historic den sites.

Biologists speculate that, after release, some wolves may remain near the enclosures and establish pack territories. Some may move to other wild parts of the Greater Yellowstone area, and still others may come into conflict with livestock. Some may be killed by accidents, people, or other animals.

This spring, movements of released wolves have followed many of these predicted patterns. From March through early May, the movements of all three packs of wolves varied greatly. Some stayed relatively close to the pen sites, while others, at times, have explored 50 miles from the release points, often over rugged, mountainous terrain. Although no wolves had come into conflict with livestock in the Greater Yellowstone area, one wolf was missing and presumed dead, with foul play suspected. In late April, the mate of the missing wolf gave birth to a litter of wolf pups.

All released wolves have been and will be radio collared, and biologists will monitor their movements from the ground and from aircraft as regularly as weather permits. Information gained from these monitoring efforts will enable managers to evaluate the success of this reintroduction effort, and to modify the effort in future years, if necessary. This reintroduction will provide valuable insights about how to restore wolves and other large canids into other habitats.

Although setbacks are to be expected, most experienced wolf biologists in North America believe the restoration plan is practical, and will result in a recovered wolf population, possibly within the next decade.

The chances of visitors seeing wolves in Yellowstone are very slim. There won't be many of them here, and it is unlikely they will be very visible, especially during the first year. After wolves have had time to establish territorities and reproduce, visitors may be more likely to hear or see wolves or wolf sign. In Denali National Park, Alaska, about 15% of park visitors see wolves.

Prior to 1870, gray wolves were common in the northern Rocky Mountains, including Yellowstone. By the 1930s, government predator control programs had eliminated wolves from Yellowstone.

Restoring wolves to Yellowstone is in keeping with national park goals to perpetuate all native species and their natural interactions with their environment. As with other park wildlife programs, management emphasizes minimizing human impacts on natural animal population dynamics.

Whether visitors observe wolves or not, once again the greater Yellowstone area has a nearly complete complement of the native wildlife found here long before Yellowstone became the world's first national park.

- Fund compensates ranchers

A \$100,000 fund is available to compensate ranchers in the northern Rockies and the Southwest for all verified losses to wolves. Between 1987 when the fund was established and Sept.1994, \$16,347 was paid to 17 different ranchers.

The idea for a private wolf compensation program was suggested in 1985 by the director of the National Park Service, William Mott. The goal is to shift economic responsibility for wolf recovery away from the individual rancher and toward the millions of people who want to see wolf populations restored. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, livestock loss rates in Minnesota, where a similar program has been implemented, are only a fraction of one percent. Thus far, losses in Montana have also been low.

If necessary, this fund will be used to compensate livestock losses in the Greater Yellowstone area. The fund will be maintained for as long as the wolf is on the endangered species list in a given wolf recovery area. For further information on the wolf compensation fund, please contact the Northern Rockies Regional Office, Defenders of Wildlife, 1534 Mansfield Avenue, Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 549-0761.

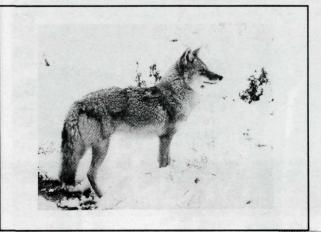


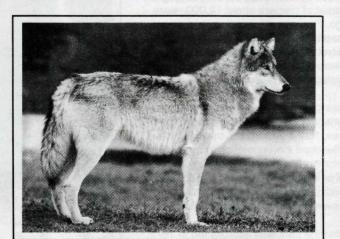
ery gray;

- Coyote or wolf?: identification facts

Chances are slim that you will see a wolf during your visit to Yellowstone. Chances that you will see a coyote are much better.

It can be difficult to distinguish between coyotes and wolves. In general, wolves are much larger than coyotes. The wolf track printed here is actual size; tracks can be even larger. The legs and muzzle of a coyote are particularly delicate in appearance; the legs of a wolf appear much longer in proportion to its body. Coyotes are rarely pure black or white in color and are often light to dark gray with rust or brown Both animals live in packs and can prey on small as well as larger animals, such as elk.





The National Park Service monitors wolf activity in Yellowstone. Wolf observation reports from park visitors play a major role in detecting wolves in the area. If you think you see a wolflike animal, take detailed notes of your observation and your location, photograph or measure tracks if possible, and report your sighting to a ranger at the nearest visitor center.

For a look at mounted wolves, visit the second floor of the Albright Visitor Center in Mammoth Hot Springs.

		And the second s	Photos-Monty Sic
SPECIES:	COYOTE (Canis latrans)		WOLF (Canis lupus)
APPEARANCE:	delicate		massive
HEIGHT:	16-20 in (0.4-0.5 m)		26-34 in (0.6-0.9 m)
LENGTH:	3.5-4.25 ft (1.1-1.3 m)		5-6 ft (1.5-6 m)
WEIGHT:	27-33 lbs (12-15 kg)		70-120 lbs (32-54 kg)
COLOR/COAT:	varies from gray to tan with rus	t;	varies from white to black to silver
	can be thick and bushy		thick and bushy
EARS:	long and pointed		rounded and relatively short
MUZZLE:	long and narrow		large, broad and blocky
LEGS:	thin and delicate		thick and long
FEET:	small-2-2.5 in (5-6 cm) wide		very large-3.5-4 in (9-10 cm) wid
	2.5-3.5 in (6-9 cm) long		4-5 in (10-13 cm) long
TAIL:	hangs straight down or out		hangs straight down or out

Yellowstone fishing now has fees, is lead-free

The 1995 fishing season opens on some park waters as early as May 27, 1995. Anglers 16 years of age and older are required to purchase a Special Use Permit to fish in the park.

Implemented in 1994, the permit system includes a \$5 seven-day permit and a \$10 season permit. Anglers 12-15 years of age are allowed to fish in the park free of charge but must obtain a non-fee permit; those 11 years and under may fish without a permit but should be supervised by an adult who knows the fishing regulations. Permits are available at ranger stations, visitor centers and Hamilton Stores throughout the park. In addition, some sporting goods stores in

surrounding communities will offer the permits for sale. Visitors wishing to obtain a permit by mail can write and request information from the Visitor Services Office, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

Recent legislation authorized the National Park Service to issue such Special Use Permits for certain park activities and to charge and recover the costs associated with those activities. All fees collected remain in the park to support the management of fisheries. The park's fisheries program includes research, education, and enforcement programs to manage aquatic systems

as an integral part of the park ecosystem, preserve and restore native species and aquatic habitats, and provide recreational fishing opportunities for the enjoyment of park visitors.

In a separate policy change, Yellowstone has implemented lead-free fishing (see box at right).

The 1995 fishing season in Yellowstone National Park opens on some waters on Saturday, May 27. However, Yellowstone Lake opens June 15. Streams flowing into and out of Yellowstone Lake and the Yellowstone River upstream from Canyon open July 15.

ellowstone National Park has implemented a lead-free 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 not allowed. Only nonlead alternatives will be allowed to accompany these types of fishing tackle. For information, contact the Chief Ranger's Office, P.O. Box 168, Yelloowstone National Park, WY 82190.

Lake trout threaten Yellowstone Lake

Non-native lake trout (Salvelinus namaycush) were discovered in Yellowstone Lake late last summer. They pose a serious threat to the native Yellowstone cutthroat trout (Oncorhynchus clarki bouvieri) population.

If lake trout succeed in spreading throughout Yellowstone Lake, they could replace the native cutthroat trout, with grave effects on the many animals that depend on cutthroat for their survival. Grizzly bears, bald eagles, white pelicans, osprey, cormorants, otters, and many other animals are all at risk.

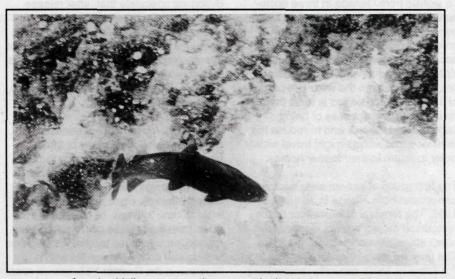
This means we want your help to remove these fish from the lake. As of August, 1994, fishing regulations were modified to require that anglers keep and kill all lake trout of any size caught in Yellowstone Lake. Regulations for native cutthroat trout have not changed. Regulations for lake trout in other park waters also have not changed.

Please help us prevent further ecological harm. Keep and kill any lake trout you catch in Yellowstone Lake. Then help us learn more about this invasion. Present any lake trout caught in Yellowstone Lake to staff at the ranger stations at Grant Village, Bridge Bay, or Lake for examination. Anglers may be asked to turn fish in for additional study, but may keep the fish if they prefer.

A panel of cutthroat trout and lake trout biologists met this winter to discuss options for maintaining a robust cutthroat population. Although it may be impossible to eliminate lake trout from Yellowstone Lake, we hope to control their numbers. A longterm management plan, which will likely include mechanical removal of lake trout using nets, is being developed. All options considered will attempt to minimize impacts on the native cutthroat trout population of Yellowstone Lake.

The National Park Service is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of person(s) responsible for introducing

lake trout into Yellowstone Lake. Please contact the office of the Chief Ranger, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 or call (307) 344-2120.



A native Yellowstone cutthroat trout in the Yellowstone River.

Fire: always a force in Yellowstone _____ What burned

Naturally caused fires have occurred in the Yellowstone area as long as there has been vegetation to burn-at least since vegetation appeared following the retreat of glaciers about 12,000 years ago. Fire, climate, erosion, and a vast assortment of lifeforms ranging from microbes to mammals have all played roles in the creation of the vegetative landscape of Yellowstone.

During several thousand years of intermittent occupation of the Yellowstone area, Native Americans may also have influenced the vegetation in many ways -for example, by setting fires (accidental or intentional), moving seeds (in plant foods), or influencing the numbers or movements of plant-eating animals.



in 1988?

How much of Yellowstone National Park burned in 1988? Unfortunately, the answer is not simple because wildland fire is not a simple phenomenon.

People tend to think of the effects of fire in extreme terms-all or nothingwhen, in fact, a wide variety of effects are observed. Fire may consume all the needles and small branches of the tree canopy over a large area, or it may creep around on the surface of the ground and cause very little change in the forest. Usually there is a combination of burn types-for example, a central area of canopy burn and a fringe area of creeping surface fire. Outside this area will be a number of isolated spots where

After the park was established in 18/2, park managers gradually improved their ability to monitor and control fires. Virtually no effective fire fighting was done until 1886, when the U.S. Cavalry was placed in charge of protecting the park. In fact, these soldiers marked the debut of federal involvement in fighting wildfires in the U.S.

In the early days, fire suppression was most effective on the park's northern grasslands, where fires were not allowed to burn freely for nearly a century. Over the rest of the park, which is largely covered by forest, reliable and consistent fire suppression had to wait until modern airborne firefighting techniques became available in the late 1940s. As we saw in 1988-a year of unusually dry and windy conditions-even now, fires sometimes start during times when they cannot be controlled until the weather changes.

A typical fire scene from the summer of 1988, Yellowstone National Park

You can obtain more information on fires in Yellowstone, as follows:

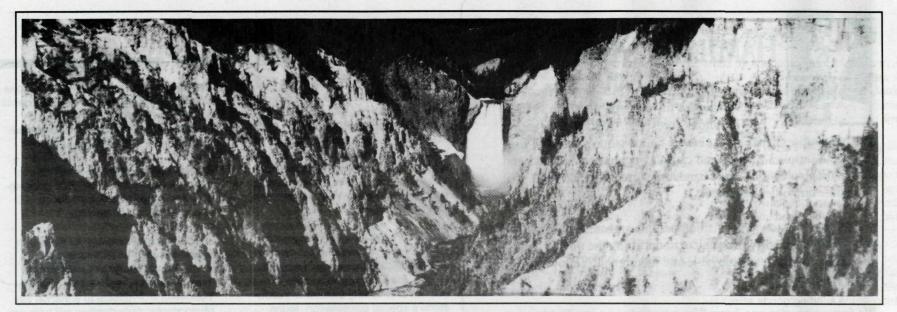
- Visit the Yellowstone and Fire exhibit on display at the Grant Visitor Center.
- · Ask a ranger at any visitor center.
- Purchase a book or videotape about the fires at any Yellowstone visitor center.
- · View roadside exhibits which explain particular aspects about fire and Yellowstone, at several sites throughout the park.

 In the park alone, more than 250 post-fire research projects continue to document both predictable and unanticipated effects of the fires. For more information on these research projects, contact the Yellowstone Center for Resources, P.O Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

canopy burn or surface burn occurred. In addition, total fire perimeter acreage rarely reflects the "mosaic" nature of the burn (that is, the pattern of burned and unburned areas).

Detailed mapping of burned areas, which began in October 1988, used aerial photography, Landsat imagery and sophisticated computer analysis of images.

Data indicate that the total area affected by fire in Yellowstone National Park was 793,880 acres. Translated into percentages, the figures show that a total of 36% of Yellowstone National Park was affected in some way by the fires of 1988. Of the various types of burn, 15% was canopy, 13% was mixed, 2% was nonforested, 2% was undifferentiated, and 4% was undelineated.



The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone has awed park visitors throughout the years.

Yellowstone Park Service Stations cares about resources, visitor service

In the early 1880s a tradition began in Yellowstone—a tradition of service. As the railroads brought visitors from across the land, facilities were built in the park to meet the needs of travelers. These facilities provided clean rooms, hot meals, needed supplies and friendly servers to answer questions and share information. Personal service and hospitality steadily made their way into the wilderness.

Today the tradition remains. The rangers at park entrances, those who interpret the park's wonders, the wranglers, the sales clerks, the food servers, the campground hosts, the service station attendants, all work to serve the needs of the visitor. All of these service providers welcome you to Yellowstone National Park, where rivers change direction across the Great Divide, where thermal steam rises to the sky, and where the tradition of friendly service in clean, natural surroundings continues. The staff at Yellowstone Park Service Stations (YPSS) promises to make the most of the chance to help you feel at home in your national park.

Future generations will honor this tradition of service if both park resources and visitor experiences are protected. Our legacy is in our attitude toward service, our commitment to stewardship of the Yellowstone resource, and our unselfishness in balancing the two.

Thanks for joining YPSS in this adventure we all know as Yellowstone!



Yellowstone Park Service Stations has been serving visitors to Yellowstone Park since 1947. YPSS offers quality petroleum products at seven service stations located throughout Yellowstone. See page 15 for dates of operation.

Tires - Batteries - Automobile Accessories available at all locations LP Gas is available at Fishing Bridge, Old Faithful and Grant Village Diesel fuel is available at Mammoth, Canyon, Fishing Bridge, Old Faithful and Grant Village Towing service is available at Old Faithful, Canyon, Fishing Bridge and Grant Village

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

Non-native plants impact ecosystem

Yellowstone National Park is home to 1,050 species of plants. These species have evolved together over the last 10,000 years into the complex and interesting plant and animal communities that we see today. The park's native plant communities, and the wildlife populations they support, represent the core of the largest, nearly intact natural ecosystem in the temperate zone of the earth.

However, the future of this natural ecosystem is uncertain. The park is now threatened by at least 164 non-native plant species that have invaded over the past hundred years. Some of the more aggressive exotic species have become permanently established and are displacing native species at an alarming rate. If this invasion is permitted to continue, the park's native plant communities, wildlife populations, and even geothermal areas could be seriously impacted. Major potential sources for the spread of non-native plant seeds include:

muddy shoes and boots;
vehicles, including ORVs, that have driven through "weedy" areas with seeds dropping off hundreds of miles from the weed source;

- dirty construction equipment;
- weed infested hay;

 and contaminated sand and gravel used in road projects.

Park staff are trained in weed identification to aid in the early detection of new "weed" patches which are then manually or chemically treated to eradicate the infestation before it spreads. Some of the non-native species of particular concern include leafy spurge, dyers woad, purple loosestrife, sulfur cinquefoil, dalmation toadflax, musk thistle, ox-eye daisy, orange hawkweed, spotted, diffuse, and russian knapweed.

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 any lodging front desk or activities desk located throughout the Park or call (307)344-7311.

To address this threat park staff are working cooperatively with adjacent county, state and federal managers to help prevent the spread of non-native plants (noxious weeds) throughout the ecosystem.

Yellowstone Today is produced by the Division of Interpretation, Yellowstone National Park, in cooperation with the Yellowstone Association and park concessioners. For more information, call (307) 344-2258. Mapping locations of these non-native plants is especially important. During your stay in Yellowstone, if you see any of these or other species you know are aggressive invaders, especially in the backcountry, please report it to a ranger at any visitor center or ranger station.



National Park Service AA/EOE

HAMILTON STORES INC. YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK Serving the traveling public since 1915, Hamilton Stores, Inc. offers a wide variety

of merchandise including exclusive Yellowstone souvenirs, film and photo supplies, fishing and camping equipment, T shirts and sweatshirts, authentic Indian handcrafts, groceries and food, hot coffee and other beverages.

We sell Yellowstone Park fishing permits and are here to service your fishing needs. We specialize in outfitting the novice. Allow us to help you have an enjoyable and memorable Yellowstone fishing experience.

We feature on-site one-hour film processing at our Fishing Bridge General Store and at the Yellowstone Nature Shop in the Mammoth area.

In addition at our Old Faithful and Canyon Village Photo Shops, we offer expanded on-site one-hour photo processing with the capability for all major print sizes including panorama.

On June 2nd of this year, the Yellowstone Nature Shop will open its doors for the first time. Devoted to the many natural facets of Yellowstone and its surrounding ecosystem, this shop will concentrate on products which showcase the uniqueness and beauty of this special place.

Phones for nearby parks and forests

Grand Teton National Park (307) 739-3600

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

USWEST COMMUNICATIONS

As provider of telephone service to Yellowstone, the world's first National Park, we wish you a safe and enjoyable visit.

Providing electricity to Yellowstone National Park since 1959. May your visit to Yellowstone be memorable. **The Montana Power Company**

EXPLORE YELLOWSTONE This Winter Season

Hamilton Stores oldest park concessioner

A nature shop fully devoted to Yellowstone National Park and its surrounding ecosystem will open its doors to the public on June 2, 1995. Located in the Mammoth Terrace area in the north portion of the park, the Nature Shop will strive to build understanding, promote knowledge, and assist and encourage each visitor to enjoy their Yellowstone visit to the fullest.

By concentrating on the many natural facets of the Yellowstone ecosystem, and specifically those which make it unique, the shop will showcase the science and beauty evident in Yellowstone's special combination, found nowhere else in the northern hemisphere.

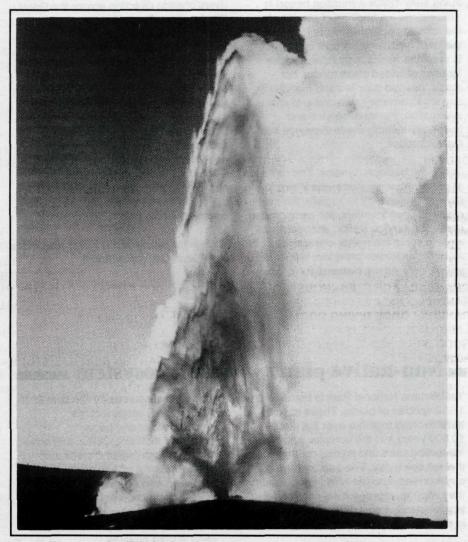
In an effort to do this, emphasis has been placed on the many forms of wildlife found in Yellowstone, especially elk, bison, bear, moose, and, of particular interest this year, wolves.

Plants and other aspects of Yellowstone will also be highlighted. A small presentation will clarify aspects of the park's geology, represented in this ecosystem as it is in few places in the world.

Children, as well as adults still able to enjoy the world with a childlike perspective, are invited to visit an educational and interactive "Kiddie Area."

In an effort to encourage all visitors to enjoy their stay as fully as possible, a small "Participatory" area will feature items helpful in preparing for a hike in Yellowstone. Products to enhance the photographic opportunities will help you capture the uniqueness of Yellowstone on film.

Hamilton Stores, Inc. extends both an invitation to visit the Nature Shop and a wish for a happy and memorable park visit.



For many, Old Faithful Geyser symbolizes the essence of Yellowstone.

TW Recreational Services, Inc. committed to hospitality excellence

TW Recreational Services, Inc. has been desk as soon as your plans are made.



As you drive through the world's first national park today, imagine it covered by a thick blanket of snow. A winter visit to Yellowstone will provide you with an unforgettable vacation where cross-country skiing and snowcoach touring are without equal. Enjoy all that Yellowstone has to offer during this season...wildlife in abundance, frozen lakes, icy waterfalls, the Old Faithful Geyser, thousands of other thermal features, and much, much more.

For more information, contact any hotel front desk or activity desk, or call (307) 344-7311.



RECREATIONAL SERVICES

Authorized Concessioner of the National Park Service AA/EOE

Yellowstone's principal concessioner since 1979. TWRS operates the Park's lodging, RV park, four campgrounds, restaurants, cafeterias, snack shops, cocktail lounges, gift shops, dinner cookouts, horse corrals, motorcoach sightseeing tours, self-guided auto tour rentals, and a full service marina. For details on the Winter in Yellowstone! operation, see the advertisement on this page.

TW Recreational Services is committed to hospitality excellence, and will do the utmost to assure that your visit to this park is a memorable experience; your comments are welcome.

Reservations for lodging, activities, and dinner at five hotel dining rooms are strongly recommended. Please inquire at any lodging front desk or activities

Park visitors are advised to carry along a jacket, sweatshirt, and/or rain gear when participating in any outdoor activity.

TWRS also operates visitor facilities at Zion, Bryce Canyon, North Rim-Grand Canyon, and Everglades National Parks; Mount Rushmore National Memorial; and Scotty's Castle at Death Valley National Monument. TWRS reinvests millions of dollars into improvements and new concession facilities at these locations as well as in Yellowstone.

Employees are one of TWRS' greatest assets. TWRS hires more than 3,700 seasonal employees in Yellowstone alone. If you would like to receive an application to join this team, please call (307)344-5324.

Directory of Commercial Services

Facilities & Services offered in Yellowstone National Park by

Hamilton Stores, Inc. * TW Recreational Services, Inc. * 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 TW Recreational Services at (307) 344-7311 or TDD (307) 344-5395.



Accommodations

OLD FAITHFUL INN - Rooms. May 5-October 22 OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE - Rooms and cabins. May 12-October 8

LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL - Rooms, cabins. May 13-October 1

OLD FAITHFUL LODGE - Cabins. May 19-September 17

MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS HOTEL - Rooms, cabins. May 19-September 24

GRANT VILLAGE - Rooms. May 26-September 24 CANYON LODGE - Rooms, cabins. June 3-Aug. 28 LAKE LODGE - Cabins. June 10-September 18 ROOSEVELT LODGE - Cabins. June 10-August 28

Restaurants, Cafeterias

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

* OLD FAITHFUL INN DINING ROOM -May 5-October 22

OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE RESTAURANT -May 12-October 8

- * LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL DINING ROOM -May 13-October 1
- MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS HOTEL DINING ROOM -May 19-September 24 OLD FAITHFUL LODGE CAFETERIA -

May 19-Sept. 16

- * GRANT VILLAGE RESTAURANT May 26-Sept. 24 GRANT VILLAGE STEAKHOUSE - May 26-Sept. 24 CANYON LODGE CAFETERIA - June 3-August 28
- CANYON LODGE DINING ROOM June 3-Sept. 10 LAKE LODGE CAFETERIA - June 10-September 18 ROOSEVELT LODGE DINING ROOM - June 10-August 28

ROOSEVELT LODGE DINNER COOKOUT -June 11-August 27

Hotel and Lodge Gift Shops

OLD FAITHFUL INN - May 5-October 22 OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE - May 12-Oct. 8 LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL - May 13-Oct. 1 FISHING BRIDGE RV PARK - May 19-Sept. 18 MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS HOTEL - May 19-September 24

OLD FAITHFUL LODGE - May 19-October 1 GRANT VILLAGE - May 26-September 24 CANYON LODGE - June 3-Sept. 10 LAKE LODGE - June 10-September 18 ROOSEVELT LODGE - June 10-August 28



MAMMOTH GENERAL STORE - Open year round OLD FAITHFUL PHOTO SHOP - April 15-October 23 CANYON PHOTO SHOP - April 21-Sept. 11; reopens Sept. 26-October 19

OLD FAITHFUL BASIN STORE - April 29-October 22 OLD FAITHFUL INN, PONY EXPRESS SNACK SHOP - May 5-October 21

GRANT VILLAGE MINI STORE - May 5-October 10 OLD FAITHFUL BAC STORE - May 6-September 14 FISHING BRIDGE GENERAL STORE - May 13-Sept. 17 MAMMOTH TERRACE GRILL - May 13-Sept. 24 LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL DELI - May 13-Sept. 30 LAKE GENERAL STORE - May 14-October 1

OLD FAITHFUL FOUR SEASONS DELI -May 19-November 5

TOWER FALL STORE - May 19-September 20 OLD FAITHFUL LODGE SNACK SHOPS -May 19-October 1

CANYON GENERAL STORE - May 20-Sept. 25 GRANT VILLAGE GENERAL STORE - May 27-September 24

BRIDGE BAY MARINA STORE - May 26-Sept. 13 ROOSEVELT STORE - June 10-August 28 CANYON LODGE SNACK BAR - June 3-August 27



MAMMOTH GENERAL STORE - Open year round OLD FAITHFUL BASIN STORE - April 29-October 22 GRANT VILLAGE MINI STORE - May 5-October 10 OLD FAITHFUL BAC STORE - May 6-September 14 **FISHING BRIDGE GENERAL STORE -May 13-Sept. 17

LAKE GENERAL STORE - May 14-October 1 TOWER FALL STORE - May 19-September 20 CANYON GENERAL STORE - May 20-Sept. 25 GRANT VILLAGE GENERAL STORE - May 27-Sept. 24 BRIDGE BAY MARINA STORE - May 26-Sept. 13 ROOSEVELT STORE - June 10-August 28 ** This location offers one hour film processing



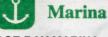
**OLD FAITHFUL PHOTO SHOP - April 15-October 23 **CANYON PHOTO SHOP - April 21-Sept. 11; reopens September 26-October 19

**YELLOWSTONE NATURE SHOP, MAMMOTH -June 2-Sept. 6

BRIDGE BAY MARINA STORE - May 26-Sept. 13 ** This location offers one hour film processing







BRIDGE BAY MARINA - Dock rental May 29-September 24; Store and tackle rental May 26-September 13; Scenicruiser excursions June 3-September 24; Boat rental, guided fishing trips June 15-September 17



MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS - Trail rides. May 20-September 23 CANYON LODGE - Trail rides. June 9-Sept. 9 ROOSEVELT LODGE - Trail rides, June 10-August 27; Stagecoach Rides, June 10-August 27; Old West Dinner Cookouts: June 11-August 27

Hedical Services

MAMMOTH CLINIC - Open Sept. 1-May 31 weekdays; June 1-August 31, daily; phone (307) 344-7965 OLD FAITHFUL CLINIC - May 5-October 22; closed Thursday and Friday prior to May 27 and after Sept. 15; phone (307) 545-7325 LAKE HOSPITAL - May 22-September 15; phone (307) 242-7241

Campgrounds

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



Backcountry Tours

PARKWIDE - Write to Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 or call the National Park Service, (307) 344-7381, for a list of certified outfitters. June-September

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.

Area Chambers of Commerce Services are available in communities near the park.

For information, contact the Chambers of Commerce in: Billings, MT Cody, WY (406) 245-4111 (307) 587-2297

(406) 245-4111

Public Showers

and Laundry

FISHING BRIDGE RV PARK - Showers and laundry. May 19-September 18 OLD FAITHFUL LODGE - Showers. May 19-Sept. 16 CANYON VILLAGE CAMPGROUND - Showers and laundry. June 9-September 5 LAKE LODGE - Laundry. June 10-September 18 GRANT VILLAGE CAMPGROUND - Showers and laundry. June 21-October 10



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. ***OLD FAITHFUL, Lower Station - April 15-November 5 ***CANYON VILLAGE - April 21-November 5 ***GRANT VILLAGE - May 1-November 5 ****GRANT VILLAGE - May 1-November 5 ****FISHING BRIDGE - May 13-September 30 OLD FAITHFUL, Upper Station - May 27-August 27 TOWER JUNCTION - June 10-August 30 ****Diesel fuel is available at these stations.

OLD FAITHFUL REPAIR SERVICE - May 27-August 27; wrecker service from Old Faithful stations April 15-September 30. FISHING BRIDGE REPAIR SERVICE - May 27-September 10; wrecker service from Fishing Bridge station May 27-September 10. CANYON REPAIR SERVICE - May 27-September 10; wrecker service from Canyon station April 21-Nov. 5. GRANT VILLAGE REPAIR SERVICE - June 3-Sept. 4; wrecker service from Grant Village station May 1-Nov. 5. FISHING BRIDGE LP GAS - May 13-Sept. 29 OLD FAITHFUL LP GAS - May 27-August 27 GRANT VILLAGE LP GAS - June 3-October 7 Bozeman, MT (406) 586-5421

Gardiner, MT (406) 848-7971

Livingston, MT (406) 222-0850

West Yellowstone, MT (406) 646-7701 Lodging only (406) 646-9488

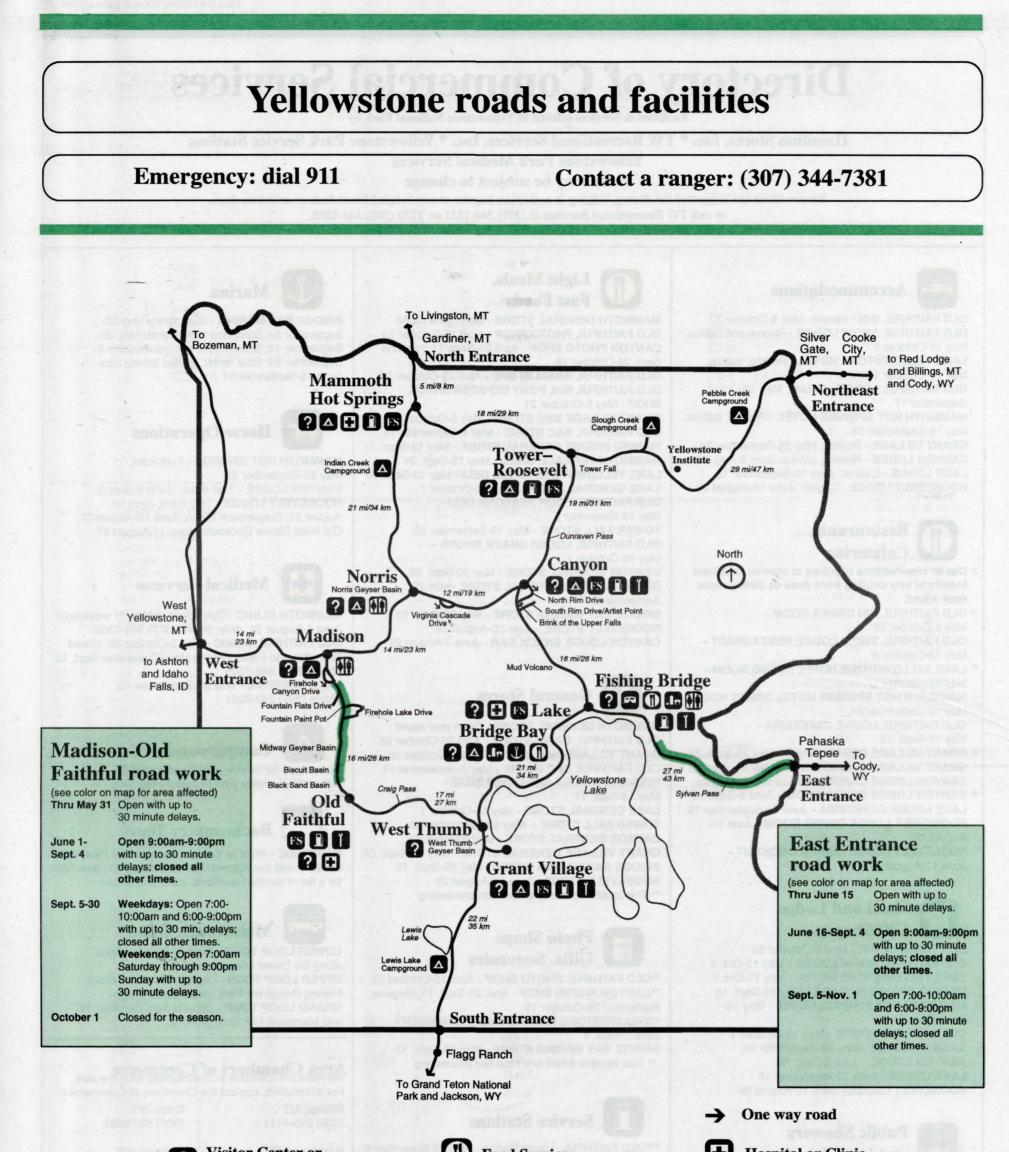
Big Sky, MT (406) 995-3000 (800) 943-4111

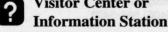
Cooke City-Silver Gate, MT (406) 838-2265 Red Lodge, MT (406) 446-1718 Jackson, WY (307) 733-3316

Dubois, WY (307) 455-2556

East Yellowstone-Wapiti Valley (307) 587-9595

Idaho Falls, ID Chamber (208) 523-1010 Eastern Idaho Visitor Info Center (800) 634-3246

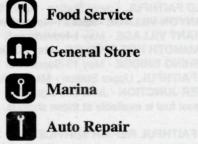




Campground

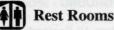


Campground— Hard-sided vehicles only



Hospital or Clinic





FS Full Services*

A listing of commercial facilities and services, with opening and closing dates for the 1995 season, is found on page 15. *Full services indicates lodging, food service, general store, rest rooms and telephone. Other telephones are located throughout the park.



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.