

# Yellowstone Today

• Summer/Autumn 1996 • 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.

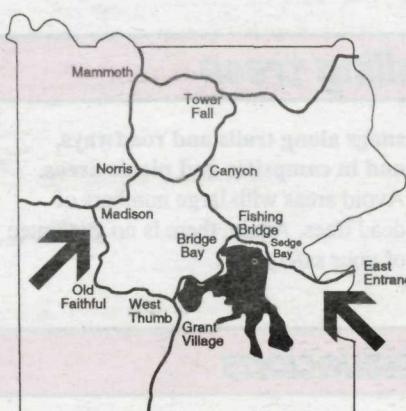
These needs are now being addressed under a 20-year, \$300 million Federal Lands Highway Program. In addition to the construction described here, road repair crews will be working in other areas of the park throughout 1996. Thank you for your patience.

For current road information, call (307) 344-7381 (long distance from some park locations).

### Madison-Old Faithful

Major construction continues this year on the Madison to Old Faithful road on the park's west side (see arrow). From road opening through May 31, this section of road will be open with up to 30 minute delays. Starting June 1, access may be more limited; see the map on the back page of this newspaper for the full 1996 construction schedule.

**Hikers and Anglers:** For information on hiking or fishing access within the construction area, ask a ranger at the Old Faithful Visitor Center.



### Emergency—dial 911

### Call a ranger—(307) 344-7381

(long distance from some park locations)

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



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### East Entrance

Road construction on the East Entrance Road (see arrow) will continue this year. From road opening through June 15, the road will be open with up to 30 minute delays. Starting June 16, access will be more limited; see the map on the back page of this newspaper for the full 1996 construction schedule.

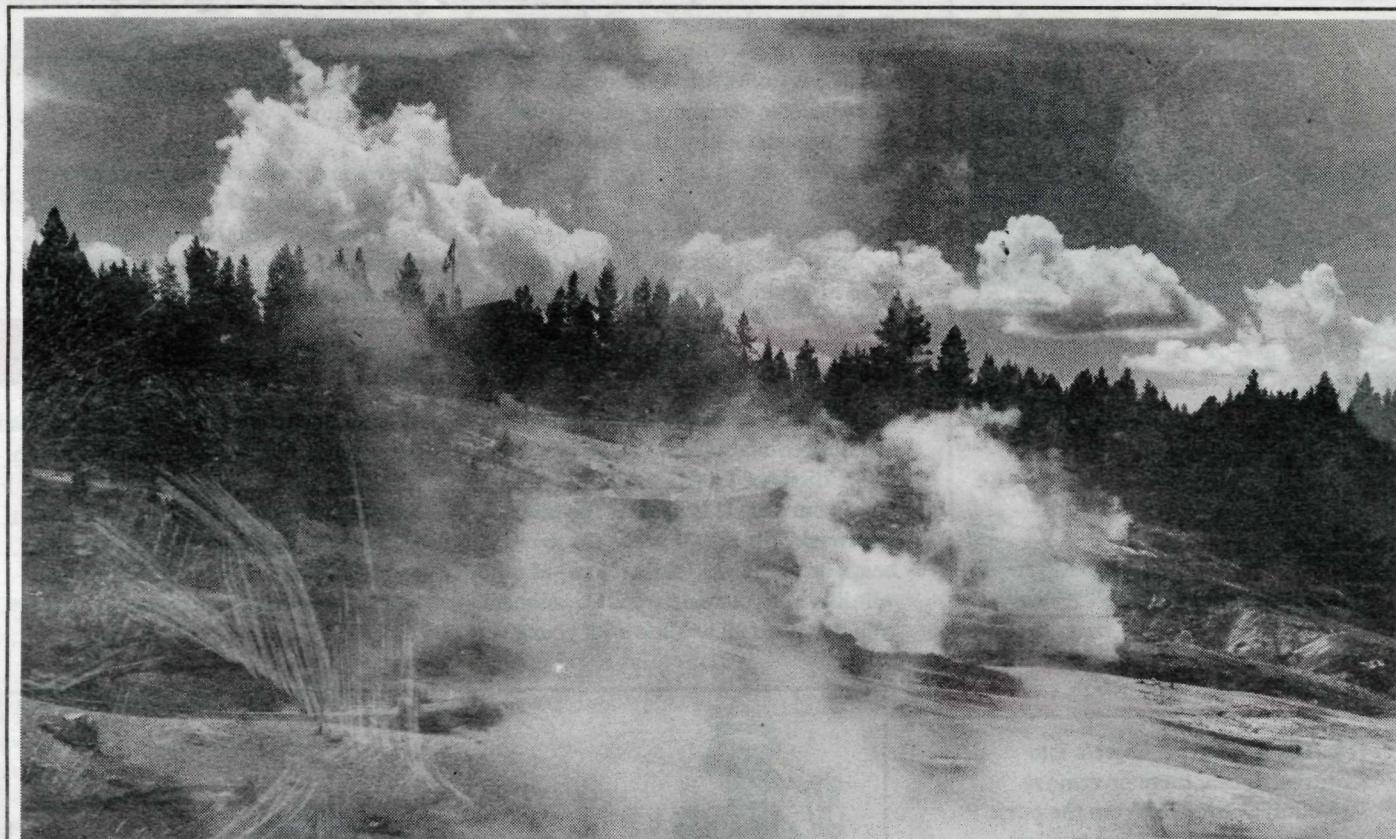
**Hikers and Anglers:** For information on hiking or fishing access in the construction area, please ask a ranger at the Lake Ranger Station or Fishing Bridge Visitor Center. **Note:** Facilities at Fishing Bridge will operate as usual (see p. 19).

### Cyclists/walkers: beware!

**Motorcyclists and bicyclists:** Yellowstone roads can be very rough, with large potholes. Ride with care!

**Pedestrians:** Be cautious when walking, especially near roadways and/or in congested areas. Walk with care!

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Although some other Norris facilities are closed (see article below), the geyser basin remains open. (NPS file photo)

## Norris facilities closed due to budget constraints

The 116-site Norris campground will not open for the 1996 summer season. The nearby Norris Geyser Basin Museum, as well as the Museum of the National Park Ranger, will also be closed for the first time in memory.

While the geyser basin itself will remain open via its parking lot and self-guiding trail system, there will be no Ranger

Naturalist conducted walks, talks, or campfire programs anywhere in the Norris area. There will be no water available and comfort stations will be limited to minimal pit toilet type facilities. The Yellowstone Association, a park partner in education, will operate its bookstore near the Norris parking lot, and there will be some ranger patrols to help ensure visitor and resource protection.

Yellowstone National Park's operating budget has remained basically flat over the past several years; yet its cost of doing business has grown significantly due to general inflation, increased utility costs, continually expanding visitor use seasons, and various other factors. The result has been that park managers entered last year's budget process with a shortfall of \$1.3 million, and this year with \$2.2 million (continued on page 3).

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Yellowstone  
Today, which  
is distributed

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

# 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.

## Beware of falling trees

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

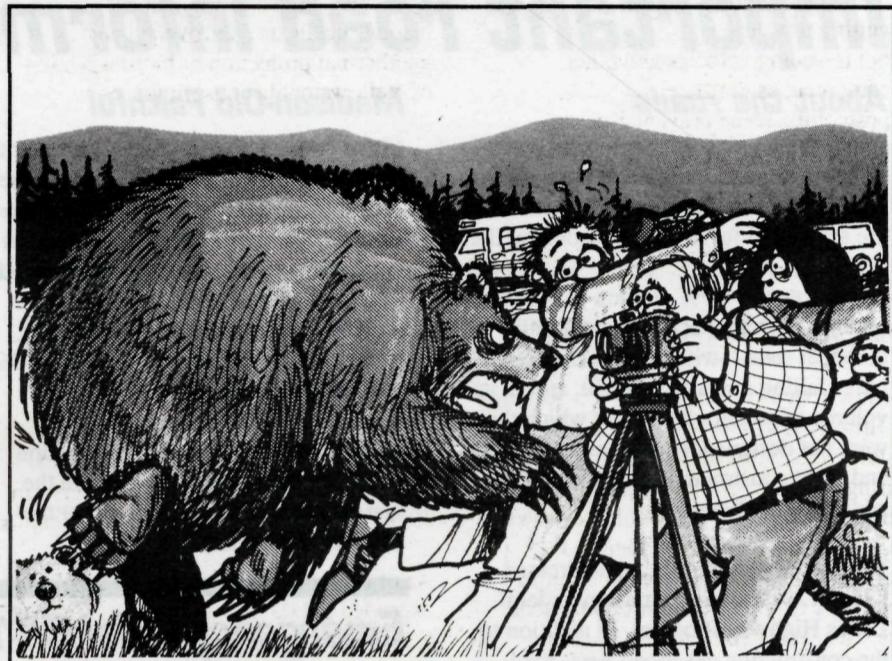
snags along trails and roadways, and in campsites and picnic areas. Avoid areas with large numbers of dead trees. Again, there is no guarantee of your safety.

## Avoid these situations

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

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

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



## Bears are dangerous

All of Yellowstone is **Bear Country**. People have been seriously injured, maimed, and killed by bears. **Do not approach bears!** Observe them at a distance (you are at greatest risk if you are closer than 100 yards (91 m)). 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 (3 m) above the ground and 4 feet (1.2 m) horizontally from a tree or post; or in a food storage box, available in selected campground sites. See page 5 for more information.

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

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

**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 (900 kg) and sprint at 30 miles per hour (48 km per hour), three times faster than you can run.



## Scalding water can ruin vacations

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 formation destroys decades or centuries of intricate natural processes.

It is illegal to throw objects into features, deface them or remove any natural features from the park. 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.

## Watch your children

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



## Budget constraints and Norris (cont'd from page 1)

To make up these deficits, the National Park Service has been taking increasingly severe actions:

- shortening the length of operating seasons;
- lapsing many permanent positions;
- increasing employee furloughs;
- hiring fewer and fewer seasonal rangers and maintenance staff, and utilizing more and more volunteers, Student Conservation Aides, and interns;
- cutting most overtime; shifting more and more salary costs to "soft" money sources (which are also drying up);
- reducing training;
- cutting travel;
- not replacing vehicles and other equipment as normal;
- postponing some preventative maintenance;
- and using other, similarly unpleasant measures.

These actions in turn are increasingly reducing the Service's ability to provide adequate visitor and resource protection, visitor services and educational opportunities, and infrastructure maintenance throughout the park.

In addition, they are negatively affecting efforts to carry out an adequate research program, to plan for the park's future, and to most effectively deal with its critical issues of today. These issues include the historic wolf reintroduction effort, the threat of the New World Mine, the lake trout crisis on Yellowstone Lake, the bison/brucellosis controversy, and geothermal protection or bioprospecting of Yellowstone's hot springs.

Even the severe measures already taken, however, did not close the growing gap between increased costs and static budget. Thus the park's management team this year was forced to consider harsher actions, including the inevitable closing of entire facilities or areas of the park.

After careful but difficult consideration of many options, and in light of numerous complicating factors (concession facilities with advertised and booked seasons, impact on surrounding communities, relative degree of impact to visitor safety or experience, etc.), park managers chose to close the Norris area of the park, including the staff and volunteer housing area. Dollar savings were netted from not operating water and sewer systems and not hiring seasonal Ranger-Naturalist staff.

Superintendent Mike Finley said when announcing the closures, "This was one of the most difficult decisions we have had to make in responding to these times of increasing demands and shrinking federal budgets. It is truly unfortunate that we have finally reached the point where the visitor experience will be negatively affected by short seasons, less service, and entire closures. However, we can no longer continue to absorb increasing costs and maintain the same levels of visitor facilities and services."

"In other words," Finley said, "we can no longer do more with less. And if the trend continues, we may have to make further cuts next season. This year Grand Canyon National Park declared itself 'insolvent.' We declared Yellowstone National Park just one step from insolvency. 1997 could push us into that position."

## Partnership for Nature

Yellowstone National Park is a celebration of life—home to thousands of trees, wildflowers, birds and mammals. But during the summer of 1988, the public perception was that fire would destroy the park's delicate balance of nature. Like many people, Grammy Award winning composer Chip Davis didn't understand fire's necessary role in nature. After a post-fire visit, he realized that Yellowstone had, indeed, survived and was still as unique and beautiful as before.

Following his visit, Davis became committed to sharing the good news about Yellowstone's natural regeneration by increasing public awareness of the natural role fire plays in sustaining a healthy ecosystem. In 1989, he combined the beauty of Yellowstone and the music of Mannheim Steamroller into a recording of original and classical music inspired by nature entitled *Yellowstone: The Music of Nature*. He shared the music and Yellowstone's recovery with the public in a successful 20-city multi-media concert tour.

As a further commitment to the park, Davis named the Yellowstone Association a full-royalty partner, which entitles Yellowstone

National Park to a percentage of sales generated from the album and concerts for the duration of the project. *Yellowstone: The Music of Nature* was certified gold in 1994, with sales in excess of 500,000 units.

As of March 1996, Davis' donation has exceeded \$500,000—the largest individual contribution in the history of Yellowstone National Park. The funds, administered by the Yellowstone Association, have been used for rehabilitation projects, including fire restoration, hazard tree removal, backcountry trail reconstruction, and educational fire exhibits. The park will continue to receive donations from the sales of *Yellowstone: The Music of Nature* well into the future.

Each year, Yellowstone National Park receives numerous inquiries from park visitors asking how they can help support the park. This project offers a unique opportunity for the public to both enjoy the music of Mannheim Steamroller and support the park at the same time. Compact discs and cassettes are available throughout the Yellowstone area and in retail stores across the country.

## The Yellowstone Foundation

The gap between today's park management needs and the means to properly protect Yellowstone is widening. It is unlikely that the federal government, alone, will be able to provide funding to address these needs, given competition from other needful programs, intractable deficits, and expectations of Spartan federal budgets.

However, national parks have always enjoyed the support of the private sector. Private citizens have long recognized the role parks play in cultivating America's pride in our natural and cultural heritage. The Yellowstone Foundation was created last year to accept and administer private donations focused on the many and diverse needs of the park.

On March 1, 1996, Yellowstone National Park received a special 124th birthday gift from Conoco, Inc.—a \$200,000 donation for the Yellowstone Foundation, a newly formed, non-profit corporation established

to provide funds for programs and projects which will further the preservation, protection, and enhancement of the park. Through Conoco's generous support, the Foundation now has the necessary funds to hire a director, establish an office, and begin fundraising efforts and outreach programs that will benefit the park.

The Foundation will bring fresh ideas and resources to bear on the needs of Yellowstone—from simple construction projects and artful trailside and museum exhibits, to scientific studies and restoration of historic structures.

Though specific projects have not yet been identified, they will recognize the fine balance between improving visitor experience and protecting park values. The Foundation will complement and enhance National Park Service activities currently limited by a paucity of financial resources, and work to enrich the human experience that is Yellowstone.

## 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 page 13).

**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.** You are invited to become a member of the Yellowstone Association.

Membership benefits include:

- A way for visitors to support educational, historic and scientific programs in Yellowstone.
- An informative newsletter and a subscription to *Yellowstone Today*, the park newspaper.
- A 15% discount on books sold by the Yellowstone Association in all visitor centers; discounts at many association bookstores in other national parks.
- Discounts on Yellowstone Institute class tuition.
- 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. To order books, maps or videos, call (307) 344-2293 or stop at any visitor center.



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).

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

Make checks payable to "The Yellowstone Association"

Charge to Visa  Mastercard  Discover  # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ PNP

# Regulations and other useful information

**ACCIDENTS** Report all accidents or injuries to a park ranger.

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

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

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

**BOATING** A permit is required for all vessels and must be obtained in person at any of the following locations: South Entrance, Lewis Lake Campground, Grant Village Visitor Center, Bridge Bay Marina and Lake Ranger Station. Non-motorized boating permits only are available at the Canyon and Mammoth Backcountry Offices, Bechler Ranger Station, and West and Northeast Entrances. The fee is \$20 (annual) or \$10 (7 day) for motorized vessels and \$10 (annual) or \$5 (7 day) for non-motorized vessels. **A Coast Guard approved "wearable" personal flotation device is now required for each person boating.** Inquire at a ranger station to validate Grand Teton National Park boat permits. All vessels are prohibited on park rivers and streams except the channel between Lewis and Shoshone Lakes, where only hand propelled vessels are permitted.

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

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

## DISTURBING PARK FEATURES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STORMS** Yellowstone's weather is unpredictable. A sunny warm day may become fiercely stormy with wind, rain, sleet and sometimes snow. Lightning storms are common; get off water or beaches and stay away from ridges, exposed places, and isolated trees.

Without adequate clothing and gear, an easy day hike or boat trip can turn into a battle for survival. Exposure to wind, rain, or cold can result in hypothermia. This rapid loss of body heat can cause death if not treated. Early warning signs include shivering, slurred speech, memory lapses, drowsiness, and exhaustion. Cold water is a special hazard to anglers and boaters.

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

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

**THEFT** Theft is a potential problem. To avoid becoming a victim:

- lock your vehicle.
- keep all valuables out of sight.
- put your name, address, or identification number on all valuable property.
- report theft or vandalism to a ranger immediately.

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

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

# Camping in Yellowstone National Park

## FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVED CAMPSITES

There are 11 campgrounds in Yellowstone National Park. Six of these campgrounds are operated by the National Park Service at Indian Creek, Lewis Lake, Mammoth, Pebble Creek, Slough Creek, and Tower Fall. Sites at these 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. Reservations for these

campgrounds may be made by calling (303) 297-2757 or by writing to TW Recreational Services, Inc., an AmFac Parks and Resorts Company, 14001 E. Iliff, Suite 600, Aurora, CO 80014.

**Fishing Bridge RV Park** is the only campground offering water, sewer, and electrical hookups, and is for hard-sided vehicles only (no tents or tent trailers); call (303) 297-2757 for reservations.

Please make your reservations early and/or plan on securing your campsite as early in the day as possible; camp-

grounds may fill by early morning, especially during peak season (early July–late August).

**CAMPING RULES** Camping or overnight vehicle parking in pullouts, parking areas, picnic grounds, or any place other than a designated campground is not permitted; there are no overflow camping facilities. However, camping is often available in neighboring communities and forests outside the park. Camping is limited to 14 days between June 15 and Labor Day, and to 30 days the rest of the year; there is no limit at Fishing Bridge RV Park. Check out time 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–8:00 am (10:00pm–7:00am at Fishing Bridge RV Park)**, which will be strictly enforced. No generators, loud audio devices or other noise disturbances will be allowed during this time. Generators are only permitted in five campgrounds and the Fishing Bridge RV Park (see table at left).

## GOLDEN AGE/ACCESS DISCOUNT

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

**GROUP CAMPING** Group camping areas are available at Madison, Grant, and Bridge Bay campgrounds from late May through 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 \$25–\$55 per night depending on the size of the group. Advance reservations are required and can be made by writing TW Recreational Services, Inc., an AmFac Parks and Resorts Company, 14001 E. Iliff, Suite 600, Aurora, CO 80014 or by phoning (303) 297-2757.

\*Reserve through AmFac Parks and Resorts; call (303) 297-2757 or TDD (307) 344-5395.

\*\*Dates subject to change; campgrounds listed as closing on 11/3 may close as early as 10/21 due to budget constraints.

Campground	No. of Sites	Approx. Dates**	Fee	Elev (ft)	Toilet	Showers/ Laundry Nearby	Generators Dump Station (8am-8pm)
Bridge Bay*	434	5/24-9/23	\$12.50	7800	Flush	X	X
Canyon*	273	6/7-9/8	12.50	8000	Flush	X	X
Grant Village*	428	6/21-10/8	12.50	7800	Flush	X	X
Madison*	281	5/1-11/3**	12.50	6800	Flush		X
Mammoth	85	All Year	10.00	6200	Flush		X
Indian Creek	75	6/7-9/16	8.00	7300	Vault		
Lewis Lake	85	6/7-11/3**	8.00	7800	Vault		
Pebble Creek	36	6/7-9/30	8.00	6900	Vault		
Slough Creek	29	5/24-11/3**	8.00	6250	Vault		
Tower Fall	32	5/17-9/30	8.00	6600	Vault		
Fishing Bridge RV*	345	5/17-9/16	23.00 plus tax	7800	Flush	X	Sewer hookups X

# Off the Beaten Track

Yellowstone National Park, with 2.2 million acres, is one of America's premier wilderness areas. Most of the park is backcountry and managed as wilderness. Over 1,100 miles (1,771 km) of trails are available for hiking. However, there are dangers inherent in wilderness—including unpredictable wildlife, changing weather conditions, remote thermal

areas, cold water lakes, turbulent streams, and rugged mountains with loose, "rotten" rock. Visiting wilderness means experiencing the land on its terms. If you choose to explore and enjoy the natural wonders of Yellowstone, there is no guarantee of your safety. Be prepared for any situation! Carefully read all backcountry guidelines and regulations.

## Backcountry rules

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

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

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

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

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

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

### PACK IT IN—PACK IT OUT

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

**FIREARMS, PETS, MOTORIZED VEHICLES** Firearms, pets, motorized equipment, and wheeled vehicles are prohibited in the backcountry.

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

## Hiking and camping in bear country

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

### A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR

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

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

### IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BEAR

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

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

### IF A BEAR APPROACHES OR CHARGES YOU

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

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

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

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

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

### BEARS & MENSTRUATING WOMEN

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

### REPORT YOUR ENCOUNTER

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

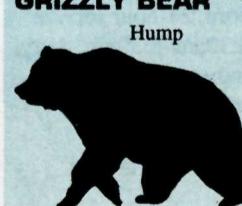
### BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS

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

### GRIZZLY OR BLACK?

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

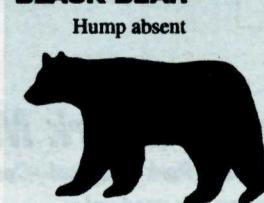
#### GRIZZLY BEAR



Hump

Rump lower than shoulders

#### BLACK BEAR



Hump absent

Rump higher than shoulders

## Yellowstone Fishing

### FISHING PERMITS

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

### FISHING SEASON

With some exceptions, Yellowstone's fishing season begins on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend and continues through the first Sunday of November (due to budget constraints, some locations may close as early as Oct. 21). Major exceptions are Yellowstone Lake, where fishing season opens June 15, and Yellowstone Lake's tributary streams, which open July 15. The Yellowstone River and its tributaries between Canyon and Yellowstone Lake open for fishing on July 15. Please refer to

park fishing regulations for additional special information.

### NON-TOXIC FISHING

Yellowstone National Park has implemented a non-toxic fishing program. Fishing tackle such as lead split-shot sinkers, weighted jigs (lead molded to a hook), and soft lead-weighted ribbon for nymph fishing are no longer allowed. Only non-toxic alternatives are allowed to accompany these types of fishing tackle. For more information, contact the Chief Ranger's Office, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

### FISHING REGULATIONS

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

on fishing for native species of wild trout in a natural setting.

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

Regulations have been simplified to a concept known as "species management." This approach is commonly used by fish and wildlife agencies in the western United States, and it more effectively achieves management goals of preserving and restoring native fishes and their habitats, managing fish as an essential part of the total park ecosystem, and providing recreational fishing opportunities for park visitors consistent with the first two goals. **Park fishing regulations are available at any ranger station, visitor center, or Hamilton Store.** For more information on lake trout in Yellowstone Lake, see page 16.

# 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 the largest national park 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 (564 km) of paved road wind through the park, crossing the Continental Divide three times. Elevations range from approximately 5,300 feet (1,608 meters) at the North Entrance to almost 12,000 feet (3,640 m) at Eagle Peak on the park's east boundary; most roads lie at 7,500–8,000 feet (2,275–2,427 m).

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

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

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

The park's major scenic attractions are located along the Grand Loop Road, the roughly figure-eight shaped road in the center of the park. The total mileage around the Loop is 142 miles (229 km). The distance around the Upper Loop is 70 miles (113 km); the Lower Loop, 96 miles (155 km). Actual driving time is difficult to estimate because the maximum speed limit is 45 mph (73 km per hour) or lower where posted, roads are narrow, winding, and full of pot holes and frost heaves, and traffic may be heavy and slow moving. While it is possible to drive the Grand Loop in a day, major attractions like Old Faithful Geyser and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone can only be seen by driving to a parking area and walking to the feature.

If you have limited time, consider spending it at just one area instead of trying to "see the park" from the road. Many people

believe that to fully appreciate just the major attractions in Yellowstone requires a minimum of three days.

## GEYSERS 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 50 mile (81 km) road between Mammoth Hot Springs and Old Faithful.

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

## GRAND CANYON

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

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

## LAKE AREA

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

Permits, required for fishing and boating, are available at Lake Ranger Station and Grant Village Visitor Center (note that

the general fishing season begins May 25; June 15 on Yellowstone Lake; July 15 on the lake's tributary streams). A museum is located at Fishing Bridge.

## WILDLIFE VIEWING

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

Early morning and evening hours are when animals tend to feed and thus are more easily seen. But remember that the numbers and variety of animals you see are largely a matter of luck and coincidence. Check at visitor centers for more information. Please use pullouts when viewing wildlife, and remember that Yellowstone's animals are wild; use binoculars or telephoto lenses for your safety and to avoid disturbing them.

## HISTORY

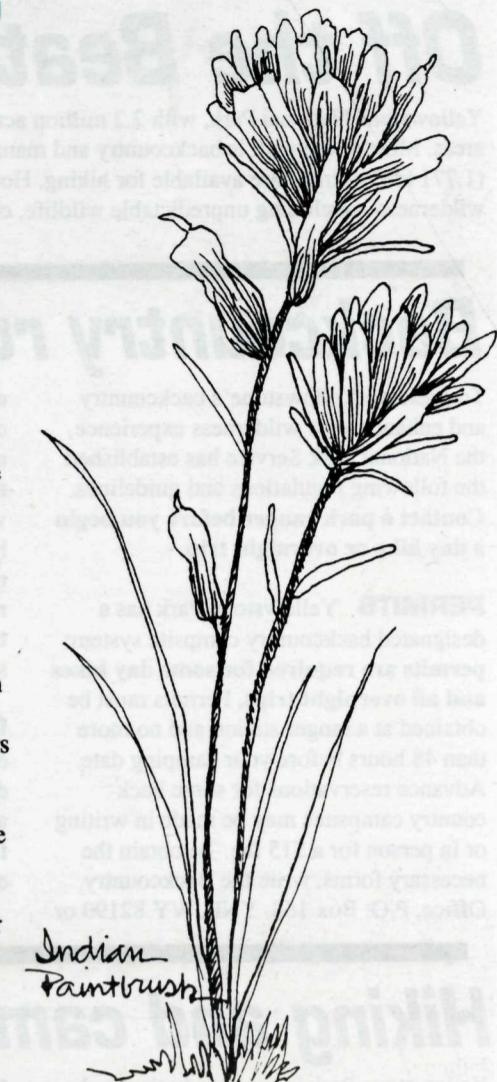
Mammoth Hot Springs is park headquarters. It is also the site of Fort Yellowstone, built during the Army era (1886 to 1918) of park administration. The former Bachelor Officers' Quarters is now the Albright Visitor Center where the story of Yellowstone's colorful history is told. The Museum of the National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

## SERVICES AND FACILITIES

See page 19 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. an AmFac Parks and Resorts company; call (303) 297-2757.

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.



## Figuring out entrance fees

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

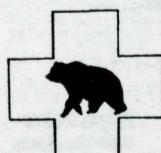
The \$25 Golden Eagle Passport, valid for one year from date of purchase, allows the permit holder and accompanying passengers in a private noncommercial vehicle to enter all federal parks and other areas which charge entrance fees. The Golden Age Passport (for those over 62) can be obtained for a one-time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

Golden Age and Access Passports admit the holder and accompanying passengers in a private, noncommercial vehicle to national parks plus provide a 50% reduction in federal camping and some other fees.

## Comprehensive Medical Care in a Wilderness Setting...

**Lake Clinic, Pharmacy & Hospital**  
Emergency Room, 24-hour service  
Clinic hours: 8:30am–8:30pm, daily,  
May 20–September 15;  
Phone (307) 242-7241.

**EMERGENCIES—DIAL 911**



## Yellowstone Park Medical Services

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

**Old Faithful Clinic**  
Hours: 8:30am–5:00pm, May 3–Oct. 20,  
closed for lunch; closed Thursday and  
Friday prior to May 25 and after Sept. 15;  
phone (307) 545-7325.

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

## Yellowstone Park Medical Services

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 mauulings. 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.

# Discover Yellowstone

Summer 1996

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



## About this Summer's Ranger-Naturalist Programs

Although Yellowstone National Park is remotely located in the northern Rocky Mountains, it is not immune to the same budget constraints and downsizing affecting the entire federal government. During these uncertain and fiscally tight times, it has become increasingly important that the National Park Service not only continue to assess the most critical visitor needs and program priorities, but also to search for new and diverse ways of preserving park resources and serving the public.

Accordingly, the Ranger-Naturalist staff continues to refine and focus its program offerings with the hopes of better enhancing your visit, even in this period of belt tightening. Our primary objectives in this year's Ranger-Naturalist program are to offer ample opportunities for each visitor to gain a greater understanding and appreciation for the "primary" resources of Yellowstone National Park, and to insure that each visitor has access to updates on the serious issues we face in the preservation of the Greater Yellowstone area.

You will find that Ranger-Naturalist guided "Walks" are being offered only at primary features throughout the park. On pages 9-11, we have compiled a listing of conducted walks generally 1-1/2 hours in duration that illuminate the unique cultural features and natural processes of Yellowstone.

An important part of this year's program schedule is the "Talk." Realizing that many visitors do not have the time or ability to participate in many of the guided walks, we have added these short (20 minute) easily accessible programs. You will find them offered frequently throughout the day in most major developed areas of the park.

"Campfire Programs" have been designed to address the seven primary educational themes of the park (see listing on page 11). These include: *Explore Yellowstone!* — a park orientation program; *Geology of Yellowstone*; *The National Park Idea*; *Wildlife of Yellowstone*; *The History of Yellowstone*; *The Aquatic World of Yellowstone*; and *The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem*.

All Ranger-Naturalists develop their own unique ways of presenting these primary themes. Therefore, a wildlife program at Fishing Bridge is likely to be different from a wildlife program at Mammoth with the same title; one might focus on grizzly bears while the other might focus on bison. Yet, either would lead you to a better understanding and appreciation for the wonderful *Wildlife of Yellowstone*.

Speaking of Ranger-Naturalists, let me take a moment to share with you how our staff is evolving with the times.

Over the past 60 years, a skilled and dedicated corps of seasonal Ranger-Naturalists in Yellowstone National Park has enhanced the visitor's park experience by conducting an assortment of guided walks, talks, and evening campfire programs. However, in recent years ever tightening budgets have challenged our ability to provide adequate staff to maintain this traditional level of educational service.

Responding to this challenge, we have seized the opportunity of alternative staffing. For the summer of 1996, we have been fortunate to recruit a diversity of highly qualified and energetic volunteers, college interns, and Student Conservation Aides

who come from across the country, with little compensation. In fact, one-third of the Ranger-Naturalist staff conducting the programs listed in this edition of *Discover Yellowstone* consists of these Ranger-Naturalist Associates and Ranger-Naturalist Assistants. Without these dedicated people and their devotion to serving Yellowstone and its visitors, fewer programs would be offered. We owe them, as well as our paid staff, a great deal of gratitude for their contribution to the program. Please join us in giving them a personal thanks when you have the opportunity.

Incidentally, you will probably notice a donation box in each of the park's visitor centers. Your generous contributions, through these donation boxes, support the cost of developing and maintaining

Yellowstone's educational services, exhibits, audiovisual programs, and self-guiding trails throughout the park. They are more important today than ever before.

We hope that you enjoy your visit to Yellowstone and that you will be able to take advantage of one, or several, of the Ranger-Naturalist programs listed here. We welcome any feedback you have concerning the type of programs offered, the program schedule, program content, and the overall effectiveness of our diverse staff. You may record any comments you have at our visitor centers.

*Tom Tankersley  
Assistant Chief Park Naturalist  
Operations*

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

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

## Junior Rangers



Yellowstone National Park has an official Junior Ranger Program open to kids between 5 and 12 years of age. The goal of the program is to introduce children to the natural wonders of Yellowstone and their role in preserving them for the future.

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

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

## Visitor Centers, Museums and Information Stations

### ALBRIGHT VISITOR CENTER, MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS

Open year round. Hours 9:00am–5:00pm through May 26; 8:00am–7:00pm May 27–Labor Day; 9:00am–5:00pm beginning September 3. Information, bookstore, 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. Phone: (307) 344-2263.

### OLD FAITHFUL VISITOR CENTER

Hours 9:00am–5:00pm through May 26; 8:00am–7:00pm May 27–Labor Day; 9:00am–5:00pm September 3–November 3 (may close as early as Oct. 21, 1996 due to budget constraints). Information, bookstore, geyser eruption predictions. Film on geothermal features shown throughout the day. Phone: (307) 545-2750.

### MUSEUM OF THE NATIONAL PARK RANGER, NORRIS

Hours 9:00am–5:00pm through May 26; 9:00am–7:00pm May 27–Labor Day; 9:00am–5:00pm Sept. 3–29. Exhibits trace the evolution of the park ranger profession; from soldier to modern specialist. Information, bookstore, exhibits on the parks themselves. National Park Service history. Phone: (307) 544-7353.

### NORRIS GEYSER BASIN

Hours 9:00am–5:00pm through May 26; 8:00am–7:00pm May 27–Labor Day; 9:00am–5:00pm Sept. 3–29. Information, exhibits on geothermal features. Phone: (307) 544-7312.

**NORRIS MUSEUMS CLOSED  
DUE TO BUDGET CONSTRAINTS**

### CANYON VISITOR CENTER

Hours 9:00am–5:00pm through May 26; 8:00am–7:00pm May 27–Labor Day; 9:00am–5:00pm Sept. 3–29. Information, bookstore. The *Imagine Yellowstone* young people's art and writing exhibit is on display. Artist-in-residence programs are also offered during the summer. Phone: (307) 242-2550.

### FISHING BRIDGE VISITOR CENTER

Hours 9:00am–5:00pm through May 26; 8:00am–7:00pm May 27–Labor Day; 9:00am–5:00pm Sept. 3–29. Information, bookstore. Exhibits on Yellowstone's birds and animals will help you identify some of the wildlife you may see in and around Yellowstone Lake. Phone: (307) 242-2450.

### GRANT VISITOR CENTER

Hours 9:00am–5:00pm through May 26; 8:00am–7:00pm May 27–Labor Day; 9:00am–5:00pm Sept. 3–29. Information, bookstore, 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. Phone: (307) 242-2650.

### MADISON INFORMATION STATION

Hours 9:00am–5:00pm through May 26; 8:00am–7:00pm May 27–Labor Day; 9:00am–5:00pm Sept. 3–29. Information, bookstore.

### WEST THUMB INFORMATION STATION

Hours 9:00am–5:00pm through May 26; 9:00am–5:30pm May 27–Labor Day; 9:00am–5:00pm Sept. 3–29. Information, bookstore.

## Self-guiding Trails

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

### MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS TERRACES

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

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

### GRAND CANYON OF THE YELLOWSTONE

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

**NORRIS GEYSER BASIN** Explore the hottest, most active thermal basin in the park. Trails start at the parking lot and lead to colorful hot springs and a number of active geysers. Despite budget-related museum closures, a Yellowstone Association bookstore remains open 9:00am–5:30pm this summer at Norris.

**FOUNTAIN PAINT POT** Located 8 miles (13 km) north of Old Faithful on the road to Madison Junction. Active, ever-changing mud pots make this area special, as does the variety of thermal activity and color. Thank you for your patience with road construction in this area.

## Other Opportunities

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

### OTHER TRAILS

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

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

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

### LESS TRAVELED ROADS

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

### CYCLING OPPORTUNITIES

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

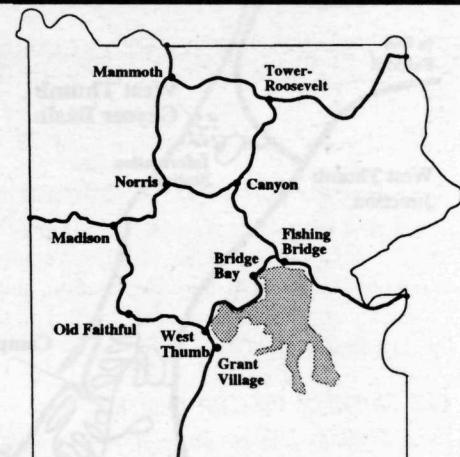


# Ranger-Naturalist Programs



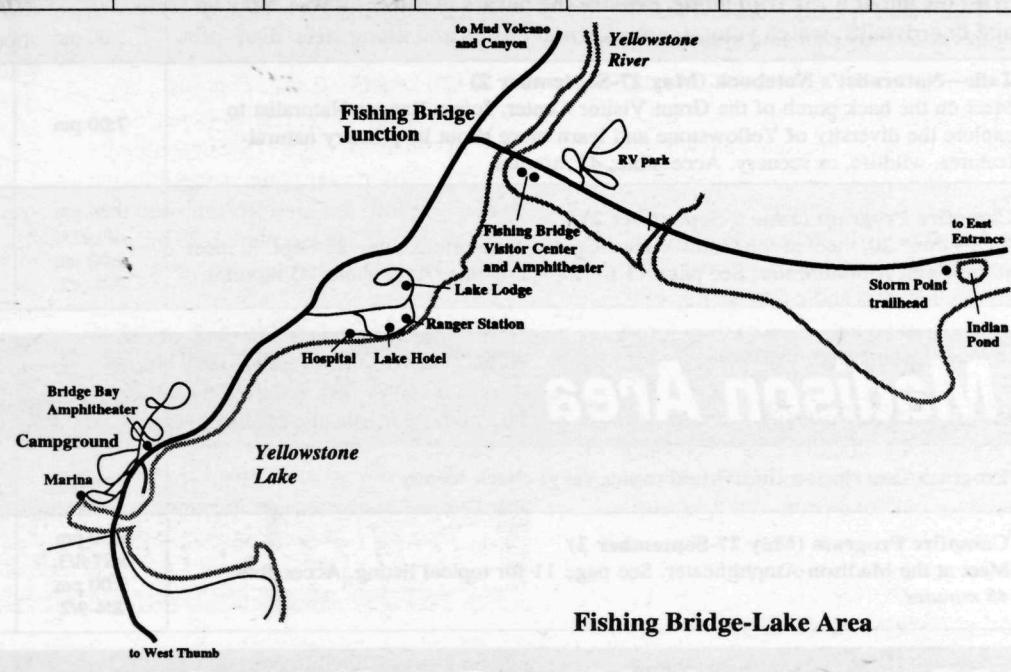
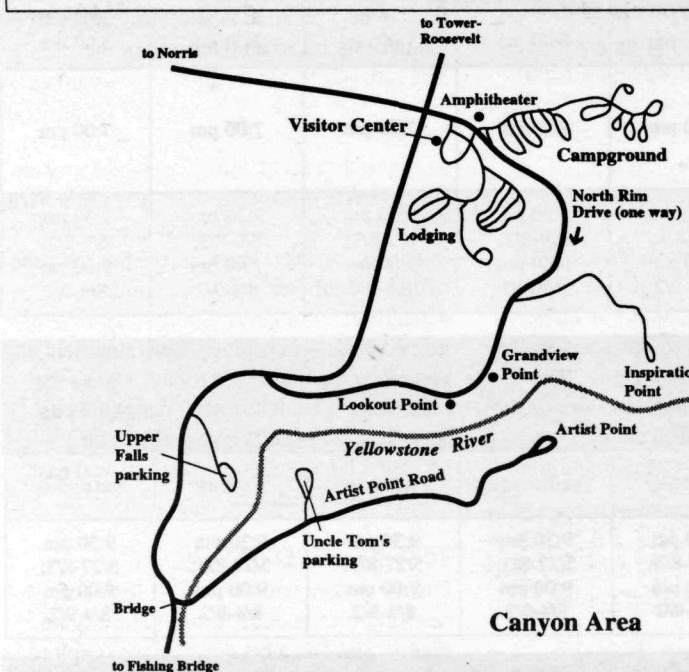
A variety of programs led by Ranger-Naturalists, offered throughout the summer in Yellowstone, are listed here. While general descriptions are included, individual programs, even within a given program type or topic, are tailored by each Ranger-Naturalist.

As well, Ranger-Naturalists rove through geyser basins, along the Canyon rim, in areas where wildlife gather, and near other selected features throughout Yellowstone. Watch for them during your travels, and feel free to ask them your questions. For more specific information, ask at any visitor center.



## Canyon Area

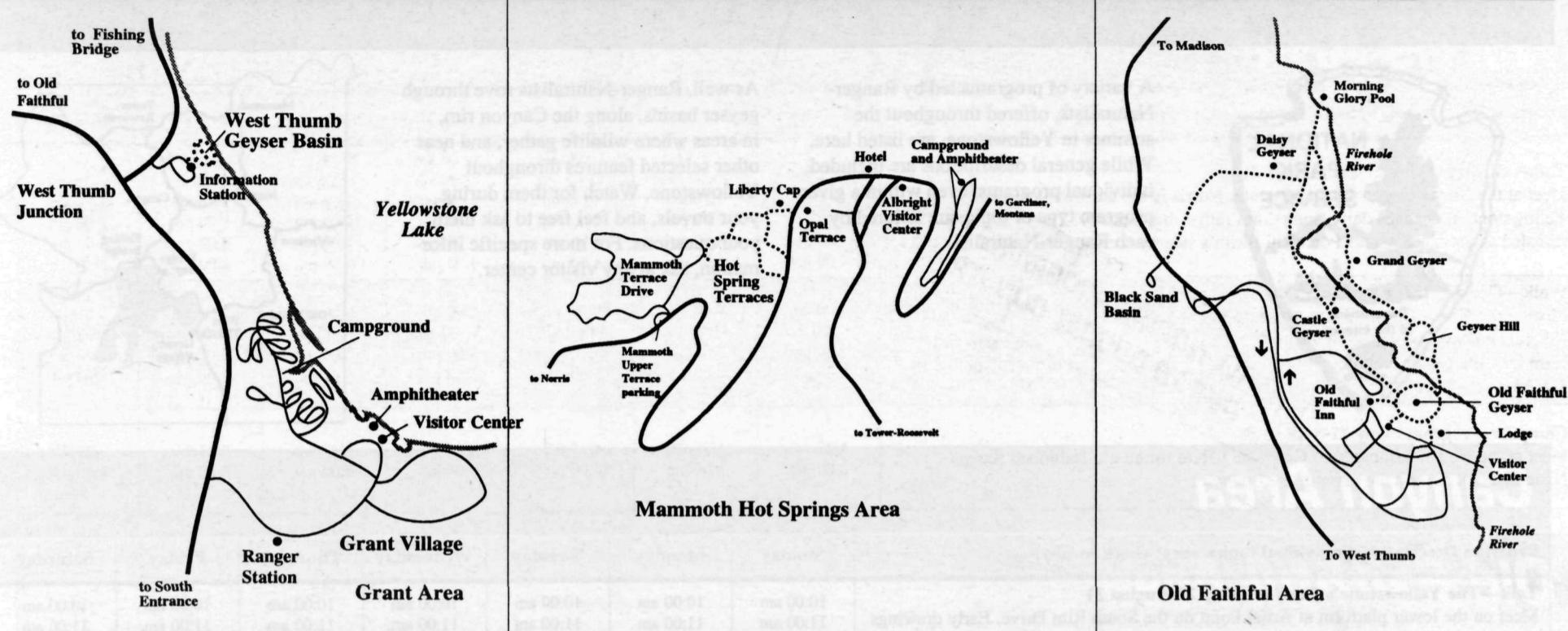
Program Description (individual topics vary; check locally)	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Talk—The Yellowstone's Canyon (May 27-August 3)</b> Meet on the lower platform at Artist Point on the South Rim Drive. Early drawings and photographs of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone helped inspire the creation and preservation of national parks. Against the backdrop of the 308-foot Lower Falls, learn more about the amazing forces that shaped this landscape. <i>20 minutes</i>	10:00 am 11:00 am 12 noon 2:00 pm 3:00 pm 4:00 pm						
<b>Walk—Walking the Canyon Rim (May 27-September 2)</b> Meet at Uncle Tom's parking area on the South Rim Drive. Ancient lava flows laid its foundation; glaciers filled it; water carved it; and thermal action added to the startling beauty of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River. Explore the vast geologic and natural history of this special place. <i>1-1/2 hours</i>	9:00 am 11:00 am 3:00 pm 5:00 pm						
<b>Campfire Program (June 7-September 2)</b> Meet at the Canyon Campground Amphitheater. See page 11 for topical listing. Accessible; <i>45 minutes</i>	9:30 pm 6/7-8/3; 9:00 pm 8/4-9/2						



## Fishing Bridge and Lake Area

Program Description (individual topics vary; check locally)	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Talk—A Cuththroat Encounter: Fisheries Management (May 27-August 18)</b> Meet on the west side of Fishing Bridge. People often wonder why no fishing is allowed from "Fishing Bridge." The answer to this question tells how Yellowstone's world class fishery was nearly destroyed by early fisheries management philosophy. The comeback of the cutthroat was one of the conservation success stories of the nation. Observe cutthroat trout from this famous bridge. <i>20 minutes</i>	11:00 am 12 noon 2:00 pm 3:00 pm 4:00pm						
<b>Walk—Mud Volcano Exploration (June 1-September 2)</b> Meet at the Mud Volcano parking area. Early explorers described the Mud Volcano area as "the greatest marvel we have yet met with." Find out what these intriguing mud pots have to tell us about Yellowstone's explosive past and future. Moderately strenuous. <i>1-1/2 hours</i>	9:00 am 3:00 pm						
<b>Walk—Yellowstone Lake Reflections (June 1-September 2)</b> Meet at Indian Pond, 3 miles east of Fishing Bridge. As one of the park's most beautiful settings, the lake offers evidence of the powerful forces that continue to shape the face of Yellowstone. Walk through meadow, forest and along lakeshore to learn more about Yellowstone Lake. <i>1-1/2 hours</i>	5:00 pm						
<b>Bridge Bay Campfire Programs (May 27-September 2)</b> —Meet at the Bridge Bay Campground Amphitheater. See page 11 for topical listing. Accessible. <i>45 minutes</i> .	9:30 pm through 8/3; 9:00 pm 8/4-9/2						
<b>Fishing Bridge Campfire Program (June 1-September 2)</b> —Meet at the Fishing Bridge Visitor Center Amphitheater. See page 11 for topical listing. <i>45 minutes</i> .							

# Ranger-Naturalist Programs



## **Grant Area**

## ***Madison Area***

# **Mammoth Hot Springs Area**

# Ranger-Naturalist Programs

## Norris Area

Program Description (individual topics vary; check locally)	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Talk—Geology (May 27-September 2)</b> Meet at the Norris Geyser Basin Museum. Norris is the most dynamic basin in Yellowstone; it changes daily, sometimes rather dramatically. The basin is constantly evolving. The scene before us is revealed as you gaze across Porcelain Basin's steamy scene. <i>1-1/2 hours</i>	10:00 am 11:00 am 12 noon 2:00 pm 3:00 pm 4:00 pm						
<b>Walk—Geology (May 27-September 2)</b> Meet at the Norris Geyser Basin Museum. Norris is the most dynamic basin in Yellowstone; it changes daily, sometimes rather dramatically. The basin is constantly evolving. The scene before us is revealed as you gaze across Porcelain Basin's steamy scene. <i>1-1/2 hours</i>	9:00 am 11:00 am 3:00 pm 5:00 pm						
<b>Campfire Program (May 27-September 2)</b> Meet at the Norris Campground Campfire Circle for an old fashioned Ranger-Naturalist talk around the campfire. <i>45 minutes</i>	5/27-9/2 8:00 pm						

**ALL NORRIS PROGRAMS CANCELLED  
DUE TO BUDGET CONSTRAINTS**

## Old Faithful Area

Program Description (individual topics vary; check locally)	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>TALK—Yellowstone's Geology (June 1-August 25)</b> Meet at the Old Faithful Visitor Center. The Old Faithful area is an outstanding place to learn about the geologic processes that have shaped the Yellowstone scene. Geysers, hot springs and evidence of volcanoes and glaciers tell us much about Yellowstone's dramatic beginnings. Accessible. <i>20 minutes</i>	10:00 am 11:00 am 12 noon 2:00 pm 3:00 pm 4:00 pm						
<b>Walk—Upper Geyser Basin (May 27-September 2)</b> Meet at Castle Geyser, 1/2 mile west of Old Faithful Geyser (15 minute walk from Old Faithful Visitor Center). Walk through the densest concentration of geysers on the planet! The geologic story of Yellowstone is revealed in its geysers, hot springs and other curiosities; explore the connections between the geologic past and the present ecosystem. <i>1-1/2 hours</i>	9:00 am 11:00 am 1:00 pm 3:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm						
<b>Evening Program (May 27-September 2)</b> Meet at the Old Faithful Visitor Center Auditorium; see below for topical listing. Accessible; <i>45 minutes</i> .	8:00 pm 5/27-9/2						

## Parkwide Campfire Program Themes

Campfire Program (individual topics vary; check locally)	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Explore Yellowstone!</b> —Large and diverse, Yellowstone can be challenging to grasp. Its diversity includes lofty mountains, gurgling mud pots, rushing rivers, human stories, mighty geysers, delicate flowers and wildlife unparalleled. Ranger-Naturalists offer recommendations on how to <i>Explore Yellowstone!</i> , safely witness its wonders, and insure the park's preservation for future generations.	Bridge Bay	Grant	Madison	Canyon	Old Faithful	Fishing Bridge	Mammoth
<b>Geology of Yellowstone</b> —Yellowstone and its scenic wonders are the product of geologic processes. In many places here, you can see geology in action. Rock forms before your eyes in geyser basins and rivers carve tremendous canyons. Discover how these processes continue to set the stage for the unique ecosystem you enjoy today.	Mammoth	Bridge Bay	Grant	Madison	Canyon	Old Faithful	Fishing Bridge
<b>The National Park Idea</b> —The creation of Yellowstone National Park in 1872 has often been characterized as "the best idea America ever had." Since Yellowstone's creation as the world's first national park, the number and diversity of parks have increasingly grown in this country and throughout the world. Explore Yellowstone's role in the evolution of the National Park Idea, its value in identifying our national character, and its global impact in the conservation and preservation of natural and cultural resources.	Fishing Bridge	Mammoth	Bridge Bay	Grant	Madison	Canyon	Old Faithful
<b>Wildlife of Yellowstone</b> —Yellowstone has been called the wildlife wonder of the continent. It protects the largest number and the greatest variety of animal species in the lower 48 states. Learn more about the habits and habitats of the wildlife of Yellowstone.	Old Faithful	Fishing Bridge	Mammoth	Bridge Bay	Grant	Madison	Canyon
<b>The History of Yellowstone</b> —For 10,000 years humans have had a diversity of relationships with Yellowstone. From the early hunter-gatherer to the present park visitor, the value of Yellowstone has evolved from a place for subsistence to one of enjoyment and enlightenment. Explore an aspect of Yellowstone's cultural history and discover its relevance to this era of park user.	Canyon	Old Faithful	Fishing Bridge	Mammoth	Bridge Bay	Grant	Madison
<b>The Aquatic World of Yellowstone</b> —Yellowstone's waters fuel its famous geysers, carve its Grand Canyon, and create the largest high elevation lake in North America. The park gives birth to some of the great American river systems, providing rich habitat for world class fisheries and other wildlife. Learn more about a specific aspect of the aquatic world of Yellowstone.	Madison	Canyon	Old Faithful	Fishing Bridge	Mammoth	Bridge Bay	Grant
<b>The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem</b> —The park is a part of something much larger, an interwoven system of political boundaries, biological processes and geological wonders. Explore the relationship of the park to the greater area and system of which it is the core.	Grant	Madison	Canyon	Old Faithful	Fishing Bridge	Mammoth	Bridge Bay

# Special Programs

## Wolf Programs

For the past two years, Yellowstone National Park has released wolves into the wild as part of a wolf restoration program (see page 15). In conjunction with this effort, and through the generous financial contributions of numerous individuals and organizations, the National Park Service

has been able to offer a special series of educational programs concerning wolf restoration.

Rick McIntyre, author of numerous articles and two books on wolves, will be with us again this summer to provide you with an

overview of the 20-year effort to restore the grey wolf to the Yellowstone region. Rick's programs cover wolf natural history as well as reflect on historical and cultural attitudes and characterizations of wolves, the contemporary controversies associated with wolf restoration, and the compromises

necessary to insure the wolf's recovery in this region. Join Rick for an understanding of the history and status of wolves in Yellowstone; days, times and locations are indicated below.

Program Description	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Talk—Wolves in the Greater Yellowstone Area (May 27-September 2)</b> Meet at the Old Faithful Visitor Center Satellite Theater. Accessible; 1 hour.	12:00 noon 6:00 pm			12:00 noon 6:00 pm	12:00 noon	4:30 pm	12:00 noon 2:30 pm
<b>Walk—Yellowstone Habitat: A Place for Wolves (May 27-September 2)</b> Meet at the Harlequin Lake trailhead, 1-1/2 miles west of Madison Campground.					6:00 pm		9:00 am

## Kodak Presents

Perhaps the most cherished souvenir of your Yellowstone experience will be the photograph you take. Yellowstone, as well as many other national parks, has enjoyed a long tradition of hosting a Kodak representative who offers a diversity

of programs designed to enhance your experience as well as the photographs you take during your visit. This year is no exception. Professional photographer and Kodak representative Mary Mather will offer, free of charge, walks and other

programs on the days and at the times listed below. With nearly 10 years of experience in Yellowstone, Mary will share her knowledge of the park's natural wonders along with her expertise in photographic technique and composition.

Join Mary to learn more about capturing your experience and the wonders of Yellowstone on film. No experience is necessary.

Program Description	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>Photo Walk (June 2-August 29)</b> Learn how to capture the beauty and mystery of Yellowstone in pictures, and pick up tips for seeing through the eyes of a camera. 2 hours	8:00-10:00 am west side of Fishing Bridge	8:00-10:00 am Indian Pond, 3 miles east of Fishing Bridge 4:00-6:00 pm West Thumb Geyser Basin		8:00-10:00 am Cascade Lake trailhead, 1.3 miles north of Canyon Junction	8:00-10:00 am Alum Creek, 4.5 miles south of Canyon Jct. 3:00-5:00 pm Uncle Tom's parking lot on Canyon South Rim
<b>Photo Talk (June 2-August 29)</b> Learn how you can adapt your picture taking technique to enjoying Yellowstone. Bring your questions and cameras. 1 hour	1:00 pm Grant Village Visitor Center		11:00 am 12:30 pm Old Faithful Visitor Center		
<b>Campfire Program—Explore Yellowstone through Pictures (June 2-Aug. 29)</b> A portrait of Yellowstone in slides and music. While touring the features of Yellowstone, you'll pick up picture tips to help you see, photograph, and appreciate the park's vast, yet simple, beauty. 45 minutes	Bridge Bay Amphitheater 9:30 pm 5/27-8/3; 9:00 pm 8/4-8/29	Grant Village Amphitheater 9:30 pm 6/21-8/3; 9:00 pm 8/4-8/29		Canyon Amphitheater 9:30 pm 6/7-8/3; 9:00 pm 8/4-8/29	

## Artist-in-Residence Program

The Canyon Visitor Center serves as Yellowstone's center for the arts as the National Parks Touring Artists Program and Yellowstone National Park offer classes, workshops and special art events throughout the summer. Beginning through advanced students of art have the opportunity to improve their skills in drawing, painting, and appreciating the wonders of Yellowstone with guidance by Artist-in-Residence Sidney Wildesmith.

All classes are offered Tuesdays through Saturdays starting in the Canyon Visitor Center Auditorium. Some classes involve short travel to work in the field. Modest fees are charged to cover materials and to help support the National Parks Touring Artists Program. Two free walks are offered (see below).

See the daily schedule below for specific programs. There is no need to pre-register,

but doing so assures you a spot; some classes are limited to 20 participants. Young artists 6 years and up are welcome to participate without their parents in a free "Young Artists Walk" each Saturday afternoon. A free "Art Walk for Adults" is offered on Saturday mornings.

Special evening programs are offered on Wednesdays and Fridays. Guest speakers, music, and art exhibits will all be featured

throughout the summer; topics will be posted at the Canyon Visitor Center.

Events are being coordinated by Sidney Wildesmith, Director of the National Parks Touring Artists Program. An exhibition of his ongoing works entitled "The Path is Beauty" are on display each day in the Canyon Visitor Center Auditorium during normal hours.

Program Description (all meet at the Canyon Visitor Center Auditorium)	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Nature Drawing Class: Basic Drawing Techniques (Fee: \$15)</b>			10am-12 noon				
<b>Nature Drawing Class: Drawing Wildflowers (Fee: \$25)</b>			1:30-4:30 pm				
<b>Nature Drawing Class: Drawing Wildlife (Fee: \$25)</b>			1:30-4:30 pm				
<b>Nature Drawing Class: Drawing Techniques (Fee: \$15)</b>				10am-12 noon			
<b>Nature Painting Class: Basic Watercolor Techniques (Fee: \$25)</b>					1:30-4:30 pm		
<b>Nature Painting Class: Working in Acrylics (Fee: \$30)</b>					1:30-4:30 pm		
<b>Walk—Art Walk for Adults (ages 15 and up; free)</b>							10am-12 noon
<b>Walk—Young Artists Walk (ages 6-14; free)</b>							1:30-3:00 pm
<b>Evening Program— Check locally for topic. Accessible; 1-1/2 hours.</b>				7:00-8:30 pm		7:00-8:30 pm	

# Other opportunities

## Area museums

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

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

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

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

And in nearby Pinedale, Wyoming, the Museum of the Mountain Man examines the life of Jim Bridger, one of the first Euro-Americans to visit Yellowstone, and tells the story of early explorers, mountain men, and fur trappers.

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

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

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

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

## Yellowstone Institute

In 1976, the Yellowstone Association (see page 3) expanded its educational role in the park by creating the Yellowstone Institute. Conceived to offer in-depth educational programs for the public, the Institute has grown from the first year's schedule of a dozen or so courses to the more than 80 courses offered in 1996. The Institute is based at the historic Buffalo Ranch in the Lamar Valley, but courses are conducted throughout the park.

Among the topics you can explore in multi-day courses are wildflowers, grizzly bear 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.

## iMAGiNE! Yellowstone

Since 1988, young artists and writers from across the country have expressed their appreciation of the park and its wild inhabitants in annual, juried iMAGiNE Yellowstone exhibits. Showing at the Canyon Visitor Center this summer, a retrospective exhibit celebrates the most outstanding of these creations.

The iMAGiNE Yellowstone Exhibit encourages lifelong appreciation of natural areas and involvement in preserving the values parks represent. A full-color catalog including many of the works is also available for purchase at visitor centers throughout the park; all proceeds from its sale will benefit arts and other educational programs in Yellowstone.

## Concessioner activities

Yellowstone concessioner TW Recreational Services, Inc., in addition to lodging, food and beverage services, offers educational activities. Activities offered are listed below with

### FULL DAY MOTORCOACH SIGHTSEEING TOURS

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

### Lower Loop Tour

Adult \$24.95; child (12-16) \$12.50 Available from:  
Old Faithful (May 20-Sept. 23)  
Grant Village (May 27-Sept. 21)  
Lake Hotel (May 20-Sept. 17)  
Fishing Bridge RV Park (May 20-Sept. 15)  
Canyon Lodge (June 2-Sept. 7)

### Upper Loop Tour

Departs from Lake Hotel and Fishing Bridge RV Park (June 4-Sept. 17)  
Adult \$22.95; child (12-16) \$11.50  
Departs from Canyon Lodge (June 4-Sept. 7)  
Adult \$17.95; child (12-16) \$9.00

### Grand Loop Tour

(May 20-Sept. 30)  
Departs from Mammoth Hot Springs—  
Adult \$24.95; child (12-16) \$12.50  
Departs from Gardiner, Montana—  
Adult \$25.95; child (12-16) \$13.00

### HORSEBACK RIDES

For a western-flavored Yellowstone experience, saddle up and join a congenial guide for a trail ride from one of our three corrals located at Mammoth Hot Springs (5/18-9/21), Roosevelt Lodge (6/8-8/25), or Canyon Village (6/14-9/7).  
1-hour ride—\$17.00  
2-hour ride—\$27.00  
Children must be at least 8 years old and 48 inches tall. Children 8-11 must be accompanied by a person(s) 16 years or older. Weight limit: 250 pounds. Only one rider per horse.

### OLD WEST COOKOUT

June 9-August 25  
Enjoy a delicious evening steak cookout dinner via horse-drawn wagon or horseback from Roosevelt Lodge. Reservations required.  
Wagon Adult \$28.00  
Child (5-11) \$16.95  
Horseback Adult \$32.00  
(one hour) Child (8-11) \$22.00  
Horseback Adult \$41.00  
(two hour) Child (8-11) \$30.00

### STAGECOACH RIDES

June 8-August 25  
Relive a wild-west experience of a stagecoach ride at Roosevelt Lodge.  
Adult \$5.90; child (2-11) \$4.90

respective dates of operation. Rates do not include applicable taxes. For reservations or more information, check at any hotel front desk or activity desk, or call (303) 297-2757.

### SELF-GUIDED CAR AUDIO TOURS

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

### BRIDGE BAY SCENIC CRUISER RIDES

June 1-September 22  
One-hour narrated cruises depart Bridge Bay Marina throughout the day for tours on the northern part of Yellowstone Lake. Enjoy views of the Absaroka Mountains, historic Lake Hotel, and Stevenson Island. A guide on board will provide interpretation for this spectacular area.  
Adult \$7.50; child (2-11) \$3.95

### BRIDGE BAY GUIDED FISHING TRIPS

Experienced guides tailor a trip which suits your interests; departs from Bridge Bay Marina.  
22 ft. Cabin Cruiser (1-6 people) \$40.00/hour  
34 ft. Cabin Cruiser (1-6 people) \$54.00/hour  
Rowboats, outboards, and dock slips are also available to rent at Bridge Bay.

### TOUR OF HISTORIC LAKE HOTEL

June 10-September 22, daily  
Duration: 45 minutes  
Meet under the porte cochere at 7:30pm (6:45pm beginning in mid-August) on the lakeside of the hotel; no charge.

### TOUR OF HISTORIC OLD FAITHFUL INN

May 20-Sept. 23, daily  
Duration: 45 minutes  
Meet at the fireplace in the Old Faithful Inn Lobby. Tours begin at 9:30am, 11:00am, 2:00pm, and 3:30pm; no charge.

### EVENING SLIDE PROGRAM, MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS HOTEL

June 3-October 4, Monday-Friday  
Duration: 1 hour  
Location: Mammoth Hotel Map Room at 8:00 p.m.; no charge.  
Tues/Thurs A History of Yellowstone Transportation  
Mon/Wed/Fri A History of Yellowstone Hotels, Lodges & Camps

# 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-naturalist 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 the park. Newspapers are available at visitor centers, information stations, and entrance stations in Grand Teton National Park.

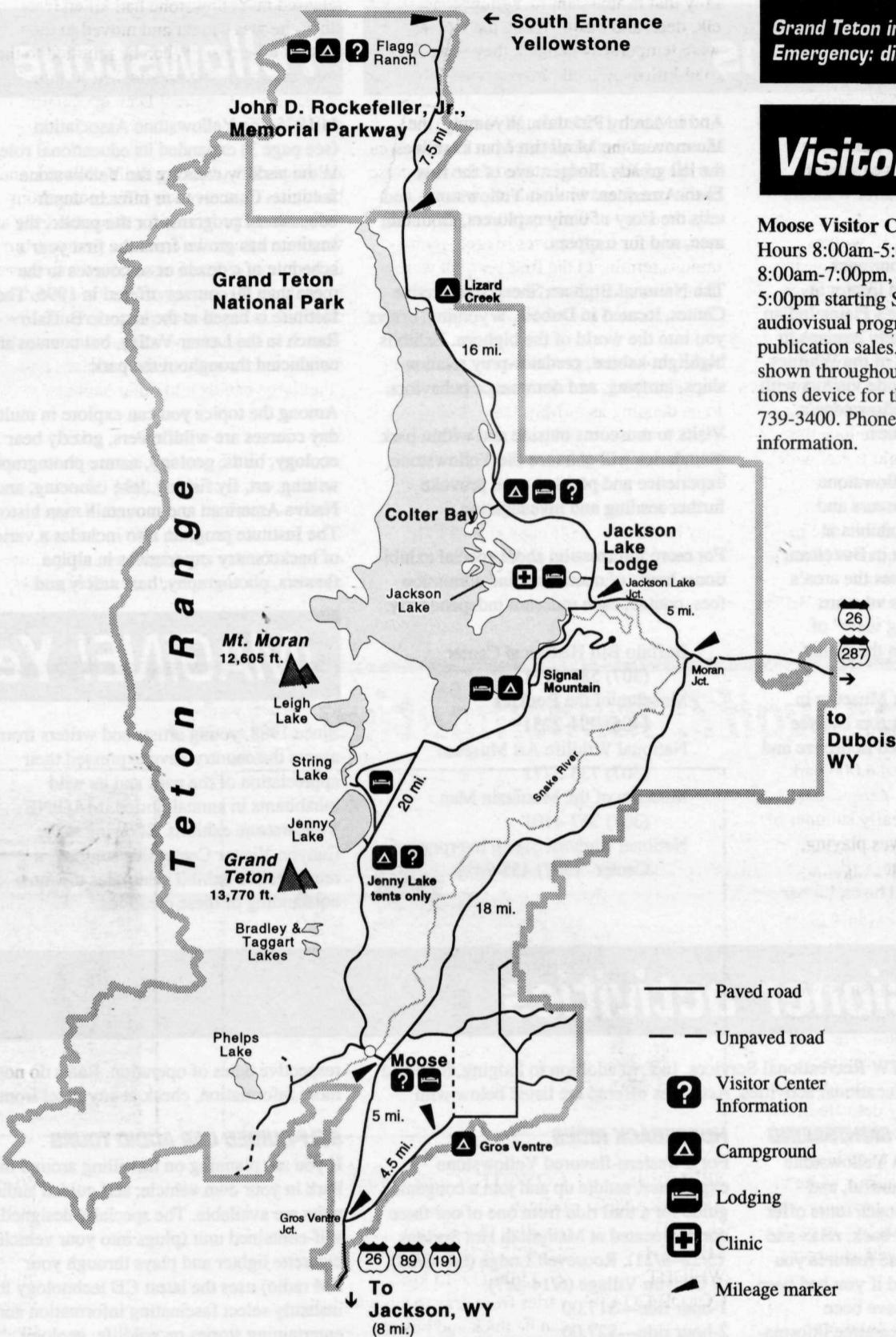
## Camping

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

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

**Trailer Villages:** Colter Bay and Flagg Ranch Trailer Villages are concessioner-operated facilities with full utility hookups, showers and laundry. Colter Bay has 112 sites; Flagg Ranch has 100 trailer sites and 75 tent sites. Advanced reservations are advisable. Call (307) 543-2861 for Flagg Ranch; call (307) 543-2811 for Colter Bay.



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

## Visitor Centers

**Moose Visitor Center**—Open year round. Hours 8:00am-5:00pm through June 1; 8:00am-7:00pm, June 2-Sept. 2; 8:00am-5:00pm starting Sept. 3. 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.

**Colter Bay Visitor Center**—Open May 11-September 29. Hours 8:00am-5:00pm May 11-19; 8:00am-7:00pm, May 20-June 1; 8:00am-8:00pm June 2-Sept. 2; 8:00am-5:00pm Sept. 3-September 29. 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 2-Sept. 2. Hours 8:00am-7:00pm. Information, exhibits.

**Flagg Ranch Information Station**—Open June 2-Sept. 2. Hours 9:00am-6:00pm.

## Lodging & Clinic

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

Jenny Lake Lodge (307) 733-4647  
Colter Bay Cabins (307) 543-2855  
or (307) 543-2811  
Flagg Ranch Village (307) 543-2861  
or (800) 443-2311  
Jackson Lake Lodge (307) 543-2855  
or (307) 543-2811  
Signal Mtn. Lodge (307) 543-2831  
Dornan's Spur Ranch (307) 733-2522  
Cabins

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

**Clinic**—Grand Teton Clinic, located near Jackson Lake Lodge, is open 10:00am-6:00pm May 15-October 13. Call (307) 543-2514 or after hours (307) 733-8002.

## Grand Teton Campgrounds Summary

Campground and features	Approximate Filling Time	Approximate 1996 Season*
<b>Gros Ventre</b> 360 sites trailer dumping station	Evening or may not fill	May 1-October 4*
<b>Jenny Lake</b> 49 sites restricted to tents	8:00 a.m.	May 17-Sept. 23*
<b>Signal Mountain</b> 86 sites, trailer dumping station	10:00 a.m.	May 8-October 13*
<b>Colter Bay</b> 310 sites, showers, laundry trailer dumping station, propane	12:00 noon	May 17-Sept. 23*
<b>Lizard Creek</b> 60 sites	2:00 p.m.	June 8-Sept. 8

\*Campground opening delayed in 1996 due to unusual snow conditions.

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

## Activities

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

**Other Activities**—Hiking, sightseeing, boating, floating the scenic Snake River, horseback riding, and fishing are available. High elevation hiking trails are usually snow-covered until July. Backcountry camping requires a free permit that can be obtained at the Moose Visitor Center year round and at Colter Bay Visitor Center and Jenny Lake Ranger Station in summer. Boating requires a Grand Teton boating permit, sold at visitor centers. A Wyoming fishing license is required in Grand Teton National Park.

# Wolves return to Yellowstone

In March 1995, 14 gray wolves (*Canis lupus*) were released from three fenced enclosures in Yellowstone National Park. In April 1996, 17 more were released. These 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.

Wolves are being restored to Yellowstone and central Idaho by establishing experimental populations of gray wolves in both areas. The goal for Yellowstone wolf recovery is to establish 10 packs of wolves reproducing in the Greater Yellowstone area for three consecutive years by the year 2002.

The plan is to place about 15 wolves from Canada in Yellowstone each year for several years. Each group of wolves is allowed to acclimate to their new surroundings in Yellowstone before being released into the wild. The purpose of an 8–10 week 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.

Wolves translocated to Yellowstone in January 1995 were captured near Hinton, Alberta. In January 1996, wolves were captured and moved from northeast British

Columbia to supplement the genetic diversity of the new population of wolves in Yellowstone, and to enhance the probability of reaching recovery goals.

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, deer, and bison. While the wolves were temporarily penned, they were fed road-killed deer, elk, moose and bison.

From March 1995 through March 1996, the movements of all three packs of wolves varied greatly. Some stayed relatively close to the pen sites, while others, at times, explored up to 50 miles (80 km) from the release points, often over rugged, mountainous terrain. In the first year, all were using areas within and surrounding Yellowstone National Park.

Nine pups were born in two litters to wolf packs in 1995. At least five pairs appeared to be denning as of May 1996. In January 1996, a two-year old male from the Crystal Bench pen joined a lone two-year old female from the Rose Creek pen. If they succeed in rearing pups in 1996, theirs may be the first wolf pups known to be conceived in the wild in Yellowstone in more than 70 years.

As of mid-May 1996, six wolves had died. One wolf died in a collision with a truck. Four others were shot. A man who shot one wolf outside the park was prosecuted under the Endangered Species Act; two other shootings are under investigation. One wolf died of burns apparently resulting from her fall into a thermal pool.

Also as of mid-May 1996, only wolf released in Yellowstone had killed livestock; he was caught and moved to the center of the park. When he returned to the same ranch, and again attacked livestock, he was shot by Animal Damage Control staff.

All released wolves are radio collared, and biologists monitor their movements from the ground and from aircraft as regularly as weather permits. Information gained from these monitoring efforts enabled managers to evaluate the success of the first reintroduction, and to modify procedures in 1996. These reintroductions will provide valuable insights into ways to restore wolves and other large canids into other habitats.

In the fall of 1995–96, one new acclimation pen was built, using surplus materials from the pens constructed in 1994–95. Another was disassembled and moved. Wolves were released in April 1996 near large groups of wintering ungulates in the Firehole River Valley, south central regions

of the park, and along the park's northern range. By mid-May 1996, 34 wolves ran free in and near Yellowstone National Park.

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.

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 in 1872.



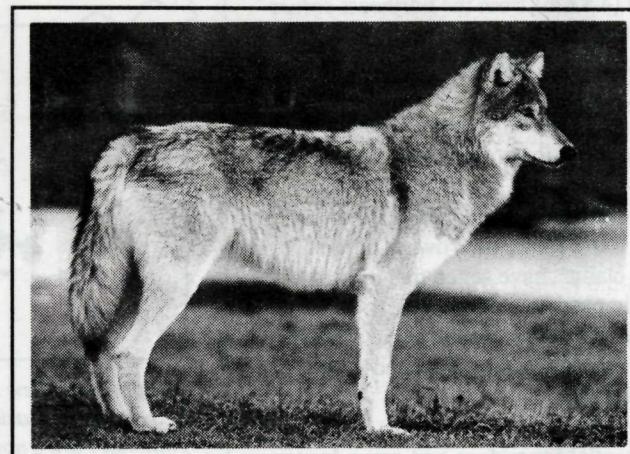
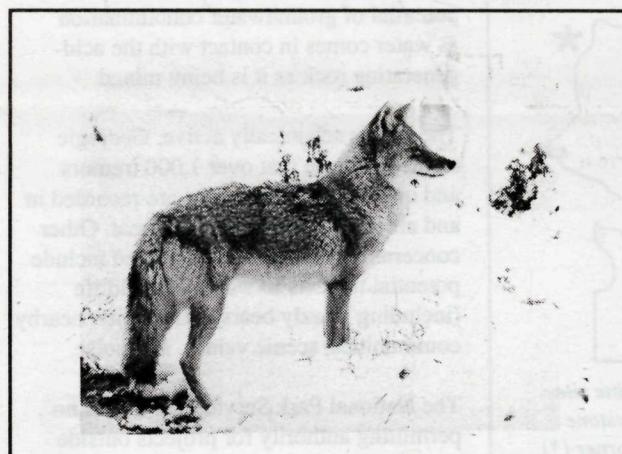
## Coyote or wolf?: identification facts

Unexpectedly, an estimated 4,000 park visitors viewed wolves in Yellowstone's Lamar Valley during the early summer of 1995. They observed wolves playing, resting, killing elk, and interacting with grizzly bears, coyotes, and bison. Lamar Valley may again be a good place to see wolves this spring.

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 wolf-like 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.



Photos—Monty Sloan, Wolf Park

SPECIES:	COYOTE ( <i>Canis latrans</i> ) . . . . .	WOLF ( <i>Canis lupus</i> ) . . . . .
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 rust; can be thick and bushy . . . . .	varies from white to black to silvery gray; 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 2.5-3.5 in (6-9 cm) long . . . . .	very large—3.5-4 in (9-10 cm) wide 4-5 in (10-13 cm) long
TAIL:	hangs straight down or out . . . . .	hangs straight down or out

### Your opinion counts

Yellowstone is no stranger to complex, important, and often controversial issues. If you have comments on issues which affect the park and/or the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, please send them to Superintendent Mike Finley, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

## Bison in the Yellowstone ecosystem

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 1995, the Yellowstone bison population had increased to about 4,000 animals and in 1996 they number between 3,000 and 3,500. The Yellowstone herd is the largest free-ranging (unfenced) bison herd in the world.

Maintaining a wild, inherently nomadic bison herd can present problems. Bison do not recognize boundaries and sometimes move to adjacent public and private land, especially during the winter. Increased numbers of bison, weather conditions, and human activities all affect distribution of animals; attempts to manipulate bison movements by hazing or herding have met with very limited success.

Unfortunately, early in this century, bison were exposed to brucellosis, probably from

domestic livestock. It was first detected in 1917. Representatives of the livestock industry have concerns about the possibility of brucellosis transmission from bison to cattle. While no documented case exists of wild, free-ranging bison from Yellowstone transmitting brucellosis to domestic cattle, the small risk of transmission is of concern.

In November 1995, the National Park Service (NPS), Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the State of Montana reached agreement on proposed Interim Bison Management Procedures and a schedule for completing a longterm bison management plan and environmental impact statement (EIS) for bison that move between Yellowstone National Park and Montana.

The agreement settles a lawsuit filed by Montana against the NPS and APHIS in January 1995. The suit was based on concerns about brucellosis transmission to cattle and the possible revocation of Montana's brucellosis-free status. In the settlement agreement, APHIS has agreed that it will not change Montana's brucellosis-free status based on the presence of brucellosis-exposed bison migrating from Yellowstone to Montana as long as the proposed procedures outlined in the agreement are implemented.

The agreement calls for the NPS and the state of Montana to work cooperatively and expeditiously with the USDA Forest Service toward completing a longterm Bison Management Plan and EIS. As part of the settlement agreement, Montana and the NPS plan to issue a draft EIS for public review and comment by November 1996 and a final EIS by May 1997. In the settlement agreement, the court would maintain jurisdiction over the changes in the interim operating procedures and completion of the longterm bison management plan and EIS.

The proposed procedures would modify an Interim Bison Management Plan in use since 1992 where bison that left the park were shot by agency personnel and most carcasses were made available to Native American tribes. On December 20, 1995, the NPS and Montana released for public review and comment an environmental assessment on the proposed procedures, which call for the NPS, Montana Department of Livestock, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and APHIS to work together to:

- Closely monitor bison activity from December 1–March 1 and throughout the year as necessary.
- Haze bison found in some areas outside the park back inside park boundaries, when feasible.

• Operate portable capture facilities inside YNP in the Stephens Creek area near Gardiner, Montana, during the winter when bison move to the area, to prevent the animals from entering onto private land adjoining the park where cattle are present. All bison captured in the Stephens Creek area will be transported to certified slaughter facilities.

• Operate portable capture facilities in the vicinity of West Yellowstone during the winter to capture and test bison that may migrate onto or near private land, or public land where livestock would be grazed. All bison testing positive for exposure to brucellosis and all pregnant female bison (testing positive or negative for exposure to brucellosis) would be sent to certified slaughter facilities. All other bison would be released and allowed to occupy public lands adjacent to the park during designated times of the year. Released animals will be marked and monitored.

• Allow bison to remain on specific public lands having no livestock use, such as the Eagle Creek/Bear Creek area.

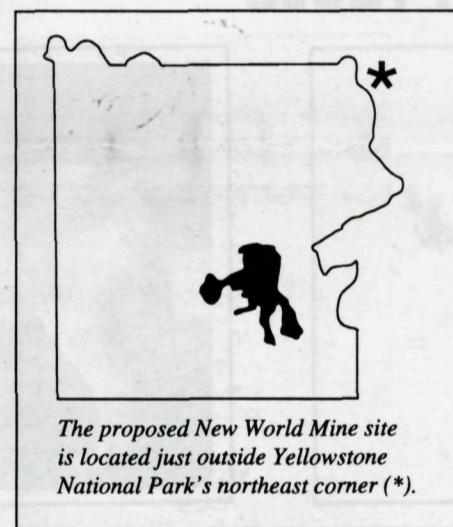
For more information, contact the Superintendent's Office, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

## Controversial mine proposed near park

A proposal to locate a gold mine less than 3 miles (4.8 km) from the northeast corner of Yellowstone National Park is attracting national and international attention.

The New World Mine would operate year-round at elevations of 8,000 to 10,000 feet (2,427–3,033 m) in the mountains above Cooke City, Montana. Officials with Crown Butte Mine, Inc., owner of the mining claims, have stated that they expect impacts to Yellowstone to be minimal. However, Yellowstone officials and citizens and groups opposed to the mine disagree.

The potential for surface and groundwater contamination is a major concern. The mine would be situated at the headwaters of three drainages: the Clark's Fork of the Yellowstone River (Wyoming's only Wild and Scenic River), the Stillwater River (which flows into the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness), and Miller Creek, a tributary of Soda Butte Creek (which flows into Yellowstone National Park).



The proposed New World Mine site is located just outside Yellowstone National Park's northeast corner (\*).

Where and under what conditions the potentially toxic mine tailings are deposited and stored could affect the water quality of one or more of these drainages. These toxic mine tailings would have to be maintained in a neutral state forever. There

are also unanswered questions about the potential of groundwater contamination as water comes in contact with the acid-generating rock as it is being mined.

The area is seismically active. Geologic studies indicate that over 1,000 tremors and quakes of various sizes are recorded in and around Yellowstone each year. Other concerns that have been expressed include potential impacts to wetlands, wildlife (including grizzly bears), air quality, nearby communities, scenic values, and noise.

The National Park Service (NPS) has no permitting authority for projects outside park boundaries. It is, however, working with the agencies (U.S. Forest Service and the Montana Department of State Lands) preparing the environmental impact statement (EIS) for the project in an effort to ensure that any impacts to the park are fully addressed. The NPS has requested that an alternative that would dispose of the mine tailings outside the greater Yellow-

stone ecosystem be examined, and that geologic studies detailing subsurface faulting and aquifer location be completed and analyzed in the EIS.

Superintendent Mike Finley has stated, "There are many unanswered questions and no guarantees associated with the New World Mine proposal. We don't know yet whether this project can withstand the test of time."

The draft EIS is scheduled for release to the public for comment as early as summer 1996. If you are interested in this issue and would like more information, contact the Superintendent's Office, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190. To be placed on the mailing list for the draft EIS or to comment on the proposal, please contact the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 201601, Helena, MT 59620 or Gallatin National Forest, P.O. Box 130, Bozeman, MT 59771.

## Wanted: Lake (Macinaw) trout

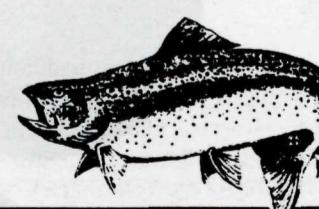
Non-native lake trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*) were discovered in Yellowstone Lake in 1994. They pose a serious threat to the native Yellowstone cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii bouvieri*) population. Lake trout, a large, predatory fish, could replace the park's native cutthroat trout, with grave 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.

The National Park Service wants 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 and Heart lakes. Regulations for native cutthroat trout have not changed.

Please help prevent further ecological harm. Keep and kill any lake trout you catch in Yellowstone and Heart lakes. Then 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.

Although it may be impossible to eliminate lake trout from Yellowstone Lake, a longterm management plan, which will likely include mechanical removal of lake trout using nets, is being developed to control their numbers. 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.



### Recycle... Recycle... Recycle

Deposit your aluminum and glass in specially marked grey cans located in campgrounds. Return cans with codes to Hamilton Stores for 5 cent deposits. Use the recycling bins in food service areas. Do your part to help reduce Yellowstone's waste. Make recycling a habit... here and at home!

## Accessibility guide available for visitors

A free *Guide to Accessibility for the Handicapped 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.

# Are grizzlies nearing recovery?

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

In 1994, the Yellowstone ecosystem grizzly bear population met all three population recovery parameters for the first time. However, in 1995, both the total mortality and the adult female mortality limits were exceeded, postponing potential delisting in the immediate future. The three recovery goals outlined in the plan 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.

## 2. Distribution of females with cubs

To have 16 of 18 recovery zone Bear 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 is removed from the threatened species list. The conservation strategy will also contain population triggers that will initiate relisting if the grizzly bear population falls below certain threshold levels.

Once the three population parameters are achieved and 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.



## 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 earth's temperate zone.

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.

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. 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, dalmatian toadflax, musk thistle, ox-eye daisy, orange hawkweed, spotted, diffuse, and russian knapweed.

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.

## Phones for other nearby parks and forests

Grand Teton National Park (see page 14)  
(307) 739-3600

Glacier National Park (406) 888-5441

Shoshone National Forest (307) 527-6241

Gallatin National Forest (406) 587-6701

Bridger-Teton National Forest  
(307) 739-5500

Targhee National Forest (208) 624-3151

## 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 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 (303) 297-2757.



Authorized Concessioner of the  
National Park Service AA/EOE

## YPSS YELLOWSTONE PARK SERVICE STATIONS



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 19 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



## HAMILTON STORES INC.

EST. 1915  
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. In addition, at our Old Faithful Photo  
Shop and Yellowstone Nature Shop at Canyon, we offer expanded  
on-site one-hour photo processing with the capability for all  
major print sizes including panorama.*

We extend a special invitation to visit the two *Yellowstone Nature  
Shops*, located in the Mammoth Terrace area in the north portion  
of the park and in the centrally-located Canyon area. Fully devoted  
to the many natural facets of Yellowstone National Park and its  
surrounding ecosystem, these Nature Shops will concentrate  
on the many aspects that make Yellowstone unique.

### USWEST<sup>®</sup> 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**

### CELLULARONE<sup>®</sup>

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

### EXPLORE YELLOWSTONE This Winter Season



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.



Authorized Concessioner of the  
National Park Service AA/EOE

### Hamilton Stores—oldest park concessioner

A new nature shop, devoted to Yellowstone National Park and its surrounding ecosystem, proudly opened its doors to the public on April 26th of this year. Located in the Canyon area of the park, it joins the first and original Yellowstone Nature Shop, located at the Mammoth Terrace area in the northern portion of the park, which opened just last year. In concentrating on the many natural and unique facets of the Yellowstone ecosystem, the Nature Shops strive to build understanding, promote knowledge, and encourage each visitor to enjoy their time in Yellowstone to the fullest.

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

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

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

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



### TW Recreational Services, Inc.— committed to hospitality excellence

TW Recreational Services, Inc. has been 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 at left.

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 desk

as soon as your plans are made. 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; this autumn, the park may close as early as October 21 due to budget constraints.

Reservations are suggested. For dining, inquire at any lodging front desk or dining room host stand, or call (307) 344-7901.

For lodging or activities, call TW Recreational Services, an AmFac Parks and Resorts Company, at (303) 297-2757 or TDD (307) 344-5395.



## Accommodations

**Old Faithful Inn** - Rooms. May 3-October 20  
**Old Faithful Snow Lodge** - Rooms and cabins. May 10-October 6  
**Lake Yellowstone Hotel** - Rooms and cabins. May 11-September 29  
**Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel** - Rooms and cabins. May 17-October 6  
**Old Faithful Lodge** - Cabins. May 17-Sept. 15  
**Grant Village** - Rooms. May 24-September 22  
**Canyon Lodge** - Rooms and cabins. June 1-Sept. 8  
**Roosevelt Lodge** - Cabins. June 8-August 26  
**Lake Lodge** - Cabins. June 10-September 16



## Restaurants, Cafeterias

\* Dinner reservations required. Inquire at lodging front desks, dining room host stands, or call (307) 344-7901.  
\* **Old Faithful Inn Dining Room** - May 3-October 20  
**Old Faithful Snow Lodge Restaurant** - May 10-October 6  
\* **Lake Yellowstone Hotel Dining Room** - May 11-September 29  
\* **Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel Dining Room** - May 17-October 6  
**Old Faithful Lodge Cafeteria** - May 17-Sept. 29  
\* **Grant Village Restaurant** - May 24-Sept. 22  
**Grant Village Steakhouse** - May 24-Sept. 22  
\* **Canyon Lodge Dining Room** - June 1-Sept. 8  
**Canyon Lodge Cafeteria** - June 1-August 26  
**Roosevelt Lodge Dining Room** - June 8-August 26  
**Roosevelt Lodge Dinner Cookout** - June 9-August 25  
**Lake Lodge Cafeteria** - June 10-September 16



## Hotel & Lodge Gift Shops

**Old Faithful Inn** - May 3-October 20  
**Old Faithful Snow Lodge** - May 10-October 6  
**Lake Yellowstone Hotel** - May 11-September 29  
**Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel** - May 17-October 6  
**Fishing Bridge RV Park** - May 17-Sept. 16  
**Old Faithful Lodge** - May 17-September 29  
**Grant Village** - May 24-September 22  
**Canyon Lodge** - June 1-September 8  
**Roosevelt Lodge** - June 8-August 26  
**Lake Lodge** - June 10-September 16



## Public Showers & Laundry

**Fishing Bridge RV Park** - Showers and laundry. May 17-September 16  
**Old Faithful Lodge** - Showers. May 17-Sept. 29  
**Canyon Village Campground** - Showers and laundry. June 7-September 8  
**Lake Lodge** - Laundry. June 10-September 16  
**Grant Village Campground** - Showers and laundry. June 21-October 8



## Automatic Banking

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



## Light Meals & Fast Foods

**Mammoth General Store** - Open year round  
**Old Faithful Photo Shop** - April 19-October 28  
**Canyon Nature Store** - April 26-October 27  
**Old Faithful Basin Store** - April 27-October 20  
**Old Faithful Inn, Pony Express Snack Shop** - May 3-October 20  
**Grant Village Ministore** - May 10-October 8  
**Old Faithful Upper Store** - May 4-September 15  
**Fishing Bridge General Store** - May 11-Sept. 19  
**Mammoth Terrace Grill** - May 11-October 6  
**Lake Yellowstone Hotel Deli** - May 11-Sept. 29  
**Lake General Store** - May 12-Sept. 29  
**Old Faithful Four Seasons Deli** - May 17-November 3  
**Tower Fall Store** - May 17-September 30  
**Old Faithful Lodge Snack Shops** - May 17-Sept. 29  
**Canyon General Store** - May 18-Sept. 24  
**Grant Village General Store** - May 25-September 22  
**Bridge Bay Marina Store** - May 31-Sept. 16  
**Canyon Glacier Pit Snack Bar** - June 1-Sept. 15  
**Roosevelt Store** - June 8-August 26



## Marina

**Bridge Bay Marina** - Dock rental May 27-September 22; Store and tackle rental May 31-September 16; Scenicruiser excursions June 1-September 22; Boat rental, guided fishing trips June 15-September 15



## Horse Operations

**Mammoth Hot Springs** - Trail rides. May 18-Sept. 21  
**Canyon Lodge** - Trail rides. June 14-Sept. 7  
**Roosevelt Lodge** - Trail rides, June 8-August 25; Stagecoach Rides, June 8-August 25;  
**Old West Dinner Cookouts**: June 9-August 25  
**Parkwide** - Backcountry tours, June-September; write to Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 or call the National Park Service, (307) 344-7381, for a list of certified outfitters.



## Medical Services

**Mammoth Clinic** - Open Sept. 1-May 31 weekdays; June 1-August 31, daily; (307) 344-7965  
**Old Faithful Clinic** - May 3-October 20; (307) 545-7325  
**Lake Hospital** - May 20-September 15; (307) 242-7241



## Campgrounds

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



## Motorcoach Tours

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



## Photo Shops Gifts, Souvenirs

\*\***Old Faithful Photo Shop** - April 19-October 28  
\*\***Canyon Nature Store** - April 26-October 27  
\*\***Yellowstone Nature Store, Mammoth** - May 24-Sept. 17  
**Bridge Bay Marina Store** - May 31-Sept. 16  
\*\* This location offers one hour film processing



## Service Stations

\*\*\***Old Faithful**, Lower Station - April 19-November 3  
\*\*\***Canyon Village** - April 26-November 3  
\*\*\***Mammoth Hot Springs** - May 10-October 13  
\*\*\***Fishing Bridge** - May 11-September 29  
**Grant Village** - May 18-October 14  
**Tower Junction** - June 7-September 2  
**Old Faithful**, Upper Station - May 25-August 25  
\*\*\*Diesel fuel is available at these stations.

**Old Faithful Repair Service** - May 25-August 25. Wrecker service will be provided from the Old Faithful stations April 19-November 3.  
**Fishing Bridge Repair Service** - May 25-September 8. Wrecker service will be provided from Fishing Bridge station May 25-September 8.  
**Canyon Repair Service** - May 25-September 8. Wrecker service will be provided from Canyon station April 26-November 3.  
**Grant Village Repair Service** - June 1-September 2. Wrecker service will be provided from the Grant Village station May 18-September 29.

**Fishing Bridge LP Gas Plant** - May 15-Sept. 29  
**Old Faithful LP Gas Plant** - May 25-August 25  
**Grant Village LP Gas Plant** - May 25-October 8

## Area Chambers of Commerce

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

**Billings, MT** (406) 245-4111      **Cody, WY** (307) 587-2297

**Bozeman, MT** (406) 586-5421      **Jackson, WY** (307) 733-3316

**Gardiner, MT** (406) 848-7971      **Dubois, WY** (307) 455-2556

**Livingston, MT** (406) 222-0850      **East Yellowstone-Wapiti Valley** (307) 587-9595

**West Yellowstone, MT** (406) 646-7701      **Idaho Falls, ID** Chamber (208) 523-1010  
Lodging only. (406) 646-9488      Eastern Idaho Visitor Info Center (800) 634-3246

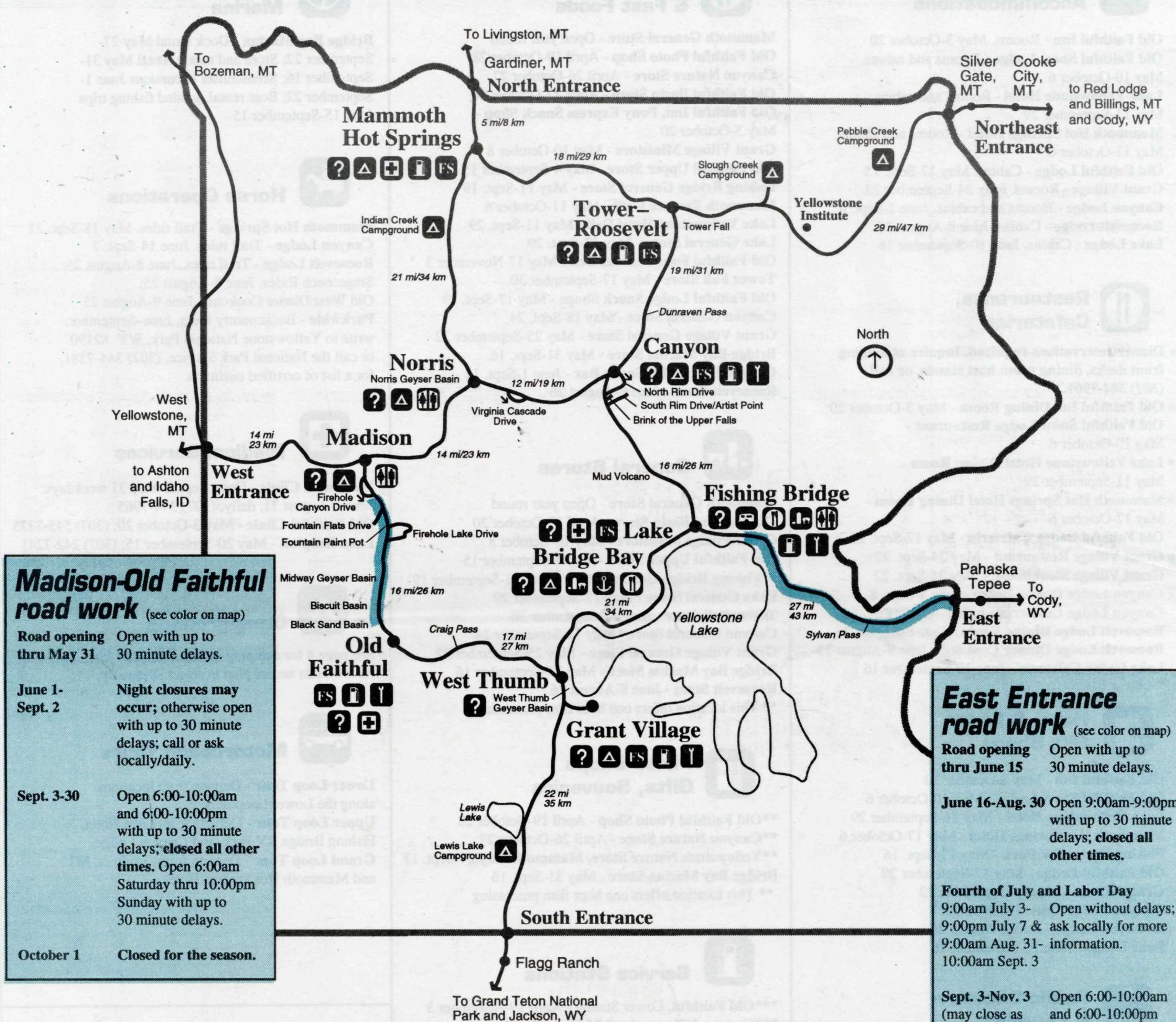
**Cooke City-Silver Gate, MT** (406) 838-2272

**Red Lodge, MT** (406) 446-1718

# Yellowstone roads and facilities

**Emergency: dial 911**

**Contact a ranger: (307) 344-7381**



Visitor Center or Information Station

Campground

Campground—Hard-sided vehicles only

Food Service

General Store

Marina

Auto Repair

Gasoline

Hospital or Clinic

Rest Rooms

Full Services\*

One way road

A listing of commercial facilities and services, with opening and closing dates for the 1996 season, is found on page 19.

\*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.