

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Friday, June 1, 2012

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I would like to respond to several points made in the Dave Smith article about YNP's Bear Spray Safety information posted earlier this week in YNP@Work.

Dave Smith was highly critical of the bear spray video posted on YNP's web page.

First, I disagree with Dave Smith's comment that the video is "laughably amateurish". The video was first produced by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee around 1997. The video was produced by students at the University of Montana making it relatively inexpensive (it cost approximately \$5,000) while also providing media, film and television students a real life useful project as a learning experience. The video has been aired on TV on both the PBS and Travel Channels. I doubt these stations would have aired the video if it was "laughably amateurish".

Although the video was produced on a very small budget and does not contain a lot of expensive bells and whistles, the video gives people the basic information that they need to know to effectively deploy bear spray. A professional film company likely would have charged \$20,000 – \$50,000 or more to make the video. I consider the video a good example of producing a useful product in a cost effective manner that did not require much taxpayer money. The video (with minor modifications in 2005 & 2011) has now been in use for 15 years making it a very efficient use of tax dollars.

Second, the bear spray video was a multi-agency effort (further improving its fiscal efficiency).

Several of the participating agencies allow hunting on lands under their jurisdictions. Therefore showing people with guns was appropriate. Firearms are also allowed inside YNP and some people do carry them, so the scene's of people with firearms is also appropriate for YNP. The people in the video use their bear spray instead of their guns. That is a message that we are trying to get out and that message is appropriate for all the agencies using the video, including YNP.

Bear spray saves people and bears. I agree that using two hands when deploying bear spray gives more control than using one hand, but two hands are not required to effectively deploy bear spray. Bear spray actually has very little kick or muzzle rise compared to a .44 magnum pistol. Most people can handle the slight barrel rise (or in this case nozzle rise) when deploying bear spray.

Although we now know that some people may have difficulty controlling the initial nozzle rise when deploying bear spray, that was not a consideration in 1997 when the video was made. If we get funding for an updated video, we plan to add a recommendation for using two hands to deploy bear spray if you have time.

*Kerry Gunther
Bear Management Office*

We appreciate Kerry's thoughtful rebuttal of the blog post we shared earlier in the week.

*The staff of **YNP@Work** monitors news channels daily for significant stories related to Yellowstone, and strives to make these stories available to our employees on a daily basis so that they may stay informed.*

We realize not ALL news about the park we publish in the newsletter is GOOD news, but it is our goal to present both sides, good OR bad, so that our staff can see what's in the media on both sides of the fence.

We don't publish negative stories simply to give them more publicity and anger our readers. We do so with the hope that it may promote a healthy discourse among staff about what people outside our gates are saying about us publicly. Maybe it's a topic that could lead to us doing something differently or better. Maybe it IS just a bad writer with an unfounded grudge!

Either way, we believe it would be a disservice should we print only the happy news and pretend that everyone out there loves everything we do. As always, we welcome any and all suggestions -- both the praise AND criticism -- we receive about the newsletter in hopes that it will only get better with each issue.

The Editors

Yellowstone's Victim Services is requesting volunteers who would be willing to open their hearts and their home as a short term emergency placement shelter for children. There are occasional situations where a child is displaced from their custodial parent for a variety of reasons. Sometimes a child is traveling with an adult that has been arrested, injured in a motor vehicle accident, or needs to be removed from an abusive situation and very far from home. Because of extreme distances, logistics, and jurisdictional issues (MT versus WY), a child may be victimized/traumatized further if forced to make a several hour journey in the night while tired, hungry, and scared, to be transferred to yet another stranger with the Dept of Family Services (DFS). It is particularly difficult where a child, who lives in Mammoth (WY), attends school in Gardiner, MT and is in a potentially abusive home, and needs to be placed temporarily in a safe environment. If we could place that child in Mammoth, there would be much less disruption in his/her life.

All that is required is a clear background check for any adults in the home. All NPS employees have already completed an adequate background check. Other adults in the home may simply have an NCIC criminal history run by submitting a complete name and date of birth. This information is transferred to the WY Dept of Family Services where they will also do a check to make sure the home has not been "flagged" in their files. A Yellowstone victim advocate or investigating ranger must also do a walk through to make sure there are no immediate hazards. That's it. All that we are asking is that, in the event an emergency exists, a child will have a safe and secure place to sleep, and basic needs are met. You would not be expected to transport the child or travel anywhere. The victim advocates in the park will assist with any transportation, logistics, or notifications of other family members/DFS, etc. It is unlikely in most situations that you would be needed more than 1 to 2 nights - just until rangers and advocates have had a chance to sort things out and get a plan in place with the appropriate Dept of Family Services.

We are hoping to have volunteers in the interior as well as in Mammoth. Please take some time and consider this request. Please email me or call Tara Ross at 307-543-2559 if you are interested.

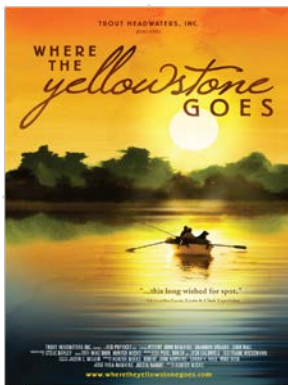
Kelly and I would like to thank our Yellowstone Friends for the flowers at my Mother's service, gift certificate, calls and cards. We appreciate the kindness and knowing that our friends are thinking of us.

Kelly, Paula, Erika and Bodie Tobin

Car-poolers Wanted: Christina, in our Visitor Services Office is looking for a ride to the Old Faithful Orientation - please call her at extension 2107.

Did you know that Delaware North has a mandatory car-pool policy? All employee emails are sent each time an employee needs to travel to/from Bozeman/West Yellowstone or any of their interior business locations. That is a good and green idea!

(Editor's note: as one of our astute readers suggested... why not use YNP@Work rather than separate emails!)



Don't forget to order your tickets online for this special movie event at the Mammoth Community Center on June 8th at 7:00 pm.

Preshow events start a 6:00pm with LIVE BLUEGRASS MUSIC

Get your discounted tickets at www.wheretheyellowstonegoes.com

Red Lodge Ales will be serving. Popcorn, candy, sodas and water will also be available.

Beartooth Pass has opened for travel for the season.

IN THE NEWS

Friday, June 1, 2012

Yellowstone plowing work covers 320 miles of mountain roads

By Ruffin Prevost – YellowstoneGate.com

Yellowstone National Park facilities manager Randy Baum was feeling pretty good a few weeks ago about how snow plowing was progressing along the park's roads. That was before Mother Nature sent a potent spring storm through the area over Memorial Day weekend.

Roads over high mountain passes that had been plowed days earlier were suddenly covered with snow again, sending Yellowstone plow crews back to their rigs, and leaving some visitors wondering about the "start of summer" in the world's first national park.

Plowing roads in wild weather alongside some drivers with little experience navigating snowy mountain passes can have it's scary moments, Baum explained in April during an interview about the plowing operations he supervises each year.

"For some of these people, it's their one and only time in Yellowstone. You're trying to do road work, and there's no way to detour the cars around, so you can have people coming at you from all angles," Baum said. "The pressure can get to you."

Each spring, Baum's crew of 20-25 workers take to the snowy roads of Yellowstone starting the first full week of March to tackle one of the most complex, costly and expansive jobs in the park.

Road crews, including some seasonal workers hired just to help with plowing, work for up to three months removing snow and ice from more than 320 miles of road in Yellowstone. The operation burns as much as 1,300 gallons of diesel fuel each day and typically costs \$1 million or more.

Most of the roads in Yellowstone are above 6,500 feet in elevation, including [Sylvan Pass](#) at 8,525 feet, Dunraven Pass at 8,878 feet and 10,947-foot Beartooth Pass. Though it lies just outside of Yellowstone, Beartooth Pass is plowed by National Park Service crews each year.

[Beartooth Pass](#) didn't open as planned over the weekend, and the other two passes — along with 8,262-foot Craig Pass on the Continental Divide between [Old Faithful](#) and West Thumb — were temporarily closed at least once over the holiday weekend, as a swirling mix of snow, sleet and rain moved through the area.

Motorists had mixed reactions to the closures, said Phyllis Sederberg at the [Red Lodge](#), Mont. Chamber of Commerce, which posted updates online and fielded questions by phone from travelers about road conditions. "Some people are totally shocked, but most anyone who is from around here just isn't that surprised," she said.

Yellowstone spring

Not everyone takes road closures in stride, and some critics say that seasonally closed highways should be opened as soon as they can be cleared of snow, rather than on a fixed date that may come after the snow has melted. Others complain that it's too difficult to get reliable information about openings and closures, especially in remote and isolated areas with no cell phone service.

State and federal highway officials say they work hard to meet opening dates for roads and to keep them open, but that [spring weather around Yellowstone](#) typically means that travelers have to stay flexible and be prepared to find alternate routes.

A good attitude also goes a long way on a Yellowstone plow crew, Baum said.

Workers often spend long hours doing demanding work in tough conditions, all while staying in remote locations with few amenities.

And then there's the prospect of steering a hulking rig with a massive set of rotating blades around a blind curve at 9,000 feet while pushing through 20 feet of drifting snow atop several inches of compressed ice.

"It's not for everyone. It takes a certain breed," he said. "You have to be a little crazy to do it."

No crew member goes out to work alone, Baum said, and mechanics are sent out with each team. Having mechanics travel with plows is necessary not only because there's often no easy way to tow one of the massive

rigs back to a garage, but also because the Park Service uses equipment that has averaged up to 37 years old in recent years, Baum said.

In addition to a typical snowplow that most motorists might see using a fixed blade to push snow to the outside edge of a snowy highway, Baum's crew uses rotary plows that chop through hard, frozen snow and ice and eject it to one side in a high arc.

The rotary plows used in Yellowstone are rated to move between 2,500 and 3,500 tons of snow per hour, Baum said. Newer machines used by some state highway departments are rated at 5,000 tons per hour or more, and can cost between \$800,000 and \$1.2 million.

While winter crews maintaining highways for auto travel will typically plow snow as it accumulates, the snow along Yellowstone's interior roads isn't plowed during the winter. Instead, it is packed down by groomers, snow coaches and snowmobiles all winter long. That means park roads often become white ribbons of compressed ice and snow that must be carved through foot by tedious foot.

"A lot of people ask why it's so slow getting the roads open," Baum said. "When the snow is that deep and you're plowing, even at a full head of steam, you can walk faster than these rotaries travel."

This year, at least until the holiday weekend, Yellowstone plow crews were ahead of schedule, thanks to a drier, warmer winter than last year. That was a welcome break for workers who are expected to stay on the job in all but the worst conditions.

"That group is out in all sorts of conditions. A blizzard doesn't necessarily shut them down," Baum said. "But they really enjoy it."

"I liked it when I was still out there doing it," said Baum, who worked for 20 years for the Montana Department of Transportation before moving to the Park Service 14 years ago. "I look forward to every day. It's a challenge."

- - - - -

Manager leaves Sleeping Giant Ski Area

By MARK HEINZ – The Cody Enterprise| Posted: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 5:07 pm

Sleeping Giant is seeking a new general manager following Jonathan Sheets' resignation after two years at the ski area.

The Yellowstone Recreations Foundation, which operates the ski area, said Sheets will "continue to be involved as a consultant for the foreseeable future.

"Jonathan has done an amazing job for Sleeping Giant," board member Jay Nielson said. "While it's a blow that we are losing him, we're excited, as Jonathan has identified some compelling opportunities to pursue."

Sheets said his work at the North Fork ski area has been "rewarding and challenging."

Individual skier visits increased more than 20 percent annually during his tenure, according to YRF.

His departure June 12 comes not long after YRF executive director Andrew Allgeier stepped down. Allgeier was primarily responsible for fundraising. YRF has opted to not replace him at this time.

Meanwhile, it's hoped a zip line ride, caretaker's house and snow tubing area can be added to Sleeping Giant.

The zip line ride could draw summer traffic, and much-needed revenues, to the mountain. But concerns have been raised about the zip line because Sleeping Giant is in prime grizzly bear habitat.

The Shoshone Forest is considering the proposals, including a study of how the zip line could impact bears.

Sheets helped lead efforts to develop the zip line proposal.

Anyone interested in the ski area general manager position may write to yellowstonerf@gmail.com.

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 305 AM MDT FRI JUN 1 2012

Today...Mostly cloudy in the morning...then partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds in the afternoon. Highs 59 to 65. West winds around 15 mph late in the afternoon. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms early in the evening...then isolated rain showers late in the evening. Some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds early in the evening. Lows 37 to 43. West winds around 15 mph early in the evening. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Saturday...Breezy. Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms in the morning...then cloudy with scattered thunderstorms in the afternoon. Some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds...then some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds and small hail in the afternoon. Highs 63 to 69. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon. Chance of thunderstorms 40 percent.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Monday, June 4, 2012

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A reminder: with school out for the summer, not only can you expect more visitors in the park, you will see more active children in the residential areas of the park!

Please be careful while traveling on our residential streets.

Letting everyone know that the **Trail Crew** is planning on carrying out **Blasting Operations** on the upper switch back sections of the **Hellroaring Trail** on Wednesday, June 6th. During blasting operations the trail will be closed and area guarded to all access for up to 1/2 hour. We will provide intermittent access of the trail between the subsequent blasts. The beginning of operations will commence at 10:00am with an anticipated conclusion of 3:00 pm.

The Employee Safety Committee is the sounding board for **ALL** employees to help drive positive change in the safety process in YNP.

How it works:

- Employees share comments or concerns (e.g. hazards or ideas for improvements) with their District or Division Representative (Remember: if you are having a safety issue, odds are someone else could be faced with the same issue somewhere else in the park. By reporting safety issues we can address them right away and provide useful information to all employees);
- EmSC reps share and discuss issues at park-wide meetings and provide resolution bringing in subject matter experts where necessary;
- Information is shared back to employees through District or Division Representatives;
- Employees in all areas are able to implement best practices that will improve safety performance.

End Result:

- Increased knowledge of and engagement in the safety process for ALL!

Attached is a graphic depicting this constant flow of information back and forth from committee members to the employees they represent. Please join us in making YNP the best and safest place to work!

As always, this information is available on the Employee Safety Committee Sharepoint Site at:
<http://inpyellshare/emsc>.

eHint from the Yellowstone Green Team: Are You Using Water Wisely?

Summer *and* irrigation season are almost here! Let's use water wisely this year!

Question: Why should we worry about water conservation? We have plenty! And, anyway, doesn't the Greater Yellowstone Area contain headwaters to several major rivers?

Answer: You're right—the headwaters to seven rivers are found here, including the Yellowstone, Madison, and Gallatin Rivers. But, that means our water use can greatly affect downstream communities and ecosystems.¹ Smart irrigation is one way to lessen our impact.

A Simple Way to Save Water: Efficient Irrigation

We use about 22.4 million gallons of water to irrigate Mammoth annually. That accounts for 30% of Mammoth's overall water use, and we only irrigate for about 4 months each year! Currently, Mammoth's automated irrigation system is being upgraded with new controllers that will adjust watering based on weather conditions and soil moisture. This should reduce water use by about 30%. Help the NPS reduce water use this summer.

Use these simple tips if you irrigate your lawn:

☐ Schedule for Efficiency: Water in the early morning or late evening to reduce evaporation. This increases efficiency so you need less water to keep your lawn healthy!

☐ Monitor Use: Run sprinklers on a timer to keep track of how long you're irrigating. Adjust the timer so you irrigate only as much as you need to. Bonus: set the time to morning or evening for even more water savings.

☐ "Cycle and Soak": In most soil, it is best to run sprinklers for one longer period to encourage roots to grow deeply. But in loose, porous, or shallow soils (like in Mammoth), use the "cycle and soak" method: water more frequently and for shorter time periods so the lawn can soak up the irrigation water.² Since water percolates through porous soil quickly, "cycle and soak" can prevent water from being wasted.

☐ Adjust for Weather: If it's raining, don't water! Rainfall can help to fill your irrigation needs, and moisture in the air means less evaporates from plants than on dry days.

Bonus: Using less treated water also reduces the energy needed to treat water, which reduces emissions from power production and saves money.

I would like to respond to several points made in the Dave Smith article about YNP's Bear Spray Safety information posted earlier this week in YNP@Work.

Dave Smith was highly critical of the bear spray video posted on YNP's web page.

First, I disagree with Dave Smith's comment that the video is "laughably amateurish". The video was first produced by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee around 1997. The video was produced by students at the University of Montana making it relatively inexpensive (it cost approximately \$5,000) while also providing media, film and television students a real life useful project as a learning experience. The video has been aired on TV on both the PBS and Travel Channels. I doubt these stations would have aired the video if it was "laughably amateurish".

Although the video was produced on a very small budget and does not contain a lot of expensive bells and whistles, the video gives people the basic information that they need to know to effectively deploy bear spray. A professional film company likely would have charged \$20,000 – \$50,000 or more to make the video. I consider the video a good example of producing a useful product in a cost effective manner that did not require much taxpayer money. The video (with minor modifications in 2005 & 2011) has now been in use for 15 years making it a very efficient use of tax dollars.

Second, the bear spray video was a multi-agency effort (further improving its fiscal efficiency).

Several of the participating agencies allow hunting on lands under their jurisdictions. Therefore showing people with guns was appropriate. Firearms are also allowed inside YNP and some people do carry them, so the scene's of people with firearms is also appropriate for YNP. The people in the video use their bear spray instead of their guns. That is a message that we are trying to get out and that message is appropriate for all the agencies using the video, including YNP.

Bear spray saves people and bears. I agree that using two hands when deploying bear spray gives more control than using one hand, but two hands are not required to effectively deploy bear spray. Bear spray actually has very little kick or muzzle rise compared to a .44 magnum pistol. Most people can handle the slight barrel rise (or in this case nozzle rise) when deploying bear spray.

Although we now know that some people may have difficulty controlling the initial nozzle rise when deploying bear spray, that was not a consideration in 1997 when the video was made. If we get funding for an updated video, we plan to add a recommendation for using two hands to deploy bear spray if you have time.

*Kerry Gunther
Bear Management Office*

We appreciate Kerry's thoughtful rebuttal of the blog post we shared earlier in the week.

*The staff of **YNP@Work** monitors news channels daily for significant stories related to Yellowstone, and strives to make these stories available to our employees on a daily basis so that they may stay informed.*

We realize not ALL news about the park we publish in the newsletter is GOOD news, but it is our goal to present both sides, good OR bad, so that our staff can see what's in the media on both sides of the fence.

We don't publish negative stories simply to give them more publicity and anger our readers. We do so with the hope that it may promote a healthy discourse among staff about what people outside our gates are saying about us publicly. Maybe it's a topic that could lead to us doing something differently or better. Maybe it IS just a bad writer with an unfounded grudge!

Either way, we believe it would be a disservice should we print only the happy news and pretend that everyone out there loves everything we do. As always, we welcome any and all suggestions -- both the praise AND criticism -- we receive about the newsletter in hopes that it will only get better with each issue.

The Editors

Kelly and I would like to thank our Yellowstone Friends for the flowers at my Mother's service, gift certificate, calls and cards. We appreciate the kindness and knowing that our friends are thinking of us.

Kelly, Paula, Erika and Bodie Tobin

Car-poolers Wanted: Christina, in our Visitor Services Office is looking for a ride to the Old Faithful Orientation - please call her at extension 2107.

Did you know that Delaware North has a mandatory car-pool policy? All employee emails are sent each time an employee needs to travel to/from Bozeman/West Yellowstone or any of their interior business locations. That is a good and green idea!

(Editor's note: as one of our astute readers suggested... why not use YNP@Work rather than separate emails!)

Don't forget to order your tickets online for this special movie event at the Mammoth Community Center on June 8th at 7:00 pm. Preshow events start a 6:00pm with LIVE BLUEGRASS MUSIC

Get your discounted tickets at www.wheretheyellowstonegoes.com

Red Lodge Ales will be serving. Popcorn, candy, sodas and water will also be available.

IN THE NEWS

Billings Gazette

Guest opinion: New Montana bison herd unnecessary for conservation

June 02, 2012 12:10 am • By WATTY TAYLOR, President - Montana Stockgrowers Association

As the state begins serious discussions about the potential of establishing a "free roaming" herd of bison in Montana, there seems to be a lot of disparity in opinions. Some would like to see us return to the time when bison roamed the plains without the annoyances of modern towns, farms and ranches, or a web of highways and railroads. Others can see only conflicts with establishing a herd of "wild" bison in the state. It's quite the debate.

Our question is: have Montanans expressed a true desire to see more bison, or is the pressure coming from outside our state? We do not know of any area in Montana where the local community is clamoring for a truly free-roaming bison herd.

Montana is already home to many significant bison herds. There's the herd at the National Bison Range in Moiese, the wild bison in Yellowstone National Park, and many other private herds that are raised both for conservation purposes and for agricultural purposes. Why do we need to establish another herd, let alone a free-roaming one? Is it about preserving genetics of wild bison?

Preservation is already happening. People and groups all across the West have been working to preserve the genetic integrity of bison. If genetics is not the issue, then what is? Hunting?

There are bison hunting opportunities here in Montana both privately and publicly near Yellowstone National Park. There are also other great opportunities in states like Utah. Is there really that much interest in more hunting opportunities for bison?

Some of the outside interests pushing the hardest for a free-roaming bison herd say that because of Montana's proud wildlife heritage, we should restore bison in a free roaming capacity "just because." Ranchers certainly understand the importance of protecting Montana's wildlife heritage. In fact, ranchers work hard to steward the private and public lands that provide the majority of habitat for wildlife in our state. Bison are being conserved in Montana and throughout the West, so the question we should be asking is, what benefit will another herd really provide? Or perhaps more importantly: What impact will these animals have on our working lands in Montana that provide the foundation of our economy as well as our beautiful scenery and important wildlife habitat?

Restoring wildlife just for the sake of doing it isn't a good enough reason to move ahead with this effort. Montanans have seen the problems associated with wolf reintroduction and the effects it has had on other wildlife species and on our working lands. It is the private landowners and local communities who typically shoulder the burden when it comes to these efforts.

Bison are already being conserved in a responsible manner that takes into consideration genetic diversity, hunting opportunities and the realities of our modern-day infrastructure as a state. Let us not allow outside interests to come into our state, dictate what happens here and then leave us high and dry with an unnecessary mess, and bill, to deal with.

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 232 AM MDT MON JUN 4 2012

Today...Breezy. Partly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds and small hail in the afternoon. Highs 69 to 77. South winds 15 to 20 mph in the late morning and afternoon. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the evening. Some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds and small hail in the evening. Lows 39 to 45. South winds around 15 mph. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Tuesday...Breezy. Partly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds in the afternoon. Highs 64 to 72. South winds 15 to 20 mph. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

World Environment Day

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE RIVERTON WY

736 AM MDT TUE JUN 5 2012

WYZ001-012-052200-

TETON AND GROS VENTRE MOUNTAINS-YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK-

736 AM MDT TUE JUN 5 2012

...DRASTIC SHIFT IN THE WEATHER TUESDAY EVENING...

A STRONG COLD FRONT WILL MOVE INTO WESTERN WYOMING THIS AFTERNOON BRINGING WINDY AND MUCH COOLER CONDITIONS TO THE AREA. LIGHT TO MODERATE SNOW IS EXPECTED THIS EVENING INTO TONIGHT IN THE NORTHWEST WYOMING MOUNTAINS AND THE LOWER ELEVATIONS OF YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK. THOSE WITH OUTDOOR PLANS SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR MUCH COLDER TEMPERATURES AND TAKE CARE ON THE ROADS AS HAZARDOUS DRIVING CONDITIONS MAY DEVELOP.



The **transit of Venus**, occurring this evening before **sunset** is a rare event that has only occurred 53 times since 2000 B.C. While Venus' orbital path takes it between the sun and the Earth roughly every year and a half, the planes of the two planets don't always line up. As such, sometimes Venus passes above the sun, and sometimes it dips below it, from Earth's perspective.

Observers could see the phenomenon in 2004, but after this month's transit, the next crossing won't occur until December 2117, making this a last-in-a-lifetime viewing opportunity. Those safely watching the event with solar-filter glasses will see a small, black dot moving across the sun. Using binoculars or a telescope that's been outfitted

properly will enhance the view. Another option is to use a pinhole projector to watch the transit indirectly.

For more information: <http://www.nature.nps.gov/features/eclipse/transitofvenus.cfm>

Weather records broken? UNOFFICIALLY, Mammoth Hot Springs reached 84 at 4:00 pm June 4. That tops the previous record of 82 set in 1969. Old Faithful reached 77 at 1:30 pm yesterday. The previous record of 74 was from 1987.

A reminder: with school out for the summer, not only can you expect more visitors in the park, you will see more active children in the residential areas of the park!

Please be careful while traveling on our residential streets.

The **YNP Road Construction Update** can be found at [P:\Road Updates\Weekly Const Update 2012](#)

There are still slots open for the June 20th **Wildland Fire refresher**. The location for this refresher is going to be the Lake Mess Hall, starting time is 0900. Please call Wildland Fire Dispatch at 344-2181 to sign up.

Trail Crew is planning on carrying out **Blasting Operations** on the upper switch back sections of the **Hellroaring Trail** on Wednesday, June 6th. During blasting operations the trail will be closed and area guarded to all access for up to 1/2 hour. The crews will provide intermittent access of the trail between the subsequent blasts. The beginning of operations will commence at 10:00am with an anticipated conclusion of 3:00 pm.

The Employee Safety Committee is the sounding board for **ALL** employees to help drive positive change in the safety process in YNP.

How it works:

- Employees share comments or concerns (e.g. hazards or ideas for improvements) with their District or Division Representative (Remember: if you are having a safety issue, odds are someone else could be faced with the same issue somewhere else in the park. By reporting safety issues we can address them right away and provide useful information to all employees);
- EmSC reps share and discuss issues at park-wide meetings and provide resolution bringing in subject matter experts where necessary;
- Information is shared back to employees through District or Division Representatives;
- Employees in all areas are able to implement best practices that will improve safety performance.

End Result:

- Increased knowledge of and engagement in the safety process for ALL!

This information is available on the Employee Safety Committee Sharepoint Site at: <http://inpyellshare/emsc>.

eHint from the Yellowstone Green Team: Are You Using Water Wisely?

Summer *and* irrigation season are almost here! Let's use water wisely this year!

Question: Why should we worry about water conservation? We have plenty! And, anyway, doesn't the Greater Yellowstone Area contain headwaters to several major rivers?

Answer: You're right—the headwaters to seven rivers are found here, including the Yellowstone, Madison, and Gallatin Rivers. But, that means our water use can greatly affect downstream communities and ecosystems.¹ Smart irrigation is one way to lessen our impact.

A Simple Way to Save Water: Efficient Irrigation

We use about 22.4 million gallons of water to irrigate Mammoth annually. That accounts for 30% of Mammoth's overall water use, and we only irrigate for about 4 months each year! Currently, Mammoth's automated irrigation system is being upgraded with new controllers that will adjust watering based on weather conditions and soil moisture. This should reduce water use by about 30%. Help the NPS reduce water use this summer.

Use these simple tips if you irrigate your lawn:

☐ Schedule for Efficiency: Water in the early morning or late evening to reduce evaporation. This increases efficiency so you need less water to keep your lawn healthy!

☐ Monitor Use: Run sprinklers on a timer to keep track of how long you're irrigating. Adjust the timer so you irrigate only as much as you need to. Bonus: set the time to morning or evening for even more water savings.

☐ "Cycle and Soak": In most soil, it is best to run sprinklers for one longer period to encourage roots to grow deeply. But in loose, porous, or shallow soils (like in Mammoth), use the "cycle and soak" method: water more frequently and for shorter time periods so the lawn can soak up the irrigation water.² Since water percolates through porous soil quickly, "cycle and soak" can prevent water from being wasted.

☐ Adjust for Weather: If it's raining, don't water! Rainfall can help to fill your irrigation needs, and moisture in the air means less evaporates from plants than on dry days.

Bonus: Using less treated water also reduces the energy needed to treat water, which reduces emissions from power production and saves money.

Don't forget to order your tickets online for this special movie event at the Mammoth Community Center on June 8th at 7:00 pm. Preshow events start at 6:00pm with LIVE BLUEGRASS MUSIC

Get your discounted tickets at www.wheretheyellowstonegoes.com

Red Lodge Ales will be serving. Popcorn, candy, sodas and water will also be available.

ACTING ASSIGNMENTS

George Helfrich will be Acting Superintendent until June 7. He can be reached at x2270

Sue Capasso will be acting Chief of Admin from June 5-8. She can be reached at x2055

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the “IMR FORUMS PAGE” link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to “Public Affairs Newsline.”

WEATHER**NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 218 AM MDT TUE JUN 5 2012

Today...Breezy. Partly cloudy in the morning...then mostly cloudy with scattered rain showers and isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds and small hail in the afternoon. Highs 66 to 74. South winds 15 to 20 mph. Gusts up to 35 mph late in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation 40 percent.

Tonight...Breezy. Mostly cloudy. Rain showers...snow showers likely and isolated thunderstorms in the evening...then scattered snow showers and rain showers after midnight. Some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds and small hail early in the evening. Snow accumulation up to 1 inch. Lows 26 to 32. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph. Chance of precipitation 60 percent.

Wednesday...Breezy...cooler. Partly cloudy. Isolated rain showers and snow showers in the morning. Highs 45 to 51. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Wednesday Night...Partly cloudy. Lows 25 to 31. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the evening.

Thursday...Not as cool. Partly cloudy. Highs 56 to 62.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

- - - -

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Wednesday, June 6, 2012



(NPS Photos, Jay Elhard)

The first of 20 **Wildlife Olympics** events kicked off at Albright Visitor Center Tuesday. The events are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays between noon and 3:00 p.m. at Mammoth, Canyon and Old Faithful. This is the third year



the park has hosted the Olympics, which features 12 fun activities for kids and their families to learn about Yellowstone's wildlife. Activities include leaping like a snowshoe hare, jumping like a mountain lion, holding one's breath like a beaver, not blinking like an owl, and standing on one leg like a great blue heron. Check the park newspaper for scheduled event times and locations, or call the Albright Visitor Center at (307) 344-2263.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **YNP Road Construction Update** can be found at <P:\Road Updates\Weekly Const Update 2012>

Zach Allely ("al - la - lee") has accepted the Comptroller / Budget Officer position for Yellowstone.

During 10 of the past 15 years Zach has worked for Hewlett-Packard as a Financial Analyst and Financial Operations Manager. Zach is currently a Senior Financial Analyst at HP, based in Ft Collins, CO.

He also spent 5 years as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Tekamah Corp. Zach is a Certified Public Accountant and has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and 3 Masters Degrees (Zoology, Finance, and Accounting).

Zach served as a Captain in the US Air Force and as a White House Protocol Aide in the Bush ('41) and Clinton administrations.

At HP, Zach works with 3 versions of the SAP R3 software on which FBMS is based. He leads financial management project teams to analyze business products, processes, revenues and markets. His budget, finance and accounting systems experience will be a great asset for YELL and the NPS as we transition to FBMS and adapt our business processes to the new system.

We look forward to welcoming Zach to the NPS and YELL later this summer.

There are still slots open for the June 20th **Wildland Fire refresher**. The location for this refresher is going to be the Lake Mess Hall, starting time is 0900. Please call Wildland Fire Dispatch at 344-2181 to sign up.

Don't forget to order your tickets online for this special movie event at the Mammoth Community Center on June 8th at 7:00 pm. Preshow events start a 6:00pm with LIVE BLUEGRASS MUSIC

Get your discounted tickets at www.wheretheyellowstonegoes.com

Red Lodge Ales will be serving. Popcorn, candy, sodas and water will also be available.

ACTING ASSIGNMENTS

George Helfrich will be Acting Superintendent until June 7. He can be reached at x2270

Sue Capasso will be acting Chief of Admin from June 5-8. She can be reached at x2055

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newslines."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 228 AM MDT WED JUN 6 2012

Today...Breezy. Partly cloudy. Isolated rain showers and snow showers in the morning. Highs 45 to 51. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Tonight...Breezy. Mostly clear. Lows 23 to 29. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph early in the evening.

Thursday...Not as cool. Mostly sunny. Highs 55 to 61. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the afternoon.

Thursday Night...Partly cloudy. Lows 32 to 38.

Friday...Breezy...warmer. Partly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 61 to 69. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph in the afternoon. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Friday Night...Breezy. Mostly cloudy. Chance of thunderstorms in the evening...then chance of rain showers after midnight. Lows 35 to 41. Chance of precipitation 40 percent.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

- - - -

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Thursday, June 7, 2012

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **YNP Road Construction Update** can be found at [P:\Road Updates\Weekly Const Update 2012](#)

Yellowstone Bookmobile: LOOK FOR US ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM JUNE-SEPTEMBER

Norris	8-8:30	Housing area
Madison	9:30-10:00	Housing area/District Office
Old Faithful	11:00-11:45	Ranger Station
Grant	12:15 Pickup/Dropoff	Visitor's Center
Fishing Bridge	1:30-2:00	Visitor's Center
Canyon	3:00 Pickup/Dropoff	Visitor's Center
Tower	4:00 Pickup/Dropoff	Ranger's Station

Both the Research Library and the Archives have new summer hours. We are now open Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm. Request a book before 4 p.m. on Wednesday and we'll bring it to you. Let us know your subject area and we will bring books for you to browse. NPS-Yellowstone employees and Yellowstone Association members can sign up for a library card at the bookmobile and check out books immediately.

Contact us at (307) 344-2264 or yell_research_library@nps.gov

Zach Allely ("al - la - lee") has accepted the Comptroller / Budget Officer position for Yellowstone.

During 10 of the past 15 years Zach has worked for Hewlett-Packard as a Financial Analyst and Financial Operations Manager. Zach is currently a Senior Financial Analyst at HP, based in Ft Collins, CO.

He also spent 5 years as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Tekamah Corp. Zach is a Certified Public Accountant and has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and 3 Masters Degrees (Zoology, Finance, and Accounting).

Zach served as a Captain in the US Air Force and as a White House Protocol Aide in the Bush ('41) and Clinton administrations.

At HP, Zach works with 3 versions of the SAP R3 software on which FBMS is based. He leads financial management project teams to analyze business products, processes, revenues and markets. His budget, finance

and accounting systems experience will be a great asset for YELL and the NPS as we transition to FBMS and adapt our business processes to the new system.

We look forward to welcoming Zach to the NPS and YELL later this summer.

The wildfires spreading across the western United States are leaving a path of scorched earth, burned homes and worried citizens. **Federal Occupational Health (FOH)** would like to remind you that Employee Assistance Program (EAP) services are available to assist those impacted by the wildfires. Our team of professionals is available to provide, support, referrals, and information for a wide range of emergency services. Check out the wildland fire information documents in the EAP Newsletters folder on our "P" drive.

Contact the EAP today at 1-800-222-0364 or www.FOH4You.com.

There are still slots open for the June 20th **Wildland Fire refresher**. The location for this refresher is going to be the Lake Mess Hall, starting time is 0900. Please call Wildland Fire Dispatch at 344-2181 to sign up.

Don't forget to order your tickets online for this special movie event at the **Mammoth Community Center** TOMORROW at 7:00 pm. Preshow events start at 6:00pm with LIVE BLUEGRASS MUSIC

Get your discounted tickets at www.wheretheyellowstonegoes.com

Red Lodge Ales will be serving. Popcorn, candy, sodas and water will also be available.

ACTING ASSIGNMENTS

Sue Capasso will be acting Chief of Admin from June 5-8. She can be reached at x2055

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newslines."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 743 AM MDT THU JUN 7 2012

Today...Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing. Highs 56 to 62. Southwest winds around 15 mph late in the afternoon.

Tonight...Mostly clear in the evening then becoming partly cloudy. Lows 32 to 38. Southwest winds around 15 mph early in the evening.

Friday...Breezy. Partly cloudy. Highs 61 to 67. South winds around 15 mph shifting to the southwest 20 to 25 mph with gusts to around 40 mph in the afternoon.

Friday Night...Breezy. Mostly cloudy. Scattered thunderstorms in the evening...then scattered rain showers and snow showers after midnight. Lows 34 to 40. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph. Chance of precipitation 40 percent.

Saturday...Breezy...cooler. Mostly cloudy. Slight chance of rain showers in the morning...then slight chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 47 to 53. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph. Gusts up to 40 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Saturday Night...Breezy...colder. Mostly cloudy. Chance of thunderstorms and snow showers in the evening...then chance of snow showers after midnight. Lows 25 to 31. Chance of precipitation 50 percent.

Sunday...Breezy. Partly cloudy. Chance of snow showers and rain showers in the morning...then chance of rain showers in the afternoon. Highs 43 to 49. Chance of precipitation 40 percent.

Sunday Night...Partly cloudy. Chance of snow showers and slight chance of rain showers in the evening...then slight chance of snow showers after midnight. Lows 29 to 35. Chance of precipitation 30 percent.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

- - - -

YNP@Work

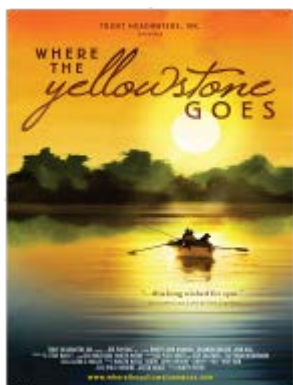
A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Friday, June 8, 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS

...**RED FLAG WARNING** FOR PORTIONS OF EASTERN AND CENTRAL WYOMING TODAY...Click link to read notice.



Mammoth Community Center TONIGHT at 7:00 pm! *Where the Yellowstone Goes* Film. Preshow events start at 6:00 pm with LIVE BLUEGRASS MUSIC!!! Red Lodge Ales will be serving. Popcorn, candy, sodas and water will also be available.

Yellowstone Bookmobile: LOOK FOR US ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM JUNE-SEPTEMBER

Norris	8-8:30	Housing area
Madison	9:30-10:00	Housing area/District Office
Old Faithful	11:00-11:45	Ranger Station
Grant	12:15 Pickup/Dropoff	Visitor's Center
Fishing Bridge	1:30-2:00	Visitor's Center
Canyon	3:00 Pickup/Dropoff	Visitor's Center
Tower	4:00 Pickup/Dropoff	Ranger's Station

Both the Research Library and the Archives have new summer hours. We are now open Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm. Request a book before 4 p.m. on Wednesday and we'll bring it to you. Let us know your subject area and we will bring books for you to browse. NPS-Yellowstone employees and Yellowstone Association members can sign up for a library card at the bookmobile and check out books immediately.

Contact us at (307) 344-2264 or yell_research_library@nps.gov

Zach Allely ("al - la - lee") has accepted the Comptroller / Budget Officer position for Yellowstone.

During 10 of the past 15 years Zach has worked for Hewlett-Packard as a Financial Analyst and Financial Operations Manager. Zach is currently a Senior Financial Analyst at HP, based in Ft Collins, CO.

He also spent 5 years as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Tekamah Corp. Zach is a Certified Public Accountant and has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and 3 Masters Degrees (Zoology, Finance, and Accounting).

Zach served as a Captain in the US Air Force and as a White House Protocol Aide in the Bush ('41) and Clinton administrations.

At HP, Zach works with 3 versions of the SAP R3 software on which FBMS is based. He leads financial management project teams to analyze business products, processes, revenues and markets. His budget, finance and accounting systems experience will be a great asset for YELL and the NPS as we transition to FBMS and adapt our business processes to the new system.

We look forward to welcoming Zach to the NPS and YELL later this summer.

- - - -

Celebrate Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month! Join Yellowstone National Park employees marching in the parade and staffing an informational table about the park at the 2012 Montana Pride in Bozeman on Saturday, June 16. All NPS, concessions (Xanterra, Delaware North, Yellowstone Park Service Stations, and Medcor), and Yellowstone Association employees and volunteers are welcome. Straight allies, especially parents, friends, and family of LGBT loved ones, are especially encouraged to attend and participate in Pride. For more information, contact Kevin Franken at 307-344-2514 or Kevin_Franken@nps.gov.

- - - -

The **Employee Safety Committee** meets next Wednesday, June 13, 2012, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the West Yellowstone Visitor Center Conference Room. Agenda items will include a sub-committee report on new employee safety orientations, discussion on draft wellness incentive program, hazard communication training, update on planning district lunches with a safety topic, discussion about Grant pedestrian walkway project, and continued discussion on information sharing between employees, work groups and the Committee. To attend via conference call dial 888-930-9220 and enter participant pass code 1885448.

Don't forget to share your "**Act of Safety**" with your Division/District Representative so we may compile and share them at the meeting and get them posted to the website in participation in DOI's "Million Acts of Safety Campaign." Through our participation we can show everyone what a fun and safe place Yellowstone and the National Park Service are to work. An "Act of Safety" can be anything from wearing your PPE on the job to talking to visitors about not approaching wildlife too closely to taking the time to report a hazardous situation to your supervisor, Committee member or the Safety Office.

- - - -

The wildfires spreading across the western United States are leaving a path of scorched earth, burned homes and worried citizens. **Federal Occupational Health (FOH)** would like to remind you that Employee Assistance Program (EAP) services are available to assist those impacted by the wildfires. Our team of professionals is

available to provide, support, referrals, and information for a wide range of emergency services. Check out the wildland fire information documents in the EAP Newsletters folder on our "P" drive.

Contact the EAP today at 1-800-222-0364 or www.FOH4You.com.

There are still slots open for the June 20th **Wildland Fire refresher**. The location for this refresher is going to be the Lake Mess Hall, starting time is 0900. Please call Wildland Fire Dispatch at 344-2181 to sign up.

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newslines."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 254 AM MDT FRI JUN 8 2012

Today...Breezy. Mostly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 60 to 66. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Tonight...Breezy...cloudy. Scattered rain showers and isolated thunderstorms in the evening...then scattered rain showers...snow showers and isolated thunderstorms after midnight. Lows 33 to 39. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph early in the evening. Chance of precipitation 50 percent.

Saturday...Breezy...cooler...cloudy. Chance of rain showers in the morning...then chance of rain showers and isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 46 to 52. Southwest winds 20 to 25 mph with gusts to around 40 mph. Chance of precipitation 50 percent.

Saturday Night...Breezy...colder...cloudy. Chance of rain showers... Snow showers and isolated thunderstorms in the evening...then chance of snow showers and isolated thunderstorms after midnight. Lows 23 to 29. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph. Gusts up to 35 mph. Chance of precipitation 50 percent.

Sunday...Breezy. Mostly cloudy. Scattered snow showers and rain showers in the morning...then scattered rain showers in the afternoon. Highs 39 to 45. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph. Gusts up to 40 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation 50 percent.

Sunday Night...Breezy. Mostly cloudy. Scattered rain showers and snow showers in the evening...then isolated rain showers and snow showers after midnight. Lows 28 to 34. Chance of precipitation 40 percent.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

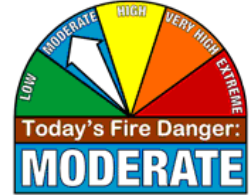
Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

- - - -

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Monday, June 11, 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to all who attended the screening of the film, *Where the Yellowstone Goes* at the **Mammoth Community Center**! It was a tremendous success, and the first of many great events to come.

Yellowstone Bookmobile: LOOK FOR US ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM JUNE-SEPTEMBER

Norris	8-8:30	Housing area
Madison	9:30-10:00	Housing area/District Office
Old Faithful	11:00-11:45	Ranger Station
Grant	12:15 Pickup/Dropoff	Visitor's Center
Fishing Bridge	1:30-2:00	Visitor's Center
Canyon	3:00 Pickup/Dropoff	Visitor's Center
Tower	4:00 Pickup/Dropoff	Ranger's Station

Both the Research Library and the Archives have new summer hours. We are now open Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm. Request a book before 4 p.m. on Wednesday and we'll bring it to you. Let us know your subject area and we will bring books for you to browse. NPS-Yellowstone employees and Yellowstone Association members can sign up for a library card at the bookmobile and check out books immediately.

Contact us at (307) 344-2264 or yell_research_library@nps.gov

The **Employee Safety Committee** meets Wednesday, June 13, 2012, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the West Yellowstone Visitor Center Conference Room. Agenda items will include a sub-committee report on new employee safety orientations, discussion on draft wellness incentive program, hazard communication training, update on planning district lunches with a safety topic, discussion about Grant pedestrian walkway project, and continued discussion on information sharing between employees, work groups and the Committee. To attend via conference call dial 888-930-9220 and enter participant pass code 1885448.

Don't forget to share your "**Act of Safety**" with your Division/District Representative so we may compile and share them at the meeting and get them posted to the website in participation in DOI's "Million Acts of Safety Campaign." Through our participation we can show everyone what a fun and safe place Yellowstone and the National Park Service are to work. An "Act of Safety" can be anything from wearing your PPE on the job to talking to visitors about not approaching wildlife too closely to taking the time to report a hazardous situation to your supervisor, Committee member or the Safety Office.

There are still slots open for the June 20th **Wildland Fire refresher**. The location for this refresher is going to be the Lake Mess Hall, starting time is 0900. Please call Wildland Fire Dispatch at 344-2181 to sign up.

RECENT PARK NEWS RELEASES

Teen Dies After Fall From Inspiration Point

An 18-year-old woman died Thursday in an accidental fall near Inspiration Point in the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone.

<http://www.nps.gov/yell/parknews/12035.htm>

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newslines."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 222 AM MDT MON JUN 11 2012

Today...Mostly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 52 to 58. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Tonight...Mostly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the evening... Then intermittent sprinkles after midnight. Lows 31 to 37. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Tuesday...Partly cloudy in the morning...then mostly cloudy with chance of thunderstorms and intermittent sprinkles in the afternoon. Highs 55 to 61. Chance of precipitation 30 percent.

Tuesday Night...Mostly cloudy. Chance of thunderstorms in the evening...then intermittent sprinkles and isolated snow showers after midnight. Lows 34 to 40. Chance of precipitation 30 percent.

Wednesday...Breezy. Partly cloudy with intermittent sprinkles in the morning...then mostly cloudy with intermittent sprinkles and chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 61 to 67. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation 30 percent.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or

photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

- - - -

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Tuesday, June 12, 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gardiner Gateway Project Event. Superintendent Dan Wenk, Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer, and representatives of several groups and organizations are gathering in Arch Park Thursday afternoon to kick-off a major redevelopment effort of the "Gardiner Gateway" to Yellowstone National Park.

The VIPs will arrive in a Stagecoach and Old Yellow Bus, provided by Xanterra. The remarks begin at 1:30 p.m. After the remarks conclude at 2:00 p.m., representatives of all the organizations will again travel by stagecoach and bus to the Roosevelt Arch where they will sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

Gardiner leaders hope to complete some portion of the project in time for the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service on August 25, 2016.

Traffic will be temporarily rerouted away from the Roosevelt Arch for a portion of the day Thursday in conjunction with the event.

Employees need to secure pre-approval from the supervisor in order to attend the event during on-duty hours.

A reminder that **Green Team** is taking meetings on the road this summer to hear area issues related to waste reduction/recycling, energy and water conservation, green purchasing and the use of environmentally friendly materials. Please join us for these meetings at 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

May 31st - Old Faithful/Madison/West

main issues discussed =

- recycling
- VEC interior lighting replacements needed
- VEC energy use data needed

June 7th - Tower/Lamar/NE

main issues discussed =

- recycling at NE Entrance
- dark sky/outdoor lighting improvements needed
- no-idling info needed at the gate

July 5th - Grant/South

August 2nd - Lake/East

September 6th - Canyon/Norris

- - - -

Yellowstone Bookmobile: LOOK FOR US ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM JUNE-SEPTEMBER

Norris	8-8:30	Housing area
Madison	9:30-10:00	Housing area/District Office
Old Faithful	11:00-11:45	Ranger Station
Grant	12:15 Pickup/Dropoff	Visitor's Center
Fishing Bridge	1:30-2:00	Visitor's Center
Canyon	3:00 Pickup/Dropoff	Visitor's Center
Tower	4:00 Pickup/Dropoff	Ranger's Station

Both the Research Library and the Archives have new summer hours. We are now open Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm. Request a book before 4 p.m. on Wednesday and we'll bring it to you. Let us know your subject area and we will bring books for you to browse. NPS-Yellowstone employees and Yellowstone Association members can sign up for a library card at the bookmobile and check out books immediately.

Contact us at (307) 344-2264 or yell_research_library@nps.gov

- - - -

The **Employee Safety Committee** meets Tomorrow, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the West Yellowstone Visitor Center Conference Room. Agenda items will include a sub-committee report on new employee safety orientations, discussion on draft wellness incentive program, hazard communication training, update on planning district lunches with a safety topic, discussion about Grant pedestrian walkway project, and continued discussion on information sharing between employees, work groups and the Committee. To attend via conference call dial 888-930-9220 and enter participant pass code 1885448.

Don't forget to share your "**Act of Safety**" with your Division/District Representative so we may compile and share them at the meeting and get them posted to the website in participation in DOI's "Million Acts of Safety Campaign." Through our participation we can show everyone what a fun and safe place Yellowstone and the National Park Service are to work. An "Act of Safety" can be anything from wearing your PPE on the job to talking to visitors about not approaching wildlife too closely to taking the time to report a hazardous situation to your supervisor, Committee member or the Safety Office.

- - - -

There are still slots open for the June 20th **Wildland Fire refresher**. The location for this refresher is going to be the Lake Mess Hall, starting time is 0900. Please call Wildland Fire Dispatch at 344-2181 to sign up.

- - - -

Celebrate Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month! Join Yellowstone National Park employees marching in the parade and staffing an informational table about the park at the 2012 Montana Pride in Bozeman on Saturday, June 16. All NPS, concessions (Xanterra, Delaware North, Yellowstone Park Service Stations, and Medcor), and Yellowstone Association employees and volunteers are welcome. Straight allies, especially parents, friends, and family of LGBT loved ones, are especially encouraged to attend and participate in Pride. For more information, contact Kevin Franken at 307-344-2514 or Kevin_Franken@nps.gov.

RECENT PARK NEWS RELEASES

Canyon Fall Victim's Identity Released

The identity of a woman who died June 7 while hiking in Yellowstone National Park has been released.

<http://www.nps.gov/yell/parknews/12036.htm>

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newslines."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 200 AM MDT TUE JUN 12 2012

Today...Partly cloudy in the morning...then mostly cloudy with slight chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 56 to 62. Southwest winds around 15 mph late in the afternoon. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Tonight...Mostly cloudy. Slight chance of thunderstorms in the evening. Lows 34 to 40. Southwest winds around 15 mph early in the evening. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Wednesday...Breezy. Partly cloudy in the morning...then mostly cloudy with scattered thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 60 to 66. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon. Chance of thunderstorms 40 percent.

Wednesday Night...Mostly cloudy. Scattered thunderstorms in the evening...then isolated rain showers and snow showers after midnight. Lows 33 to 39. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the evening. Chance of precipitation 40 percent.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs 57 to 65.

Thursday Night...Partly cloudy. Isolated rain showers and snow showers after midnight. Lows 33 to 39. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Wednesday, June 13, 2012



Bill Hawn and Willie Burkhardt preparing to install the Lewis Lake dock for the summer.

Photo thanks to Sandy Karnes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gardiner Gateway Project Event. Superintendent Dan Wenk, Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer, and representatives of several groups and organizations are gathering in Arch Park Thursday afternoon to kick-off a major redevelopment effort of the “Gardiner Gateway” to Yellowstone National Park.

The VIPs will arrive in a Stagecoach and Old Yellow Bus, provided by Xanterra. The remarks begin at 1:30 p.m. After the remarks conclude at 2:00 p.m., representatives of all the organizations will again travel by stagecoach and bus to the Roosevelt Arch where they will sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

Gardiner leaders hope to complete some portion of the project in time for the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service on August 25, 2016.

Traffic will be temporarily rerouted away from the Roosevelt Arch for a portion of the day Thursday in conjunction with the event.

Employees need to secure pre-approval from the supervisor in order to attend the event during on-duty hours.

A reminder that **Green Team** is taking meetings on the road this summer to hear area issues related to waste reduction/recycling, energy and water conservation, green purchasing and the use of environmentally friendly materials. Please join us for these meetings at 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

May 31st - Old Faithful/Madison/West

main issues discussed =
recycling

VEC interior lighting replacements needed
VEC energy use data needed

June 7th - Tower/Lamar/NE

main issues discussed =

recycling at NE Entrance
dark sky/outdoor lighting improvements needed
no-idling info needed at the gate

July 5th - Grant/South**August 2nd - Lake/East****September 6th - Canyon/Norris**

Yellowstone Bookmobile: LOOK FOR US ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
FROM JUNE-SEPTEMBER

Norris	8-8:30	Housing area
Madison	9:30-10:00	Housing area/District Office
Old Faithful	11:00-11:45	Ranger Station
Grant	12:15 Pickup/Dropoff	Visitor's Center
Fishing Bridge	1:30-2:00	Visitor's Center
Canyon	3:00 Pickup/Dropoff	Visitor's Center
Tower	4:00 Pickup/Dropoff	Ranger's Station

Both the Research Library and the Archives have new summer hours. We are now open Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm. Request a book before 4 p.m. on Wednesday and we'll bring it to you. Let us know your subject area and we will bring books for you to browse. NPS-Yellowstone employees and Yellowstone Association members can sign up for a library card at the bookmobile and check out books immediately.

Contact us at (307) 344-2264 or yell_research_library@nps.gov

The **Employee Safety Committee** meets today from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the West Yellowstone Visitor Center Conference Room. Agenda items will include a sub-committee report on new employee safety orientations, discussion on draft wellness incentive program, hazard communication training, update on planning district lunches with a safety topic, discussion about Grant pedestrian walkway project, and continued discussion on information sharing between employees, work groups and the Committee. To attend via conference call dial 888-930-9220 and enter participant pass code 1885448.

Don't forget to share your "**Act of Safety**" with your Division/District Representative so we may compile and share them at the meeting and get them posted to the website in participation in DOI's "Million Acts of Safety Campaign." Through our participation we can show everyone what a fun and safe place Yellowstone and the National Park Service are to work. An "Act of Safety" can be anything from wearing your PPE on the job to talking to visitors about not approaching wildlife too closely to taking the time to report a hazardous situation to your supervisor, Committee member or the Safety Office.

There are still slots open for the June 20th **Wildland Fire refresher**. The location for this refresher is going to be the Lake Mess Hall, starting time is 0900. Please call Wildland Fire Dispatch at 344-2181 to sign up.

- - - -

Celebrate Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month! Join Yellowstone National Park employees marching in the parade and staffing an informational table about the park at the 2012 Montana Pride in Bozeman on Saturday, June 16. All NPS, concessions (Xanterra, Delaware North, Yellowstone Park Service Stations, and Medcor), and Yellowstone Association employees and volunteers are welcome. Straight allies, especially parents, friends, and family of LGBT loved ones, are especially encouraged to attend and participate in Pride. For more information, contact Kevin Franken at 307-344-2514 or Kevin_Franken@nps.gov.

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newsline."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 208 AM MDT WED JUN 13 2012

Today...Breezy. Partly cloudy in the morning...then mostly cloudy with scattered thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 57 to 63. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the late morning and afternoon. Chance of thunderstorms 40 percent.

Tonight...Breezy. Mostly cloudy. Scattered thunderstorms in the evening...then isolated rain showers and snow showers after midnight. Lows 31 to 37. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the evening. Chance of precipitation 40 percent.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs 58 to 64.



WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

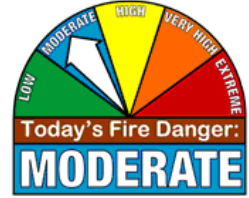
Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Thursday, June 14, 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gardiner Gateway Project Event. Superintendent Dan Wenk, Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer, and representatives of several groups and organizations are gathering in Arch Park TODAY to kick-off a major redevelopment effort of the “Gardiner Gateway” to Yellowstone National Park.

The VIPs will arrive in a Stagecoach and Old Yellow Bus, provided by Xanterra. The remarks begin at 1:30 p.m. After the remarks conclude at 2:00 p.m., representatives of all the organizations will again travel by stagecoach and bus to the Roosevelt Arch where they will sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

Gardiner leaders hope to complete some portion of the project in time for the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service on August 25, 2016.

Traffic will be temporarily rerouted away from the Roosevelt Arch for a portion of the day in conjunction with the event.

Employees need to secure pre-approval from the supervisor in order to attend the event during on-duty hours.

A Note From the Superintendent's Office

Yellowstone Staff:

While the weather has been decidedly cool and wet, the summer season has begun. I wanted to take this time to focus some attention on one of the higher frequency and most labor intensive visitor activities we manage in the park: wildlife jams and wildlife viewing opportunities.

With increasing visitation and wildlife populations, it has become apparent that there are more wildlife jams and human/wildlife interactions than the park is capable of staffing. My expectation is that all NPS employees have a role in visitor education and safety. If you encounter an unstaffed wildlife jam that involves an obvious public safety issue, such as visitors dangerously close to bears or bison, in addition to advising the park communications center, please take the time to engage the scene and mitigate to the best of your ability, training and comfort level. To be clear, your safety is the number one priority and there is no expectation to engage beyond what you feel comfortable with, which may be as simple as politely advising visitors of the required minimum distances.

If you desire training for wildlife jam management please contact the Bear Management Office staff at 307/344-2162 for the current schedule. Additionally, there is a Wildlife Jam First Responder training on the park P drive for staff who do not normally manage wildlife jams but may encounter them during the course of their duties (P:\Safety Office\Animal Jam Training).

To set up training on use of bear spray and/or Carcass Dump Safety training please contact the following staff:

Canyon, Lake, East Entrance, Grant, Snake: Eric Reinertson O: 307/344-2486 or cell: 406/210-4726
Lamar, Tower, Mammoth, Norris, Madison, West, Old Faithful, Bechler: Travis Wyman O: 307/344-2167 or cell: 406/581-0761.

The 2012 Superintendent's Compendium (P:\Supt Compendium 2012) contains a revised version of the regulation regarding minimum wildlife distances. Minimum distances remain the same at 100 yards for bears/wolves and 25 yards for other wildlife. The revised regulation simply highlights that minimum distances are just that, minimums, and that NPS staff on scene have the discretion and authority to manage each situation on a case by case basis as to what fits that particular situation.

As stewards of Yellowstone National Park, we have the responsibility to provide for and manage appropriate viewing opportunities, all the while ensuring safety of the public and the park resources. The management of wildlife jams can be an extremely frustrating and fatiguing activity. Please keep in mind, as you engage with your 1000th (or 1st) visitor who is too close to wildlife, that viewing the animals we are privileged to observe on a daily basis, is a life experience for the majority of our Yellowstone visitors.

Be safe and keep your sense of wonder, humor and courtesy intact. Have a great and safe summer season.

Steve Iobst
Deputy Superintendent

- - - -



Fire cache employees at a fire shelter deployment site known as Post Point. (NPS Photo)

Fire Cache Completes Staff Ride for 1937 Blackwater Fire.

On Thursday June 7, 16 members from Yellowstone's Fire Cache hiked 10.5 miles from the bottom of Blackwater Creek along Hwy 14 to the top of the tree line above 9,000 feet and back, to learn about the events of August 20, 1937, during which 15 firefighters were killed while battling the Blackwater Fire. This training exercise is known as a "staff ride" and mirrors the method used by the military. Several "stands" along the hike served as focal points to stop and discuss events that occurred either at that exact location or as a vantage point to get a feel for what the firefighters were up against. Most of the firefighters who were killed were

members of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), who were scattered throughout the country. Yellowstone National Park even provided a 54-person CCC crew to help extinguish the fire, and they were on the "front lines" when the fire blew up. Fortunately, they were in a place where they were able to get to safety as the fire exploded. This August 20 will be the 75th year since the fire claimed the lives of 15 firefighters. Next time you travel along the east entrance road between Yellowstone and Cody, stop by the Blackwater Memorial and read the names of those who died.

- - - -

A reminder that **Green Team** is taking meetings on the road this summer to hear area issues related to waste reduction/recycling, energy and water conservation, green purchasing and the use of environmentally friendly materials. Please join us for these meetings at 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

May 31st - Old Faithful/Madison/West

main issues discussed =

- recycling
- VEC interior lighting replacements needed
- VEC energy use data needed

June 7th - Tower/Lamar/NE

main issues discussed =

- recycling at NE Entrance
- dark sky/outdoor lighting improvements needed
- no-idling info needed at the gate

July 5th - Grant/South

August 2nd - Lake/East

September 6th - Canyon/Norris

From Dan Downing: My current term position ends this week my last day in the office will be 06/14/12. If you need radios programmed, vehicles installs or radio training, email Yell Radio Group or phone Trent Coppinger at x2434, Dustin Sene at x2432, John Darr at x2431, or Bret DeYoung at x2070. Hope to be back soon. Thanks, I have enjoyed working with you folks all these years.

Maintenance work Orders: Please send your work orders to YELLWorkorders, and we will take care of putting them into the system. In the past, work orders were going to various folks' inboxes and/or voicemails, and then not getting put into the system in a timely manner if that person was out of the office. So this will be one-stop shopping for non-emergency work orders.

If your work order is of an emergency nature, such as no heat, broken pipes, etc., please continue to call Debby Young, Nancy Patterson, Lauryl Mack, or Lloyd Krueger to report. After hours or on weekends, please notify the Comm Center, who will then notify the appropriate maintenance personnel.

MAMMOTH CLEAN-UP DAY, JUNE 27, 2012: Want a legitimate excuse to get away from the desk and enjoy the fresh air, while at the same time performing a community service? Join us at the north district maintenance office at 8:30 am. Safety vests, gloves, and trash bags will be provided. Afterward, enjoy a free tube steak lunch, featuring delicacies as prepared by local chefs.

Yellowstone Bookmobile: LOOK FOR US ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM JUNE-SEPTEMBER

Norris	8-8:30	Housing area
Madison	9:30-10:00	Housing area/District Office
Old Faithful	11:00-11:45	Ranger Station
Grant	12:15 Pickup/Dropoff	Visitor's Center
Fishing Bridge	1:30-2:00	Visitor's Center
Canyon	3:00 Pickup/Dropoff	Visitor's Center
Tower	4:00 Pickup/Dropoff	Ranger's Station

Both the Research Library and the Archives have new summer hours. We are now open Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm. Request a book before 4 p.m. on Wednesday and we'll bring it to you. Let us know your subject area and we will bring books for you to browse. NPS-Yellowstone employees and Yellowstone Association members can sign up for a library card at the bookmobile and check out books immediately.

Contact us at (307) 344-2264 or yell_research_library@nps.gov

- - - -

There are still slots open for the June 20th **Wildland Fire refresher**. The location for this refresher is going to be the Lake Mess Hall, starting time is 0900. Please call Wildland Fire Dispatch at 344-2181 to sign up.

- - - -

Celebrate Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month! Join Yellowstone National Park employees marching in the parade and staffing an informational table about the park at the 2012 Montana Pride in Bozeman on Saturday, June 16. All NPS, concessions (Xanterra, Delaware North, Yellowstone Park Service Stations, and Medcor), and Yellowstone Association employees and volunteers are welcome. Straight allies, especially parents, friends, and family of LGBT loved ones, are especially encouraged to attend and participate in Pride. For more information, contact Kevin Franken at 307-344-2514 or Kevin_Franken@nps.gov.

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newslne."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 248 AM MDT THU JUN 14 2012

Today...Partly cloudy. Highs 57 to 63.

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows 33 to 39. Southwest winds around 15 mph early in the evening.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Slight chance of rain showers and isolated thunderstorms in the morning...then isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 56 to 64. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Friday Night...Partly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the evening. Lows 31 to 37. West winds around 15 mph in the evening. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs 61 to 67.

Saturday Night...Partly cloudy. Lows 37 to 43.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

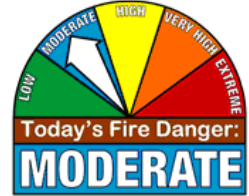
Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Friday, June 15, 2012



Gardiner Gateway: Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer (top left on stagecoach) and Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Dan Wenk were among the many dignitaries on hand Thursday June 14 for the signing of the historic "Gardiner Gateway" partnership agreement. The project is an effort by the NPS to revitalize Yellowstone's North Entrance, improve traffic circulation and enhance visitor safety along Park Street in Gardiner. (NPS photo, Jim Peaco)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Note From the Superintendent's Office

Yellowstone Staff:

While the weather has been decidedly cool and wet, the summer season has begun. I wanted to take this time to focus some attention on one of the higher frequency and most labor intensive visitor activities we manage in the park: wildlife jams and wildlife viewing opportunities.

With increasing visitation and wildlife populations, it has become apparent that there are more wildlife jams and human/wildlife interactions than the park is capable of staffing. My expectation is that all NPS employees have a role in visitor education and safety. If you encounter an unstaffed wildlife jam that involves an obvious public

safety issue, such as visitors dangerously close to bears or bison, in addition to advising the park communications center, please take the time to engage the scene and mitigate to the best of your ability, training and comfort level. To be clear, your safety is the number one priority and there is no expectation to engage beyond what you feel comfortable with, which may be as simple as politely advising visitors of the required minimum distances.

If you desire training for wildlife jam management please contact the Bear Management Office staff at 307/344-2162 for the current schedule. Additionally, there is a Wildlife Jam First Responder training on the park P drive for staff who do not normally manage wildlife jams but may encounter them during the course of their duties (P:\Safety Office\Animal Jam Training).

To set up training on use of bear spray and/or Carcass Dump Safety training please contact the following staff:

Canyon, Lake, East Entrance, Grant, Snake: Eric Reinertson O: 307/344-2486 or cell: 406/210-4726
Lamar, Tower, Mammoth, Norris, Madison, West, Old Faithful, Bechler: Travis Wyman O: 307/344-2167 or cell: 406/581-0761.

The 2012 Superintendent's Compendium (P:\Supt Compendium 2012) contains a revised version of the regulation regarding minimum wildlife distances. Minimum distances remain the same at 100 yards for bears/wolves and 25 yards for other wildlife. The revised regulation simply highlights that minimum distances are just that, minimums, and that NPS staff on scene have the discretion and authority to manage each situation on a case by case basis as to what fits that particular situation.

As stewards of Yellowstone National Park, we have the responsibility to provide for and manage appropriate viewing opportunities, all the while ensuring safety of the public and the park resources. The management of wildlife jams can be an extremely frustrating and fatiguing activity. Please keep in mind, as you engage with your 1000th (or 1st) visitor who is too close to wildlife, that viewing the animals we are privileged to observe on a daily basis, is a life experience for the majority of our Yellowstone visitors.

Be safe and keep your sense of wonder, humor and courtesy intact. Have a great and safe summer season.

Steve Iobst
Deputy Superintendent

- - - -



Fire cache employees at a fire shelter deployment site known as Post Point. (NPS Photo)

Fire Cache Completes Staff Ride for 1937 Blackwater Fire.

On Thursday June 7, 16 members from Yellowstone's Fire Cache hiked 10.5 miles from the bottom of Blackwater Creek along Hwy 14 to the top of the tree line above 9,000 feet and back, to learn about the events of August 20, 1937, during which 15 firefighters were killed while battling the Blackwater Fire. This training exercise is known as a "staff ride" and mirrors the method used by the military. Several "stands" along the hike served as focal points to stop and discuss events that occurred either at that exact location or as a vantage point to get a feel for what the firefighters were up against. Most of the firefighters who were killed were

members of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), who were scattered throughout the country. Yellowstone National Park even provided a 54-person CCC crew to help extinguish the fire, and they were on the “front lines” when the fire blew up. Fortunately, they were in a place where they were able to get to safety as the fire exploded. This August 20 will be the 75th year since the fire claimed the lives of 15 firefighters. Next time you travel along the east entrance road between Yellowstone and Cody, stop by the Blackwater Memorial and read the names of those who died.

- - - -

Come and toast/roast **Michael Keator and his wife Mary Taber** on their June 30th retirement. The dutch oven potluck is Saturday July 14, 2012 at Lake, down past the boathouse, from 1pm -5pm. We'll have coals for dutch ovens and a grill set up for any meat you want to bring. This is BYOB and bring your own chair!

- - - -

A reminder that **Green Team** is taking meetings on the road this summer to hear area issues related to waste reduction/recycling, energy and water conservation, green purchasing and the use of environmentally friendly materials. Please join us for these meetings at 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

May 31st - Old Faithful/Madison/West

main issues discussed =

- recycling
- VEC interior lighting replacements needed
- VEC energy use data needed

June 7th - Tower/Lamar/NE

main issues discussed =

- recycling at NE Entrance
- dark sky/outdoor lighting improvements needed
- no-idling info needed at the gate

July 5th - Grant/South

August 2nd - Lake/East

September 6th - Canyon/Norris

- - - -

Maintenance work Orders: Please send your work orders to YELLWorkorders, and we will take care of putting them into the system. In the past, work orders were going to various folks' inboxes and/or voicemails, and then not getting put into the system in a timely manner if that person was out of the office. So this will be one-stop shopping for non-emergency work orders.

If your work order is of an emergency nature, such as no heat, broken pipes, etc., please continue to call Debby Young, Nancy Patterson, Lauryl Mack, or Lloyd Krueger to report. After hours or on weekends, please notify the Comm Center, who will then notify the appropriate maintenance personnel.

- - - -

MAMMOTH CLEAN-UP DAY, JUNE 27, 2012: Want a legitimate excuse to get away from the desk and enjoy the fresh air, while at the same time performing a community service? Join us at the north district maintenance office at 8:30 am. Safety vests, gloves, and trash bags will be provided. Afterward, enjoy a free tube steak lunch, featuring delicacies as prepared by local chefs.

Celebrate Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month! Join Yellowstone National Park employees marching in the parade and staffing an informational table about the park at the 2012 Montana Pride in Bozeman on Saturday, June 16. All NPS, concessions (Xanterra, Delaware North, Yellowstone Park Service Stations, and Medcor), and Yellowstone Association employees and volunteers are welcome. Straight allies, especially parents, friends, and family of LGBT loved ones, are especially encouraged to attend and participate in Pride. For more information, contact Kevin Franken at 307-344-2514 or Kevin_Franken@nps.gov.

RECENT PARK NEWS RELEASES

Yellowstone Observes LGBT Pride Month

Yellowstone National Park joins the nation in observing the month of June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month.

<http://www.nps.gov/yell/parknews/12038.htm>

Yellowstone Park to Conduct Safety Checks on Commercial Vehicles

Yellowstone National Park rangers and state and federal transportation officials will conduct safety evaluations of commercial vehicles and operators traveling in the park throughout the summer season.

<http://www.nps.gov/yell/parknews/12037.htm>

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newslines."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 249 AM MDT FRI JUN 15 2012

Today...Partly cloudy. Slight chance of rain showers in the morning...then isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 58 to 64. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the evening. Lows 32 to 38. West winds around 15 mph early in the evening. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs 62 to 70. West winds around 15 mph late in the afternoon.

Saturday Night...Partly cloudy. Lows 37 to 43. Southwest winds around 15 mph.

Sunday...Breezy. Partly cloudy. Slight chance of rain showers in the morning...then slight chance of rain showers and isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 62 to 70. Southwest winds around 15 mph increasing to 20 to 25 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Sunday Night...Breezy. Partly cloudy. Slight chance of rain showers and isolated thunderstorms in the evening...then slight chance of rain showers after midnight. Lows 36 to 42. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

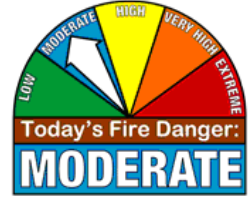
Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Monday, June 18, 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mammoth HQ Parking: Starting TODAY, the construction area in back of the Administration Bldg. in Mammoth between the Administration bldg. and the Blacksmith shop will be blocked off to parking.

This is a construction area, vehicles parked in this area and the constant flow of traffic through this area has created a safety hazard for the workers and pedestrians alike. This past week one employee was almost struck by a park vehicle that was driving through this construction zone.

The crew working on this roofing project will begin to load materials onto the roof using the (Extend-a-boom) fork-lift. This piece of equipment is long and requires quite a bit of room in order to maneuver. It is also difficult to see out of and we cannot have vehicles parked in this construction area or driving through.

Blocking this area off will result in losing three more of the "Official" / "Designated" parking spaces on the south side of the blacksmith shop near fenced in air-conditioning unit. We need these three additional parking spaces on the south side of the blacksmith shop in order to be able to maneuver the fork-lift to access the roof tile.

There is room in the parking lot on the north side of the blacksmith shop (in front of the Contracting /Telecommunications Bldg.) to provide a center parking lane to replace the 3 - 4 "Official" / "Designated" parking spaces that will be blocked off. Pedestrians should also watch out for their own safety and avoid walking through this construction area as much as possible. There will be times that we will be blocking off one or both of the back doors to avoid putting you and others at risk.

Please make sure that all employees know that this is a construction area.

Sorry for this inconvenience, but the safety of all of our employees should be our primary concern.

- - - -

A Note From the Superintendent's Office

Yellowstone Staff:

While the weather has been decidedly cool and wet, the summer season has begun. I wanted to take this time to focus some attention on one of the higher frequency and most labor intensive visitor activities we manage in the park: wildlife jams and wildlife viewing opportunities.

With increasing visitation and wildlife populations, it has become apparent that there are more wildlife jams and human/wildlife interactions than the park is capable of staffing. My expectation is that all NPS employees have a role in visitor education and safety. If you encounter an unstaffed wildlife jam that involves an obvious public safety issue, such as visitors dangerously close to bears or bison, in addition to advising the park communications center, please take the time to engage the scene and mitigate to the best of your ability, training and comfort level. To be clear, your safety is the number one priority and there is no expectation to engage beyond what you feel comfortable with, which may be as simple as politely advising visitors of the required minimum distances.

If you desire training for wildlife jam management please contact the Bear Management Office staff at 307/344-2162 for the current schedule. Additionally, there is a Wildlife Jam First Responder training on the park P drive for staff who do not normally manage wildlife jams but may encounter them during the course of their duties (P:\Safety Office\Animal Jam Training).

To set up training on use of bear spray and/or Carcass Dump Safety training please contact the following staff:

Canyon, Lake, East Entrance, Grant, Snake: Eric Reinertson O: 307/344-2486 or cell: 406/210-4726
Lamar, Tower, Mammoth, Norris, Madison, West, Old Faithful, Bechler: Travis Wyman O: 307/344-2167 or cell: 406/581-0761.

The 2012 Superintendent's Compendium (P:\Supt Compendium 2012) contains a revised version of the regulation regarding minimum wildlife distances. Minimum distances remain the same at 100 yards for bears/wolves and 25 yards for other wildlife. The revised regulation simply highlights that minimum distances are just that, minimums, and that NPS staff on scene have the discretion and authority to manage each situation on a case by case basis as to what fits that particular situation.

As stewards of Yellowstone National Park, we have the responsibility to provide for and manage appropriate viewing opportunities, all the while ensuring safety of the public and the park resources. The management of wildlife jams can be an extremely frustrating and fatiguing activity. Please keep in mind, as you engage with your 1000th (or 1st) visitor who is too close to wildlife, that viewing the animals we are privileged to observe on a daily basis, is a life experience for the majority of our Yellowstone visitors.

Be safe and keep your sense of wonder, humor and courtesy intact. Have a great and safe summer season.

Steve Iobst
Deputy Superintendent

- - - -

If you are having trouble finding the **YELLWorkorders** inbox on Lotus notes, please note that it was set up as all one word, thinking that would make it easier to type into address line. If you are looking for it in the NPS Directory, it is confusing because it is all the way at the end, past the YELL addresses, since it is being read as all one word "Yellworkorders." If your work order is of an emergency nature, such as no heat, broken pipes, etc., please continue to call Debby Young, Nancy Patterson, Lauryl Mack, or Lloyd Krueger to report. After hours or on weekends, please notify the Comm Center, who will then notify the appropriate maintenance personnel.

- - - -

Come and toast/roast **Michael Keator and his wife Mary Taber** on their June 30th retirement. The dutch oven potluck is Saturday July 14, 2012 at Lake, down past the boathouse, from 1pm -5pm. We'll have coals for dutch ovens and a grill set up for any meat you want to bring. This is BYOB and bring your own chair!

- - - -

MAMMOTH CLEAN-UP DAY, JUNE 27, 2012: Want a legitimate excuse to get away from the desk and enjoy the fresh air, while at the same time performing a community service? Join us at the north district maintenance office at 8:30 am. Safety vests, gloves, and trash bags will be provided. Afterward, enjoy a free tube steak lunch, featuring delicacies as prepared by local chefs.

- - - -

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newslines."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 142 AM MDT MON JUN 18 2012

Today...Windy. Partly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds in the afternoon. Highs 55 to 63. Southwest winds 25 to 30 mph with gusts to around 45 mph. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Tonight...Windy. Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms in the evening...then mostly cloudy with isolated snow showers after midnight. Some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds in the evening. Lows 27 to 33. Southwest winds 30 to 35 mph. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Tuesday...Partly cloudy with isolated rain showers and snow showers in the morning...then mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 47 to 53. West winds around 15 mph in the late morning and afternoon. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Tuesday Night...Partly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the evening. Lows 29 to 35. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs 53 to 59.

Wednesday Night...Partly cloudy in the evening then clearing. Lows 32 to 38.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

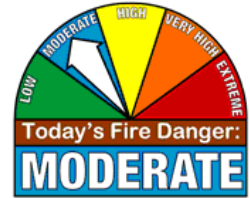
Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Tuesday, June 19, 2012



One of the best things about living in the park is avoiding the wildlife jams by waiting for the little critters to pop up in your own backyard! (NPS photos, Dan Hottle)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mammoth HQ Parking: The construction area in back of the Administration Bldg. in Mammoth between the Administration bldg. and the Blacksmith shop has been blocked off to parking.

This is a construction area, vehicles parked in this area and the constant flow of traffic through this area has created a safety hazard for the workers and pedestrians alike. This past week one employee was almost struck by a park vehicle that was driving through this construction zone.

The crew working on this roofing project will begin to load materials onto the roof using the (Extend-a-boom) fork-lift. This piece of equipment is long and requires quite a bit of room in order to maneuver. It is also difficult to see out of and we cannot have vehicles parked in this construction area or driving through.

Blocking this area off will result in losing three more of the "Official" / "Designated" parking spaces on the south side of the blacksmith shop near fenced in air-conditioning unit. We need these three additional parking spaces on the south side of the blacksmith shop in order to be able to maneuver the fork-lift to access the roof tile.

There is room in the parking lot on the north side of the blacksmith shop (in front of the Contracting /Telecommunications Bldg.) to provide a center parking lane to replace the 3 - 4 "Official" / "Designated" parking spaces that will be blocked off. Pedestrians should also watch out for their own safety and avoid walking through this construction area as much as possible. There will be times that we will be blocking off one or both of the back doors to avoid putting you and others at risk.

Please make sure that all employees know that this is a construction area.

Sorry for this inconvenience, but the safety of all of our employees should be our primary concern.

- - - -

If you are having trouble finding the **YELLWorkorders** inbox on Lotus notes, please note that it was set up as all one word, thinking that would make it easier to type into address line. If you are looking for it in the NPS Directory, it is confusing because it is all the way at the end, past the YELL addresses, since it is being read as all one word "Yellworkorders." If your work order is of an emergency nature, such as no heat, broken pipes, etc., please continue to call Debby Young, Nancy Patterson, Lauryl Mack, or Lloyd Krueger to report. After hours or on weekends, please notify the Comm Center, who will then notify the appropriate maintenance personnel.

- - - -

A **very friendly orange/brown cat** was found this week on the road between the North Entrance station and the Roosevelt Arch. He seemed to be searching each car that came along and was checking out people stopped to take pictures -- perhaps looking for his owner. A unique colored, very sweet cat that has been well cared for -- not at all frightened to ride in a car -- not a typical stray.

Please pass this information on to anyone you know who might have lost this cat -- or if you would like to give him (maybe her!) a home, contact the Gardiner Chamber of Commerce office at 848-7971.

- - - -

Come and toast/roast **Michael Keator and his wife Mary Taber** on their June 30th retirement. The dutch oven potluck is Saturday July 14, 2012 at Lake, down past the boathouse, from 1pm -5pm. We'll have coals for dutch ovens and a grill set up for any meat you want to bring. This is BYOB and bring your own chair!

- - - -

MAMMOTH CLEAN-UP DAY, JUNE 27, 2012: Want a legitimate excuse to get away from the desk and enjoy the fresh air, while at the same time performing a community service? Join us at the north district maintenance office at 8:30 am. Safety vests, gloves, and trash bags will be provided. Afterward, enjoy a free tube steak lunch, featuring delicacies as prepared by local chefs.

- - - -

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newslines."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 236 AM MDT TUE JUN 19 2012

Today...Breezy. Partly cloudy with isolated rain showers and snow showers in the morning...then mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs 46 to 52. West winds 15 to 20 mph in the late morning and afternoon. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Tonight...Mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms in the evening...then partly cloudy after midnight. Lows 30 to 36. West winds around 15 mph early in the evening. Chance of thunderstorms 20 percent.

Wednesday...Not as cool. Partly cloudy. Highs 55 to 61.

Wednesday Night...Partly cloudy in the evening then clearing. Lows 32 to 38.

Thursday...Warmer. Mostly sunny. Highs 65 to 73.

Thursday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 40 to 46.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Wednesday, June 20, 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Linx Bus in Yellowstone service will operate from June 22 through the 2012 summer season.

Counter-Clockwise	Departure
West Yellowstone	9:00am
Madison	9:30am
Old Faithful	10:00am
Grant village	10:40am
Bridge Bay	11:10am
Lake Village	11:20am
Fishing Bridge	11:30am
Canyon	12:05pm
Norris	12:30pm
Madison	1:00pm
arr. West Yellowstone	1:30pm

Clockwise	Departure
West Yellowstone	3:00pm
Madison	3:30pm
Norris	4:00pm
Canyon	4:25pm
Fishing Bridge	5:00pm
Lake Village	5:10pm
Bridge Bay	5:20pm
Grant Village	5:50pm
Old Faithful	6:30pm
Madison	7:00pm
arr. West Yellowstone	7:30pm

Questions?
Call us 877-454-5469



Linx Bus in Yellowstone 2012
Bus transportation for Yellowstone National Park, connecting West Yellowstone with south loop lodging and destinations.



A one-day pass is \$20, or passes for five consecutive days can be purchased for \$80. Passes must be purchased prior to boarding the bus as drivers cannot accept payment. The price does not include the park entrance fee of \$12/person, valid for 7 days.

www.linx.coop

Contact information for Linx providers serving the Greater Yellowstone region can be found on the Linx website at:

www.linx.coop

Questions?

Call us at 877-454-5469
or e-mail us at linxbus@linx.coop

Travel tips

- Be at the Ride Linx in Yellowstone bus stop-look for the bus stop sign
- Look for the Linx Logo on the bus
- Ride Linx in Yellowstone will run as close as possible to schedule times
- Allow extra time for bison jams and road construction

Scan the QR code below to be directed to the Linx Bus in Yellowstone website.



The **Tower Falls trail** will temporarily be closed from 6/21 to 6/26 between the hours of 9am to 4pm for trail construction. The viewing platform will remain open at all hours. The reason is for visitor protection and safety as augers and chainsaws will be used.

A re-work has been completed on the **Winter Use section of the Yellowstone public Web page**. The new pages are an attempt to condense the huge amount of information that is housed electronically spanning years of Winter Use planning and operations, and to make the pages more user-friendly and intuitive to the visitor. They are also designed to be able to post updated information quickly and easily as planning actions occur, keeping the public consistently updated on the issue. A big THANK YOU to Peggy Olliff of Interp's Web team for making the 0's and 1's all line up and do what they are supposed to do! Check them out at <http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/winteruse.htm>

If you are having trouble finding the **YELLWorkorders** inbox on Lotus notes, please note that it was set up as all one word, thinking that would make it easier to type into address line. If you are looking for it in the NPS Directory, it is confusing because it is all the way at the end, past the YELL addresses, since it is being read as all one word "Yellworkorders." If your work order is of an emergency nature, such as no heat, broken pipes, etc., please continue to call Debby Young, Nancy Patterson, Lauryl Mack, or Lloyd Krueger to report. After hours or on weekends, please notify the Comm Center, who will then notify the appropriate maintenance personnel.

Mountain Mobil Auto Glass will be at the Mammoth Garage Thursday June 21. If you are in need of glass work on Government vehicles please call Tom Monroe 307 344-2321 or Randy Froelich 307 344 -2322 to set up an appointment. For personal work please call Randy Stands at 406 220-7891.

MAMMOTH CLEAN-UP DAY, JUNE 27, 2012: Want a legitimate excuse to get away from the desk and enjoy the fresh air, while at the same time performing a community service? Join us at the north district maintenance office at 8:30 am. Safety vests, gloves, and trash bags will be provided. Afterward, enjoy a free tube steak lunch, featuring delicacies as prepared by local chefs.

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newslne."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 220 AM MDT WED JUN 20 2012

Today...Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing. Highs 56 to 62.

Tonight...Mostly clear. Lows 32 to 38.

Thursday...Warmer. Mostly sunny. Highs 64 to 72.

Thursday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 39 to 45.

Friday...Mostly sunny. Highs 68 to 76. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the afternoon.

Friday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 41 to 47.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at [YELL Public Affairs @nps.gov](mailto:YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov) (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Thursday, June 21, 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fire Danger is now HIGH. The potential for fire activity has increased due to very dry vegetation combined with warmer temperatures, low humidity and strong winds. Yellowstone residents and visitors alike should exercise caution and practice heightened fire safety at all times.

A high fire danger rating means that fires can start easily and spread quickly. When determining fire danger ratings, fire managers use several indices such as: the moisture content of grasses, shrubs and trees; projected weather conditions (including temperatures and possible wind events); the ability of fire to spread after ignition; and the availability of firefighting resources across the country.

Last week, **firefighters from Yellowstone NP and the Gallatin NF** participated in a two-day Leadership development course presented by our Fire Cache. The course was created by the National Wildland Fire Coordinating Group and titled *Followership to Leadership*. It specifically targets young, emergent leaders and gives them the tools they need to succeed as leaders in the wildland fire environment and beyond. Experienced leaders are also encouraged to attend the course if they have not yet had the opportunity. The second day of the course includes six field exercises in which the students alternate fulfilling the leadership role and providing purpose, direction, and motivation for their teammates to complete a challenging task in a time-compressed environment.



In the photo a team is tasked with safely navigating a 100-yard course blindfolded while holding a 25' length of rope. Only the leader can see the course and must communicate instructions to the entire team. During her opportunity as a team leader, second-year firefighter Kate Hall lead her team to the best score of the day (5:15).

LINX Schedule

The Linx Bus in Yellowstone service will operate from June 22 through the 2012 summer season.

Counter-Clockwise	Departure
West Yellowstone	9:00am
Madison	9:30am
Old Faithful	10:00am
Grant village	10:40am
Bridge Bay	11:10am
Lake Village	11:20am
Fishing Bridge	11:30am
Canyon	12:05pm
Norris	12:30pm
Madison	1:00pm
arr. West Yellowstone	1:30pm

Clockwise	Departure
West Yellowstone	3:00pm
Madison	3:30pm
Norris	4:00pm
Canyon	4:25pm
Fishing Bridge	5:00pm
Lake Village	5:10pm
Bridge Bay	5:20pm
Grant Village	5:50pm
Old Faithful	6:30pm
Madison	7:00pm
arr. West Yellowstone	7:30pm

Linx
Connecting People and Places

Linx Bus in Yellowstone 2012
Bus transportation for Yellowstone National Park, connecting West Yellowstone with south loop lodging and destinations.

Contact information for Linx providers serving the Greater Yellowstone region can be found on the Linx website at:
www.linx.coop

Questions?
Call us at 877-454-5469
or e-mail us at linxbus@linx.coop

Travel tips

- Be at the Ride Linx in Yellowstone bus stop-look for the bus stop sign
- Look for the Linx Logo on the bus
- Ride Linx in Yellowstone will run as close as possible to schedule times
- Allow extra time for bison jams and road construction

Scan the QR code below to be directed to the Linx Bus in Yellowstone website.



A one-day pass is \$20, or passes for five consecutive days can be purchased for \$80. Passes must be purchased prior to boarding the bus as drivers cannot accept payment. The price does not include the park entrance fee of \$12/person, valid for 7 days.

Questions?
Call us 877-454-5469
www.linx.coop

Employee Safety Committee: Minutes from the June 13 Employee Safety Committee Meeting have been posted to the Sharepoint site at: <http://inpyellshare/emsc>

You will find them located under Documents-Agendas and Minutes, folder Meeting Minutes, folder 2012 Meeting Minutes, pdf document Employee Safety Committee Minutes 6-13-2012

This week marks the thirteenth anniversary of the **Supreme Court's decision in *Olmstead v. L.C.***, where the Supreme Court recognized that the civil rights of people with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) are violated when they are unnecessarily segregated from the rest of society. The promise of *Olmstead* is that people with disabilities will have the opportunity to live like people without disabilities – to have friends, work, be part of a family, and participate in community activities. As the Department of Justice commemorates the anniversary of the *Olmstead* decision and reaffirms our commitment to its enforcement, we are pleased to present **"Faces of Olmstead," a website profiling stories** of some of the thousands of people whose lives have been impacted by the *Olmstead* decision and the Department's enforcement efforts.

Yellowstone's significant contributions: include completed and upcoming construction of ADA-compliant accessible routes at Norris Geyser Basin (Steamboat Geyser and back basin area), Canyon (North Rim area) and Tower (Calcite Springs overlook area), as well as captioned films in our Visitor Education Centers. For more information, visit <http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm>

Cool story: Amy Saffell of Nashville, TN visited the park last summer and was so inspired by her ability to get around in her wheelchair in Yellowstone, that she wrote an article about it. Read it at <http://www.mobilewomen.org/2011/09/wilderness-vacations-theyre-for-people.html#more>

Reminder from CSS: When bringing your LAPTOP computer in for repair, ALWAYS bring a power cord for it. We do not have spares for all models of laptops. When bringing your DESKTOP computer in for repairs, no cords or cables are needed. Thanks!

The **Tower Falls trail** will temporarily be closed from TODAY to 6/26 between the hours of 9am to 4pm for trail construction. The viewing platform will remain open at all hours. The reason is for visitor protection and safety as augers and chainsaws will be used.

A re-work has been completed on the **Winter Use section of the Yellowstone public Web page**. The new pages are an attempt to condense the huge amount of information that is housed electronically spanning years of Winter Use planning and operations, and to make the pages more user-friendly and intuitive to the visitor. They are also designed to be able to post updated information quickly and easily as planning actions occur, keeping the public consistently updated on the issue. A big THANK YOU to Peggy Olliff of Interp's Web team for making the 0's and 1's all line up and do what they are supposed to do! Check them out at <http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/winteruse.htm>

Mountain Mobil Auto Glass is at the Mammoth Garage TODAY. If you are in need of glass work on Government vehicles please call Tom Monroe 307 344-2321 or Randy Froelich 307 344 -2322 to set up an appointment. For personal work please call Randy Stands at 406 220-7891.

MAMMOTH CLEAN-UP DAY, JUNE 27, 2012: Want a legitimate excuse to get away from the desk and enjoy the fresh air, while at the same time performing a community service? Join us at the north district maintenance office at 8:30 am. Safety vests, gloves, and trash bags will be provided. Afterward, enjoy a free tube steak lunch, featuring delicacies as prepared by local chefs.

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newslines."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 318 AM MDT THU JUN 21 2012

Today...Mostly sunny. Highs 65 to 73.

Tonight...Mostly clear. Lows 39 to 45.

Friday...Breezy. Mostly sunny. Highs 69 to 77. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon.

Friday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 41 to 47. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the evening.

Saturday...Mostly sunny. Highs 75 to 81. South winds around 15 mph in the afternoon.

Saturday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 44 to 50.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Friday, June 22, 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORY:

***Nick Hall**, a Mt. Rainier Ranger who worked as a Yellowstone avalanche forecaster out of Lake District during the 2011-2012 winter season, died tragically in the line of duty yesterday. The following news story ran today in the Seattle Times.*

Ranger killed during rescue of climbers on Mount Rainier

A ranger with Mount Rainier National Park died Thursday afternoon while rescuing climbers, two of whom had fallen into a crevasse.

By [Alexa Vaughn](#), Seattle Times, June 22, 2012

Nick Hall, a climbing ranger at Mount Rainier National Park, fell 3,700 feet to his death Thursday afternoon, after helping rescue two climbers who had fallen into a crevasse, according to a park news release. The two women who fell into the crevasse were part of a party of four, two women and two men, from Waco, Texas.

As Hall, 34, was preparing some of the climbers for helicopter evacuation at 4:59 p.m., he fell down the mountain's northeast side from the 13,700-foot level. He was not moving after his fall, and attempts to contact him were unsuccessful, the release said.

Climbers reached him hours later and confirmed he had died.

Hall, a native of Patten, Maine, had been with the park's climbing program for four years, the release said. News of his death was withheld for several hours Thursday night until his next of kin could be notified.

The climbers who fell into the crevasse had slipped on their descent down Emmons Glacier after hiking to Mount Rainier's 14,411-foot summit around 1:45 p.m. Thursday.

As the two women were dangling inside the crevasse at the 13,700-foot level, one of the other climbers was able to contact rescue rangers by cell phone.

The rescue team was able to reach the climbers fairly fast.

The two women climbers were pulled to safety by 3:10 p.m. The four climbers, who range in age from 18 to 53, have injuries from slipping and having a few hundred pounds of force yank on their harnesses at the end of the fall, but none are life-threatening, said Kevin Bacher, a park spokesman.

A rapidly lowering cloud ceiling and 40-mph winds made it tough for a Chinook helicopter from Joint Base Lewis-McChord to reach the climbers, but three were eventually lifted away at around 9 p.m., Bacher said.

The fourth climber stayed on the mountain overnight with rescue rangers. If weather prevents a helicopter rescue in the morning, rangers will help her down the mountain on foot. The others are being treated at Madigan Army Medical Center.

Hall's death comes during what has already proved a difficult year for park staff. On New Year's Day, Ranger Margaret Anderson was fatally shot as she tried to stop a man who drove through a tire-chain checkpoint near Longmire. The man, Benjamin Colton Barnes, 24, was suspected in a shooting in Seattle. His body was found the next day about a mile away.

Fire Danger is now HIGH. The potential for fire activity has increased due to very dry vegetation combined with warmer temperatures, low humidity and strong winds. Yellowstone residents and visitors alike should exercise caution and practice heightened fire safety at all times.

A high fire danger rating means that fires can start easily and spread quickly. When determining fire danger ratings, fire managers use several indices such as: the moisture content of grasses, shrubs and trees; projected weather conditions (including temperatures and possible wind events); the ability of fire to spread after ignition; and the availability of firefighting resources across the country.

Last week, **firefighters from Yellowstone NP and the Gallatin NF** participated in a two-day Leadership development course presented by our Fire Cache. The course was created by the National Wildland Fire Coordinating Group and titled *Followership to Leadership*. It specifically targets young, emergent leaders and gives them the tools they need to succeed as leaders in the wildland fire environment and beyond. Experienced leaders are also encouraged to attend the course if they have not yet had the opportunity. The second day of the course includes six field exercises in which the students alternate fulfilling the leadership role and providing purpose, direction, and motivation for their teammates to complete a challenging task in a time-compressed environment.



In the photo a team is tasked with safely navigating a 100-yard course blindfolded while holding a 25' length of rope. Only the leader can see the course and must communicate instructions to the entire team. During her opportunity as a team leader, second-year firefighter Kate Hall lead her team to the best score of the day (5:15).

LINX Schedule

The Linx Bus in Yellowstone service will operate from June 22 through the 2012 summer season.

Counter-Clockwise	Departure
West Yellowstone	9:00am
Madison	9:30am
Old Faithful	10:00am
Grant village	10:40am
Bridge Bay	11:10am
Lake Village	11:20am
Fishing Bridge	11:30am
Canyon	12:05pm
Norris	12:30pm
Madison	1:00pm
arr. West Yellowstone	1:30pm

Clockwise	Departure
West Yellowstone	3:00pm
Madison	3:30pm
Norris	4:00pm
Canyon	4:25pm
Fishing Bridge	5:00pm
Lake Village	5:10pm
Bridge Bay	5:20pm
Grant Village	5:50pm
Old Faithful	6:30pm
Madison	7:00pm
arr. West Yellowstone	7:30pm

Questions?
Call us 877-454-5469

www.linx.coop

Linx Bus in Yellowstone 2012
Bus transportation for Yellowstone National Park, connecting West Yellowstone with south loop lodging and destinations.



A one-day pass is \$20, or passes for five consecutive days can be purchased for \$80. Passes must be purchased prior to boarding the bus as drivers cannot accept payment. The price does not include the park entrance fee of \$12/person, valid for 7 days.

Questions?
Call us at 877-454-5469
or e-mail us at linxbus@linx.coop

Travel tips

- Be at the Ride Linx in Yellowstone bus stop-look for the bus stop sign
- Look for the Linx Logo on the bus
- Ride Linx in Yellowstone will run as close as possible to schedule times
- Allow extra time for bison jams and road construction

Scan the QR code below to be directed to the Linx Bus in Yellowstone website.



RESIDENTS OF LOWER & UPPER MAMMOTH:



HOUNDS TONGUE

You are being invaded! Not by tourists or elk calves and their mothers. The invader is a nasty exotic plant. IF FOUND IN YOUR YARDS. PLEASE PULL, DIG, OR OFF WITH THEIR HEADS!

Thank you all for helping fight the war on weeds. The park appreciates it.

Resource Management will be spraying weeds in Lower Mammoth Housing on 6/28/12 (weather permitting). If anyone does not want their weeds sprayed, please email or call Chris Overbaugh at x2653 and provide your house number.

Plastic Bag Recycling Tip: When the plastic bag bin is either full or missing, 'bagged' plastic bags may be placed into the regular **PLASTIC #1-7** container. Please 'bag' them so they don't blow away when the larger bin is emptied and so they can be easily sorted from the other plastics.

Randy Baum will be out of the office from June 21 until July 9. Special Projects Roads Supervisor Ken Whitman will be in charge of Fleet and Special Projects during this time.

Stay informed about our official fundraising partner, the **Yellowstone Park Foundation** by subscribing to their monthly newsletter at www.ypf.org

Employee Safety Committee: Minutes from the June 13 Employee Safety Committee Meeting have been posted to the Sharepoint site at: <http://inpyellshare/emsc>

You will find them located under Documents-Agendas and Minutes, folder Meeting Minutes, folder 2012 Meeting Minutes, pdf document Employee Safety Committee Minutes 6-13-2012

This week marks the thirteenth anniversary of the **Supreme Court's decision in *Olmstead v. L.C.***, where the Supreme Court recognized that the civil rights of people with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) are violated when they are unnecessarily segregated from the rest of society. The promise of *Olmstead* is that people with disabilities will have the opportunity to live like people without disabilities – to have friends, work, be part of a family, and participate in community activities. As the Department of Justice commemorates the anniversary of the *Olmstead* decision and reaffirms our commitment to its enforcement, we are pleased to present **"Faces of Olmstead," a website profiling stories** of some of the thousands of people whose lives have been impacted by the *Olmstead* decision and the Department's enforcement efforts.

Yellowstone's significant contributions: include completed and upcoming construction of ADA-compliant accessible routes at Norris Geyser Basin (Steamboat Geyser and back basin area), Canyon (North Rim area) and Tower (Calcite Springs overlook area), as well as captioned films in our Visitor Education Centers. For more information, visit <http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm>

Cool story: Amy Saffell of Nashville, TN visited the park last summer and was so inspired by her ability to get around in her wheelchair in Yellowstone, that she wrote an article about it. Read it at <http://www.mobilewomen.org/2011/09/wilderness-vacations-theyre-for-people.html#more>

Reminder from CSS: When bringing your LAPTOP computer in for repair, ALWAYS bring a power cord for it. We do not have spares for all models of laptops. When bringing your DESKTOP computer in for repairs, no cords or cables are needed. Thanks!

The **Tower Falls trail** will temporarily be closed until 6/26 between the hours of 9am to 4pm for trail construction. The viewing platform will remain open at all hours. The reason is for visitor protection and safety as augers and chainsaws will be used.

The **Osprey Falls trail** will temporarily be closed from 6/23 to 6/26 between the hours of 9am to 4pm for trail construction. The Bunsen road will remain open at all hours. The reason is for visitor protection and safety as we will be working on switchbacks, which creates debris that moves downhill onto the lower sections of trail.

A re-work has been completed on the **Winter Use section of the Yellowstone public Web page**. The new pages are an attempt to condense the huge amount of information that is housed electronically spanning years of Winter Use planning and operations, and to make the pages more user-friendly and intuitive to the visitor. They are also designed to be able to post updated information quickly and easily as planning actions occur, keeping the public consistently updated on the issue. A big THANK YOU to Peggy Olliff of Interp's Web team for making the 0's and 1's all line up and do what they are supposed to do! Check them out at <http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/winteruse.htm>

MAMMOTH CLEAN-UP DAY, JUNE 27, 2012: Want a legitimate excuse to get away from the desk and enjoy the fresh air, while at the same time performing a community service? Join us at the north district maintenance office at 8:30 am. Safety vests, gloves, and trash bags will be provided. Afterward, enjoy a free tube steak lunch, featuring delicacies as prepared by local chefs.

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the "IMR FORUMS PAGE" link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to "Public Affairs Newslines."

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 925 AM MDT FRI JUN 22 2012

Rest Of Today...Breezy. Mostly sunny. Highs 69 to 77. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon.

Tonight...Breezy. Mostly clear. Lows 40 to 46. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph early in the evening.

Saturday...Mostly sunny. Highs 72 to 80. South winds around 15 mph in the afternoon.

Saturday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 44 to 50. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the evening.

Sunday...Mostly sunny in the morning then becoming partly cloudy. Highs 72 to 80. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the afternoon.

Sunday Night...Mostly clear in the evening then becoming partly cloudy. Lows 45 to 51.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or

photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Monday, June 25, 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **National Weather Service** has issued **Red Flag WARNINGS** for:

Beartooth Ranger District – Custer National Forest

http://forecast.weather.gov/showsigwx.php?warnzone=MTZ056&warncounty=MTC009&firewxzone=MTZ126&local_place1=Red+Lodge+MT&product1=Red+Flag+Warning

Areas of Central MT including Sweetgrass & Stillwater Counties

http://forecast.weather.gov/showsigwx.php?warnzone=MTZ034&warncounty=MTC095&firewxzone=MTZ125&local_place1=Columbus+MT&product1=Red+Flag+Warning

SW Montana west of Bozeman

http://forecast.weather.gov/showsigwx.php?warnzone=MTZ055&warncounty=MTC031&firewxzone=MTZ118&local_place1=2+Miles+NNE+Amsterdam+MT&product1=Red+Flag+Warning

East & West Zones of Bridger-Teton NF

<http://forecast.weather.gov/wwamap/wwatxtget.php?cwa=riw&wwa=red%20flag%20warning>

Materials have been received to finish the 'view deck' portion for **Dragon Mouth Spring at Mud Volcano**. This will mean closing sections the new trail leading from the parking lot. There will always be a view of the feature from the bridge (dead end). Closures will be starting around 9:00 am, Wednesday, June 27th and will be opening back up in the evening and weekends. Work is expected to be done by 4th of July.

Resource Management will be spraying weeds in Lower Mammoth Housing on 6/28/12 (weather permitting). If anyone does not want their weeds sprayed, please email or call Chris Overbaugh at x2653 and provide your house number.

Employee Recreation:

* The Yellowstone Cup Soccer Tournament will be held Thursday, July 5th at the Lower Mammoth Softball Field. Only 5 teams are allowed in the tournament so hurry to the rec office today to sign up your team.

- * The Colter Classic Softball Tournament will be Saturday, July 14th. Sign-ups begin Monday, June 25th at 2:00 pm. Only 6 teams are allowed in the tournament.
- * Location talent shows will be on July 9th and 10th so start practicing now! Check your location activity calendar for specific dates and times.
- * Lunchtime yoga is still happening every Tuesday and Thursday from 12 pm – 12:45 pm in the Mammoth Recreation Hall. It is at a discounted rate of \$5.

Visit our website at www.ycerp.org for information, images, calendars, and more.

To go directly to our updated calendars page: www.ycerp.org/calendar.php

Randy Baum will be out of the office from June 21 until July 9. Special Projects Roads Supervisor Ken Whitman will be in charge of Fleet and Special Projects during this time.

Stay informed about our official fundraising partner, the **Yellowstone Park Foundation** by subscribing to their monthly newsletter at www.ypf.org

Reminder from CSS: When bringing your LAPTOP computer in for repair, ALWAYS bring a power cord for it. We do not have spares for all models of laptops. When bringing your DESKTOP computer in for repairs, no cords or cables are needed. Thanks!

The **Tower Falls trail** will temporarily be closed until 6/26 between the hours of 9am to 4pm for trail construction. The viewing platform will remain open at all hours. The reason is for visitor protection and safety as augers and chainsaws will be used.

The **Osprey Falls trail** will temporarily be closed from 6/23 to 6/26 between the hours of 9am to 4pm for trail construction. The Bunsen road will remain open at all hours. The reason is for visitor protection and safety as we will be working on switchbacks, which creates debris that moves downhill onto the lower sections of trail.

MAMMOTH CLEAN-UP DAY, JUNE 27, 2012: Want a legitimate excuse to get away from the desk and enjoy the fresh air, while at the same time performing a community service? Join us at the north district maintenance office at 8:30 am. Safety vests, gloves, and trash bags will be provided. Afterward, enjoy a free tube steak lunch, featuring delicacies as prepared by local chefs.

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the “IMR FORUMS PAGE” link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to “Public Affairs Newslines.”

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 204 AM MDT MON JUN 25 2012

Today...Partly cloudy. Isolated dry thunderstorms through the day. Some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds. Highs 73 to 81. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the afternoon.

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Isolated dry thunderstorms in the evening. Some thunderstorms may produce gusty winds in the evening. Lows 45 to 51. Southwest winds around 15 mph early in the evening.

Tuesday...Breezy. Mostly sunny in the morning then becoming partly cloudy. Highs 64 to 72. Southwest winds 20 to 25 mph.

Tuesday Night...Breezy...colder. Mostly clear. Lows 33 to 39. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph in the evening.

Wednesday...Mostly sunny. Highs 65 to 73. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the afternoon.

Wednesday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 36 to 42.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Tuesday, June 26, 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Materials have been received to finish the 'view deck' portion for **Dragon Mouth Spring at Mud Volcano**. This will mean closing sections the new trail leading from the parking lot. There will always be a view of the feature from the bridge (dead end). Closures will be starting around 9:00 am, Wednesday, June 27th and will be opening back up in the evening and weekends. Work is expected to be done by 4th of July.

The **Trail Crew with help from the MCC** will be working on the spur trail to Summit Lake at Biscuit Basin. It will take approximately six weeks to complete the reconstruction of damaged turnpike on either side of the bridge over the Firehole River. The spur trail will be closed both DAY and NIGHT during our work shifts, but will be open to travel on the crews' days off. The schedule is below:

First Shift -- working July 3-10 (open for July 11-16),
Second Shift -- working July 17-24 (open July 25-30),
Third Shift -- working July 31- Aug. 7.

There will be closure maps posted on appropriate posts, and travel will be steered through the Biscuit Basin boardwalk area. It is imperative to close this trail segment due to the material piles, tools, chainsaw work etc. that will potentially create many safety hazards for all user groups (including both visitors and employees). Thank you for your understanding. The map is in "P:\Trail Ops" and a link is at [P:\Trail Ops\Trail Restoration 2011\biscuit closure.pdf](#)

Resource Management will be spraying weeds in Lower Mammoth Housing on 6/28/12 (weather permitting). If anyone does not want their weeds sprayed, please email or call Chris Overbaugh at x2653 and provide your house number.

The next **UNITED BLOOD SERVICES** blood drive will take place on Thursday, July 5th, from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM at the Mammoth Community Center - Classroom #3. Anyone wishing to donate blood, or provide drinks or treats please contact Kathleen Cunningham at x2455. Photo ID is always required at the time of your donation. Give the gift of life.....it is very rewarding!!

Employee Safety Committee-Wellness Newsletter and Information

The July edition of the Wellness Newsletter is now available for all employees to read. You may either click on the website link below (where you also have access to many other wonderful wellness tools) OR you may go to the Employee Safety Committee Sharepoint site and read or print a copy. Please feel free to print and share this information with your family. Some topics of focus this month are: **keeping a positive outlook; summer fun at the beach; summer skin care; hiking for wellness; diets to avoid; and heat illness.**

Website:

<http://www.personalbest.com/PersonalBest4U/Login.aspx?login=yellowstone&password=healthy95&issue=485>

Sharepoint site: <http://inpyellshare/emsc> under Documents-Wellness Program, folder Personal Best Documents, folder July: Personal Best 4 U Newsletter July

Additionally, here are your monthly wellness updates. Check them out at the EmSC Sharepoint site at: <http://inpyellshare/emsc> under Documents-Wellness Program, folder Personal Best Documents, folder July where you will find wonderful information provided by Personal Best. Topics include: Nutrition, Fitness, Health Tracks and a great recipe for GRILLED EGGPLANT SANDWICHES. JULY information focuses on staying healthy in the sun and heat. ENJOY! Print and post these in your work areas so you and your co-workers **KEEP WELLNESS IN MIND** all month long.

- - - -

Employee Recreation:

- * The Yellowstone Cup Soccer Tournament will be held Thursday, July 5th at the Lower Mammoth Softball Field. Only 5 teams are allowed in the tournament so hurry to the rec office today to sign up your team.
- * The Colter Classic Softball Tournament will be Saturday, July 14th. Sign-ups begin Monday, June 25th at 2:00 pm. Only 6 teams are allowed in the tournament.
- * Location talent shows will be on July 9th and 10th so start practicing now! Check your location activity calendar for specific dates and times.
- * Lunchtime yoga is still happening every Tuesday and Thursday from 12 pm – 12:45 pm in the Mammoth Recreation Hall. It is at a discounted rate of \$5.

Visit our website at www.ycerp.org for information, images, calendars, and more.

To go directly to our updated calendars page: www.ycerp.org/calendar.php

- - - -

Randy Baum will be out of the office from June 21 until July 9. Special Projects Roads Supervisor Ken Whitman will be in charge of Fleet and Special Projects during this time.

- - - -

Stay informed about our official fundraising partner, the **Yellowstone Park Foundation** by subscribing to their monthly newsletter at www.ypf.org

- - - -

Reminder from CSS: When bringing your LAPTOP computer in for repair, ALWAYS bring a power cord for it. We do not have spares for all models of laptops. When bringing your DESKTOP computer in for repairs, no cords or cables are needed. Thanks!

- - - -

MAMMOTH CLEAN-UP DAY, TOMORROW: Want a legitimate excuse to get away from the desk and enjoy the fresh air, while at the same time performing a community service? Join us at the north district maintenance office at 8:30 am. Safety vests, gloves, and trash bags will be provided. Afterward, enjoy a free tube steak lunch, featuring delicacies as prepared by local chefs.

- - - -

RECENT PARK NEWS RELEASES

Yellowstone Animals Remind Visitors to Be Safe Over the Holidays

June 25, 2012

Blooming wildflowers and sparkling geysers remain a perennial display of Mother Nature's own Fourth of July fireworks in Yellowstone National Park. The chance to see abundant wildlife up close and personal also brings thousands of visitors to the park over the summer holiday season.

Sometimes those encounters can get a little too close and personal, as was the case on Saturday, June 23, when a male visitor from Massachusetts in his mid 50s was gored by a bull bison near the Norris campground.

Though not deliberately taunting the animal, the man instead simply let the bull approach to within a few feet of where he was sitting and refused to move away. The chance for a more brazen view resulted in the man suffering a broken collarbone, shoulder blade, several ribs and a groin injury when he was tossed nearly 10 feet in the air and pinned to the ground. He was airlifted to a hospital in Idaho Falls, ID and is expected to recover.

Park visitors are reminded that wildlife in Yellowstone is, in fact, wild. Intentionally approaching or disturbing animals is a violation of park regulations, which could ultimately lead to the death of the animal involved. Park rules require that you stay at least 100 yards away from bears and wolves at all times, and at least 25 yards away from all other animals including elk and bison. If an animal approaches you, it is your responsibility to move a safe distance away, not the animal's.

Park rangers vigorously enforce these regulations that are designed to protect both people and animals. Visitors are also reminded to be vigilant at all times with proper food storage by keeping food, garbage, coolers and other attractants stored in hard-sided vehicles or food storage boxes. Those hiking are also advised to stay on designated trails, hike in groups of three or more people, carry bear spray and to be alert for wildlife. The best defense against attacks is to stay a safe distance from wildlife and use your binoculars, spotting scope or telephoto lens to get a closer look, and never feed, approach, disturb or entice wildlife, including birds, in any way.

For valuable holiday trip planning information, visit <http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/index.htm>

For current road conditions, call (307) 344-2117.

For current camping information, weather conditions and forecasts, call (307) 344-2113.

For information on permits and reservations, visit <http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/feesandreservations.htm>

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the “IMR FORUMS PAGE” link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to “Public Affairs Newslines.”

WEATHER**NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 201 AM MDT TUE JUN 26 2012

Today...Windy. Mostly sunny. Highs 65 to 73. South winds 15 to 20 mph increasing to southwest 25 to 30 mph in the afternoon.

Tonight...Breezy. Mostly clear. Lows 33 to 39. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph.

Wednesday...Breezy. Mostly sunny. Highs 64 to 72. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon.

Wednesday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 36 to 42. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the evening.

Thursday...Mostly sunny. Highs 69 to 77. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the afternoon.

Thursday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 39 to 45.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Wednesday, June 27, 2012



Mark Gleason of Yellowstone's Structural Fire sizes up and cuts down a dead tree under the supervision of Michael Hoffman from Trails. Approximately 20 staff members from several different divisions took the recent S-212 Chainsaw Class. (NPS photo, Rick Sendra)

LOCAL FIRE UPDATE:

Section of Beartooth Highway Closed Due to Fire

U.S. Forest Service Release, June 27, 2012

Cody, Wyo. (June 27, 2012) – A fire was reported last night near the Fox Creek Campground on US Highway 212 south of the Wyoming/Montana state line. The fire was caused by a downed power line and was reported yesterday at 5:40 pm local time. Fire crews responded and have been working through the night on the fire, which is now at approximately 25 acres in size.

Due to the current fire conditions, Wyoming Department of Transportation has closed US Highway 212, also known as Beartooth Highway, in both directions from the intersection of Chief Joseph Highway, WY 296, to Cooke City, Mont. It is necessary that all traffic seek an alternate route.

For information about fire conditions on the Shoshone National Forest, contact your local ranger district:

- Washakie Ranger District – (307) 332-5460
- Wind River District – (307) 455-2466
- Clarks Fork, Greybull, and Wapiti Ranger Districts – (307) 527-6921

As the nation's first national forest, the Shoshone National Forest has 2.4 million acres of diverse terrain and a mission to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the forest to meet the needs of present and future generations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **final radio training date** for the summer is Tuesday July 10th. There are 2 classes available at 9am and 1pm. You can sign up on the Sharepoint site at <http://inpyellshare/Calendars/Lists/Radio%20Training/Calendar1.aspx> Users that have previously had the training can go to the Sharepoint site and go over the training and take a test to complete the requirement also at <http://inpyellshare/employees/RadioTraining/SitePages/Home.aspx> The training info is on a PDF located near the bottom of the page. The Classmarker Test link is on the right side of the page below the screenshot of the Racal/Thales portable radio. If you have any questions or problems, please call Trent Copping at x2434.

- - - -

Materials have been received to finish the 'view deck' portion for **Dragon Mouth Spring at Mud Volcano**. This will mean closing sections the new trail leading from the parking lot. There will always be a view of the feature from the bridge (dead end). Closures will be starting around 9:00 am, TODAY and will be opening back up in the evening and weekends. Work is expected to be done by 4th of July.

- - - -

The **Trail Crew with help from the MCC** will be working on the spur trail to Summit Lake at Biscuit Basin. It will take approximately six weeks to complete the reconstruction of damaged turnpike on either side of the bridge over the Firehole River. The spur trail will be closed both DAY and NIGHT during our work shifts, but will be open to travel on the crews' days off. The schedule is below:

First Shift -- working July 3-10 (open for July 11-16),
Second Shift -- working July 17-24 (open July 25-30),
Third Shift -- working July 31- Aug. 7.

There will be closure maps posted on appropriate posts, and travel will be steered through the Biscuit Basin boardwalk area. It is imperative to close this trail segment due to the material piles, tools, chainsaw work etc. that will potentially create many safety hazards for all user groups (including both visitors and employees). Thank you for your understanding. The map is in "P:\Trail Ops" and a link is at [P:\Trail Ops\Trail Restoration 2011\biscuit closure.pdf](#)

- - - -

Resource Management will be spraying weeds in Lower Mammoth Housing on 6/28/12 (weather permitting). If anyone does not want their weeds sprayed, please email or call Chris Overbaugh at x2653 and provide your house number.

- - - -

The next **UNITED BLOOD SERVICES** blood drive will take place on Thursday, July 5th, from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM at the Mammoth Community Center - Classroom #3. Anyone wishing to donate blood, or provide drinks or

treats please contact Kathleen Cunningham at x2455. Photo ID is always required at the time of your donation. Give the gift of life.....it is very rewarding!!

- - - -

Employee Safety Committee-Wellness Newsletter and Information

The July edition of the Wellness Newsletter is now available for all employees to read. You may either click on the website link below (where you also have access to many other wonderful wellness tools) OR you may go to the Employee Safety Committee Sharepoint site and read or print a copy. Please feel free to print and share this information with your family. Some topics of focus this month are: **keeping a positive outlook; summer fun at the beach; summer skin care; hiking for wellness; diets to avoid; and heat illness.**

Website:

<http://www.personalbest.com/PersonalBest4U/Login.aspx?login=yellowstone&password=healthy95&issue=485>

Sharepoint site: <http://inpyellshare/emsc> under Documents-Wellness Program, folder Personal Best Documents, folder July: Personal Best 4 U Newsletter July

Additionally, here are your monthly wellness updates. Check them out at the EmSC Sharepoint site at: <http://inpyellshare/emsc> under Documents-Wellness Program, folder Personal Best Documents, folder July where you will find wonderful information provided by Personal Best. Topics include: Nutrition, Fitness, Health Tracks and a great recipe for GRILLED EGGPLANT SANDWICHES. JULY information focuses on staying healthy in the sun and heat. ENJOY! Print and post these in your work areas so you and your co-workers **KEEP WELLNESS IN MIND** all month long.

- - - -

Employee Recreation:

- * The Yellowstone Cup Soccer Tournament will be held Thursday, July 5th at the Lower Mammoth Softball Field. Only 5 teams are allowed in the tournament so hurry to the rec office today to sign up your team.
- * The Colter Classic Softball Tournament will be Saturday, July 14th. Sign-ups begin Monday, June 25th at 2:00 pm. Only 6 teams are allowed in the tournament.
- * Location talent shows will be on July 9th and 10th so start practicing now! Check your location activity calendar for specific dates and times.
- * Lunchtime yoga is still happening every Tuesday and Thursday from 12 pm – 12:45 pm in the Mammoth Recreation Hall. It is at a discounted rate of \$5.

Visit our website at www.ycerp.org for information, images, calendars, and more.

To go directly to our updated calendars page: www.ycerp.org/calendar.php

- - - -

Stay informed about our official fundraising partner, the **Yellowstone Park Foundation** by subscribing to their monthly newsletter at www.ypf.org

- - - -

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the “IMR FORUMS PAGE” link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to “Public Affairs Newslines.”

WEATHER

NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 215 AM MDT WED JUN 27 2012

Today...Breezy. Mostly sunny. Highs 63 to 69. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon.

Tonight...Breezy. Mostly clear. Lows 37 to 43. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph early in the evening.

Thursday...Breezy...warmer. Mostly sunny. Highs 70 to 78. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon.

Thursday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 38 to 46. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the evening.

Friday...Mostly sunny. Highs 69 to 77. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the afternoon.

Friday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 39 to 45.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Thursday, June 28, 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Editors Note: This fire is located southeast of Cooke City, outside the park, 1 mile south of the Montana/Wyoming state line on US 212. Yellowstone has provided a 3 person fire fighting squad to the Index Creek fire.

Hotshots, helicopter expected at Index Creek fire

8 hours ago • By MARTIN KIDSTON mkidston@billingsgazette.com

THERMOPOLIS, Wyo. — Fire officials with the Shoshone National Forest spent Wednesday evening waiting for dwindling resources to arrive at a wildfire burning on the forest's north end.

Sparked Tuesday night by a downed power line, the Index Creek fire is burning near the Wyoming-Montana border. The blaze grew from 25 acres to more than 100 acres on Wednesday.

Fire officials said it was moving to the west.

"They have a helicopter and a hotshot crew coming this evening," said Suzie Douglas, spokeswoman for the Shoshone. "The goal is to keep it from burning into Montana."

That could be a tough task if high temperatures and stiff winds set in on Thursday. Only nine firefighters and a brush truck were available Wednesday to fight the growing blaze.

"Resources are hard to come by right now," said Shoshone Forest Supervisor Joe Alexander. "As long as things are going on down in Colorado the way they are, that's going to make it hard to get resources."

Alexander, who was attending a forest planning meeting in Thermopolis on Wednesday, had hoped to get a plane up to scout the Shoshone for new starts resulting from Monday's lighting and Tuesday's high winds.

But with fires growing in Colorado and Montana, getting a plane hasn't been possible.

"When you have very dry fuels and you can't get what you need to keep a fire from getting established, all those things lead us to believe that there's a potential to have a large event," Alexander said.

The Index Creek fire prompted the Wyoming Department of Transportation to close the Beartooth Highway on Wednesday morning above Cook City. The road reopened around noon.

Further south, the Fontenelle Fire, which is burning 33 miles north of LeBarge on the Bridger-Teton National Forest, grew to more than 12,000 acres on Wednesday.

More than 90 firefighters and three helicopters were assigned to the blaze. The fire remained the largest incident in the state, sending heavy smoke and ash as far east as Thermopolis.

A fire was also reportedly burning on the Bighorn National Forest near Ten Sleep. No information was available Wednesday night on that fire.

"Because it's so early in the season, the public isn't sensitive yet to fire dangers right now," Alexander said. "On the south end of the forest, we found 75 unattended campfires in the last few weeks. It may take a significant event to get the public's attention."

Due to dry and dangerous fire conditions, restrictions on forest use may be implemented soon, Alexander said.

Read more: http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/article_82c4ec16-510b-540d-bcb2-31e0841b5fee.html#ixzz1z6CW0zv2

- - - -

How is the park fire danger level determined?

The Park's Fire Danger level is primarily derived from an index called the Energy Release Component (ERC). Special circumstances such as forecasted lightning activity or deteriorating fire weather conditions may also cause Fire Managers to elevate the Fire Danger.

From a Geographic Area Coordination Center's intelligence page...

"The Energy Release Component (ERC) is an NFDRS (National Fire Danger Rating System) index related to how hot a fire could burn. It is directly related to the 24-hour, potential worst case, total available energy (BTUs) per unit area (in square feet) within the flaming front at the head of a fire.

The ERC can serve as a good characterization of fire season as it tracks seasonal fire danger trends well. The ERC is a function of the fuel model and live and dead fuel moistures. Fuel loading, woody fuel moisture, and larger fuel moisture all have an influence on the ERC, while the lighter fuels have less influence and wind speed has none. ERC has low variability, and is the best fire danger component for indicating the effects of intermediate to long-term drying on fire behavior (if it is a significant factor) although it is not intended for use as a drought index."

We utilize the ERC value generated daily by the 2 PM remote automated weather station (RAWS) near Quadrant Mountain in the Northwest portion of the Park. We compare this value to nearly 3000 daily fire weather observations recorded since 1991, between April 1 and October 31. Through careful, extensive analysis, Park Fire Managers have developed fire business thresholds that correlate the ERC to the development of significant wildland fire growth in the Park. The fire business thresholds also correlate to the Fire Danger levels of Low, Moderate, High, Very High, and Extreme. Park Fire Managers use the Fire Danger level primarily as a planning and preparedness tool. These levels help managers adjust firefighter staffing levels, shift duration, authorize managers to request additional fire management resources, fire detection flights, and prompt them to consider actions such as fire restrictions.

- - - -

Gallatin National Forest Enters Stage I Fire Restrictions

For Immediate Release Date: June 27, 2012

Bozeman, MT... Stage I Fire Restrictions will go into effect on the Gallatin National Forest on Friday, June 29th at 12:01 a.m. The only areas exempt from the restrictions are the Absaroka-Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wilderness Areas.

Stage I Fire Restrictions require that Forest visitors build, maintain, attend or use a fire or campfire in a stove and that campfires and charcoal fires will be allowed only at developed or designated recreation sites or campgrounds in an agency provided metal fire ring. Fires fueled solely by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels may be used anywhere on National Forest System lands during Stage I Fire Restrictions.

Under Stage I Fire Restrictions smoking is allowed only within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is cleared of all flammable materials.

“As vegetation dries out and day time temperatures climb into the 80’s and 90’s the fire danger across the Gallatin National Forest is ranging from high to very high,” said Marna Daley, Public Affairs Officer. “The fire activity in our area and other portions of the nation are experiencing is stretching firefighting resources thin making it imperative to reduce the number of new fires. You can help by following the Stage I Fire Restrictions and ensuring your campfire is cool to the touch before leaving your campsite.”

If you plan to recreate on the Gallatin National Forest this Fourth of July, remember to leave your fireworks at home. The discharge of fireworks is prohibited on all federal and state lands. Those discharging fireworks on National Forest System lands can be fined up to \$5,000 and receive up to six months in jail.

For more information please contact the Gallatin National Forest office nearest to you or visit www.fs.usda.gov/gallatin .

- - - -

Fire Restrictions in Effect on the Shoshone National Forest beginning July 1

Cody, Wyo. (June 28, 2012) – Stage I fire restrictions go into effect on the Shoshone National Forest as of midnight on Sunday, July 1, 2012. Restrictions are necessary to protect public health and safety as well as natural and cultural resources.

Low snowpack and an unseasonably warm and dry spring have prompted the restrictions. “The dry conditions we have now are expected to continue, making fuels that are already dry even worse,” said forest supervisor Joe Alexander.

The following prohibitions are in effect until further notice.

1. Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, barbecue, or grill except in designated recreation sites. The use of portable stoves, lanterns using gas, jellied petroleum, pressurized liquid fuel, or a fully enclosed (shepherd type) stove with a ¼” spark arrester type screen is permitted.

2. Smoking, except in an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.
3. Operating a chainsaw without a USDA or SAE approved spark arrester properly installed and in effective working order, a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A, and one round point shovel with an overall length of at least 36 inches.
4. Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame except in cleared areas of at least 10 feet in diameter and a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of at least 2A.
5. Using an explosive requiring blasting caps.

Violation of these regulations is punishable as a class B misdemeanor, by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment of not more than 6 months, or both. Anyone negligently or willfully starting a wildland fire could also be held responsible for the costs of that fire.

As people plan Fourth of July celebrations, the Forest Service reminds everyone that fireworks are illegal on federal lands. Anyone discharging fireworks can be fined up to \$5,000 and spend up to 6 months in jail.

For more information, contact Shoshone National Forest offices in Cody, Lander, and Dubois, or visit the Shoshone's website at www.fs.usda.gov/shoshone/.

The **final radio training date** for the summer is Tuesday July 10th. There are 2 classes available at 9am and 1pm. You can sign up on the Sharepoint site at <http://inpyellshare/Calendars/Lists/Radio%20Training/Calendar1.aspx> Users that have previously had the training can go to the Sharepoint site and go over the training and take a test to complete the requirement also at <http://inpyellshare/employees/RadioTraining/SitePages/Home.aspx> The training info is on a PDF located near the bottom of the page. The Classmarker Test link is on the right side of the page below the screenshot of the Racal/Thales portable radio. If you have any questions or problems, please call Trent Copping at x2434.

Materials have been received to finish the 'view deck' portion for **Dragon Mouth Spring at Mud Volcano**. This will mean closing sections the new trail leading from the parking lot. There will always be a view of the feature from the bridge (dead end). Closures will be starting around 9:00 am and will be opening back up in the evenings and weekends. Work is expected to be done by 4th of July.

The **Trail Crew with help from the YCC** will be working on the spur trail to Summit Lake at Biscuit Basin. It will take approximately six weeks to complete the reconstruction of damaged turnpike on either side of the bridge over the Firehole River. The spur trail will be closed both DAY and NIGHT during our work shifts, but will be open to travel on the crews' days off. The schedule is below:

First Shift -- working July 3-10 (open for July 11-16),
Second Shift -- working July 17-24 (open July 25-30),
Third Shift -- working July 31- Aug. 7.

There will be closure maps posted on appropriate posts, and travel will be steered through the Biscuit Basin boardwalk area. It is imperative to close this trail segment due to the material piles, tools, chainsaw work etc. that will potentially create many safety hazards for all user groups (including both visitors and employees). Thank you for your understanding. The map is in "P:\Trail Ops" and a link is at [P:\Trail Ops\Trail Restoration 2011\biscuit closure.pdf](#)

Resource Management will be spraying weeds in Lower Mammoth Housing TODAY (weather permitting). If anyone does not want their weeds sprayed, please email or call Chris Overbaugh at x2653 and provide your house number.

Market Day Foods has recently added Mammoth to its delivery areas. Market Day Foods sells locally grown and produced foods, including freshly harvested vegetables and fruits, eggs, meat, bread, tea, coffee, honey, jam and more. Place orders online at www.marketdayfoods.com for pick-up at the Mammoth Community Center on Wednesdays between noon and 4 p.m. Pickup is also available in Gardiner. Questions, call Charissa at 848-7073!

The next **UNITED BLOOD SERVICES** blood drive will take place on Thursday, July 5th, from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM at the Mammoth Community Center - Classroom #3. Anyone wishing to donate blood, or provide drinks or treats please contact Kathleen Cunningham at x2455. Photo ID is always required at the time of your donation. Give the gift of life.....it is very rewarding!!

Employee Safety Committee-Wellness Newsletter and Information

The July edition of the Wellness Newsletter is now available for all employees to read. You may either click on the website link below (where you also have access to many other wonderful wellness tools) OR you may go to the Employee Safety Committee Sharepoint site and read or print a copy. Please feel free to print and share this information with your family. Some topics of focus this month are: **keeping a positive outlook; summer fun at the beach; summer skin care; hiking for wellness; diets to avoid; and heat illness.**

Website:

<http://www.personalbest.com/PersonalBest4U/Login.aspx?login=yellowstone&password=healthy95&issue=485>

Sharepoint site: [http://inpyellshare/emsc](#) under Documents-Wellness Program, folder Personal Best Documents, folder July: Personal Best 4 U Newsletter July

Additionally, here are your monthly wellness updates. Check them out at the EmSC Sharepoint site at: [http://inpyellshare/emsc](#) under Documents-Wellness Program, folder Personal Best Documents, folder July where you will find wonderful information provided by Personal Best. Topics include: Nutrition, Fitness, Health Tracks and a great recipe for GRILLED EGGPLANT SANDWICHES. JULY information focuses on staying healthy in the sun and heat. ENJOY! Print and post these in your work areas so you and your co-workers **KEEP WELLNESS IN MIND** all month long.

Employee Recreation:

- * The Yellowstone Cup Soccer Tournament will be held Thursday, July 5th at the Lower Mammoth Softball Field. Only 5 teams are allowed in the tournament so hurry to the rec office today to sign up your team.
- * The Colter Classic Softball Tournament will be Saturday, July 14th. Sign-ups begin Monday, June 25th at 2:00 pm. Only 6 teams are allowed in the tournament.
- * Location talent shows will be on July 9th and 10th so start practicing now! Check your location activity calendar for specific dates and times.
- * Lunchtime yoga is still happening every Tuesday and Thursday from 12 pm – 12:45 pm in the Mammoth Recreation Hall. It is at a discounted rate of \$5.

Visit our website at www.ycerp.org for information, images, calendars, and more.

To go directly to our updated calendars page: www.ycerp.org/calendar.php

Stay informed about our official fundraising partner, the **Yellowstone Park Foundation** by subscribing to their monthly newsletter at www.ypf.org

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the “IMR FORUMS PAGE” link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to “Public Affairs Newslines.”

WEATHER**NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 215 AM MDT THUR JUN 28 2012

Today...Breezy. Mostly sunny. Highs 63 to 69. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon.

Tonight...Breezy. Mostly clear. Lows 37 to 43. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph early in the evening.

Thursday...Breezy...warmer. Mostly sunny. Highs 70 to 78. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon.

Thursday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 38 to 46. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the evening.

Friday...Mostly sunny. Highs 69 to 77. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the afternoon.

Friday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 39 to 45.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)

YNP@Work

A Daily Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Friday, June 29, 2012



Contract fishermen from Hickey Brothers, Inc., measure and sex lake trout removed from trap nets (left) as NPS Fisheries staff remove lake trout from gill nets aboard a second vessel on Yellowstone Lake yesterday. Aggressive efforts will continue throughout the summer to remove the invasive trout and make room for the native Yellowstone Cutthroat. (Dan Hottle, NPS Photo)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Editors Note: This fire is located southeast of Cooke City, outside the park, 1 mile south of the Montana/Wyoming state line on US 212. Yellowstone has provided a 3 person fire fighting squad to the Index Creek fire.

Index Creek fire meanders in steep terrain

9 hours ago • By Martin Kidston

COOKE CITY, Mont. — The Index Creek fire tripled to more than 300 acres on Thursday, but despite the growth, fire officials were pleased with the day's firefighting progress.

Sparked by a downed power line late Tuesday evening, the fire continued burning in heavy timber in the Index Creek drainage, about three miles southeast of Cooke City. Smoke drifted across the Beartooth Highway, busy with summer motorists.

Tim Haas, the north zone assistant fire management officer with the Shoshone National Forest, monitored fire crews, including the Prinedale hotshot team from Oregon, from a vantage point near the fire front.

Firefighters pumped water from streams still swollen with runoff to douse hot spots near the scenic highway.

"It's difficult terrain," Haas said. "We don't have a landing zone for medevac up there, so I don't really want to put people up there."

The fire was reported at 100 acres Thursday morning. By evening, steep terrain and dense timber allowed the fire to meander on the south side of the Beartooth Highway and north of Pilot Creek.

Thursday's anticipated wind gusts of 25 miles per hour never arrived. Two helicopters were available to fire crews Thursday.

"The majority of this along the river (Index Creek) is contained," Haas said. "The aircraft has been working it good and holding it to the interior. It's not making huge advancements."

Fire officials estimated the fire at 10 percent contained and said no structures were currently threatened. The fire continued burning to the southwest and away from cabins and ranches.

"We'd like to keep it herded uphill and keep it going into the rocks -- a slow advancement as much as we can," he said. "A lot this along the highway we're not concerned about, but anything south of Index Creek, we would be."

The Shoshone National Forest announced earlier in the day that stage 1 fire restrictions will go into effect across the forest on Sunday night. The restrictions prohibit the use of campfires and barbecues outside designated areas, along with smoking, unless done in an enclosed vehicle.

Chain saws must be equipped with spark arresters, and welding is prohibited unless done in cleared areas 10 feet in diameter. Shovels and fire extinguishes must be present for both chainsaw and welding activities.

A Type III management team and a second fire crew is expected to arrive at the fire Friday, forest officials said. The Fox Creek Campground is currently closed to the public, and road closures could be announced as fire behavior changes.

"The wind has been pretty good for us today," Haas said. "We're expecting the same thing for Friday. Hot and dry with maybe more wind."

Read more: http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/article_584f6ce9-a61e-56a2-8da0-87045a0282cd.html#ixzz1zC6O7Sqy

How is the park fire danger level determined?

The Park's Fire Danger level is primarily derived from an index called the Energy Release Component (ERC). Special circumstances such as forecasted lightning activity or deteriorating fire weather conditions may also cause Fire Managers to elevate the Fire Danger.

From a Geographic Area Coordination Center's intelligence page...

"The Energy Release Component (ERC) is an NFDRS (National Fire Danger Rating System) index related to how hot a fire could burn. It is directly related to the 24-hour, potential worst case, total available energy (BTUs) per unit area (in square feet) within the flaming front at the head of a fire.

The ERC can serve as a good characterization of fire season as it tracks seasonal fire danger trends well. The ERC is a function of the fuel model and live and dead fuel moistures. Fuel loading, woody fuel moisture, and larger fuel moisture all have an influence on the ERC, while the lighter fuels have less influence and wind speed has none. ERC has low variability, and is the best fire danger component for indicating the effects of intermediate to long-term drying on fire behavior (if it is a significant factor) although it is not intended for use as a drought index."

We utilize the ERC value generated daily by the 2 PM remote automated weather station (RAWS) near Quadrant Mountain in the Northwest portion of the Park. We compare this value to nearly 3000 daily fire weather observations recorded since 1991, between April 1 and October 31. Through careful, extensive analysis, Park Fire Managers have developed fire business thresholds that correlate the ERC to the development of significant wildland fire growth in the Park. The fire business thresholds also correlate to the Fire Danger levels of Low, Moderate, High, Very High, and Extreme. Park Fire Managers use the Fire Danger level primarily as a planning and preparedness tool. These levels help managers adjust firefighter staffing levels, shift duration, authorize managers to request additional fire management resources, fire detection flights, and prompt them to consider actions such as fire restrictions.

Gallatin National Forest Enters Stage I Fire Restrictions

For Immediate Release Date: June 27, 2012

Bozeman, MT... Stage I Fire Restrictions will go into effect on the Gallatin National Forest on Friday, June 29th at 12:01 a.m. The only areas exempt from the restrictions are the Absaroka-Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wilderness Areas.

Stage I Fire Restrictions require that Forest visitors build, maintain, attend or use a fire or campfire in a stove and that campfires and charcoal fires will be allowed only at developed or designated recreation sites or campgrounds in an agency provided metal fire ring. Fires fueled solely by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels may be used anywhere on National Forest System lands during Stage I Fire Restrictions.

Under Stage I Fire Restrictions smoking is allowed only within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is cleared of all flammable materials.

"As vegetation dries out and day time temperatures climb into the 80's and 90's the fire danger across the Gallatin National Forest is ranging from high to very high," said Marna Daley, Public Affairs Officer. "The fire activity in our area and other portions of the nation are experiencing is stretching firefighting resources thin making it imperative to reduce the number of new fires. You can help by following the Stage I Fire Restrictions and ensuring your campfire is cool to the touch before leaving your campsite."

If you plan to recreate on the Gallatin National Forest this Fourth of July, remember to leave your fireworks at home. The discharge of fireworks is prohibited on all federal and state lands. Those discharging fireworks on National Forest System lands can be fined up to \$5,000 and receive up to six months in jail.

For more information please contact the Gallatin National Forest office nearest to you or visit www.fs.usda.gov/gallatin .

- - - -

Fire Restrictions in Effect on the Shoshone National Forest beginning July 1

Cody, Wyo. (June 28, 2012) – Stage I fire restrictions go into effect on the Shoshone National Forest as of midnight on Sunday, July 1, 2012. Restrictions are necessary to protect public health and safety as well as natural and cultural resources.

Low snowpack and an unseasonably warm and dry spring have prompted the restrictions. “The dry conditions we have now are expected to continue, making fuels that are already dry even worse,” said forest supervisor Joe Alexander.

The following prohibitions are in effect until further notice.

1. Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, barbecue, or grill except in designated recreation sites. The use of portable stoves, lanterns using gas, jellied petroleum, pressurized liquid fuel, or a fully enclosed (shepherd type) stove with a ¼” spark arrester type screen is permitted.
2. Smoking, except in an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.
3. Operating a chainsaw without a USDA or SAE approved spark arrester properly installed and in effective working order, a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A, and one round point shovel with an overall length of at least 36 inches.
4. Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame except in cleared areas of at least 10 feet in diameter and a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of at least 2A.
5. Using an explosive requiring blasting caps.

Violation of these regulations is punishable as a class B misdemeanor, by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment of not more than 6 months, or both. Anyone negligently or willfully starting a wildland fire could also be held responsible for the costs of that fire.

As people plan Fourth of July celebrations, the Forest Service reminds everyone that fireworks are illegal on federal lands. Anyone discharging fireworks can be fined up to \$5,000 and spend up to 6 months in jail.

For more information, contact Shoshone National Forest offices in Cody, Lander, and Dubois, or visit the Shoshone’s website at www.fs.usda.gov/shoshone/.

- - - -

The **final radio training date** for the summer is Tuesday July 10th. There are 2 classes available at 9am and 1pm. You can sign up on the Sharepoint site at <http://inpyellshare/Calendars/Lists/Radio%20Training/Calendar1.aspx> Users that have previously had the training can go to the Sharepoint site and go over the training and take a test to complete the requirement also at <http://inpyellshare/employees/RadioTraining/SitePages/Home.aspx> The training info is on a PDF located near the bottom of the page. The Classmarker Test link is on the right side of the

page below the screenshot of the Racal/Thales portable radio. If you have any questions or problems, please call Trent Coppinger at x2434.

- - - -

Materials have been received to finish the 'view deck' portion for **Dragon Mouth Spring at Mud Volcano**. This will mean closing sections the new trail leading from the parking lot. There will always be a view of the feature from the bridge (dead end). Closures will be starting around 9:00 am and will be opening back up in the evenings and weekends. Work is expected to be done by 4th of July.

- - - -

The **Trail Crew with help from the YCC** will be working on the spur trail to Summit Lake at Biscuit Basin. It will take approximately six weeks to complete the reconstruction of damaged turnpike on either side of the bridge over the Firehole River. The spur trail will be closed both DAY and NIGHT during our work shifts, but will be open to travel on the crews' days off. The schedule is below:

First Shift -- working July 3-10 (open for July 11-16),
Second Shift -- working July 17-24 (open July 25-30),
Third Shift -- working July 31- Aug. 7.

There will be closure maps posted on appropriate posts, and travel will be steered through the Biscuit Basin boardwalk area. It is imperative to close this trail segment due to the material piles, tools, chainsaw work etc. that will potentially create many safety hazards for all user groups (including both visitors and employees). Thank you for your understanding. The map is in "P:\Trail Ops" and a link is at <P:\Trail Ops\Trail Restoration 2011\biscuit closure.pdf>

- - - -

Market Day Foods has recently added Mammoth to its delivery areas. Market Day Foods sells locally grown and produced foods, including freshly harvested vegetables and fruits, eggs, meat, bread, tea, coffee, honey, jam and more. Place orders online at <http://marketdayfoods.com/> for pick-up at the Mammoth Community Center on Wednesdays between noon and 4 p.m. Pickup is also available in Gardiner. Questions, call Charissa at 848-7073!

- - - -

The next **UNITED BLOOD SERVICES** blood drive will take place on Thursday, July 5th, from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM at the Mammoth Community Center - Classroom #3. Anyone wishing to donate blood, or provide drinks or treats please contact Kathleen Cunningham at x2455. Photo ID is always required at the time of your donation. Give the gift of life.....it is very rewarding!!

- - - -

Employee Safety Committee-Wellness Newsletter and Information

The July edition of the Wellness Newsletter is now available for all employees to read. You may either click on the website link below (where you also have access to many other wonderful wellness tools) OR you may go to the Employee Safety Committee Sharepoint site and read or print a copy. Please feel free to print and share this information with your family. Some topics of focus this month are: **keeping a positive outlook; summer fun at the beach; summer skin care; hiking for wellness; diets to avoid; and heat illness.**

Website:

<http://www.personalbest.com/PersonalBest4U/Login.aspx?login=yellowstone&password=healthy95&issue=485>

Sharepoint site: <http://inpyellshare/emsc> under Documents-Wellness Program, folder Personal Best Documents, folder July: Personal Best 4 U Newsletter July

Additionally, here are your monthly wellness updates. Check them out at the EmSC Sharepoint site at: <http://inpyellshare/emsc> under Documents-Wellness Program, folder Personal Best Documents, folder July where you will find wonderful information provided by Personal Best. Topics include: Nutrition, Fitness, Health Tracks and a great recipe for GRILLED EGGPLANT SANDWICHES. JULY information focuses on staying healthy in the sun and heat. ENJOY! Print and post these in your work areas so you and your co-workers **KEEP WELLNESS IN MIND** all month long.

- - - -

Employee Recreation:

- * The Yellowstone Cup Soccer Tournament will be held Thursday, July 5th at the Lower Mammoth Softball Field. Only 5 teams are allowed in the tournament so hurry to the rec office today to sign up your team.
- * The Colter Classic Softball Tournament will be Saturday, July 14th. Sign-ups begin Monday, June 25th at 2:00 pm. Only 6 teams are allowed in the tournament.
- * Location talent shows will be on July 9th and 10th so start practicing now! Check your location activity calendar for specific dates and times.
- * Lunchtime yoga is still happening every Tuesday and Thursday from 12 pm – 12:45 pm in the Mammoth Recreation Hall. It is at a discounted rate of \$5.

Visit our website at www.ycerp.org for information, images, calendars, and more.

To go directly to our updated calendars page: www.ycerp.org/calendar.php

- - - -

Stay informed about our official fundraising partner, the **Yellowstone Park Foundation** by subscribing to their monthly newsletter at www.ypf.org

- - - -

IN THE NEWS

NPS In the News: For a roundup of national parks-related news stories and other items of interest to NPS people, visit <http://imr.nps.gov/>. Click on the “IMR FORUMS PAGE” link in the lower right corner, log in or register and scroll to “Public Affairs Newslne.”

WEATHER**NWS Zone Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park, WY**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

Last Update: 232 AM MDT FRI JUN 29 2012

Today...Sunny. Highs 71 to 77. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the afternoon.

Tonight...Clear. Lows 39 to 45. Southwest winds around 15 mph early in the evening.

Saturday...Mostly sunny. Highs 73 to 79. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the afternoon.

Saturday Night...Clear. Lows 40 to 48. Southwest winds around 15 mph in the evening.

Sunday...Breezy...sunny. Highs 74 to 80. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon.

Sunday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 39 to 45.

Monday...Mostly sunny. Highs 70 to 78.

Monday Night...Mostly clear. Lows 40 to 48.

WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Have something to share with other NPS employees in the park? We're especially interested in items occurring outside Mammoth, and in getting digital photos of employees at work! Please remember to send your text or photo submissions for the newsletter to us at YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov (not individual's email), so that whoever is doing the newsletter that day has access to it. Thanks!

Back issues of the newsletter are available at [P:\YNP@Work Published Issues](#)