

# YNP@Work

A Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Monday, July 1, 2013



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Seeking Yellowstone Superlatives!

Recently, Superintendent Wenk asked the Public Affairs Office to prepare a list he's calling "Yellowstone by the Numbers"... a listing of items which help show the breadth & scope of park operations... like the fact we have 466 miles of roads and 67 species of mammals.

While we can find ways to add to the list by ourselves... we realized this was a good project to try out the concept of "crowdsourcing"... that is, going out to the members of "the crowd" to ask for their help and input!

Each of you has a unique Yellowstone experience and perspective. So we're asking you to put on your thinking caps... and share some ideas for inclusion on this list! Submissions can be serious...offbeat...even humorous...as long as they help illustrate how big and complex a place Yellowstone is!

Please send your ideas to YELL\_Public\_Affairs by COB Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thanks!

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**The Bookmobile rides again!** Need to do some research for a fireside talk? Looking for some great places to hike? Need some entertainment? Check out our online catalog (<http://wyld.state.wy.us/yrl/>) to see what we have in the collection.

Call (x2264) or email and let us know what topics or books you are interested in and we can bring them practically to your doorstep.

If you can't come to the bookmobile while we're near you, let us know and we'll figure out a place to drop books off in your district.

Don't see something you need? Let us know and we can try to get the item for you. We will be heading into the park on July 11, August 8, and September 12.

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| Norris         | 8-8:30                | Housing area                 |
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| Old Faithful   | 10:45-11:15           | Ranger Station               |
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**Eastern National Announces the 2014 Passport To Your National Parks® Photo Contest**

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The photographer of each winning photo will receive \$500, or if the photo was taken on government time, \$500 will be donated to the interpretive program of the photographer's park. Park employees and VIPs are encouraged to submit photos taken during special events or anniversaries, and a brief description of the photo should accompany each submission. Images will be judged on quality, interpretive merit, and appropriateness of the subject matter.

Parks that have been previously featured on the annual Passport stamps are not eligible. Submissions must be received by August 15, 2013, and must be reproduction quality color originals in the form of a 35mm slide, color print, 4" x 5" transparency or 300dpi .TIFF file. Inkjet prints and low resolution photos will not be accepted. Submissions will be returned to the photographer. The winners of the 2014 Passport To Your National Parks® Photo Contest will be announced in December 2013.

Eastern National reserves the right to select photos from other sources, should there be a lack of appropriate submissions. By submitting photos for this contest, photographers release the rights of their photos to Eastern National for promotional purposes. Submissions should be mailed to: Eastern National, ATTN: Passport Photo Contest, 470 Maryland Drive, Suite 1, Fort Washington, PA 19034.

Launched by Eastern National in 1986, the Passport To Your National Parks® program promotes appreciation of and visitation to America's national parks. The program consists of a handy pocket-sized book which highlights each park in the system, and provides information for visitors. Free dated 'cancellations' are available at each park, providing a means for visitors to commemorate their visits. Visitors can purchase annual stamps, which feature photos compiled through this contest for placement in their Passport books.

**IN THE NEWS****Group promoting bear spray to YNP visitors**

BOZEMAN, Mont. (AP) -- A nonprofit organization based in Bozeman is teaming with seven retailers around Yellowstone National Park to sell bear spray at discounted prices during the week of July 4.

The Bozeman Daily Chronicle reports (<http://bit.ly/12uDm4C>) that Keystone Conservation also plans to distribute bear safety information as part of its "Keep Calm and Carry Bear Spray" campaign.

"Many people, particularly area visitors, are unfamiliar with bear country and do not understand how important it is to carry bear spray, or how to use it," said Elisa Prescott, Keystone Conservation's program coordinator, in a statement. "We are working to increase awareness of the importance of carrying bear spray, and are offering opportunities for people to use bear spray."

Bear spray usually costs about \$45 and can't be taken on airplanes. But with the discount, shoppers at Northern Lights in Bozeman will get \$10 off from Wednesday to July 7. Other retailers in various locations are offering the discount from Monday to July 7.

Besides discounted bear spray, Keystone Conservation has also created a bear spray rental program through Phasmid Rentals in Bozeman and Paddlefish in West Glacier.

Keystone started the campaign earlier this year at the Montana Outdoor Science School's Watershed Festival, where participants practiced discharging bear spray with inert cans.

Officials at Yellowstone National Park say hikers should stay in groups of three or more, carry bear spray and make noise on the trail.

## **WEATHER**

Expect another mostly sunny day with even slightly warmer afternoon high temperatures across most of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem today, cooling a bit as we move into the weekend. Look for an isolated late day thunderstorms across the mountains today through Sunday.

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 8:56 am MDT Jul 1, 2013

**Today:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. North wind 3 to 7 mph.

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 45. North wind 5 to 7 mph becoming calm in the evening.

**Tuesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 78. Calm wind becoming north around 6 mph in the afternoon.

**Tuesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 45. North wind around 6 mph becoming calm after midnight.

**Wednesday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after noon. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. Calm wind becoming north 5 to 8 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Wednesday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 46. North wind around 6 mph becoming calm after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Independence Day:** A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 76. Calm wind.

## **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!

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# YNP@Work

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Tuesday, July 2, 2013

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Please send your ideas to YELL\_Public\_Affairs by COB Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thanks!

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To all **Yellowstone Verizon Wireless customers**, and visitor contact positions:

Despite reports that you may have heard, we are not expecting any Verizon Wireless coverage loss in Yellowstone. Read on if you would like to know more.

There has recently been some misinformation disseminated through several channels regarding the potential loss of Verizon service in Yellowstone as a result of AT&T (GSM technology) terminating their Alltel (CDMA technology) roaming agreement with Verizon (CDMA). Currently there are NO operating Alltel sites in Yellowstone. Verizon will continue to operate their facilities and equipment at Old Faithful, Grant, Mount Washburn and Mammoth.

The last operating Yellowstone Alltel site was located on Mt. Washburn and it was shut down by AT&T in 2010. Canyon Verizon customers noticed a significant decrease in service in the Canyon FCC license area. We have met with Verizon to encourage them to pursue FCC licensing to the south of Washburn in order to restore service to Canyon.

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The Boardwalk Crew will begin construction of a 400 ft.'re-route' at **West Thumb Tuesday, July 2**. The stretch of boardwalk we plan to re-route is in the SW corner of the Basin where Thumb Paint Pots and Seismograph Pool are located. Because we will be building a new trail alongside the existing boardwalk, there will be

**NO CLOSURES OR DETOURS** that would offset traffic flow or guided interpretive walks. We will be accessing the Basin by way of an old service road away from trail head and parking lot. Hauling equipment and materials will **NOT** go on the present boardwalk. Tie-in and old boardwalk demolition will resume in the Fall.

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The YELL **HR Office will close at 2:30 PM on Wednesday, July 3rd** in accordance with the NPS Director's memo permitting early dismissal.  
Have a safe July 4th!

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In accordance with the NPS Director's memo permitting early dismissal on Wed, July 3 in observance of Independence Day, the **Finance Office will close at 2:30 p.m.**

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**The Bookmobile rides again!** Need to do some research for a fireside talk? Looking for some great places to hike? Need some entertainment? Check out our online catalog (<http://wyld.state.wy.us/yrl/>) to see what we have in the collection.

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## **IN THE NEWS**



### **Say cheese! Haynes Photo Shop showcases history of photography in the park**

Posted: Saturday, June 29, 2013 10:49 am | By Abbie Tumbleson West Yellowstone News |

The Old Faithful Haynes Photo Shop reopened its doors last Saturday morning to welcome visitors for the first time in more than 40 years.

The historic 86-year-old photo shop is located within a few hundred feet of its original site at Old Faithful and the famous geyser can be viewed from the front porch.

The photo shop was originally built in 1927 and housed one of the Haynes Photo Shops, which were the first photo concessions in the park, established by Frank J. Haynes and his son Jack.

According to information provided by the Yellowstone Park Foundation, the Haynes Family ran the shops continuously for 84 years from 1884 to 1968, where they sold hand-colored Yellowstone postcards.

New life has been breathed into the rustic log building and park visitors can now stop by and enjoy interactive exhibits about the past as well as modern touches, like the Photo Op area. Visitors can have their photo taken in front of a giant reproduction Haynes postcard, with three classic backdrops to choose from for their photo. Within minutes, they can walk over to electronic kiosks, view their photo and e-mail it to someone instantly.

“People just continue to keep coming in,” Yellowstone Park Foundation president Karen Bates Kress said at last Saturday’s opening.

Yellowstone superintendent Dan Wenk also attended the opening and ribbon cutting ceremony.

“This is actually a great opportunity for a few things to happen. It tells a little bit about the history of photography in Yellowstone National Park. It’s a great opportunity for people to learn how they can become stewards of Yellowstone and for the Yellowstone Park Foundation to have a presence in the park, and it’s a great use of this historic building,” Wenk said.

YPF has raised almost \$2 million for the exhibits in the shop and the building restoration.

“We’re very pleased about our very generous donors helping to make this a reality,” Kress said.

The facility is being submitted for gold Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) designation. The reuse of the original building structure, windows and exterior finishes have been maintained throughout the restoration process and salvaged and recycled materials sourced from regional manufacturers were used. YPF notes that the structure is now outfitted with energy-efficient lights operated by occupancy sensors and light pollution has been reduced in compliance with LEED and Yellowstone’s Outdoor Lighting Standards.

“We had the chance to restore a historic building and to give people an opportunity to become stewards of Yellowstone,” Kress said. “People are passionate about the park and they want to do something and now they can do that.”

The log building sat in storage near the Old Faithful Snow Lodge for decades and it was moved back over near its original location in the fall of 2011. Restoration and construction began in September 2012.

“A lot of planning went on for well over a year before that,” said Melinda Gable, the senior director for communication and marketing for YPF.

The Old Faithful Haynes Photo Shop is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Sept. 30, 2013.

Visitors can catch a glimpse of Yellowstone’s past and learn about initiatives aimed at preserving America’s first national park for future use.

Exhibits, videos, photographs, displays highlighting projects supported by YPF and original Haynes memorabilia that date from around 1900 are on display for visitors to enjoy, Kress said.

### **Local police officer saves young girl’s life with CPR**

Posted: Saturday, June 29, 2013 11:23 am | By Abbie Tumbleson West Yellowstone News |

The life of eight-year-old Fiona Daley was saved last week due to the speedy response of local police officer Mike Gavagan, Hebgen Basin Fire District paramedics and EMTs as well as a local woman who called 911.

Daley’s heart had stopped and she was not breathing when Gavagan arrived on scene, but first responders were able to revive the young girl. She was first life flighted to Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center in Idaho Falls, Idaho and then to Primary Children’s Medical Center in Salt Lake City, Utah last Wednesday, June 19.

Daley was running home with her two older sisters from a garden club meeting early last Wednesday evening when a typical trip home took a turn for the worse.

Daley screamed and then fell to the ground along Geyser Street. Her older sisters Maeve and Clare ran to help her.

“She was unresponsive and her sisters drug her off of the street. A woman came along and made the 911 call, and the rest is history,” the girl’s father Tim Daley said earlier this week.

The 911 call was received by the West Yellowstone dispatch center for an unresponsive, but breathing child. When officer Gavagan arrived on scene, he found the unresponsive Daley, who was not breathing and had no pulse. Miraculously, Gavagan had taken a CPR recertification class the week before and immediately began performing CPR on the girl.

Cassandra Mitchell, Brian Ball, Seth Russell and Jason Pond, of the Hebgen Basin Fire District, were also first responders.

“It was the most stressful, most rewarding thing that has ever happened in my life,” Gavagan said. “I can’t say enough about the EMTs that were there and the training that they go through.”

The Daley family wrote letters to express their gratitude to the crew that helped save Fiona’s life.

“My thanks is standing right here, that Fiona is here standing with us,” Gavagan said.

HBFD Fire Chief Scott Waldron said the ambulance arrived within three minutes of receiving the call and the crew began advanced resuscitation efforts.

“This is a situation where the system really worked. An officer that had CPR training was quickly on the scene and backed up quickly by capable paramedics and EMTs, doing everything in a timely fashion, and were able to get the patient on a helicopter and to the hospital,” Waldron said. “Officer Gavagan and the HBFD crew deserve credit for an excellent job done and a life saved.”

Her father added that according to the doctors at the PCMC cardiac unit, it is a rare occurrence to find the victim of such a catastrophic failure as Fiona suffered undamaged.

“Everything must have been done perfectly. The doctors at PCMC were quick to mention had it not been for the timely and amazing help Fiona received here locally, none of the subsequent efforts would have been to avail. What Mr. Gavagan did was the most important thing,” Tim Daley said.

Waldron stressed that early CPR is crucial in any situation, especially one like Fiona’s, and with everything being done in a timely fashion, the local police officer and emergency services workers were able to save a life.

Fiona Daley had an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD) implanted in her chest, near her left collarbone, last Friday and the Daley family has since found out that their youngest daughter has a serious genetic heart condition.

“She had shown no signs of this before and we now have some measures in place to deal with it,” Tim Daley said.

He explained that in the future, if her heart speeds up, or slows down, the ICD will make it go the correct pace, and it will give her heart a shock and get her heart going again, in the event that it stops beating again in the future.

The family is back in West Yellowstone and Fiona is at home recovering, but her father said she is happy and thankful for being alive.

Fiona said what happened was surprising, but she’s grateful.

As for the ICD that was implanted near her left collarbone – “I don’t really feel it,” she said.

Fiona’s mother Noelle said the family feels especially lucky because of West Yellowstone’s remote location and the worries about medical care options in the area, but because everybody did what they were supposed to do, her daughter was able to get the care that she needed right away.

“The gift they gave us was the gift of Fiona’s life and we are truly humbled by the magnitude of that gift. It is almost impossible to express our gratitude. How do you adequately thank somebody for a gift like that,” Tim Daley said.

**WEATHER****NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

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**Wednesday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after noon. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 78. Light north wind becoming north northwest 5 to 9 mph in the morning. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Wednesday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly cloudy, with a low around 46. North northwest wind 5 to 7 mph becoming calm in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Independence Day:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 75. Calm wind becoming west around 5 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**Thursday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 46. West wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

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Wednesday, July 3, 2013



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Road Construction Updates

- **Chittenden Road to Tower Junction** – *No delays July 3 (5 PM) through July 8 (7 AM). Construction will start again the morning of July 8, with possible 30 minute delays daily. No nightly closures through July 31.*
- **9-Mile Slide Repair (East of Fishing Bridge)** – Starting July 8, expect 15 minute delays and one-lane traffic.

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**The mail room and copy center will close at 1:30 pm today.** Please drop off out-going mail by 1:00 pm to be posted Wednesday afternoon. We will be closed for the holiday on July 4 and staffed from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on Friday, July 5.

Please submit all printing requests ASAP so they can be completed in time for the regular courier runs on Wednesday and Thursday. Anything submitted after noon on Wednesday will be printed on Friday.

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The YELL **HR Office will close at 2:30 PM on today** in accordance with the NPS Director's memo permitting early dismissal.

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**Tonight:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly before midnight. Some of the storms could produce small hail and gusty winds. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 45. Northwest wind 5 to 7 mph becoming calm in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**Independence Day:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly sunny, with a high near 75. Calm wind becoming west southwest 5 to 9 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**Thursday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 46. West northwest wind 5 to 7 mph becoming light and variable after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Friday:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Some of the storms could produce small hail and gusty winds. Partly sunny, with a high near 71. Light south wind becoming west southwest 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

**Friday Night:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly cloudy, with a low around 43. South wind 3 to 7 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

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### **FIRE UPDATE**

A new fire was discovered in Yellowstone National Park on the Fourth of July. The lightning-caused **Teepee Fire** in the far northwestern corner of the park is being suppressed and has been held at a little less than one acre in the past 24 hours.

Suppression operations continued through the night with a combination of Yellowstone National Park and Gallatin National Forest firefighters. A Type 1 and Type 3 helicopter are being utilized for crew shuttles and water dropping.

The spread potential is now very low due to the work of the combined fire crews and helicopter bucket drops. An additional crew of 10 firefighters from the Shoshone National Forest will arrive on scene today to assist mop-up operations in smoldering heavy fuels.

No trails are closed and one backcountry campsite that had been temporarily closed has been reopened.

There were nearly 2000 lightning strikes in and adjacent to the park over the past 24 hours with widely varying amounts of rainfall.

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## **WEATHER**

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 10:41 am MDT Jul 5, 2013

**Today:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Some of the storms could produce small hail, gusty winds, and heavy rain. Partly sunny, with a high near 71. South wind 7 to 15 mph becoming west in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 21 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%. New rainfall amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

**Tonight:** Showers and thunderstorms likely, mainly between 9pm and 10pm. Some of the storms could produce small hail, gusty winds, heavy rain, and frequent lightning. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 45. Southwest wind 6 to 13 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New rainfall amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

**Saturday:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Some of the storms could produce small hail, gusty winds, heavy rain, and frequent lightning. Partly sunny, with a high near 71. Light south southwest wind becoming west southwest 10 to 15 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 23 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%. New rainfall amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

**Saturday Night:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 43. South wind 6 to 9 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

**Sunday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Sunday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 45. West wind 5 to 8 mph becoming calm after midnight.

## **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!

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# YNP@Work

A Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Monday, July 8, 2013



Sunset on Sunday (photo by Al Nash)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **FIRE UPDATE**

The Tepee Fire has been declared out at 1329 hrs on 07/06/2013. Final size is 0.8 acres. All personnel and equipment are clear of the fire site.

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**Weather Alerts.** In order to aid staff situational awareness regarding hazardous weather, I recently set up a system where any Severe Weather information issued by the National Weather Service for Yellowstone National Park was automatically forwarded by to the YELL All Employees email list.

We experienced a great deal of severe weather over the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday weekend, and thus many such alerts were forwarded to your in-box.

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All, we are sorry to announce, **Andy Fox is leaving for Bureau of Reclamation**. Please join us Thursday 11 July from 4:00PM to 5:00PM in the contracting office for some cake and refreshments and help us wish Andy the best of luck in his transition to the Bureau of Reclamation.

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## **IN THE PRESS**

### **Yellowstone's backcountry: A whole different park**

July 04, 2013 12:05 am • By Brett French

**YELLOWSTONE RIVER TRAIL** — The musky scent of elk lingered in the air. Fresh scat and a track in the dusty trail confirmed the animals had only recently left the spring green grassy meadow.

Then, from behind a clump of waist-high bunch grass, an elk calf bolted, running scared up the sagebrush hill to catch the rest of a small herd of sleek brown elk that had left the calf behind.

Wild encounters like this are not uncommon in Yellowstone National Park's backcountry, a place where the buffalo still roam and the deer and the antelope "play."

### **A different park**

Every day this month and next, roughly 27,000 people a day will pour into Yellowstone from foreign countries and every state in the nation. It's the park's peak season. Last year in July and August alone, 1.6 million people visited Yellowstone, about half of the 3.4 million annual visitation.

According to a 2011 survey, many of those visitors spent only nine hours touring the park. Of those who stayed overnight, the average visit lasted 2.8 days. Driving, walking to thermal features, viewing wildlife and shopping were the most popular activities, the survey found.

Yet those who take the time to explore the 2.2 million-acre park's network of roughly 1,000 miles of backcountry trails will experience a much different Yellowstone. They may see only a handful of folks in an entire day. Despite the swarm of activity occurring nearby as tourists drive to Old Faithful geyser and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone overlook, it is still possible to experience a wilder and more secluded park.

According to statistics kept for Yellowstone, more than 40,000 park visitors went into the backcountry last year. The peak month was August, with more than 14,000 backcountry visitors, followed by July at 12,600. That number has remained fairly constant over the past five years.

"Slough Creek is the most popular, because of the fishing," said Ivan Kowski, Yellowstone's backcountry manager.

The Bechler region in the southwest, known for hot springs and waterfalls, is another popular backcountry destination, as is Heart Lake south of Yellowstone Lake.

### **On a whim**

Derek Hanson and his wife, son and in-laws journeyed into Yellowstone's backcountry last week almost on a whim. When the camping got too wet at Yellowstone Lake, they checked in at one of the park's nine backcountry offices to see if there was anywhere they could backpack in and camp in the drier northern portion of the park. The park always saves a portion of sites on each route for such walk-in hikers, although sites can be reserved ahead of time. Campsites were open along Hellroaring Creek, so Hanson paid the \$25 fee, watched an obligatory safety video about traveling in the backcountry and reserved two sites for two nights.

"It was fabulous," he said, after he had shed his pack and mopped a sweaty brow. Hanson is a frequent park visitor from Spokane, Wash. "We all love the outdoors and bear country."

The fishing was OK, they sighted numerous songbirds and an osprey, in addition to other wildlife, he said.

"We saw antelope with little babies, mule deer and lots of antlers and bones," he added.

At the same trailhead, cars from as far away as Texas and North Carolina were parked. Some are day-trippers into the backcountry, just stretching their legs and getting away from the confines of a car. Others are backpacking in to fish for several days, or for a quick one-night in-and-out just to see some new country.

"The majority of overnight backpackers are definitely walk-ins," Kowski said. "Reservation-wise we get a lot from the local area — Utah, Montana, Wyoming and some from Washington and Idaho."

The average stay for people visiting the backcountry is two nights, with most groups averaging two or three people. Commercial outfitters licensed in the park also make use of the backcountry sites. Yellowstone issues about 5,000 to 6,000 backcountry permits a year to outfitters. Commercial trips are typically larger, eight to 10 people.

### Back to the rat race

To rejoin the masses, hikers and backpackers need only get behind the wheel of their car again. Vehicles hum along the park's serpentine roads at a steady pace until a wild animal is sighted. Then the vacationer slams on the car's brakes and pulls to the side of the road to take photographs or shoot video. The congestion caused by the domino effect as other travelers pull over is known in the park as bear jams or elk jams -- insert the name of the animal in front of the word "jam."

It's hard to believe, when stuck behind such a line of cars and gawking, sometimes reckless, tourists, that only a mile off the road or less there's solitude and beauty. Out there the wind sighs through pine tree boughs, carrying the sweet scent of blossoming wild roses. The most constant sound is the rush of river or creek water. Deer and bears dine or travel along the riverbank. And hikers or backpackers are treated to a Yellowstone much different than that seen by 90 percent of the park's visitors.

Read more: <http://billingsgazette.com/tncms/asset/editorial/cc8a1f5d-4d7c-55e8-9e33-6ff4bccd4cd9/#ixzz2YTB1k35f>

**Legacy of the Tetons: T.A. Moulton Barn turns 100**

July 04, 2013 2:43 pm • By Benjamin Storrow Casper Star-Tribune

GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK — The homes on Mormon Row are deserted. Their walls bow and their roofs droop. Bison wander the empty rooms.

There is one exception to the decay: a small, white-clapboard home with a carefully clipped lawn and meticulously tended garden. The Moulton family gathers here every Memorial Day weekend. They crowd around a kitchen table stacked high with binders. Each contains photographs, newspaper clippings, magazine articles and other assorted mementos. All concern what the Moultons simply refer to as “the barn.”

The barn is not, on the face of things, particularly remarkable. Its frame and siding are made of wood. It sports a peaked roof and lean-tos on its north and south sides. It almost looks as if it was built of Lincoln Logs.

But the Moulton barn is no ordinary barn. Its aged, weathered wood tells the history of the pioneers who built it. Its peaked roof rises in defiance to heavy snow that falls here annually. The Tetons climb from the Snake River Valley behind it, forming a massive wall of rock against the sky.

The barn’s likeness is apt to show up just about anywhere today: on a billboard in Times Square, a credit card, above the deli section at the Albertsons in Jackson. Betty Blake, who was born in the white home, is charged with archiving these various keepsakes. Most are neatly filed in the lamented pages of the numerous three-ringed binders.

“It’s like a tradition,” said Shannon Jensen, a great-granddaughter of the barn’s builder, Thomas Alma Moulton. “If you see it in a magazine or on a deck of cards or a shot glass, you have to mail it in.”

The Moultons tell stories about the barn as they flip through the binders. Like the time Henry Fonda shot a scene for “Spencer’s Mountain” at the barn and struggled to milk Blossom. Or how, when Alma first built the barn, it was just a square box. Or the time Dan Moulton walked down a street in Park City, Utah, and saw a huge photograph of the barn hanging in Thomas Mangelsen’s gallery.

Much of the talk around the kitchen table this year concerned the barn’s anniversary. The T.A. Moulton barn turns 100 this summer and a large ceremony is planned for July 20.

The Moultons are looking forward to the celebration, but it is not their primary concern. Of more importance to them is the barn’s steady decline.

The roof is in poor shape. The foundation is unsound. And the front side is caving in on itself. The T.A. Moulton barn may be the most photographed barn in America — as Country Extra Magazine proclaimed in 1994 — but it is falling down.

The Moultons are leading the charge to repair it. Ownership of the barn passed from the Moultons to the National Park Service decades ago, but the family still feels a sense of responsibility for the old building. For them, the barn is a symbol of the community that once fought to survive upon this stretch of land. It represents their family’s history. They cannot allow it to fall.

“We take a lot of pride in that it’s so well known,” said Hal Blake, T.A. Moulton’s great-grandson. “It’s become a real icon. We share that history with it.”

“The deep meaning isn’t because it’s famous,” added his wife, Iola. “Because it’s famous, it makes the sacrifices that were made more special.”

### The Moultons arrive

Thomas Alma Moulton crossed over Teton Pass from Idaho into Jackson Hole in 1912. He traveled with his wife, Lucile, their newborn son, Clark, and the extent of their worldly possessions: a pair of draft horses, a mare, a cow and a calf.

Alma, as the Moultons know him, filed a homestead claim on a piece of land near the small settlement of Kelly in 1907 and began working the land a year later. Four years passed before he moved his young family there full time.

He began work on the barn a year later, hauling lodgepole pine cut from nearby Timber Island and notching the logs to build its frame, Candy Moulton wrote in her history of homesteaders in the region, “Legacy of the Tetons: Homesteading in Jackson Hole.” He placed grain bags on the barn’s square roof to keep out the weather. It was simple, but served the vital purpose of sheltering the family’s livestock.

In time, the barn grew. Alma and Clark added a hayloft and pitched roof in 1928. A lean-to was added to the south side in 1934 to accommodate horses on the mail run between Jackson and Moran. A lean-to on the north side followed in 1939 to provide extra space for the family’s livestock.

The barn’s growth mirrored the small community that sprung up in the area. The residents called the community Grovont — a pronunciation not to be confused with the nearby mountains and river, which took the French name Gros Ventre. Today the community is known as Mormon Row, named for the large number of Mormons who lived there.

But the community of Grovont was short-lived. Efforts to establish a national park in Jackson Hole began soon after the Moultons and other homesteaders laid claim to the land. Decades of controversy followed, as ranchers fought to keep their land out of the park.

Their resistance was slowly broken. John D. Rockefeller, working anonymously through the Snake River Land Company, purchased much of the land in the valley with the intention of donating it to the federal government for the establishment of a park.

The only person on the row not to sell was Clark Moulton, one of Alma’s four sons. His father had given Clark and his wife, Veda, an acre. They built a home there that remains in the family to this day. And it is there that the Moultons still gather on Memorial Day weekend.

“My grandfather always said as long as a Rockefeller could own private land inside the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park, so could a Moulton or one of his descendants,” said Hal Blake.

### A star

In the 1960s, a photographer named Abi Garaman started photographing the barn. He shot photos in all seasons, standing atop his van to better capture the small barn next to the large mountains. Since 1975, he has sold pictures of the barn at his gallery in Jackson, Under the Willow.

The pictures won Garaman recognition as a photographer. They also broadcast to the world the image of the simple barn before the Tetons. Two of his photographs of the building, “Once upon a time” and “The glowing point,” are included in the Professional Photographers of America’s loan collection. The organization named Garaman a master photographer for his work.

“Even though I don’t take pictures of it anymore, I always go by it,” Garaman said recently. “There is something nostalgic about it.”

His gallery still sells photos of the barn. And seemingly every day people enter the shop, looking for directions to it.

Katherine Wonson, a cultural resources specialist at Grand Teton National Park, said the barn is not only one of the pre-eminent icons of the park, but for the National Park Service as a whole.

“It is the perfect image for the Park Service because it shows natural resources, cultural resources and people interacting with them,” she said.

#### Maintaining the barn

This is not the first time the Moultons have led efforts to repair the barn. In 1993, a snowstorm caused the roof of the north lean-to to collapse. The main building was structurally unsound, much as it is now. In those days, the Park Service policy was to let buildings deteriorate. The idea was to let the land return to its natural state.

The Moultons saw their family history falling to the ground and decided to act. They offered to raise the money and contribute the labor to repair the barn, with Park Service approval. They worried the barn would not withstand another winter.

The Park Service's response was tepid. Officials agreed to the work, but the necessary work permits took months to arrive. When they did, contractors from across Jackson Hole donated materials. About 100 people turned out for a work day, and the building was fixed.

The Park Service has since changed its policy and now has a plan for the restoration of Mormon Row, which was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997.

But lack of money is a problem. The park has a long maintenance backlog for its modern buildings. It cannot afford to restore its historic ones, said Jackie Skaggs, Grand Teton National Park spokeswoman.

The Moultons are hoping to replicate their previous efforts. They are raising money again and a work day is scheduled to make the necessary repairs.

“It’s a physical attachment to the family,” said Angela Moulton, who married Alma’s youngest grandson, David. “Some people have lockets. This is what they left us.”

“It’s our legacy,” Betty Blake said.

Read more: [http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/legacy-of-the-tetons-t-a-moulton-barn-turns/article\\_335c1ba6-70a7-55c7-878d-3c4950d7494c.html#ixzz2YTEcnKIw](http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/legacy-of-the-tetons-t-a-moulton-barn-turns/article_335c1ba6-70a7-55c7-878d-3c4950d7494c.html#ixzz2YTEcnKIw)

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**Tuesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. Light west wind increasing to 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.

**Tuesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 43. West wind 5 to 9 mph becoming calm after midnight.

**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 78. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west in the afternoon.

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**Pilates and Yoga** classes at the MCC's *Studio at Yellowstone* held at 5:30 and 6:45 PM respectively will be **CANCELLED** for **Wednesday, July 17**. Amanda apologizes for the inconvenience and hopes you can find a creative, healthy alternative for your evening!

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

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**If you are affected by Wildfires**

- Take immediate action to ensure your physical safety and the safety of others. If it's possible, remove yourself from the event/scene in order to avoid further traumatic exposure.
- Address your acute medical needs (e.g., If you're having difficulty breathing, experiencing chest pains or palpitations, seek immediate medical attention).
- Find a safe place that offers shelter, water, food and sanitation.
- Become aware of how the event is affecting you (i.e., your feelings, thoughts, actions and your physical and spiritual reactions).
- Know that your reactions are normal responses to an abnormal event. You are not "losing it" or "going crazy".
- Speak with your physician or healthcare provider and make him/her aware of what has happened to you.
- Be aware of how you're holding-up when there are children around you. Children will take their cues from the adults around them.
- Try to obtain information. Knowing the facts about what has happened will help you to keep functioning.
- If possible, surround yourself with family and loved ones. Realize that the event is likely affecting them, too.
- Tell your story. And, allow yourself to feel. It's okay not to be okay during a traumatic experience.
- You may experience a desire to withdraw and isolate, causing a strain on significant others. Resist the urge to shut down and retreat into your own world.
- Traumatic stress may compromise your ability to think clearly. If you find it difficult to concentrate when someone is speaking to you, focus on the specific words they are saying and work to actively listen. Slow down the conversation and try repeating what you have just heard.
- Don't make important decisions when you're feeling overwhelmed. Allow trusted family members or friends to assist you with necessary decision-making.
- If stress is causing you to react physically, use controlled breathing techniques to stabilize yourself. Take a slow deep breath by inhaling through your nose, hold your breath for 5 seconds and then exhale through your mouth. Upon exhalation, think the words "relax", "let go", or "I'm handling this". Repeat this process several times.
- Realize that repetitive thinking and sleep difficulties are normal reactions. Don't fight the sleep difficulty. Try the following: Eliminate caffeine for 4 hours prior to your bedtime, create the best sleep environment you can, consider taking a few moments before turning out the lights to write down your thoughts thus emptying your mind.
- Give yourself permission to rest, relax and engage in non-threatening activity. Read, listen to music, consider taking a warm bath, etc.
- Physical exercise may help to dissipate the stress energy that has been generated by your experience. Take a walk, ride a bike, or swim.
- Create a journal. Writing about your experience may help to expose yourself to painful thoughts and feelings and, ultimately, enable you to assimilate your experience.
- If you find that your experience is too powerful, allow yourself the advantage of professional and/or spiritual guidance, support and education.
- Try to maintain your schedule. Traumatic events will disrupt the sense of normalcy. We are all creatures of habit. By maintaining our routines, we can maintain a sense of control at a time when circumstances may lead us to feel a loss of control.
- Crises present opportunities. Cultivate a mission and purpose. Seize the energy from your experience and use it to propel you to set realistic goals, make decisions and take action.

**Practicing Wildfire Fire Safety**

People start most wildfires. Here's how you can promote and practice wildfire safety.

- Contact your local fire department, health department, or forestry office for information on fire laws.
- Make sure that fire vehicles can get to your home. Clearly mark all driveway entrances and display your name and address.
- Report hazardous conditions that could cause a wildfire.
- Teach children about fire safety. Keep matches out of their reach.
- Post fire emergency telephone numbers.
- Ensure adequate accessibility by large fire vehicles to your property.
- Plan several escape routes away from your home - by car and by foot.
- Talk to your neighbors about wildfire safety. Plan how the neighborhood could work together after a wildfire. Make a list of your neighbors' skills such as medical or technical. Consider how you could help neighbors who have special needs such as elderly or disabled persons. Make plans to take care of children who may be on their own if parents can't get home.

### **Follow Local Burning Laws**

- Before burning debris in a wooded area, make sure you notify local authorities and obtain a burning permit.
- Use an approved incinerator with a safety lid or covering with holes no larger than ¾ inch.
- Create at least a 10-foot clearing around the incinerator before burning debris.
- Have a fire extinguisher or garden hose on hand when burning debris.

Additional information and resources are available at the Employee Assistance Program's website. Please go to [www.eapconsultants.com](http://www.eapconsultants.com), click on Member Access and use the password: **interioreap**. Then click on Relationships, then Disaster Preparedness and then on Wildfires.

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The photographer of each winning photo will receive \$500, or if the photo was taken on government time, \$500 will be donated to the interpretive program of the photographer's park. Park employees and VIPs are encouraged to submit photos taken during special events or anniversaries, and a brief description of the photo should accompany each submission. Images will be judged on quality, interpretive merit, and appropriateness of the subject matter.

Parks that have been previously featured on the annual Passport stamps are not eligible. Submissions must be received by August 15, 2013, and must be reproduction quality color originals in the form of a 35mm slide, color print, 4" x 5" transparency or 300dpi .TIFF file. Inkjet prints and low resolution photos will not be accepted. Submissions will be returned to the photographer. The winners of the 2014 Passport To Your National Parks® Photo Contest will be announced in December 2013.

Eastern National reserves the right to select photos from other sources, should there be a lack of appropriate submissions. By submitting photos for this contest, photographers release the rights of their photos to Eastern National for promotional purposes. Submissions should be mailed to: Eastern National, ATTN: Passport Photo Contest, 470 Maryland Drive, Suite 1, Fort Washington, PA 19034.

Launched by Eastern National in 1986, the Passport To Your National Parks® program promotes appreciation of and visitation to America's national parks. The program consists of a handy pocket-sized book which highlights each park in the system, and provides information for visitors. Free dated 'cancellations' are available at each park, providing a means for visitors to commemorate their visits. Visitors can purchase annual stamps, which feature photos compiled through this contest for placement in their Passport books.

## **IN THE PRESS**

### **Yellowstone wants curbs on Montana wolf harvest**

17 hours ago • Associated Press

A proposal to relax gray wolf hunting and trapping rules in Montana got a cool reception from Yellowstone National Park administrators who said Monday the move appears to be aimed at substantially reducing the population of the animals in the park.

Wolves regularly cross from the hunting-free safe haven of Yellowstone into Montana, where wildlife officials want to drive down pack numbers in response to complaints about the predators from ranchers and big game hunters.

Montana wildlife commissioners are scheduled on Wednesday to take final action on proposals to lengthen the wolf season, increase the bag limit and set quotas around the park.

Park administrators complained Monday that some of the changes would make it too easy to target wolves that live primarily in Yellowstone.

The move to loosen hunting and trapping rules was driven in part by the Montana Legislature. Lawmakers last session passed a measure increasing the number of wolves that could be taken by individual hunters and trappers and prohibiting the formation of a no-hunting buffer zone around Yellowstone.

In response to the concerns raised by Yellowstone Superintendent Dan Wenk and others, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks spokesman Ron Aasheim said Monday that the agency is recommending revisions to the original wolf hunting proposal tentatively adopted in May.

The changes include a bag limit of just one wolf per person in areas adjacent to the park and an increase in the area where quotas will apply.

However, the quota for the Gardiner area north of Yellowstone still would exceed what the park wants in terms of the number of wolves that could be killed and the size of the quota area.

Yellowstone's chief scientist Dave Hallac said he appreciated the changes but added that it was unclear whether the commissioners will accept the agency's recommendations.

"The park is not anti-hunting," Hallac said. "What we're trying to do is balance the conservation of wolves in Yellowstone, which are not exploited population right now, with some level of reasonable harvest."

Wildlife commission chairman Dan Vermillion said the move to lower the bag limit to one wolf near Yellowstone - versus five animals elsewhere in the state - was about increasing hunter opportunity, so that one hunter couldn't fill the entire quota.

But he stressed that the state wanted to avoid setting a precedent by treating wolves that come out of the park differently than other animals.

"Once those wolves come into Montana, they become Montana wildlife and we need to manage them," Vermillion said.

Several wolves that were well-known among Yellowstone wildlife watchers were killed in Montana during the 2012-13 hunting season. They were among 12 wolves living primarily in Yellowstone that were killed after crossing into adjacent areas of Montana, Idaho and Wyoming.

Under pressure from the park and advocacy groups, Montana wildlife commissioners tried to set up a no-kill buffer zone east and west of the town of Gardiner, but a judge struck down those restrictions after ranchers and property rights advocates sued.

Aasheim said the recommendations that his agency has made are intended to strike a balance.

"You can't please everybody," he said. "We've gotten 25,000 comments and you've got to do the thing that's most reasonable."

Read more: [http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/yellowstone-wants-curbs-on-montana-wolf-harvest/article\\_de00e32e-94c1-5114-89b5-a23b81e8cc4a.html#ixzz2YYhyjOeu](http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/yellowstone-wants-curbs-on-montana-wolf-harvest/article_de00e32e-94c1-5114-89b5-a23b81e8cc4a.html#ixzz2YYhyjOeu)

### **Park officials explain changes made in fishing regulations**

Posted: Friday, July 5, 2013 11:00 am By Mike Moore West Yellowstone News

Yellowstone National Park officials met with fishing guides, fly shop owners and anglers on Tuesday at the Holiday Inn in West Yellowstone to explain why certain changes were made in this year's YNP fishing regulations.

This season, Yellowstone altered its fishing regulations so that they are consistent with the park's Native Fish Conservation Plan. In these changes was the elimination of the limit on non-native fish caught in all park waters except the Madison and Firehole rivers, the Gibbon River below Gibbon Falls, and Lewis and Shoshone lakes. The plan was put in place to restore native fish species in Yellowstone, such as Yellowstone cutthroat trout, arctic grayling and westslope cutthroat trout. This is in an effort to non-native species such as brown, rainbow and brook trout populations.

The meeting began with a brief presentation by Yellowstone Center of Resources chief David Hallac, who explained the areas of the park where these new fishing regulation changes have been made, and why the changes were put in place. He began by covering Yellowstone Lake and the effort to eliminate lake trout populations, in order to bring back the large numbers of native Yellowstone cutthroat that existed before 1994.

"We're trying to bring back Yellowstone cutthroat who are threatened by lake trout," he said. "Our goal is to restore and maintain the important ecological role of native fish and create and sustain an angling opportunity. We have an emphasis on Yellowstone Lake and we're concerned with predation. Yellowstone Lake is critical for our ecosystem... There are cascading impacts from the reduction in cutthroat numbers."

Hallac went on to add that the effort to reduce lake trout has recently been ramped up, resulting in 300,000 lake trout netted and killed last year, with 150,000 already being killed so far this year.

Later in the meeting, Hallac moved his attention from Yellowstone Lake to discuss their actions on rivers and streams to restore native fish populations in the Lamar River drainage.

He outlined how rainbow trout have moved into the upper Lamar River area over time, and spoke about actions they've been taking to preserve the upper Lamar through methods like electrofishing.

"The park's mission is to maintain a native ecosystem," he said. "Hybridization occurs and we lose our native species. Yellowstone National Park is one of the last strongholds of Yellowstone cutthroat; It's important we implement a program to restore native cutthroat and arctic grayling."

Hallac then brought up a slide that showed the audience the changes in the regulations. The two changes include no limit on non-native fish in the native trout conservation area within the Lamar River drainage. The second change calls for all rainbow and brook trout in the Lamar River drainage, including Slough Creek and Soda Butte Creeks to be killed if caught.

"It will be illegal to release non-native fish back (in these areas)," he said. "You are not required to kill non-native fish in all of the park, just the Lamar River drainage. The Madison, Firehole and Gibbon are all the same (as before); no changes there."

Before opening the meeting up to questions, Hallac ended his presentation by stating that climate change is occurring in the park, and that the park needs to do everything in its power to make a resilient ecosystem.

At that point, Yellowstone National Park superintendent Dan Wenk and supervisory fisheries biologist for Yellowstone Todd Koel, joined Hallac in addressing comments from concerned audience members.

"The fishing is great in the Lamar River for brown trout," Richard Parks, owner of Parks' Fly Shop in Gardiner said. "People will mistake browns for cutthroat."

Parks went on to say many people would abide by the new regulations, but that a small percentage will abuse the no limit rule on non-native species, and that the small percentage of abusers can do a lot of damage. He also mentioned that it would be nearly impossible to restore the Gardiner River to be a true native habitat.

"I think we need to be more subtle and specific for the application with these rules in a way that people behave," he said. "It sets up a situation where we see people who never buy Yellowstone fishing licenses now coming out to buy them (only to abuse the regulation)."

Local fisherman and Blue Ribbon Fly Shop employee John Juracek questioned why park officials chose to restore the park's fisheries to how they were back in 1850.

“What makes something native,” he asked. “You guys chose 1850, why didn’t you go back 10 million years ago? The public wasn’t invited and the decision (on the regulations) is arbitrary. It disrespects the previous fisheries management in the park.”

Wenk responded by saying the park has a mandate to preserve natural process, noting that just like climate change, the park will never be as it was in 1850.

“I just urge you to take extreme caution,” Juracek said.

Wenk then said he takes all of the fishing regulation changes very seriously, and that they just want to do what is best for the park in the long term. After hearing nearly an hour of questions and comments from the audience, Wenk wrapped up the meeting by making a commitment to come back and hold a similar meeting next year if any additional changes are made to the fishing regulations before the regulations are put into print.

## **WEATHER**

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 5:41 am MDT Jul 9, 2013

**Today:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. Light west wind increasing to 5 to 10 mph in the morning.

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 43. West wind 5 to 9 mph becoming south in the evening.

**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. South wind 7 to 14 mph becoming west southwest in the afternoon.

**Wednesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 45. South southwest wind 6 to 11 mph.

**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 80. Southwest wind 7 to 16 mph.

**Thursday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 44. South southwest wind 5 to 13 mph.

## **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 Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



The library will be closed ALL day **TODAY**. We apologize for any inconvenience.  
Normal library hours are :  
Monday, Tuesday 9am-4pm  
Wednesday 9am-12pm  
Thursday, Friday 9am-4pm

Don't forget to get your requests in for the bookmobile which is coming around **TOMORROW**!

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**Andy Fox is leaving for Bureau of Reclamation!** Please join us **TOMORROW** from 4:00PM to 5:00PM in the contracting office for some cake and refreshments and help us wish Andy the best of luck in his transition to the Bureau of Reclamation.

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**Weather Alerts.** In order to aid staff situational awareness regarding hazardous weather, I recently set up a system where any Severe Weather information issued by the National Weather Service for Yellowstone National Park was automatically forwarded by to the YELL All Employees email list.

We experienced a great deal of severe weather over the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday weekend, and thus many such alerts were forwarded to your in-box.

Our office has received comments from individuals subsequent to this and prior outbreaks, saying that they did not find this head-ups information regarding severe weather in the park useful or desirable. Therefore, we have eliminated the auto-forward.

Should you be interested in setting up weather alerts for yourself, there are many free services such as the one we were using from AccuWeather which provide severe weather information by email and/or text message. A fairly comprehensive list may be found at <http://www.weather.gov/subscribe>

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**Pilates and Yoga** classes at the MCC's *Studio at Yellowstone* held at 5:30 and 6:45 PM respectively will be **CANCELLED** for **Wednesday, July 17**. Amanda apologizes for the inconvenience and hopes you can find a creative, healthy alternative for your evening!

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The **Mammoth EMS Crew is getting Yellowstone EMS Shirts**. Options include short sleeve and long sleeve t-shirts and short sleeve and long sleeve polos. You can choose to have your EMS level on the front, or not. The design is available in the EMS folder on the parkwide drive (Shirt Design).

Please contact Jason Allen ([Jason.Allen@nps.gov](mailto:Jason.Allen@nps.gov)) with questions and orders. We are hoping to get the order together by the end of business Friday, July 12.

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**Employee Safety:** All are welcome to attend the Employee Safety Committee Meeting scheduled for 10:00 am **TOMORROW** at the Old Faithful Ranger Station Conference Room. Agendas and minutes can always be found at the Employee Safety Committee Sharepoint site at <http://inpyellshare/emsc>.

If you would like to listen to the meeting via conference call, use the toll free number and participant code:

Toll free number 888 930-9220

Participant Code 1885448

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**Mountain Mobile Auto Glass** will be at the Mammoth garage on Thursday July 11 2013. For Gov work please contact Tom Monroe at X-2321 or Bob Hester at X-2322. For personal work contact Randy Stands at (406)220-7891.

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#### **Road Construction Updates**

- **Chittenden Road to Tower Junction** – **No nightly closures through July 31.**
- **9-Mile Slide Repair (East of Fishing Bridge)** – Starting today, expect 15 minute delays and one-lane traffic.

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For reservations and scheduling of **MCC classroom 2 or the Gym**, please contact Karin Schwartz at [YellowstoneMCC@gmail.com](mailto:YellowstoneMCC@gmail.com).

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**The Bookmobile rides again!** Need to do some research for a fireside talk? Looking for some great places to hike? Need some entertainment? Check out our online catalog (<http://wyld.state.wy.us/ysl/>) to see what we have in the collection.

Call (x2264) or email and let us know what topics or books you are interested in and we can bring them practically to your doorstep.

If you can't come to the bookmobile while we're near you, let us know and we'll figure out a place to drop books off in your district.

Don't see something you need? Let us know and we can try to get the item for you. We will be heading into the park **TOMORROW**, August 8, and September 12.

|                |                       |                              |
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## **IN THE PRESS**

### **Yellowstone visitor fully recovered one year after close encounter with bison**

1 hour ago • Ruffin Prevost [yellowstonegate.com](http://yellowstonegate.com)

CODY, WYO. — A year after he was seriously injured in a close encounter with a bison in Yellowstone National Park, a Massachusetts man has fully recovered from the traumatic experience that made international headlines.

Robert Dea, 59, of Newbury, Mass. had planned a two-week summer vacation to Yellowstone and a Montana guest ranch with his wife and their friend in June 2012. But he ended up spending eight days in the hospital instead, after being tossed around by a bothered bison.

A year after the incident, in which he suffered a torn groin, broken shoulder blades and several broken ribs, Dea reports that he is "pretty well back to my normal physical and mental state now."

"I have no remaining pains or damage from this incident," Dea wrote last month in an email detailing his progress over the past year. "It is truly remarkable that I took such a hit, and was so severely injured in the moment, and yet survived without any permanent disabilities."

Initial press accounts of the incident were featured on the Drudge Report and other high-traffic websites, spawning a series of sensational stories and online comment threads that Dea, a technical writer, said were misinformed and hurtful.

As detailed in coverage of the incident from last summer, Dea faulted himself for not getting out of the animal's way. He had been viewing the bison through binoculars, and had a mistaken impression that staying put was the safest option as the animal approached.

Dea and his party had been driving near the Norris campground when they spotted a lone bison near a river. So they pulled over to watch, along with a group of about six others.

As the bison moved away from the river, it followed a path that led toward Dea, who knew that it was unwise to run from bears, so he didn't pull back. He had spent time around cattle and had even seen bison behind a fence in a different setting, and figured it was best to just stay put.

But just after the bison passed him, Dea recalls saying something like, "You be a good boy now," and looking away as he stood up from where he had been sitting on a log.

That's when the bison wheeled around and butted Dea in the lower back, sending him flying at least 10 feet into the air. He landed on his left shoulder, suffering a torn groin, broken shoulder blades and several broken ribs.

Park rangers administered first aid and Dea was flown by helicopter to a hospital in Idaho Falls. He spent eight days in what he called "a pain-filled haze" before moving to a hotel for three more days of recuperation. Insurance covered most of the bills, which he described as "enormous."

"I still dearly love animals—yes even bison—and support efforts to clear a place for them to survive and prosper in their natural habitat without being hunted and hounded by human encroachment," Dea said last month.

Dea said he's happy to offer an update on his progress and to recall the incident as a reminder to park visitors about the dangers of getting too close to wildlife—or allowing wildlife to get too close.

"It was an intense experience, mainly a painful and terrible one, but I am thankful to have come through it so well, and thankful to the park staff, doctors, and others who helped me through it," he said.

Read more: [http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/yellowstone-visitor-fully-recovered-one-year-after-close-encounter-with/article\\_9551334a-98bd-5520-a962-2ec1d65e8f24.html#ixzz2Yeaib076](http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/yellowstone-visitor-fully-recovered-one-year-after-close-encounter-with/article_9551334a-98bd-5520-a962-2ec1d65e8f24.html#ixzz2Yeaib076)

## **WEATHER**

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 5:26 am MDT Jul 10, 2013

**Today:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. West southwest wind 7 to 14 mph.

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 46. South southwest wind 9 to 14 mph.

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 76. Southwest wind 8 to 15 mph.

**Thursday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 43. West wind 9 to 17 mph, with gusts as high as 23 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Friday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 69. Light and variable wind becoming southwest 9 to 14 mph in the afternoon.

**Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 42. Southwest wind 6 to 11 mph becoming light south southwest

after midnight.

**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 Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Thursday, July 11, 2013



Dean Hodo-23 seasons



Jim Enebow-17 seasons



Ken Haslett-20 seasons



Lee Powell-30 seasons

Congratulations!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

In honor of the nineteen fire fighters who lost their lives yesterday while battling the Yarnell Hill Fire in Central Arizona, all National Park Service employees are authorized to wear **mourning bands and/or ribbons through July 12, 2013**. Employees not issued badges may wear a 3/8 inch black satin ribbon in lieu of the mourning band. Coordination is occurring regarding national flag lowering amongst federal agencies and will be communicated shortly.

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**Andy Fox is leaving for Bureau of Reclamation!** Please join us **TODAY** from 4:00PM to 5:00PM in the contracting office for some cake and refreshments and help us wish Andy the best of luck in his transition to the Bureau of Reclamation.

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The **Mammoth EMS Crew is getting Yellowstone EMS Shirts**. Options include short sleeve and long sleeve t-shirts and short sleeve and long sleeve polos. You can choose to have your EMS level on the front, or not. The design is available in the EMS folder on the parkwide drive (Shirt Design).

Please contact Jason Allen ([Jason.Allen@nps.gov](mailto:Jason.Allen@nps.gov)) with questions and orders. We are hoping to get the order together by the end of business **TOMORROW**.

-----

**Pilates and Yoga** classes at the MCC's *Studio at Yellowstone* held at 5:30 and 6:45 PM respectively will be **CANCELLED** for Wednesday, July 17. Amanda apologizes for the inconvenience and hopes you can find a creative, healthy alternative for your evening!

-----

### **Employee Safety Committee-Wellness**

Thanks to all who participated in the Wellness Incentive Program during the month of June! Names have been drawn from among those who participated in each of the 5 clubs. The following employees will receive an award for their participation.

Club #1 (Aerobic Exercise): Rachel Cudmore, RVP

Club #2 (Strength Training/Flexibility): Courtney Adair, REYP

Club #3 (Healthy Stress Reduction): Sally Hens, RVP

Club #4 (Healthy Nutrition): Chris Farrar, RVP

Club #5 (Lifestyle Choices): Peggy Hall, RVP

The updated Wellness Incentive Program (WIP) was launched beginning July 1st. Please discard your old program manual and certification form. Full program details can be found here: <http://inpyellshare/emsc> then click on the YNP WIP link in the top left corner of the page. Check out the updates! As always, all employees are encouraged to participate. Certification forms for the month of July are due to Stacey Gunther by August 5th.

Additionally, you can access the free wellness newsletter from Mayo Clinic that will come directly to your inbox. Topics can be tailored to your health interests. Sign up here: <http://www.mayoclinic.com/health-information/> scroll down to Free E Newsletter and click sign up now. Stay tuned for additional Wellness Resources from Mayo Clinic coming in the near future.

Here's to your health!

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### Road Construction Updates

- **Chittenden Road to Tower Junction** – No nightly closures through July 31.
- **9-Mile Slide Repair (East of Fishing Bridge)** – Starting today, expect 15 minute delays and one-lane traffic.

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For reservations and scheduling of **MCC classroom 2 or the Gym**, please contact Karin Schwartz at [YellowstoneMCC@gmail.com](mailto:YellowstoneMCC@gmail.com).

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**The Bookmobile rides again!** Need to do some research for a fireside talk? Looking for some great places to hike? Need some entertainment? Check out our online catalog (<http://wyld.state.wy.us/yrl/>) to see what we have in the collection.

Call (x2264) or email and let us know what topics or books you are interested in and we can bring them practically to your doorstep.

If you can't come to the bookmobile while we're near you, let us know and we'll figure out a place to drop books off in your district.

Don't see something you need? Let us know and we can try to get the item for you. We will be heading into the park **TODAY**, August 8, and September 12.

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

## **IN THE PRESS**

### **Montana increases bag limit for next wolf hunt**

7 hours ago • Associated Press

HELENA — Montana Fish and Wildlife commissioners on Wednesday increased the bag limit from one to five wolves per person and extended the state's next hunting season, but they also set new restrictions in areas adjacent to Yellowstone National Park.

The commission voted to loosen hunting regulations during its meeting in Helena in an attempt to further decrease the state's wolf population. They amended their plans and set new quotas around Yellowstone after park administrators expressed concern over the effects on the wolf population there.

Hunting and trapping wolves next to Yellowstone, which is a no-hunt zone, flared as an issue after several Yellowstone wolves wearing radio tracking collars were shot last year by hunters in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming.

Commission Chairman Dan Vermillion said the limits are the result of an attempt to reach a middle ground.

“It’s not going to cause a long-term threat to the wolf population there,” Vermillion said.

There is no statewide quota limiting the total number of wolves that can be killed during the season, but in two special wolf-management units north of Yellowstone, the commission limited the total number of wolves that can be killed to seven.

Hunters and trappers will only be allowed to take one wolf each in those areas.

To the west of Glacier National Park, a quota of two wolves has been set in that management unit, the same as last year.

The rifle season for wolves will run from Sept. 15 to March 15, giving hunters a six-month season this year. The trapping season, the state’s second, will again run from Dec. 15 through Feb. 28.

Archery season will be from Sept. 7 through Sept. 14.

Opponents of the new regulations wanted an even lower quota around Yellowstone, saying the combined effects of Montana’s and Wyoming’s hunts would likely hurt the park’s wolf population. They also objected to lengthening the rifle season beyond February, saying that is the time when female wolves are pregnant.

“Yellowstone’s wolf packs are the foundation for the ecosystem’s wolf population and must be provided special considerations,” said Bart Melton of the National Parks Conservation Association. “It’s imperative that we protect this iconic species adjacent to the park as well as the vibrant wolf-related tourism that benefits our local economy.”

Wolf opponents argued the animals’ burgeoning population hurts other big-game animals and results in more livestock being killed. Blake Henning of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation said the National Park Service’s lack of wildlife management creates problems for hunters and ranchers outside the park.

“We don’t believe the park needs special protections or designations for its wolves,” Henning said.

In all, nearly 25,000 people submitted comments on the plans to loosen regulations for the upcoming hunt since the commission first announced the proposal in May.

A total of 225 wolves were killed by hunters and trappers last season. Montana Fish and Wildlife estimated the state’s wolf population at 625 at the end of 2012, a decline of about 4 percent from 2011.

Congress lifted federal protections of wolves in Montana and Idaho in 2011, handing management over to those states and allowing them to hold hunts. Wyoming held its first hunt last year.

Montana’s management plan calls for a population of at least 150 wolves and 15 breeding pairs within its borders.

Read more: [http://billingsgazette.com/lifestyles/recreation/montana-increases-bag-limit-for-next-wolf-hunt/article\\_79e42620-4613-5fe6-b1d0-22810abdd602.html#ixzz2YkQOl6p](http://billingsgazette.com/lifestyles/recreation/montana-increases-bag-limit-for-next-wolf-hunt/article_79e42620-4613-5fe6-b1d0-22810abdd602.html#ixzz2YkQOl6p)

### **Yellowstone down slightly, still tops 1M visitors**

By Mark Huffman, Jackson Hole, Wyoming  
July 11, 2013

More than a million people have already visited Yellowstone National Park this year, even with numbers down slightly.

June saw the usual explosion in tourism in the park, with 744,056 tourists counted. The number for May was 293,250. The total was only 98,971 for January, February, March and April.

For the year to date, Yellowstone is reporting 1,016,651 visitors, down 2.42 percent from the 1,041,898 counted through June 2012.

Yellowstone park spokesman Al Nash cautioned the comparison is skewed by a recent change in the count method.

The park doesn't count every person, but uses a "multiplier" for each entering vehicle to estimate visitors. When the multiplier was cut earlier this year, park officials predicted it would trim the count. Officials believe the new multiplier is a more accurate count, Nash said.

Nash noted that this year's vehicle count is up from 2012 by 5.72 percent, from 331,330 vehicles through the end of June 2012 to 350,274 through the end of June 2013.

Nash said the park expects no significant change up or down in visitor numbers over the course of 2013.

July is typically the park's peak month, Nash said, followed in order by August, June, September and May.

It's also been busy this year in Grand Teton National Park.

Figures released earlier this week showed that through the end of June, the park had welcomed 872,106 visitors, up 7.6 percent compared to 2012.

There were just more than a half a million visitors in June, the park reported, up 5.1 percent over June 2012.

## **WEATHER**

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 5:41 am MDT Jul 11, 2013

**Today:** Partly sunny, with a high near 78. Southeast wind 8 to 16 mph becoming west in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 24 mph.

**Tonight:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 44. West northwest wind 6 to 15 mph becoming south in the evening. Winds could gust as high as 23 mph.

**Friday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 68. South southwest wind 5 to 11 mph becoming north northeast in the morning. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Friday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly cloudy, with a low around 42. West northwest wind 6 to 11 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Saturday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after noon. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. South wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Saturday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly cloudy, with a low around 42. West southwest wind 5 to 9 mph becoming calm after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

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# YNP@Work

A Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Friday, July 12, 2013



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Road Construction Updates

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- **9-Mile Slide Repair (East of Fishing Bridge)** – Expect 15 minute delays and one-lane traffic.

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The **Mammoth EMS Crew is getting Yellowstone EMS Shirts**. Options include short sleeve and long sleeve t-shirts and short sleeve and long sleeve polos. You can choose to have your EMS level on the front, or not. The design is available in the EMS folder on the parkwide drive (Shirt Design).

Please contact Jason Allen ([Jason\\_Allen@nps.gov](mailto:Jason_Allen@nps.gov)) with questions and orders. We are hoping to get the order together by the end of business **TOMORROW**.

-----

**Pilates and Yoga** classes at the MCC's *Studio at Yellowstone* held at 5:30 and 6:45 PM respectively will be CANCELLED for Wednesday, July 17. Amanda apologizes for the inconvenience and hopes you can find a creative, healthy alternative for your evening!

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### Employee Safety Committee-Wellness

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## **WEATHER**

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 8:26 am MDT Jul 12, 2013

**Today:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 69. East southeast wind 7 to 11 mph becoming west southwest in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Tonight:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before 9pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 41. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming light south southwest after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Saturday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after noon. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 75. Calm wind becoming south southwest 5 to 7 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Saturday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly cloudy, with a low around 41. West southwest wind 5 to 9 mph becoming calm after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Sunday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after noon. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 74. Calm wind becoming west southwest around 6 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Sunday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly cloudy, with a low around 42. West southwest wind around 6 mph becoming calm after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

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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!

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# YNP@Work

A Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Monday, July 15, 2013



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Road Construction Updates

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- **9-Mile Slide Repair (East of Fishing Bridge)** – Expect 15 minute delays and one-lane traffic.

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The **Mammoth EMS Crew is getting Yellowstone EMS Shirts**. Options include short sleeve and long sleeve t-shirts and short sleeve and long sleeve polos. You can choose to have your EMS level on the front, or not. The design is available in the EMS folder on the parkwide drive (Shirt Design).

Please contact Jason Allen ([Jason.Allen@nps.gov](mailto:Jason.Allen@nps.gov)) with questions and orders. We are hoping to get the order together by the end of business **TOMORROW**.

-----

**Pilates and Yoga** classes at the MCC's *Studio at Yellowstone* held at 5:30 and 6:45 PM respectively will be **CANCELLED** for Wednesday, July 17. Amanda apologizes for the inconvenience and hopes you can find a creative, healthy alternative for your evening!

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### **New Xeriscaping Guide Available for Landowners** *Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee*

Bozeman, MT – The Sustainable Operations Subcommittee of the Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee (GYCC), in partnership with Montana State University (MSU) is releasing a guide to xeriscaping for those interested in landscaping their property in ways to conserve water.

The GYCC asked the Sustainable Operations Subcommittee to develop practical and achievable actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as well as ways to conserve water. One of the actions identified to accomplish both was xeriscaping. Two subcommittee members partnered with the MSU Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology to create a handbook tailored specifically to the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA) that can be used by landowners, nurseries, garden shops, realtors or anyone who wants to landscape in a way that will use less water. The guide includes methods of landscaping to conserve water, along with some suggested low water-use plants that do well in the GYA. Photos of beautifully designed xeriscaping in the GYA may help to inspire landowners to successfully convert some or all of their landscaping to xeriscaping.

“Across the West, including the GYA, water is regarded as an incredibly valuable resource that we all share and have the responsibility to use wisely,” said Jane Ruchman, project leader for the xeriscaping guide and landscape architect for the Gallatin National Forest. “About half of the water that is used during the summer, especially in urban areas, goes toward maintaining our landscaping. There is a common misconception that xeriscaping means using only cactus and rocks, however it is possible to save water and still have attractive and functional landscaping,” she said.

The free guide is available online at <http://www.fedgycc.org/documents/GYA.XeriscapeGuide.pdf>. The 62 MB brochure may be printed out double sided for easy reference and use. Also at 12 p.m. on Wed. July 17, there will be an informal public presentation and discussion of the guide at the MSU Bozeman Area Research and Teaching Farm, accessed from Garfield Street on the west side of the Bozeman campus. Some of the landscapers who contributed photographs for the guide may be present and attendees will be able to see the MSU test plots with various low water-use turf grasses and perennials.

“Ultimately this guide promotes the wise use of our water resources and that benefits all of us in the long run,” said Ruchman. For more information about the guide, contact Ruchman at (406) 587-6966.

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## **PRESS RELEASES**

### **Construction Work Begins On 9-Mile Site, Continues On Tower Road**

New construction has begun on a section of the East Entrance road located near Lake Butte at the northern edge of Yellowstone Lake known as “Nine-Mile.”

A combination of water runoff from the mountain above and an unstable earth layer underneath the road surface has caused a section of the road edge to break away over time. Throughout the construction, which is expected to be completed by the end of the season, traffic will be guided through a short, one-lane section with a portable traffic light. Temporary closures may be a possibility, but are not expected.

Motorists entering the park from points east can also chose to enter the park through the Northeast Entrance at Cooke City, Montana, via the Beartooth All-American Highway (US-212) from Red Lodge, Montana, or via the Chief Joseph Scenic Highway (US-296) from Cody, Wyoming.

Construction also continues on the road between Tower Fall and Tower-Roosevelt. No nighttime closures are in effect, yet visitors could experience delays of up to a half an hour passing through the area.

The National Park Service (NPS) will notify the public in advance if any road closures are implemented due to ongoing construction projects.

For valuable trip planning information, visit <http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/index.htm>. For current road conditions 24 hours a day, call (307) 344-2117.

**WEATHER****NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 6:11 am MDT Jul 15, 2013

**Today:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. Southwest wind 6 to 9 mph.

**Tonight:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 46. Southwest wind 5 to 8 mph becoming light and variable. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Tuesday:** A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 79. East southeast wind 7 to 9 mph becoming south in the afternoon.

**Tuesday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers after midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 45. Southeast wind 9 to 14 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Wednesday:** A slight chance of showers, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Some of the storms could produce small hail and gusty winds. Partly sunny, with a high near 74. Calm wind becoming west around 5 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**Wednesday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Some of the storms could produce small hail and gusty winds. Partly cloudy, with a low around 45. Light and variable wind.

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# YNP@Work

A Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Tuesday, July 16, 2013



Yellowstone's 2nd **Youth Conservation Corps** session with 22 new enrollees started on Sunday. Follow the work, play, learning and growth of YCC participants at <http://yellowstoneycc2013.wordpress.com/>

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Kudos to Law Enforcement and first-responder Rangers** who attended to an amazing SEVEN medical calls yesterday in the park! (forgive us if there were more, but these are the ones we know of): There were two unconscious visitors and another with a broken leg near Tower, a hiker with a broken leg on Washburn, a visitor with a seizure near Madison, a hiker with a lacerated leg near Mystic Falls and a young girl whose horse fell over a cliff on the Canyon horse trail, which required short-haul assistance from the Teton Interagency helicopter. This

exemplary work defines what our staff can still manage to accomplish in a busy summer season even as we face shortfalls in manpower.

- - - - -

Yellowstone was featured in a recent **New York Times online pictorial**. Check it out at <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2013/07/14/magazine/look-yellowstone.html>

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#### **Road Construction Updates**

- **Chittenden Road to Tower Junction** – No nightly closures through July 31.
- **9-Mile Slide Repair (East of Fishing Bridge)** – Expect 15 minute delays and one-lane traffic.

- - - - -

**Pilates and Yoga** classes at the MCC's *Studio at Yellowstone* held at 5:30 and 6:45 PM respectively will be CANCELLED TOMORROW, July 17. Amanda apologizes for the inconvenience and hopes you can find a creative, healthy alternative for your evening!

- - - - -

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#### **IN THE NEWS**

##### **Some Anglers Upset Over Yellowstone Fish Rule**

JACKSON, Wyo. (AP) — Some anglers are questioning a new rule that allows for the catch and kill of any nonnative trout in Yellowstone National Park.

Yellowstone officials pulled the cap on brook, brown, lake and rainbow trout this season in all park waters except the Madison and Firehole rivers, the Gibbon River below Gibbon Falls and Lewis and Shoshone lakes.

Officials say the change is intended to help with the restoration of native cutthroat trout and arctic grayling.

But some fly shop owners and outfitters who are dependent on Yellowstone's fisheries fear it may result in too few game fish in the future.

#### **WEATHER**

##### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 9:11 am MDT Jul 16, 2013

**Today:** Showers and thunderstorms likely, mainly after 4pm. Some of the storms could produce small hail, gusty winds, heavy rain, and frequent lightning. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 77. South wind 7 to 11 mph. Chance

of precipitation is 60%.

**Tonight:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly before midnight. Some of the storms could produce small hail, gusty winds, heavy rain, and frequent lightning. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 46. South wind 5 to 9 mph becoming north northwest in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

**Wednesday:** A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 1pm. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly sunny, with a high near 74. Calm wind becoming east southeast around 5 mph.

**Wednesday Night:** A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1am. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 46. Light and variable wind.

**Thursday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 76. Calm wind becoming west around 5 mph in the afternoon.

**Thursday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1am. Partly cloudy, with a low around 45. Northwest wind 5 to 7 mph becoming calm after midnight.

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# YNP@Work

A Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Wednesday, July 17, 2013



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### MISSING PERSON

We have a missing person from Gardiner.

Parker Joseph Austin is a 23 year old male, 5ft 10 inches, 165 pounds, with blonde hair and blue eyes.

He was hiking on Electric Peak yesterday, and did not return as expected.

We searched until approximately 230 a.m., when we retired for the evening. The search was scheduled to resume at approximately 6 o'clock this morning. Please contact the Comm Center if you have any information.

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**Kudos to Law Enforcement and first-responder Rangers** who attended to an amazing SEVEN medical calls Monday in the park! (forgive us if there were more, but these are the ones we know of): There were two unconscious visitors and another with a broken leg near Tower, a hiker with a broken leg on Washburn, a visitor with a seizure near Madison, a hiker with a lacerated leg near Mystic Falls and a young girl whose horse fell over a cliff on the Canyon horse trail, which required short-haul assistance from the Teton Interagency helicopter. This exemplary work defines what our staff can still manage to accomplish in a busy summer season even as we face shortfalls in manpower.

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## **IN THE NEWS**

### **Agencies offer six options for bison**

*July 16, 2013 12:00 am • By EVE BYRON, Helena Independent Record*

Two state agencies have released an environmental assessment regarding plans to let bison roam year-round in Montana to the north and west of Yellowstone National Park.

The idea of exploring where and when to possibly allow free-ranging bison in certain areas was raised about a year ago by a citizens' advisory group. The state went through the public scoping process, where it received more than 3,500 comments that helped craft the current 120-page draft document, which was released late Friday.

The draft EA provides information and analysis to determine whether taking one of the proposed actions would result in a significant effect on both people and the landscape. Officials with the Montana Department of Livestock (DOL) and Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) created the document. They note that one of the six alternatives, or a blend of them, could be adopted or the process could trigger a more in-depth Environmental Impact Statement if additional information is deemed necessary.

Six potential scenarios that were laid out range from continuing to haze bison back into the park each spring to allowing some sort of limited room to roam, in some cases based on their sex. Currently, bison that migrate out of Yellowstone are hazed back into the park around May 15 each year as part of an effort to keep female bison away from cattle, due to the fear that when they give birth they can transmit brucellosis to cattle. The disease causes animals to abort their fetuses.

Regardless of which alternative may eventually be chosen, the EA notes that the divergence of opinions for bison management within Montana will remain complex and controversial.

"Those who have championed the cause for the reintroduction of bison to Montana's landscape would likely see the proposed action for year-round bison as a positive impact ..." the EA states. "However, those who want bison to remain within the boundaries of YNP and/or see the expansion of bison within Montana as a threat to livestock and agricultural industries would potentially view the implementation of this alternative as a major negative impact.

"Another view is that with the availability of new year-round habitat, the need for slaughter could be decreased, and bison using more of their historic range brings back a romantic image of the Old West."

Pat Flowers, the FWP regional supervisor out of Bozeman, and Christian Mackay, the DOL director, said both state agencies didn't come out with a preferred alternative because they want to hear from the public first about the range of proposals.

“I don’t think we have gone through the process where we can come out with a proposal that all the agencies agree on,” Flowers said. “We want to consider the affects of our analysis and the feedback.”

“We really want the public to weigh in on this one,” Mackay added.

#### **‘No action’**

Under the “No Action” alternative, bison would be confined to specific tolerance zones in the Gardiner and Hebgen basins during the winter and hazed back into YNP in May each year. On the northern boundary, when hazing is no longer effective, the National Park Service would continue to capture all migrating bison and keep them at the Stephens Creek facility up to its holding capacity. Captured bison that test positive for exposure to brucellosis would continue be taken to slaughter.

This alternative isn’t expected to create any new impacts to the physical or human environments.

#### **Under Alternative B**

Under Alternative B, Yellowstone bulls could roam year-round in the Gardiner Basin and both sexes could use portions of the Gallatin National Forest near West Yellowstone. The area where they could roam totals 421,821 acres, including 141,870 currently used seasonally by bison.

Those areas for both sexes include portions of the Gallatin National Forest west and north west of the park boundary including Horse Butte, the Madison Flats, south of U.S. Hwy 20, Monument Mountain Unit of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness, Cabin Creek Wildlife and Recreation Area, and Upper Gallatin River corridor to Buck Creek.

Yellowstone bull bison could use habitat on Forest Service and other lands north of the park boundary and south of Yankee Jim Canyon year-round. Bison would be prohibited from traveling north by the mountain ridge tops between Dome Mountain/Paradise Valley and the Gardiner Basin on the east side of the Yellowstone River, and Tom Miner Basin and the Gardiner Basin on the west side of the Yellowstone River.

With this alternative, additional surveys would be undertaken to determine the bison’s natural routes and timetables for moving in and out of the park, as well as within their year-round habitats.

It’s anticipated that a few bison would move beyond the defined year-round habitat’s boundaries because the bison wouldn’t be familiar with the new area and would be hazed back. If they don’t respond to the hazing, they would be shot.

#### **Alternative C**

Alternative C proposes also allowing Yellowstone bison to use Gallatin National Forest lands known as Horse Butte and north along the U.S. Highway 191 corridor north to Buck Creek, but is a smaller geographic area to the north than Alternative B. It covers about 255,714 acres.

#### **Alternative D**

Alternative D proposes an even smaller year-round habitat on Gallatin National Forest lands near West Yellowstone on Horse Butte and Madison Flats, and a small area along U.S. Highway 8. These areas encompass approximately 37,870 acres and were identified in the 2000 ROD as Zone 2.

#### **Alternative E**

Alternative E is similar to Alternative D, but even smaller, with year-round roaming only on 11,500 acres on Horse Butte.

#### **Alternative F**

The final Alternative F would allow only bulls to use existing bison-tolerant areas year-round within the Gardiner Basin, which includes about 104,000 acres between the northern boundary of the park and the southern entrance to Yankee Jim Canyon. Again, bison would be prohibited from traveling across the ridge between Dome Mountain/Paradise Valley and the Gardiner Basin on the east side of the Yellowstone River, and Tom Miner basin and the Gardiner Basin on the west side of the Yellowstone River.

Mackay notes that they already allow bison to roam year-round in the Eagle Creek and Bear Creek area north of Gardiner.

He said his agency has some concern about letting bison roam on the west side of the park in Montana because it's a much different landscape and more difficult to keep them from traveling even farther.

The draft EA lists the pros and cons of free-roaming bison, noting that while it may increase hunting opportunities and create enhanced opportunities for viewing wildlife, it also could pose additional management problems including property damage and conflicts with humans and pets.

Steps would be taken to mitigate impacts to public safety, recreation and livestock, including addition signage, public educational and outreach, bison-resistant fencing and appropriate bison management to decrease bison-human conflicts.

"There's a lot of discussion that has to happen and consideration of the pros and cons," Flowers said. "We laid those out as clearly as we could do."

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#### **4 suffer minor injuries from nearby lightning**

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK, Ariz. — (AP) Authorities say four visitors at the Grand Canyon suffered minor injuries from a nearby lightning strike at the canyon's south rim.

Officials at Grand Canyon National Park say the four people weren't struck by lightning but instead felt tingling in their bodies after lightning struck near them around 1 p.m. Monday near Mather Point.

The visitors were examined at a medical clinic and released.

Park officials say other people have been injured and died in the past at the Grand Canyon from lightning strikes.

They say visitors should seek shelter in a building or vehicle during lightning strikes and shouldn't touch metal railings during storms with lightning.

**WEATHER**

**NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 5:41 am MDT Jul 17, 2013



**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 Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Thursday, July 18, 2013



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Highway 89 at MP 8 is now OPEN to traffic.**

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### **MISSING PERSON**

We have a missing person from Gardiner.

Joseph Austin Parker is a 23 year old male, 5ft 10 inches, 165 pounds, with blonde hair and blue eyes.

He was hiking on Electric Peak Tuesday, and did not return as expected.

A YELL search is scheduled to resume early this morning. Please contact the Comm Center if you have any information.

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### **Remaining Schedule for Chip Sealing**

July 17, 2013 - Finish Brink of Upper Falls, weather permitting.

Start Canyon Government Road below Canyon Village towards Sewer Plant, weather permitting. (This is a Government maintained road that starts at the Northeast corner of the Canyon Village Parking lot and runs southeast for .47 miles to cabin loops and ends at the Y in P Loop. There will not be any loop roads sealed in this project as it is the main road only)

July 18, 2013 - Canyon Main Campground road, weather permitting. This is the Government maintained Canyon Campground Entrance Road that extends for 1.47 miles to the Y at the service road that leads to the water tanks. There will not be any loop roads sealed on this project as it is the main road only. Move and stage equipment to West Yellowstone.

July 19, 2013 - No scheduled chip sealing, finish sweeping in Canyon area and complete equipment staging to West Yellowstone.

July 22, 2013 - West Yellowstone Government Area. Start on Riverside Drive.

July 23, 2013 - Complete Riverside Drive. Madison Government Area.

July 24, 2013 - Firehole Canyon Drive. Start on Fountain Freight Road to turn around area.

July 25, 2013 - Finish Fountain Freight Road. Firehole Lake Road

July 26, 2013 - Finish Firehole Lake Drive. Brooming Operation

Week of July 29 to August 2, 2013 - Clean-up operations and move equipment to Grand Teton.

August 5 to August 16, 2013 - Chip Seal in Grand Teton.

Week of August 19 - Move equipment back from Grand Teton and prepare for paving operations in Yellowstone.

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**From Finance:** A friendly reminder. To ensure timeliness and accuracy, all documents submitted to Finance for processing must include the full FBMS account string. Documents submitted with partial information may be delayed or returned.

Please contact your budget analyst if you need help finding these numbers prior to submitting documents for processing.

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**From Bear Management:** To the person who took the folding tailgate ramp from the Stephens Creek Bear Box Storage Area, please return it to the Bear Management Office or put it back where you took it from. We had a full load of Bear Boxes in the back of our truck, and left the folding ramp leaning up against the junk car while we delivered Bear Boxes to the Norris Campground. When we returned to pick up our ramp it was gone. Please return it to where you took it from. We need it for loading bear boxes and road-killed wildlife.

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CSS is getting ready to schedule the **printer repair guy** to come again. If you have a LASER printer that needs cleaning or any printer that needs repair, call Lori Wilkerson at 2461 please. She will need the printer make and model, along with a description of that it's problem is, or if it just needs a cleaning.

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## **IN THE NEWS**

### **Yellowstone Has Teeth**

*National Parks Traveler*

<http://www.nationalparkstraveler.com/review/2013/yellowstone-has-teeth23623>

## **WEATHER**

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 8:41 am MDT Jul 18, 2013

**Today:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. Calm wind becoming west 5 to 7 mph in the afternoon.

**Tonight:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before 9pm. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly cloudy, with a low around 44. Northwest wind 5 to 7 mph becoming calm after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. Calm wind becoming west 5 to 8 mph in the afternoon.

**Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 42. Northwest wind 5 to 8 mph becoming calm after midnight.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 76. Calm wind becoming west northwest 5 to 9 mph in the afternoon.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 42. West northwest wind 5 to 7 mph becoming calm after midnight.

**Sunday:** Sunny, with a high near 79. Light and variable wind becoming west 8 to 13 mph in the afternoon.

### **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!

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# YNP@Work

A Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Friday, July 19, 2013

**Firehole Canyon Drive CLOSED until noon today.**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Remaining Schedule for Chip Sealing**

July 17, 2013 - Finish Brink of Upper Falls, weather permitting.  
Start Canyon Government Road below Canyon Village towards Sewer Plant, weather permitting. (This is a Government maintained road that starts at the Northeast corner of the Canyon Village Parking lot and runs southeast for .47 miles to cabin loops and ends at the Y in P Loop. There will not be any loop roads sealed in this project as it is the main road only)

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- - - - -

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While in the Old Faithful area, take a moment out of your busy day to stop by and check out the newly remodeled **Haynes Photo Shop** like Lloyd Krueger did with his summer interns - Forrest Reinhart, Anna Gruber, and Nate Finken.



**NEWS RELEASES****Body Of Missing Hiker Found In Northwest Yellowstone**

Searchers Thursday morning discovered the body of a young man who went on a solo hike to a mountain peak in northwest Yellowstone Tuesday and failed to return.

The last contact with 23-year old Joseph Austin Parker was a cell phone call he made to friends about 2:30 p.m. Tuesday. Parker told his friends he was below the summit of Electric Peak, and because of nearby lightning, he was starting to descend the mountain.

Parker was reported missing by a friend about 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and a search was initiated by the National Park Service.

An aerial search by both airplane and helicopter and ground search by teams in 4-wheel drive vehicles, on horseback, and on foot did not turn up any clues to Parker's whereabouts Wednesday.

Parker's body was discovered below the summit of Electric Peak shortly after the search resumed Thursday morning. The cause of death is under investigation.

Originally from Valdosta, Georgia, Parker was working at a local Gardiner, Montana business.

Electric Peak is a nearly 11,000 foot mountain in the Gallatin Range, located west of Gardiner, Montana in the northwest portion of Yellowstone National Park.

The National Park Service worked closely with a variety of agencies and landowners including the Park County, Montana Sheriff's Office in conducting the search.

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**Montana Angler Dies In Yellowstone River**

A 73-year-old man from southwest Montana died Wednesday in Yellowstone National Park after losing his footing while fishing.

The man was fishing in the Yellowstone River near the Nez Perce picnic ground in the Mud Volcano area when witnesses say he lost his footing in chest-deep water while attempting to cross the river and was carried approximately 200 yards downstream in the swift current.

Another visitor ran downstream and pulled the unconscious man ashore and initiated CPR. Park rangers and medical staff were notified and responded but were unable to revive the victim.

The cause of death remains under investigation, and his name is being withheld pending completion of notification of family members.

**IN THE NEWS**

...Another reminder of the dangers of lightning:  
-- **Three hit by lightning in Glacier park**

(DAILY INTER LAKE [KALISPELL, MT])

[http://www.dailyinterlake.com/news/local\\_montana/article\\_d5ed47da-ef37-11e2-a974-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.dailyinterlake.com/news/local_montana/article_d5ed47da-ef37-11e2-a974-001a4bcf887a.html)

## **WEATHER**

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 6:26 am MDT Jul 19, 2013

**Today:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west in the afternoon.

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 43. West northwest wind 5 to 9 mph becoming light and variable after midnight.

**Saturday:** Sunny, with a high near 76. Calm wind becoming west 5 to 9 mph in the afternoon.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 43. West northwest wind 5 to 9 mph becoming light and variable.

**Sunday:** Sunny, with a high near 76. Southwest wind 5 to 13 mph.

**Sunday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 43. West wind 6 to 11 mph becoming light and variable after midnight.

## **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 Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Monday, July 22, 2013



## ***FIRE UPDATE***

### **Emigrant Fire**

**Update:** July 21, 2013 @ 8:00 p.m.

**Contact:** Karen Tuscano 406-223-2028

**DATE OF DETECTION:** July 21, 2013

**CAUSE:** Lightning

**CURRENT SIZE:** 30 acres

**CONTAINMENT:** 0%

**LOCATION:** South of Emigrant Peak, between Gold Prize and North Fork of Sixmile trails

**AGENCY:** Gallatin National Forest

**PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES ON THE FIRE:** 20 firefighters and 1 helicopter.

**TODAY'S ACTIVITY:** Thunderstorms that rolled through the area on Wednesday afternoon ignited a fire south of Emigrant Peak in the Paradise Valley south of Livingston. Firefighters responded to the fire at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 21, 2013. As of 2:30 Sunday afternoon, the fire was approximately 5 acres. At 4:30 p.m., fire activity began to increase significantly and the fire size increased to approximately 30 acres by 7:00 p.m. Four local Yellowstone Ranger District firefighters and 16 smokejumper are assigned to the fire. A helicopter from Yellowstone National Park is helping with bucket drops.

The fire is burning in and adjacent to an old fire scar from the late 1990's. The dead and downed fuels in the old burn scar and steep and rocky terrain are hampering firefighting efforts on the ground. Burning logs and other large fuels have been rolling out from the fire perimeter to unburned fuels below the fire.

**PLANNED ACTIVITY:** One 20-person Type 1 hotshot crew, 2 helicopters, and miscellaneous overhead personnel have been ordered and should arrive on the fire tomorrow.

Limited access, very steep and rocky terrain, heavy fuels, rolling burning debris, and the warm, dry and windy weather are safety concerns for fighting this fire. Firefighters will be looking for safe opportunities to suppress this fire.

**SPECIAL MESSAGES & OTHER INFORMATION:** The road up Sixmile Creek from its junction with the Dailey Lake Road will be closed until further notice. The Gold Prize Trail (#61) and North Fork of Sixmile Creek Trail (#606) will be closed to their junction with Trail #601 north of Monitor Peak. Connector Trail #601 will remain open.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Remaining Schedule for Chip Sealing**

July 22, 2013 - West Yellowstone Government Area. Start on Riverside Drive.

July 23, 2013 - Complete Riverside Drive. Madison Government Area.

July 24, 2013 - Firehole Canyon Drive. Start on Fountain Freight Road to turn around area.

July 25, 2013 - Finish Fountain Freight Road. Firehole Lake Road

July 26, 2013 - Finish Firehole Lake Drive. Brooming Operation

Week of July 29 to August 2, 2013 - Clean-up operations and move equipment to Grand Teton.

August 5 to August 16, 2013 - Chip Seal in Grand Teton.

Week of August 19 - Move equipment back from Grand Teton and prepare for paving operations in Yellowstone.

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### **Hearing Conservation Program**

Audiometric testing is provided and available to all employees whose exposure to noise is equal to or exceeds an 8-hour time-weighted average of 85 decibels. Hearing testing is on a first come first serve basis and will take place in the maintenance areas at the locations listed below.

#### **Audiometric (Hearing) Testing Schedule:**

|                     |                  |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| July 22 (Monday)    | 7:30AM – 4:00PM  | Mammoth          |
| July 23 (Tuesday)   | 7:30AM - 11:00AM | West Yellowstone |
| July 23 (Tuesday)   | 1:00PM - 4:00PM  | Canyon           |
| July 24 (Wednesday) | 7:30AM - 12:00AM | Old Faithful     |
| July 25 (Thursday)  | 7:30AM - 11:00AM | Lake             |
| July 25 (Thursday)  | 1:00PM - 4:00PM  | Grant            |

Please share this information with all those that may be required to fulfill the baseline or annual testing OSHA 29CFR1910.95 requirement.

- - - - -

If you left **3 HP toner cartridges** last week with a note that said "NEEDS REFILL", you need to come to CSS to fill out the paperwork to tell us who they are for by tomorrow (7/23) morning. Town run is Wednesday, July 24.

- - - - -

CSS is getting ready to schedule the **printer repair guy** to come again. If you have a LASER printer that needs cleaning or any printer that needs repair, call Lori Wilkerson at 2461 please. She will need the printer make and model, along with a description of what the problem is, or if it just needs a cleaning.

- - - - -

**Reader Submitted Images**

A six-foot bull snake eats a ground squirrel in Lower Mammoth housing. (John Cataldo, Photo)



An osprey brings a fish back to the nest in the Lamar Valley ( Luann Holtz, photo)

**WEATHER****NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 6:41 am MDT Jul 22, 2013

**Today:** Sunny, with a high near 78. South southwest wind 7 to 15 mph.

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 40. West wind 6 to 15 mph becoming north northeast after midnight.

**Tuesday:** Sunny, with a high near 73. Calm wind becoming west 5 to 7 mph in the afternoon.

**Tuesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 44. West northwest wind 5 to 7 mph becoming east southeast after midnight.

**Wednesday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 76. Southeast wind 5 to 8 mph becoming west in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Wednesday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 44. West northwest wind around 6 mph becoming calm after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Thursday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 74. Light and variable wind.

### **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!

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# YNP@Work

A Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Tuesday, July 23, 2013

## **FIRE UPDATE**

**Emigrant Fire**

**Update: July 22, 2013 @ 9:00 p.m.**

**Contact:** Karen Tuscano 406-223-2028

**DATE OF DETECTION:** July 21, 2013

**CAUSE:** Lightning

**CURRENT SIZE:** approximately 350 acres

**CONTAINMENT:** 0%

**LOCATION:** South of Emigrant Peak, between Gold Prize Creek and North Fork Sixmile Creek

**AGENCY:** Gallatin National Forest



**PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES ON THE FIRE:** 40 firefighters and 2 helicopters.

**FIRE HISTORY:** Thunderstorms that rolled through the area on Wednesday afternoon ignited a fire south of Emigrant Peak in the Paradise Valley south of Livingston, MT. The fire is located between Gold Prize Creek and the North Fork of Sixmile Creek. Firefighters responded to the fire at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>. The fire is burning in and adjacent to the fire scar from a fire in the late 1990's, and in thick timber with a large amount of dead and down fuels.

**YESTERDAY'S ACTIVITY:** The Helena hotshot crew arrived on the fire Monday afternoon. The 2 helicopters also arrived on the fire and helped move firefighters and gear to the new spike camp location near the fire. Fire officials flew over the fire Monday morning and were able to get a better assessment on the fire. It is actively burning the large ground fuels in the area, and single and group tree torching has also been observed. Firefighters continued to report the large boulders and large ground fuels rolling down the extremely steep terrain and igniting the unburned fuel below the fire perimeter. Attempts to construct an anchor point and fireline have been continually challenged by that rolling material.

**TOMORROW'S WEATHER AND PLANNED ACTIVITY:** Relative humidity values are not expected to recover to normal nighttime levels tonight, which keeps fire activity elevated. Tomorrow's weather forecast is calling for continued warm temperatures and low relative humidity. The winds should be weaker than today. The high temperature tomorrow could reach 83 degrees in the fire area, and a low relative humidity of 11%. Winds will be out of the west at 6-10 mph.

Firefighter and public safety are the top priority for this fire. Fire personnel will look for opportunities to use natural barriers to confine the fire to as small an area as possible. This is the only safe option for firefighters on the ground at this time. The immediate threat of the fire reaching private property is not significant at this time; however it is anticipated that the fire will continue to burn for quite some time and the influences of weather can change conditions rapidly.

Homeowners in the Paradise Valley should always be prepared for unexpected events such as wildfire. To learn how to prepare your family and your property for emergency wildfire situations, go to <http://firesafemt.org/>.

**CLOSURES & OTHER INFORMATION:** The road up Sixmile Creek from its junction with the Dailey Lake Road will be closed until further notice. The Sixmile Creek Trail (#61) and North Fork Sixmile Creek Trail

(#606) will be closed from their respective trailheads to their junctions with Trail #601 north of Monitor Peak. Connector Trail #601 will remain open.

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**Dennis Hogstad** of the Sign Shop shows students of the Exploring Yellowstone program how to design name signs. Last week a total of 32 local kids had a behind-the-scenes tour of the Sign Shop to see how wood and metal signs are made. Afterward they each laid out their own name sign.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Don't **PULL** your hair **OUT**, come **PULL WEEDS!!**

**THURSDAY JULY 25** is the **6th Annual Mammoth Weed Pull**. **EVERYONE** is **WELCOME!!** Festivities will kick off at 8:30 at the North District Maintenance Building. Please bring gloves (we will have extras) and make sure to obtain your supervisor's approval. The event will end with a fabulous lunch at noon provided by Yellowstone Park Foundation and cooked by our wonderful chef Denny Barford. No experience pulling weeds is necessary. Experts will be on hand to help identify any photos of mystery plants you have from the summer.



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**Remaining Schedule for Chip Sealing**

July 23, 2013 - Complete Riverside Drive. Madison Government Area.

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August 5 to August 16, 2013 - Chip Seal in Grand Teton.

Week of August 19 - Move equipment back from Grand Teton and prepare for paving operations in Yellowstone.

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The **radio shop** will be holding radio training for new users that were hired mid-summer. The training will be in the Mammoth Telecom training room on July 30 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Email or call Dan Downing at x2090 if you plan to attend.

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**Hearing Conservation Program**

Audiometric testing is provided and available to all employees whose exposure to noise is equal to or exceeds an 8-hour time-weighted average of 85 decibels. Hearing testing is on a first come first serve basis and will take place in the maintenance areas at the locations listed below.

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| July 23 (Tuesday)   | 1:00PM - 4:00PM  | Canyon           |
| July 24 (Wednesday) | 7:30AM - 12:00AM | Old Faithful     |
| July 25 (Thursday)  | 7:30AM - 11:00AM | Lake             |
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Please share this information with all those that may be required to fulfill the baseline or annual testing OSHA 29CFR1910.95 requirement.

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In preparation for the upcoming audit of **Yellowstone personal property assets**, the Property Office will be surveying Mammoth area vehicles and heavy equipment for license numbers, barcodes, and VIN numbers. Over

the next two weeks, Property/Supply employees Karin Schwartz and Scott Hancock will be in and around vehicles and equipment to check for the accuracy of the vehicle information in the property computerized data base. They both will be in uniform when surveying, and your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Please inform any employees without regular e-mail access that Karin and Scott will be performing these Mammoth area field checks. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Hancock in the Property Office at 307-344-2084.

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Just a reminder if you have not spent your **uniform allowance** please do so as soon as possible, time is quickly passing. Note the important dates below.

- Last day to place a uniform order is September 2, 2013. Do not wait until the last day to place orders

**Seasonal/Temporary Employees** - any uniform order that hasn't shipped or is on back-order will automatically be cancelled at the end of your season or September 30th whichever comes first. These funds are not carry over funds and will not be reinstated next fiscal year. It is your responsibility to track your orders. If you have an item on back-order, contact VF Customer Service at 1-800-448-7968 to determine if the item will be shipped before the end of your season. You have the option of cancelling this order and placing an online order for something else that is in stock.

**Permanent Employees** - Back-orders will stay in the system until shipped

Employees are not required to expend their full allowance and the contractor does NOT keep unspent funds.

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## **WEATHER**

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 8:41 am MDT Jul 23, 2013

**Today:** Sunny, with a high near 76. Calm wind becoming west 5 to 7 mph in the afternoon.

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 42. West wind around 7 mph becoming east after midnight.

**Wednesday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. Southeast wind 5 to 9 mph becoming west in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Wednesday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before 1am. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 43. West wind 5 to 9 mph becoming light and variable after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Thursday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after 7am. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 76. Light and variable wind becoming west northwest 5 to 7 mph in the morning. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Thursday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before 1am. Some of the storms

could produce gusty winds. Partly cloudy, with a low around 41. West northwest wind around 6 mph becoming calm after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

### **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 Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Wednesday, July 24, 2013

## **FIRE UPDATE**

**Emigrant Fire**

**Update: July 22, 2013 @ 9:00 p.m.**

**Contact:** Karen Tuscano 406-223-2028

**DATE OF DETECTION:** July 21, 2013

**CAUSE:** Lightning

**CURRENT SIZE:** approximately 419 acres

**CONTAINMENT:** 0%

**LOCATION:** South of Emigrant Peak, between Gold Prize Creek and North Fork Sixmile Creek

**AGENCY:** Gallatin National Forest



**PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES ON THE FIRE:** 40 firefighters, 2 helicopters, 3 engines.

**FIRE HISTORY:** Thunderstorms that rolled through the area on Wednesday afternoon ignited a fire south of Emigrant Peak in the Paradise Valley south of Livingston, MT. The fire is located between Gold Prize Creek and the North Fork of Sixmile Creek. Firefighters responded to the fire at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>. The fire is burning in and adjacent to the fire scar from a fire in 1999, and in thick timber with a large amount of dead and down fuels.

**YESTERDAY'S ACTIVITY:** Yesterday, firefighters reported seeing less activity on the fire than they had seen the previous two days. The fire continued to slowly work its way farther down from the ridge, with some short uphill runs. Near mid-slope in the North Fork Sixmile Creek drainage, the large helicopter dropped buckets of water on active fire to slow the rate of spread. Firefighters worked to prep a portion of indirect line on the west flank of the fire. The indirect line is in a location where the fuels are mostly grass and the slope is much less steep than where the fire is currently burning. The line is being constructed to stop the fire when it burns down to that location. An engine crew conducted a structure assessment on an uninhabited cabin that lies approximately 1 mile within the Forest boundary on private land. The crew will be working with the landowner to advise removing fuels from around the cabin to decrease the likelihood of it burning down if the fire approaches.

**TODAY'S WEATHER AND PLANNED ACTIVITY:** Relative humidity values were low again overnight. Today will be warm with a high reaching 83 degrees. The minimum relative humidity is expected to be around 13%. Some monsoonal moisture will approach the fire today, so a bit more cumulus clouds may develop in the afternoon. It looks like the best chance of thunderstorms will stay south of the fire area, but there is a chance of thunderstorms moving closer to the fire area on Thursday.

Helicopters will now be dipping out of the Yellowstone River for bucket drops. People recreating on the river should be cautious when the helicopters are near the river. Firefighters will continue to prepare indirect line using natural barriers to confine the fire to as small an area as possible. This is the only safe option for firefighters on the ground at this time. Additional resources have been ordered and will begin arriving on the fire today. Firefighter and public safety are the top priority for this fire. The immediate threat of the fire reaching private property is not significant at this time; however it is anticipated that the fire will continue to burn for quite some time and the influences of weather can change conditions rapidly.

**CLOSURES & OTHER INFORMATION:** The Forest Service portion of Sixmile Creek Road from its junction with the Dailey Lake Road will be closed until further notice. The Sixmile Creek Trail (#61) and North Fork Sixmile Creek Trail (#606) will be closed to their junction with Trail #601 north of Monitor Peak. Connector Trail #601 will remain open.

Gallatin National Forest officials would like to thank MT FWP and DNRC for providing a location for the Incident Command Post that will fit the needs of fire personnel. We also appreciate the support from the MT DOT and our Park County partners.

Homeowners in the Paradise Valley should always be prepared for unexpected events such as wildfire. To learn how to prepare your family and your property for emergency wildfire situations, call Greg Coleman with Park County at

222-4188, or go to <http://firesafemt.org/>.

For further information, go to [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org)

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Don't PULL your hair OUT, come PULL WEEDS!!

**TOMORROW** is the **6th Annual Mammoth Weed Pull**. **EVERYONE** is **WELCOME!!** Festivities will kick off at 8:30 at the North District Maintenance Building. Please bring gloves (we will have extras) and make sure to obtain your supervisor's approval. The event will end with a fabulous lunch at noon provided by Yellowstone Park Foundation and cooked by our wonderful chef Denny Barford. No experience pulling weeds is necessary. Experts will be on hand to help identify any photos of mystery plants you have from the summer.



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## **Remaining Schedule for Chip Sealing**

July 24, 2013 - Firehole Canyon Drive. Start on Fountain Freight Road to turn around area.

July 25, 2013 - Finish Fountain Freight Road. Firehole Lake Road

July 26, 2013 - Finish Firehole Lake Drive. Brooming Operation

Week of July 29 to August 2, 2013 - Clean-up operations and move equipment to Grand Teton.

August 5 to August 16, 2013 - Chip Seal in Grand Teton.

Week of August 19 - Move equipment back from Grand Teton and prepare for paving operations in Yellowstone.

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The **radio shop** will be holding radio training for new users that were hired mid-summer. The training will be in the Mammoth Telecom training room on July 30 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Email or call Dan Downing at x2090 if you plan to attend.

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### **Hearing Conservation Program**

Audiometric testing is provided and available to all employees whose exposure to noise is equal to or exceeds an 8-hour time-weighted average of 85 decibels. Hearing testing is on a first come first serve basis and will take place in the maintenance areas at the locations listed below.

#### **Audiometric (Hearing) Testing Schedule:**

|                     |                  |              |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|
| July 24 (Wednesday) | 7:30AM - 12:00AM | Old Faithful |
| July 25 (Thursday)  | 7:30AM - 11:00AM | Lake         |
| July 25 (Thursday)  | 1:00PM - 4:00PM  | Grant        |

Please share this information with all those that may be required to fulfill the baseline or annual testing OSHA 29CFR1910.95 requirement.

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In preparation for the upcoming audit of **Yellowstone personal property assets**, the Property Office will be surveying Mammoth area vehicles and heavy equipment for license numbers, barcodes, and VIN numbers. Over the next two weeks, Property/Supply employees Karin Schwartz and Scott Hancock will be in and around vehicles and equipment to check for the accuracy of the vehicle information in the property computerized data base. They both will be in uniform when surveying, and your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Please inform any employees without regular e-mail access that Karin and Scott will be performing these Mammoth area field checks. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Hancock in the Property Office at 307-344-2084.

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**Permanent Employees** - Back-orders will stay in the system until shipped

Employees are not required to expend their full allowance and the contractor does NOT keep unspent funds.

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**PRESS RELEASES****July 23, 2013****National Park Service Approves Construction Of Cell Tower For Yellowstone's Fishing Bridge And Lake Village**

The National Park Service has given final approval permitting Verizon Wireless to build a cell tower to serve the Fishing Bridge and Lake Village developed areas in Yellowstone National Park.

**July 23, 2013****Yellowstone Hosts World Heritage Fellow**

Yellowstone National Park recently hosted a World Heritage Fellow, Godson Kimaro, Senior Park Warden of Serengeti National Park in Tanzania.

**PARTNER PRESS RELEASES****MONTANA'S GARDINER GATEWAY PROJECT****Gardiner Gateway Project Improvements to get underway**

**Gardiner, Montana - July 23, 2013** – Work to improve traffic flow and pedestrian safety at the north entrance to Yellowstone National Park and the community of Gardiner, Montana, will soon get underway thanks to federal transportation funds allocated through the Federal Lands Access Program as part of the new Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act.

The Gardiner Gateway Project will receive \$10.3 million from the Federal Lands Access Program, which helps fund state and local transportation repair and improvement projects. The grant proposal which was submitted by Park County, Montana and the National Park Service (NPS) was recently approved by the Montana Program Decisions Committee. With local matching funds from the NPS and Park County, total project funding is nearly \$12 million.

While Gardiner, Montana is a community of fewer than 600 year-round residents, over 1.3 million people travel through town during the summer months in connection with a visit to Yellowstone National Park.

“For over 130 years, visitors have traveled through Gardiner to enter the world’s first national park” noted Dan Wenk, Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park. “We welcome working with our partners to enhance the experience of visiting our public lands”.

“Receiving this funding will help enhance access to our public lands, it will also create jobs and improve our local economy” said Marty Malone, Park County Commissioner.

Engineering and design work is already underway. Construction on infrastructure improvements intended to improve vehicle and pedestrian safety, reduce traffic congestion, enhance parking, and provide for greater pedestrian accessibility is likely to begin in 2014. The project schedule will be developed to minimize construction impacts during the peak summer visitor season.

The Federal Highway Administration Western Federal Lands Division will administer the project in cooperation with the Gardiner Gateway Project partners. Regular updates regarding upcoming project events and implementation will be posted on the project website.

Funding for additional community enhancements is actively being pursued by project partners.

For future updates, visit [GardinerGatewayProject.org](http://GardinerGatewayProject.org).

## **IN THE NEWS**

### **Yellowstone National Park Gets OK For Cell Tower At Fishing Bridge/Lake Village Area**

National Park Traveler, July 24, 2013

Cellphone users will applaud, while those who hope to avoid others' conversations might cringe, but [Yellowstone National Park](#) officials have received approval to let Verizon Wireless erect a cell tower to serve the Fishing Bridge and Lake Village areas of the park.

A Right-of-Way permit clearing the way for construction of the new cell tower was recently approved by John Wessels, the National Park Service's Intermountain Region director.

Cellphone service originating from inside the boundaries of Yellowstone is currently limited to the Mammoth, Old Faithful, Canyon, Tower-Roosevelt, and Grant developed areas. The Lake developed area is the one additional location in the park where park managers determined cellphone coverage could be added under the park's 2008 Wireless Communications Services Plan Environmental Assessment and its associated Finding of No Significant Impact.

The new cellular site will be located next to a buried water tank on a 100-foot rise above the Lake Administrative Area and 700 feet below the top of the Elephant Back Ridge. This site already has access via an existing service road and is near existing electric and phone lines. Antennas will be configured to minimize spillover coverage into Yellowstone's backcountry.

The National Park Service previously evaluated the potential visual impacts of a 100-foot tower at the site using weather balloons and a crane. These efforts demonstrated that the tower would not be visible from the nearby Lake Hotel, Fishing Bridge, Lake Lodge Historic Districts, and area hiking trails, but will allow for cell service within the developed area.

A park release noted that "(T)he tower will extend 30 feet above the neighboring 70-foot-high average tree canopy, but will not break the skyline views from any popular visitor use areas or roads. The height will benefit the environment by allowing co-location of additional communications equipment while avoiding the need to build new towers for additional communication needs in the future."

This proposed site location and design was released for a 60-day public review and comment period last fall. Those comments and the response to comments as well as additional background on the project may be found on the National Park Service Planning, Environment and Public Comment website <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/LakeCellularSite>.

Last year [Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility](#) harshly criticized the proposal, saying not only had the park failed to seek public comment on the matter, but that Yellowstone Superintendent Dan Wenk pushed the plan without adhering to guidelines in the Park Service's Management Policies, in violation of the National Historic Preservation Act, and without waiting for comments on the project from the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office.

## **WEATHER**

**NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 5:41 am MDT Jul 24, 2013

**Today:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms between noon and 5pm. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. Light and variable wind becoming west 5 to 9 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 43. West southwest wind 5 to 9 mph becoming calm after midnight.

**Thursday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after noon. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 74. Light and variable wind becoming west northwest 5 to 7 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Thursday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 42. East southeast wind around 6 mph becoming calm after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Friday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 73. Calm wind becoming northwest around 6 mph in the afternoon.

**Friday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly cloudy, with a low around 43. West northwest wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

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# YNP@Work

A Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Thursday, July 25, 2013

## **FIRE UPDATE**

**Emigrant Fire**

**Update: July 22, 2013 @ 9:00 p.m.**

**Contact:** Karen Tuscano 406-223-2028

**DATE OF DETECTION:** July 21, 2013

**CAUSE:** Lightning

**CURRENT SIZE:** approximately 450 acres

**CONTAINMENT:** 0%

**LOCATION:** South of Emigrant Peak, between Gold Prize Creek and North Fork Sixmile Creek

**AGENCY:** Gallatin National Forest



**PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES ON THE FIRE:** 75 firefighters, 2 helicopters, 4 engines.

**FIRE HISTORY:** Thunderstorms that rolled through the area on Wednesday afternoon ignited a fire south of Emigrant Peak in the Paradise Valley south of Livingston, MT. The fire is located between Gold Prize Creek and the North Fork of Sixmile Creek. Firefighters responded to the fire at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>. The fire is burning in and adjacent to the fire scar from a fire in 1999, and in thick timber with a large amount of dead and down fuels.

**YESTERDAY'S ACTIVITY:** Cloud cover over the fire area limited fire activity and less smoke was seen coming from the fire. Firefighters on the ground reported that the fire continued to back down the mountain into the North Fork Sixmile Creek drainage. Helicopters dropped water in that area to slow the progress of the fire moving down farther. Firefighters were able to make progress clearing fuels near the road and trail in the Sixmile drainage bottom. They also continued work on an indirect containment line on the west flank of the fire. Engine personnel worked with the private landowner on removing fuels on National Forest land near the uninhabited cabin that lies approximately 1 mile within the Forest boundary.

**TODAY'S WEATHER AND PLANNED ACTIVITY:** Weather observations overnight showed that the relative humidity values rose to 56%. Today's forecast is calling for a better chance of thunderstorms over the fire area, with moderate temperatures and higher relative humidity values. Winds will be out the east to northeast at 5-10 mph, and winds near thunderstorms could be much stronger. Expected high will be 78 degrees and the minimum relative humidity should be near 28%.

Two additional hotshot crews arrived to the fire yesterday, and will begin working today. Firefighters will continue to prepare indirect line in the North Fork Sixmile Creek drainage, and on the west and northwest flanks of the fire. The two helicopters will continue to support the ground operations with bucket drops in key areas. The helicopters will again be dipping out of the Yellowstone River. All people recreating on the river are urged to be cautious and stay clear of any helicopters. Firefighter and public safety are the top priority for this fire. The immediate threat of the fire reaching private property is not significant at this time; however it is anticipated that the fire will continue to burn for quite some time and the influences of weather can change conditions rapidly.

**CLOSURES & OTHER INFORMATION:** The Forest Service portion of Sixmile Creek Road from its junction with the Dailey Lake Road will be closed until further notice. The Sixmile Creek Trail (#61) and North Fork Sixmile Creek Trail (#606) will be closed to their junction with Trail #601 north of Monitor Peak. Connector Trail #601 will remain open. Dailey Lake and most surrounding camping areas are open to recreationists. Emigrant Fire Incident Command Post is located on a bench approximately ¼ mile north of the lake and that area is the only portion closed to the public. Please be cautious of fire traffic on Dailey Lake Road. A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) is in place over the fire area to ensure the safety of the aerial fire operations.

Homeowners in the Paradise Valley should always be prepared for unexpected events such as wildfire. To learn how to prepare your family and your property for emergency wildfire situations, call Greg Coleman with Park County at 222-4188, or go to <http://firesafemt.org/>.

**For further information, go to [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org)**

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Remaining Schedule for Chip Sealing**

July 25, 2013 - Finish Fountain Freight Road. Firehole Lake Road

July 26, 2013 - Finish Firehole Lake Drive. Brooming Operation

Week of July 29 to August 2, 2013 - Clean-up operations and move equipment to Grand Teton.

August 5 to August 16, 2013 - Chip Seal in Grand Teton.

Week of August 19 - Move equipment back from Grand Teton and prepare for paving operations in Yellowstone.

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The **radio shop** will be holding radio training for new users that were hired mid-summer. The training will be in the Mammoth Telecom training room on July 30 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Email or call Dan Downing at x2090 if you plan to attend.

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### **Hearing Conservation Program**

Audiometric testing is provided and available to all employees whose exposure to noise is equal to or exceeds an 8-hour time-weighted average of 85 decibels. Hearing testing is on a first come first serve basis and will take place in the maintenance areas at the locations listed below.

#### **Audiometric (Hearing) Testing Schedule:**

|                    |                  |       |
|--------------------|------------------|-------|
| July 25 (Thursday) | 7:30AM - 11:00AM | Lake  |
| July 25 (Thursday) | 1:00PM - 4:00PM  | Grant |

Please share this information with all those that may be required to fulfill the baseline or annual testing OSHA 29CFR1910.95 requirement.

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Just a reminder if you have not spent your **uniform allowance** please do so as soon as possible, time is quickly passing. Note the important dates below.

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Employees are not required to expend their full allowance and the contractor does NOT keep unspent funds.

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## **IN THE NEWS**

### **Grant approved for Gardiner**

Billings Gazette, July 24, 2013

A \$10.3 million federal grant has been approved for work to reconfigure the North Entrance to Yellowstone National Park. In addition to federal funding, the Gardiner Gateway Project will receive matching funds from the National Park Service and Park County for total project funding of nearly \$12 million.

Gardiner is a community of fewer than 600 year-round residents, but more than 1.3 million people travel through town during the summer months to visit adjoining Yellowstone National Park.

Engineering and design work is already underway. Construction on infrastructure improvements intended to improve vehicle and pedestrian safety, reduce traffic congestion, enhance parking, and provide for greater pedestrian accessibility is likely to begin in 2014.

For future updates, visit [GardinerGatewayProject.org](http://GardinerGatewayProject.org).

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### **-- Gardiner Gateway Project lands \$10 million in federal grant funds**

(YELLOWSTONE GATE Wyoming national parks-related news online [CODY, WY])

<http://www.yellowstonegate.com/2013/07/gardiner-gateway-project-lands-10-million-federal-grant-funds/>

### **-- Science a-flutter: Group records Yellowstone's diverse butterflies (w/38-photo gallery)**

(GREAT FALLS [MT] TRIBUNE)

<http://www.greatfallstribune.com/article/20130721/LIFESTYLE01/307220002/Science-flutter-Group-records-Yellowstone-s-diverse-butterflies>

-- **Guide helps Yellowstone park area homeowners landscape with less-thirsty lawns, plants**  
(BILLINGS [MT] GAZETTE)

[http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/guide-helps-homeowners-landscape-less-thirsty-lawns/article\\_90fd4ccd-b3d9-5fe0-bf8a-6f00033530fb.html](http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/guide-helps-homeowners-landscape-less-thirsty-lawns/article_90fd4ccd-b3d9-5fe0-bf8a-6f00033530fb.html)

-- **Wyoming starts road work on North Fork route leading to Yellowstone**

(CODY [WY] ENTERPRISE)

[http://www.codyenterprise.com/news/local/article\\_f5b46fda-f315-11e2-91be-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.codyenterprise.com/news/local/article_f5b46fda-f315-11e2-91be-001a4bcf887a.html)

-- **Montana black bear euthanized after breaking into tents in Forest Service campground northeast of Yellowstone**

(THE ASSOCIATED PRESS via GREAT FALLS [MT] TRIBUNE)

<http://www.greatfallstribune.com/viewart/20130722/NEWS01/307220021/Black-bear-euthanized-after-breaking-into-tents>

## **WEATHER**

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 5:41 am MDT Jul 25, 2013

**Today:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly sunny, with a high near 75. East northeast wind 5 to 7 mph becoming west northwest in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Tonight:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 44. West northwest wind around 6 mph becoming calm in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Friday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after noon. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 74. Calm wind becoming west around 6 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 44. West northwest wind around 6 mph becoming calm in the evening.

**Saturday:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly sunny, with a high near 74. Light and variable wind becoming west southwest 8 to 13 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

**Saturday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly cloudy, with a low around 42. West wind 5 to 8 mph becoming calm after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Sunday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 72. Calm wind becoming west southwest 5 to 8 mph in the afternoon.

## **WE WANT YOUR SUBMISSIONS!**

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# YNP@Work

A Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Friday, July 26, 2013

## **FIRE UPDATE**

**Emigrant Fire**

**Update: July 26, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m.**



**Contact:** Karen Tuscano 406-223-2028

**DATE OF DETECTION:** July 21, 2013

**CAUSE:** Lightning

**CURRENT SIZE:** approximately 520 acres

**CONTAINMENT:** 0%

**LOCATION:** South of Emigrant Peak, between Gold Prize Creek and North Fork Sixmile Creek

**AGENCY:** Gallatin National Forest

**\*\*A public meeting has been scheduled for Saturday evening at 6:00 p.m.**

**at the Paradise Valley Fire Hall.\*\***

**PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES ON THE FIRE:** 3 Type 1 crews, 1 Type 2 crew, 2 helicopters, 4 engines and overhead for a total of 122 personnel.

**YESTERDAY'S ACTIVITY:** Cloud cover over the fire area limited fire activity and less smoke was seen coming from the fire on Thursday. Firefighters on the ground reported that the fire continued to back down the mountain into the North Fork Sixmile Creek drainage. Helicopters dropped water in that area to slow the progress of the fire moving downslope. Firefighters were able to make progress clearing fuels near the road and trail in the Sixmile drainage bottom. They also continued work on an indirect containment line on the west flank of the fire that will be continued into Friday morning. Engine personnel worked with a private landowner on removing fuels on National Forest land near an uninhabited cabin that lies approximately 1 mile within the Forest boundary.

**FRIDAY'S PLANNED ACTIVITY:** Crews will continue with the indirect line construction on Friday morning, most of the contingency line west of the fire should be completed by mid-morning Friday. Crews along the northwestern flank will continue to carry indirect fire line along the ridgeline. Crews will also continue working in the North Fork Sixmile Creek drainage and along Sixmile Road. The two helicopters will be available to drop buckets of water on hot spots as directed by ground resources.

**FIRE WEATHER:** Continued dry weather and warmer temperatures will return on Friday as a high pressure ridge builds in the area. Relative humidity values could fall into the teens Friday afternoon. Daytime winds will mainly be upslope and upvalley.

**CLOSURES & OTHER INFORMATION:** Dailey Lake and most surrounding camping areas are open to recreationists through the weekend. Emigrant Fire Incident Command Post is located on a bench approximately ¼ mile north of the lake and that area is the only portion closed to the public at Dailey Lake Recreation area. Please be cautious of fire traffic on Dailey Lake Road.

The Forest Service portion of Sixmile Creek Road from its junction with the Dailey Lake Road will be closed until further notice.

The Sixmile Creek Trail (#61) and North Fork of Sixmile Creek Trail (#606) will be closed to their junction with Trail #601 north of Monitor Peak. Connector Trail #601 will remain open.

A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) is in place over the fire area to ensure the safety of the aerial fire operations.

For further information, go to: <http://www.incweb.org/incident/3537/>



Mammoth **WEED PULLERS** and their bounty. Thanks to everyone who participated!!

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Remaining Schedule for Chip Sealing**

July 26, 2013 - Finish Firehole Lake Drive. Brooming Operation

Week of July 29 to August 2, 2013 - Clean-up operations and move equipment to Grand Teton.

August 5 to August 16, 2013 - Chip Seal in Grand Teton.

Week of August 19 - Move equipment back from Grand Teton and prepare for paving operations in Yellowstone.

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The **radio shop** will be holding radio training for new users that were hired mid-summer. The training will be in the Mammoth Telecom training room on July 30 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Email or call Dan Downing at x2090 if you plan to attend.

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Just a reminder if you have not spent your **uniform allowance** please do so as soon as possible, time is quickly passing. Note the important dates below.

- Last day to place a uniform order is September 2, 2013. Do not wait until the last day to place orders

**Seasonal/Temporary Employees** - any uniform order that hasn't shipped or is on back-order will automatically be cancelled at the end of your season or September 30th whichever comes first. These funds are not carry over

funds and will not be reinstated next fiscal year. It is your responsibility to track your orders. If you have an item on back-order, contact VF Customer Service at 1-800-448-7968 to determine if the item will be shipped before the end of your season. You have the option of cancelling this order and placing an online order for something else that is in stock.

**Permanent Employees** - Back-orders will stay in the system until shipped

Employees are not required to expend their full allowance and the contractor does NOT keep unspent funds.

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## **IN THE NEWS**

**-- Public to get more time to comment on plan to let Yellowstone bison onto lands outside park**  
(HELENA [MT] INDEPENDENT RECORD)

[http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/public-gets-more-time-to-comment-on-plan-to-let/article\\_148116d7-a588-51fb-afdf-6d657c836255.html](http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/public-gets-more-time-to-comment-on-plan-to-let/article_148116d7-a588-51fb-afdf-6d657c836255.html)

**-- Montana extends public comment deadline on plan for Yellowstone bison outside park**  
(BILLINGS [MT] GAZETTE)

[http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/comment-deadline-extended-on-bison-plan/article\\_00f825c0-3e33-5f54-8a1a-fcade0e04647.html](http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/comment-deadline-extended-on-bison-plan/article_00f825c0-3e33-5f54-8a1a-fcade0e04647.html)

**-- Former Marine lands dream job: P.R. in paradise (Yellowstone)**

(MARINE CORPS TIMES weekly [SPRINGFIELD, VA])

<http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/article/20130104/JOBS04/301040304/Former-Marine-lands-dream-job-P-R-paradise>

**-- Greater Yellowstone whitebark pine population to be restored in coming years**

(WEST YELLOWSTONE [MT] NEWS)

[http://www.westyellowstonenews.com/news/article\\_b1f97a9c-f54a-11e2-ad88-0019bb2963f4.html](http://www.westyellowstonenews.com/news/article_b1f97a9c-f54a-11e2-ad88-0019bb2963f4.html)

**-- Stand-up paddleboarding in Yellowstone National Park (w/photo gallery)**

(LETS BE WILD adventure travel/photography magazine online)

<http://www.letsbewild.com/wild-world/stand-up-paddleboarding-yellowstone/>

**Ranger Rick: Tales From a Former YNP Ranger**

<http://bozemanmagazine.com/localliving/ranger-rick-rites-from-a-former-ynp-ranger-2>

Running of the Bulls

The most famous running of the bulls takes place every July in Pamplona, Spain. The runners are dressed in the traditional white shirt and trousers with a red waistband and neckerchief. They carry a rolled-up newspaper to swat the bulls if necessary. A not so well known running of the bulls takes place every summer in Hayden Valley. The runners are dressed in the traditional t-shirt, shorts, and white socks. They carry a camera and try their best to draw the bull's attention.

## **WEATHER**

**NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 8:26 am MDT Jul 26, 2013

**Today:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms between 1pm and 5pm. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 74. Light and variable wind becoming west southwest 5 to 9 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 44. West northwest wind 5 to 7 mph becoming calm in the evening.

**Saturday:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Some of the storms could produce small hail and gusty winds. Mostly sunny, with a high near 72. Calm wind becoming west southwest 5 to 8 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

**Saturday Night:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 43. West wind 5 to 7 mph becoming light and variable after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

**Sunday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly sunny, with a high near 69. Calm wind becoming west southwest 5 to 7 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Sunday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Some of the storms could produce gusty winds. Partly cloudy, with a low around 41. West wind around 6 mph becoming calm after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

## **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 Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Monday, July 29, 2013



**BOARDWALK CLOSURE:** There has been some structural/framing failure to the Boardwalk at **Midway Geyser Basin**, causing the entire boardwalk to be closed. Apparently some beam fasteners have come loose causing a 20 ft. ramp to collapse to one side, making the trail unsafe and impassable. It should be repairable (hopefully today). Future reopening will be announced.

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## **FIRE UPDATE - EMIGRANT FIRE**

**Update: July 28, 2013 @ 9:00 p.m.**

**Contact:** Karen Tuscano 406-223-2028

**DATE OF DETECTION:** July 21, 2013

**CAUSE:** Lightning

**CURRENT SIZE:** approximately 600 acres

**CONTAINMENT:** 0%

**LOCATION:** South of Emigrant Peak, between Gold Prize Creek and North Fork Sixmile Creek

**AGENCY:** Gallatin National Forest

**PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES ON THE FIRE:** 3 Type 1 hotshot crews, 1 Type 2 crew, 2 helicopters, 4 engines and overhead for a total of 122 personnel.

**SUNDAY'S ACTIVITY:** Cloud cover and high relative humidity once again limited fire activity on the Emigrant Fire. A shower passed over the fire area around 2:30 p.m. but minimal precipitation was recorded. Two crews worked to improve the hand line that was constructed to the north of the fire, while the remaining crews and engines continued work on the hand line on the south end of the fire and to the west.

**TODAY'S PLANNED ACTIVITY:** With favorable weather conditions in the forecast for Monday, firefighters are planning to implement the indirect burning operations on the north side of the fire if the desired weather conditions are present. If those predetermined conditions are not present, the burning operations will not occur on Monday but may occur later in the week when the favorable conditions return. Firefighters will be looking to take advantage of the cooler temperatures and higher relative humidity to burn some of the fuel between the main fire and the constructed hand line in a manner that would allow the least amount of torching live trees. Two hotshot crews and a portion of the smokejumpers will be hand igniting the grass fuels to the north of the fire, while a helicopter will be aerially igniting the timber area between the main fire and the hand-ignited line. People may see two distinct sources of smoke due to the two different types and places of ignition. The large helicopter will also be available to support the firefighters on the ground with bucket drops if they are needed.

**FIRE WEATHER:** Scattered thunderstorms are expected near the fire area this evening, and then scattered showers and thunderstorms overnight. The weather forecast is calling for a cooler day Monday, with a high temperature only reaching 72 degrees. The day should be mostly sunny with scattered showers and thunderstorms

possibly impacting the fire area. The minimum relative humidity should be around 26%.

**CLOSURES & OTHER INFORMATION:** Dailey Lake and most surrounding camping areas are open to recreationists through the weekend. Emigrant Fire Incident Command Post is located on a bench approximately ¼ mile north of the lake and that area is the only portion closed to the public at Dailey Lake Recreation area. Please be cautious of fire traffic on Dailey Lake Road.

The Forest Service portion of Sixmile Creek Road from its junction with the Dailey Lake Road will be closed until further notice.

The Sixmile Creek Trail (#61) and North Fork of Sixmile Creek Trail (#606) will be closed to their junction with Trail #601 north of Monitor Peak. Connector Trail #601 will remain open.

A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) is in place over the fire area to ensure the safety of the aerial fire operations.

For further information, go to: <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3537/>

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**Contacting visitors on a typical day at Mammoth Hot Springs** (NPS Photos, Cortney Adair)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The due date for completing the **DOI Mandated FISSA \ IT Training** for 2013 is fast approaching. The due date is July 31st.

If you're having problems with DOI Learn, or for seasonal employees that have not received your email from DOI Learn with login info please call **DOI Learn HELP DESK NUMBER: 866-466-1998**.

At last count there are 350+ employees who need to take this training. According to DOI Policy whoever has not completed the training by the due date will have their computer access turned off.

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**Remaining Schedule for Chip Sealing**

Week of July 29 to August 2, 2013 - Clean-up operations and move equipment to Grand Teton.

August 5 to August 16, 2013 - Chip Seal in Grand Teton.

Week of August 19 - Move equipment back from Grand Teton and prepare for paving operations in Yellowstone.

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The **radio shop** will be holding radio training for new users that were hired mid-summer. The training will be in the Mammoth Telecom training room TOMORROW from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Email or call Dan Downing at x2090 if you plan to attend.

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WHAT: **Lecture: The Basics of Wood in Structures**, Including the biological aspects of the material, performance and design considerations

WHEN: August 5, 2013, 9:00 a.m. – Noon

WHERE: Mammoth Community Center (Mammoth School)

WHO: Ron Anthony, Anthony & Associates, Ft Collins

Mr. Anthony is a leading preservation consultant who received an M.S. in Wood Science and Technology from Colorado State University. He earned his B.S. in Forest Management and Wood Science and Technology, also from Colorado State University. Prior to forming Anthony & Associates in Fort Collins, Colorado in 1999, he conducted research and consulted on wood properties and the use of wood in construction applications. Mr. Anthony's work focuses on understanding the nature and performance of wood in structures. He was the 2002 recipient of the James Marston Fitch Foundation Grant for his approach to evaluating wood in historic buildings.

Noontime Bring Your Own Lunch; Cold Drinks & Snacks Provided 1:00 – 3:30 Tour of the Fort Yellowstone Historic District (optional) and Mammoth-Area Preservation Projects Hosted by Montana Preservation Alliance & Yellowstone National Park/National Park Service. In partnership with the US Forest Service Northern Region Heritage Program, Gallatin National Forest, University of Pennsylvania Architectural Conservation Lab and the J.M. Kaplan Fund.

To RSVP by August 1 or For More Info, Please Contact: Montana Preservation Alliance 406-457-2822  
[info@preservemontana.org](mailto:info@preservemontana.org)

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**IN THE NEWS****Billings Gazette opinion: Let's get more creative with park funding**

July 28, 2013

On a summer day, Yellowstone National Park attracts more than 30,000 visitors. They will drive the park's 310 miles of paved roads, hike some of its 1,000 miles of trails, visit some of its 900 historic buildings, occupy 2,000 park hotel rooms and cabins and a dozen park campgrounds. Many dozens more hotels and campgrounds in Montana and Wyoming border towns will have "no vacancy" signs during Yellowstone's summer peak.

Yellowstone Park is the crown jewel of the region's tourism industry, attracting 3.4 million visitors last year from across the nation and around the globe.

#### 10% job vacancies

Yellowstone fans need to know that all is not well: their park is being starved.

Yellowstone's permanent workforce of 300 was reduced by 10 percent for this season. Those 30 vacancies affect all facets of park services.

"It's everything from maintenance foreman to law enforcement and interpretive rangers," Superintendent Dan Wenk told The Billings Gazette in a recent interview at the park's Mammoth, Wyo., headquarters. Visitors will probably see fewer rangers out in the park and fewer seasonal researchers, Wenk said. The park firefighting staff has been reduced. One of two deputy superintendent positions has been eliminated permanently, but Wenk said other vacant positions will have to be filled.

Yellowstone and other national parks have been underfunded for decades. Yellowstone's deferred maintenance backlog includes work on deteriorated and substandard roads and wastewater treatment facilities. The park's tight budget became much tighter this year with the effects of the federal "sequester" that imposed across-the-board spending cuts.

"We're going to have to make difficult choices," Wenk said. The priorities will be "protect this park" and "provide the highest-quality visitor experience we can."

That same dilemma was echoed last week in a hearing held by the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in the Capitol. Several senators, leaders of park advocacy groups and National Park Service Director Richard Jarvis discussed ideas for adequate funding of America's national parks.

At the end of fiscal 2012, the NPS had a deferred maintenance backlog of \$11.5 billion, Jarvis told the committee. It needs \$700 million annually just to keep that backlog from growing. Last year, NPS had \$444 million for deferred maintenance.

Additionally, the parks are underfunded this year by \$600 million on operations, according to Craig Obey of the National Parks Conservation Association.

"National park operations funding is down 13 percent in today's dollars from where it was only three years ago, and the construction budget has declined by nearly 70 percent over the last decade in today's dollars," Obey told the Senate committee.

Clearly, national park funding must be improved. But the sequester cuts apparently are here to stay. However, there are creative, workable options that can supplement congressional appropriations:

1. Raise user fees, starting with park entrance fees and keep that money in the park that collects it.
2. Expand the use of public-private partnerships for park projects.
3. Recruit more volunteers to help provide park services.

Although the NPS has some discretion to raise entrance fees, it is imperative that Congress acts to reauthorize the 2004 law that allows parks to keep entrance fees. Otherwise, the fee provision of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act will expire in December 2014. Presently, parks are permitted to retain 80 percent of the entrance fees they collect; the balance goes to a fund for all parks.

The three ideas enumerated above would be particularly beneficial to Yellowstone because it is so popular. However, eliminating the entire NPS maintenance backlog while meeting the operating needs of all park units will take a lot more money and changes that are politically difficult.

National Parks Conservation Association supports using 1 cent of any increase in the federal fuel tax to repair and improve roads in national parks and forests.

Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., and some other GOP senators want to redirect the bulk of Land and Water Conservation Fund revenues (which come from offshore oil drilling) to repair park roads for 10 years to clear the backlog.

#### Bipartisan park support

Senators voiced strong bipartisan support for protecting and maintaining America's national parks but indicated partisan differences on how to close the large gap between current funding and what our parks need.

We urge the Montana and Wyoming delegations to make action on park funding a high priority for the coming year. Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Glacier and Little Bighorn National Battlefield are our American heritage.

The centennial of the National Park Service will be in 2016. Now is the time to focus on getting America's parks up-to-date and ready for their next century.

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#### **Leaving food out to attract bears at national parks may cost you money**

Martin Kidston, The Missoulian, July 27, 2013

If the old adage is true that a fed bear is a dead bear, then what happens to the humans who leave their food out, or keep a sloppy camp site?

Park rangers in Glacier National Park captured and euthanized a 3-year-old black bear last week, saying the animal had become conditioned to human food and had entered the Fish Creek Campground one too many times. It's a sad loss of wildlife and it begs the question: what happens to those responsible for the bear's slow conditioning?

"Improper food storage was the second most common violation in 2012 in Glacier Park," said park spokeswoman Jennifer Lutman. "This year, we've seen roughly 100 citations issued for improper food storage."

Lutman said the citations have included both warnings and tickets. A violation of the park's food storage rules may result in a \$75 fine or possible confiscation of the items in question.

Enter one of Montana's national parks, wilderness areas or national forest campgrounds and you'll see the signs warning campers to keep their food properly stored.

Officials in Yellowstone National Park enforce the postings daily, calling it a human safety factor. Like Glacier, Yellowstone is home to a healthy population of both brown and black bears.

"We're very aggressive on our food storage issues," said Yellowstone spokesman Al Nash. "We're going to be in every campground, every night, and we're going to be monitoring the situation."

Nash said the park's goal remains education over punishment. In 2010, he said, rangers issued 126 citations for "camping violations." Speeding remains the park's leading offense.

“We really feel our focus on the prevention has been very successful over the years,” Nash said. “That’s one of the many ways we’ve been able to minimize bear-human conflicts.”

At least in Yellowstone, it wasn’t always that way. Early visitors to the nation’s first national park gathered at trash dumps to watch bears feed on garbage. The sites became tourist attractions, and bears learned that food was plentiful.

But as one might expect, the number of bear-human conflicts increased, as did lethal actions taken against “problem” bears. The park’s bear-management policies were bad for conservation and safety.

According to the Yellowstone Park Foundation, an average of 48 bear-inflicted human injuries and more than 100 incidents of property damage occurred annually in Yellowstone between 1931 and 1969.

“I’m old enough to have remembered from my earlier visits the black bears begging for food along the roadsides,” Nash said. “The real big change occurred here in the mid-to late ’60s, when we really made a conscious decision to remove garbage and other potential food sources, and establish and install bear-proof garbage cans.”

The park made sweeping changes to its bear management policies in 1970, the year it also implemented strict enforcement rules. Other parks learned from the experience in Yellowstone, where rangers now work to keep food away from bears, and bears away from people.

“Our campground hosts will be going through campgrounds in the evening,” Nash said. “If they see something, they’ll approach people at a campsite and remind them of the rules. If something is left out at night, the campers will get a note or a citation.”

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### **Historic Lake Yellowstone Hotel in Yellowstone National Park Completes Phase 1 Renovations** OLD WEST NEW WEST.COM, JULY 28, 2013

The oldest hotel in Yellowstone National Park, Lake Yellowstone Hotel, has received a bottom-up facelift that would make any grand dame of 122 years proud.

<http://oldwestnewwest.com/20130729820/national-state-parks/yellowstone/historic-lake-yellowstone-hotel-in-yellowstone-national-park-completes-phase-1-renovations/menu-id-104.html>

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### **National park sight-seers leaving trail of roadkill**

Trevor Hughes, USA Today, July 28, 2013

Drivers in America’s national parks are killing the very bears, deer, wolves and other animals they’re hoping to see, says a new report seeking changes to the way park managers deal with conflicts between cars and wildlife.

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20130728/NEWS08/307280085/>

## **WEATHER**

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 5:56 am MDT Jul 29, 2013

**Today:** Isolated showers, with thunderstorms also possible after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 68. West southwest wind 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Tonight:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before 9pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 40. West northwest wind 6 to 9 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Tuesday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 70. Light and variable wind becoming west southwest 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Tuesday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 40. West wind 5 to 7 mph becoming calm after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Wednesday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 73. Calm wind becoming southwest 5 to 9 mph in the morning.

**Wednesday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 42. Southwest wind around 5 mph becoming light and variable after midnight.

### **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 Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Tuesday, July 30, 2013

## **FIRE UPDATE - EMIGRANT FIRE**

Update: July 29, 2013 @ 9:00 p.m.

**Contact:** Karen Tuscano 406-223-2028

**DATE OF DETECTION:** July 21, 2013

**CAUSE:** Lightning

**CURRENT SIZE:** approximately 611 acres

**CONTAINMENT:** 0%

**LOCATION:** South of Emigrant Peak, between Gold Prize Creek and North Fork Sixmile Creek

**AGENCY:** Gallatin National Forest

**PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES ON THE FIRE:** 3 Type 1 hotshot crews, 1 Type 2 crew, 2 helicopters, 4 engines and overhead for a total of 122 personnel.

**MONDAY'S ACTIVITY:** Minimal fire activity was observed on the fire Monday with the fire area under cloud cover most of the day. Fire personnel were not able to initiate burning operations due to the high relative humidity. Firefighters will continue to seek an ideal burning window, which includes moderate temperature, relative humidity values around 30-40%, and favorable winds.

**TUESDAY'S PLANNED ACTIVITY:** Weather conditions for the remainder of this week are not looking favorable for implementing the burning operations due to cooler temperatures and expected rainfall. Since burning is not planned, demobilization of many resources will occur on Tuesday and Wednesday. The Forest will keep limited resources on the fire and additional initial attack firefighters to supplement the local unit. With continued lower temperatures and higher relative humidities, fire behavior has been limited. However, hazardous conditions for firefighters still exist including the extremely heavy dead and down fuels, steep terrain, rolling material from the fire, and snags. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the two helicopters will be dropping water on the fire's edge to keep the fire in check until favorable burning conditions return, which is forecast for early next week. Once burning conditions are expected, additional resources will return to the fire and will be able to utilize the prepared and constructed hand line.

**FIRE WEATHER:** Unsettled weather will continue through Wednesday, which will result in scattered showers and thunderstorms. The thunderstorms will be wet with localized heavy rainfall. The minimum relative humidity on Tuesday will be close to 50%, but should be lower on Wednesday. Temperatures will be in the mid 70's Tuesday and slightly higher Wednesday.

**CLOSURES & OTHER INFORMATION:** Dailey Lake and most surrounding camping areas are open to recreationists through the weekend. Emigrant Fire Incident Command Post is located on a bench approximately ¼ mile north of the lake and that area is the only portion closed to the public at Dailey Lake Recreation area. Please be cautious of fire traffic on Dailey Lake Road.



The Forest Service portion of Sixmile Creek Road from its junction with the Dailey Lake Road will be closed until further notice.

The Sixmile Creek Trail (#61) and North Fork of Sixmile Creek Trail (#606) will be closed to their junction with Trail #601 north of Monitor Peak. Connector Trail #601 will remain open.

A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) is in place over the fire area to ensure the safety of the aerial fire operations.

For further information, go to: <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3537/>

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Midway Geyser Basin** boardwalk has been repaired and is now OPEN and safe for travel.

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**FOUND:** a pair of eye glasses outside building 38, stop by CSS to claim them.

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The due date for completing the **DOI Mandated FISSA \ IT Training** for 2013 is fast approaching. The due date is July 31st.

If you're having problems with DOI Learn, or for seasonal employees that have not received your email from DOI Learn with login info please call **DOI Learn HELP DESK NUMBER: 866-466-1998**.

At last count there are 350+ employees who need to take this training. According to DOI Policy whoever has not completed the training by the due date will have their computer access turned off.

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**Mountain Mobile Auto Glass** will be at the Mammoth Garage on Thursday August 1, 2013. For Gov work please contact Tom Monroe at X-2321 or Bob Hester at X-2322. For personal work please contact Randy Stands at (406) 220-7891.

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## **Remaining Schedule for Chip Sealing**

Week of July 29 to August 2, 2013 - Clean-up operations and move equipment to Grand Teton.

August 5 to August 16, 2013 - Chip Seal in Grand Teton.

Week of August 19 - Move equipment back from Grand Teton and prepare for paving operations in Yellowstone.

- - - - -

**WHAT: Lecture: The Basics of Wood in Structures**, Including the biological aspects of the material, performance and design considerations

**WHEN:** August 5, 2013, 9:00 a.m. – Noon

**WHERE:** Mammoth Community Center (Mammoth School)

**WHO:** Ron Anthony, Anthony & Associates, Ft Collins

Mr. Anthony is a leading preservation consultant who received an M.S. in Wood Science and Technology from Colorado State University. He earned his B.S. in Forest Management and Wood Science and Technology, also from Colorado State University. Prior to forming Anthony & Associates in Fort Collins, Colorado in 1999, he conducted research and consulted on wood properties and the use of wood in construction applications. Mr. Anthony's work focuses on understanding the nature and performance of wood in structures. He was the 2002 recipient of the James Marston Fitch Foundation Grant for his approach to evaluating wood in historic buildings.

Noontime Bring Your Own Lunch; Cold Drinks & Snacks Provided 1:00 – 3:30 Tour of the Fort Yellowstone Historic District (optional) and Mammoth-Area Preservation Projects Hosted by Montana Preservation Alliance & Yellowstone National Park/National Park Service. In partnership with the US Forest Service Northern Region Heritage Program, Gallatin National Forest, University of Pennsylvania Architectural Conservation Lab and the J.M. Kaplan Fund.

To RSVP by August 1 or For More Info, Please Contact: Montana Preservation Alliance 406-457-2822  
[info@preservemontana.org](mailto:info@preservemontana.org)

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## **WEATHER**

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 8:26 am MDT Jul 30, 2013

**Today:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly between 3pm and 5pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 68. West southwest wind 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**Tonight:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 38. West wind 5 to 8 mph becoming calm in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Wednesday:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 74. Light and variable wind becoming west 6 to 11 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Wednesday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 42. West wind 5 to 8 mph becoming calm. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Thursday:** A slight chance of showers, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 71. South southwest wind 7 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**Thursday Night:** A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low

around 39. South southwest wind around 6 mph becoming east southeast after midnight.  
Chance of precipitation is 20%.

### **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!

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# YNP@Work

A Newsletter for NPS Employees of Yellowstone National Park

Wednesday, July 31, 2013



## **FIRE UPDATE - EMIGRANT FIRE**

Update: July 30, 2013 @ 9:00 p.m.

**Contact:** Karen Tuscano 406-223-2028

**DATE OF DETECTION:** July 21, 2013

**CAUSE:** Lightning

**CURRENT SIZE:** approximately 611 acres

**CONTAINMENT:** 0%

**LOCATION:** South of Emigrant Peak, between Gold Prize Creek and North Fork Sixmile Creek

**AGENCY:** Gallatin National Forest

**PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES ON THE FIRE:** 3 Type 1 hotshot crews, 1 Type 2 crew, 2 helicopters, 4 engines and overhead for a total of 122 personnel.

**TUESDAY'S ACTIVITY:** Fire activity was limited to creeping, backing and smoldering. Minimal precipitation was observed over the fire in the afternoon. One Type 1 hotshot crew and the Type 2 crew were demobilized.

**WEDNESDAY'S PLANNED ACTIVITY:** A transfer of command from the Type 3 organization back to the local unit will occur Wednesday morning at 6:00 a.m. The remaining core local team will remain in place to monitor conditions and fire activity. When weather conditions change to hotter and drier and the implementation of ignition operations is planned, fire resources will be return.

**FIRE WEATHER:** Sunshine will dominate most of the day on Wednesday, but thunderstorms are expected by afternoon. Temperatures will be warmer with a high of 75 degrees, and the minimum humidity will drop to near 30%. Another disturbance will bring a more unsettled day for Thursday with cooler temperatures and an earlier start to the shower and thunderstorm activity.

**CLOSURES & OTHER INFORMATION:** Dailey Lake and most surrounding camping areas are open to recreationists through the weekend. Emigrant Fire Incident Command Post is located on a bench approximately ¼ mile north of the lake and that area is the only portion closed to the public at Dailey Lake Recreation area. Please be cautious of fire traffic on Dailey Lake Road.

The Forest Service portion of Sixmile Creek Road from its junction with the Dailey Lake Road will be closed until further notice.

The Sixmile Creek Trail (#61) and North Fork of Sixmile Creek Trail (#606) will be closed to their junction with Trail #601 north of Monitor Peak. Connector Trail #601 will remain open.

A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) is in place over the fire area to ensure the safety of the aerial fire operations.

For further information, go to: <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3537/>

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Tabor Martin, a member of the **Hickey Brothers contract fishing crew**, holds a 31-pound laker that was recently removed from Yellowstone Lake.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The due date for completing the **DOI Mandated FISSA \ IT Training** for 2013 is TODAY!

If you're having problems with DOI Learn, or for seasonal employees that have not received your email from DOI Learn with login info please call **DOI Learn HELP DESK NUMBER: 866-466-1998**.

At last count there are 350+ employees who need to take this training. According to DOI Policy whoever has not completed the training by the due date will have their computer access turned off.

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**The GreenTeam reminds you of this month's eHint: Go Green on your next camping adventure!**

Recycling/composting in a campsite: Take your recycling techniques to the woods! Separate your recyclables from your trash and look for campground recycling receptacles to dispose of it or bring recyclables, including empty propane canisters, back to bins around the Yellowstone area.

Don't use gas-powered equipment: You're camping to enjoy nature, so next time you head to the woods consider leaving that generator at home. Your campsite neighbors will appreciate it, and you'll save all that money that would have otherwise gone to gas.

Buy used gear: If you're an avid camper, there's no reason to invest in lots of new gear. Instead, look to local second-hand stores for your next piece of equipment. Some places to check out are Second Wind Sports in Bozeman or surf the Internet at sites such as Craigslist and Freecycle.

Other things to consider:

- Leave no trace
- Look to camp nearby
- Bring reusable dishes
- Use eco-friendly toiletries
- Apply backpacking techniques on your next car camping adventure

*The Green Team is currently collecting survey responses to learn how Yellowstone employees commute. If you haven't had a chance yet, please take a few minutes to visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YELLCommute> and fill out our quick survey. This will help us quantify greenhouse gas emissions from park operations, and may help us see how we can expand "green" commuting options to help you!*

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**Mountain Mobile Auto Glass** will be at the Mammoth Garage on Thursday August 1, 2013. For Gov work please contact Tom Monroe at X-2321 or Bob Hester at X-2322. For personal work please contact Randy Stands at (406) 220-7891.

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### **Remaining Schedule for Chip Sealing**

Week of July 29 to August 2, 2013 - Clean-up operations and move equipment to Grand Teton.

August 5 to August 16, 2013 - Chip Seal in Grand Teton.

Week of August 19 - Move equipment back from Grand Teton and prepare for paving operations in Yellowstone.

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**WHAT: Lecture: The Basics of Wood in Structures**, Including the biological aspects of the material, performance and design considerations

**WHEN:** August 5, 2013, 9:00 a.m. – Noon

**WHERE:** Mammoth Community Center (Mammoth School)

**WHO:** Ron Anthony, Anthony & Associates, Ft Collins

Mr. Anthony is a leading preservation consultant who received an M.S. in Wood Science and Technology from Colorado State University. He earned his B.S. in Forest Management and Wood Science and Technology, also from Colorado State University. Prior to forming Anthony & Associates in Fort Collins, Colorado in 1999, he conducted research and consulted on wood properties and the use of wood in construction applications. Mr. Anthony's work focuses on understanding the nature and performance of wood in structures. He was the 2002 recipient of the James Marston Fitch Foundation Grant for his approach to evaluating wood in historic buildings.

Noontime Bring Your Own Lunch; Cold Drinks & Snacks Provided 1:00 – 3:30 Tour of the Fort Yellowstone Historic District (optional) and Mammoth-Area Preservation Projects Hosted by Montana Preservation Alliance & Yellowstone National Park/National Park Service. In partnership with the US Forest Service Northern Region

Heritage Program, Gallatin National Forest, University of Pennsylvania Architectural Conservation Lab and the J.M. Kaplan Fund.

To RSVP by August 1 or For More Info, Please Contact: Montana Preservation Alliance 406-457-2822  
[info@preservemontana.org](mailto:info@preservemontana.org)

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## **WEATHER**

### **NWS Forecast for: Yellowstone National Park**

Issued by: National Weather Service Riverton, WY

**Last Update:** 8:41 am MDT Jul 31, 2013

**Today:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms after 11am. Partly sunny, with a high near 74. Light south southwest wind becoming west southwest 5 to 9 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Tonight:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms before midnight, then isolated showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 38. West southwest wind 5 to 9 mph becoming east in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**Thursday:** Isolated showers, then scattered showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 73. South southeast wind 9 to 16 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**Thursday Night:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 38. Southwest wind 11 to 16 mph becoming northeast 5 to 10 mph after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Friday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 72. West southwest wind 7 to 17 mph.

**Friday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 39. West southwest wind 5 to 14 mph becoming south southeast after midnight.

## **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](#)*