

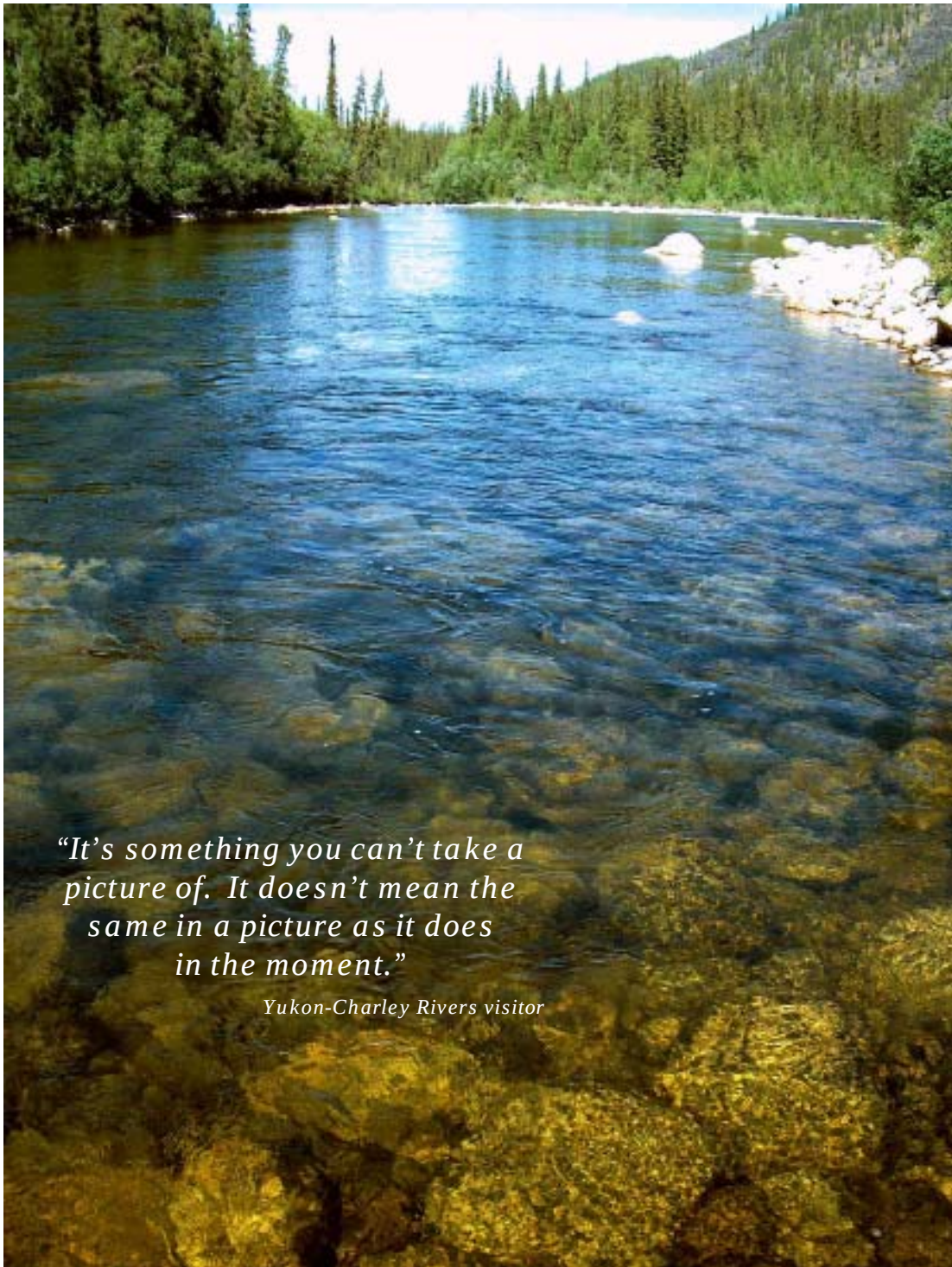
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve

Annual Report 2004



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior





*"It's something you can't take a
picture of. It doesn't mean the
same in a picture as it does
in the moment."*

Yukon-Charley Rivers visitor

Message from the Superintendent

Wildland fires dominated much of our field activities during the summer of 2004. Unusually hot and dry weather kept fires burning at record levels until the snows of late September. Some fires were closer to communities and park facilities than most years, requiring extra effort by park staff and fire suppression agencies. The community of Eagle was engulfed in smoke and on alert for possible evacuation for much of the summer. NPS staff worked around the clock providing emergency services for residents and engaging in fire suppression and prevention activities.

In the heart of the Preserve, crews worked diligently to protect over 30 historical structures in the Coal Creek Historical District. Their extraordinary efforts and talents saved every building in the district, despite a fast moving and unpredictable wall of flames that consumed much of the valley. Throughout the summer, travel by boat or air was both difficult and dangerous due to low visibility from smoke. Despite these challenges, I am proud to announce an accident free summer for our employees as well as our visitors, a result of extra effort in communication by every staff member as well as professional support.

The following report highlights the many accomplishments that have occurred throughout the year despite all of these challenges. As you read through the various stories, I hope you discover the vast network of partnerships that have developed by which almost all of our work is accomplished. We thank our Fairbanks office and Anchorage Regional Office for the tremendous support they continue to provide, as well as the priceless partnerships with a vast array of supporting agencies, communities, non-profit organizations and individuals. They have made our goals a successful reality!

Dave Mills



Alaska Regional Director Jim Stratton of the National Parks and Conservation Association, traveling on an orientation float down the Charley River with Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve Superintendent Dave Mills.

Purpose and Significance

Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve protects 115 miles of the 1,800-mile Yukon River and the entire Charley River basin. Rustic cabins and historic sites are reminders of the importance of the Yukon River during the 1898 gold rush. Paleontological and archeological sites add much to our knowledge of the environment thousands of years ago. Peregrine falcons nest in high bluffs overlooking the river, while rolling hills that make up the Preserve are home to an abundant array of wildlife. The Charley, a 100-mile wild river, is considered to be one of the most spectacular rivers in Alaska.



Purpose of Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve

- ✧ Maintain environmental integrity of entire Charley River basin, including streams, lakes, and other natural features, in undeveloped natural condition for public benefit and scientific study;
- ✧ Protect habitat for and populations of fish and wildlife, including but not limited to peregrine falcons and other raptorial birds, caribou, moose, Dall sheep, grizzly bears, and wolves;
- ✧ And in a manner consistent with foregoing, protect and interpret historical sites and events associated with the Yukon River gold rush, and geological and paleontological history, and cultural prehistory of area; and
- ✧ Protect, conserve, and interpret natural and cultural resources of the Preserve while allowing for appropriate human uses in a manner that provides for similar opportunities for future use and enjoyment.

Significance of Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve

- ✧ An internationally significant assemblage of diverse geological and paleontological resources—unusually complete—provide at least a 600-million-year record stretching nearly back to the Precambrian era.
- ✧ The area between Nation, Kandik, and Yukon rivers is postulated to be a portion of the North American plate that has escaped deformation from geological forces, remaining geologically and paleontologically intact. Some of the oldest known microfossils have been found in this area.
- ✧ The entire Charley River watershed is protected in its undeveloped natural condition.
- ✧ The Preserve hosts one of the highest density populations of nesting American peregrine falcons in the United States.
- ✧ Portions of the Han and Kutchin Athabaskan traditional homelands lie within the Preserve.
- ✧ Sites preserving activities and events of regional significance associated with the gold rush era are present and exemplified by bucket dredges, mail trails, trapper's cabins, boats, roadhouses, water ditches, and machinery.
- ✧ The Yukon River is the largest natural, free-flowing river in the National Park System.
- ✧ Large areas within the Preserve may represent an unglaciated refugium for endemic floral and faunal communities.

Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve

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Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve lies in eastern interior Alaska, bordering Yukon Territory, Canada. The Taylor Highway will take visitors as far as Eagle, where the Preserve's field office and Visitor Center is located. Travelers into the Preserve typically float the Yukon River, or charter an airplane to fly into the upper Charley River. Visitors are encouraged to check in at the Eagle field office to file a travel plan prior to their trip.

Within the Preserve, NPS staff maintain facilities, including a public use cabin at Coal Creek Camp, which serves as a base for many resource projects. At Slaven's Roadhouse on the Yukon River, visitors may enjoy learning about the rich mining history of the area.

Table of Contents

Message from the Superintendent.....	1
Purpose and Significance of Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve.....	2
Map of Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve.....	3
Performance and Results Section.....	5-17
<i>Preserve Resources</i>	5-12
<i>Fire Management</i>	13
<i>Public Enjoyment and Visitor Experience</i>	14-16
<i>Organizational Effectiveness</i>	17
FY 2003 Financial Summary.....	18
Preserve Organization.....	19

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Skip Ambrose and Chris Florian, of the National Park Service in Fort Collins, Colorado, contributed the article on American peregrine falcons

Photos

by the National Park Service,
unless noted otherwise



Cover photos: Fires burned in and around Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve throughout 2004. Lower left: Cultural Anthropologist Dave Krupa joined fire pro staff to assess cultural resources in the Coal Creek area before wildfire burned through the area.

Lower middle: Videographer Daniel Zatz and film crew brave cold water to document Yukon-Charley's resources for a visitor orientation DVD. Lower right: Yukon-Charley Superintendent Dave Mills (rear) and National Parks and Conservation Association Alaska Regional Director Jim Stratton push their kayak into the Yukon River during an orientation trip in the Preserve.

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Preserve Resources

Natural and cultural resources and associated values at Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve are protected, restored and maintained in good condition and managed within their broader ecosystem and cultural context.

Long-term Goal: Water Quality. By September 30, 2005, Yukon-Charley Rivers will continue to have unimpaired water quality.

Annual Goal: By September 30, 2004, Yukon-Charley Rivers will continue to have unimpaired water quality.

GOAL ACHIEVED

Impacts of fire on shallow lake ecology

In 2004, seven lakes from within the Andrew Creek Flats burn area were sampled for basic water quality. The goal of this effort was to track the long-term impacts of fire on shallow lake ecosystems. These lakes were sampled in late summer after the fires had disturbed the area and prior to any major precipitation events. We hope this data will serve as a surrogate for pre-fire conditions in an effort to track changes in water quality following large scale fires.

We collected three water samples from each of seven lakes. Each sample was analyzed for a variety of limnological characteristics, including water

temperature, pH, conductivity, color, alkalinity, Secchi depth (an estimator of water clarity), dissolved oxygen concentrations, total nitrogen, total phosphorus, dissolved organic compound, and chlorophyll *a* (an estimator of algal biomass). Additionally, macroinvertebrate samples were collected from the littoral zone and percent cover was estimated for vegetation within the littoral zone.

Little research has been conducted on the effects of fire on shallow lakes in boreal forest ecosystems. This study provides us with a unique opportunity to track changes in these lake systems as the watershed changes following fire.



Park pilot Jay Martin tries his hand at operating another kind of stick by helping to survey macroinvertebrate abundance along a lake margin.



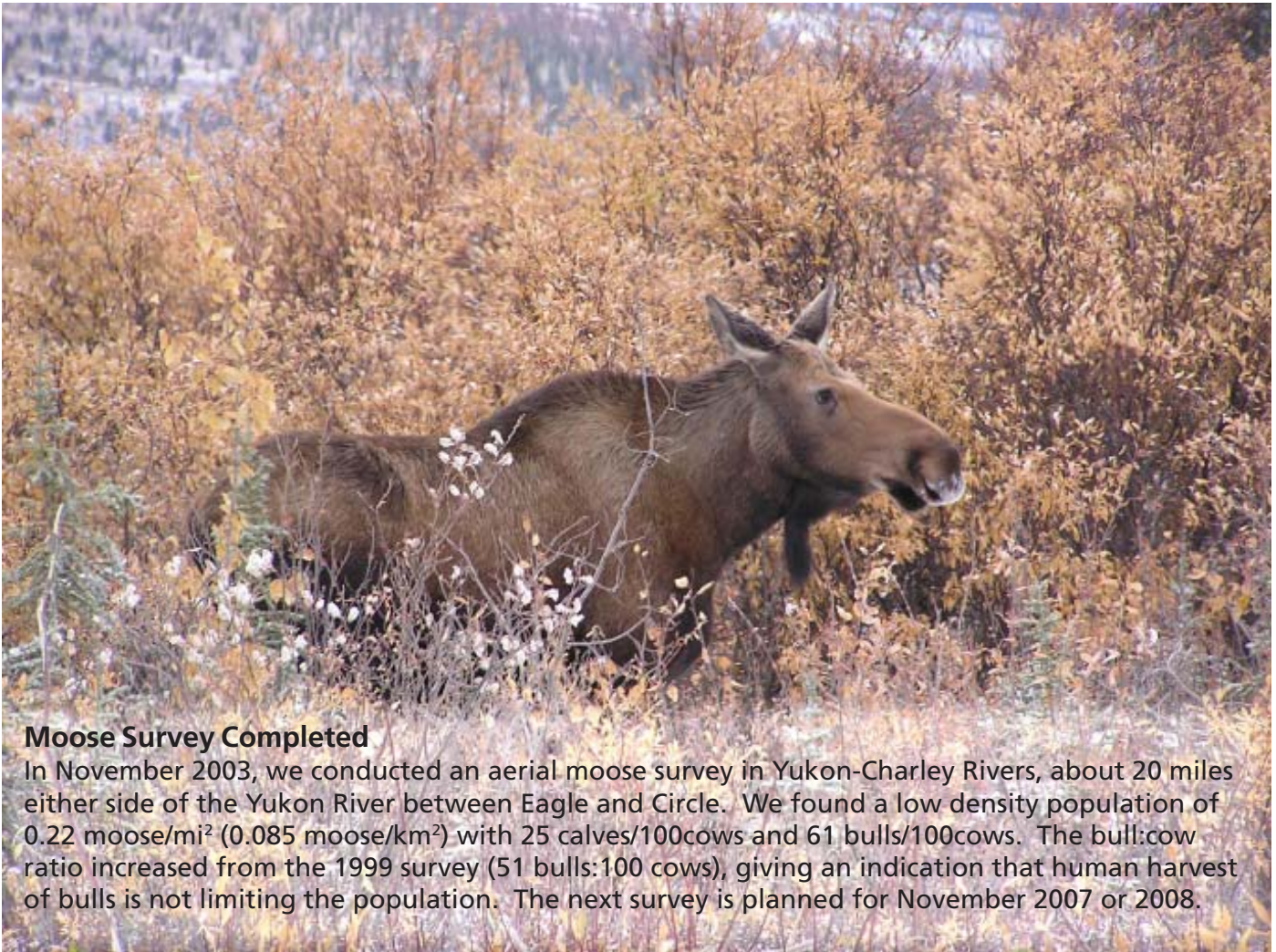
Wildlife biologist Jim Lawler helps conduct an in-depth analysis of wetland sediments.

The National Park Service contributes to knowledge about natural and cultural resources and associated values; management decisions about resources and visitors are based on adequate scholarly and scientific information.

Long-term Goal: Natural Resources. By September 30, 2005, 8 natural resource inventories are completed for Yukon-Charley Rivers. Numerous Resource Inventories are planned to be completed or implemented during the period of this Strategic Plan: wilderness resource, wolves, sheep, human use including traditional subsistence activities, fire burns, natural sound, moose, neotropical birds. This goal incorporates the majority of the non-visitor related activities for the Preserve.

Annual Goal: Many resource projects are ongoing, including wolf tracking, snow measurements, and subsistence management. Completed projects will include the moose survey conducted in November 2003 and the furbearer videography project. One new project is to study the genetic variability of wolves to gain knowledge of the gene pool in packs and to aid in determining natural and healthy population.

GOAL ACHIEVED



Moose Survey Completed

In November 2003, we conducted an aerial moose survey in Yukon-Charley Rivers, about 20 miles either side of the Yukon River between Eagle and Circle. We found a low density population of 0.22 moose/mi² (0.085 moose/km²) with 25 calves/100cows and 61 bulls/100cows. The bull:cow ratio increased from the 1999 survey (51 bulls:100 cows), giving an indication that human harvest of bulls is not limiting the population. The next survey is planned for November 2007 or 2008.

Photo by Fred von Bonin

Aerial Videographic Surveys to Monitor Furbearer Populations

A technique to monitor furbearer and snowshoe hare populations using aerial videographic snow track surveys is in the final stages of development. The new technique allows biologists to obtain spatially extensive information on the distribution, habitat, and relative abundance of elusive species (e.g. marten) that are inherently difficult and expensive to study in large, inaccessible areas typical to Alaska. The new technique provides high resolution video footage of the ground, allowing for identification of species from snow track observations. GPS locations are recorded for each observation, providing the potential for geospatial analysis and determination of habitat relationships. The survey is inexpensive; however, it requires more work in the office post-processing than other field studies. In 2004, a video track survey was completed in Yukon-Charley. We surveyed a study area approximately ¼ the size of the Preserve for the third year in a row, allowing for comparisons among years. Techniques and results from this study will be prepared in a final report in 2005.



Wolverine track

Wolverine distribution and habitat in Interior Alaska

Wolverines live throughout Interior Alaska but little is known about distribution patterns, densities, and habitat requirements. Wolverines have low reproductive potential and generally occur in remote areas at low densities. In Interior Alaska, industrial and recreational activities are increasing in wolverine habitats. The effects of these activities on wolverines have not been considered, yet wolverine populations are very sensitive to human disturbance and slow to recover. A better understanding of wolverine distribution and habitat needs in Interior Alaska is necessary for future protection of their populations and habitats.

A two-year study with Alaska Department of Fish and Game began in February, 2003, to determine broad scale wolverine distribution and habitat in Interior Alaska, including all of Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, and portions of Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, Denali

National Park and Preserve, and Wrangell Saint Elias National Park and Preserve.

Using a systematic sampling design based on work by Magoun et al. (unpublished. data), the study area was subdivided into 1,000 km² hexagon sample units, approximately the size of a male wolverine's home range. These hexagons were surveyed in a Piper Super Cub in transects 32 km long. Information recorded during the survey include the presence or sign of wolverine, caribou, moose, lynx, wolves, snowshoe hares, and humans, as well as habitat characteristics within the hexagon. This data will help construct a broad scale wolverine distribution and habitat use model. The goal of this project is to provide information to wildlife managers and researchers to benefit wolverine management. Study results will also contribute to the scientific knowledge of wolverines and will identify additional research questions.



Snow depth monitoring

Since 2001, we've been collecting snow depth data every year at seven locations within Yukon-Charley Rivers. There is a snow course site at Coal Creek Camp, and six aerial markers in scattered locations throughout the Preserve. We collect snow data once a month, weather permitting. Average snow depth was greater in 2004 than in the previous two years, which had particularly low accumulation.

Snow data is baseline information that aids in understanding ecosystem processes. Snow markers provide information on winter severity that is necessary to understand wildlife population trends and habitat use. Information is also valuable for monitoring long-term weather trends and hydrology that may be affected by climate change, as well as for predicting severity of fire seasons.

American Peregrine Falcon Surveys

The upper Yukon River, from the Alaska-Yukon Territory border to Circle, Alaska, provides excellent cliff-nesting habitat for American peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus anatum*), as well as an abundant variety of prey species. The Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve was established, in part, to protect and preserve habitat for American peregrine falcons.

In 2004, 52 pairs were recorded in the study area, 43 of these within the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve. Due to extremely unusual fire conditions in the Preserve in 2004 (and associated smoke), not all of the nests could be checked for breeding success and productivity. Of the 52 pairs, we were able to check 39 (75%). Of these 39, 16 were successful in producing nestlings and averaged 0.82 nestlings per total pair and 2.00 nestlings per successful pair. These values are similar but slightly lower than the average for the past five years (50.0



percent pairs successful; 1.08 nestlings per total pair; and 2.16 nestlings per successful pair). The unusual fire conditions may have contributed to these lower than average numbers by depressing available prey and limiting peregrines' ability to hunt.

Determining Genetic Variation in Yukon-Charley's Wolves: A Natural Baseline for Comparison

This study is an effort to assess baseline levels of genetic variation and connectivity among the intact, wild wolf population of Yukon-Charley Rivers. In an interagency collaboration with the Molecular Ecology Laboratory of USGS Alaska Science Center, an NPS researcher will analyze over 100 unique wolf samples collected from packs since 1993 with molecular-genetics techniques. Microsatellites, the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) and DNA sequencing will be used to determine populational levels of heterozygosity, allelic composition, inbreeding, and connectivity (gene flow) within and among packs. Determination of this baseline genetic structure, together with radio-telemetry (demographics), will provide better information to monitor the “natural and healthy” status of this population as mandated by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980. Knowledge of the genetic structure of this population will assist in developing long-term management plans to ensure population persistence.

Additionally, the levels of genetic variability present in this wild, unfragmented population of wolves could be useful as a gauge to estimate the levels of genetic variation and connectivity present in fragmented or isolated canid populations throughout the world.



The Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) technique is performed on DNA extracted from blood or other tissue.



Helicopter pilot Rick Swisher assists NPS Biologist John Burch to radio collar a wolf in Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve.

Vital Signs Monitoring

This marks the 3rd year of developing the Vital Signs Monitoring program for the Central Alaska Network (CAKN). In 2004, the network finalized reports on vascular plant, freshwater fish and water quality inventory projects and is currently circulating those reports to the parks. The network held the first biannual Report to the Technical Committee to communicate initial findings from pilot projects conducted in 2003. Approximately 65 park employees attended the meeting, which included a poster session and opportunities for input on work conducted. Most recently, we've been preparing final chapters of the CAKN Monitoring Plan and writing protocols for the first 11 Vital Signs the network plans to monitor. The Monitoring Plan includes chapters outlining development summaries for all remaining vital signs the network plans to implement or develop in the next 3-4 years. Additional chapters include sample design, data management, and staffing/implementation of the program.

During 2005, the network will receive peer review of the Monitoring Plan and the first 11 protocols; revision will be made as necessary for final submission. Planning for program implementation in 2006 will be initiated, including scheduling development of protocols for the remaining vital signs to be monitored.

Archeological Survey and Mapping of the Coal Creek Historic District

Michigan Technological University (MTU) Industrial Archaeology graduate students conducted an archaeological survey and documentation project at Coal Creek, site of extensive twentieth century placer gold mining. The main goal of the project was to create a detailed and comprehensive map of this large historic district that could aid in park management decisions and also serve as a foundation for interpreting the history of the area.

In 25 days, the MTU team surveyed approximately 900 acres, documented 32 archaeological sites, recorded 278 features, and took 1,592 photographs. The crew collected GPS data for roads, bulldozer tracks, human-use trails, animal-use trails, ditches, and pipes. Twelve sites were newly discovered and the crew thoroughly documented 20 previously identified sites, 11 of which had no previous documentation. Seventy-eight percent of the 278 features recorded had no previous documentation.



Above, archeologists map the pipe yard at the Coal Creek Historic District. Inset left: MTU graduate student Pat Baird creates a scale drawing of a mining structure. Inset right: Crews use high precision GPS receivers to record artifacts and structures.



Museum Collections

Over 1,500 new items were added to the park's collections this year. These include archival materials, plant collections from the Inventory and Monitoring program, and archaeological collections from recent projects. Museum technicians Steve Lanford and Lily Morris photographed close to 500 objects through last winter. The digital images were then linked to catalog records and will soon be publicly available through a searchable web catalog.

Ethnographic Updates, 2004

Han: People of the River Published

The University of Alaska Press released a new NPS sponsored ethnography of the Han Hwech'in entitled *Han: people of the river*. Craig Mishler and William Simeone of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Subsistence Division were the book's authors. Eagle Village Council provided additional support for the project and purchased a number of copies for village members. In addition to book stores, the book is now available at the NPS visitor center in Eagle.

Collection of TEK of Upper Yukon Fishery Set to Begin

Working in cooperation with residents of Eagle, Eagle Village, Circle, and Central, Resource Specialist David Krupa received grant funding for a Fisheries Information Service (USFWS) project to collect traditional ecological knowledge regarding the salmon fishery of the Upper Yukon River and its tributaries. The 2004 fire season in and around Yukon-Charley made work on the project this summer impractical and, in consultation with local residents, the fieldwork component of the project has been postponed until 2005.



A scenic stretch along the Yukon River near Eagle Village.

Understanding Fire and Fire Effects

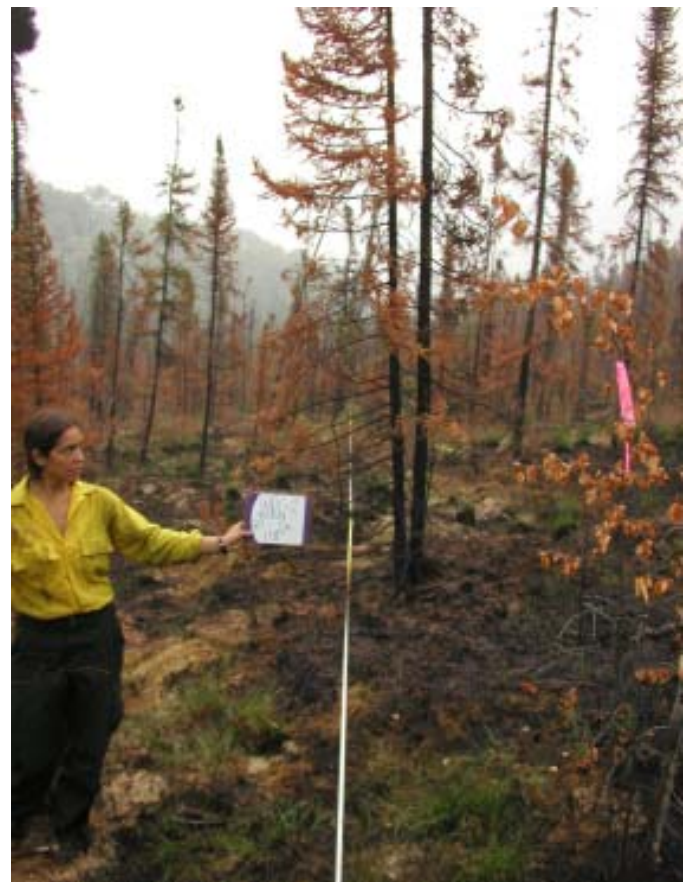
Smokey skies prevailed in Yukon-Charley Rivers during summer 2004, as over 130,000 acres burned within the Preserve boundary. Wildland fire is a natural process, increasing the diversity of vegetation on the landscape by creating mosaics of burned and unburned areas.

This summer, large fires in Yukon-Charley provided the conditions necessary to study how fire burns through varying vegetation types and the effects of fire on vegetation and permafrost. Objectives of this project were to: 1) identify vegetative and structural components of forest communities important to fire, and 2) identify short- and long-term fire effects for different burn severities.

Yukon-Charley fire staff Jennifer Mitchell and James Savage and Regional Fire Ecologist Jennifer Allen established five fire effects plots within three

vegetation types: two in black spruce-dominated forest, two in paper birch-dominated forest, and one in mixed white and black spruce forest flood-plain terrace. We evaluated three of the five plots both before and within one month after being burned. Plot data collected included: site descriptions, photographs, tree density, tree measurements (diameter, height, crown radius, and crown base heights), vegetation cover, permafrost depth, duff moisture, duff consumption, and burn severity.

Results from this study will contribute to our knowledge of successional pathways displayed in an array of forest types in interior Alaska as they recover from fires of varying severity. Understanding the successional trends following fire and how the structure and composition of a forest stand changes as it ages will provide fire management with information needed to predict fire behavior and fire potential in our Alaska parks.



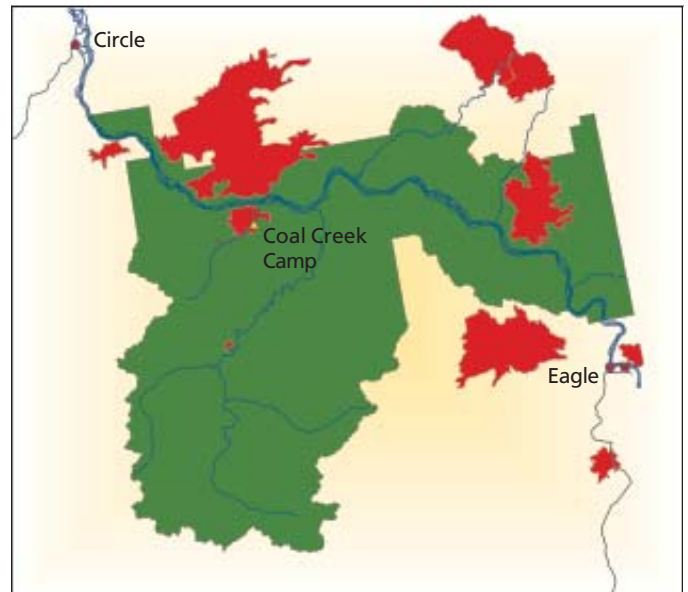
Data on a variety of variables, including site descriptions, tree measurements, vegetation cover, permafrost depth, and burn severity, among others, were recorded at each fire effect plot before and after fire swept through the area. The area pictured above is in the Beaton Pup drainage near Coal Creek Camp, which burned in the Woodchopper fire.

Fire Management

Record Fire Season in Alaska; 130,000 Acres Burned in Yukon-Charley

Alaska experienced a record fire season in 2004, with 706 fires burning over 6.7 million acres. In Yukon-Charley Rivers, fires burned approximately 130,000 acres within the Preserve boundary.

Six fires started within Yukon-Charley Rivers, three of which remained totally within the Preserve. One of these, the Dewey Creek fire, was suppressed due to the large number of fires already burning in the area and the potential threat to private inholdings in the Preserve. Firefighters successfully protected structures from the Woodchopper and Edwards Creek fires. There were also fires of concern around Eagle and Circle. The NPS staff supported a Type 2 Interagency Management Team and a Fire Use Team in Eagle for over a month. NPS staff also worked at Coal Creek Camp to support firefighters in their efforts to protect the camp and to provide information to travelers in the area.



Over 130,000 acres burned in Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve in 2004. The Woodchopper Creek fire came to within a stone's throw of Coal Creek Camp (below). The camp was saved through the efforts of firefighters.



Provide for the Public Enjoyment and Visitor Experience

Visitors safely enjoy and are satisfied with the availability, accessibility, diversity, and quality of park facilities, services, and appropriate recreational opportunities.

Long-term Goal: Visitor Safety. By September 30, 2005, the number of Yukon-Charley Rivers visitor accidents/incidents is maintained at the FY1992-FY1996 five-year annual average of 0.

Annual Goal: By September 30, 2004, the Preserve's visitor accidents/incidents is maintained at 0.
GOAL ACHIEVED



Dog Days of winter

Slaven's Roadhouse was once again a welcome respite for weary mushers and dogs during the 2004 Yukon Quest International Sled Dog Race. The roadhouse was staffed with employees from the Eagle field office, and a Fairbanks staff member assisted the veterinarian who remains ready to care for any dogs needing help. The Preserve pilot

provided air support, while logistics and 24-hour dispatch was the responsibility of an Eagle staff member. Mushers were treated to hot meals and drinks while the true athletes, the dogs, were provided with warm water and much needed rest. The staff remains dedicated to making sure that each year is a safe and enjoyable journey through the Preserve. Other than the truly sincere compliments from the racers, it was enjoyable to learn that race officials are not allowing veterinarians to staff the roadhouse for more than one race since it is now known as the "best duty station" along the route and the race coordinator said it is really a "cushy" assignment for the vets. Long hours and lots of wood chopping are involved, but staff volunteers are already lined up for the 2005 Quest.

Mission Goal: Park visitors and the general public understand and appreciate the preservation of parks and their resources for this and future generations.

Long-term Goal: Visitor Understanding and Appreciation. By September 30, 2005, 86% of Yukon-Charley Rivers visitors understand the significance of the Preserve.

Annual Goal: By September 30, 2004, 86% of visitors will understand the significance of the Preserve. We will continue our outreach programs in our neighboring communities in addition to interpretive talks and walks in Eagle, and impromptu interpretation in the field.

GOAL ACHIEVED

Interpretation not just all talk

With the incredible fire season of 2004, the interpretive staff at Yukon-Charley Rivers was tasked with new and challenging roles. For the first time in the history of the Preserve, a formal visitor advisory was posted and published, cautioning visitors about the dangers of newly burned areas and the hazards that can lie therein. It further notified visitors on the smoke conditions and road closures in and around Circle and Eagle. Maps provided by the Fire Management Teams assisted the interpretive staff in explaining to river travelers and bus passengers where active fires were occurring and the likelihood of any evacuation measures.

Although the initial estimates for visitation predicted that this would be a busy visitor season, fires and smoke kept river traffic and hunter activities down radically. Even with numbers lessened, interpretive staff had more than their share of excitement and activity due to the extraordinary circumstances of 2004. Nevertheless, over 3,025 visitors from the Holland America Westours

coaches visited the Eagle Visitor Center this summer. The increased visitation allowed interpretive staff opportunity to educate visitors to the area on the resources despite the fact that these visitors were not actually entering the Preserve.

The new Yukon-Charley Rivers visitor orientation video project began prior to breakup with Emmy Award winning videographer, Daniel Zatz arriving in Eagle just in time to catch the initial movement of the ice break up. The entire film crew arrived in June and filmed along the Charley River, Yukon River, Coal Creek area and, the actively burning areas in the Preserve. The video should be finalized in early December and will be the first and only visitor orientation DVD produced in high definition format in the entire region.



Emmy award winning videographer Daniel Zatz and his film crew catch footage along the Charley River. The visitor orientation DVD should be finalized in December, 2004.

The American Peregrine Falcon camera project received a harsh blow this year when four seemingly healthy chicks hatched and all died within six days. Smoke was extreme but there is no evidence linking the deaths to fires.





Volunteer Miles Stemp was happy to assist with backcountry patrols on the Charley River in Yukon-Charley Rivers National Pres.

Volunteers Make Busy Summer Bearable

Working hand in hand with staff members during an amazing fire season, volunteers at Yukon-Charley Rivers spent thousands of hours assisting with every manner of operations during the summer. A total of 3,448 hours were logged by volunteers this past year in virtually every discipline within the Preserve. The Volunteer Coordinator was tasked with scheduling and housing for three full-time volunteers. Since this was the first year that Holland America Westours brought their clients to the Visitor Center in coaches, volunteers were vital in assisting staff with visitor questions and needs. Volunteers participated in seasonal training and accompanied the law enforcement ranger and the general ranger on various project patrols. The SCA intern was instrumental in the production of the upcoming visitor orientation

video and was also involved with installing a new camera and solar panel array for the peregrine falcon project. Volunteers have always been appreciated for their skill and talents, and we salute our

volunteers of 2004 for going that extra mile and truly making the summer season a safe and successful one.



Volunteer Nancy Mayo checks out the Nation Bluff cabin along the Yukon River.

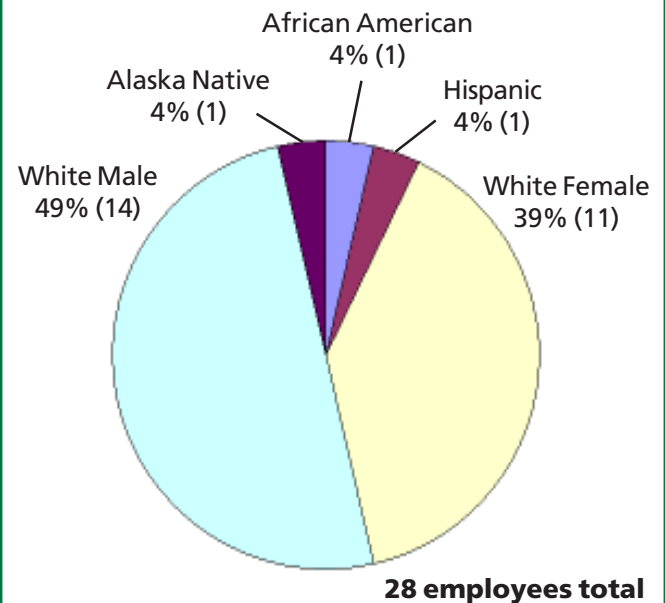
Ensure Organizational Effectiveness

The National Park Service uses current management practices, systems, and technologies to accomplish its mission.



The Fairbanks staff includes administrative, resource management and fire pro staff who serve both Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve and Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve. Our Operations staff (rangers, visitor use assistants and maintenance) are based in Eagle.

Workforce Diversity of Permanent Employees



Fairbanks staff members Christina Creveling (far left) and Doris Lenahan (kneeling), from Administration, and Jeff Rasic (beside Christina), and Melanie Cook (not in photo), from Resources, attended the National Park Service Fundamentals V training course in Harpers Ferry, Virginia. The Fundamentals program is designed, in part, to help NPS employees understand the Park Service Mission.

NPS Mission Statement

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resources conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.



Financial Summary

Operating Budget Base Allocations (ONPS) Expenditure Highlights

\$321,000--Resource Preservation and Management

Natural resource work included a moose survey, wolf genetics research, continuation of the snowmarker survey, peregrine monitoring, a breeding bird survey, and support to Central Alaska Network. Cultural resource work included Coal Creek archeology work, site visits for cabin inventory and assessments, and cataloging museum objects.

\$487,000--Visitor Services

Educational programs as well as visitor orientations were conducted. Major fires in and around the Preserve and the town of Eagle caused park staff to forgo their usual responsibilities and help the fire

crews by providing boat transport, radio dispatching and administrative support, not to mention working on fire lines.

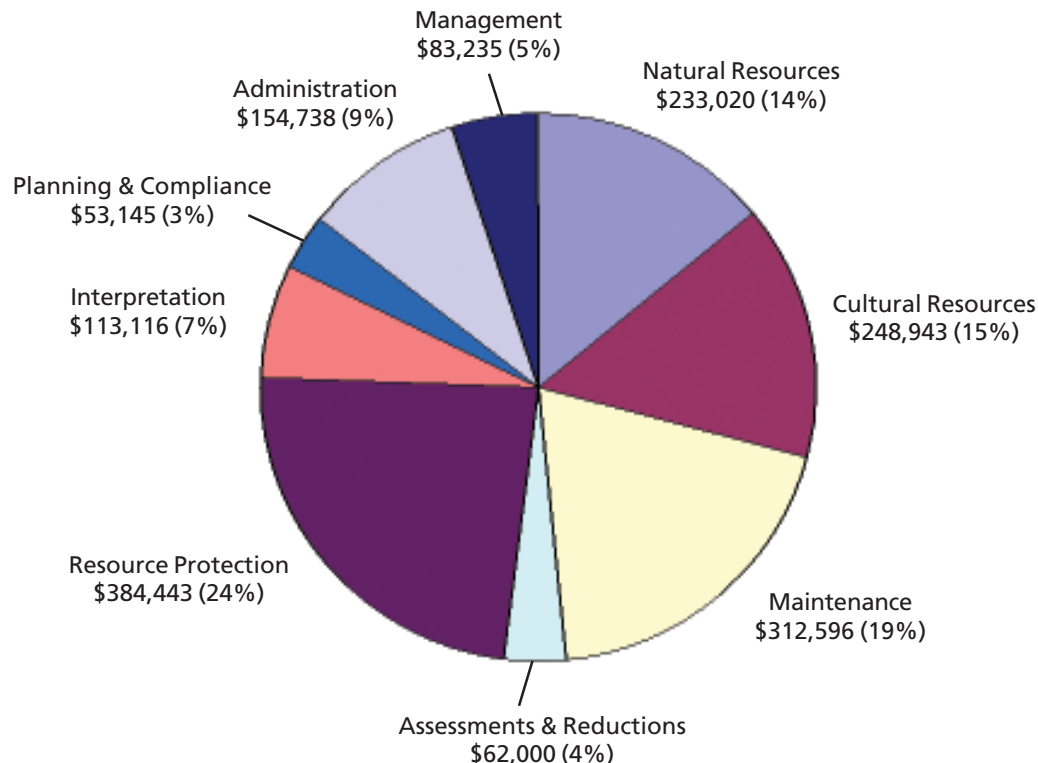
\$110,000--Facility Operations and Maintenance

Maintenance work was done in the Coal Creek Historic District as well as routine maintenance to the Eagle facility, boats, and vehicles.

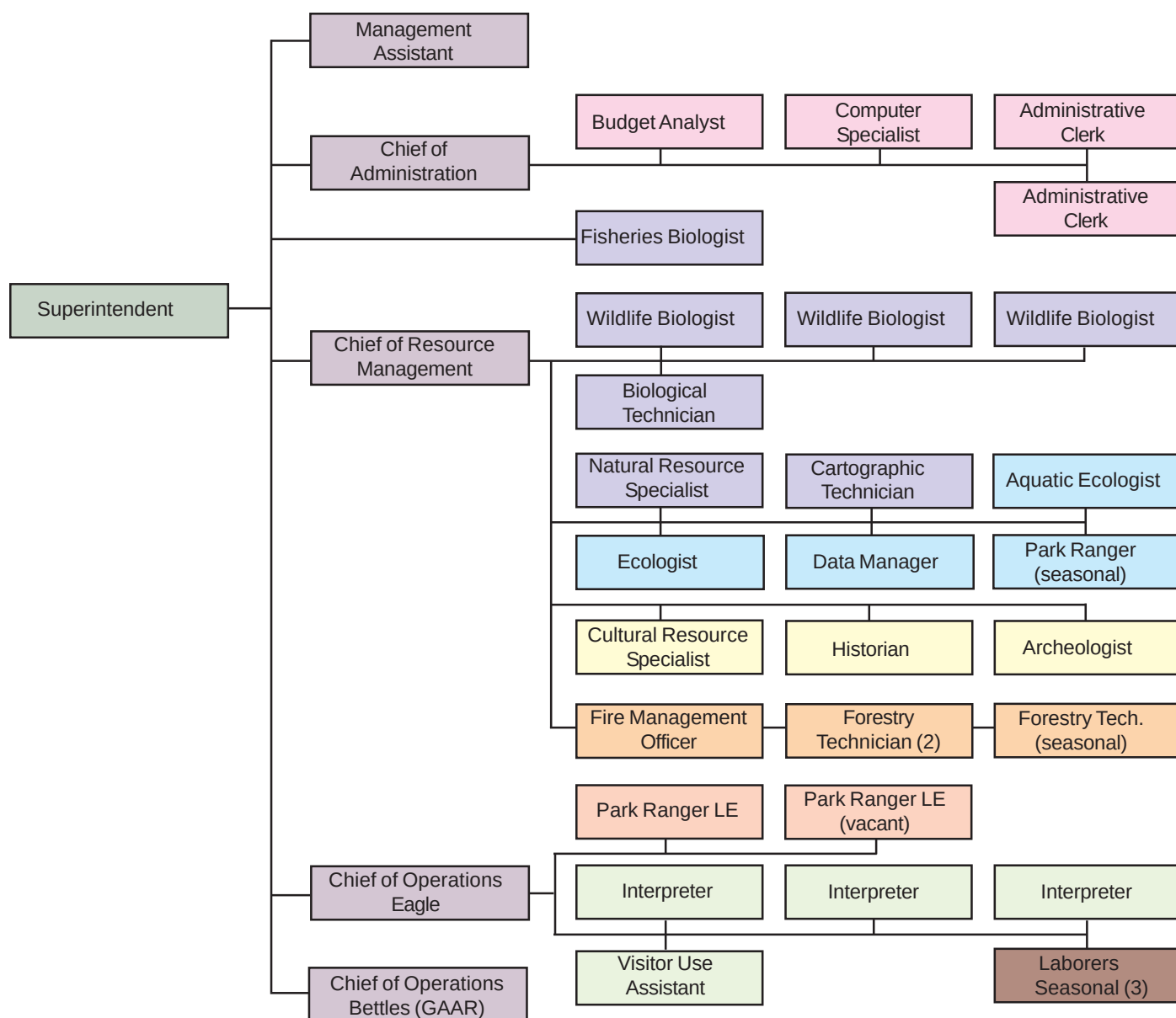
\$236,000--Management and Administration

Successfully avoiding any computer virus in our network of 3 NPS units in 6 locations is certainly a highlight. Changes were made in support of the DOI consolidation of the IT program.

All Sources of Park Funding \$1,645,236 total



Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve Organization



Note: All positions are shared with Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve except those under the Chief of Operations in Eagle.



A cow moose leads her calf past an old tractor near the site of the Coal Creek Historic District dredge in Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve.

*The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people
so that all may experience our heritage.*



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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