UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# BACKCOUNTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Grand Teton National Park

Prepared by: Division of Resource Management & Visitor Protection

Recommended: _____
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Approved: Jack E Stark
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Date: 10/22/90

Backcountry Management Plan

1990 Revision

The Backcountry Management Plan for Grand Teton National Park, 1990 revision, was reviewed, revised and is recommended to the Superintendent by the Chief Park Ranger.

Recommended: _____ 10/19/90
Douglas A. Barnard — Date

Approved: _____ 10/22/90
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# I. INTRODUCTION

## A. Purpose:

The Backcountry Management Plan serves three purposes: (1) it is a public document that explains the policies and actions used at Grand Teton National Park, hereafter termed the Park, for backcountry and wilderness management; (2) it identifies long-range management goals, intermediate objectives, and actions and options to meet those objectives; and (3) it is a working guide for employees who manage the backcountry. This plan implements the recommended course of action in the Wilderness, Backcountry, and Trail Management problem statement in the Park's Natural Resources Management Plan and Environmental Assessment (1986).

## B. Policy:

1. Legislation: The following federal legislation affects backcountry management at the Park:

   a. The National Park Service Organic Act of 1916 (16 U.S.C. 39 Stat. 535): This act directs the National Park Service (hereafter termed the Service) to "promote and regulate the use" of parks. It states that the "fundamental purpose" of parks is to "conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects, and the wildlife therein for the enjoyment of the same in such a manner and by a means as will leave them unimpaired for future generations."

   b. Grand Teton National Park Act of 1929 (16 U.S.C. 45 Stat. 1314): This act set aside about 96,000 acres of the Teton Range "as a park or pleasure ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people," and stated that the 1916 Act applied to the Park.

   c. Grand Teton National Park Act of 1950 (16 U.S.C. 64 Stat. 849): This act enlarged the original park to 310,516 acres, by incorporating the Jackson Hole National Monument, which was established in 1943 (57 Stat. 731).

   d. The Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. 78 Stat. 890): This act provides for establishing Wilderness areas. Such areas are managed for: (1) use and enjoyment in ways that leave them unimpaired as wilderness, (2) protection and preservation of their wilderness values, and (3) acquisition of information to facilitate preservation and public use of wilderness. The act defines wilderness as a tract of undeveloped Federal land, of primeval character, and without permanent improvements or human habitation. The forces of nature predominate, and the imprint of civilization is not readily perceived. The area provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and an unconfined type of recreation.

2. Department of Interior and National Park Service Directives:

   a. 1981 National Park Service Management Policies:

These establish guidelines for management and use of backcountry and wilderness areas of the parks. This includes "necessary regulation and control of resource use, "and" to monitor critical resources for change, and modify management or other practices having adverse effects on natural processes."

b. Grand Teton National Park Statement, 1985:
This document states: "The Service encourages backcountry use, but recognizes the need to control and direct this increasingly popular activity to protect park resources and visitor enjoyment of them."

c. Natural Resources Management Plan, Grand Teton National Park, 1986:
This plan describes, documents, and prioritizes 33 management problems that are being, or need to be, addressed to achieve the purpose of the Park. One section deals with Wilderness, Backcountry, and Trail Management.

d. Grand Teton National Park Trail Standards, 1986: This establishes trail standards for the Park.

e. Title 36, U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1 through 6 and 7.22, and the Compendium of Park Regulations: These list the specific regulations and authority for implementing this plan.

f. Grand Teton National Park Search and Rescue Plan, 1987: This plan describes how search and rescue operations should be conducted in the Park.

g. Wilderness Recommendation, Grand Teton National Park, 1984: This plan recommends areas of the Park to Congress for wilderness designation.

C. Backcountry Defined:

"Backcountry" is any undeveloped area at least 250 yards from a road. It includes recommended and potential wilderness areas. When the ground is predominately covered by snow, "backcountry" is extended to include unplowed roads not open to mechanized equipment. Due to fluctuating water levels controlled by the Bureau of Reclamation, Jackson Lake Reservoir to the high water line is not included in the Park's backcountry.

D. Wilderness:

The Service has recommended that Congress include 135,680 acres of the Park's backcountry in the National Wilderness Preservation System as directed by Public Law 16 U.S.C. 88-577 (The 1964 Wilderness Act). An additional 20,320 acres is classified as potential wilderness (GRTE Natural Resources Management Plan, p. 244).

Service Management Policies (1981) state that wilderness resources in the national parks will "be managed for the use and enjoyment of wilderness values without impairment of the wilderness resources." It further states, "the preservation of wilderness character and values is the prime administrative responsibility of the Service, and activities to achieve other legal purposes of areas designated as wilderness must be administered so as to preserve the

wilderness character," and "Wilderness areas shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness, including 'outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.'"

"Wilderness management" is a contradiction of terms (Nash, 1978), but managers of wilderness areas must be pragmatic. In remote Alaskan parks with low visitation, managers can provide outstanding opportunities for solitude more easily than can managers in Grand Teton National Park with over two million visitors per year. Since wilderness is largely a state of mind, the goal of wilderness management in the Park is to offer visitors a range of opportunities for backcountry and wilderness experiences.

This goal is achieved by stratifying the backcountry into five management zones (See Section III (B)).

The visitor from a large metropolitan area that has never been away from roads and vehicles may have a satisfactory experience hiking to see Hidden Falls, despite encountering many people. With a little more effort, a hiker can escape most of the crowd along Zone II trails, and a camper can find a high degree of solitude from evening through early morning. Zone III is nearly pristine, with fewer visitors. Zone IV provides many opportunities for solitude in pristine areas. However, visitors to wilderness areas of the Park must be aware that they will have to deal with regulations and controls designed to protect the wilderness resource and the quality of visitors' experiences.

There are not enough wilderness areas in the Park to provide every visitor with an opportunity to experience pristine wilderness. Relatively light use can result in impacts that can degrade pristine areas. Fortunately, not every visitor needs pristine resource to have a satisfactory wilderness experience. The management objective for wilderness is to provide a range of opportunities for wilderness experience. Only visitors who cannot meet their expectation of wilderness in Management Zones I or II should visit Zones III or IV. Pristine areas are irreplaceable. They must be cherished and guarded so they are not degraded for future generations.

Management of the Park's recommended wilderness (as distinguished from other backcountry areas) will be guided by the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Service's Management Policies, 1988 (Chapter VI), for wilderness preservation and management, and the Wilderness, Backcountry, and Trail Management chapter of the Park's Natural Resources Management Plan. Special consideration for wilderness management is highlighted throughout this management plan. Managers need to better refine the definition of solitude and the Limits of Acceptable Change concept (Stankey, 1985) as it applies to human use levels in the Park's wilderness areas as research and knowledge of the subjects increases.

E. History of Backcountry Use and Management:

Prior to 1973, backcountry use in the Park was regulated only to the degree that camping was restricted to about 18 designated sites. In 1973, the first Backcountry Management Plan took effect. Camping was changed from designated sites to camping anywhere in defined camping zones. Parties could include no more than six people, and Groups no more than twelve.

Campfires were prohibited, except at designated lake shore sites with fire grates. Lake Solitude and Amphitheater Lake were closed to camping due to serious impacts on vegetation and soil. Camping zones were assigned quotas aimed at accommodating overnight use at the 1969 level. Day use was not restricted.

Because of these management policies, the Park's backcountry is generally in good condition today. Human impacts are mainly confined to trails and campsites. These impacts affect less than 1% of the backcountry. In 1986, only six major problem areas were found. The ban on campfires above an elevation of 7,000 feet is felt to be one of the most important restrictions that helps maintain camping areas in good condition. Since trees are not stripped of dead branches, downed wood is not burned, fire rings are not built, and charcoal does not accumulate, camping quotas can remain relatively high.

In 1982, the first campsite inventory assessed the effectiveness of the zone camping system. In most zones, it was satisfactory. At Holly and Surprise Lakes, conditions were unsatisfactory (too many heavily-impacted campsites), and quotas or zone boundaries were adjusted.

In 1987 and 1988, the backcountry campsites were inventoried again. Once again, in most camping zones, conditions were still satisfactory. The details of the two inventories are contained in "Backcountry Campsite Management, Grand Teton National Park." Problems were identified in the camping zones at Surprise lake, North and South Cascade Canyon, Lower Paintbrush Canyon, Holly Lake and Mink Lake. These problems are addressed in the management recommendations sections of the above report for these camping zones.

Rangers, YCC, and SCA crews have improved the condition of some of the more heavily impacted areas. Efforts have also been undertaken to stabilizing impacted trails in what are now called Zone III: near pristine areas. In 1985 and 1986, impacted areas and those that may become impacted were inventoried. Photos, measurements, and written problem statements were assembled for 29 areas. Six areas (the Platforms in Garnet Canyon, the Lower Saddle on the Grand Teton, Amphitheater, Surprise, Marion, and Phelps Lakes) require major long-term rehabilitation efforts.

Despite generally good backcountry conditions, patrols by rangers will be required to prevent new problem areas from developing. The effectiveness of patrols, particularly their educational function, is apparent at the Meadows camping area in Garnet Canyon. The wet meadows that were showing the impacts of camping are recovering due to a vigorous effort to get campers to camp only on the nearby gravel sites. Wherever significant use occurs, human impacts will continue, as will the need for control to prevent unacceptable impacts.

F. The Current Situation:

1. Natural Resources:

Natural resources in the backcountry are currently influenced by:

a. Trampling of vegetation and soil disturbance by visitors and horses along trails and at campsites. Trampling near patrol cabins and caches by park staff.

b. Creation of unmaintained trails by climbers and hikers in Zone III areas.

c. Introduction and invasion of exotic plant species, especially via horse manure along trails.

d. Noise pollution from chainsaws, aircraft, blasting, snow machines, and other sources, especially in Recommended Wilderness Areas.

e. Poaching of big game animals such as elk, moose, deer, and bighorn sheep.

f. Degradation of water quality through improper sanitary practices. This problem is mainly manifested as illness from Giardia lamblia and Campylobacter jejuni.

g. Acid rain. There is no baseline data prior to 1985 to detect acid deposition in alpine lakes in the Teton Range. Gulley and Parker (1985) found 89% of them to be sensitive to acid deposition since alkalinity values are less than 10 ppm.

2. Developments:

Most developments in the Park are along roadways and not in the backcountry. Developments in the backcountry are limited to over 200 miles of maintained trails and their accouterments (bridges, turnpikes, borrow pits, etc.), several unmaintained trails in Zone III areas, signs, nine patrol cabins, toilets (including a solar toilet on the Lower Saddle), food poles, fire grates, cache boxes for patrol rangers and rescue gear, hitch rails, and tentpads.

3. Visitor Use:

Visitation to the backcountry has fluctuated slightly in recent years, but the general trend is up. About 2.25 million people visit the Park annually. In 1988, approximately 190,000 of these hiked in the backcountry and approximately 18,200 camper nights were recorded. About 68% of camper nights occurred in Zone II areas. The majority of Zone III and IV users were climbers; in 1988, approximately 5,700 camper nights were recorded in Zone III and IV areas, approximately 83% of whom were climbers. Approximately 2,900 climbers attempted to climb the Grand Teton in 1988.

Most day users hike less than two miles. However, high elevation lakes are destinations for enough day hikers to cause significant impacts at Marion, Surprise, Laurel, and Holly Lakes and Lake Solitude. The greatest concentration of day users (up to 1,250 per day) is in the Hidden Falls area. In 1986, up to 370 people per hour hiked up or down the section of trail just below Hidden Falls (Visitor Use Survey, 1986). About 83% of the people seen at Hidden Falls from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. travel both ways by ferry boat across Jenny Lake. Of those who visit the Falls, only 31% go up Cascade Canyon beyond Inspiration Point. Of those who hike beyond Inspiration Point, about one-fifth reach Lake Solitude (70-90 on a busy day). Only 4-6% (15-20 per day) hike into the South Fork of Cascade Canyon. Hikers wanting a reasonable level of solitude can find it by choosing the trail, time of day, or distance they hike.

4. Management Actions:

The current management strategy involves monitoring visitor use and the condition of resources in the backcountry, managing public use when necessary, and reviewing management policies and actions to insure that they impose no more restrictions on visitors than are necessary to achieve defined management goals.

a. Camping Zones and Quotas: Backcountry camping is managed with quotas for designated sites and camping zones. There are 16 designated campsites in trailed areas, with a quota of 122 campers per night. On Jackson Lake, there are 20 designated sites with a quota of 38 parties or groups with 313 people per night. Along the trail system there are 14 camping zones with a quota of 397 people per night. In off-trail areas, there are 60 camping zones with a quota of 142 parties with 656 people. Combined, the nightly backcountry camping quota is 266 parties or groups with 1,368 people camping at 38 designated sites and 74 camping zones.

Camping quotas were established by past managers. There is no record of how quotas were decided. In some instances quotas are inconsistent between camping zones.

Party size, length of stay, number of people or parties allowed in a camping zone per night, and type of use (group, stock, etc.) are regulated. Day use is not regulated. Campers with a permit for a particular camping zone may camp anywhere in the zone.

b. Permits: A permit is required to camp in all backcountry areas where camping is allowed. The camping permit in conjunction with camping quotas provides the mechanism for controlling levels of backcountry overnight use in the Park. Day use is unrestricted (except for some climbing routes). Camping permits must be displayed on packs or pitched tents. The process of obtaining camping permits provides rangers with an opportunity to inform and educate visitors. Data compiled from the permits (use per camping zone, length of stay, party size, etc.) are useful to managers.

Climbing permits are required for all ascents west of the Snake River. These permits also serve as camping permits for climbers on overnight trips. This provides climbing rangers with an opportunity to discuss route conditions with climbers, and provides for monitoring use and implementing quotas on selected routes especially prone to objective hazards.

c. Non-Compliance and Impact Monitoring: Impacts on the backcountry resources (fires, litter, vegetation damage, etc.) and visitor non-compliance with the permit system (no permit, camped in the wrong place, etc.) are monitored and reported by backcountry rangers. Violations are handled by law enforcement commissioned rangers according to 36 CFR regulations. Analysis of the type and location of these problems helps managers determine appropriate corrective

actions. Changes in the natural resources and trends in visitor behavior help determine the effectiveness of backcountry management.

d. Research: Evaluation of human impacts at campsites and along travel ways is ongoing. In the Teton Range south of Leigh Canyon, this work is directed by the Jenny Lake Backcountry Management Ranger. Subdistrict Rangers direct it in other backcountry areas. Technical assistance is provided by the Resource Management Specialists. All major projects are reviewed by the Resource Management Coordinating Team (RMCT) (The RMCT is comprised of the Chief Park Ranger, Chairman; Chief Park Naturalist; Resource Management Specialist and Assistant Chief of Maintenance), and must be approved by the Superintendent.

## II. OPTIONS FOR MANAGING HUMAN USE

Numerous options exist for managing use of the backcountry of the Park. They range from virtually no action to severe controls on visitor use. Of the options considered below, the recommended option is believed to be the most appropriate for meeting current and future needs of the Park's resources and the public.

### A. No Restrictions On The Amount Of Use:

Unregulated use of the backcountry would likely result in massive impacts to popular and easily accessible areas, especially from campers near trailheads and valley lakes. This option would be similar to policies in effect when the Park was first established and use was very low.

### B. Camping Permits Required, But No Quotas On Camping Or Day Use:

This option would include limits on party size and restrictions on fires, stock, and campsite locations. The number of parties or persons camped at any one camping area would be unrestricted. Day use would also be unrestricted. With permits required, park managers could monitor use levels and advise users of crowded areas to avoid. However, popular areas would probably receive more use than at present. Expansion of denuded areas and development of unofficial trails at destinations could be expected. Unacceptable conditions, like those at Lake Solitude before use was restricted, likely would develop.

### C. Camping Permits Required; Quotas For Camping, But Not Day Use, Only Where Resource Damage Or Crowding Occurs:

This option would include limits on party size and restrictions on fires, stock, and campsite location as in option B. This is a reactive option; that is, action would be taken only as a reaction to an existing problem. Before quotas would be considered, hikers would already have had a bad experience with overcrowding, and resource damage would already have occurred. This may have included loss of sensitive plant species. Action taken would likely be very restrictive to allow restoration of damaged areas. In the long term, this option could evolve into two scenarios: (1) a cycling of restrictions in problem areas such as lack of restrictions leading to resource damage, which would then be corrected by restrictions and

rehabilitation work, followed by easing of restrictions, redevelopment of problem areas, and so on; (2) based on experience, rangers would anticipate levels of use and impacts in a given area and set quotas at a level that allows optimum use and prevents unacceptable impacts.

D. Camping Quotas In Trailed Areas Only; No Quotas For Day Use:

All campers would be required to have a permit. This option would include limits on party size and restrictions on fires, stock, and campsite location as in options B and C. It differs from present policy in that there would be quotas for camping in trailed camping zones, but not in semi-pristine and pristine areas. One predictable problem with such a system is that campers, seeking the next closest alternative, might camp in more nearly pristine areas if the trailed camping zones were full. This would work against the objective of restricting camping in pristine areas to people who require the characteristics of those areas to meet their wilderness expectations. Popular semi-pristine camping areas in Garnet Canyon, such as the Meadows and the Lower Saddle, would be severely impacted by climbing parties.

E. Quotas For All Camping Zones; No Quotas For Day Use:

This is current management policy. Camping quotas are based on resource conditions (number of good campsites per mile of trail) and the kind of backcountry experience to be provided to visitors. Quotas are set to achieve management objectives for the various camping zones over the long run. Quotas can be changed, but this will be done in a consistent manner (see Section III (D) (9) (e)), and any changes will be explained in the Backcountry Management Plan. Quotas will be reviewed annually with regard to the condition, frequency of use, spacing of campsites in a zone, and visitor comments.

As user demand increases, education will be an increasingly important part of this option. Public support and use of minimum-impact camping techniques, for example, will allow continued high use levels in the backcountry, yet provide for resource protection and opportunities for meeting a variety of social expectations. User education will explain the purpose of regulations, how the user can help keep the resource in good condition, and the management objectives for the backcountry.

F. Trailhead Quotas; No Camping Zone Quotas:

All backcountry campers would be required to have a permit. This option would include limits on party size and restrictions on fires, stock, and campsite location as in option B. There would be no limits on day use. Daily quotas would be established for the total number of campers that would be allowed to enter the backcountry from specific trailheads. Without camping zone quotas, some popular areas (e.g., the North Fork of Cascade Canyon) might receive more use than at present. This would unacceptably impact resources and adversely affect the opportunity for solitude.

Establishing trailhead quotas to prevent over-use (based on "average" figures for hiking speed, length of stay, party size, etc.) would be difficult and complex. Quotas would probably have to be set for the "worst case" situation close to trailheads resulting in under-utilization of less popular or accessible areas.

G. Preferred Option:

The preferred option is "E". Given the management objectives explained in this plan, Option "E" best meets the Park's legislative requirements while addressing the public's and the resources' needs. This option has proven to be effective in limiting resource damage and allowing experience expectations to be met. As the population increases over the next century, people seeking a recreational experience away from the developed world will put increased pressures on the limited wilderness resources that remain. The challenge for today's wilderness managers is to limit use to a level that the resource can sustain and that provides an appropriate degree of solitude while imposing as few limits as possible on users seeking to escape from controls.

Experience has shown that Options "A" (no action) and "B" (permits with no quotas) have resulted in overcrowding and unacceptable impacts on resources at popular camping areas.

Option "F" (trailhead quotas) has not been tried at this park; however, this system is used in some national parks. Problems with establishing defensible quotas and potential problems of increased camping use in popular areas keep this option from being preferred.

Option "C" (quotas only for crowded or damaged areas) assumes that crowding or damage has already occurred before action is taken. The Service is required by legislation to manage the resources of the Park to prevent such damage while providing for visitor enjoyment. This option would not satisfy legislative requirements.

Option "D" (quotas only in trailed camping areas) encourages campers to use the more nearly pristine areas for the wrong reasons, and thereby does not meet the management objectives for these zones.

## III. BACKCOUNTRY MANAGEMENT

### A. Long Range Goals of Backcountry Management:

1. Maintain the backcountry environment within acceptable limits of resource change for each of the backcountry management zones.

2. Provide visitors to the backcountry with the opportunity to have a high quality backcountry or wilderness experience.

3. Provide for a range of levels of solitude that visitors can expect to find in areas recommended for wilderness.

4. In pristine areas, provide hikers with the opportunity to have the same type of wilderness experience that people might have had before European man arrived in this area.

5. Provide for visitor use of the backcountry with the minimum level of restrictions necessary to achieve management goals.

6. Correct current and past unacceptable impacts on resources, and anticipate and address future problems before they become serious.

7. Minimize noise intrusions in the backcountry.

B. Backcountry Management Zones; the Concept and Rationale:
In the Wilderness, Backcountry, and Trails Management section of the Park's Natural Resources Management Plan (1985), the recommended management alternative includes consideration of the concept of stratifying the backcountry into four management zones when developing a new wilderness, backcountry, and trails management plan. The Park's 1986 Trail Standards incorporated this concept, as will this plan. When attempting to draw these management zones on the map, it became obvious that large areas of backcountry open space in the Park did not fit into the four suggested zones. Therefore, the backcountry was stratified into five zones.

Maps with the zones delineated are available for review in the Chief Ranger's Office (See figure A).

1. Zone I - Gateway Trails

This zone includes trail corridors which are within two miles of trailheads and heavily used by day-hikers (more than 500 people per day in peak season) via high standard, well-maintained trails.

2. Zone II - Trail Corridors and Designated Lakeshore Campsites

This Zone includes the corridor along all regularly maintained trails in the Teton Range south of Leigh Canyon not in Zone I, and the designated campsites on Leigh and Jackson Lakes.

3. Zone III - Near Pristine

This zone includes areas where a route is discernible to ease a traveler's journey. There are two types of routes: (a) trails in the Berry Creek - Webb Canyon area that receive minimal clearing and stabilization of eroding places, and (b) unmaintained trails that have become established through use, such as trails in Avalanche and Hanging Canyons or to Laurel Lake. The only attention unmaintained trails receive is to prevent or stop unacceptable erosion.

Zone III areas are in near-pristine condition because they receive relatively little use. Use will not be encouraged. Unmaintained trails will not be put on maps or publicized.

4. Zone IV - Pristine

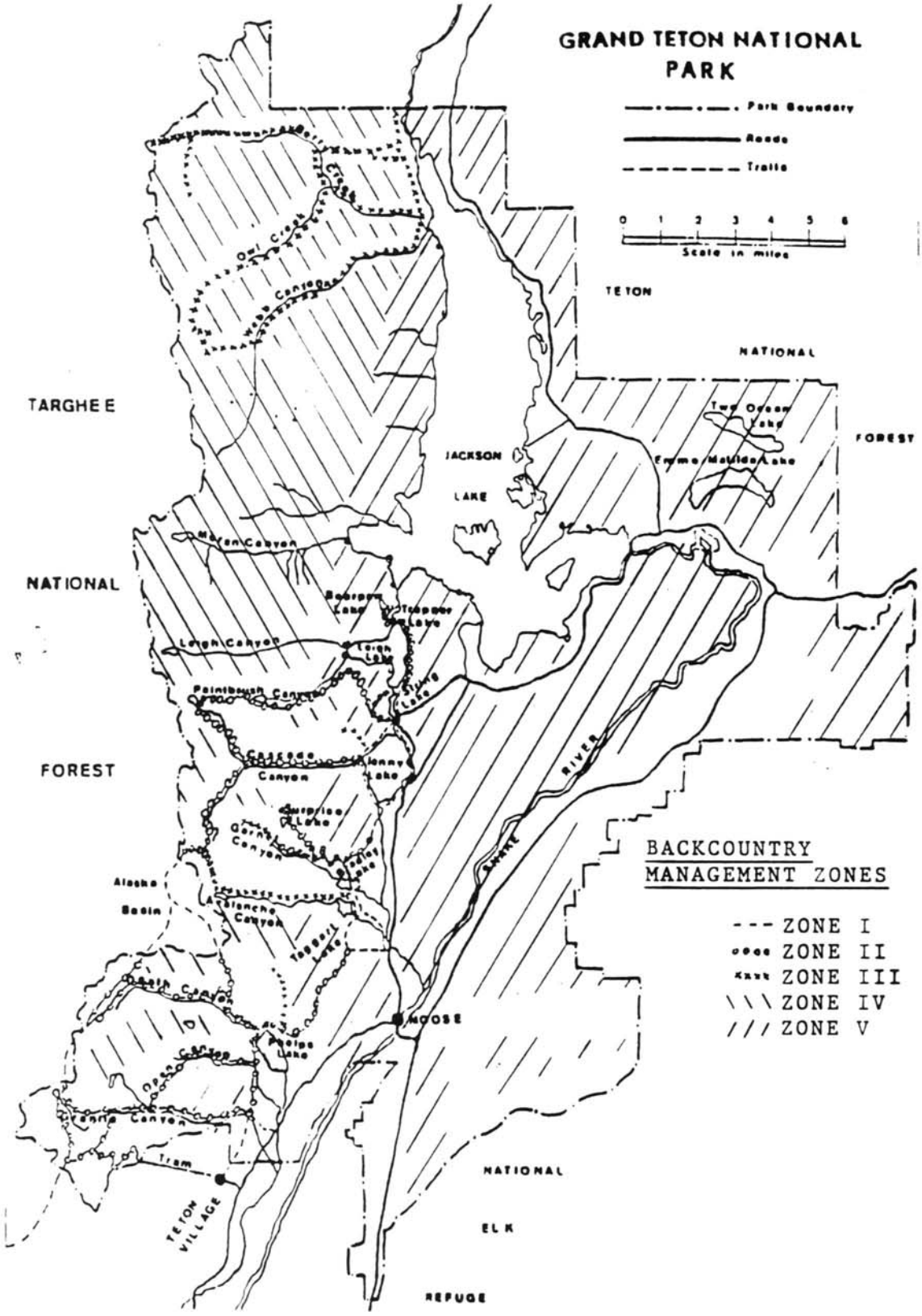
This zone includes areas that are out of sight or sound of travelers on trails. It includes many small cirques south of Leigh Canyon and most of the area north of Leigh Canyon.

5. Zone V - Open Space

Zones I through IV are mainly in the areas of the Park that are screened (surrounded) by trees or mountains. The screening shuts off the visual reminders of mechanized life that many people are trying to avoid in wild areas. Roads and buildings are out of sight. Although most of the backcountry use occurs in Zones I through IV, much of the Park is in Zone V, open space backcountry areas.

Zone V includes open areas like Antelope Flats, Baseline Flats, and the Potholes that are predominately covered by the sagebrush community. There are few lakes or other attractions for most visitors. Even though a person is over 250 yards from a road (therefore, in the backcountry) roads, vehicles, or buildings may be visible. Another place where Zone V occurs is on the open eastern slopes of the mountains. Where there are not enough trees to screen the valley from view, roads and buildings are easily seen.

BACKCOUNTRY MANAGEMENT ZONES



C. Management Objectives and Actions for Management Zones:

1. The management objective for Zone I is to provide large numbers of visitors the opportunity to experience a natural area close-up, without unacceptably changing the natural resources. Future research is needed to determine maximum use levels that will not degrade the resources or the experiences of a significant number of visitors due to crowding. Management options will be based on these defensible limits. Acceptable management actions include hardening trails, fencing to control visitor traffic, rehabilitation of disturbed areas, and other actions necessary to manage the effects of large numbers of people.

2. The management objective for Zone II is to provide hikers, campers, and stock users with opportunities to travel through the backcountry on well-maintained trails. In wilderness areas, hikers, and especially campers, should be able to experience an expected degree of solitude. They should see no more than 150 people per hour two miles from a trailhead, and no more than 50 per hour four miles from a trailhead. These figures are based on use recorded in Cascade Canyon (Trail Use Survey, 1985, 1986). After 7:00 p.m., campers should experience a higher degree of solitude, with other campers generally more than 200 yards away. Few people should be seen on the trails in the evenings and mornings.

   Impacts from visitors are concentrated on the trail tread and on trampled areas of campsites.

   Camping is managed by assigning quotas for camping zones within Zone II. Camping zones are generally at least three miles from trailheads to provide day users more natural views free from campsites. Campers with permits for a given camping zone can camp anywhere within the camping zone. This allows the visitor a high degree of freedom, yet allows managers to set use quotas that the camping zones will support. Campers are encouraged, however, to use previously impacted sites so impacts on new sites do not result. Some hardening of the better campsites, such as leveling tent sites, constructing tentpads, or adding duff as ground cover, is permitted to promote their long-term use. Marginal sites can be closed for regrowth of vegetation.

3. The management objective for Zone III is to provide hikers (and stock users in the Berry Creek - Webb Canyon area) an opportunity to experience a high degree of solitude and minimal imprints of humans on the land. A high degree of self reliance is encouraged. Resourcefulness is required in stream crossings, and competence in map reading is important.

   In Zone III areas, if a campsite is found to be Highly Impacted, the site will be managed so it is not in the High Impact class. (Hechtman Horse Camp is excluded from this rating process at this time.)

4. The management objective for Zone IV is to provide hikers and campers with superb opportunities for solitude free from signs of human use. A very high level of wilderness travel competence is required due to the nature of the land. No-trace travel and camping techniques, ability to cross streams, and competent navigation with a

topographic map are needed to safely visit Zone IV areas and to avoid degrading the pristine character of the land.

Providing such opportunities requires very low use quotas. The Report of the Servicewide Task Force on Wilderness Policy and Management of July, 1986, reaffirmed that only uses that require wilderness for their realization should be permitted in wilderness. Zones I through III provide opportunities for most visitors to meet their expectations for a wilderness experience. Zone IV is intended to do this for wilderness purists. Management actions for Zone IV are defined with expectations of the wilderness purist of the twenty-first century and beyond in mind.

Growing public attraction to wilderness areas results in increased use of them. This detracts from the solitude and pristine condition of the environment that makes Zone IV areas special. Zone IV areas will not be officially "advertised." When visitors request suggestions about where to go in the backcountry, they will be directed to areas in Zones II or III, if their expectations can be met in these zones. Zone IV destinations should be visited only by people who cannot meet their expectation of wilderness and solitude in Zone III areas. People requesting permits for Zone IV areas will not be denied access; however, they should receive some scrutiny from the ranger issuing the permit about their knowledge of how to care for special wilderness values through minimum-impact camping techniques.

Limit of Acceptable Change (LAC): In Zone IV areas, the LAC for resource conditions will be development of bare ground campsites or trails. If the limits are reached (rangers document bare ground campsites or trails), that Zone IV area can be closed to camping or managed to expedite recovery.

5. The management objective for Zone V areas is to provide day users the opportunity to see the scenic vistas of the Park with a minimum of visual intrusions. Zone V areas will not have maintained trails or camping.

D. Management Activities and Regulations:

A variety of administrative procedures are employed to manage the Park's backcountry. This is necessary because the Service is required by legislation to preserve the Park's resources while providing for public use.

The primary objective is to exercise the minimum amount of administrative control necessary to achieve management goals and to assure that backcountry areas which have been recommended for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System retain their eligibility for such designation until it has been approved or rejected by Congress. Specific management actions are:

1. Collection of Use and Impact Data: All parties which intend to camp overnight in the backcountry must have a Backcountry Use Permit (See Appendix A), which also lists regulations that campers need to heed. All climbers must have a climbing permit, which also serves as their camping permit (See Appendix B). Information from these permits provides use data. Permits are also used to implement the quota system that

regulates the size, number, and location of parties camped in the backcountry. Backcountry rangers report human impacts on natural resources and non-compliance with park regulations in Backcountry Patrol Reports (See Appendix C). Rehabilitation rangers report major needs and projects. The Backcountry Campsite Inventory done in 1982, and in 1987-1988, will be redone every five years to monitor the condition of impacted campsites, to identify new sites that were developed since the last inventory, and to evaluate the effectiveness of camping policies. Such data indicate the general condition of the resource and long-term trends that assist managers in making decisions related to the backcountry.

Day use is monitored by a system of counters at all major trailheads, and on popular Zone III trails. Day use has also been measured by counting the number of hikers, backpackers, and horse riders that passed five locations in Cascade Canyon each hour. Similar data are needed from other canyons to determine use levels and peak use times

2. Correction of Unacceptable Impacts: When the natural condition of an area is altered by human use to such a degree that natural recovery is unlikely, and such alteration is considered unacceptable, the damage will be corrected. This may include covering an area with brush or burying rocks in a campsite to discourage use; scarifying, reseeding, or transplanting plant plugs; limiting use; and/or closing the area until recovery occurs (See Section III (E)).

3. Day Use: Some areas are closed to overnight camping. This includes Zone I and II areas within three miles of trailheads (except lakeshore sites), and Zone V areas since they are visible from roads and developments. The camping restriction in this case is to: (1) maintain the natural appearance of high day use areas by removing human-made intrusions caused by camping, and (2) to provide a degree of solitude for campers that is characteristic of a high quality camping experience. These are sociological considerations. Some areas, such as Lake Solitude, are closed to camping to protect natural resources. Restriction to day use only is done when impacts to an area exceed acceptable levels and natural recovery is unlikely with current use, or when a restored area would be re-damaged if re-opened to camping. If physical damage continues, limits on day use may be considered. Areas administratively closed to camping will be reviewed annually and may be reopened when conditions warrant.

4. Natural Resource Management: Details on managing air and water quality, fire, wildlife, research, and other environmental topics are in the Natural Resources Management Plan for the Park.

5. Cultural Resource Management: Within the backcountry are many unique cultural and historical resources, including remnants of prehistoric nomadic Indian tribes, artifacts and cabins of early explorers, miners, trappers, and settlers.

   All of the artifacts and historical structures are protected by law (16 U.S.C. 470aa-11) and regulations (36 CFR 2.20) and may not be disturbed, collected, or in any way damaged by Park visitors. The Grand Teton National Park Cultural Resource Management Plan provides guidelines for the protection and management of cultural resources in the Park.

6. Pets: Dogs (except seeing-eye, hearing-ear, and Search and Rescue dogs on a SAR mission or training exercise) or other pets are not permitted in the backcountry. Although a pet may be well-trained and on a leash, its presence often detracts from the experience desired by other visitors. Pets leave scents that may cause wildlife to avoid an area, thus denying other visitors the opportunity of viewing wildlife. Some pets harass wildlife, horses, or hikers, and may cause a dangerous confrontation with other animals, such as black bears. Pets may also be carriers of Giardia or wildlife diseases.

7. Mountaineering: The Teton Range attracts climbers from around the world. It is recognized as one of the premier ranges in the United States where novice climbers can develop mountaineering skills, and experienced climbers can find worthwhile challenges. Each year 2,700 - 3,000 parties sign out for climbs in the Park. These represent about 8,000 climber-attempts. Some individuals attempt several climbs and some attempt only one.

   The Service has long recognized that climbing is a valid use of the Park. While climbing is recognized as an appropriate activity, it must be managed to protect fragile alpine resources. This will be accomplished by the following actions:

   a. Registration of Climbers and Off-Trail Hikers: This will continue to be required for all mountaineering activity west of the Snake River above 7,000 feet. The purpose is to: (1) allow climbing rangers to have an opportunity to talk with climbers. Experience has shown that information provided by these rangers has prevented potential rescues. This is accomplished by advising parties of route condition, and by suggesting routes that inexperienced parties might safely attempt; (2) help find overdue or injured climbers; (3) limit the daily number of parties on particular routes that are more dangerous when multiple parties are on the route (See Appendix E); and, (4) provide the Park with climber use data.

      Climbers must also sign-in or telephone when they return from their climb. They must register at the Jenny Lake Ranger Station during summer months, and at the Moose Visitor Center during winter. If they are not camping overnight, climbers may register by phone up to 24 hours before starting their climb if they cannot register in person during working hours.

   b. Summit Registers and Ascent Records: Summit registers and records of ascent will be maintained for required use data.

8. Search and Rescue (SAR): These operations sometimes disturb or inconvenience backcountry users who are not involved in the rescue. Park managers will be sensitive to noise intrusions created by helicopters and will minimize flights. SAR policies and procedures are in the Park's Search and Rescue Plan.

   Winter Rescue: Winter climbers must obtain a climbing permit at the Moose Visitor Center. This will provide rangers with an opportunity to talk with the party about their plans and discuss safety considerations, weather and route conditions, and rescue procedures. In case of an accident or an overdue party, the Search and Rescue Plan will be followed.

Certain climbing routes are extremely hazardous during bad weather conditions. Climbers will be informed that reasonable search and rescue efforts will be made, but the rescue team leader will decide when they are taking unacceptable risks. If the rescue team's margin of safety gets unacceptably small, they may cease their rescue efforts.

9. Camping Policy: Resource and sociological considerations, especially in the summer when there is high user demand, have resulted in the following camping regulations:

   a. Camping Zones: Except for the designated sites at certain lakeshore areas, backcountry camping will be managed by the zone system. Camping zones are generally defined by drainage. The entire backcountry was divided into camping zones in 1973. Camping zones are generally at least three miles from a trailhead. This allows most day users to visit the backcountry without seeing tents and impacted campsites. By breaking the backcountry into zones, managers can focus on specific areas. It is easier to arrive at a camping quota for one drainage than it is for a larger area.

      Camping permits are issued for specific camping zones for specific dates. The boundaries for the trailed zones are signed so campers know when they enter and leave the zone. Off-trail campers are expected to find the camping zones with the aid of their topographical map.

      Campers have the freedom to camp anywhere within the zone for which they have a permit. In Zone II and often-used Zone III camping zones, campers are encouraged to camp on existing campsites. If they do not want to camp where others have camped, they should go far from the trail and camp on an undisturbed site using minimum impact techniques. This system allows campers a maximum amount of freedom in choosing their campsite, protects the resource, and reduces enforcement problems. In most Zone III and all Zone IV areas, campers must disperse their use impacts. There are no backcountry camping zones in Zones I and V.

   b. Limit of Stay: To allow more individuals to use the backcountry, each person is limited to a total of ten (10) nights, parkwide, during the high use season, (June 1 to Labor Day). An organization is limited to 120 user nights (ten group nights) per year. An individual may stay a total of thirty nights per year.

      The limit of stay in each zone or designated site is two consecutive nights per party or group, except on Jackson Lake where it is three consecutive nights per site. In Garnet Canyon, a party is limited to two nights per fork of the canyon (Lower, South Fork, North Fork) in one outing.

   c. Limit of Stay - Zone IV North of Paintbrush Canyon: Each month, three "At Large" permits will be issued for trips lasting up to ten days during the period from June 15 -September 15. The rules for these permits holders are:

1. Camping will be allowed anywhere north of Paintbrush Canyon, except in any area where other parties are camping. 2. They must use minimum-impact camping and travel techniques. 3. They must move their campsite at least 1/2 mile every two nights. A voluntary report of where they camped will be requested at the end of their trip in order to monitor use at specific locations. This permit will be limited to four persons per trip. This use will be permitted for the years 1991 and 1992 as a test. This use will be evaluated post 1992 season for applicability/continuance.

d. Party Size: Camping Parties are limited to six people. Parties with seven to twelve people are designated as Groups.

e. Group Rules: Groups must camp at designated Groupsites. Groupsites are in the trailed camping zones and are marked by a sign saying "Groupsite". Parties of less than seven people cannot camp in a Groupsite, except at Jackson and Leigh Lakes. Groups larger than twelve people must: (1) split into groups of 12 or less and camp at Groupsites, or (2) split into parties of six or less and camp in different zones. This is to prevent large groups from getting multiple Party permits for one camping zone and preventing other parties from using the zone. Also, it will prevent large parties from joining in large camps that cannot be accommodated by the Party campsites. Groups are not allowed to camp in Zone III or IV off-trail areas, with one exception: Groups wishing to climb the Grand Teton may camp in the Moraine camping zone. Since there isn't a campsite large enough for a Group, the Group must split into two Parties. A Group can stay for two nights. Only one Group is permitted at a time. Commercial and non-commercial organizations, schools, churches, youth groups, or private groups are treated equally.

f. Setting Camping Quotas: An attempt has been made to standardize how camping quotas are determined. Objective factors such as campsite inventory data and sociological considerations (time of day and frequency of seeing and hearing other people, etc.) are incorporated and explained in this plan. Although as many objective factors as possible are considered, it is recognized that quotas are ultimately subjective decisions made by Park managers. Exceptions to the general guidelines are explained below to document why they are different. Camping capacities are listed in Appendix D.

i. Assumptions Used in Setting Quotas:

aa. Nearly all suitable campsites near trails were found and used by campers between 1972 and 1982. Therefore, the 1982 Campsite Inventory accounted for $\pm$ 10% of the potential campsites near trails in the various camping zones.

bb. Of the 420 campsites found in 1982, 1/3 were unacceptable for various reasons. They either will not retain their attractiveness to campers over the long term, or they are not durable enough for sustained use. These sites should be closed.

cc. Campers looking for a high quality camping experience want some degree of solitude. They do not want to be disturbed by noise from adjacent campers at night.

dd. Campers in trailed canyons cannot expect the same degree of solitude as campers in trailless areas. However, in the trailed camping zones, an average spacing of one party per 440 yards of trail (1/4 mile) will provide adequate opportunities for finding a reasonable degree of solitude.

ee. Quotas for camping zones should be based on the average party size of 2.8 people. This assumption stems from three considerations: (1) using this party size in quotas accommodates pre-1987 use levels; (2) the limiting factor is number of parties, not number of people. Camping zones usually fill because the "number of parties" quota is reached, not the "number of people" quota; and (3) if the quota for people is based on 6 per party, someone in the future may seek to maximize that part of the quota by raising the number of parties permitted. For example, if a party size of 6 people/party were used instead of 2.8 people/party, the quota for the North Fork of Cascade Canyon would be 9/60 instead of 9/35.

* This indicates a quota that shows (No. of parties + No. of Groups)/No. of campers.

If someone tried to adjust the quota so that the number of people quota was the limiting factor, the quota would be 18/60 (based on actual average party size of 2.8 instead of 6). Therefore, the impacts on the resource would be greatly increased.

ff. The main reason climbers visit popular areas is to climb, and solitude is generally less important to climbers who camp than other campers. For example, climbers in Garnet Canyon, where many climbers camp, expect less solitude than climbers attempting to climb the Triple Glaciers Route on Mt. Moran.

ii. Guidelines for Setting Camping Quotas:

aa. For Management Zones I and V: No camping allowed.

bb. For Management Zone II:

1. New quotas will accommodate pre-1987 use levels for each camping zone.

2. The formula used to determine the number of campers/night in a camping zone is: (No. of Groupsites X 12 people/Group) + (No. of Parties X 2.8 people/Party). Maximum Party and

Group sizes (6 and 12) were unchanged from the 1981 Backcountry Management Plan.

3. The quota will be shown as (No. of Parties + No. of Groups)/No. of campers.

4. The number of Parties permitted in camping zones of Zone II = 4 X (miles of trail in the camping zone).

5. There will be a maximum of one Groupsite per camping zone.

6. Managers can reduce the number of Parties permitted in a camping zone if it lacks eight good campsites per mile of trail. "Good" is defined as attractive to campers, yet durable enough for years of use. The eight campsites per mile figure is based on the management objective of providing about twice as many campsites as parties allowed in a camping zone each night. This should enable a party to find a campsite they like without having to hike to the other end of a camping zone if it is nearly full.

7. The average Party size in the trailed canyons in 1984 was 2.60 people. The average Group size was 9.82 people. Combined, the average Party/Group was 2.8 people (7,285 campers in 2,594 Parties and Groups = 2.8 campers per Party/Group). In 1986, it was 2.75 people per Party/Group. Even though a Party can have up to 6 people, 2.8 is used to determine the number of people in the Party quota. In the past, this has ranged from 2.5 to 5 or 6 in various camping zones. Starting in 1987, calculations of camping zone quotas will use 2.8 people per Party.

cc. <u>For Designated Campsites</u>:

Quotas are based on the maximum of 6 people/Party and 12 people/Group. Therefore, a designated site that allows one Party will have a quota of 1 Party or 6 people (1/6). A Groupsite has a quota of 1/12. A camping area like Leigh Lake - East Shore, with one designated Groupsite and two designated Party sites, has a quota of (1 Group) of (12 people) + (2 Parties) of (6 people) = 3/24.

dd. <u>For Management Zones III and IV</u>:

1. Quotas will accommodate pre-1987 use levels per camping zone.

2. Groups are not allowed.

3. If only one Party is allowed to camp in an area, the quota will be 1/6.

4. In July and August, 1986, the average size of off-trail camping parties was 2.47 people for hikers and 2.43 for climbers (1,334 parties with 3,240 campers). The average off-trail Party in 1986 was 2.43 people (1,519 parties with 3,697 campers). Since these figures are for only one year, 2.8 people per Party, the same as in trailed canyons, will be used to calculate quotas.

5. No more than two camping parties per section of major drainage (South Fork of Moran Canyon, etc.), or one Party per cirque or lake will be allowed. This meets the management objective of providing for a high degree of solitude in these zones.

6. Since Parties can include up to six people (even though the average Party is 2.8 people), quotas will be either 1/6 or 2/6.

7. Zone III areas where horses are allowed (Berry Creek - Webb Canyon) and that have designated Horsecamps will have a quota of one Horse Party of 6 people per Horsecamp (1/6).

8. Most climbers expect less solitude than other campers. Past quotas exceed the guidelines for Zones III and IV. To allow 1986 use levels, quotas will be based on the number of Parties allowed previously times 2.8. There will be two exceptions:

    1. Lower Saddle on the Grand Teton: The past quota was 9/18. This is not consistent with 2.8 people per Party. Instead of using the number of Parties to determine the quota (9 Parties X 2.8 people per Party = 25.2 people or 9/25), the number of people will be used. Dividing the past quota of 18 people by 2.8 yields 6.43 Parties, so the recommended quota is 7/18.

        Protection of the fragile alpine vegetation on the Lower Saddle is the reason for not increasing camping there. In July and August, 1986, the quota of 18 climbers was reached 22 times. If the quota had been 7/18 as proposed, instead of 9/18, on three nights one Party would have been unable to get a permit for the Lower Saddle. In addition, the Exum Guide Service may have up to 16 people per night stay in their ent on the Lower Saddle as is allowed in their concession permit.

    2. Middle Teton Moraine: The quota for the moraine has been 4/16. It filled a total of 21 nights in July and August, 1986. In 1985, 13 campsites were inventoried in this zone.

Since this zone lacks vegetation that could be impacted, the quota will be increased to 7 Parties and 20 campers (7/20). This will compensate for quota reductions on the Lower Saddle and elsewhere in Garnet Canyon, without adversely impacting resources.

f. Camping Permits: A non-fee camping permit is required for camping in the Park's backcountry. In the summer, permits are issued at Park visitor centers located at Moose, Jenny Lake, and Colter Bay. The rest of the year, permits are only available at the Moose Visitor Center. People entering from the west must secure permits from the Targhee National Forest offices in Driggs or Ashton, Idaho. The permit must be displayed on the pack of the leader, or on the tent in camp. Permits may be obtained twenty-four hours prior to leaving on a trip. Except for reservations, permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis. Concessioners and off-duty Park employees must obtain permits so camping quotas are not exceeded. Administrative use, such as rangers on backcountry patrol or maintenance trail crews, is excepted.

g. Campsite Reservations: To accommodate the backcountry camper who plans an itinerary in advance, one-third of the capacity of each camping zone in the trailed canyons is open to reservation. Designated sites at Leigh, Bearpaw, Trapper, Phelps, and Jackson Lakes may be reserved for one-third of the summer nights. Reservations can be made by writing the Chief Ranger's Office, Grand Teton National Park, P.O. Drawer 170, Moose, Wyoming 83012, from January 1 through May 31. Permits secured by reservation must be picked up in person by 10:00 a.m. of the first day of intended use. Phone confirmations are acceptable. After this time, unclaimed permits will be canceled for the entire outing and re-issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

h. Campfires: The short growing season combined with concentrated use and resultant damage to vegetation led to banning campfires above 7,000 feet elevation in 1973. Campfires are permitted at designated lakeshore campsites with fire grates. With a permit, fires may be built below the high water line on the shore of Jackson Reservoir, except: (1) the north side of Lizard Creek Campground south to the Arizona Creek Picnic Area, (2) Sargent's Point south to Campsite 11 on Little Mackinaw Bay, and (3) Jackson Lake Dam south to the Signal Mountain boat ramp.

The prohibition of fires in the high country has greatly reduced the imprint of human use on the land and is felt to be one of the most important regulations aimed at maintaining a high quality environment for backcountry camping.

i. Off-Season Camping: In the fall, visitation levels are low, and some of the regulations designed to deal with high use problems are unnecessary. From September 15 until snow covers the backcountry, parties may stay a total of five consecutive nights in one camping zone. Parties will be asked to camp on existing impacted campsites, or to move their camp at least 100 yards every two nights.

In the winter, camping rules are relaxed regarding Party size (20 maximum), length of stay (five nights at one camp), and backcountry camping zones (any site one mile from plowed roads or smowmobile trails in the area west of the Moose-Wilson Road and the Teton Park Road from Moose to Signal Mountain and north of the Pacific Creek Road and east of U.S. Highway 89). As in summer, camping permits are required, and pets and wood fires are prohibited.

In spring, snow camping rules will apply for Parties camping above snowline on consolidated snow at least twelve inches deep. The Jenny Lake Subdistrict Ranger will notify the Visitor Center when to switch from snow camping to summer camping rules.

Developed campgrounds are closed during the winter. Visitors wishing to snow camp can (1) camp in the backcountry with a permit, or (2) camp in the parking lot at Colter Bay. A $5.00 fee is charged for camping at Colter Bay.

j. Designated Campsites: Although most backcountry camping occurs in camping zones that allow the camper with a permit the freedom to choose where to camp, there are some designated campsites. These were created to keep lakeshores from having too many sites impacted, or to solve specific problems. Designated sites are located on Jackson, Leigh, Trapper, Bearpaw, and Phelps Lakes. Camping at Surprise Lake was moved onto three designated sites in 1983 based on impacts documented in the 1982 Campsite Inventory. Groupsites and Horse Camps are designated sites in order to better manage impacts from those users. In 1989, a designated campsite, the "Loop Campsite", was established on the east shore of Bradley Lake. This site is used only for parties doing long loop hikes who need to hike the Valley Trail back to their vehicles. There is a limit of stay of one night, and a quota of 1/6".

As part of the 1989 rehab work at Marion Lake, three designated sites with tentpads were constructed. As a result of this, the camping quota was raised to three parties with up to nine people per night, the same as Surprise Lake.

10. Stock Use: Stock use has been considered a traditional activity in the West and in the Park backcountry. In order to minimize resource damage and conflicts between stock users and hikers, backcountry stock use is limited

to travel on designated trails with two exceptions. First, off-trail stock use is permitted south of the RKO Road and east of the Teton Park Road and the Moose-Wilson Road. Secondly, hunters deputized as rangers during the elk reduction may use stock in hunt areas for which they have a permit. No loose herding or trailing is allowed. The Snake River bottom is closed to entry within one-half mile of eagle nest sites during nesting periods. These areas will be posted. The Snake River Bank within 200 feet of the water is closed to horse use.

Stock Parties are limited to twelve head of stock for day trips, and ten head for overnight trips. Overnight use is permitted only at designated Horse Camps that have hitchrails. Since Horse Camps are not designated for groups larger than six people, overnight trips are limited to ten head of stock. Grazing stock in the backcountry is prohibited, so processed feed must be packed in and used. Processed feed may not be cached in the backcountry. Stock cannot be tied to living vegetation.

11. Trail Closures: The District Ranger will decide when muddy or unstable trails will open, have limited use, or remain closed to all use. Trails will be posted during closed or restricted use periods.

12. Signs: Signs in backcountry Zones I and II will be directed at novice and intermediate hikers. All trailheads and major trail junctions will be signed. Information on backcountry signs will be minimal, but will direct visitors to destinations with mileages. Zone III will only have signing in the Berry Creek -Webb Canyon area. Zones IV and V will have no signing.

    All permanent backcountry signs will be anodized aluminum with routed letters, mounted on metal posts. Vandalized or incorrect signs will be replaced as soon as possible. Signs along the Targhee National Forest boundary will be coordinated with the Forest Service. The Park Sign Committee will recommend all signs to the Superintendent for approval.

13. Patrol Cabins: There are nine patrol cabins in the backcountry, including eight in recommended wilderness areas. All cabins used for administration of the backcountry will be maintained in good condition. The Maintenance Division will do major maintenance, such as log or roof work. Housekeeping will be done by the Division assigned to each cabin. The Chief Ranger will be responsible for the Upper and Lower Berry Creek, Moose Basin, Moran Bay, Leigh Lake, Whitegrass, and Lower Granite Cabins. The Chief of Maintenance will administer the Upper Granite, Death Canyon, and Cascade Canyon Cabins. Staff from any Division may use any cabin with permission from the person responsible for the cabin. Permission will be granted only for official purposes.

14. Trail Construction and Maintenance: Established and approved trails, bridges, and associated structures in the backcountry will be constructed and maintained according to the Park's Trail Standards and Guidelines.

and Guidelines. Emphasis will be placed on erosion control, the obliteration of spur trails and detours, and safe bridges in Zones I and II. Trails in the Berry Creek - Webb Canyon area will be maintained only to minimum standards (removing deadfall and preventing erosion). Minimal footlogs, but not bridges, may be constructed in this area. Hiker trails in other Zone III areas will be unmaintained except to control specific soil erosion problems.

15. Winter Operations: The objective of winter operations is to enable visitors to enjoy the backcountry during winter.

    a. Access: Roads and parking areas which provide access to backcountry areas during winter will be plowed on a low priority basis. Temporary signs for these parking areas will be installed and maintained by the Ranger Division.

    b. Marking Trails: In winter, Zone I trails can be marked with orange PVC poles and orange flagging on trees. Popular trails that may warrant marking are the Bradley Lake -Taggart Lake Trail, the Beaver Creek Trail, the Valley Trail from the Whitegrass trailhead to Phelps Lake Overlook, the Swan Lake trail and the ski trail to Jenny Lake on the west side of Cottonwood Creek.

    c. Avalanche Hazard Forecasts: Winter users will be provided information on backcountry avalanche hazards through the posting of the daily avalanche hazard forecast issued by forecasters at the Jackson Hole Ski area. These forecasts will be available at the Moose and Colter Bay Visitor Centers. This information may be supplemented by observations of Park backcountry rangers, and made available to visitors through personal contact at the two visitor centers.

    d. Oversnow Vehicles: Private and concessioner oversnow vehicles used in the Park must have a valid state snow machine registration and a valid snow machine permit for the Park. Park permits can be obtained at the Permits Desks at the Moose and Colter Bay Visitor Centers. When obtaining their permit, users will be given a copy of the oversnow vehicle regulations (See Appendix F).

    Snow machines can travel on designated unplowed roads during the period that the Superintendent declares them open for such travel. The Potholes/Baseline Flats area shall be open when the following two conditions are met: 1) there is a minimum of 40" of consolidated snow cover on average throughout the area, and 2) there is sufficient snow cover to allow a snowmobile with rider to traverse the area without encountering ground cover (vegetation) with the snowmobile more than 4 times in 1 mile of travel. This sample will be made on a course determined as being a normal pattern of travel for the visitor, by a ranger patrol snowmobile. The Superintendent may open the

following area to off-road snow machine use: the area bounded by the RKO Road on the north, the bench above the Snake River on the east, the Bar BC Road on the south, and the east side of Timbered Island to South Jenny Lake Junction and the Teton Park Road on the west.

16. Fire Management and Control: Wildland fires in the backcountry will be treated in accordance with the Park's Wildland Fire Management Plan.

17. Wildlife: The objective is to protect native wildlife and its habitat in a natural, dynamic state, and to provide for its enjoyment by visitors.

    a. Bears: Preservation of bears in the Park has high priority. The Human-Bear Management Plan will guide management actions.

    b. Bighorn Sheep: The population of native bighorn sheep in the Teton Range is sensitive to recreation use. Whitfield (1983) detailed problems facing the remnant population and made several recommendations for managing this species (see the Park's Natural Resources Management Plan). To implement some of these recommendations, the following actions will be taken:

        1. New trails will not be built in bighorn sheep habitat.

        2. Recreational use levels will be kept low in off-trail areas (Zones III and IV). Use will be monitored in areas used by bighorn sheep. These areas include: Avalanche Canyon, the area around Peak 11,094 on the north rim of Death Canyon near No Wood Basin, the area between Death Canyon and Granite Canyon (Open Canyon, Prospectors Mountain, Mount Hunt, Indian Lake, etc.) the high peaks at the head of Moose Basin, the Teton Crest from Dry Ridge Mountain to Survey Peak, all of Webb Canyon, upper Owl and Berry Creeks, and Forellen Peak.

        3. Recreational use will be discouraged or prohibited in known winter sheep range. Conflicts between winter recreationists and wintering bighorn sheep currently occur on the rim of Alaska Basin, Static Peak, Red Mountain, Survey Peak, and the area east of Kelly along the Gros Ventre River. Static Peak and the winter range east of Kelly are closed to human entry from November 1 through April 30.

        4. When recreational use levels are established in areas of the Park that are important to bighorn sheep, their sensitivity

to recreational use will be considered a major limiting factor.

c. Threatened and Endangered Species: All observations of threatened or endangered animals will be documented and reported to the Resource Management Specialist. These include peregrin falcon, grizzly bear, and bald eagles.

d. Non-Native Animals: All observations of non-native animals, such as mountain goats and raccoons, will be documented and reported to the Resource Management Specialist.

18. Noise: Visitors seek natural places to escape the stresses of modern urban life. One important ingredient is the absence of artificial sounds. In wilderness areas, visitors expect that human-caused noise will be absent. One management objective for Park wilderness areas is to provide the opportunity to experience natural sounds free from artificial noise. To this end, management will minimize noise in the backcountry.

19. Motorized Vehicles:

a. Motorboats: Motorboats are not allowed on backcountry waters, with the exception of Jenny and Phelps Lakes. On Jenny Lake, the ferry boats are allowed, and private boats with motors of up to seven and one-half horse power. On Phelps Lake, motorboats are permitted because a privately owned inholding, the JY Ranch, lies on the southeast shore.

b. Oversnow Vehicles: Snowmobile use is prohibited, except on designated routes and water surfaces used by motor vehicles during other seasons (36 CFR 2.18[c]). The Potholes-Baseline Flats area is designated as being open to snowmobile use when there is sufficient snow to cover the vegetation (36 CFR 7.22 (i) (3)). The Potholes-Baseline Flats area is the only backcountry area open to snow machine use.

20. Cooperation with Targhee National Forest: Many backcountry users in the Park's backcountry cross onto the Targhee National Forest, or vice versa. Alaska Basin gets much of this traffic. The Targhee National Forest offices in Driggs and Ashton, Idaho, have issued backcountry permits for the Park for many years. Cross-training and joint efforts have occurred, are encouraged, and will continue. Since the two agencies have similar terrain, users, and legislative mandates under the Wilderness Act, cooperation will continue to be actively pursued.

21. Review Process and Public Input: This plan will be reviewed annually. The review board will consist of the Chief Park Ranger, Chief Park Naturalist, Resource Management Specialist, Assistant Chief of Maintenance and the Jenny Lake Subdistrict Ranger. The Jenny Lake Subdistrict Ranger will coordinate meeting dates and issues.

    Procedures and policies will be scrutinized to assure that they remain appropriate and up-to-date. Where adjustments in policies, facilities, or management of the resources are deemed necessary, written proposals will be submitted to the Assistant Superintendent, Operations for review and approval. The Park Superintendent has final approval.

    Proposed major changes will follow the NEPA process and guidelines in the Service's Environmental Compliance Handbook NPS-12 and will be publicized. Public comments will be sought on all major proposals. After public comments are received and reviewed, final changes, if any, will be publicized and implemented. Minor changes that may have no apparent major, adverse affect on visitors or resources may be implemented without public comment.

22. Administrative Use: No portion of this Plan shall deny or exclude any current permitted or negotiated contractural rights or conditions of any concessioner, nor administrative use by the National Park Service either for routine or emergency operations.

E. Rehabilitation of Damaged Resources:

When an animal moves across the land, it leaves an impact, however slight. Humans are no different. This becomes important when the cumulative impacts of many people occur on the same piece of land, such as popular campsites or trails created by climbers ascending or descending peaks. The first climbers probably disturbed the land less than the bighorn sheep that have used the peaks for centuries. However, as later climbers followed the same lines of least difficulty up or down the peaks, their impacts exceeded the ability of plants to replace damaged foliage. This level of impact occurs today at locations such as high on the South Ridge of Mt. Moran. The vegetation is not gone, but along the logical travelway the plants are shorter and getting more sparse than adjacent vegetation. A path is barely visible. This retrogressive process continues until bare paths develop, such as on the Owen-Spalding Route on the Grand Teton. Finally the plant roots decompose and soil starts to erode and gullies form as trampling, wind, and running water continue the process of moving the mountains to the sea. This stage is apparent in Upper Symmetry Couloir.

The challenge of the National Park Service Organic Act to preserve and protect park resources while allowing for use applies to backcountry

management. When the impacts of use exceed limits of acceptable change, the manager must recognize the problem and seek solutions. The first task is to recognize changes caused by humans. To achieve this, several ongoing projects are measuring resource conditions in the backcountry.

1. Documenting Problems:

   a. The Backcountry Campsite Inventory: In 1982, 420 sites were found where people had camped, mostly in Zone II. Thirty two objective and subjective factors were recorded at these sites. The inventory was repeated in 1987-1988. This inventory will be repeated every five years to detect trends in the number and condition of backcountry campsites.

   b. The Backcountry Resource Problem Inventory (BRPI): In 1986, 29 resource problems, or potential problems were mapped, measured and photographed. Six of these were major problems (Class A) that will take years of work to rehabilitate. Twelve others were of a lesser scope (Class B) that could be corrected by the rehabilitation rangers. Eleven others were recognized as potential problems (Class C) which did not require action now. Baseline information was collected on all recognized problems.

      In addition, several photos taken at Lake Solitude in 1960 by Laing were retaken. In the 1950's, large Groups (20 - 30 people) of horse campers stayed at Lake Solitude. Laing's work documented the impacts that resulted, and the area around the lake was closed to camping in 1963.

   c. In 1985, a Photo Study of Garnet Canyon, including the Lower Saddle on the Grand Teton, was done. This study is now included in the BRPI.

   d. Condition of maintained trails is monitored and documented by the Trails Foreman.

2. Rehabilitation (rehab): After resource problems are recognized as having exceeded the acceptable limit of change from an undisturbed condition (Class A and B problems in the BRPI, Section III (E) (1) (b)), or that might reach this stage in the future (Class C problems), the manager must decide what to do.

   a. Options:

      1. Educate the public about minimum-impact use practices.

      2. Reduce the amount of use that caused the problem.

3. Close the area to use until it heals.

4. Rehabilitate the area (e.g., by seeding, planting, fertilizing or watering).

5. Alter user behavior by improving and signing a more durable travelway.

6. Engineer or "harden" the site so high use will not further degrade the resources.

b. Guidelines for Selecting Options:

1. Determine if maintaining human use of the site is more important than keeping it in a natural state. If human use is more important, consider the area a sacrifice area. It may be better to sacrifice a small area than have a large area disturbed. Trails and designated campsites are examples of sacrifice areas.

2. If the land is to be retained in a more natural condition, determine how to control the use that caused the impacts to reach an unacceptable level. Almost any traffic will keep an area already denuded of vegetation in that state. Successful rehabilitation requires channeling traffic onto defined paths or closing the area to all use. Day use traffic is hardest to control and will remain the biggest challenge.

3. Determine how aggressive rehab efforts need to be. Removing use may allow an area to heal with time. If rapid results are needed, more active rehab efforts will be needed.

4. Determine if the residual impacts caused by the rehabilitation efforts will be greater after five years than the existing uncorrected impacts. If long-term scars left on the land from rehab efforts would be worse than the existing impacts, rehab efforts should be delayed until less-disruptive methods can be developed.

c. Plans: For serious problems, a rehabilitation plan will be prepared prior to the start of field work. It should include a description of the problem and its causes, options for addressing the problem (including work needed, and time and materials estimates), and a recommended option. Before implementing a plan, it will be reviewed by the Resource Management Coordinating Team and approved by the Superintendent. Plans

and work accomplishments will be reviewed annually to assure that projects stay directed toward achieving defined long-term goals. After a problem area is rehabbed to an acceptable level, its condition will be monitored and documented at least every five years. A permanent file of all problems and rehab projects will be maintained by the Subdistrict Ranger or the Resource Management and Research Division.

d. Coordination: All rehabilitation proposals and work will be coordinated through the RMCT, no matter who does the work (trail crew, SCA, YCC, park rangers, etc.).

F. Recommended Research:

One purpose for setting aside wildlands is to have undisturbed areas that function as naturally as possible for comparison with areas disturbed by human activities. Research for this purpose is an appropriate use of the national parks.

Some research has been conducted in the Park (study of the Waterfalls Canyon fire, visitor use perceptions and expectations, bald eagle research, etc.). The following topics need more research:

1. Revegetation of Denuded Areas:

Depending on numerous factors, natural revegetation of areas denuded by human use can be very slow, and in some cases, may never occur. Revegetation is especially difficult at higher elevations with low mean temperatures and short growing seasons. Experimentation in the Park has resulted in some methods to rehab impacted areas, but additional studies are needed to determine the best methods of site preparation, species selection, and subsequent care.

2. Tolerance Studies of Vegetation to Impacts:

An important unknown is which plant species are most sensitive to human impacts. This is important for setting quotas in areas with sensitive plant communities. This problem was highlighted during the 1982 Campsite Inventory. In the North Fork of Cascade Canyon, a small knoll along the creek looked like a nice place to camp. On closer examination, the area looked like it had never been used as a campsite, with one exception. A rectangular area the size of a two-man tent was visible because all of the whortleberries were dead. Since the limit of stay is two nights, the assumption was that a tent was on that spot only one or two nights. None of the surrounding vegetation showed

any signs of use, but the whortleberry plants were killed. The sensitivity of other species to light recreational use is unknown.

Conversely, knowing native species that are most tolerant of use would also be helpful. Those species could be used in rehabilitization efforts.

3. Refine Camping Use Quotas:

Research is needed to determine ecological and sociological limits, or limits of acceptable change, for visitor use in the various camping zones, in the five Management Zones, and especially in recommended wilderness areas. This includes overnight and day use. With present camping quotas, existing use can be accommodated. However, when use approaches the quotas in all Zone II camping zones, it will be important that the quotas are realistic and defensible. Further research should help during the annual reviews of the quotas.

4. Determine the Effects of Day Use on Resources and the Nature of the Visitors' Experiences:

Although many impacts on resources in the backcountry are associated with camping, the amount and nature of day use can affect resources and the nature of the backcountry visitors' experiences. The biggest future challenge to backcountry managers will be controlling the effects of day users. The characteristics and recreational objectives of day users, and ways of voluntarily diverting them from heavily-used backcountry areas to other areas within or outside the Park, need to be determined so that management actions are proactive, not reactive. Day use limits need to be defined. Research will be important in establishing and defending future limits.

5. Backcountry Sanitation:

Appropriate methods for disposing of human wastes in various environments and vegetation types need to be determined. To date, the "cat hole" method of burying fecal matter in the top six inches of soil has been advocated in the Park. Research has shown that high levels of fecal bacteria remain for years with this method.

## IV. REFERENCES CITED


1. Gulley, D.D. and Parker, M. A Limnological Survey of 70 Small Lakes and Ponds in Grand Teton National Park. Dept. of Zoology and Physiology, University of Wyoming; 1985.

2. Hendee, et al.; Wilderness Management. Misc. Publ. No. 1365; U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service; 1978.^

3. Nash, Roderick. Wilderness Management: A Contradiction in Terms? University of Idaho Wilderness Research Center Publication; 1978.

4. Stankey, George H.; Visitor Perception of Wilderness Recreation Carrying Capacity. Research Paper INT./142; Ogden, UT; U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station; 1973, 61 pp.

5. Stankey, George H., et al. The Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) System for Wilderness Planning. Research Paper INT./176; Ogden, UT; U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station; 1985; 37 pp.

6. Trail Use Survey, 1985, Park Files.

7. Trail Use Survey, 1986, Park Files.


## V. APPENDICES

Appendix A - Backcountry Use Permit

Appendix B - Mountaineering Record (Climbing Permit)

Appendix C - Backcountry Patrol Report Form

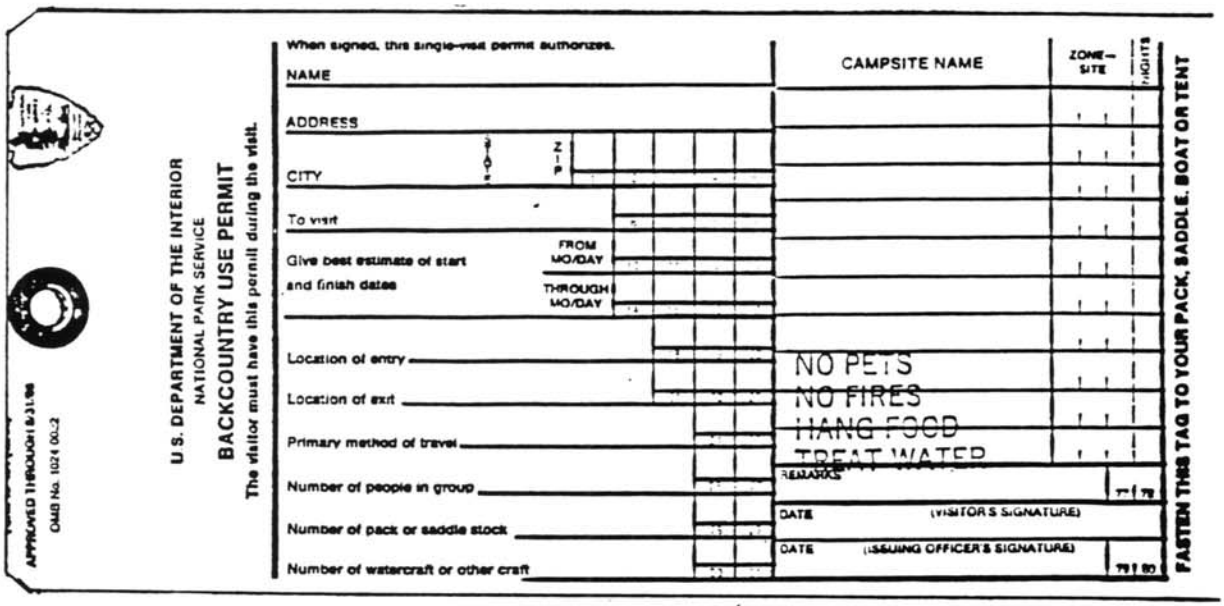
Appendix D - Camping Capacities

Appendix E - Climbing Routes With Quotas

Appendix F - Special Use Information

Appendix G - Approved Action Plans Available at Park Headquarters in Moose

# APPENDIX A
# BACKCOUNTRY USE PERMIT



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
BACKCOUNTRY USE PERMIT
The visitor must have this permit during the visit.

When signed, this single-visit permit authorizes.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

To visit

Give best estimate of start and finish dates FROM MO/DAY THROUGH MO/DAY

Location of entry

Location of exit

Primary method of travel

Number of people in group

Number of pack or saddle stock

Number of watercraft or other craft

CAMPSITE NAME | ZONE—SITE | NIGHTS

NO PETS
NO FIRES
HANG FOOD
TREAT WATER

REMARKS

DATE (VISITOR'S SIGNATURE)

DATE (ISSUING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE)

FASTEN THIS TAG TO YOUR PACK, SADDLE, BOAT OR TENT

APPROVED THROUGH 6/31/86
OMB No. 1024-0022

## —BACKCOUNTRY REGULATIONS—

1. WOOD OR CHARCOAL FIRES ARE PROHIBITED EXCEPT AT SPECIAL DESIGNATED SITES.
2. PETS, FIREARMS AND WHEELED VEHICLES ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR IN THE BACKCOUNTRY.
3. CARRY OUT ALL REFUSE. LEAVE A CLEAN CAMP. LEAVE NO EVIDENCE OF YOUR STAY.
4. SHORT-CUTTING OF TRAILS IS PROHIBITED.
5. KEEP STOCK OUT OF CAMPING AREAS - USE HITCH RACKS WHERE PROVIDED. DO NOT TIE STOCK TO LIVE TREES.
6. CAMP ONLY AT THE SITE OR ZONE SPECIFIED ON YOUR PERMIT AND AT LEAST 100 FEET FROM TRAILS AND WATER COURSES. PREVENT POLLUTION BY KEEPING LAKES AND STREAMS FREE OF SOAP AND FOOD SCRAPS.

# APPENDIX B

## MOUNTAINEERING RECORD

**MOUNTAINEERING PERMIT GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK** 14982

| PEAK | ASCENT ROUTE | RETURN ROUTE | ASCENT DATE | RETURN DATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | |

| TRAILHEAD IN | TRAILHEAD RETURN | VEHICLE MAKE | LICENSE NO. | STATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | |

| CAMPING ZONE | DATE | ZONE | DATE | ZONE | DATE | ZONE | DATE | OVERNIGHT USE VALIDATION |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | |

| | LAST NAME | FIRST | STREET, BOX NO. | CITY | STATE | ZIP |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| LEADER 1 | | | | | | |
| PARTY MEMBERS 2 | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | |

COMMENTS:

| LOCAL PHONE OR ADDRESS | | | HIGH POINT REACHED | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| EMERG. PHONE ( ) — | NO. IN PARTY | ASCENT HRS. | SUMMIT OF PEAK ☐ | TOP OF CLIMB ☐ | OTHER | RANGER OUT | RANGER RTN. |
| | | | | | | | |

PERMIT CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

1. Please sign in immediately upon return from your climb. Failure to do so by the return date can result in search efforts to locate you or your party. Check in may be accomplished by:
   1. signing in at the Jenny Lake Ranger Station
   2. completing blocks at bottom of permit and returning it to drop boxes at Jenny Lake Ranger Station or Moose Visitor Center.
   3. telephone, 733-2880, from 8am to 5pm.
2. Permit is restricted to such routes and destinations as shown above and must be validated for overnight use. Such validation applies only to sites and dates listed.
3. Backcountry Regulations and accident guidelines are printed on the reverse of this permit.

| HIGH POINT REACHED: | SUMMIT OF PEAK ☐ TOP OF CLIMB ☐ OTHER _____ | HOURS REQ'D FOR ASCENT FROM : BIVOUAC SITE OR TRAILHEAD: _____ |
|---|---|---|

### BACKCOUNTRY REGULATIONS

1. Fires are not permitted in the backcountry. Stoves may be used for cooking.
2. Pets, firearms and wheeled vehicles are not permitted on trails or in the backcountry.
3. Camp only in the camping zone(s) indicated on this permit for the date(s) specified.
4. Exercise consideration for the environment you are camping in and traveling through. Alpine areas are very fragile. Walk on rocks, not plants. Put your tent on existing bare campsites, don't make new bare areas. Don't shortcut trails.
5. Boil or treat drinking water. Hang your food so animals don't get it.

### ACCIDENTS

1. Assess the seriousness of the accident and the need for additional assistance to evacuate the injured.
2. Do not leave an accident victim alone unless necessary.
3. In the event that additional assistance is required get the following information:
   a. Name of injured, age and weight
   b. exact location of accident
   c. extent of injuries
   d. time of the accident
   e. equipment at accident scene
   f. number of persons remaining at the accident scene
4. All accidents must be reported to the Jenny Lake Ranger Station as promptly as possible.

## APPENDIX C

## BACKCOUNTRY PATROL REPORT

BACKCOUNTRY PATROL REPORT

Date(s) of Patrol _____
Canyon _____
Name _____
Total Visitors Seen _____
Visitors contacted _____
Permits Checked _____

Note: Visitors contacted plus visitors not contacted should equal the number of visitors seen. (Irvine's 3rd Law of Accountability)

PATROL INFORMATION
Route and Conditions _____

VISITOR ASSISTS
(Call these into Dispatch to be logged as 10-345's.)

| Date/time | Location | Person Involved | Type of Assist |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Totals:
Verbal Warnings _____
Written Warnings _____
Citations _____

Types of Violation(s) _____

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
Work Accomplished _____

Work to be completed - Repairs/Supplies/Manpower needed _____

Firerings: Location

| | Destroyed? Y | N |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Wildlife sightings and Locations: (Peregrines, Eagles, Mountain Goats, Sheep, Bears, etc.)

## APPENDIX D

## CAMPING CAPACITIES

### NIGHTLY CAMPING QUOTAS FOR MANAGEMENT ZONE II

| CAMPING ZONE | MILES OF TRAIL | GROUPS | PARTIES | NIGHTLY QUOTAS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lower Granite Canyon | 4.0 | 1 | 5 | 6/26 |
| S/M Fork - Granite Canyon | 4.0 | 1 | 15 | 16/54 |
| N. Fork - Granite Canyon | 1.5 | 0 | 6 | 6/17 |
| Marion Lake | | 0 | 3 | 3/9 |
| Granite/Mt. Hunt Divide | .5 | 0 | 2 | 2/6 |
| Open Canyon | 2.0 | 0 | 3 | 3/9 |
| Death Canyon | 4.3 | 1 | 11 | 12/43 |
| Death Canyon Shelf | 2.5 | 1 | 7 | 8/32 |
| Surprise Lake | | 0 | 3 | 3/9 |
| S. Fork - Cascade Canyon | 2.5 | 1 | 9 | 10/38 |
| N. Fork - Cascade Canyon | 1.5 | 1 | 8 | 9/35 |
| Lower Paintbrush Canyon | 1.5 | 1 | 3 | 4/21 |
| Holly Lake | | 1 | 3 | 4/21 |
| Upper Paintbrush Canyon | 1.5 | 0 | 6 | 6/17 |
| | | 8 | 84 | 92/337 |

* No. of Parties + No. of Groups/No. of Campers

## NIGHTLY QUOTAS FOR DESIGNATED CAMPSITES

| CAMPSITE | | GROUPS | PARTIES | NIGHTLY QUOTAS* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Wilcox Point | 0 | 1 | 1/6 |
| 2. | Warm Springs | 0 | 1 | 2/12 |
| 3. | Moran Bay (Closed by Avalanche Activity) | | | |
| 4. | Little Grassy Island | 1 | 0 | 1/12 |
| 5. | Bearpaw Bay | 1 | 1 | 2/18 |
| 6. | Deadman's Point Island | 0 | 1 | 1/6 |
| 7. | Spalding Bay ** | 0 | 4 | 4/24 |
| 8. | South Landing | 1 | 1 | 2/18 |
| 9. | Hermitage Point | 1 | 0 | 1/12 |
| 10. | Elk Island | 1 | 1 | 2/18 |
| 11. | Little Mackinaw Island | 0 | 2 | 2/12 |
| 12. | Leigh Lake- East Shore | 1 | 2 | 3/24 |
| 13. | Leigh Lake - Southwest Shore | 0 | 1 | 1/6 |
| 14. | Leigh Lake - Leigh Creek Inlet | 0 | 2 | 2/12 |
| 15. | Leigh Lake - Southwest Point | 0 | 1 | 1/6 |
| 16. | Leigh Lake - Paintbrush Creek Inlet | 0 | 1 | 1/6 |
| 17. | Bearpaw Lake | 0 | 2 | 2/12 |
| 18. | Trapper Lake | 0 | 2 | 2/12 |
| 19. | Whitegrass (Horse Parties Only) | 1 | 1 | 2/18 |
| 20. | Phelps Lake | 0 | 3 | 3/18 |
| 21. | Loop Campsite - Bradley Lake | 0 | 1 | 1/6 |
| | | 7 | 30 | 35/256 |

* No. of Parties + No. of groups/No. of campers

** The Spalding Bay campsites have road access, so they are not backcountry sites. They are included here to be consistent in setting camper quotas.

## NIGHTLY CAMPING QUOTAS FOR MANAGEMENT ZONES III AND IV

| CAMPING ZONE | NIGHTLY QUOTAS |
|---|---|
| Granite Canyon | |
| Indian Lake | 1/6 |
| Open Canyon | |
| Upper Canyon | 2/6 |
| Coyote Lake | 1/6 |
| Death Canyon | |
| Forget-Me-Not Lakes | 1/6 |
| Rimrock Lake | 1/6 |
| No Wood Basin | 1/6 |
| Pass Lake | 1/6 |
| Buck Mountain Area | |
| Stewart Draw | 1/6 |
| Timberline Lake | 1/6 |
| Avalanche Canyon | |
| South Fork | 2/6 |
| Lower Canyon | 2/6 |
| Lake Taminah | 1/6 |
| Snowdrift Lake | 2/6 |
| Kit Lake | 1/6 |
| Garnet Canyon | |
| Platforms | 2/6 |
| Meadows | 8/23 |
| South Fork | 3/9 |
| Caves | 2/6 |
| Middle Teton Moraine | 7/20 |
| Lower Saddle | 7/18 |
| Valhalla Traverse Ledge | 3/9 |
| Glacier Gulch | |
| Below Delta Lake | 2/6 |
| Delta Lake | 2/6 |
| Upper Glacier Gulch/Teton Glacier | 5/14 |
| Teewinot, E. Side | 3/9 |
| | 62/210 |

* No. of Parties/No. of campers

## NIGHTLY CAMPING QUOTAS FOR MANAGEMENT ZONES III AND IV (CON'T.)

| CAMPING ZONE | NIGHTLY QUOTAS |
|---|---|
| Cascade Canyon | |
| Icefloe Lake | 1/6 |
| Dartmouth Basin | 2/6 |
| Valhalla Canyon | 2/6 |
| Owen Cirque | 2/6 |
| Alpha-Omega Lakes | 1/6 |
| Mica Lake | 1/6 |
| Symmetry Col Area | 1/6 |
| Hanging Canyon | |
| Arrowhead Pool | 1/6 |
| Ramshead Lake | 1/6 |
| Lake-of-the-Crags | 1/6 |
| Leigh Lake | |
| Lower Lakes | 2/6 |
| Upper Canyon | 2/6 |
| Grizzly Bear Lake | 1/6 |
| Mink Lake | 1/6 |
| Moran Canyon | |
| Lower Canyon | 2/6 |
| North Fork | 2/6 |
| South Fork | 2/6 |
| Cirque Lake | 1/6 |
| Lake 9860 - North Fork | 1/6 |
| CMC Site | 5/14 |
| Skillet Glacier | 5/14 |
| Snowshoe Canyon | |
| South Fork | 2/6 |
| North Fork | 2/6 |
| Dudley Lake | 1/6 |
| Talus Lake | 1/6 |
| Waterfall Canyon | 2//6 |
| Falcon Canyon | 2/6 |
| Colter Canyon | 2/6 |
| | 49/184 |

*No. of Parties/No. of Campers

## NIGHTLY CAMPING QUOTAS FOR MANAGEMENT ZONES III AND IV (CON'T.)

| CAMPING ZONE | NIGHTLY QUOTAS |
|---|---|
| Berry Creek | 6/20 |
| Owl Creek | 4/12 |
| Moose Basin and Webb Canyon | 4/12 |
| Shadow Peak Cirque | 2/6 |
| Grandstand, Grand Teton | 2/6 |
| East Ridge, Grand Teton | 3/9 |
| North Face, Grand Teton | 2/6 |
| | 23/71 |
| Grand Total For Zones III and IV: | 133/459 |
| TOTALS FOR ALL MANAGEMENT ZONE AND DESIGNATED CAMPSITES | 264/1072 |

* No. of Parties/No. of Campers

## APPENDIX E

### CLIMBING ROUTES WITH QUOTAS

Due to safety consideration on the following routes, the number of Parties per day have been restricted as follows:

**Grand Teton:**

Enclosure - 2

West Face - 2

Black Ice Couloir - 1

North Face - 2

North Ridge - 2

There are other equally serious route on the north and west sides of the Grand Teton, and elsewhere in the Teton Range. The Run-Don't-Walk route on Mt. Owen or Laughing Lion Falls on Mt. Moran are examples. These routes do not have quotas because there is not yet a demonstrated need. If these routes become popular, quotas can be considered during annual reviews of the Backcountry Management Plan. Until that time, climbing rangers will try to prevent more than one Party from signing out for serious routes on the same day.

## APPENDIX F

Handouts are available from thr Chief Ranger's Office concerning: Oversnow vehicle regulations, saddle and pack animal use in the Park, backcountry camping zones and sites and fishing regulations.

## APPENDIX G

APPROVED ACTION PLANS FOR GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK

Commercial Filming Guideline

Helicopter Rappel and Shorthaul Operations Plan

Human-Bear Management Plan

Natural Resources Management Plan

Search and Rescue Plan

Snake River Management Plan

Structural Fire Plan

Trails Standards and Guidelines

Wilderness Recommendation

Wildland Fire Management Plan

These plans are available for public review at Grand Teton National Park, and the Rocky Mountain Regional Office of the National Park Service in Denver, Colorado.