



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Grand Teton National Park

Jackie Skaggs
307/739-3393

National Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Bridger-Teton National Forest



Mary Cernicek
307/739-5564

Interagency News Release

For Immediate Release

June 25, 2007

Uhl Hill Fire Begins in Grand Teton National Park

Teton interagency fire personnel responded to the report of a fire in Grand Teton National Park on Sunday afternoon, June 24. The Uhl Hill Fire began near Eynon Ridge in the Elk Ranch area of the park, approximately three miles southeast of Moran Junction. About four acres in size, the fire is currently 40% contained and burning in a mixed conifer and aspen forest. It is believed to have been started by lightning associated with storms that passed through the area on June 16 and 17, 2007. The Uhl Hill Fire is the second fire in Grand Teton National Park this year.

Ten Teton interagency fire personnel responded to smoke reports at 3 p.m. Sunday afternoon; two interagency fire engines—one from Colter Bay and another from the Moran Station of Jackson Hole Fire and EMS—formed the initial attack team. In addition, one interagency contract helicopter flew supplies and dropped water on the fire, and smokejumpers responded from McCall, Idaho, but were unable to parachute into the area due to high afternoon winds.

Thirteen interagency fire personnel are currently working on the Uhl Hill Fire today, June 25, and total containment is expected to occur by late afternoon or early evening. Although smoke is visible to park visitors, no structures are threatened at this time, and no road or trail closures are in effect due to this fire.

The Uhl Hill Fire is burning in an area where the Eynon Ridge prescribed fire was used to treat an 806-acre unit in October 2006. The proactive fire management project helped to reduce accumulations of flammable fuels, and has contributed to limited growth of the current fire.

Based on current fire conditions, interagency fire managers have elevated the fire danger rating to **High**. This rating applies for both Grand Teton National Park and the Bridger-Teton National Forest. Fire managers consider several factors—including moisture content of various fuel types, current and expected weather trends, available fire-fighting resources, and local fire activity—when establishing or increasing the fire danger.

Currently there are no fire restrictions in place in either Grand Teton National Park or the Bridger-Teton National Forest. However, area visitors are reminded to be cautious when building campfires. In Grand Teton National Park, campfires are only allowed in fire grates within frontcountry campgrounds and in established fire rings at some designated backcountry lakeshore campsites. Unattended or abandoned campfires can escalate into wildland fires, and it is extremely important that all campfires are completely extinguished and cold to the touch before campers leave the site. Visitors should **never** leave a fire unattended, and should prepare for the unexpected by having a water bucket and shovel on hand and ready to use.

As the Fourth of July holiday approaches, park visitors and local residents alike are reminded that **fireworks are not permitted** in Grand Teton National Park or on the Bridger-Teton National Forest. It is essential that everyone comply with this regulation, especially given the current high fire danger rating and dry conditions.

For more information on the Uhl Hill Fire or other fires in the area, visit www.tetonfires.com or call (307) 739-5080. To report a fire or smoke in either area, call (307) 739-3630.

XXX



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 8, 2007 07-01

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Local Residents and Visitors Reminded of Pet Restrictions for Grand Teton National Park

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott reminds visitors and local residents alike to obey regulations regarding pets in Grand Teton National Park and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway. The park has received an increasing number of complaints about dogs being off leash, and dogs being found in the park's backcountry or on ski trails where they are not otherwise allowed. Pet owners must comply with park regulations for pet use. Owners are also advised that park rangers will be enforcing these regulations and issuing citations with substantial fines.

Leashed pets are allowed on the park's plowed roads, turnouts, and parking areas. Pets on leash are also allowed on the unplowed portions of the Teton Park Road (TPR) between Taggart Lake and Signal Mountain parking areas, the Moose-Wilson Road between the Granite Canyon and Death Canyon trailheads, the Antelope Flats Road between mailbox corner and Highway 89/191, and the Grassy Lake Road. Dogs must be restrained on a leash no longer than 6-feet in length, and must be leashed even while in the parking areas at winter trailheads such as Taggart Lake, Signal Mountain or Granite Canyon.

Beyond the exceptions of the unplowed roads listed, pets are **not allowed** on ski trails or in the park's backcountry—which begins 50 feet from any roadway, turnout, or parking lot.

The unplowed TPR is currently a winter trail and open to visitors who wish to snowshoe or ski with their leashed pet; however, dogs are restricted to the multi-use portion of the trail. Please keep dogs off the machine-groomed ski tracks on the TPR; this request is both for safety reasons and as a courtesy to the cross-country skiers.

Mutt Mitt stations are in place at the TPR trailhead to dispense plastic bags for pet waste; trash receptacles are also available for disposal of used bags. Pet owners are **required** to clean up their pet's waste and properly dispose of the bags in the receptacles provided. If pet owners do not comply with this rule, it is possible that pets will be prohibited from the TPR in the future.

Detailed pet regulations are described in the park newspaper, *Teewinot*, and information about pet restrictions may also be picked up at the Moose Visitor Center and park entrance stations. If owners fail to be responsible for their pets, they will be subject to citations and fines accordingly. In addition, continued non-compliance with pet regulations by winter users **may lead** to a future prohibition of dogs on any unplowed roads within Grand Teton National Park.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 30 2007 07-02

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Grand Teton National Park Issues Prospectus for Guided Horseback Rides

Grand Teton National Park Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced today that the National Park Service (NPS) has issued a prospectus for a concession contract that provides two-hour and four-hour guided horseback rides for visitors in the southern portion of the park; this contract would be valid for five years. The NPS has determined that there is not a preferred offeror for this contract, pursuant to the terms of 36 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 51—Concession Contracts and Permits.

The existing horse-ride concession operation is located at Teton Village approximately 12 miles northwest of the town of Jackson. The southwestern border of Grand Teton National Park lies less than one mile north of Teton Village by horse trail. Highway 390, a spur road off of Wyoming Highway 22, provides access to the horse-ride operations base.

A unique component of this concession contract is that the concessioner will need to have availability of lands that lie outside the park boundary on which to base its operations. Any offerors for the contract will need to take into account this specific condition.

Prospectus packages are available by contacting Mallory Smith, Chief of Business Resources, by phone at 307.739.3434, or email at mallory_smith@nps.gov. Interested parties may also write to Grand Teton National Park, c/o Mallory Smith, P.O. Box 170, Moose, WY 83012. The cost for a copy of the prospectus is \$45 if delivered by Federal Express, or \$40 per copy if picked up in person. Checks and money orders (no cash accepted) must be payable to National Park Service, and a physical address and phone number must be provided in order to receive a Federal Express package. The prospectus package may also be viewed online at <http://www.concessions.nps.gov/Prospectus.cfm>.

Contract offers must be received **no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, March 30, 2007** by the Acting Chief of Concessions Management, NPS, Intermountain Region, 12795 W. Alameda Parkway, Lakewood, CO 80228. Telephone inquiries about this business opportunity may be directed to Mallory Smith at 307.739.3434.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 5, 2007 07-03

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Grand Teton National Park Recruits for 2007 Youth Conservation Program

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced that Grand Teton National Park is now recruiting participants for the 2007 Youth Conservation Program (YCP). This program was initiated last year, thanks to a generous donation by an anonymous donor made through the Grand Teton National Park Foundation. The park plans to recruit for approximately 15 short-term positions. **Applications must be postmarked by March 23, 2007.**

The YCP is a summer employment program for high school students, ages 16 to 19. YCP enrollees will develop an understanding of National Park Service (NPS) conservation ethics as they assist with critically-needed maintenance and rehabilitation on park trails and pathways. Participants will work alongside NPS crew leaders and become familiar with NPS stewardship goals while learning essential trail maintenance skills. YCP participants may also answer basic visitor questions and serve as park ambassadors while they complete project work on some of the most visible, and most impacted, park trails (i.e. Taggart, Bradley, Jenny and String lakes, and trails near Jackson Lake Lodge and Colter Bay).

YCP crews will focus their efforts on projects dealing with rehabilitation of trails and backcountry areas through activities such as brushing, hazard tree removal, and construction of water bars and drainage swales. In addition to the project work, environmental education programs will be offered, as well as extensive recreational opportunities.

The 2007 YCP program will run for ten weeks from June 11 through August 16. Participants must be at least 16 years of age by June 11, and live locally as housing is not provided. The program will include three work crews with five to six YCP trail members. Wages will be set at \$10.01 per hour. Applicants must be students in good standing and United States citizens. Qualifications also include good team skills, a willingness to learn about Grand Teton National Park and its trail system, and the ability to work at a physically demanding job which may involve lifting 30-40 pounds.

The Grand Teton National Park Foundation will provide funding for salaries, work boots, work pants, tee-shirts, and free transportation to and from Jackson for YCP participants. The Foundation raises private funds for new and innovative projects that add value to the park. For more information about the YCP and how to contribute to future YCP activities, or other Foundation programs, call Leslie Mattson-Emerson at 307.732.0629, or email leslie@gtnpf.org.

To obtain an application or get further information about the 2007 YCP, please call Brian Bergsma in Grand Teton National Park at 307.739.3364, or write to YCP Program, GTNP, Drawer 170, Moose, WY 83012. Applications are also available online at <http://www.nps.gov/grte/misc/ycp.htm>.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 26, 2007 07-04

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Avalanche Victim Rescued from Granite Canyon

Grand Teton National Park rangers and Jackson Hole Mountain Resort ski patrollers rescued a seriously injured backcountry skier yesterday afternoon, February 25, after he was caught in an avalanche while skiing the TNT Couloir with some companions in the lower portion of Granite Canyon at Grand Teton National Park. Andy Adam Smith, age 32, of Jackson, Wyoming, sustained multiple life-threatening injuries when he was swept down slope approximately 2,000 feet in an avalanche that he apparently triggered.

Interagency Dispatch Center received an emergency call at 2:40 p.m. from another backcountry skier who was in the vicinity of the accident. Park rangers and Jackson Hole Mountain Resort ski patrol staff immediately began to coordinate both an air and ground rescue operation because of uncertainty over stormy weather conditions. Ski patrollers quickly mobilized and skied from the slopes of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort to the accident site in the park's backcountry. After reaching Smith at 3:50 p.m., patrollers assessed his condition, provided emergency medical care, and prepared him for transport out of the backcountry. Patrollers and other backcountry skiers in the area also packed out a landing zone to receive a rescue helicopter in the event that weather conditions permitted a flight.

Two park rangers staged at the Teton Interagency Helibase to rendezvous with a Teton County Search and Rescue contract helicopter for an aerial rescue, while two additional rangers drove to the Granite Canyon trailhead to begin packing a snowmobile trail into the canyon in case the helicopter was unable to fly. Weather permitted helicopter pilot, Ken Johnson, to fly and the ship left the Jackson Hole Airport at 4:26 p.m., arriving on scene just five minutes later. Smith was loaded into the helicopter and air borne to Teton Interagency Helibase by 4:42 p.m. He was then transferred to a Grand Teton National Park ambulance for transport to St. John's Medical Center in Jackson for treatment of his injuries.

Avalanche danger for the Teton area was rated as moderate yesterday afternoon, with a caution that the avalanche danger would rise from new snow accumulations, and that surface slabs could be human triggered in wind loaded starting zones.

This marks the second major search and rescue operation in Grand Teton National Park for 2007.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 1, 2007 07-05

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Out-of-Bounds Snowboarder Rescued from Granite Canyon

Grand Teton National Park rangers, Teton County Search and Rescue personnel, and Jackson Hole Mountain Resort ski patrol staff rescued a backcountry snowboarder late yesterday afternoon, February 28, after he became stranded on a cliff in Granite Canyon. Timothy Graeme Cator, age 27, from the United Kingdom but currently living in Norway, entered the park's backcountry from the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort's Headwall gate with three companions, intending to snowboard out-of-bounds from the Resort. Cator became stranded on a cliff in the Northwest Passage area and was unable to climb back up or continue boarding down.

After passing through the Resort's out-of-bounds gate about 1:30 p.m., Cator and his companions approached the top portion of Northwest Passage and Endless Couloir. The party got separated after Cator picked a line into Northwest Passage that brought him to a small cliff area where he became stranded. Cator was in voice contact with his companions who descended into Endless Couloir, and their conversation caught the attention of an off-duty ski patroller who was in the vicinity at the time. The ski patrolman used his cell phone to call for assistance, and Teton Interagency Dispatch Center received a subsequent call from Resort staff at 2:45 p.m.

Three Jackson Hole Mountain Resort ski patrollers picked up a rope and technical gear at their rescue cache before skiing to the Northwest Passage area. One patrolman was lowered down to Cator's position, and after placing a climbing harness on him, Cator was lowered over the short cliff to a point where he could safely traverse back into Endless Couloir. The rope was then tied off and the patrolman rappelled off the same point.

The traverse out of Granite Canyon back to Teton Village is relatively flat with a few uphill sections. Exiting the canyon with a tired snowboarder in unconsolidated snow—and the increased exposure time spent crossing run out zones of several avalanche paths—prompted the decision to use the Teton County contract helicopter to expedite the final stage of Cator's rescue. Additional factors taken into consideration for using a helicopter evacuation included the lateness of the day, approaching weather, and considerable avalanche danger. Rangers were able to use the same helicopter landing zone in Granite Canyon that had been packed down for the rescue of an avalanche victim on the previous Sunday. Three ski patrollers then continued to ski out after Cator was airborne at 5:20 p.m.

Cator and his companions decided to snowboard out of bounds, even though they were unaware of current avalanche conditions in Granite Canyon. They were not carrying any avalanche equipment with them, and they were unfamiliar with the area and the complex avalanche terrain in which they intended to board. In addition, they were not prepared for the relatively flat trail that skiers traverse to return to Teton Village as they exit the Granite Canyon area.

Park rangers remind backcountry users to pay special attention to avalanche and weather conditions before entering remote areas outside of the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort boundaries. Backcountry users are also cautioned to be prepared with the knowledge, skills, and emergency equipment necessary to safely visit the park's backcountry areas.

This marks the third major search and rescue operation in Grand Teton National Park this year.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 5, 2007 07-06

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Annual Snow Plowing Begins on Teton Park Road

Weather depending, the annual snow plowing of the Teton Park Road in Grand Teton National Park is scheduled to begin on Monday, March 12. Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing along this winter use trail will end for the 2006/07 winter season as the plowing gets underway. The Continental Divide Snowmobile Trail running from Moran Junction to Flagg Ranch within Grand Teton National Park and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway is scheduled to close for the winter season on Sunday evening, March 11.

Plowing operations on the Teton Park Road are always weather dependent, but should begin at 7 a.m. on Monday morning, March 12. **For safety reasons, visitors may not access the Teton Park Road while rotary snow removal equipment and plows are working. The roadway will be closed to ALL users during this time.** Park rangers will be enforcing the temporary closure to ensure safe conditions for plow operators and park visitors alike.

Although access to the roadway will no longer be available for winter recreation, park visitors may continue to use ski trails and other areas adjacent to the roadbed for cross-country skiing, skate skiing, and snowshoeing. Pet owners are reminded that dogs are not allowed in the park's backcountry, which includes all areas 50 feet away from park roadways and turnouts. Skiers and snowshoers using trails adjacent to the Teton Park Road are cautioned to avoid the arc of snow being blown from the rotary equipment because pieces of ice and gravel may be mixed in with this spray of snow.

Depending on weather, snow conditions and plowing progress, the roadway should become accessible to traditional springtime, non-motorized activities by April 1st. Pet owners are reminded that leashed dogs are permitted only on the roadway at that time. Pet owners must also clean up their dog waste, and a "mutt-mitt" station is conveniently located near the road closure gate to provide bags for this purpose.

The Grassy Lake Road in the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway closes to snowmobile use for the winter season in conjunction with the other winter trail closures. It will be closed to all motorized vehicles from April 1 to May 31, due to springtime grizzly bear activity.

Ranger-led snowshoe hikes originating from the Moose Visitor Center are scheduled to end on Saturday, March 17, depending upon snow conditions. Please phone 307.739.3399 to make a reservation for this activity, or to inquire whether snowshoe hikes are still being offered. The Moose Visitor Center is open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. throughout March, April and May.

Re-opening of the Teton Park Road to bikers, hikers and inline skaters will be announced once the road has been plowed and snow removal equipment is no longer operating.

The Teton Park Road will open to vehicle traffic on Tuesday, May 1, 2007.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 12 2007 07-07

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Bob Vogel Named Deputy Superintendent of Grand Teton National Park

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced today that Robert (Bob) Vogel has been selected as deputy superintendent for Grand Teton National Park. Vogel began his 26-year career with the National Park Service (NPS) as a seasonal interpretive ranger, and has subsequently worked in a number of diverse park units. He will begin his new assignment at Grand Teton on April 29, 2007, replacing Jim Bellamy who retired from the NPS in October 2006.

Vogel is currently serving as superintendent at Cape Lookout National Seashore, a 56-mile-long seashore on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. During his tenure at Cape Lookout, Vogel also completed a detail assignment as a Jones Leadership Fellow at the NPS Washington Office, in the position of associate to the deputy director for operations. Prior to his current assignment, Vogel worked at several park areas including: superintendent at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park in Greensboro, North Carolina; chief of visitor services at Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site in Gallitzin, Pennsylvania, and Johnstown Flood National Memorial in South Fork, Pennsylvania; assistant chief of interpretation at Bryce Canyon National Park in Utah; and chief of visitor services at Fort Frederica National Monument in St. Simons Island, Georgia.



Vogel received a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources Management from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. In addition to his formal education, Vogel completed leadership development programs at Pennsylvania State University and the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, North Carolina.

“We are pleased to be welcoming Bob as the new deputy superintendent for Grand Teton National Park,” said Superintendent Scott. “He brings a wealth of diverse national park experience to Grand Teton, and I am looking forward to working with him.”

“Since my first visit to Grand Teton National Park as a child, and on a number of visits since, I have often dreamed of living in such a special place,” remarked Vogel. “My family and I are very excited at becoming actively involved in the local and park communities.”

Vogel will move to Jackson, Wyoming with his wife, Janice, and their 13-year-old daughter, Sara.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 27, 2007 07-08

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Temporary Wildlife Closure Established To Protect Sage Grouse in Grand Teton National Park

Grand Teton National Park has implemented a temporary public closure to protect breeding sage grouse at the Moulton Ranch lek (a seasonal mating arena) off the Antelope Flats Road. From March 27 to May 15, 2007, a quarter-mile radius around the lek site will be posted as **closed to all public entry** to reduce human disturbance on grouse hens and males who traditionally use the area during their annual mating time. Observance of this temporary, seasonal wildlife closure will reduce unnecessary stress on the grouse. Violations of the closure may result in a citation.

To minimize disturbance to sage grouse while allowing for bird watching, a viewing area has been established at the southwest side of the wildlife closure. Visitors may reach this viewing area by parking at a small pullout near the Moulton cabins and walking along a gated, dirt road that heads north from the junction with Antelope Flats Road; the viewing area is located just east of this road. Visitors must observe the wildlife closure signs, stay within the viewing area, and not approach grouse at any time.

Sage grouse are highly sensitive to human disturbance such as car doors slamming, loud noises, radios, human voices, and people approaching too closely. These disturbances can cause birds to flush, and continual disturbances can result in birds permanently abandoning or re-locating their lek sites. To reduce negative impacts on sage grouse, visitors should arrive at the viewing area well before sunrise and not leave until after the birds have completed their morning display. Visitors should remain as quiet as possible and refrain from talking until well away from the viewing area.

Grand Teton National Park rangers will lead early-morning trips to observe the strutting sage grouse as they perform their springtime mating dance on this traditional lek. Strutting grouse tours are scheduled for Saturdays and Sundays during the weekends of April 14-15, April 21-22, and April 28-29. Trips begin at 5:30 a.m. from the Moose Visitor Center and reservations are required. Call the Moose Visitor Center at 739-3399, to make reservations and obtain information about what to wear and bring along on these ranger-led excursions.

Sage grouse populations appear to be in decline throughout the West. The April weekend ranger-led tours offer local residents and park visitors a unique opportunity to see grouse as they perform their intriguing mating dance.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 18, 2007 07-09

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Record of Decision Signed for Grand Teton National Park *Final Transportation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement*

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced today that a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Grand Teton National Park *Final Transportation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement* (Final Plan/EIS) was authorized by National Park Service Intermountain Regional Director Michael D. Snyder. The ROD outlines and defines a system of transportation improvements within Grand Teton that will provide a wide range of recreational and transit opportunities for park visitors.

Based on comments received during the public review of the *Draft Transportation Plan/EIS*, the National Park Service (NPS) developed a preferred alternative that combined elements of two alternatives that had been presented in the draft plan. Alternative 3a, the preferred alternative in the Final Plan/EIS, proposes construction of 22.5 miles of multi-use pathways outside of existing road corridors, construction of 18.8 miles of multi-use pathways inside existing road corridors, and a realignment of the Moose-Wilson Road in two areas to restore aspen and wetland habitats.

Development of the pathway system will occur in phases, and the Park intends to design pathway construction in segments that will provide for adequate parking opportunities and connectivity to points of interest. Design work on the first phase—connecting Moose to South Jenny Lake—will take place in 2007 with construction scheduled to begin in 2008. A key element in development of the pathway system will be an extensive program of wildlife and visitor use monitoring associated with the initial phases of the project. Baseline studies will be in progress throughout this summer.

Construction phases will be based upon the results of monitoring, the analysis of environmental impacts, visitor use patterns, and other factors relevant to construction and use of the system. In addition to the multi-use pathway opportunities, the ROD also calls for a transit business study to identify opportunities for a future, sustainable transit service throughout Grand Teton National Park.

To review the ROD for the *Final Transportation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement*, complete with a description of the background of the project, a statement of the Decision, synopses of other alternatives considered, findings on impairment of park resources and values, and an overview of public and agency involvement in the decision-making process, please visit the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) Web site at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov> or go to Grand Teton National Park's Web site at <http://www.nps.gov/grte/parkmgmt/planning.htm>.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 23, 2007 07-10

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

New Four-Way Stop on Teton Park Road near Moose Visitor Center

The Teton Park Road in Grand Teton National Park will open to vehicle traffic on Tuesday, May 1. In addition to the annual opening to vehicles, a new four-way stop will be in place on the Teton Park Road just west of the Snake River Bridge at the first entrance to the current Moose Visitor Center. This four-way stop marks the future entrance to the new Grand Teton Discovery and Visitor Center on the south side of the road; the Grand Teton Discovery and Visitor Center is scheduled to be open to the public in mid August. **Local residents are advised to take note of this change to traffic regulations in the Moose area** and be prepared to come to a full stop at the four-way junction between access lanes to the old and new visitor centers.

Spring visitors to Grand Teton are also reminded that entrance stations are open and collecting fees. Fee options include:

- \$12 7-day permit for foot/ bicycle entry into Grand Teton & Yellowstone national parks
- \$20 7-day permit for motorcycle entry into Grand Teton & Yellowstone national parks
- \$25 7-day permit for vehicle entry into Grand Teton & Yellowstone national parks
- \$50 Grand Teton/Yellowstone Annual Pass valid for one-year entry into both parks
- \$80 America the Beautiful Pass valid for one year entry to all fee areas on federal lands
- \$ 5 Satellite Pass used in conjunction with either an Annual Parks Pass or America the Beautiful Pass to allow entry into **Grand Teton only** for family members traveling in a separate vehicle

Personal checks are **not** accepted for payment at park entrance stations. Personal identification, such as a driver's license, must be presented when entering the park using a pass rather than a permit.

Bicyclists are also required to stop and show an entry permit or pass before proceeding through the gates, just as vehicles are required to do.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 23 2007 07-11

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Bears Emerge From Hibernation in Grand Teton National Park

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott reminds local residents and park visitors to be alert for signs of bear activity within Grand Teton National Park and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway. Bears have emerged from their winter dens and appropriate precautions for traveling in bear country should be taken accordingly. Recently, bears have been observed in and around the Oxbow Bend area and at Willow Flats near Jackson Lake Junction.

When bears come out of their winter dens, they begin to search for any food source that helps restore depleted fat reserves after hibernation. Winter-weakened animals and winter-killed wildlife carcasses provide an immediate source of protein and are vigorously defended by hungry bears. As snow banks recede, bears also dig up and eat burrowing rodents and spring wildflowers. Historically, adult male bears emerge from hibernation by mid to late March. Female bears, accompanied by their cubs, emerge later in the spring. Sows are especially protective of their young, and any bear will defend a food source against perceived threats.

Do not approach a bear under any circumstances. This is particularly important for situations involving bears with cubs, or bears near a carcass.

When traveling in bear country, precautionary measures should include carrying pepper spray and keeping it easily accessible to use. Take time to become familiar with the proper handling of pepper spray and remember that it is not a substitute for being alert. While enjoying the park's backcountry, hikers should exercise good judgment and follow recommended safety precautions, such as making noise and traveling in a group – not alone.

Visitors should report any bear sightings or signs to the nearest visitor center or ranger station as soon as possible. This timely information will assist park staff in keeping visitors informed about recent bear activity, and in keeping bears away from unnatural food sources. Access to human food habituates bears. Habituated animals often lose their fear of humans, which threatens the safety of both park visitors and the bears themselves. Park visitors are reminded to keep food, garbage and other odorous items unavailable to bears by either storing attractants inside vehicles or disposing of garbage in a bear-resistant trash can or dumpster.

For further information on how to behave when hiking or camping in bear country, read the park's newspaper, *Teewinot*, online at www.nps.gov/grte.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 24, 2007 07-12

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Facilities and Services Opening Dates for Grand Teton National Park & John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced today the official opening dates for facilities and services in Grand Teton National Park and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway for the 2007 season.

Roads

The following roads will open to motorized vehicles on Tuesday, May 1:

Teton Park Road
Moose-Wilson Road

Both the Antelope Flats Road and Deadman's Bar Road were previously reopened to vehicle traffic in April. The Grassy Lake Road, in the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway, is scheduled to open June 1. Please drive cautiously and be aware that springtime repair work may be underway on any park roads. For current road information contact the park at 307.739.3614.

Entrance Stations

The Moose, Moran and Granite Canyon entrance stations are open. Fee options are as follows:

- \$12 7-day permit for foot/bicycle entry into Grand Teton & Yellowstone national parks
- \$20 7-day permit for motorcycle entry into Grand Teton & Yellowstone national parks
- \$25 7-day permit for vehicle entry into Grand Teton & Yellowstone national parks
- \$50 Grand Teton/Yellowstone Annual Pass valid for one-year entry into both parks
- \$80 America the Beautiful Pass valid for one year entry to all fee areas on federal lands
- \$ 5 Satellite Pass used in conjunction with either an Annual Parks Pass or America the Beautiful Pass to allow entry into **Grand Teton only** for family members traveling in a separate vehicle

Personal checks may not be used for payment at park entrance stations, and personal identification is required for entering the park with any pass that requires a signature. A photo machine is in operation at the Moose Entrance Station for processing photos - free of charge - to be placed onto the Annual Pass for Grand Teton and Yellowstone. This "photo pass" eliminates the need for other personal identification whenever entering the park using this particular pass. Entrance station staff will take photos upon request.

Bicyclists are reminded that they must stop and show an entry pass before proceeding through the gates, just as vehicles are required to do.

Visitor Centers

The Moose Visitor Center is open daily, year-round. The following visitor information centers open:

Colter Bay Visitor Center	May 12
Jenny Lake Visitor Center	May 13
Jenny Lake Ranger Station	May 19
Flagg Ranch Information Station	June 4

Ranger-led activities begin Monday, June 4. An activity schedule can be found in the park's newspaper, the *Teewinot*. **-MORE-**

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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

Campgrounds

The following campgrounds will open:

Gros Ventre	May 4
Jenny Lake	May 11
Signal Mountain	May 11
Colter Bay	May 25
Colter Bay RV & Trailer Park	May 25
Flagg Ranch RV Park	May 25
Lizard Creek	June 8

Fees for an individual campsite are \$17 per night, and hiker/bicyclist camping fees are \$5.00 per site, at any of the following concession-operated campgrounds within Grand Teton National Park – Colter Bay, Gros Ventre, Jenny Lake, Lizard Creek, and Signal Mountain. These campgrounds operate on a first-come, first-served basis.

Group sites at Colter Bay and Gros Ventre campgrounds are available by reservation at a cost of \$3.00 per person, per night. Reservations may be made by calling either 307.543.3100 or 800.628.9988.

Reservations can also be made for camping at either Colter Bay or Flagg Ranch RV Parks; additional fees are charged for RV campgrounds with hook-ups.

Camping is also available outside the park in nearby forest areas and at other public and private facilities.

Backcountry campsite reservations may be made until May 15 with a \$25 non-refundable fee. Reservations can be made online at www.nps.gov/grte/, by fax at 307.739.3438, or by mail to Grand Teton National Park, Backcountry Permits, P.O. Box 170, Moose, WY 83012. After May 15, all backcountry site permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

Lodging

The following concessioner-operated facilities will open:

Signal Mountain Lodge	May 11
Flagg Ranch Resort	May 14
Jackson Lake Lodge	May 17
Colter Bay Cabins	May 25
Jenny Lake Lodge	June 1

For additional information about activities and services within Grand Teton National Park or the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway, please visit the park's website www.nps.gov/grte/, stop in at any visitor center and ranger station, or call 307.739.3300.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte/



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 24, 2007 07-13

Joan Anzelmo/Jackie Skaggs
(307) 739-3415 or 739-3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Boyd Evison Graduate Fellowship Awarded for 2007

Grand Teton National Park and the Grand Teton Natural History Association are pleased to announce that Lyman Persico has received the Boyd Evison Graduate Fellowship for 2007. Persico, the third recipient of an Evison Fellowship, is currently pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. He plans to use his award to continue research in stream response to environmental change in the western United States. His research will link aspects of ecology, fluvial geomorphology, and paleoclimatology to understand the long-term effects that beavers and drought have placed on streams in Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks.

Persico received a B.S. in environmental science at the University of Vermont and entered a Master of Science degree program in Earth and Planetary Sciences at the University New Mexico (UNM) in 2003. As a top student in the general area of water resources, he was awarded a departmental fellowship and was supported by the National Science Foundation-Freshwater Sciences Interdisciplinary Graduate Program at UNM. His primary research interests have been in the application of process-based fluvial geomorphology in models of landscapes response to climate, ecological, and anthropogenic disturbances. He conducted a master's thesis research project on the long-term effects of beaver activity on small streams in northern Yellowstone National Park, and a presentation on his research project at the 2005 meeting of the American Geophysical Union earned him an Outstanding Student Paper Award by the Union's hydrology section.

The Evison Fellowship was established in memory of Boyd Evison after his death in October, 2002. Evison retired in 1994 from an exemplary 42-year career with the National Park Service (NPS) and soon after began a second career as executive director for the Grand Teton Natural History Association (GTNHA), a non-profit – and primary—park partner dedicated to aiding interpretive, educational, and research programs for Grand Teton National Park.

The Evison Fellowship was created to honor Boyd's extensive and dedicated service to both the NPS and GTNHA. The goal of the fellowship is to encourage scientific and conservation-related research in national parks. It invites highly motivated, graduate students to conduct research within Grand Teton and the Greater Yellowstone Area; and it supports study leading to a master's or Ph.D. degree in the biosciences, geosciences or social sciences. Upon program completion, the Evison Fellow will provide a copy of his/her thesis to GTNHA.

Evison Fellowships may provide tuition assistance and a yearly stipend to cover travel and field research costs. Grand Teton offers housing and office space for students during field sessions.

To inquire about applying for a Boyd Evison Graduate Fellowship, or to donate funds toward this worthy program, please contact Jan Lynch, executive director, Grand Teton Natural History Association at P.O. Box 170, Moose, Wyoming, 83012.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 1, 2007 07-14

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Temporary Area Closures for Wildlife Protection Posted Throughout Grand Teton National Park

Grand Teton National Park Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott is advising park visitors and local residents that seasonal area closures are now in place at locations throughout the park to protect wildlife and ensure their welfare and survival. Temporary area closures have been implemented annually in Grand Teton to protect elk, moose, wolves, eagles, swans, sage grouse and other animals at vulnerable times related to their wintering, foraging, nesting and denning activities.

Temporary area closures are clearly posted with “closed to public entry” signs. Seasonal area closures specifically prohibit **all** human entry by any means, and violations of closures may result in a citation and prosecution.

Whenever area closures become necessary, park managers take into consideration the balance between wildlife protection and public enjoyment, while striving to provide for a high-level of wildlife viewing opportunities. Observance of area closures will reduce unnecessary stress on wildlife and minimize human-related adverse impacts to vulnerable young animals.

After the Teton wolf pack first denned near Moran Junction in 1999, temporary wildlife closures have been necessary each year from April to mid August to protect wolves during a time when their young pups were particularly vulnerable to human presence and activities. For the past two summers, closures have been in effect on the Cattleman’s Bridge Road to protect nesting bald eagles from human intrusions during a sensitive nesting period also from April through mid August. In addition, closures are implemented each spring around sage grouse leks (mating arenas) to minimize human disturbance during the birds’ mating activities.

To obtain further information about temporary wildlife closures or consult a park map of these locations, please stop by the Moose Visitor Center.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 1, 2007 07-16

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Bodies of Two Climbers Located on the Grand Teton

Grand Teton National Park rangers, with the assistance of a contract rescue helicopter, located the bodies of two climbers at 11 a.m. on Tuesday morning, May 1. The climbers apparently fell to their death in the vicinity of the Enclosure Couloir on the northwest flank of the Grand Teton. Park officials believe that the accident may have occurred sometime Sunday, April 29. Due to unsafe conditions from rockfall and snow sloughing, the two bodies can not be recovered—and identities confirmed—until early Wednesday morning after colder nighttime temperatures create a more stable snowpack for rescue personnel to safely enter the area.

Teton Interagency Dispatch Center received a call at 8:20 a.m. Monday morning, April 30, with information that two people were overdue for work after a weekend trip to climb near the Enclosure on the Grand Teton. Soon after the phone call, rangers learned that a tent, presumably belonging to the climbers, was located in the Meadows area of Garnet Canyon. By late Monday afternoon, three rangers began to hike and ski into Garnet Canyon to check the tent for occupancy. The tent was found vacant, and rangers continued on to the Lower Saddle of the Grand Teton where they bivouaced overnight. With morning light, and a snowpack that became slightly more stable after cooler overnight temperatures, park rangers then headed out on foot to attempt to locate the overdue climbers.

Rescue personnel on foot observed one body below the Valhalla Traverse about 9:30 a.m., and a second body in the same vicinity was spotted during a helicopter reconnaissance flight an hour later.

Further information about the two climbers will be released after their identities are confirmed and next of kin notified. An investigation is also underway to determine what happened.

Teton County Sheriff Bob Zimmer and Search and Rescue Coordinator Doug Meyer were able to obtain use of a State of Wyoming plane in order to fly local helicopter pilot Ken Johnson early Tuesday morning from Jackson to Missoula, Montana to retrieve the contract helicopter that is being hangared there after the winter rescue contract expired.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 2, 2007 07-16

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Names Released for Deceased Climbers on Grand Teton

Grand Teton National Park officials have confirmed the identities of the two climbers whose bodies were discovered on Tuesday, May 1. Alan Rooney, age 38, and Jonathan Morrow, age 28, both residents of Kelly, Wyoming apparently fell to their death sometime Sunday, April 29, in the vicinity of the Enclosure Couloir on the Grand Teton.

After further assessment of the potential adverse rockfall and snow conditions on the northwest flank of the Grand Teton, park rangers were ultimately able to retrieve the bodies early Tuesday evening with assistance of a contract helicopter. The victims were then positively identified and next of kin notified.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 7, 2007 07-17

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Annual Spring Clean-Up Scheduled for Grand Teton National Park

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced today that Grand Teton National Park staff and concession employees will join together on Wednesday, May 9, for the annual Park Clean-Up day. During normal business hours, employees will be out picking up litter and preparing roadways, turnouts and parking lots before summer visitors arrive. Anyone driving through Grand Teton on Wednesday should be alert for people walking along the roads. Slow moving and/or parked vehicles may also be encountered during clean-up hours.

Each spring before the summer season is in full swing, park and concession employees take time to remove litter and debris from park roadsides and turnouts. "Unsightly trash can be easily eliminated from Grand Teton's roads through the conscious efforts of each and everyone who visits the park. Although park and concession employees collectively pick up trash each spring, visitors and area residents can contribute to keeping the park's roadsides trash-free throughout the year by properly disposing of litter whenever they are in the park. This relatively simple act is very much appreciated," commented Superintendent Scott.

The Moose and Colter Bay visitor centers and bookstores, interagency communication center, and law enforcement patrols will continue their normal operations while clean-up efforts are under way.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 7, 2007 07-18

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Grand Teton National Park Celebrates International Migratory Bird Day

Grand Teton National Park will celebrate International Migratory Bird Day with a bird-watching caravan throughout the park on Saturday, May 12, 2007. This free activity begins in the Moose Visitor Center at 8 a.m. and finishes by 4 p.m. at Christian Pond near Jackson Lake Lodge. Anyone interested in birds is welcome to participate and reservations are not required.

Join Grand Teton National Park ranger naturalists, Andrew Langford and Pat Best, as they visit birding hotspots within the park to locate, watch, and count, birds as part of the North American Migration Count. Throughout the day, participants will take short walks at various locations. Those attending should wear comfortable shoes and bring a lunch, drinking water, warm clothing and rain gear. Bird field guides, binoculars and/or a spotting scope are also recommended.

International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) is observed each year on the second Saturday in May to celebrate and support bird conservation. IMBD serves as the hallmark outreach event for Partners in Flight, an international conservation program, whose goal is to reverse declining populations of migratory birds by bringing attention to the factors that may contribute to worldwide declines.

The IMBD theme for 2007 is "Birds in a Changing Climate" The IMBD Web site states that birds serve as indicators of environmental change: often sounding the alarm about impacts from pesticides, polluted water, and the loss of contiguous forests. The response of birds to certain weather patterns has long been noted. In fact, farmers traditionally used the arrival of migratory birds to make decisions about planting crops. Changes in the movements of some bird species signal one of the many consequences resulting from the warming of Earth's atmosphere. Today, as the rate of warming increases, scientists are exploring how climate change will affect birds, and how we might reduce our human impact.

Nearly 350 North American migratory bird species travel each year between their nesting grounds in North America and non-breeding habitats in South and Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, and southern United States; this includes such familiar birds as ospreys, peregrine falcons, warblers and thrushes. Each spring, many of these same migratory birds return to northwestern Wyoming and Grand Teton National Park where they find critical food resources and nesting sites during the summer season. Besides providing enjoyment for bird watchers around the world, migratory birds contribute to local, regional and world economies by controlling insect pests and generating billions in recreational dollars. Unfortunately, research indicates that many migratory bird species are in decline and facing increased threats along on their migration routes and within their summer and winter habitats.

For more information on International Migratory Bird Day and the North American Migration Count, please call the Moose Visitor Center at 307.739.3399.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 8, 2007 07-19

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Grand Teton National Park Issues Prospectus for Boat Shuttle Service, Scenic Interpretive Boat Tours and Boat Rentals on Jenny Lake

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced today that the National Park Service (NPS) has issued a prospectus for a concession contract to provide a boat shuttle service, scenic interpretive boat tours, and rental boats on Jenny Lake within Grand Teton National Park; this contract will be valid for ten years. The NPS has determined that the existing concessioner is not a preferred offeror for this contract, pursuant to the terms of 36 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 51—Concession Contracts and Permits.

The existing concession operation is located within Grand Teton National Park, in northwest Wyoming, approximately 13 miles from the town of Jackson. Specifically, the existing concession operation is located at South Jenny Lake, eight miles north of Moose off the Teton Park Road with Highways 26/89/191 and 287 providing access to the Teton Park Road. The concessioner will be assigned lands and facilities in Grand Teton National Park for use in conducting operations.

There are several unique attributes to this concession contract that could potentially affect the operation; these include a compressed operating season, Coast Guard requirements, and limited housing. Any offerors for the contract will need to take into account these specific conditions.

Prospectus packages are available by contacting Chief of Business Resources Mallory Smith at 307.739.3434, or by email at Mallory_Smith@nps.gov. Interested parties may also write to Grand Teton National Park, c/o Mallory Smith, P.O. Box 170, Moose, WY 83012. The cost for a copy of the prospectus is \$45 per copy, if delivered by Federal Express, or \$40 if picked up in person. Checks and money orders (no cash accepted) must be payable to the National Park Service, and a physical address and phone number must be provided to receive a Federal Express package. The prospectus package may also be viewed online at <http://www.concessions.nps.gov/Prospectus.cfm>.

Contract offers must be received **no later than 4 p.m. on Monday, August 6, 2007** by the Acting Chief of Concessions Management, NPS, Intermountain Region, 12795 W. Alameda Parkway, Lakewood, CO 80228. Telephone inquires about this business opportunity may be directed to Mallory Smith at 307.739.3434.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 9, 2007 07-20

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Citations Issued to Two Antler Poachers in Grand Teton National Park

Grand Teton National Park rangers issued citations to two men on Wednesday, May 2, after they were observed illegally collecting elk antlers on park land, while also trespassing inside of a posted wildlife closure area. The two men, residents of Jackson and Saratoga, Wyoming, were contacted by rangers south of Moran Junction near the Elk Ranch Reservoir—more than two miles beyond the national park boundary signs, and well within a posted wildlife closure area.

The men had 65-pounds of elk antlers in their possession when rangers contacted them. The antlers were seized and both men received violation notices totaling more than \$1,400.

Park officials remind visitors and local residents alike that it is illegal to remove any natural item—including elk antlers, skulls or bones—from a national park such as Grand Teton or Yellowstone. These items are part of the natural landscape and must be left in place. Collection of such items may result in a citation and prosecution.

In addition, Grand Teton National Park recently implemented temporary wildlife closures to protect animals such as sage grouse, eagles, and wolves during sensitive times involving mating, nesting and denning. Area closures are in place to minimize human-related adverse impacts to these animals and reduce unnecessary stress on wildlife at a vulnerable time in their lives.

Temporary area closures are clearly posted with “closed to public entry” signs. Seasonal area closures specifically prohibit **all** human entry by any means, and violations of closures may also result in a citation and prosecution.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 15, 2007 07-21

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3415 / 307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Jackie Skaggs Named Acting Public Affairs Officer for Grand Teton National Park

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott is pleased to announce that Jackie Skaggs has been selected as the acting public affairs officer for Grand Teton National Park. For the past seven and a half years, Skaggs has served as a public affairs specialist at Grand Teton while working with Joan Anzelmo, chief of public affairs and partnerships. Skaggs began her new assignment on May 14 with the departure of Anzelmo, who relocated to Colorado National Monument as superintendent.

Skaggs began her National Park Service (NPS) career in 1984 at Grand Teton as a seasonal ranger in visitor services (fee collection) at the Moran Entrance Station. She transferred into the division of interpretation in 1988 and subsequently spent ten years as a seasonal ranger naturalist, stationed during the summer seasons at Colter Bay Visitor Center and winters at the Moose Visitor Center. In the year 2000, Skaggs became co-coordinator of Grand Teton National Park's 50th anniversary celebration—a year-long series of events commemorating the park's golden anniversary. At the culmination of that year, she continued to work in the park's public affairs office with Anzelmo, and ultimately landed a permanent position with the NPS.



Skaggs moved from her hometown of Pocatello, Idaho to Jackson, Wyoming in the fall of 1976. She and her husband were hired as the winter caretakers at Signal Mountain Lodge, an authorized park concessioner on the shores of Jackson Lake. They worked year-round at the Lodge for seven years before moving to Boise, Idaho in 1983, where Skaggs took a position as blood donation coordinator for the American Red Cross blood services department. With the exception of a few months spent in Boise and Twin Falls, Idaho, the Skaggs have lived and worked in Jackson Hole for most of the past 30 years.

Skaggs earned a BA degree in elementary education from Idaho State University in 1976, and completed additional post graduate classes in the natural sciences. She and her husband, Bob, a licensed professional counselor, enjoy photography, camping, biking, hiking, rafting, skiing, and playing with their pet Schnauzer.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 29, 2007 07-22

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Grand Teton National Park Launches New “Be Bear Aware” Campaign

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced today that Grand Teton National Park has launched a new informational campaign to educate park visitors and local residents about how to behave and recreate in bear country. A re-energized “Be Bear Aware” campaign was initiated to augment the park’s ongoing efforts to ensure conservation of grizzly bears, black bears, and other park wildlife. As a part of the new campaign, visitors will see cautionary signs and posters throughout the park with reminders of the proper etiquette to use with regard to wild bears. Key messages are aimed at achieving appropriate human behavior to ensure a safe visit for people and a safe home for bears.

Backcountry users, including climbers, will see new posters reminding them to never leave backpacks or food unattended. Hikers camping overnight in Grand Teton National Park are **strongly encouraged** to carry and use a bear food storage canister, which will be loaned free of charge from backcountry permit offices at the Moose, Jenny Lake, and Colter Bay visitor centers. This decision was reached following a consensus that overnight users find it difficult, if not impossible, to properly suspend food from tree limbs in much of Grand Teton’s alpine backcountry. Campers in the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway will be required to follow food storage regulations similar to those in place for national forests throughout the Greater Yellowstone Area.

Visitors requesting information prior to their trip, and upon arrival in the park, will see “Be Bear Aware” messages similar to those used on neighboring national park and forest lands. Feeding of any park wildlife is not necessary for an animal’s well-being, and is strictly prohibited for many reasons including the potential for injury to both humans and wildlife. Newly designed posters will remind everyone that they can help save a bear by practicing good “leave no trace” habits such as proper storage of food and other bear attractants. New eye-catching signs attached to campground and picnic tables will inform visitors that “everything smells” to a bear, and all toiletries and food-related items need to be secured—even toothpaste, sunscreen, water bottles, canned drinks, and cleaned barbecue grills. Attractants left unsecured will be confiscated by campground staff or park rangers, and violations may result in a citation. Park staff and volunteers will also respond to more wildlife-caused traffic jams to encourage safe, enjoyable wildlife-watching opportunities.

In the winter of 2006-2007, Grand Teton staff began a major review of the park’s bear management program, analyzing new and renewed ways to implement the existing bear management goals: to restore and maintain natural behavior and distribution of bears; to improve visitor understanding and appreciation of bears; and to provide for visitor and animal safety by minimizing bear-human conflicts. The new program aims to accomplish these goals through public information and education; removal of artificial food sources; enforcement of regulations; management and control of problem bears; and concerted research and monitoring programs.

-MORE-

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



Despite the fact that visitors to neighboring Yellowstone National Park have typically had many opportunities to see grizzly bears, the visible presence of grizzlies in Grand Teton National Park has not been as common until recently. Researchers have increasingly radio-collared and tracked grizzly bears in the park since the 1990s. Although some local residents, and park visitors believe there are few if any grizzlies in Jackson Hole, current research indicates that grizzlies can be found anywhere in Grand Teton.

In May 2006, a ten-year-old female grizzly bear emerged from her winter den somewhere in the Bridger-Teton Wilderness with three newborn cubs in tow. This bear family living in the heart of Grand Teton National Park has become a highlight attraction for park visitors and local residents alike. Glimpses of the young family bring out cameras, smiles, and exclamations of delight. The female and her offspring serve as one of the most visible examples of grizzly bear recovery efforts that have been underway for several decades throughout the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. These bears are also a vivid reminder of the need for park managers, staff, and visitors to be continually vigilant in ensuring conservation of these grizzlies and other park wildlife.

Black bears are a common sight in Grand Teton. During the summer of 2006, park rangers responded to multiple reports of black bears approaching humans or trying to obtain food in park campgrounds. Sadly, one black bear had to be euthanized in July after obtaining food in the Colter Bay Campground. Rangers documented other bear-human conflicts and ‘close calls’ at Signal Mountain, Jenny Lake and Colter Bay campgrounds, as well as in several backcountry campsites. In addition, rangers were frequently called upon to manage traffic jams caused by visitors watching bears, moose, elk, or other animals. The primary concern is that people remain mindful of wildlife-watching behavior, and respect an animal’s need for space by keeping a safe distance—100 yards from bears, and 25 yards from other wild animals.

Information about visiting bear country is available in the park’s newspaper, *Teewinot*, and posted on the park’s web site at www.nps.gov/grte. While bears have been the primary focus of this new information campaign, park staff remind visitors that all animals in the park are wild. Last summer, a visitor required medical treatment after getting too close to a moose, and bison typically injure more people than bears in Yellowstone National Park.

Please remember to “Be Bear Aware” during your visit to the national parks and help protect all wildlife.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 29, 2007 07-23

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Road Improvement Project Scheduled for Signal Mountain Summit Road in Grand Teton National Park

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced today that the Signal Mountain Summit Road, located one mile south of Signal Mountain Lodge, will be repaved from the Teton Park Road to the Signal Mountain Overlook—a distance of approximately five miles—beginning Monday, June 4. To enable this road improvement project to occur, intermittent travel closures will be in effect for four consecutive weeks throughout the month of June.

The road will be closed to all travel each Monday through Thursday throughout the month of June. The road closure dates include: June 4-7; June 11-14; June 18-21; and June 25-28. The road will reopen for travel each week on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. This project is expected to be completed on Thursday, June 28, barring inclement weather or equipment malfunctions.

While the closure may temporarily inconvenience visitors who wish to drive this scenic road in Grand Teton National Park, these improvements will make future road travel a safer and more enjoyable experience.

Local residents and park visitors are advised to make travel plans accordingly and detour away from the Signal Mountain Summit Road during the closure periods.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 4, 2007 07-24

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

National Park Service Will Not Award Contract for Guided Horse Rides in Grand Teton National Park

The National Park Service (NPS) did not receive any successful offers on a prospectus, issued January 29, 2007, for a business opportunity to provide two and four-hour guided horseback rides in the southern portion of Grand Teton National Park. As a result, the NPS will not award a concession contract for this service.

The guided horseback ride prospectus was issued in January with proposals due to the NPS Intermountain Regional Office by March 30, 2007. This prospectus offered a five-year contract term to provide two-hour and four-hour long guided horseback rides for the public on trails in Grand Teton National Park, accessed from Teton Village near the park's southern boundary.

Only one proposal was received; it was presented by Bill and Vonona Scott Living Trust, operating as Jackson Hole Trail Rides. The NPS has determined that it will not award a contract to Jackson Hole Trail Rides due to poor performance in recent years, including safety-related deficiencies, and inadequate information in the submitted proposal specific to the offeror's financial capacity and the ability to operate successfully under the terms of a new contract.

The NPS will evaluate what actions may be taken related to services authorized under this concessions contract. For information about the decision, please contact Tom Williamson, acting chief of concessions in the NPS Intermountain Regional Office, at 303.969.2582.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 4, 2007 07-25

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

American Indian Guest Artists Program in Grand Teton National Park

Every summer, Grand Teton National Park sponsors an exciting program for visiting American Indian artists at the Colter Bay Visitor Center and Indian Arts Museum. For the past 32 years, artists from diverse tribes have demonstrated their traditional and contemporary art forms, providing visitors an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of – and appreciation for – American Indian art and culture.

Artists participating in the program represent tribes from across the United States. Among the art forms demonstrated are painting, weaving, pottery, beadwork, decorative gourds and musical instruments. Guest artists exhibit daily, Monday through Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the lower level of the Colter Bay Indian Arts Museum. Artists also offer their finished items for purchase. The 2007 schedule with dates and type of artwork demonstrated is as follows:

May 14 – 27	Debbie & Willie LaMere	Shoshone	Beadwork & Flint Knapping
May 28 – June 3	Charlie Rising Sun	Northern Cheyenne	Flutes & Indian Art
June 4 – 10	Lela Teton & Josie Bronco	Shoshone	Beadwork
June 11 – 17	Guillermo Martinez	Tarascan-Apache	Drums & Flutes
June 18 – 24	Paul Hacker	Choctaw	Flutes, Knives & Pottery
June 25 – July 1	Andrea Two Bulls	Oglala Sioux	Beadwork & Painting
July 2 – 8	Ted Moran	S'Klallan	Northwest Coast Carving
July 9 – 15	DG House	Cherokee	Painting
July 16 – 22	Eddie Two Bulls	Oglala Sioux	Painting
July 23 – 29	Maynard White Owl	Nez Perce	Beadwork
July 30 – Aug. 5	Jola LaBeau	Eastern Shoshone	Beadwork
August 6 – 12	David Snooks	Washoe	Hand Painted & Beaded Gourds
August 13 – 19	Aiona Anderson	Thompson	Painting & Pottery
August 20 – 26	Debbie & Willie LaMere	Shoshone	Beadwork & Flint Knapping
Aug. 27 – Sept. 2	Lela Teton & Josie Bronco	Shoshone	Beadwork
Sept. 3 – 9	Clyde Hall & Nancy Nacki	Shoshone	Beadwork & Quillwork
Sept. 10 – 16	Anttonetta Silas-Honie	Hopi	Pottery

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Grand Teton National Park

Jackie Skaggs
307/739-3393

National Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Bridger-Teton National Forest



Mary Cernicek
307/739-5564

Interagency News Release

For Immediate Release

June 7, 2007

Lightning-Caused Fire Begins Near Death Canyon in Grand Teton National Park

A small lightning-caused fire began on Tuesday, June 5, during the passing of an afternoon thunderstorm near Phelps Lake in Grand Teton National Park. The Death Canyon Fire, located approximately ¼ mile northwest of Phelps Lake, has burned less than .1 acre amid scattered trees on a cliff face. Hikers in the area at the time of the thunderstorm first reported the fire, and Teton interagency fire personnel located and mapped the Death Canyon Fire late Tuesday afternoon.

In accordance with Grand Teton National Park's Fire Management Plan, the Death Canyon Fire will be managed as a "wildland fire use" fire. Wildland fire use is a management tool designed to allow naturally-ignited wildland fires to fulfill their natural role in the ecosystem. The fire's progress will be regularly monitored by Teton interagency fire staff.

Smoke from the fire may be seen intermittently from the Death Canyon Trail, but the fire has low potential for spreading, due to wet and cool weather conditions and lack of continuous fuels (trees, shrubs and grasses) in the vicinity of the fire.

No people or structures are threatened by this fire, and there are no road or trail closures in effect as a result of it.

This is the first fire of the 2007 season in Grand Teton National Park.

XXX



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 13, 2007 07-27

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Visitor Injured by Grizzly Bear in Grand Teton National Park

Dennis Vandebos, a 54-year-old resident of Lander, Wyoming, was injured by a grizzly bear at approximately 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 13, while walking on the Wagon Road just below the corrals at Jackson Lake Lodge in Grand Teton National Park. Vandebos surprised grizzly bear #399 and her three cubs, who were feeding on a freshly-killed elk carcass. The attack likely resulted from a defensive response by a bear, while protecting its food source. At this time, no adverse action will be taken against the bear involved in this incident.

Vandebos took an early morning walk at approximately 5:30 a.m., and was returning to his room at the lodge when the incident occurred. He reported watching an elk off to his right, then noticing the sow and her cubs approaching to his left, within ten feet of him. Vandebos yelled, but one of the bears continued toward him; he yelled again, then jumped off the trail and laid on his stomach in a submissive posture. At this point, the bear inflicted puncture wounds and lacerations to Vandebos before it was frightened off by the shouting of a Lodge Company wrangler, who was nearby at the time. The wrangler administered emergency medical assistance to Vandebos until park rangers arrived on the scene. A park ambulance then transported Vandebos to St. John's Medical Center in Jackson for treatment of his injuries.

Park officials have posted closures for the Wagon Road and trails in the Willow Flats area below Jackson Lake Lodge. Signs state that the area is closed due to bears frequenting the vicinity. The Wagon Road and trail closures will likely be in effect until the end of June, during the remainder of the elk calving season.

The sow grizzly #399 and her three yearling cubs have been utilizing habitat in and around the Willow Flats area since emerging from hibernation this spring. This bear family has frequently been visible along park roadsides between Colter Bay and the Oxbow Bend turnout of the Snake River, one mile east of Jackson Lake Junction. These are not the only bears in the area; several other bears—black and grizzly—are also utilizing habitat in this location.

This is the first bear incident involving injuries in Grand Teton National Park this year. The last time a grizzly injured a person in the park was in October of 2001, when a hunter from Minnesota surprised a bear on "Schoolhouse Hill," north of Moran Junction. That same year, a local resident was injured by a grizzly bear in March while backcountry skiing in the Upper Berry Creek area of the park. A previous grizzly-related injury in Grand Teton happened in August of 1994, when a jogger from Utah was attacked on the Emma Matilda Lake Trail.

-MORE-

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



Park officials remind visitors that encounters with bears—both black and grizzly bears—are a distinct possibility in Grand Teton. Black and grizzly bears both range throughout the park and have been observed in many locations, including both back-country and front-country areas. Visitors are advised to ensure their own safety, as well as that of bears, by being “bear aware” and taking precautions such as:

- be alert for signs of bears and bear activity
- avoid surprising bears or other wildlife by making noise while hiking
- carry pepper spray and have it easily accessible for use
- never approach a bear for any reason
- do not run from bears, and do not drop your pack if a bear charges

In addition, traveling alone in bear country is not recommended and extra caution should be used when traveling during dawn and dusk. Complete information on how to behave in bear country is available in the park’s newspaper, *Teewinot*, at park visitor centers and ranger stations, and online at www.nps.gov/grte.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 13, 2007 07-27

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Visitor Injured by Grizzly Bear in Grand Teton National Park

Dennis VanDenbos, a 54-year-old resident of Lander, Wyoming, was injured by a grizzly bear at approximately 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 13, while walking on the Wagon Road just below the corrals at Jackson Lake Lodge in Grand Teton National Park. VanDenbos surprised grizzly bear #399 and her three cubs, who were feeding on a freshly-killed elk carcass. The attack likely resulted from a defensive response by a bear, while protecting its food source. At this time, no adverse action will be taken against the bear involved in this incident.

VanDenbos took an early morning walk at approximately 5:30 a.m., and was returning to his room at the lodge when the incident occurred. He reported watching an elk off to his right, then noticing the sow and her cubs approaching to his left, within ten feet of him. VanDenbos yelled, but one of the bears continued toward him; he yelled again, then jumped off the trail and laid on his stomach in a submissive posture. At this point, the bear inflicted puncture wounds and lacerations to VanDenbos before it was frightened off by the shouting of a Lodge Company wrangler, who was nearby at the time. The wrangler administered emergency medical assistance to VanDenbos until park rangers arrived on the scene. A park ambulance then transported VanDenbos to St. John's Medical Center in Jackson for treatment of his injuries.

Park officials have posted closures for the Wagon Road and trails in the Willow Flats area below Jackson Lake Lodge. Signs state that the area is closed due to bears frequenting the vicinity. The Wagon Road and trail closures will likely be in effect until the end of June, during the remainder of the elk calving season.

The sow grizzly #399 and her three yearling cubs have been utilizing habitat in and around the Willow Flats area since emerging from hibernation this spring. This bear family has frequently been visible along park roadsides between Colter Bay and the Oxbow Bend turnout of the Snake River, one mile east of Jackson Lake Junction. These are not the only bears in the area; several other bears—black and grizzly—are also utilizing habitat in this location.

This is the first bear incident involving injuries in Grand Teton National Park this year. The last time a grizzly injured a person in the park was in October of 2001, when a hunter from Minnesota surprised a bear on "Schoolhouse Hill," north of Moran Junction. That same year, a local resident was injured by a grizzly bear in March while backcountry skiing in the Upper Berry Creek area of the park. A previous grizzly-related injury in Grand Teton happened in August of 1994, when a jogger from Utah was attacked on the Emma Matilda Lake Trail.

-MORE-

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



Park officials remind visitors that encounters with bears—both black and grizzly bears—are a distinct possibility in Grand Teton. Black and grizzly bears both range throughout the park and have been observed in many locations, including both back-country and front-country areas. Visitors are advised to ensure their own safety, as well as that of bears, by being “bear aware” and taking precautions such as:

- be alert for signs of bears and bear activity
- avoid surprising bears or other wildlife by making noise while hiking
- carry pepper spray and have it easily accessible for use
- never approach a bear for any reason
- do not run from bears, and do not drop your pack if a bear charges

In addition, traveling alone in bear country is not recommended and extra caution should be used when traveling during dawn and dusk. Complete information on how to behave in bear country is available in the park’s newspaper, *Teewinot*, at park visitor centers and ranger stations, and online at www.nps.gov/grte.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 14, 2007 07-28

Joan Anzelmo/Jackie Skaggs
(307) 739-3415 or 739-3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Temporary Closure Scheduled for Pacific Creek Landing on the Snake River in Grand Teton National Park

Grand Teton National Park Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced today that the boat ramp at Pacific Creek landing on the Snake River near Moran Junction will be temporarily closed to **all use** from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, June 15, while improvements are made to the launch site. Barring any unforeseen delays due to equipment malfunction or park emergencies, the launch will reopen in late afternoon after the improvement work is completed.

The upper parking lot and public restrooms at Pacific Creek landing will remain open for public use; however, the paved road to the boat ramp—beyond the parking area—will be closed to all access while work is underway.

The Pacific Creek landing is located just down stream from the confluence of the Snake River with Pacific Creek. The improvement work scheduled includes laying matting material from the asphalt driveway to the river's edge, allowing for a safer and more accessible launch area for boaters using this landing.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 17, 2007 07-29

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Motorcyclist Dies While Riding His Bike in Grand Teton National Park

A Park City, Utah man died on Saturday morning, June 16, while driving his motorcycle in Grand Teton National Park. Ray R. Ricks, age 59, was riding through Grand Teton on his way to Yellowstone National Park with two companions when he drove off the side of the road for unknown reasons, just 200 yards north of the entrance to the Lizard Creek Campground near the north end of Jackson Lake. Ricks' traveling companions reported that he slumped over on his motorcycle just before veering off the road at a slow speed and dropping down an embankment along the roadside.

Teton Interagency Dispatch Center received a call about 8:55 a.m. from the Wyoming Highway Patrol who reported the incident. A motorist, passing by at the time of the incident, apparently made an emergency call and contacted the highway patrol.

Park rangers immediately responded to the scene and located Ricks and his motorcycle lying near the base of some trees down a 15-foot road embankment. Ricks was unresponsive when park rangers reached him, and they quickly started cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in an attempt to revive him on site. A life flight helicopter from Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center in Idaho Falls was also summoned for emergency transport.

Although rangers performed CPR and other emergency medical procedures for 40 minutes, efforts to revive Ricks were unsuccessful and he was subsequently pronounced dead. The cause of death will be determined by the Teton County Coroner in Jackson, Wyoming.

-NPS-

www.nps.gov/grte

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 18, 2007 07-30

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Temporary Road Closure Scheduled for Moose-Wilson Road in Grand Teton National Park

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced today that a brief travel closure will be in effect on the unpaved section of the Moose-Wilson Road within Grand Teton National Park on Friday, June 22, for approximately six to eight hours beginning at 6:00 in the morning. The temporary closure is scheduled to allow for grading of the gravel roadbed. Road crews will complete the project in the shortest time possible, and barring inclement weather or equipment malfunction, the Moose-Wilson Road will reopen by Friday afternoon. Local residents and park visitors are advised to plan accordingly and detour away from the Moose-Wilson Road during the closure.

Due to the traffic volumes on the Moose-Wilson Road, the gravel surface has deteriorated to the point of needing repair. The road grading work will create a smoother surface and provide an added measure of safety for motorists using this park road.

The Moose-Wilson Road will be closed for repairs two more times this summer—in late-July and late-August. The exact dates have not yet been determined; however, dates and times will be announced when further information becomes available.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 20, 2007 07-31

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Grand Teton Association Celebrates 70 Years of Partnership with Grand Teton National Park

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott is pleased to announce that the Grand Teton Association – formerly the Grand Teton Natural History Association – is celebrating its 70th year of partnering with Grand Teton National Park. While the association begins its 70th year with a new name, its mission remains the same: to increase public understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of Grand Teton National Park and the Greater Yellowstone Area through the sale of educational and interpretive materials, and to support the interpretive, educational, and research programs of Grand Teton and other partners such as the National Elk Refuge and surrounding national forests.

The seed for the Grand Teton Association was planted in December of 1936, when Grand Teton National Park Superintendent Thomas Whitcraft met with a group of Jackson Hole businessmen to discuss forming an association to provide written educational materials to park visitors. As a result of that meeting, the Jackson Hole Museum and Historical Association was formed in 1937. A local businessman donated fifty dollars to begin purchasing publications, and a fledgling board of directors selected the first advisory committee consisting of Dr. Fritiof Fryxell (Grand Teton's first naturalist), Olaus Murie, Stephen Leek, and Harrison Crandall, among others. In 1956, the Jackson Hole Museum and Historical Association changed its name to Grand Teton Natural History Association, and the current board approved a name change to Grand Teton Association on June 6, 2007.

Today the association operates sales areas in all park visitor centers. In addition, the association provides educational and interpretive items at the Menor's Ferry historic district, the Jackson Hole Airport, the Jackson Hole & Greater Yellowstone Visitor Center, the Miller House historic site on the National Elk Refuge, and nineteen district ranger stations on two national forests. Interpretive and educational items sold by the association help to increase visitors' knowledge and appreciation of the park and surrounding public lands.

In Grand Teton National Park, the association contributes to education, interpretation, and research efforts through donations, and supports various park operations and programs, including: funding for exhibits in the new Grand Teton Discovery and Visitor Center; annual printing of the park newspaper, the *Teewinot*; publishing of books and reference materials, as well as distribution of free brochures and trail guides; staffing in park visitor centers; funding of student scholarships and support for the Young Naturalist program; administering of the Artists in the Environment and the Writers in the Parks programs; and management of the Boyd Evison Graduate Fellowship program.

“The Grand Teton Association continues to be a crucial partner in accomplishing our park mission of providing education and inspiration for today's park visitors, and for future generations,” stated Superintendent Scott. “We appreciate their passion, dedication, and commitment toward ensuring that visitors have a rich, enjoyable, and educational park experience.”

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 23, 2007 07-32

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Food-Conditioned Black Bear Euthanized for Safety Concerns

Grand Teton National Park Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced that park biologists euthanized a male black bear on Friday afternoon, June 22, out of concern for public safety. About 2 p.m. Friday, the three to four-year-old bear pushed against windows at Jenny Lake Lodge and peered into the building before scaling a six-foot fence to get near the kitchen door behind the lodge. The 150-pound bear exhibited little or no concern for nearby people and aggressively bluff charged park rangers who responded to the location after receiving a call about the bear's unusual activities. In addition, this bear obtained a food reward at a backcountry campsite on Leigh Lake early Friday morning, and on more than one occasion followed people at close range while they were hiking trails around Leigh Lake. Habituation to people and bold behavior—combined with repeated food rewards—prompted park officials to make the decision to remove this bear from the population and eliminate potential threats to visitors.

Since early spring, the male black bear has been frequenting the trails around Bearpaw, Trapper, and Leigh lakes. He was caught in a trap on June 5, 2007, and a radio-collar placed on him to track his movements; before that time, he was unmarked and uncollared. Previous to Friday's incident, the bear tore up an unoccupied tent and scratched on a tent while people were sleeping inside. He also investigated a backcountry patrol cabin on Leigh Lake and boldly walked around the porch, showing little interest or unease about park staff who were inside the cabin.

Superintendent Scott said, "We never take the decision to euthanize a bear lightly. It is unfortunate and frustrating that food rewards and habituation to people have caused this bear to become food-conditioned and aggressive. Bears generally pose a safety concern only after they start to associate people and their activities with easily obtained food. It is imperative that all visitors and local residents heed the 'bear aware' information posted throughout the park, and take personal responsibility for securing food and other attractants at all times while traveling or camping in bear country."

Park officials remind all visitors that bears—both black and grizzly—are active day and night throughout the park: not only in the backcountry areas but also in high-use locations such as the lodges and campgrounds. For the safety of other visitors and the health of bears, it is extremely important to properly store food in a vehicle or food-storage boxes provided at campsites, and always dispose of garbage in bear-resistant cans or dumpsters. Never leave food or backpacks unattended, even for a minute. Once a bear acquires human food, it loses its fear of people and may become bold or aggressive.

—NPS—

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 25, 2007 07-34

Jackie Skaggs
307.739.3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Wal-Mart Volunteers to Assist with Site Restoration Project

Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott is pleased to announce that a group of approximately 60 volunteers will join Grand Teton National Park employees on Saturday, June 30, to assist with a site restoration project at Schwabacher's Landing on the Snake River. The volunteers, employees of Wal-Mart stores throughout southeastern Idaho, are participants in a company program titled "Volunteerism Always Pays" or VAP.

The Wal-Mart volunteers will spend approximately four to five hours working with Grand Teton's science and resource management staff at Schwabacher's Landing, with the goal of restoring the area to a more natural condition. Schwabacher's Landing, an exceptionally scenic location in the park, draws many visitors who want to fish the river channels, look for beaver and other wildlife, or photograph the classic scenery from this particular spot. Many social trails have developed as a result of the varying uses, and negative impacts to the existing vegetation require rehabilitation. In addition, this area is particularly vulnerable to invasions of exotic plant species, such as bull thistle, hound's-tongue, and spotted knapweed. Restoration strategies will include: minimizing social trails; collecting native seeds to be used for future regeneration; and eradicating and containing exotic plant populations in this and the surrounding areas.

Wal-Mart's VAP program began in 1995 as a way to encourage employees to connect with and give back to their local communities. Since then, the program has contributed more than five million hours, and more than \$23 million, to deserving organizations. "Wal-Mart has a core philosophy of partnering with our local communities. Through volunteer programs, company associates can be directly involved in improving the lives of our customers," said Karianne Fallow, senior manager of public affairs for Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. "Our associates are engaged and enthusiastic volunteers who offer a level of commitment and involvement to community service programs, and this project is no exception."

"Volunteers enhance and support the mission of the National Park Service through their generous efforts," stated Superintendent Scott. "We appreciate the time, energy and dedication that volunteer groups and service organizations such as Wal-Mart give to their national parks across the country."

This is the second year that Wal-Mart has been a welcome partner, contributing to projects that restore trails and other high-use areas within Grand Teton National Park. Last year, Wal-Mart and Unilever volunteers helped to rehabilitate a popular trail in the park by improving erosion control along the trail and removing brushy vegetation that posed a safety hazard.

-NPS-
www.nps.gov/grte

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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