



YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
RECEIVED

JUL 17 1962

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

July 16, 1962

IN REPLY REFER TO:

SEP 2/17

Superintendent	
Asst. Supt.	
Adm. Officer	
Engineer	
Chief Ranger	(D)
Mgt. Asst.	
Naturalist	
Forester	
Landscape Arch.	
Personnel	
Accounting	
Warehouse	
Shop	

File

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Yosemite

From: Acting Assistant to the Regional Director, Western Region

Subject: Annual Report (10A8)

We have completed our checking of items of particular interest in the annual reports from all areas, which necessitated sending one copy to the Washington Office. We found but one copy of your report--so this leaves us without a copy.

Will you please send us a carbon (not Thermofax copy, as these are part of a permanent record and Thermofax copies cannot be filed). / Done

I do hope that you have an extra, so this will not cause you undue inconvenience.

Fussell K. Grater

Acting Assistant to the Regional Director

Schnettler

A2623

July 5, 1962

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Acting Superintendent, Yosemite

Subject: Superintendent's Annual Narrative Report - Report 10A8

Two items of interest may be added to the report submitted by our memorandum of June 5:

1. A decided increase in travel is apparent in the first six months of the present calendar year. As of June 27, more than 500,000 visitors had been recorded, topping all previous records.
2. Two searches for lost children were successfully concluded in June. Both youngsters had wandered away from campgrounds outside of Yosemite Valley. One was located after 30 hours, while the second was missing for 10 hours.

Elmer N. Fladmark
Acting Superintendent

In duplicate

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Four

WASchnettler:eb

FILE COPY

Schnettler
Kelso

A2623

June 5, 1962

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To: Director

From: Superintendent, Yosemite

Subject: Annual Narrative Report--Report 10A8

Enclosed, in duplicate, is the subject report for this Park. Several items pertaining to Devils Postpile National Monument are included under the various subject headings.

Sgd. JOHN C. PRESTON

John C. Preston
Superintendent

In duplicate

Enclosures

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Four, w/ copy of report

WASchnettler:eb

FILE COPY

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OF THE 1962 FISCAL YEAR

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, CALIFORNIA

Summary Sheet

1. Mission 66
2. Concessions Operations
3. Research
4. Interpretive Activities
5. Pioneer Yosemite History Center
6. Interpretive Planning
7. Yosemite Natural History Association
8. Personnel
9. Property Management
10. Police Protection
11. Weather
12. Accidents and Rescues
13. Hazardous Tree and Limb Removal
14. Forest Insect Control
15. Post Office
16. Landscape Architecture
17. Lands

1. MISSION 66

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Minor Roads and Trails - A contract was awarded and construction was completed on the El Portal Incinerator Road. The contractor was Industrial Service and Engineering Company of Denver, Colorado, who submitted a low bid of \$32,042.

Park crews reconstructed the footpath from Glacier Point to the hotel last fall. The work consisted of leveling rough sections and resurfacing the entire trail.

The Park forestry crew was allotted \$7,000 for vista clearing work on the floor of Yosemite Valley and along the Wawona Road. The work was completed this spring.

The Yosemite Falls parking area was relocated to a point near the main road, some distance from the foot of the Falls, and was expanded to accommodate the increased visitor use in the area. Day labor was used at a cost of \$20,000.

The Park road crew also reconstructed the residential road in the Lower Tecoya area occupied by Yosemite Park and Curry Company employees. This \$20,000 project included improvement of the drainage and parking facilities and a complete repaving job.

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A package contract was awarded to Industrial Service and Engineering Company of Denver, Colorado, for construction of an incinerator, dump, and related facilities at El Portal. The job was completed in May 1962 at a total cost of about \$330,000.

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Emergency funds were also provided for reconstruction of the Arch Rock Entrance Station. The old station was demolished by a large stock truck last summer.

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The Yosemite Park and Curry Company has completed a program of rehabilitation of the cafeteria kitchen and serving areas at Glacier Point and will undertake a similar program at the Wawona Hotel at the end of the 1962 summer season. The pavilion at Camp Curry was remodeled into guest rooms and was opened to use during the Christmas season. A small building behind the pavilion, formerly used as a linen room, has also been converted to a studio type rental unit.

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Approval was given for the addition of 16 parking spaces to the rear of the Degnan-Donohoe, Inc., building and for surfacing of the existing parking area. The concessioner has also realigned a portion of the fence surrounding the outdoor patio to emphasize the approach from the rear parking area.

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3. RESEARCH

The Research Reserve Committee of the Yosemite School of Field Natural History completed arrangements to publish the 1958 and 1959 reports on the resurvey of Swamp Lake Research Reserve.

The report, A Preliminary Survey of the Influence of White Man on the Vegetation of Yosemite Valley, done on contract from the Region Four Office by Robert Gibbons of the University of California School of Forestry, was received.

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Eastman Kodak Company representatives presented illustrated talks at Camp 14 and Camp Curry entitled "How to Take Better Travel Slides" and "How to Better Show Your Travel Slides." Each show was presented several times and both were well received, of high quality, and not inconsistent with National Park Service objectives. The possibility that the presentations may establish a precedent and encourage other commercial firms to offer similar programs in the parks is a point for consideration before the showings are continued.

Naturalist service has been resumed at Devils Postpile National Monument for the first time in several years.

5. PIONEER YOSEMITE HISTORY CENTER

The Pioneer Yosemite History Center was given a national award at the 23rd Annual Meeting of the American Association for State and Local History in San Francisco. The award was one of three given in California, the awardees having been chosen from a national field of nearly 100 entries.

The Jorgensen Cabin, last of the pioneer buildings to be placed at the Center, was moved from Yosemite Valley and will house, among other paintings, works of the noted Yosemite artist, Chris Jorgensen.

Furnishing plans for the Cavalry Cabin were completed and forwarded to the Regional Office. Other furnishing plans are in process.

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Past operations were analyzed in the light of current needs, and a modified program was developed for the future. The biggest single need in Yosemite seems to be a lengthening of the season of interpretive activities. This will call not only for funds, but for personnel with extended periods of availability. Seasonal interpretive personnel has characteristically come from schools, but school-connected individuals have less free summer time every year, and a new source of seasonals is being sought.

Chapter 2 of Volume 1 (Visitor Use Brief) of the Master Plan for Yosemite National Park was completed in cooperation with the Park Landscape Architect and submitted to the Region Four Office for approval and distribution.

Preparation of the interpretive prospectus for the Park was begun.

7. YOSEMITE NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

After 40 years of monthly publication, the Board of Trustees of the Yosemite Natural History Association decided that Yosemite or Yosemite Nature Notes would be discontinued as a periodical. Occasional issues and special issues will continue to be prepared, but subscriptions will not be taken. Precipitating the action was the financial loss sustained through rising cost of publishing the magazine, and the impossibility of personnel to devote time to editorial work in the face of the increasing visitor load.

To relieve the interpretive personnel of many of the routine matters associated with the operation of the Association, a full-time assistant business manager was hired.

8. PERSONNEL

The trend begun with the inauguration of MISSION 66 was continued during the 1962 fiscal year with the establishment of five new permanent positions, four graded and one ungraded. Since July 1, 1956, the staff has increased from 101 permanent positions to 144, of which 70 are graded and 74 ungraded.

The high rate of turnover also continued as shown in the following summary of personnel actions: New appointments, 17; Transfers within the Service, 28; Retirements, 3; Resignations, 2; Probationary separations, 2. These actions represent a turnover rate of approximately 25 percent in the permanent staff.

The annual wage survey which went into effect on April 29 resulted in an average increase of 10 cents per hour for ungraded employees.

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Continual effort was directed toward reducing the quantity of obsolete or slow-moving items in the warehouse. The number of stock items in the inventory is also being reduced appreciably by use of the "low cost sale" method.

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There has been an increase in law enforcement action comparable to the national trend. The rate of growth in law enforcement problems is, however, more than twice as great as the rate of increase in Park visitation.

11. WEATHER

Yosemite National Park received a welcome respite from the recent dry years with nearly normal precipitation for the 1961-62 season. As of May 1, there had been a total of 35.05 inches of moisture recorded as compared with a normal for the period of 35.56 inches. February, with 17.24 inches of precipitation in Yosemite Valley, was the second wettest February on record since 1911. Normal for the month is 6.51.

12. ACCIDENTS AND RESCUES

There were two accidental deaths in the Park in the 1962 fiscal year. Merigo Daniel Francesconi, 17, drowned in the Merced River near the lower end of Yosemite Valley on July 2, 1961. Marvin Booker Crawford, 69, succumbed to carbon monoxide poisoning in his trailer on May 16, 1962. In addition, there were four deaths from natural causes during the year. Vehicular accidents to May 1 totaled 186, and there was one airplane crash in the high country in which four members of a family were only slightly injured and were able to walk out to Tioga Pass.

A seriously injured man was evacuated from the South Fork of the Merced River on July 15 after he had fallen while fishing. A second difficult rescue was effected on July 29 when a climber fell while making a registered climb of Cathedral Spire. Because of the rough terrain and the inability of a helicopter to reach the site, a force of ten rangers completed the rescue. A difficult and dangerous rescue was accomplished on April 19 when two climbers became stranded on Lost Arrow during a snow storm. Through the valiant efforts of Ranger Wayne Merry and Sierra Club member George Whitmore, the two climbers were successfully rescued.

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14. FOREST INSECT CONTROL

Continuing drought conditions during the early part of the 1962 fiscal year increased the forest pest problem in Yosemite National Park to the worst conditions in 30 years. The regular maintenance program of forest pest control was prosecuted during every month of the year. Improved methods utilized in the special Mountain Pine Beetle control program continued to be most effective with the added advantage of eliminating quantities of felled trees as a result of suppression activities.

The most outstanding program during the year was the Lodgepole Needle Miner project undertaken in the Tenaya Lake-Tuolumne Meadows area. This was an aerial spray project carried on July 13-18, during which time 48,718 gallons of insecticide were applied to 4,928 acres of lodgepole forest. Three helicopters were used to fly a total of 65 hours and 45 minutes.

15. POST OFFICE

A duplex residence for post office employees in Yosemite Valley was completed and occupied in October.

16. LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Money has been set up for an elementary school and 4-unit teacherage at El Portal. An architect has been retained by the Housing and Home Finance Agency to prepare plans and specifications for the project.

A 6-acre site in the new National Park Service housing area has been assigned for the construction of school facilities.

The foreword and Chapter 1, Policies and Objectives, narrative portion, of the Devils Postpile Master Plan were approved during the 1962 fiscal year.

17. Lands

The 1962 fiscal year brought a new emphasis on the acquisitions of private land in Yosemite National Park. The increased demand for camping areas resulted in the commencement of a crash program to acquire the Foresta subdivision properties and to return this land to Park use, the purpose for which it was dedicated by a congressional act of October 1, 1890.

On October 13, 1961, a Declaration of Taking, accompanied by an Order of Immediate Possession was filed on behalf of the Federal Government in the District Court in California, vesting title in 597 lots totaling 68.5 acres of Foresta in U. S. ownership. Only undeveloped lots were included.

On May 28, 1962, a second Declaration of Taking, accompanied by an Order of Immediate Possession, was filed in the same court. This action concerned the remaining 235 undeveloped lots totaling 27.03 acres in the Foresta townsites. There still remains to be acquired a total of 123 improved lots having 90 separate ownerships and totaling 14.02 acres. Additionally there are streets, ways, roads, boundary strips, and the non-platted area contiguous to Crane Creek still to be acquired.

<u>Acquired</u>	<u>Acres</u>
597 Foresta Lots, October 13, 1961	68.50
235 Foresta Lots, May 28, 1962	27.03
10 Foresta Lots, from Y.N.H.A. ownership	1.14
Cushman property at Wawona	.50
4 mill sites - Garnett Queen, Blue Spot Blue Dipper, Blue Star at El Portal	20.00
2nd Option for Gloria Owen, Wawona	10.50
Yosemite National Park, California	

In process of being acquired

Acres

M. M. Godbout house & lot, Foresta

.114

Carl Thompson property - Wawona

3.60

7 Foresta lots from Y.N.H.A.

.798

Three appraisals were obtained for the William Bruce property (42 acres) at Wawona. Subsequently we understand this property has been sold to a private group which intends to sub-divide.

17
A2623

June 5, 1962

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Yosemite National Park, California

In process of being acquired

Acres

M. M. Godbout house & lot, Foresta

.114

Carl Thompson property - Maroma

3.60

7 Foresta lots from Y.N.K.A.

.798

Three appraisals were obtained for the William Bruce property (42 acres) at Maroma. Subsequently we understand this property has been sold to a private group which intends to sub-divide.

A2623

July 5, 1962

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Acting Superintendent, Yosemite

Subject: Superintendent's Annual Narrative Report - Report 10A8

Two items of interest may be added to the report submitted by our memorandum of June 5:

1. A decided increase in travel is apparent in the first six months of the present calendar year. As of June 27, more than 500,000 visitors had been recorded, topping all previous records.
2. Two searches for lost children were successfully concluded in June. Both youngsters had wandered away from campgrounds outside of Yosemite Valley. One was located after 30 hours, while the second was missing for 10 hours.

Elmer N. Fladmark
Acting Superintendent

In duplicate

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Four

WASchnettler:eb