



FINDING AID

Park to Paradise Triathlon (Gardiner, Montana) Records 1981-2014

Prepared by
Hailey C. Galper
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Yellowstone National Park Archives
P O Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190-0168

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HISTORY

The Park to Paradise Triathlon is an annual event that began in 1980 and continues today.

The Park to Paradise Triathlon was created by the Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC), as a local alternative to the Peaks to Prairie Race in Billings, Montana. In 1980, the race began at the YACC camp in Yellowstone National Park and ended 50 miles away at Mallard's Rest near Livingston, Montana. In 1981, the race began at the YACC camp and ended 40 miles away at the Emigrant Bridge. From 1982-1988, the race began at the Roosevelt Arch in Gardiner, Montana, and ended 33.5 miles away at the Emigrant-Chico Bridge. In 1989, the course was reversed, so that the race actually ran from Emigrant to the Roosevelt Arch, allowing for the use of Arch Park to give away ribbons and hold a community lunch. In 2014, organization of the race was taken over by the Greater Gardiner Community Council.

The race consists of three events: running, biking, and paddling. Participants can sign up as teams or participate individually. Teams can be men's, women's, or mixed gender, with each team only competing for ribbons against teams of their same division. The Park to Paradise race, like the Peaks to Prairie race, replaces the traditional swimming leg of the triathlon with a paddling section either in canoe, kayak, or stand up paddleboard.

T-shirts commemorating the race have been designed by local artists, including Les Herman (1982-1984), Kathy Nanley (1985), Dan Krapf (2013-2014), Rachel Cudmore (2015), Doug Madsen, and Mimi Matsuda.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

Park to Paradise Triathlon (Gardiner, Montana) Records
1981-2014

<i>CATALOG NUMBER</i>	YELL 68443
<i>VOLUME</i>	.25 LF
<i>DESCRIPTION</i>	<p>This collection documents the administration and results of the Park to Paradise Triathlon, held annually in Gardiner, Montana. The records include race results, flyers, receipts, meeting notes and other planning documentation, and newspaper clippings relating to the Park to Paradise Triathlon. Materials are dated between 1981 and 2014, and contain information pertaining to Yellowstone National Park; Gardiner, Montana; and Paradise Valley, Montana.</p> <p>Race planning documentation includes correspondence with NPS Rangers, local businesses, and other race organizers. Also included are receipts and meeting notes. Race results include total times, as well as times for individual events. Early race results also include written summaries of the race as well as thank you letters to volunteers and local business supporters.</p>
<i>ARRANGEMENT</i>	Records are arranged according to record function and then chronologically.
<i>PROVENANCE</i>	Gift of Stacey Gunther, Park to Paradise Triathlon, 2014.
<i>RESTRICTIONS</i>	NO
<i>ASSOCIATED MATERIALS</i>	Race t-shirts. Yellowstone National Park Museum Collections.

CONTAINER LIST**Box 1**

File	Title
01.01	Race results, 1981-2014
01.02	Planning records/Correspondence, 1995-2006
01.03	Promotional flyers, 1998-2005
01.04	Newspaper clippings/Photographs, 1989-2008