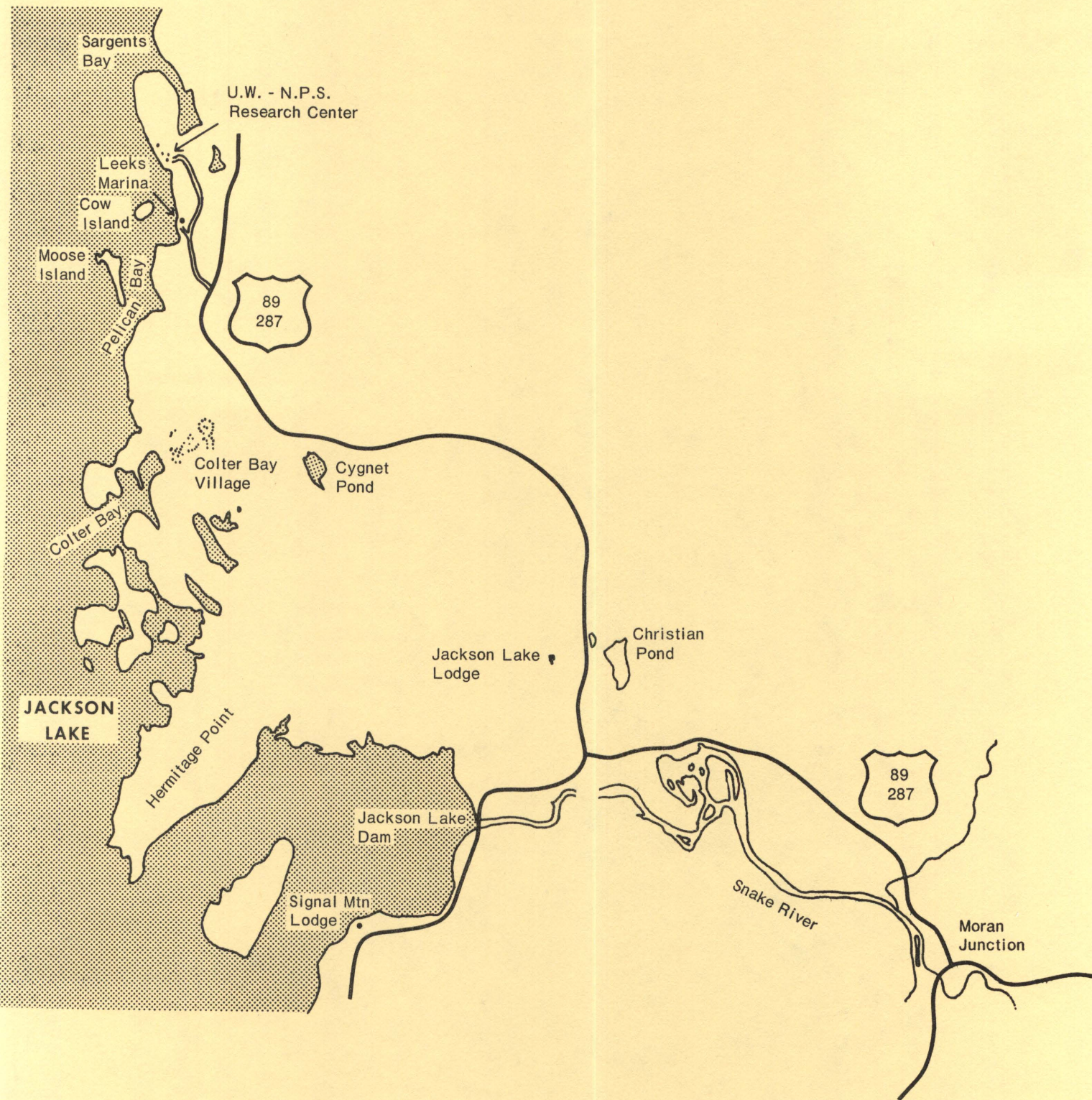




UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING-NATIONAL PARK SERVICE RESEARCH CENTER

University of Wyoming
National Park Service Research Center
Second Annual Report
1978





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PREFACE

The University of Wyoming-National Park Service Research Center sponsors and supports substantial and significant research in the biological, physical and social sciences which can best be done in National Park areas of Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota because of the unique features those areas possess. Administratively, the Research Center is governed by an 8-member Steering Committee composed of 4 University of Wyoming representatives and 4 National Park Service representatives. The University of Wyoming Vice President for Research serves as Committee Chairperson. A faculty member of the University of Wyoming is Director of the Research Center program and is administrator of the Research Center facilities. Also, the Director is an ex-officio member of the Steering Committee. The Research Center physical plant consists of laboratory, library, living, seminar, shop and storage accommodations. Those facilities are normally operational from mid-May to mid-October.

The Director annually calls for research proposals in early September from institutions and individuals requesting such notification. Included with this solicitation are 1) guidelines for proposal preparation, 2) housing and laboratory information, 3) Research Center operational policies, and 4) the Research Center operational calendar. Topics for research include 1) those research problems identified by Park personnel, and 2) research problems suggested by outside individuals on basic or applied proposals they consider to be timely and important and uniquely appropriate to the National Park areas of the four states concerned. While many of the research topics will be directed at solution to management problems and improvement of interpretation information, there will be a concentrated effort to encourage and maintain support for a substantial basic research program. Research projects may extend beyond the exact boundaries of the Park areas to work on problems common to the Park lands and adjacent lands. Limited funds are available for support of meritorious research projects. Also, research studies may be funded by other institutions or by individuals.

Investigator(s) submitting proposals to the Research Center should be a faculty member of an academic institution or a full-time member of a research institution. Undergraduate and graduate students cannot be project investigators. Normally all proposals should reach the Director no later than mid-November. The decisions of the Steering Committee concerning approval and where applicable, funding, are released by mid-February.

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- 159 Mr. Robert I. Kerr, Superintendent, Grand Teton National Park,
National Park Service
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- 188 Mr. Neil J. Reid, Chief Scientist, Rocky Mountain Region, National
Park Service
- 190 Mr. John Townsley, Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park,
National Park Service

- Dr. Ronald Beiswenger, Department of Geography and Mathematics and
Science Teaching Center, University of Wyoming

- Dr. Donald J. Brosz, Department of Agricultural Engineering,
University of Wyoming

- Dr. E. Gerald Meyer, Vice President for Research, University of Wyoming
and Steering Committee Chairperson

- Dr. Donald Veal, Department of Atmospheric Science, University of
Wyoming

- Dr. Kenneth L. Diem, Ex-officio Member, and Director, UW-NPS Research
Center

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Thirty-eight research proposals were submitted to the Research Center for the 1977-78 season. Thirty-four of these proposals, submitted by investigators from 13 institutions, were approved. Also, 19 of these proposals received funding support from the Research Center. Additional supporting funds were provided by sponsoring academic institutions, the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. National Park Service. Distribution of the projects totaled 11 in Grand Teton National Park, 1 in Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park, 3 in Wind Cave National Park, 17 in Yellowstone National Park and 2 jointly in Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. Thirteen of these projects were conducted by researchers residing at the Research Center.

An amendment to the Center's National Park Service Special Use Permit, provided for use of the Boise Cascade and Sunroom Guest Cabin as living accommodations. Field research activities at the Research Center were initiated in mid-May. Transfer of research and housing equipment from the inactivated Biological Research Station to the Center was completed by July 1. By the end of the summer, the Berol Laboratories were 85% operational and they will be fully operational by the summer of 1979.

The University of Wyoming Trustees held their June meeting at the Research Center. Following that meeting they inspected the new research facilities.

The formal Dedication of the Research Center was held on July 14. In honor of the occasion, 126 friends and guests attended the ceremony in the Berol seminar rooms. The Center was particularly honored to have had Mr. William Whalen, Director, National Park Service and Mr. Tony Bevinetto, Senator Clifford Hansen's Representative, present the major remarks commemorating that important event. A barbecue luncheon and open house completed the Dedication activities.

With the assistance of Ms. Pat Molholt, Head, UW Science Library, and Mr. Robert Patterson, UW Library Director, the Research Center Library was designated as a Branch Library of the University of Wyoming Science and Technology Library. Several immediate benefits of this action are 1) a better inventory and control of the holdings through cataloging and a standard card file system, 2) a more critical evaluation of current holdings as to their applicability and utility in Center research activities, 3) a designated annual book budget, and 4) a greater potential for improving reference research service in such media as microfilm, microfiche, as well as computer data searching.

Maintenance and minor modifications of the physical plant continued to occupy the Center employees during this "shake down" period. Oiling and

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painting of the log structures and roofs will probably extend into 1980. Partial conversion of the Woodshed into a storage shed for 2 house trailers was completed in 1978. Now all of the Center's vehicles, trailers and boats are stored under cover. Smoke and heat detection alarms have been installed in all living and laboratory units. Conversion of the boat house into an aquatic laboratory will begin in 1979.

All of the buildings at the Biological Research Station site have been sold and/or moved to new locations. Also, all other vestiges of human occupation at that location have been removed. The monies received from the four buildings owned by the University have been allocated for use at the Research Center.

Improvement of the diversity and performance of the Research Center program will be a high priority goal in 1979. Greater participation by all of the Park areas in the four state area is necessary if the original intent of the program is to be realized. Also, more in-depth identification of the diverse natural resource problems confronting park managers is needed from park personnel and outside scientists. Some follow-up is needed on specific research projects supported by the National Park Service to determine the utility of the information collected and if and how that information was incorporated into management. Some type of feed-back analysis system between park area personnel and researchers appears to be most desirable.

Kenneth L. Diem
Director

RESEARCH PROJECT REPORTS

The following project reports have been prepared primarily for administrative use. The information reported is of a preliminary nature and may be subject to change as the investigations continue. Consequently, the information presented may not be used without written permission from the author(s).

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Grand Teton National Park

