United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
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IN REPLY REFER TO:
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(WR)PSH

MAR 12 1975

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Western Region

From: Superintendent, Yosemite

Subject: "Superintendent's Annual Report"

Enclosed is Yosemite's "Superintendent's Annual Report" for the calendar year 1974.

Leslie P. Arnberger

Enclosure

SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

Yosemite National Park

1974

INTRODUCTION

Although 1974 ended with a comparatively mild season, snowfall being below average, the Ranger and Park visitor activities were high. With the Yosemite Master Plan being rejected on December 13, 1974, active participation by Park employees, visitors, and others from all over the world began in an attempt to set up a Master Plan that would offer the most to Yosemite and its visitors.

While work was being done on the Master Plan, work continued in the Park to master efficient ways of running such a unique, diversified area. Although 1,073 hazardous trees were removed from being part of the Park experience in Yosemite, new experiences in other aspects of the Park were added.

DIVISION OF INTERPRETATION

Diversity, innovation, and flexibility were the bywords for interpretation in Yosemite during 1974. A greater variety of activities than ever before was offered, with increased emphasis on experimentation, active visitor involvement with Park resources, and bringing together "straight" people with conventional views and value systems with counter-culture "freaks." The outcome was at once exciting and perplexing and provided countless insights and options for refinement in 1975.

The expanded schedule of services was designed to reduce excessive participation in popular activities to manageable levels, to reach and unite a broader spectrum of visitor types, and to deepen visitor perception of Park values. We blended a plethora of new program ideas with carry-over activities, and the result was an almost overwhelming

maelstrom geared to nearly every age level and lifestyle. One-day mini-seminars on a variety of topics offered in-depth interpretation along with an expanded schedule of YNHA summer and winter field seminars, and a two-night family backpacking trip, partially funded by YNHA as an extension of the Family Plan inaugurated in 1973, permitted parents to share their childrens' sense of wonder in discovering nature. Emphasis on minimum impact programs and demonstrations remained strong. Specialized walks, music programs, and square dances in the Village Mall attracted culturally mixed audiences; and rap sessions, fireside chats, and other informal discussion programs encouraged visitors to voice ideas and opinions about Park issues and policies. The Service's decision to withhold information on the Park's ill-fated Master Plan proposal forced curtailment of these programs in the fall when the controversy became heated.

The highlight of the enlarged Indian Cultural Program was the completion of the ceremonial Roundhouse in the Indian Village behind the Visitor Center. The Mariposa Indian Council cosponsored its dedication in early June, exemplifying a continuing staff effort to involve the local Indian community in Park affairs. Interpretive signs were installed along the Village trail, and a self-guiding leaflet with large type for the visually handicapped was printed by the YNHA in cooperation with the local Lions Club. Development of the Indian Cultural Center in the Valley District Building, now proposed as a Bicentennial project, began with the sorting and reclassification of cultural materials and the painting of a mural in the entryway.

Living history again flourished at the Pioneer Yosemite History Center in Wawona. Historical background data was compiled into a handbook for interpreters who presented the information conversationally to visitors in a historical context. The interpreters "lived" their roles to kindle in visitors an understanding of Yosemite's role in the early National Park movement. The YNHA again offered stagecoach rides at the center, and once a week, the lantern-lit wagon barn was the scene of old-fashioned square dances. Otherwise, visitor involvement in historical activities was limited. Emphasis this summer will shift to task-oriented activities that will permit safe visitor participation. Interpreters will then engage participants in conversation about their "way of life" and events of the period represented.

Hill's Studio on the Wawona Hotel grounds was opened in August after an intrusion alarm system was installed. The prospects for art-oriented activities using the studio as a historical base are promising.

Young people remained a focal point of interpretation. This past year, the "Natural High" program emphasized closer contact with Park resources in lieu of multimedia extravaganzas. The Yosemite Youth Coalition comprising National Park Service, "Outreach," A Christian Ministry in the National Parks, and the Youth Conservation Corps was formed to coordinate youth-oriented activities. For the second consecutive summer, the National Park Service shared LeConte Memorial Lodge with the Sierra Club as a Junior Nature Center. The programs and displays used there will be upgraded this summer.

Young people were also instrumental in conducting programs. Several Upward Bound students from innercity schools worked as part-time interpretive aids in selected activities. Financial assistance from YNHA and Yosemite Park and Curry Company permitted local young people familiar with the Park, to conduct interpretive programs for youths their own age. They performed commendably, and the program evolved into a popular community-service project.

Environmental education activity declined in 1974, principally because Environmental Education Specialist John Krisko was participating in the graduate course in Environmental Education Administration at George Williams College until June. Although no teacher workshops were conducted, virtually every organized group that requested interpretive services received them. Environmental education emphasis this year will be on increasing teacher involvement and on strengthening environmental approaches to interpretation.

Experimentation with program items and approaches at Glacier Point produced a good starting point for the 1975 schedule. Astronomy walks continued to grow in popularity, enhanced by prime night viewing conditions. This year, we hope to acquire a new telescope that will also permit daytime use.

At the Mariposa Grove, several exhibit panels describing plant and animal residents were installed at the tram boarding area. During the summer, the staff worked closely with the Grove tram drivers to improve their interpretive presentations. Plans to complete the installation of tape systems in all tram units before summer were thwarted. Equipment now on hand will be installed before the 1975 season.

Winter activities at the Grove are also regularly scheduled. The concessioner's summer gift shop building serves as a warming hut where interpreters can provide informal interpretation and information.

Acquisitions of additional military surplus snowshoes last winter have enhanced snowshoe walks at Badger Pass and Summit Meadow. Since downhill skiing is the primary attraction at Badger Pass, relatively few visitors even take time to look at the "Yosemite Guide," much less take a conducted trip. The installation of portable bulletin boards near the lift boarding areas and more personal contact have helped publicize actitivites and boost participation.

Separation of the information and publications sales functions in the Visitor Center improved the quality and efficiency of information services. An information kiosk near the Chapel was abandoned in mid-summer when new directional signs reduced the need for it and roving contact assignments were then increased. Additional improvements at the Visitor Center and the Happy Isles Trail Center this year should streamline information operations further, and we are redoubling efforts to help visitors find the Visitor Center more easily by clarifying the map in the "Yosemite Guide" and directional signs in the Valley.

Efforts were also made to improve printed information. A bear safety leaflet in cartoon format was prepared by Lyndel Meikle, a seasonal interpreter, and was printed during the summer for free distribution. She developed a similar leaflet on winter safety that was printed late in the year.

The first physical inventory of the museum collections in many years began in 1974. Repository and storage conditions were improved, notably for the fine collection of paintings in the vault and the specimen cases in the collection room. A number of paintings and Indian artifacts were the central elements in several off-site exhibits, and one Bierstadt painting was displayed at Expo '74 in Spokane.

Organization of the historic records center in the attic of the Valley District Building began late in the year. Other 1974 accomplishments included darkroom reconstruction, complete rewiring of the audiovisual systems in the Visitor Center Auditoriums, and development of a complete audiovisual production studio.

Although the year saw many achievements in interpretation, some failures identified last year haunted us again. No activities were developed for handicapped visitors, no additional self-guiding trails were developed, and the Yosemite Travel Museum at El Portal was not rehabilitated or staffed. The first two deficiencies should be corrected this year.

The development of program objectives and themes this past fall was a major step toward this year's goal to solidify the direction of Park interpretation by consolidating the innovations of the past three years. In 1975, we plan to cull and refine the overall program in order to use available personnel more productively, to expand services in the spring and fall, to increase the availability of short duration activities for visitors with little time or inclination to participate in longer activities, to reduce visitor confusion, to satisfy apparent visitor interests more effectively by favoring well-attended programs over less popular ones, and to strengthen the use of interpretation as a management tool. Achieving this goal will demand improvements in employee training and development, seasonal supervision, and the process of employee counseling and evaluation. If all goes well, the end product will be a more cohesive interpretive program.

PROTECTION DIVISION

There are certain broad stroke patterns that can be determined for the management of Yosemite National Park in terms of visitor use. As the snow recedes, the Park visitors tend to fill available space in the campgrounds on weekends; particularly the holiday weekends. Backcountry visitor use increases quickly in the spring at Hetch Hetchy, Yosemite Valley, and Little Yosemite areas, as backpackers try to find an outlet for their winter-starved pursuit. There is a very real manpower crunch with a conservation of funds until the big rush in the summertime from Memorial Day to Labor Day, leaving us short in the spring and fall with more law enforcement activity in terms of drug usage and more possibilities for big, expensive rescues when the cooler temperatures allow the big wall climbs. The on-again, off-again aspect of campground fee collection was troublesome, in addition to the further complicating factor of initiating a campground reservation system on June 25, 1974, with all of the well-publicized attendant problems. There was considerable criticism, but given the circumstances of the campground reservation system, we got off lightly.

Hang gliding was allowed on a restricted basis from Glacier Point with much of the control activity being done by the Hang Glider Association itself. The experiment was successful and guidelines were put out for review by interested parties. This activity, due to its low environmental impact and short visual duration, has been permitted. There were no accidents even though more than 170 flights were made.

There were 121 search and rescue operations in CY 1974. Billing was made for some of the 28 helicopter evacuations patterned after the technique used in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. We found

that the acceptance by the Park visitor was relatively high except that our information and justification to them along with a written agreement broke down. Therefore, this next summer, we intend to continue with this billing process to offset some of the cost of this service which is often not a life or death matter, but a matter of convenience. In any case, where for medical reasons someone would have to be evacuated, the evacuation comes first and payment consideration last. Through good liaison with Lemoore Naval Air Station and their rescue helicopter unit, we have performed many rescues together and are in the process of developing helicopter techniques which are cutting costs and risk on big wall rescues.

The backcountry wilderness permit system was run quite successfully this past summer, with the total backcountry being 87 percent full on August 27, according to present carrying capacity figures. As the more popular zones filled to capacity, the Park visitors were diverted to zones that still had room. Public acceptance was high (82 percent individual and 75 percent group compliance). Large parties did not constitute a major problem with 25 as the maximum per party. Travel for the backcountry was up 47 percent for the year.

In controlling the large number of visitors who come into Yosemite Valley, several noteworthy successes can be mentioned. Sunnyside Campground (Camp 4) was designated as a walk-in campground with a large parking area established to the side of the Lodge service station. This worked very well with fewer law enforcement problems. Yellow Pine Campground remained a problem earlier in the summer, but when the number of parking sites were cut in half, the problem was greatly reduced.

In order to make Yellow Pine a walk-in campground providing a facility for backpackers coming into the Valley that are either returning from the backcountry or about to go into it, we will eliminate all parking for the campground, so that use by the hard-core, partying crowd that comes in will be inconvenienced. Based on our experience with Sunnyside Campground, we can hope for a decrease in problems from the fringe element that is often found in Yellow Pine.

There will be a push to standardize horse patrol in all of the districts by rotating seasonal Rangers. For instance, key men from the Wawona District and the Mather District will come into the Valley with old-time horse patrol Rangers being farmed out to these districts for one summer. Then the men will be rotated to provide standardization throughout the Park.

The law enforcement caseload went from 1,676 in 1973 to 1,920 in 1974. Felony arrests went from 310 in 1973 to 430 in 1974, with a corresponding record of assaults from 19 in 1973 to 53 assaults in 1974. In terms of total arrest, there was a drop from 666 in 1973 to 637 in 1974. The reason for this decline in arrests is mainly attributable to a decrease of 185 in the arrests for disorderly conduct. This was made possible by our policy which required the closing of the top decks of the Valley shuttle buses at 9 p.m. every night.

However, if we look back at the felony arrests, we can see that they increased by almost 39 percent. The implication of these statistics are possibly that we have opened "Pandora's Box" through better law enforcement professionalism or it is merely a reflection of the nation-wide increase in criminal activities. We think that it is a combination of both and that the departmental insistance by directive on more professionalism is appropriate. However, there is a need for an interim period of adapting to these departmental standards and procedures regarding law enforcement (December 20, 1974, Directive 446, DM 1 and 2).

In the fall of the year, particularly with an Indian summer such as we experienced this year, there was continued intensive use of the backcountry, strong hunting pressures which sometimes find their way into the Park in the form of poaching, and a great deal of climbing activity with subsequent administration. These combined factors require that a higher level of staffing be maintained. This may be solved in part by terminating seasonal employees in mid-August to provide funds for the fall of the year. It has been found that after the initial training period, the efficiency of seasonal employees increases and there are opportunities to reduce staffing at this point, leaving some money for use during the so-called "off season."

There is considerable effort required to prepare the Ostrander Ski Hut and Tuolumne Meadows for the winter season. There are two Park Rangers working as Nordic Ski Patrolmen out of Badger Pass, patrolling the day-use trails radiating from that area, one at Ostrander Ski Hut and two at Tuolumne Meadows. A VIP Nordic Patrolman is stationed at Crane Flat, two VIP's at the Snow Creek Cabin assisting in caretaking and patrol functions and a VIP caretaker at Lake Eleanor.

Winter use of Yosemite National Park continues to grow in magnitude and complexity with winter camping, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing.

Fee collection activities continue throughout the year at the entrance stations and to a lesser degree in the Valley campgrounds with opening and closing patterns in the spring and fall. Funding to acceptable standards is necessary to be able to collect fees during the heavy use and holiday periods.

Because of the mountaineering capabilities in the Protection Division, the job of raising and lowering the cables on Half Dome was assumed so that a longer visitor use period could be maintained (May 15 through October 15). This is dependent upon the late storms in spring and the early storms in the fall of the year.

In order to fully utilize manpower and provide career training opportunities, the Protection Division is actively giving evening programs throughout the Park to augment the lack of interpreters. The Intake Trainees assume this as a part of their training and opportunities are made available to other Rangers.

In very broad terms, this constitutes a sketch of Protection Division activities during the past year. Detailed statistics can be found in the separate annual reports for search and rescue, law enforcement, and fire control. The latter was just added to the Division on December 12, 1974.

BACKCOUNTRY MANAGEMENT

Management of Yosemite's backcountry was broadened in 1974. The updated Backcountry Use and Operation Plan incorporated several regulatory measures to control overuse in some of the more heavily used areas in Yosemite's wilderness. A team of nine Wilderness Permit issuers hand-tallied the number of user nights in 30 selected travel zones which had previously shown the stresses of overuse. Permits were no longer issued for those zones when their carrying capacities were reached. A team of eight backcountry Rangers enforced these quotas by checking all backcountry travelers for Wilderness Permits. Other backcountry regulations pertaining to pets, firesites, litter, and trail use were also strictly enforced.

The summary from patrol logs revealed the following statistics:

1. 16,000 permits issued for a total of 218,000 user nights

2. 6,004 miles of trails were patrolled by foot and horseback resulting in:

    a. 53 citations
    b. 20 courtesy tags
    c. 2,043 illegal firerings destroyed
    d. 184 bags of trash collected

Intensive efforts to educate the public with regard to backcountry etiquette will continue to be the theme for 1975. Participation emphasis will be placed on leadership training and backcountry reservations.

RESOURCES MANAGEMENT DIVISION

HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL

During the calendar year 1974, 1,073 hazardous trees and approximately 1,214 limbs were removed in developed areas.

For the first half of the year, hazardous tree removals remained far below standard and added to the backlog of areas receiving inadequate treatment. However, due to the addition of $55,000 in Regional Reserves to the program base in July, we were able to reach 90 percent of standard in 45 percent of the developed areas of the Park by year-end. Chronic areas like Yosemite Lodge are presently in excellent condition, but with the size of the *Fomes annosus* infected area, the area will continue to require heavy annual maintenance.

By July, 1975, the remaining 55 percent of the developed areas will be brought up to 75 percent of standard, which is a significant increase in hazard reduction.

FIRE MANAGEMENT

During 1974, the Park had 102 Wildland and 26 Natural (let-burn) fires. Ninety of the above listed fires were less than one-fourth acre, 34 were between one-fourth and 10 acres, and three were in the 10 to 100-acre class. One natural fire, the Starr King Fire, burned from August 4 until the onset of winter in November, and achieved an overall acreage of approximately 3,632 acres.

There were 67 structural fire suppression actions ranging from burning dempster containers to buildings which were a total loss.

Complete fire inspections were made of all structures in Wawona, El Portal, Crane Flat, Hodgdon Meadows, and Tuolumne Meadows areas, and 500 multipurpose fire extinguishers were installed.

On December 2, upon recommendation of the "Management Consultation Report," the basic Fire Management Function was transferred from the Division of Resources Management to Visitor Protection.

BEAR MANAGEMENT

During calendar year 1974, bear disturbance incidents equaled 630, property damage equaled $80,248, and personal injuries totalled 28.

Twenty-eight management actions occurred resulting in 26 individual bears being captured, tagged, and relocated. The technique of maximum distant relocation within the Park resulted in only three bears returning to developed areas. Only one bear died as a result of management action--an accidental death from a falling trap door.

Intensive development of a functional bear-proof dempster lid began during July, 1974, and target completion is expected by March, 1975.

A consultant veterinarian was retained for professional guidance and procurement of drugs. 1974 marked the first time that the drug Sernylan was used here.

Yosemite's first helicopter translocation of a dangerous bear was effected from Bridalveil Campground to the Mt. Gibson area in 1974.

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

The Paiute Cutthroat Trout program conceived in 1966 to protect an endangered species, has had limited success to date. There is little evidence of spawning, and the ratio of 5.3 brook trout to each Paiute trout reveals a great decline in the latter since the program began.

Calendar year 1975, constitutes the fourth year of the five-year fish stocking phase-out implemented in 1972. After 1976, no fish stocking will take place.

DEER HERD AND RANGE STATUS

The Yosemite deer herd appears to be stablizing at an estimated 5,200 animals, and range conditions and trend continue to show gradual improvement.

STATUS OF RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN

The first draft of the Yosemite Resources Management Plan was submitted to the Regional Office in October. The Plan lists 25 Resources Management Projects, 33 Research Proposals, and funding needed for implementation.

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

The waste stabilization pond at the Sunrise High Sierra Camp was reconstructed by YCC and Park crews.

The Tioga Pass Entrance Station water system was reconstructed by YCC and Park crews. Reconstruction consisted of site preparation and erection of a 1,000-gallon bolted steel tank and a small wood frame structure housing a rapid sand filter, engine-operated backwash pump and hypochlorinator.

Installation of a rapid sand filter and a backwash pump on the Tenaya Lake surface water source was accomplished.

Installation of two 30-inch diameter rapid sand filters on the Hodgdon Meadow surface water source was accomplished.

Hypochlorinators were installed on the Bridalveil and White Wolf Campground Systems and on the Sunrise High Sierra Camp water system.

The Park continued the Merced River monitoring program ordered by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The Park made application to EPA for a NPDES permit to continue direct discharge of treated wastewater to the Merced River in Yosemite Valley and at El Portal through December, 1976.

The Park started hauling of solid waste to the State approved sanitary landfill at Mariposa in lieu of hauling to the Merced County landfill on May 1.

The Park stopped receiving biodegradable waste materials for disposal at its El Portal landfill area in July; now only inert waste materials are accepted for disposal.

Bear-proofing of all Park-owned refuse bins in Yosemite Valley was accomplished.

Construction continued on water distribution system improvements to the Valley system including drilling of a second public water supply well and construction of Well Station No. 1 and a pressure reducing station at Happy Isles.

Construction continued on water pollution control facilities for White Wolf and Hodgdon Meadow development areas.

Construction was initiated on water pollution control facilities for the Valley and El Portal. Construction consists of a trunk sewer from the Valley to El Portal and a Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant at El Portal.

Construction was initiated on water pollution control facilities consisting of an oxidation pond and spray disposal field for Tuolumne Meadows.

A construction contract for the Wawona water pollution control facilities was advertised, but the bid opening was never held due to lack of funds with which to make an award.

DIVISION OF VISITOR SERVICES AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

Of major significance to the Division of Visitor Services and Public Information was the fact that management recognized the need to make concessions management a more important and viable function within the administration of the Park. To that degree, in late October, the Division was retired with concession functions becoming an activity of the Division of Administration while Public Information and El Portal functions were assigned to a staff role reporting directly to the Office of the Superintendent.

In our effort to prove our professional approach to concession matters, the practice of comparability intensified. Numerous trips were made to outlying areas in the central Sierra in an effort to establish a suitable base for lodging, food services, and related visitor services comparables.

Numerous foreign dignitaries eager to further their professional understanding of the National Park System were hosted by various Park staff personnel.

Early in 1974, the Division carried the major responsibility in assisting Universal Studios with their TV pilot effort entitled "Park Ranger." Although this pilot was seen on national television at a later date, this production eventually generated into a television series entitled "Sierra," a mythical national park which strongly

resembled Yosemite National Park. Poor acting and weak scripts eventually folded the program after 11 airings. A direct spinoff from the filming activities was the increased public awareness and objections to the commercial use of a national park for filming purposes. These public concerns may become the catalyst for a total review of commercial filming guidelines in the National Park Service.

Finally, as 1974 came to a close, the national concern about commercialism in Yosemite National Park precipitated several in-house investigations by Departmental and Congressional staffs. The results of these inquiries and studies will have to be assessed in 1975.

CONCESSIONS MANAGEMENT

Concessions management was highlighted by the establishment and employment of a full-time Concessions Management Specialist for Yosemite. A comprehensive program of Concessions Management was initiated with plans for adequate staffing and funding to do a job at an acceptable level, in accordance with National Park Service operations standards, policies, and procedures at Yosemite. At this time, great strides have been made to fulfill our administrative responsibilities associated with the on-going concessioner operation. Inspections are being made, a maintenance program set up, and operational guidelines established between the National Park Service and the concessioners.

DIVISION OF LAND ACQUISITION

The Land Acquisition Program at Yosemite is proceeding very satisfactorily. In the calendar year 1974, we acquired 44 tracts consisting of 26.72 acres for $1,325,028.

Number of tracts remaining to be purchased by area as of January 31, 1975:

Aspen Valley:

21 tracts
5.99 acres
Estimated value: $184,900

Hetch Hetchy:

14 tracts
1573.81 acres
To be donated or exchanged by City and County of San Francisco

	Improved	Unimprov.	Total
Foresta:			
Priv. Inholdings:	63		63
Acreage:	9.53		9.53
Estim. Acq. Cost:	$ 834,850		$ 834,850
Wawona:			
Priv. Inholdings:	277	104	381
Acreage:	196.43	64.15	260.58
Estim. Acq. Cost:	$8,019,068	$1,176,050	$9.195,118

Proposed to Option in Wawona Before June 30, 1975:

25 tracts
21.06 acres
Estim. Acquisition Cost: $121,325

FISCAL OFFICE AND MAIL ROOM

New complex billing systems for water, sewer, and garbage were effected this past year due to the utilities evaluation. We have instigated new monthly follow-up reviews of delinquent bills. Many new cost and distribution type accounting projects have been completed such as analytical reviews for the GAO Auditors, fee collection reviews, etc. Detailed analysis for personal services, travel analysis comparing FY '74 has been effected as well as complete accounting of utility and quarters reimbursable accounts. More employees were employed for longer periods during 1974, increasing the DIPS Coordinator's work. The PFM System was in its second year and to facilitate keeping all account records current, a PFM Coordinator was added to the Fiscal staff. This has been a very useful and accomplishment laden year with respect to work schedules kept and learning experiences. A complete review of the filing system has been started in the Mail-room in order to bring our files up-to-date and in accordance with Western Regional Office filing codes.

PERSONNEL OFFICE

In the past year, the Personnel Office has processed 600 SF-52's, interviewed 250 people, and accepted and answered 3,000 applications for employment. We have tried, without success, to get extra help

and to get the Personnel Office moved from in front of the Administration Building, as suggested by the Management Appraisal Team, to eliminate the constant interruptions to daily operation of the office.

PROCUREMENT AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT BRANCH

The Warehouse has been in a period of gradual change. A new system of stock control, which will permit the establishment of economic reorder quantities consistent with efficient turnover and stock inventories, has been instituted. We have instituted safety measures in line with Governmentwide directives requiring compliance with O.S.H.A. Standard and Pamphlet 19 FPMA.

Annual inventory of Parkwide property has been updated and will be reconciled for the first time with capitalized equipment computer printout.

The Procurement section has initiated steps to report status of purchases to requisitioners with a copy of the purchase order showing vendor's name, price of item, and anticipated date of delivery.

MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

During the early part of the calendar year, there was a proposal to contract with the local concessioner for the management and operation of certain campgrounds in the Park. After a big load of paperwork and delays in hiring campground personnel, the proposal was finally dropped.

Combined efforts of the Yosemite-based GSA team and the National Park Service vehicle maintenance facility provided the necessary inspections and documentation to better evaluate the liquified natural gas usage in motorized equipment. As of this date, we have been verbally informed by GSA that the complete installation in Yosemite is to be removed.

The new turbine wheel for the Yosemite Hydroelectric Plant's turbine No. 2 was installed during the month of April. The second stage of repairs to the Power Plant diversion dam was completed in early October.

The horse patrol barn facility was completed and in use in April.

This Division received $128,200 in Regional Reserve Funds and used it to a great advantage in correcting deferred maintenance in various facilities.