

AUG 16 1991

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Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Western Region
From: Superintendent, Yosemite
Subject: Superintendent's Annual Report

Enclosed is Yosemite's Annual Report for 1990.

(Sgd.) Michael V. Finley

Michael V. Finley

Enclosure

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**SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
1990**

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**SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
1990**

1990 HIGHLIGHTS

January

- o Yosemite's centennial year began January 1.
- o General Management Plan Re-examination Report had deadline of January 5 for comments. The Yosemite Park & Curry Co. (YP&CCo.) contract, franchise fees, and the future of the General Management Plan (GMP) remained controversial.

February

- o Ticketron established a 900 number for telephone reservations.

March

- o A new policy on March 1 limits fishing to April through November 15 instead of year-round.
- o March 6 rock slide on Highway 140 closed road for five hours.
- o Tanks removed on March 6 at Wawona Gas Station. Approximately 500 gallons of heating oil had leaked behind the station. Yosemite Park & Curry Co. worked with county and state representatives to hire contractor to remove contaminated soil.
- o Congressman Richard Lehman's centennial commemorative coin was approved by Congressional Committee on March 14.

April

- o Earth Day was celebrated with a weekend of events.
- o Director James Ridenour, Western Regional Director Stanley Albright, and staff visited Yosemite on a "quiet" visit without media on April 27-28.
- o Four pair of Peregrine Falcons were located in the park in the areas of Wawona, Hetch Hetchy, El Capitan, and Half Dome.
- o Snow plants bloomed in what seemed to be record numbers.

May

- o The Glacier Point Road opened for the season on May 11.
- o The Tioga Road opened for the season on May 17 and closed due to snow at least two times after that date.
- o Immunization clinics were held in Yosemite Valley May 25 and 29 to combat possible measles epidemic.
- o The Traffic Management Plan was implemented intermittently on Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend.
- o Two separate sexual assault incidents were reported in Yosemite Valley. Residents were informed of standard safety procedures.
- o Kevin Cann was appointed as chief of maintenance.
- o Dow Chemical Recycling Program was announced in Washington, and containers were tested locally for design and staff comment.

June

- o A major rescue occurred on June 14 in the cascade portion of Yosemite Falls.
- o An 85-acre burn was ignited in the Mariposa Grove on June 12-13.
- o The opening of the 16th Annual Indian Days was held on June 15, a culmination of the four-day trans-Sierra walk. Exxon's donation to the Indian Cultural Program was acknowledged during the opening ceremony.
- o The hang-gliding program was suspended on June 18 until further notice due to liability and safety concerns.
- o The trial of Stevie Gray began on June 18. Gray, who allegedly pushed his wife off the Tunnel View cliff, was convicted of first-degree murder.
- o The Youth Conservation Corps returned to Yosemite for its 19th year on June 24.
- o On June 26, a search for a possible suicide victim in the Glacier Point area was held. After three days and no clues, it was left as an open case.
- o Former Fire Management Officer Don Cross died of congestive heart failure.

- o A year-long visitor survey was initiated on June 26.
- o LeConte Memorial Lodge was designated a National Historic Landmark on June 29.
- o Emphasis was placed on the inventorying of reptile and amphibian populations in the park, especially yellow legged frogs.

July

- o The California Academy of Sciences centennial exhibit opened on July 9.
- o The Yosemite Fund, Contra Costa Chapter, had an Oakland A's game fund raiser.
- o An aerial infrared study of Merced River was completed.
- o Flood warnings were issued by the National Weather Service July 13-14. It rained 1.49" in Yosemite Valley on Friday and .52" in Tuolumne. The Tioga Road at Tenaya Lake and a backcountry bridge were damaged.
- o The week of July 9 search for Vartkes Berberian, 66, resulted in the recovery of his body in the Bridalveil Creek drainage.

August

- o Park Clean-up Day was August 9.
- o Director James Ridenour visited the park on August 7-8 to announce \$40 million for the El Portal maintenance\warehouse complex.
- o The worst fires in Yosemite National Park's history started August 7. Yosemite Valley was closed August 9-20 due to fires.
- o Foresta burned August 9.
- o The Tioga Road, closed due to fires, reopened on August 17.
- o Highways 140 and 41 reopened to Yosemite Valley on August 20.
- o Assistant Superintendent B. J. Griffin accepted a position with the Western Regional Office as Associate Regional Director, Operations.

September

- o Yosemite/Sierra Club Bike-a-thon was held September 21.

- o Yosemite Restoration Trust was announced on September 24.
- o The Environmental Protection Agency gave \$60,000 to Yosemite for a recycling program September 26.
- o Yosemite Park & Curry Co. presented the National Park Service with the Curry Archives on September 27.

October

- o The Centennial Celebration was held October 1.
- o Campgrounds and visitor centers were closed at 1:00 p.m. on October 7 through October 8, and non-essential employees were layed off due to lack of a budget being passed.
- o A budget was passed on October 9. Facilities were reopened.
- o The Natural Areas and Yosemite Symposium was held October 13-19.
- o Lawyer Melvin Belli announced on October 19 that he may represent Foresta residents in a suit against the National Park Service.
- o On October 23, an earthquake hit Lee Vining registering 5.8 on the Richter scale. Highways 120 and 140 were closed due to rockfall during the afternoon of October 24. The Crane Flat to Yosemite Valley section of road remained closed until October 29 due to road damage.
- o A Presidential Proclamation acknowledging Yosemite's centennial was passed on October 25.
- o On October 29, the Tioga Pass Council announced their plans to try to keep Tioga Road open year-round.
- o Congressman Richard Lehman's bill passed establishing a centennial metal on October 29.
- o Concern over sport climbing and the use of motorized equipment generated some press.
- o The Tioga Road was closed temporarily due to snow on October 31.

November

- o On November 6, there were high-wind warnings (anticipated in excess of 40-60 mph). Snow and high winds on the east side closed the Tioga Pass Road for a day along with the Glacier

Point Road. Two campgrounds, lodging, and employee housing in Yosemite Valley were evacuated, affecting 500 guests and 500 employees. The high-wind warning was canceled at 8:30 p.m.

- o On November 22, a study found that ozone was affecting Jeffrey pines over approximately 30% of the park.
- o On November 25, the Modesto/Turlock Irrigation District cloud-seeded for 2.7 hours over the entire Tuolumne drainage.
- o On November 26, the Matsushita Electric Industrial Company purchased MCA and the Yosemite Park & Curry Co. They announced the sale of Yosemite Park & Curry Co. within one year to a qualified American buyer.
- o The Tioga Road closed on November 26 for the season.
- o The Glacier Point Road closed for the season on November 30.

December

- o An Inspector General's report released on December 12 stated that Yosemite Park & Curry Co. owed the National Park Service back-revenue for the trip-lease program.
- o Secretary of Interior Manual Lujan announced that the Yosemite Park & Curry Co. contract should be revoked and that the sale price for Yosemite Park & Curry Co. should be reduced.

INTERPRETATION DIVISION

- o The first phase of the Happy Isles rehabilitation project, sponsored and funded by the East Bay Chapter of the Yosemite Fund, was completed with the construction of an island trail and footbridge extension in the fall.
- o The Yosemite Centennial Symposium, a joint conference of the National Park Service and the Natural Areas Association, was held October 13-19, the first two days in the park followed by five days of formal sessions in Concord. Entitled "Natural Areas and Yosemite: Prospects for the Future," the symposium offered a forum for examination and discussion of park, state, national, and global resource protection and management issues.
- o The National Park Service Division of Publications, Harpers Ferry Center, completed the long-awaited park handbook and a new poster by Charles Harper depicting plants and animals of the Sierra Nevada.
- o Most of the new wayside exhibits received in 1990 were installed this past year. About a dozen remain to be put into place. Production of a wayside panel for Hetch Hetchy was completed.
- o The park darkroom was remodeled and upgraded to correct some major safety and functional deficiencies.
- o Most of the interpretive and public information staff were extensively involved in fire information operations and services to the news media during the August fire incident. Interpretation of the fires took a positive approach, emphasizing natural fire regimes, Sierran fire history, the ecological dynamics and benefits of fire as a natural process, the prospects for regeneration in the burned areas, and the key elements of the National Park Service's fire management policies and program. Interpretive products during and immediately after the fires included a video in the Valley Visitor Center, a two-panel wayside exhibit produced in multiple copies to be installed in several strategic locations, a handout distributed at the park entrance stations when the park reopened August 20, and a four-page supplement for the Yosemite Guide.
- o A taped slide program commemorating the park's centennial was produced.
- o Rehabilitation of the Pioneer Yosemite History Center, funded by a \$50,000 donation from the Wells Fargo Foundation to the Yosemite Fund, was close to completion. We hosted a small ceremony and presentation for Wells Fargo Bank officials on

December 21 at the center.

- o The Yosemite Fund redesigned and replaced the "honor wall" acknowledging Fund donors outside the Valley Visitor Center.
- o The Exxon Company donated \$50,000 to expand the Indian Cultural Exhibit in the Yosemite Museum to reestablish access from the rear exit to and rehabilitate the Indian Village. Additional improvements were made to the Indian Cultural Exhibit during the year.
- o An offer in principle by a private firm was accepted to remodel one of the Valley Visitor Center auditoriums into a large-format film theater and to produce a film to be shown there. Both the theater, which will accommodate live stage performances as well as films, and the film production will be donated to the park should the project materialize.
- o Donation boxes were installed in the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, the Indian Cultural Exhibit, the Pioneer Yosemite History Center, and the Happy Isles Nature Center.
- o Chief Interpreter Len McKenzie served as acting assistant superintendent from early October through January.

CENTENNIAL COORDINATOR

- o The centennial celebration was focused in three areas: Public and employee awareness of the centennial, celebration of the park's first 100 years, and the development of a preservation ethic for the future.
- o Public and employee awareness was developed through centennial pins worn by all personnel (uniformed and non-uniformed), the flying of centennial banners from flagpoles, and media coverage.
- o Celebratory activities commenced with a talk by photographer Galen Rowell and included other activities such as Earth Day celebrations and concerts by Eric Tingstad and Nancy Rumbel of Narada Records and the Air Force Band of the Golden West. Other talks included programs by Dr. Roderick Nash, University of California, Santa Barbara, and Martin Rosen of the Trust for Public Land.
- o The promotion of a preservation ethic for the future was promoted through Earth Day activities, volunteers from Chevron working to restore oak woodlands in Yosemite Valley, and the Yosemite Centennial Symposium held for a week in October. That aspect of the celebration will continue into 1991 with the burial of a time capsule to be unearthed in 2090.

- o The centennial celebration culminated with a ceremony on October 1, which was held in Sentinel Meadow. Highlights of the program were speeches by Undersecretary of the Interior Frank Bracken, Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Constance Harriman, National Park Service Director James Ridenour, and Western Regional Director Stanley Albright. Other participants included Jay and Philip Johnson of the Yosemite Native American community, who offered a traditional blessing, Yosemite Theater actor Lee Stetson portraying John Muir, and interpreter Margaret Eissler, who introduced a moment of silence with a flute solo. The Yosemite Horse Patrol presented colors, and music was provided by the 6th United States Army Band from the Presidio in San Francisco. Approximately 3,000 people attended the ceremony.

***PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER/
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE***

- o Media coverage was significant in 1990 with approximately 5,000 to 6,000 radio, television, and newspaper interviews conducted by the public affairs officer and staff.
- o Coordinated all aspects of media coverage for the centennial including setting up and staffing a media center at the Yosemite Lodge, doing a media walk-through prior to the event, coordinating interviews, preparing press packets, assisting media representatives with all logistics, etc. Assisted the centennial coordinator with logistics for the event including dignitary coordination, program development, etc.
- o Over 600 press packets were prepared on various topics, most highlighting the centennial with a variety of handouts and photographs.
- o The public affairs officer assumed the Freedom of Information Act request coordination.
- o Provided basic public information services, and responded to 33,000 information telephone calls and 1,300 written information inquiries.

CURATOR

- o Acquired Yosemite Park and Curry Co. archives as an addition to the park museum collections.
- o Completed and opened the Yosemite Centennial Show at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco.
- o A total of 15 museum loans were made to other institutions, including 713 items lent for exhibit or research.

- o Received nine returns of loans from other museums or individuals.
- o Added 108 accessions accounting for 3,271 objects to the collections in the first nine months of the calendar year.
- o Completed and submitted more than 5,800 catalog cards documenting almost 39,000 objects to the National Catalog.

The Visuals Center

- o Hung five exhibits in the Visitor Center, including the Centennial Renaissance Art Exhibit.
- o Installed two shows in the Museum Gallery, including the Centennial Exhibit.
- o Provided 3,310 slides for 142 orders.
- o Accessioned 6,075 new slides.

Research Library

- o Purchased 81 volumes, including 55 rare items.
- o Accessioned 325 volumes.
- o Catalogued and processed 320 volumes.
- o Circulated 2,764 items, including 829 books, 415 items to the Tuolumne Meadows branch library, and 760 photographs.
- o Had public contacts that consisted of an average of 250 visitors and researchers to the library each month.
- o Had 840 information requests.
- o Assisted researchers for 16 major projects, five filming projects, and eight newspaper projects.
- o Worked on special projects that included the centennial, the August fires, and the concession contract/sale.

VALLEY DISTRICT INTERPRETATION

- o Began developing exhibit rehabilitation plan for Happy Isles Nature Center and interpretive trail plans for Happy Isles and Lower Yosemite Fall trails.
- o Expanded Deaf Services Program to the Wawona District areas of Glacier Point and Mariposa Grove.

- o The Teacher Intern Program published Teachers in Yosemite: 1990 Lessons.

WAWONA DISTRICT INTERPRETATION

- o Produced and installed interpretive snow plant protection signs to mitigate damage to snow plants in the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias.
- o Continued to assist visitor protection staff in mitigating deer feeding problems at the Wawona Golf Course by providing roving interpretive contacts there during summer months.
- o Produced brochures in four languages to interpret resource values to non-English speaking visitors in the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias.
- o Continued to offer ever-popular special events such as star parties, Old-Fashioned Christmas in Wawona, July 4 parade, and barn dances. In addition, we offered many centennial programs which dealt with natural and human history topics.
- o Interpreter Marshall Long designed and built a new corral to contain our stage horses.
- o Park interpreters produced a display in the Thomas Hill Studio to interpret the August fires.
- o Park rangers produced text and art for ten new interpretive signs to be installed in the summer of 1991 in the Upper Mariposa Grove.
- o The Environmental Living Program at the Pioneer Yosemite History Center served over 700 students from throughout California. Demand for training resulted in an increase from one to two training weekends for teachers in the fall.
- o An interpreter presented interpretive weekly programs at the Marriott's Tenaya Lodge in Fish Camp during the summer to orient guests to the park.

MATHER DISTRICT INTERPRETATION

- o The Tuolumne Grove self-guiding nature trail was written and graphics produced. The trail through the upper grove was delineated, and the fence in the parking lot rebuilt.
- o Interpreter Carl Sharsmith returned to Tuolumne Meadows, and his 50-plus years continued to inspire the staff and visitors.

CONCESSIONS MANAGEMENT

- o Wayne Schulz retired as chief of concessions management.
- o The Yosemite Park & Curry Co. started a self-inspection program for their employee housing units. Their program is based upon the evaluation system used by the concessions office.
- o Media attention focused on concessions management in Yosemite as a result of the following:

The sale of MCA to Matsushita Electric Industrial Company stimulated many negative comments about foreign-ownership of concession operations in National Parks.

The extremely low franchise fee (3/4 of 1 percent) currently paid to the Federal government by Yosemite Park and Curry Co.

The Yosemite Park and Curry Co.'s preferential right to provide transportation within the park, which resulted in the current trip lease program and subsequent 1990 Inspector General's audit.

The impact that the increased level and number of services provided by the Yosemite Park and Curry Co. has had on the Park.

The Secretary's initiative about proposed changes to the National Park Service's Concessions Management program.

- o Washington's moratorium on concession contracting continued. The El Portal Market, El Portal Chevron, Ansel Adams Gallery, and the dentist all have contracting issues which must be addressed. The Yosemite Medical Group contract expires December 31, 1994, and the Yosemite Park and Curry Co.'s contract expires September 30, 1993. This moratorium has created a hardship on at least one of the concessioners, the Bevington family, who operate the El Portal Chevron Station. They wish to sell the operation but because of the lack of a contract are unable to find interested buyers.
- o There were numerous construction projects. Yosemite Park and Curry Co. continued their ambitious underground storage tank program. Many tanks were removed completely, and others were replaced by new, double-walled underground tanks or above-ground convault tanks. They also installed monitoring wells at the site of the ex-Yosemite Village Store Service Station.
- o Yosemite Park and Curry Co. removed 20 housekeeping units.

- o The National Park Service, in conjunction with the Public Utilities Commission and California Highway Patrol, conducted two spot inspections of commercial vehicles in the park to ensure compliance with all state, federal, and Public Utilities Commission regulations.
- o Concessions Management personnel conducted approximately 360 evaluations.
- o Yosemite Park & Curry Co. supported the fire-fighting effort by providing two barbecues for park employees.
- o Shuttle bus ridership in Yosemite Valley increased to approximately three million, and the Badger Pass shuttle operated during the ski season. In the third year of operation, ridership of the Wawona shuttle more than doubled, and a third bus was added to the schedule on weekends between Memorial Day and Labor Day.
- o The Wawona Hotel had extended winter opening dates, including the month of November, 20 days in December, ten days in January, 13 days in February, and 11 days in March.
- o The Marriott's Tenaya Lodge opened their facility in May 1990 on the periphery of the park.
- o The Department of the Interior's Inspector General conducted audits of utilities revenues and the trip-lease program.
- o Washington Office, Western Regional Office, Denver Service Center, and park personnel began planning and developing the Statement of Requirements for the park's primary concessioner. A survey to be used in the development of the Statement of Requirements of Yosemite Park & Curry Co. buildings was completed.
- o There was an increased emphasis on the quality of interpretation done by concession employees. A member of the office planned, facilitated, and presented interpretive training for the tour drivers and guides.

RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Black Bear Management

- o Work continued toward mitigation of human/bear conflicts. This included 35 captures of bears between April 3 and October 29, 20 of which were translocated from developed areas of the park.

Four bears were killed in management actions. The numbers of reported incidents and amount of property damage were approximately equal to 1989 levels. Further reductions in incidents will require increased efforts to make human food unavailable to bears. In 1990, this objective was pursued by looking for ways to complete the installation of bear-proof food lockers in frontcountry campgrounds and working toward the manufacture of a food canister for use by backpackers. Lack of funding inhibited accomplishment of these projects in 1990, but progress was made that holds promise for 1991.

- o Analyses of accumulated data on bears captured since 1974 were completed, yielding valuable information on the population dynamics of black bears in Yosemite. These findings were published in scientific reports and papers and will be integrated into management practices.

Peregrine Falcon Management

- o Three active Peregrine Falcon aeries were found in Yosemite in 1990. As in previous years, these sites were intensely monitored to provide data on survival and reproductive success. The pair returned to nest on El Capitan after nesting at an undetermined location on the south wall of Yosemite Valley in 1989. Only one young fledged from this site, suggesting that pesticide-induced eggshell thinning was reducing success. Measurements of eggshell remains retrieved by climbers in the fall confirmed this suspicion, showing 18.7% thinning, far exceeding the 15% considered critical. These results indicate the need for placement of captive-hatched young ("augmenting") in the El Capitan aerie in 1991.

Another aerie, near Half Dome, also produced only one young, but its inaccessibility has prohibited eggshell collection or augmentation. Observers recorded four young fledgling from the aerie at Hetch Hetchy, and discovered a pair of Peregrine Falcons near Wawona. No nesting occurred there, probably because the female of this pair was immature, but eggs are expected to be produced in 1991.

Hacking operations, which involved releasing six young falcons that were captive hatched chicks and supplementally feeding them until they developed their natural hunting skills, occurred at Lake Eleanor, four of which survived to independence.

Fisheries Management

- o Wildlife Management personnel coordinated with and assisted California Department of Fish and Game personnel in planning and completing an initial survey of fish populations and habitat in the Merced River in Yosemite Valley. Preliminary

results indicate the population is dominated by non-native brown trout, probably due to habitat degradation that favors this species which preys on rainbow trout. These data will be used in planning for restoration of the aquatic ecosystem as part of the entire Merced River restoration project.

- o A cooperative agreement with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for study and management of Yosemite fisheries was pursued. This arrangement will provide long-term guidance for restoration of aquatic ecosystems park-wide.

Wildlife Observations

- o A system for collection and compilation of wildlife observations was organized and initiated. Observation cards were printed and distributed to park personnel for them to record wildlife sightings. Several training sessions were given to instruct personnel on properly recording observations. A computerized data base was established and approximately 500 new records and 1,000 historical records were entered. Field guides were obtained by donation from the Yosemite Association to be distributed to various park divisions and locations to assist personnel in identifying wildlife species sighted. Binders containing instructions, habitat keys, and Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) gridded maps were assembled for distribution throughout the park to assist in collecting accurate observations.

"A-Rock" and "Steamboat" Fireline Restoration

- o The "A-Rock" and "Steamboat" fires burned a total of 11,770 acres in Yosemite National Park in August 1990. Visual elements in the park focus on natural conditions. Fires represent a natural process. Fire suppression and maintenance activities are not naturally found in the landscape, and it is the result and impact of these activities which should be minimized. Visitors should see the resource, including natural processes and their effects, not the result of man's involvement.

Forestry Management

- o The forestry crew removed 873 hazard trees from all public use sites including little Yosemite Valley. During the "A-Rock" and "Steamboat" fires in August, the Sequoia and Yosemite forestry crews cooperatively removed nearly 20,000 burned trees and snags. Cal Trans removed over 2,500 trees from along roadsides.
- o Nearly two weeks of effort by the park forester and forestry foreman were required to respond to in-depth interrogatives in relation to a first tort case. Staff researched and collected

five years of hazard tree data including maps, reports, data sheets, and photos. A second request for an additional five years of similar records and a second round of interrogatives required an additional two weeks of effort.

- o The park forester and forestry foreman also expended approximately one and one-half weeks of effort to respond to in-depth interrogatives in relation to a second tort case. Staff researched and collected two years of background information including similar data as described above.
- o The park forester developed a contract for removal of fire and insect-killed trees for six sale units. Contracts were awarded to two separate contractors.
- o The forestry staff coordinated the California Conservation Corps (CCC) with the Maintenance Division. Projects accomplished included repair of a split-rail fence at the Yosemite Pioneer History Center and a six-week project of building the historic corral fence at the barn.
- o The fire suppression efforts on the "A-Rock" and "Steamboat" fires included 30 miles of hand-built firelines and over eight miles of dozer-built firelines. Also, several helispots/landing zones and staging areas/drop points required restoration. The restoration goal is to reconstruct the landscape which existed prior to construction of the firelines, to contour the land so that it blends in with the surrounding topography. Fireline obliteration provides a permanent restoration treatment by retrieving topsoil and restoring natural slope and runoff patterns.
- o Approximately 20 miles of hand-built fireline and 1.5 miles of dozer-built fireline were restored in the fall of 1990. A 20-person National Park Service crew consisting of park interpreters, trail workers, resources management revegetation crew, rangers and horse packers completed the hand-line restoration work in six weeks costing \$65,000. The remaining ten miles of hand-line and 6.5 miles of dozer-line will be rehabilitated during the spring and summer of 1991.

Merced River Restoration Workshop

- o On April 24-26, 1990, the Merced River Restoration Strategy Workshop was held in Yosemite National Park. Participants included persons from the Washington Office of Water Resources (National Park Service), and Redwood and Yosemite National Parks. Restoration strategy goals were established. The goals were to restore the Merced River and its associated valley ecological units to achieve a healthy and naturally integrated riverine system which approaches, as near as possible, a self-sustaining dynamic balance; to manage visitor use to minimize

Merced River and Yosemite Valley natural resource impacts within defined limits of acceptable change; to optimize values for enhanced visitor experiences and allow for reasonable and acceptable recreational opportunities; and to recognize existing development zones, historical landscapes, and human health and safety needs.

The purpose of this workshop was to structure an interdisciplinary team to develop a strategy for restoration and management of the deteriorated stream channel and riparian area conditions on the Merced River in Yosemite National Park. For the purpose of evaluating resource conditions and in development of management objectives and prescriptions, the stream has been subdivided into four classes based on significant physical characteristics and levels of resource impacts. Thirty work sites were identified, and restoration priorities were assigned. Two pilot projects will be implemented in 1991 with donation funding totalling \$86,000.

Black Oak Woodland Restoration

- o Work completed in Yosemite Valley's Oak Woodland Restoration Project during 1990 included 5,000 volunteer hours in which 2,500 feet of post-and-rope fence was constructed, five tons of asphalt was removed, and 38,000 square-feet of compacted soil was aerated and mulched. Volunteers collected 9,000 acorns, planted 120 oak seedlings, and planted 2,000 bracken fern rhizomes. This project was accomplished through a donation of \$48,000 from Chevron Corporation and the Yosemite Fund.

Sentinel Meadow/Adjacent Riparian Restoration

- o The resources management restoration crew decompacted, recontoured, and mulched 22 unplanned trails, totalling 4,500 feet. Eight-hundred feet of post-and-rope fence, 1,200 feet of split-rail fence, and 400 feet of boardwalk were built. The crew planted cottonwood shoots and over 900 willow cuttings along 700 feet of eroding river bank along the Merced River. Study areas were created to compare the effectiveness of different restoration techniques. This project was accomplished through a donation of \$25,000 from Chesebrough Ponds and the National Park Foundation.

Sequoia Grove Restoration

- o A Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) crew erected a split-rail fence and interpretive signs along the nature trail through the Tuolumne Grove. They also scarified and mulched compacted bare ground, obliterated social trails, and spread natural duff in the Tuolumne Grove.

Wilderness Impacts Mitigation and Management

- o Sixty-five illegal campfire rings and 12 large campsites in subalpine lake basins near Tuolumne Meadows were dismantled and replanted with native transplants. Three-fourths mile of unmaintained trail near Tuolumne Meadows was backfilled and replanted with native plants, and an additional one-half mile of trail was backfilled and prepared for further restoration. Over 3,000 native cuttings were planted in restored sites, and nearly 9,000 cuttings were collected for future planting in these subalpine areas. Study plots for the on-going watering study were sampled and photographed, and treatments were discontinued on the trampling study. This project was accomplished through a \$37,000 donation from the Yosemite Fund.

Rare and Sensitive Plant Management

- o The division continued to review all projects with a potential for affecting sensitive plant species. A number of projects were modified due to concerns about sensitive plants.

Non-native Plant Control

- o Non-native plants were removed from Sentinel Meadow and parts of Ahwahnee and Cook's Meadows. The bulk of the plant material removed was bull thistle. Approximately 150 black locust trees were removed in three areas within Yosemite Valley. Smaller quantities of mullein, tumble mustard, lambs quarter, periwinkle, and klamath weed were removed. The work was performed by a resources management restoration crew, volunteers from the Yosemite Park & Curry Co., the Soussan Foundation, and the Boy Scouts of America.

Wilderness Impacts Inventory Data Analysis

- o Analysis of the Wilderness Impacts Inventory, conducted between 1983 and 1986, was analyzed by a researcher with the University of Davis Cooperative Parks program in 1989. More than 5,540 campsites and almost 1,050 miles of trail were analyzed, providing information on size, condition, location, vegetative type, and relative impacts. Due to programming "bugs," data was incomplete but will be finalized during 1991.

Federal Highways Road Project Slope Restoration

- o Two cut-slope terraces along the Big Oak Flat Road rehabilitation project were out-sloped to prevent further slumping due to water saturation along the in-slope. Seventy-five direct transplants were planted on the slope in the late fall of 1990. An estimated 150 more direct transplants will be planted in the spring of 1991. One hundred manzanita cuttings were rooted to supplement the direct transplants and will also

be planted in the spring of 1991. This will complete all revegetation work along the Big Oak Flat Road.

- o Along the Glacier Point Road, 3,840 cuttings were taken in the fall of 1990 and were rooted. Seed was collected and is being grown to yield 8,000 conifer seedlings. Native grass seed was collected from the Ostrander trailhead which is being grown in a two-acre plot for seed multiplication.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

- o The environmental compliance office completed 94 environmental documents for 1990. This included Environmental Assessments and Categorical Exclusions. Strides were made on clarifying and streamlining the Planning Clearinghouse Committee. A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for planning and compliance was drafted. The move to resources management by the planning program for the park was accomplished.

Air Quality Monitoring

- o Yosemite National Park in conjunction with the National Park Service Air Quality Division in Denver and the California Air Resources Board continued to have an extensive air monitoring program. Particulates and ozone were not in compliance with state standards a few times during the year. The addition of a physical science specialist to manage the air quality program was approved. This specialist will also work with compliance, water quality, hazardous materials, and integrated pest management.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

- o During 1990, the archeology branch was reorganized as the Branch of Cultural Resources under the Division of Resources Management. The park archeologist serves as the chief of the branch with responsibilities for cultural resources management and research programs for archeological sites and historic structures, along with all consultation activities relating to the Historic Preservation Act. The branch also continues archeological consultation and project support for Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

Thirteen major archeological projects were conducted in Yosemite during 1990:

- o Continuation of archeological monitoring throughout Yosemite Valley for construction of Phases IV and V of the Yosemite Valley Electrical System.
- o Archeological survey of Henness Ridge, Chinquapin, and

Eleven-Mile Meadow areas in support of the park housing study. A total of 1,583 acres were surveyed. Seven cultural sites were recorded with two previously recorded archeological sites located and re-recorded.

- o Archeological testing of the eastern portion of a site located in the Yosemite Lodge housing area are in support of rehabilitation of the Yosemite Valley Electrical System.
- o Archeological survey of the eastern area of Foresta in support of the park housing study. A total of 188 acres were surveyed with a total of six previously recorded prehistoric sites located.
- o Archeological testing of a site at Hodgdon Meadow for planned construction of park housing.
- o Archeological testing of a site at Mather Entrance Station for planned construction of park housing.
- o Archeological monitoring of the construction of the El Portal well.
- o Archeological survey of Donahue Pass for trail reconstruction.
- o Archeological survey and support for the "Steamboat" fire recorded four newly discovered cultural sites.
- o Archeological survey of the "A-Rock" fire recorded four discovered sites.
- o Archeological survey and monitoring of salvage timber sale operations recorded 14 cultural sites.
- o Archeological clearance survey of the El Portal debris flow structures recorded one site.
- o Cultural resources also carried archeological consultation and survey for over 50 smaller projects in Yosemite National Park, resulting in the preparation of various archeological clearance survey reports, categorical exclusions, and environmental assessments.
- o Staff of the branch conducted a pilot test program of the servicewide Cultural Sites Inventory, Archeological Resources Component, performing coding of over 800 resource sites. Staff also served on the National Park Service Steering Committee for development and implementation of the Cultural Sites Inventory.
- o The park archeologist served as the co-chairman of the Yosemite Centennial Symposium held in October. The conference brought together over 500 individuals from across the country to review

issues and information about research and preservation of cultural and natural resources in Yosemite National Park and other natural areas.

- o The archeology office produced two major publications during 1990:

Getting to the Point: The 1985 and 1986 Archeological Investigations Along Glacier Point Road, by Kathleen L. Hull, Publications in Anthropology No. 9, Yosemite Research Center.

The 1985 and 1986 Generals Highway Archeological Survey, Sequoia National Park, California, by W. Joseph Mundy, Publications in Anthropology No. 10, Yosemite Research Center.

RESEARCH

This year saw the beginning of the transition of the Yosemite Geographic Information Systems (GIS) from research and development to operations.

- o Research uses continued with analyses of great gray owl habitat and the spatial distribution of lightning strikes. In addition, the GIS was used to investigate alternative housing sites and to assist in the suppression and evaluation of the 1990 Yosemite fires.
- o The great gray owl study combined meadows and surrounding forest vegetation with elevation to determine which meadows were suitable nesting habitat. Maps generated by the GIS were then used to direct field crews searching for additional birds. This survey resulted in doubling the number of known owls in the Yosemite region from 26 to 52.
- o The lightning strike analysis showed that the over 7,000 strikes that occurred in Yosemite between 1985 and 1990 were significantly affected by elevation but not by slope or aspect. Some disproportionate distribution was attributed to watershed as an indicator of geographic variation. Lightning probability maps were developed from the data.
- o In order to assess all potential suitable sites for replacement housing for Yosemite Valley, GIS layers of slope, elevation, roads, and wilderness were combined. The resulting map showed all non-wilderness areas over 30 acres that were not more than 45 minutes away from Yosemite Valley, two miles from an existing road, or 1,000 feet difference in elevation from a road. This map was then displayed with archeological sites, sensitive plant habitats, great gray owl nesting and staging areas, spotted owl habitat conservation areas, and fire hazard

zones as constraints on development.

The large Yosemite fires provided an opportunity to use the GIS in a real-time basis for fire planning, operations, and post-fire evaluation. Upon arrival in the park, incident command teams were provided with maps of fuel models, slope, vegetation, and previous prescribed fires and wildfires. These were used in initial planning and fire behavior predictions. Fire perimeter and area maps and calculations were provided on a daily basis as soon as thermal imagery was interpreted and digitized. After the fire was suppressed, the GIS was used to assess debris flow hazards based on a map of the severity of burn along with watersheds, surface geology, slope, and ownership maps.

The Yosemite GIS has proved to be an extremely helpful management tool as well as an essential part of the park's research effort.

MAINTENANCE AND ENGINEERING DIVISION

MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- o Maintenance data collected resulted in better efficiency in park-wide maintenance activities. The 1990 data served as a basis for facilitating the necessary adjustments during the recent budget cycle. This data was compiled on tapes and hard copies to provide park management with good historical maintenance data.
- o Continued use of Maintenance Management System (M.M.S.) for quarters location cost and maintenance was achieved by all managers.
- o The park-wide M.M.S. data was compiled quarterly into comprehensive reports and sent to the Western Regional Office. This was the third year that data was used for the advanced cyclic-request program.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- o Completed the construction of two rest rooms and a chlorinator building to serve the new campground at Hetch Hetchy using Tuolumne watershed funds.
- o Completed the rehabilitation of the duplex quarters at HetchHetchy and replaced four earthen pit toilets with vaulted toilets in the Tuolumne Meadows area using Tuolumne watershed funds.

- o Completed the conversion of three tent houses into cabins at White Wolf.
- o Continued the rehabilitation of historic house #45 in Yosemite Valley, and completed the rehabilitation of three Mission 66 houses in El Portal using housing initiative funds.
- o Remodeled house #820 at Cascades into an office for the Yosemite Institute.
- o Moved the El Portal Buildings and Grounds operation to a new location.
- o Constructed an addition to the solid waste office in El Portal.
- o Completed stabilization and restoration work on the historic structures in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center using funds donated by the Wells Fargo Bank.
- o Remodeled the National Park Service's darkroom to meet the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards.
- o Remodeled the entrance to the Yosemite Valley Museum with Yosemite Fund monies.
- o Reroofed 21 structures using cyclic maintenance and Operations of the National Park Service (ONPS) funds and painted the exterior of 24 structures.

ROADS AND TRAILS

- o Road crews completed seven miles of chip seal, and they rented a chip spreader to complete five miles of overlay on park roads.
- o Trail logging/maintenance/reconstruction accomplished.
 - Mist Trail:
Continued reconstruction with 64 new steps and two new landings.
 - Happy Isles:
Completed first island trail construction and began second island work.
 - Happy Isles bridges to foot trail:
Reconstruction of steps.
 - Happy Isles main bridge:
Reconstruction of approach wall.

- Yosemite Valley trails:
Cleared and repaired Yosemite Valley trails after August flood.
- Bridalveil bridges:
Eliminated serious hazard by reconstructing abutments on old road bridge.
- Tuolumne/Glen Aulin Trail:
Most hazardous sections were reconstructed.
- Virginia Canyon/Summit Lake Trail:
Repaired one-third of existing drainage, tread, and short-cutting problems.
- Donahue Pass:
Continued reconstruction resulted in 70% restoration of the trail to a high standard.
- Morrison Creek:
Rock-slide damage repaired with construction of four switchbacks.
- o Backcountry Cleanup and Campsite Restoration:
Campsites restored and cleaned at City Camp, Til-Til Valley, Vernon Lake, and Laurel Lake. Bridge steel was removed from Echo Valley and Twin Bridges.
- o Fires:
Provided support functions and managed hazard-tree removal program during and after fires (for National Park Service crews only).
- o Signs:
Inventoried Yosemite Valley trail signs. Completed one-half of Yosemite Valley trail sign rehabilitation. Installed approximately 25 backcountry signs.
- o Volunteers:
Accomplished trail maintenance with Boy Scout and Air Force groups.
- o Bridge Projects:
 - Lost Arrow Bridges:
Two bridges redecked, rails replaced, and abutments repaired.
 - Group Camp Bridge:
Redecked.
 - Murphy Creek Bridge:
Removed and rehabilitated site. Steel ready to be

packed out.

-Rafferty Creek Bridge:

Redecked and replaced rails.

-Middle Base Camp Bridge:

Replaced rails.

-Lyell Fork of Merced Bridge:

Flood damage. Reset stringers, replaced decking, and rails.

-Dana Fork Bridge:

New bridge, abutments rebuilt.

-Glen Aulin Twin Bridges:

Redecked, rails replaced, and abutments repaired.

UTILITIES

Wawona Utilities

o Rebuilt generator and motor at Bridalveil Creek Campground.

o Converted solar power telemetry system at lower-zone tanks in Wawona over to AC electricity. Inadequate sunlight six months out of the year ran maintenance costs up drastically.

o Replaced 300 feet of water and sewer line at Glacier Point. Old lines are in very poor condition and are badly deteriorated.

o Drilled new well and installed new pump and motor at Badger Pass. Replaced 100,000-gallon storage tank.

o Wawona Utilities treated 13,500,000 gallons (13.5 MG) of sewage.

Badger Pass	.920MG
Glacier Point	.600MG
Wawona	11.973MG

o Treated and produced a total of 34,425,690 gallons of drinking water district-wide for domestic use.

Bridalveil Campground	.097MG
Wawona	28.860MG
South Entrance	.527MG
Chinquapin	.387MG
Badger Pass	1.685MG
Glacier Point	2.868MG

El Portal Utilities

- o Installed two waste-water shredders at the treatment plant which involved redesign of existing channels and piping.
- o Accepted and treated all septic waste produced in the park at three of the treatment plants: El Portal, Tuolumne Meadows, and Wawona. This is a significant improvement over hauling the septic waste to landfill.
- o Completed an indepth one-year monitoring program on the Tuolumne Meadows Treatment Plant, monitored the effect of the waste-water system on the Tuolumne River, and completed numerous projects at the Tuolumne Meadows Treatment Plant. Funding was provided by the City of San Francisco.

Backcountry Utilities

- o The backcountry utilities shop operated and maintained six water and sewer systems in Yosemite. These seasonal systems treated one million gallons of water in 1990.
- o Backcountry utilities serviced four composting toilets in the park. Approximately six tons of compost were removed and hauled out of the wilderness by pack mules. Six chemical toilets are located in Little Yosemite Valley. Approximately seven tons of human waste was packed out. Litter and other refuse totaling two tons was also transported out of the backcountry.

Electrical Distribution

- o During Phases III and IV of the electrical rehabilitation, the electrical distribution shop was involved in the inspection, switching, and support to the Denver Service Center, the contractor, Yosemite Park & Curry Co., residents, and other power users. These two phases brought new service to the Village area, Ahwahnee Hotel, Housekeeping Camp, and the government administration area.

Yosemite Valley Utilities

- o A record number of visitors created increased demands on utility operations. Potable water systems delivered over 300 million gallons with no significant problems.
- o Water and sewer rates were revised using a simplified accounting method including all park utility systems, both concession and non-concession. Revised rates generated substantial revenue increases.

DIVISION OF VISITOR PROTECTION

SEARCH AND RESCUE

- o There were 181 search and rescue incidents in 1990, an increase of 46 over the previous year. This number includes 146 people who were injured or ill and five fatalities. A total of \$231,907 was spent for 9,650 hours. An additional \$98,696 was spent on 87 hours of flight time, including military helicopter time.
- o A climbing regulations/ethics brochure was published by the American Alpine Club for circulation to the climbing community. The issue of rap-bolting in the park will be represented in future conferences and planning scheduled for 1991.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

- o Total reported emergency medical incidents for 1990 were down approximately ten percent from the past five-year average of 1,013 incidents reported and down specifically from 956 in 1989 to 920. A partial reason for this reduction was due to various significant interruptions to visitation, i.e., fires, earthquakes, high wind evacuations, and floods. The Emergency Medical Service (EMS) statistics show that reported medical cases were 20% above normal until the August fires, then declined rapidly and consistently until the end of the year, paralleling visitation trends.

In spite of the decrease, EMS personnel experienced an increase in the amount of ambulance transports and advanced life-support incidents reported, with park-wide ambulance use up six percent. 1990's statistics show fewer, but more significant and intense, emergency medical cases.

FIRE MANAGEMENT

- o This was an extremely significant year for fire management in the area of wildfire. There were 120 lightning-caused fires during the fire season. This is one less than the record of 121 fire starts in 1967.

On August 7, several lightning-caused fires started in the Merced Canyon within the park's suppression zone. Fire suppression was complicated locally by a large fire burning outside the park in Oakhurst, as well as large fires burning throughout the state, both of which restricted resources available to fight the fires and difficult access to the fires themselves. Three of the wildfires started during that period grew to significant size. The "Steamboat" grew to 5,280 acres, the "A-Rock" grew to 18,100 acres (6,490 in the park and 11,610

in the Stanislaus National Forest) and burned approximately 69 structures, and the "T-Grove 4" consumed 650 acres. The relatively small acreage burned in the latter fire was attributed to the results of a previous prescribed burn.

The park revised its fire management plan and issued an environmental assessment on the revision in the spring. This allowed the park to be one of three National Park Service areas to resume a prescribed natural fire program in 1990. Severe fire weather in August caused ongoing prescribed natural fires to be declared wildfires, and further prescribed natural fire starts were deferred until the end of fire season.

- o Ed Duncan was hired as the park's prescribed fire manager, and funding and a full-time employee were obtained for a permanent helitack supervisor position to be filled before the start of the 1991 season.

Helicopter Use

- o Helicopter use for fire totalled 322 (up from 152.5 in 1989), while helicopter use for search and rescues totalled 49.1 hours (down from 54.1 in 1989).

WILDERNESS PROTECTION

- o Nordic patrol skied 1,677 miles and contacted 7,500 day users and 925 overnight users. Twenty nights of overnight patrolling was done in the Ostrander/Glacier Point areas.
- o Nordic personnel had eight search-and-rescue incidents last winter, assisted with 55 medicals in the A-frame, and 177 visitor assists in the field, including 26 law-enforcement actions. Eight snow surveys were completed.
- o Summer staff patrolled 5,143 miles and contacted 11,628 people, while watershed/wilderness staff assigned to the Tuolumne drainage patrolled, both on foot and horseback, more than 3,000 miles and contacted 6,200 visitors in the backcountry. Wilderness staff spent 1,200 hours on maintenance, removing almost 500 fire rings and 1,800 pounds of trash.
- o The total number of overnight stays in the backcountry was 49,159, down from 1989's statistics of 53,087.
- o The wilderness personnel assisted in the removal of one building from wilderness (the Miguel Meadows line shack) and the building of another cabin (Wilma Lake Snow Survey Cabin.) They also developed, hosted, and helped with the instruction for the first interagency wilderness training academy at Donahue Pass.

- o A new wildlife observation system was initiated in cooperation with the wildlife branch of resources management. The wilderness staff worked in cooperation with the revegetation crews in an attempt to rehabilitate wilderness sites.
- o The winter wilderness staff included three volunteers: the summer staff included three Student Conservation Agency (SCA) volunteers and five student interns.

VALLEY DISTRICT

- o Jason Houck departed to become chief ranger of Great Smokies, and Rick Obernesser was selected as shift supervisor.
- o Because of the fire situation on August 10, Yosemite Valley was evacuated of all visitors in campgrounds and concessioner facilities in an organized and successful operation. The western portion of the park remained closed to the public for ten days.
- o Horse patrol was reinstated after a one-year absence.
- o Stevie Gray was convicted of the murder of his wife at the Tunnel View parking lot area in the culmination of nearly three years of investigation and prosecution by Yosemite Valley protection rangers and the United States Attorney's Office.
- o The staff participated in at least three dramatic life-saving rescues. They activated both the Wind Plan and the Flood Plan and closed Highway 140 into Yosemite Valley because of rockfall and road damage due to the earthquake. Yosemite Valley protection rangers made more arrests than the previous record year, 1975, with 55% of the staff.

MATHER DISTRICT

- o The Tioga Road opened on May 17 with a less-than-40% snowfall recorded during the winter. The road closed twice in May due to snow and once in July due to heavy rain, mud, and rock slides. The road closed for the season on November 19, 1990.
- o The Mather District was plagued with vandalism and robberies of campground safes at Hodgdon Meadow and Tamarack Flat.
- o The August fires closed much of the Mather District with limited access through Tioga Pass. Employees at Hodgdon, Crane Flat, and Foresta were evacuated. Employees housed in Foresta were personal victims of the fire when houses were burned and belongings destroyed.

WAWONA DISTRICT

- o The August fires closed the Wawona District to public use. The "Steamboat" fire burned toward the Yosemite West development but was diverted across Highway 41 toward Badger Pass.
- o A second, temporary kiosk was put into use at the South Entrance to expedite traffic flow and fee collection during busy periods.

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICE

- o Norm Hinson retired in April, and the position of case management officer was filled by J. R. Tomasovic. Lee Shackelton continued his involvement with the Alaska oil spill case as the investigation and data gathering concluded.
- o The August fires produced additional investigation responsibilities associated with the losses in Foresta. Mather District protection ranger Charles Fullam was detailed to the law enforcement office to handle this function.
- o Arrests exceeded 1989 by approximately 20%: 766/1990 vs. 637/1989, with driving under the influence (DUI) (+27.5%) and alcohol/drug (+40.7%) arrests up.
- o One Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) violation was reported and documented.

Park Commissioned Personnel

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| o Permanent commissioned personnel | Level I: 56 |
| Seasonal commissioned personnel | Level I: 4 |
| Permanent commissioned personnel | Level II: 6 |
| Seasonal commissioned personnel | Level II: 36 |
- o Jailer positions were reclassified from 025 to 007 Correctional Officers.

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

BUDGET AND FISCAL

- o The Administrative Finance System (AFS) worked very well in FY90. Beginning October 1990, the Park Service converted to Federal Financial System (FFS) which did not work very well. The AFS program is being maintained manually at the park level.

o Park-wide funding for fiscal year 1990 was as follows:

	<u>ONPS</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>FTE</u>
Superintendent	337,496	21,303	3.9
Safety	78,300	78,300	2.0
Concessions	174,100	0	4.4
Protection	3,319,800	436,000	132.3
Administration	1,342,700	0	43.5
Resources	756,000	198,890	31.9
Interpretation	1,023,870	176,300	39.1
Maintenance	6,220,938	628,245	206.2
Total	13,253,204	1,460,738	463.21

CONTRACTING OFFICER

- o The major event of the year was the fire. The contracting officer coordinated the purchasing effort between Yosemite and the fire team, located and procured a satellite telephone communications link to provide communications for the Mather Fire Camp, and located and procured the copiers and fax machines for the fire camp and extended dispatch/public information office functions.
- o Seventeen contracts were issued after the fire to support the fire rehabilitation program. These contracts were for heavy equipment purchases, rentals, and for a mud flow alarm system for El Portal. Other contracts were awarded for hazard waste clean-up and for debris clean-up in the fire-destroyed community of Foresta.
- o Several NPS-20 agreements were issued to acquire other agencies support in protecting El Portal from mud slides, aerial photo coverage of the fire impact, and timber sale administration for hazard trees resulting from the fires and drought.
- o A large timber sale was made in the fall to remove hazard trees resulting from the fire and the extended drought.

PROJECT COORDINATION

- o Three Denver Service Center construction projects were underway in 1990. Phases III and IV of the Yosemite Valley Electric rehabilitation project were either completed or substantially completed. An interim maintenance building in El Portal was built, and El Portal Buildings and Grounds moved in during the year.
- o Pacific Bell installed a microwave telephone system, tying

Wawona and El Portal to Yosemite Valley via microwave relay at Turtleback Dome. The system consists of four antenna installations, three reflectors on United States Forest Service land, and an equipment building at Henness Ridge. This project was done to meet divestiture regulations, to provide equal access to long-distance carriers, and to reduce the dependance on telephone cables from Wawona and El Portal to Yosemite Valley. Those cables were destroyed during the fire of August 1990.

HOUSING

- o One thousand changes resulted in over 400 persons being assigned housing at the peak season. Total income for the rental of permanent year-around units was \$645,146; total income for the rental of seasonal, summer-use-only units was \$41,292. Planning was initiated for the construction of Phase II employee apartments in El Portal with OZ, a Denver architectural firm, and the Denver Service Center. The need for housing was recognized in the Hodgdon Meadow area of the Mather District with preliminary planning resulting in the obligation of funds for manufactured homes and duplexes in the fiscal year 1991. An Oakland acoustical firm conducted intensive tests throughout the Phase I apartments after occupants reported serious noise transmission problems between floors.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- o The size of the park computer network was expanded to include 38 work stations and two servers, electronic mail and scheduling software was installed, more than 600 person-hours of formal computer training to 139 employees in 21 classes was provided, a wide range of computer applications was developed, including a re-designed utility billing system and park phone list database, and responsive and professional end-user support was provided.

PERSONNEL

- o A total of 4,034 personnel actions were processed for 278 incumbered permanent and 465 seasonal positions.
- o Fifty-six permanent positions were filled. Ten of those were through delegated examining authority from the Office of Personnel Management.
- o The seasonal positions filled by division were: Resources Management Division, 61; Ranger Division 193; Administration Division, 14; Interpretation Division, 63; and Maintenance Division, 134. Total: 465

- o The 361 volunteers-in-park contributed to the work force at a total of 31,048 hours, for a cost of \$13,700.
- o Sixty-six performance awards, 42 non-performance awards, and three employee suggestions were processed.
- o A total of 190 employees received off-site training.
- o On-site training courses held were:
 - Orientation to National Park Service Operations
 - Seasonal Orientation
 - Setting Performance Standards
 - Supervision II
 - Orientation to Resources Management
 - Maintenance: The First Line Manager
- o One position was filled through the Maintenance Affirmative Action Program.
- o Seven new delegated exams were added to our list of 30 delegations.
- o Total of employees:
 - Total permanent positions = 278
 - Total permanent-less-than-full-time positions = 48
 - Total seasonal positions = 465
 - Total positions = 791

**PROCUREMENT, PROPERTY MANAGEMENT,
AND GENERAL SERVICES**

- o Procurement's automated requisition tracking system was transmitted weekly over the Local Area Network (LAN) system to supply various divisions additional information relating to their requisitions.
- o Implemented the "Third Party Draft" system for procuring supplies and services which resulted in the number of purchase orders issued cut in half.
- o Supported United States Forest Service and related fire fighting agencies with supplies and services including meals and lodging during the "A-Rock" and "Steamboat" fires.

WAREHOUSE

- o Completed a physical inventory in February using hand-held computers, sustaining a discrepancy factor of less than four-tenths of one percent, substantially below accepted industry

standard.

- o The full capability of our warehouse staff and the automated inventory control system was put to the test during the "A-Rock" fire. Rapid stock replenishment met fire-fighting needs for common, high-use items.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/LOST AND FOUND

- o Initiated Bar Coding (65% complete)
- o 16,626 lost and found transactions (lost, found, returned) with a 45% return rate.