Ken Greer 1941–1966 ~~23~~ 25

Montana estimated harvest – 20 yr. average – 37

1971
~~1972~~ west yellowstone 14 traps
9 snares

1971 – 23 – 19 – (10 ♂, 9 ♀)

[17 transplanted — 1 dead on arrival (injured 2 dug shots)
16 killed — Some returned 70 airline miles

Future Mgt. Plan

1. Programs of info. to all
2. Guzzly not compatable with man & civilization
3. Proper garbage management
4. Only inaccessible wild areas left for guzzlies
5. Accurate appraisal of livestock mortalities
6. Effective enforcement & supporting fines & penalties
7. Prevent human-guzzly encounters
8. Special events create public opinion against the guzzly

230 culvert traps set — also 10–25 snare set made

[Ken said there was not much adverse reaction to bear killing Walker.
I asked whether this might not be due to image projected of boys as dirty hippies. Nat Reed immediately reacted to this.

(23) 25

Notes

The Grizzly Bear Briefing
September 19, '72

F. C. Craighead

This meeting on grizzly bears was called by Assistant Secretary Reed sl. at the at the urging of Harry Woodward, Director of Colorado Fish and Game Department. It was planned to have two separate meetings; the Park Service, Montana State, and some of the Wyoming people meeting with the Park Service, the Assistant Secretary and Starker Leopold in the morning, and with John and myself and perhaps a few others meeting with the Assistant Secretary and Starker Leopold in the afternoon. We made every possible attempt to have this arranged as a single meeting with questions, answers, and dialogue. We also ~~tried~~ requested that the Press be present and when this was denied we asked that interested people who could look at this problem objectively be present. We asked that Dr. Gould, former Vice President of the AAAS attend. I believe that Mrs. Shell sl. also requested through her congressmen that she be able to attend. There were others who made this request as well and all were turned down.

Just prior to the meeting, I released information to the Press that it was to be a closed meeting and ~~no one~~ NO ONE from the outside was permitted to attend. I felt this was necessary so that we would not reenact the previous bear-management meeting where John and I provided all of the information ~~it~~ and then Leopold and the Park Service took just what they wanted, mimeographed it, and distributed it before letting us see it and said, "all were in agreement".

The information in the Press together with pressure clear to the White House to open the meeting finally enabled us to have an open meeting, but this was only decided the morning of the day that we got together. We had sent a number of people a copy of President Nixon's directive which appeared in the August 4, 1972 issue of Science which said, "that all Scientific Advisory Meetings were to be open to the public".

The meeting room was full when John, Jay, Dr. Sargandares, and I were told that we could attend the morning meeting. I turned the wastepaper basket upside down for a seat. We listened to the presentation of the Park Service, Cole, Martinka, and to Ken Greer from Montana. A few reporters were present. After lunch, John presented his briefing on the grizzly bear situation and there were some questions and answers. Glen Cole was not present. I was not asked nor permitted to present a statement or paper, but I did ocassionally raise a few questions, including one that had to do with the killing of the boy in Yellowstone, this summer. Starker Leopold defended the Park Services stand and so did Reed. Reed did not seem to be able to differentiate between the type of information that Cole was giving him and systematically gathered data provided based on years of research. We definitely felt that neither Reed nor Leopold liked what we had to say, but we were hopeful that they would consider the seriousness of the situation and perhaps make changes in their management program. A few days later

after Cole made statements to the Press, Reed did also, we felt that there was very little likelihood that there would be any changes in the present management program.

We had a meeting the night before with the members of the Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, and Colorado Fish and Game people. They all appeared to be solidly behind us and reflected our concerns over the management of this population that inhabits not only Yellowstone National Park, but this whole extensive ecosystem.

The morning after the meeting, we met in the Stage Coach Hotel in West Yellowstone with Harry Woodward and Sanford and discussed the meeting, its results, implications, and future action. Harry indicated to us that the Fish and Game people were all solidly behind us and would do everything that they could to help. We also seemed to feel that Starker Leopold and Reed had seen the light and would make some changes. After this neither John nor I released additional information to the press, but the Park Service did, both Nat Reed and Cole. Reed indicated that there were plenty of grizzlies in Yellowstone and in fact had too many and that the present population was in good shape. Cole took a crack at our work through the newspapers, the thing that they have continually insisted that we refrain from doing. Since the meeting, I have had numerous opportunities to get our point-of-view out to the public and state what we think the Park Service is doing and to do this both through the Press by magazines, and radio. I have so far refrained, feeling that if there is any intention of taking our recommendations, it will be better not to antagonise them by further taking this to the public. However, I feel that it is going to be necessary

and that we should do it before too long. There is no real indications that the Park Service has any intentions of altering their grizzly bear management program.

Frank Craighead Jr.

(25) 27 Nat Reed

NOTES ON THE GRIZZLY BEAR SITUATION

On September 24, 1973 I left Naples, Florida for Jackson, Wyoming but due to a delay in landing at Fort Worth was unable to make connections. At the Denver airport on the 25th, I ran into Nat Reed, Undersecretary of the Interior and a party on their way to Jackson - Yellowstone to attend the grizzly bear meeting. Among those in the party were Charlie Loveless and ~~Bevar~~ Durward Allen (?) I asked Charlie if John were going to attend the meeting and also later asked Nat Reed the same question. Both beat around the bush, but indicated that he would not. I then asked them why we were being prevented from attending, particularly as we had done more work on the grizzly bear and knew more about the situation than any one attending. Both beat around the bush, but essentially said that this was a meeting covering other subjects and therefore it was not appropriate that we attend.

I sat beside Charlie Loveless at first and told him what I thought of the critical situation of the grizzly and also told him another factor that I was concerned about was the whole bureaucratic approach to independent research and the methods they had used to prevent us from continuing the research, how they harrassed us during research, and ~~to~~ prevented us from getting out the information if it didn't jibe with existing policy. I gave him quite an earfull, including intimating to him that this whole thing was just another Watergate at a lower level. He then suggested that I talk to Nat Reed and said something to Reed. Reed and I went to the back of the plane, and I talked with him for most of the trip. Basically I told him that he was not getting the correct information on the grizzly bear situation, and that he was seeing only one side of this whole controversy, and that I thought it might be well for him to get another viewpoint. In regard to the grizzlies, I told him that one of the things he should do is to make certain, if they gave him information indicating that there was a high grizzly population, to determine just what methods were used. I pointed out that there were some systematic, scientific methods that could be used, and that in the past, data gathered and submitted by the Park Service did not follow these accepted techniques. I mentioned that they had been putting out mis-information and outright lies in letters and that I'd seen many of these letters, that some of them were written by Bob Lynn and signed by him (Reed) and that there was exactly no truth at all in them. He then mentioned that Lynn was no longer with him, and I said "Well that's a good thing". Reed has apparently pretty well made up his mind on this subject and continually wanted to argue with me when I tried to give him a different viewpoint and other information. He said that most of this was in the past, he didn't want to get involved in it, personal grudge-fight, and so on. I then told him that this was not the case, that it was his side of it, and that what we were concerned with was the preservation of the grizzly, and the other was the right and privillege to carry on independent research in National Parks without ~~having a~~ character assination harrassment, and the whole power of the propaganda division of a big bureaucratic organization leveled at us just because we didn't agree with ~~a different~~ policy. I told him that regardless of what came out of the bear meeting, or this bear situation,

I intended to fight this other as long as I could, even though I recognized the difficulty of tackling a government bureau. I told Reed that he'd been getting a lot of mis-information and much of these letters contain outright lies, he said that he'd been getting his advice from Starker Leopold and Durward Allan and Hornocker and one other and said "You don't think they would lie to me, do you?" I told him no, I didn't think so, but this wasn't necessarily the base of the information. This is when I brought up Bob Lynn's name. We discussed quite a few things concerning this, as well as the grizzly bear situation. I told him that this whole affair was just another Watergate, but on a lower level and that I wanted to see a Congressional Investigation where all of these people were under oath and couldn't lie as they had been regularly doing. The newspaper and publicity battle came up and I told him that I'd never published material in a newspaper unless it was refuting something the park service had already put out. I told him about our agreement not to do so, and a week later the park had a big spread in the Jackson Hole Guide. I also told Reed and Lovelace together that I thought they ought to check and insist that the park service keep accurate records so that the number of bears killed and eliminated was on record, and that this wasn't being done and that a ranger had told me that the park's policy was 'Get rid of the bears, but don't let Anderson know'. And of course, it's Anderson's policy that he didn't want to know so that he could put out statements that are untrue. I asked Reed whether or not he'd seen John's computor analysis and he said that he'd seen an abstract of it, that he questioned part of it and so on. It was apparent that he'd only seen what certain people wanted him to see, and I asked him if they were going to let John release it. Neither he or Lovelace gave me an affirmative answer. I also told him about the park service's threat to us when the report about Glacier came out and they told us unless we gave out mis-information which they acknowledged was in the report, that we would be kicked out of Yellowstone. I also told Reed that when he first got into this, I had hopes that he would work something out, that I'd heard many good things about him, but I was now disappointed. Reed mentioned something about the National Wildlife article which he'd apparently seen before leaving Washington and said something to the effect that there are points in there that many of his people could question. I said I hope so, and I hope that there are questions raised, this is what we're after to get to the bottom of this whole situation. Toward the end, Reed asked me what can we do now to preserve and manage the grizzly. I told him the things that should have been done hadn't been done, but that every effort should be made to minimize the mortality on the grizzly, particularly in the reproductive aged group of females, that there should be a moratorium on hunting by the states, and that in certain areas carcasses should be placed out to concentrate grizzlies when necessary. He mentioned that this had already been tried and done. I told him I would like to see where these carcasses were put out, who had taken the animal and a lot more about it and said I really didn't believe they'd done much of this. I told Reed also that many bears were

Being killed and no record being kept, and then I gave him an example of a number of years before when Worth came out that 150 (one hundred fifty) black bears had been killed, but the number that they finally gave him and put in the records was fifty. He said this was a serious charge and I said I knew it was, but that if he wanted to get the truth what he should do is go talk with some of the rangers and assure them that they wouldn't lose their jobs if they spoke freely. Reed has a habit of being friendly, pretending that he's going along with you, but all the time taking an opposite approach. I did have the feeling at the end of our discussion that he was considering the whole subject more seriously than when we first started talking. He said that there would be a meeting of the park service advisory committee in late October or early November and he would see that both John and I got to it. I also told him that if he wanted to manage the bears, that he ought to accept the computer analysis conclusions and go on the assumption that the bears were in trouble, rather than to try to get a favorable population study from the park people and assume that all is well. Reed mentioned something about the case of the boy that was killed by the bear and gave me some information on it. I told him I'd received a different story on much of that. I also asked him if he knew of the man that was probably killed in 1970 in the same area, and told him a little about this. In the afternoon, Maurice Hornacker phoned and I told him about my talk with Reed and what he had said and later in the evening talked to John. Reed seemed to feel that if he could come up with a solution to the grizzly bear problem, perhaps even putting them back on the endangered species list that this would solve the problems. I think my discussion with him must have opened his eyes to the fact that the problem was far greater than this as far as we were concerned and that obtaining good management for the grizzly was only a part of our objective and that we intended to fight this thing still further.

Frank Craighead

(8) 10 12

NOTES

Bear Management Meeting
September 6, 1969

Prior to this September 6, 1969 meeting, Superintendent Jack Anderson had insisted that no more animals in the Park could be tagged, and that tags would gradually be removed from those that had been marked. He said that this was being done in preparation for the Centennial, and he told John and me that this was a decision that had been made by the Science Advisory Committee. Both John and I were concerned about this decision as it meant that it would be impossible for us to continue our work on grizzly bears, black bear, and elk. It also meant that much valuable data that could be gathered by us and by the Park from instrumented grizzlies and from collared elk, would be unobtainable.

During the course of the September 6th meeting, I was sitting beside Dr. Stanley Cain, a member of the Advisory group. I asked him why it was, and on what basis the Committee had made the decision, to prohibit further marking of animals in Yellowstone National Park. Dr. Cain was surprised at this question, and said that he knew nothing at all about it. I told him that this was now Park policy and that Anderson had told us that the decision had been made by the Science Advisory Committee.

Later in the meeting Cain posed the question to Anderson, asking what this was all about? Anderson appeared a bit confused and flustered by the question, but then said that this was a decision that he had made himself.

It was obvious that Anderson had been lying to us, but that when the direct question was posed by Cain he could do nothing but admit that it was his decision.

It is this deceitfulness on the part of Anderson, as well as others, that makes it difficult and almost impossible to work with them.

Frank Craighead

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GRIZZLY BEAR NOTES:

On September 28, 1973 I drove to West Yellowstone to meet with John, Maurice Hornocker, Dick Woodworth and Joe Eoff. On the way, I stopped to talk with Jerry Schroder. He did not know of any grizzly mortalities in Yellowstone this year, but it was apparent that he was being isolated from other rangers and could not get much information. He said that it appears that he will not be returning next year. Apparently the lawyers including Zetterberg stopped to talk to him as I had told them that he might be able to give them some information. This fact along with the fact that he had talked with me has put him on the Yellowstone black list and his job will not be renewed next year. Jerry told me that the hair picked up in the camper's tenting area of 1970 was claimed to have been bear and not human hair. Apparently it was sent to the F.B.I. It might be possible to see if this bear hair corresponds with the hair from the bear that killed the Walker boy. I don't know whether this has been done. Also Jerry seemed to think that there had been human hair picked up, but that this will no longer be mentioned nor probably available. Jerry seemed somewhat depressed, but apparently was resigned to not coming back next year. In fact, didn't want to come under the existing conditions. I told him a little about the situation with the Glacier ranger (McClellan) who finally lost his job and is now at Missoula. I also mentioned to him that the F.B.I. had been questioning Mrs. Shell, and that there were rumors out of Yellowstone that the F.B.I. had checked into the Walker boy situation and found claimed that I was the one that had gotten in touch with the parents and encouraged them to sue the government.

CONTINUED. . .

We had hoped to talk with Maurice after the grizzly bear meeting which John and I were prohibited from attending. However, the Interior people gave Maurice some bad news about his relationships with the University people. Apparently they had made some kind of complaint to Interior and Maurice was never informed of it. At any rate, he hurried back to Moscow and we were never able to see him. We did get an opportunity to discuss this whole situation with Woodworth and with Joe Eoff.

Frank Craighead

Schroeder mortality Chuck Falls

"D"

GRIZZLY BEAR NOTES

This morning, June 1, 1973, I talked for several hours with summer ranger Jerry Shroeder. Jerry mentioned that so far he and other rangers had seen very few grizzlies this spring and early summer as compared with former years. Jerry started working as a back-country ranger in 1959. He said that it was his opinion that the grizzlies had been so reduced in numbers that it was probably unlikely that they could make a come-back. He mentioned that one of the policies that they had followed was, don't bother the superintendent, don't inform him, he doesn't want to know, and what he doesn't know he can't be blamed for, so that he has indicated that quite a few more grizzlies and blacks have been killed than have ever been recorded. He also said that in their control work if a troublesome grizzly or an old one were anesthetized and then died they made a record of it. But if it was a young, vigorous grizzly, one not particularly causing trouble and it died due to poor drugging techniques, this animal was then never entered in the records. Here he again mentioned the transporting of grizzlies to the Pitchstone Plateau and that he thought it might be a good place to continue to take and release grizzlies. He feels that Cole really doesn't know what he's doing. Cole and some of the others put out reports of activities and what people are doing. Here those that are carrying out the activities and know what is happening read a lot of hog-wash reports that are put out for their consumption. They assume them to be more-or-less quite stupid. Jerry said he felt that he and the rangers had been lax in not getting more information from the campground where the man disappeared in 1970. He said that they still could have obtained footprints of the animal and looked around for more of the remains. However, he felt that, as in many cases, about all that could be discovered after a period of time would be some hair of the individual if it was left. He said that if any inquiry had come in concerning a person who entered the park and did not come home, that this would have been directed to the Chief Ranger's office and that he nor any of them down the line would ever have seen it. Jerry again mentioned that the best way to get some idea of what was going on and what was happening to the grizzlies was to talk to some of the rangers. He said that he would try to keep tabs of most of the grizzlies that were killed this summer, or at least those that he heard about. He would keep in touch with me on this. I told him that we still hope to get records of the number of grizzlies lost this year and hopefully some indication of the number of bears sighted as compared with former years. He asked me how I would now go about making a count of the grizzlies and I told him it was more difficult than in the past and I thought perhaps the only way of getting any abundance count would be to put out a number of strategically placed carcasses and to count grizzlies

old grizzly trapped at Falls Oct. 4, 1970

as they moved in on these, probably during the month of August. He also said that he realized that many of the grizzlies they'd been taking were the young, productive females and some of these were being sent to zoos, some were killed and the cubs sent to zoos. Jerry also stated that he was sure that Cole would continue on along the lines he was going and that he would not admit he was wrong, nor would others involved and that they would undoubtedly be responsible for the destruction of the grizzly bear. We discussed other things, including the poaching of elk and bear, the over-fishing and over-utilization of Yellowstone streams until it was almost too late and other management problems.

Jerry also indicated that he had heard of some grizzlies that were killed near Sheep falls by Ranchers this year.

June 6 - Talked with Bob Greenspan. He had just returned from Yellowstone where he & a friend hiked about Hayden Valley looking for grizzlies & grizzly sign. They also hiked around Mud Volcano. They did not see any grizzlies nor any fresh sign.

Grizzly Bear Information
Yellowstone National Park
1 9 7 2

On the evening of October 10, 1972, I inadvertently started talking with Gerald B. Schroeder, a seasonal ranger for approximately 10 years in Yellowstone National Park. We got started on a question about the Park Service and then as Schroeder started telling me about grizzly bear incidents I realized that he had more than the average knowledge about the situation in Yellowstone and so I asked him who he was. After this, he voluntarily gave me considerable information on the bear situation in the Park and answered some questions that I had put to him. Shortly after he started talking to me, I asked him if he had any objections to my jotting down a few notes, and he said that he did not. Schroeder asked me if I had had an opportunity to look over the bear logs for the past couple of years and I told him that we had been denied access to these. He then said, that in the Old Faithful area in 1970 ~~that~~ there was probably another human mortality but this has apparently not been recorded and had not been released to the public. The camper, in the same general area where the Walker boy was killed, had his camp disturbed by a bear. A tuft of human hair was found in this area. Cans of food were mouthed, but apparently not broken open, and it appeared as though it might have been an old and toothless bear. Perhaps the same bear trapped in 1970 and 1971. There were indications that a human had been killed at this camp, but no other evidence was apparently found, and the camp was removed by the rangers. The camper never showed up

There is a possibility that inquiries were later made by a family, but at any rate there is no additional information readily available on this incident. As nearly as I could get it from Jerry, a toothless bear that was marked had been trapped at Old Faithful in 1970 and the same bear trapped at Lake in 1971. It was this bear that killed the Walker boy. According to Jerry, Walker and his companion were camped at Grand Geyser and Purple Pool back toward an old road. There is a slide area between the Geyser and Purple Pool and their camp was located here. The killing occurred within 15 yards of camp and the boy was dragged about 210 feet to where the bear found it convenient to eat him. The entire pelvic area and stomach were eaten away. The bear had apparently been in the vicinity of the camp the night before and may have been waiting for the campers on their return. It is even conceivable that this bear might have become a man killer having possibly killed and consumed a man in 1970. This is something that should be investigated further. The Walker boy and his companion left camp at 6:00 p.m. and returned at 12:00 p.m. when the attack occurred. The bear tore up the camp apparently after killing the boy although it is not clear just when this did occur. He apparently did not consume the food in the camp. It is likely that, although the camp was dirty at the time it was found, that it may not have been a dirty camp until the bear disturbed it. The grizzly attacked Walker or the man with the flashlight and apparently hauled him off and crushed his larnyx. The skin was not broken indicating that this was probably a toothless animal. There seems to be a likelihood that this is the same bear that was trapped at Lake in 1971 and at Old Faithful in 1970.

The bear was caught in a snare and shot. This was about 36 hours after the attack on the Walker boy. Although, the animal could have been drugged, the animal was shot on the assumption that it was the killer. Pubic hair and tin foil were apparently found in the animal's intestines. According to Jerry, the Walker boy and his companion had been warned by a girl that they were camping illegally and that there were bears around. Jerry said that litigation had begun against the Government on this killing and that they would probably base their case on the fact that the boys were camping illegally and had been previously warned. According to Jerry, the unofficial bear policy is that, if the bear needs destroying, do it without letting the supperintendent or higher ups know.

In 1971, 17 grizzlies were trapped at Fishing Bridge including cubs, sows, and boars. Five of these had never been tagged. In 1971, there was one human mauling in the Gallatin in August and one minor injury at Bridge Bay in August.

A 20 year old sow was trapped and killed by drugs at Lake. She weigned 350 pounds and had two cubs. One of the cubs was also killed by a drug and the other cub lived. A fourth premolar was used as an age determination at Bozeman. The grizzly was found to be a 20 year-old. This may be a record for grizzly fertility. Jerry also told me about a 750 pound boar grizzly trapped at Old Faithful, the one they call, "Fat Albert". They tried to kill him with drugs and were unsuccessful so sent him to Minnesota-St. Paul to the zoo. He was overdosed with a drug, but did not die. According to Jerry, "Pink" removed four grizzlies from the West Yellowstone area in 1972 during the early spring.

In 1969, Jerry saw two grizzlies with ear-tags; red plastic markers, at Glacier Gulch one-quarter mile down from Delta Lake in Teton National Park. Two grizzlies, apparently the same ones, were seen on Tewinot, about two and a half miles from the earlier observation. There is a rumor that grizzlies ~~have been going~~ had been flown to Teton National Park and released in 1968. In 1969 through 1972 grizzlies were flown to Big Pitch Stone Plateau near Phantom Springs campsite. Six grizzlies were transported to this area. In talking with Jerry, I got the impression that quite a few ~~and numerous~~ black bears had been killed and not recorded and apparently also some grizzlies. I think it would be good to send him a copy List of our mortalities for 1970, 1971, and 1972 and see if he can add to them. I told him that I would send him some of our reports. He apparently has not seen any, nor has he seen any of Cole's. This information is apparently not deemed necessary for those in the lower ecclesia and the data has not been made available to them. The general gist of my conversation with Jerry is ~~that~~ that a great deal has been happening in the park in regard to bear activity that has not been made known to the public and that some actions taken by the park that should have been made public; such as moving grizzlies to Teton National Park and Big Pitch Stone Plateau have not been publicized. Most certainly the probability of a ~~hearing~~ human fatality is 1970 should have been made public and had it been, it may have prevented the killing that occurred this year.

Gerald B. Schroeder
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F. C. Craighead