

March 11, 1977

The Honorable Cecil D. Andrus
Secretary of the Interior
Interior Building
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Secretary Andrus:

As a career Federal employee of the National Park Service, now retired after serving over a period of 34 years, I wish to express my views concerning the directorship of this bureau by Director Gary Everhardt and Deputy Director William Briggie.

Having known both men for years, I share the opinion of many NPS employees and retirees that the advancement of each to their present positions has not been in keeping with sound principles of personnel management; rather, their promotions have been in callous disregard for the ideals of the Service, as well as being insensitive to the career objectives of those who serve it. To be frank, the most glaringly apparent qualification of each of the above-named for his position is his ability to form political alliances to assure his own personal aggrandizement. Both have been unconscionably adept in developing key support for personal gain in both major political parties; but each is more readily identifiable with ethical and moral standards characterized by White House operations of the Nixon Era.

It was with deep concern for the morale and development of hundreds of current temporary and permanent employees, as well as for the future of the Service these capable and dedicated people represent, that I learned the above-named men had been advanced during the Nixon Era to the two most vital and influential positions within the Service. The continuance of these two in their present positions of power will exert a tragic influence upon Service employees. Highly qualified subordinates, hesitant or unwilling to compromise integrity, will be shunted and manipulated into positions of lesser responsibility; while others, carefully selected and groomed by this unholy duo, will become concentrated in the Director's Office to a degree commensurate with their willingness to adjust their own standards to the level of their mentors. Thus, the end result will be subornation of power in positions of trust, and a demeaning of ethical standards among the rank-and-file.

A noteworthy example of the influence at the Director-level upon field operations - for either better or for worse - is cited at the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, wherein Assistant Secretary Nathaniel Reed has used his office to foster such persons as Messrs. Everhardt and Briggie as well as former NPS Director Ron Walker. It will be long remembered that Mr. Walker was selected primarily because of his White House experience as an enthusiastic associate of Charles Colson! Also, it is common knowledge in field areas administered by the NPS that Assistant Secretary Reed's own selection for his current position was based upon his willingness to generously contribute funds to the Committee to Re-Elect the President (CREEP) during the infamous Nixon Era.

Please be assured that this letter is prompted by my deep love and concern for the National Park Service - which has made it difficult to be less frank and specific regarding Director Everhardt and Deputy Briggie, his chief assistant. Personally, I wish them no harm; but, foremost, I do not wish to see the NPS destroyed or its integrity of purpose further impaired by such cheap political opportunists.

It is my fond hope and trust that the Carter Administration will thoughtfully review the organization and purpose of the National Park Service, toward the end that its ideals and concepts will be served in perpetuity for the benefit and enjoyment of all the People.

Sincerely,

Harry V. Reynolds, Jr.

HARRY V. REYNOLDS, JR.
Staff Park Ranger (Retired)

10
January 19, 1974
Sacramento, California

Dr. Ian McT. Cowan, Dean
Faculty of Graduate Studies
University of British Columbia
Vancouver 8, Canada

Dear Dr. Cowan:

During the past year I have read with increasing interest a number of news articles published in the National Observer, Los Angeles Times, and others, regarding a developing controversy between grizzly bear research and management within Yellowstone National Park. I was delighted to hear that a National Academy of Sciences committee is now looking into this situation. As a former National Park Service ranger, closely associated with both the study and park management objectives in Yellowstone, I am offering you and your colleagues my observations and comments with the hope that they may be helpful in differentiating fact from fantasy and distinguishing truth from fiction in this issue.

First, in the way of personal background, I was retired from the NPS in 1967, after federal service in several major national parks covering a period of over 34 years. I was stationed in Yellowstone for a total of 12 years during 1947-1963. At the beginning of the Grizzly Bear Study in 1959, I served both in my regular position as the ranger in charge of the South District and as Acting District Manager of the geographic area which includes Yellowstone Lake, Trout Creek, Hayden Valley, and Canyon. This district is recognized to be the area of highest grizzly density within the park. In my role as district ranger, I was charged with responsibility for the protection and management of persons, property, wildlife, and other natural resources. As acting district manager, I exercised direct administrative control under the general supervision of the park superintendent. During the summer of 1962, I was detailed to park headquarters at Mammoth, where I served as staff officer to the chief ranger until I was promoted and transferred in 1963 to the Washington Office as staff park ranger in the Division of Resources Management. Immediately following my federal retirement in the summer of 1967, I actively participated until early spring of 1968 in the grizzly study at Yellowstone as a wildlife research assistant in the temporary employ of the University of Montana. Consequently, I was in an unique position to acquire an intimate and detailed understanding of the grizzly research study and wildlife management policies and practices of NPS officials throughout the most significant period of activities, 1959-1968.

At the time the study was initiated in 1959, the NPS had no trained or experienced personnel with the academic background or requisite degree of expertise to conduct or supervise such a program on a unilateral Service basis; nor did the NPS have the fiscal resources to implement such a comprehensive, long-range research study.

As only one of many beneficiaries, I recall how patient and understanding Drs. John J. and Frank C. Craighead, Jr., were in demonstrating and advising selected members of the park staff in the use of their research techniques for park management purposes. Instances are too numerous to mention when local rangers, concerned because of destruction of property and actual peril to human life resulting from the presence of a grizzly in a public use area, and often lacking confidence because of limited experience in the use of control measures other than a gun, would call upon the Craigheads and their associates to help them locate and tranquilize an aggressive bear - usually in the dead of night and frequently under unpleasant climatic conditions; yet I am unaware of a single instance when the brothers failed to quickly respond. There is no question in retrospect that this willingness to help others in time of need and to share their expertise with park rangers often impaired the continuity and disrupted the timely conduct of their own programmed activities.

Early in the study, no NPS employee was familiar with the technique and limitations of the Cap-Chur gun and immobilizing drugs - prior park experience being limited to the use of mobile culvert-type traps or "direct control" by shooting. At first, park employees were unfamiliar even with the concept of the research study. In order to help in this understanding, the brothers expended many hours in training selected rangers in the use of dart-guns and tranquilizing drugs. Many information sessions were held for park employees, including naturalists and park rangers, and several public presentations were made at scheduled programs within and in the vicinity of the park.

Eventually, a sufficient number of rangers became minimally proficient in the use of sophisticated equipment utilized by the Craigheads, and so were able to meet most of their own bear management needs; but as long as the Craigheads were conducting their study within the park, they were requested by local rangers to help in unusually difficult or dangerous situations. Rank-and-file rangers sincerely appreciated these acts of cooperation by the Craigheads and their associates. Cooperation was mutually advantageous, because rangers would routinely provide information to the study group regarding the location and activities of a particular bear identified by size, coloration, and distinctive ear markings, and the Craigheads would provide advice and on-site assistance when needed - which often removed the otherwise apparent necessity for rangers to take less refined measures of control: e.g., final solution by killing.

The customary practice followed for about 50 years of prior park administration in bear management was to: (1) leave the grizzlies undisturbed unless they wandered into a public use area, (2) trap and relocate an offending bear, if possible, or (3) destroy the bear by shooting. However, since hazing and shooting a bear at night in a public use area requires calm nerves, a steady hand, a keen eye, and a lot of good judgment on the part of the ranger, only a very few rangers were authorized to dispose of bears in this fashion. Detailed reports and records of all bear-related incidents were mandatory, and administrative control extending to the superintendent was absolute. In sum-

mary, the policy followed by rangers for the past several decades has been, in effect "... Let the grizzlies alone unless they threaten human life or property."

However, even during the first years of the study*under the superintendency of Mr. Lemuel ("Lon") A. Garrison, all park rangers and park naturalists were not wholly sympathetic with the study. This was primarily a result of the fact that Yellowstone and other NPS Service personnel were not technically trained in or familiar with modern wildlife research techniques and methods. Consequently, some rangers and naturalists did not understand the practical necessity of marking bears for identification purposes; others objected to the "so-called" intrusion into the last domain of this majestic and awesome animal by "meddling man"; and almost all park employees resented in varying degrees that "outsiders" were conducting the study.

While some of this opposition was due to misinformation and a paucity of communications, much was based on the deepseated opposition to any outsiders, which was held by otherwise intelligent and reasonable park employees. Apparently these critics minimized the fact that the markings on the ears of the bears were a one-time technique, valuable to many generations of future bears, and the public very rarely observes a free-roaming grizzly and by only an odd chance discerns such a marking on an adult bear. Also, critics of the Craigheads failed to recognize that it was vitally important that this study be conducted to determine factual data regarding the grizzly's range, habits, species population, and reproduction cycle, especially in view of increasing numbers of park visitors and the tenuous existence of the grizzly. Overlooked by some park employees who considered members of the grizzly research study as interlopers upon their domain was the historical fact that one of the primary purposes in establishing Yellowstone and the Service it represents was to provide a natural outdoor laboratory for research; also, Congress in its foresight enacted legislation many years ago which conferred primary jurisdiction upon the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service for all wildlife research on public lands.

No local endeavors by the NPS to establish a park wildlife research facility were attempted until 1968. The establishment of a research capability by Superintendent Anderson in 1968 immediately caused conflict between park rangers and park biologists, as well as between park biologists and the Craighead research team. Prior to 1968, there were instances of passive resistance to the study on the part of some rangers and naturalists, but there was no hostility or direct attempt to hinder the research or discredit the Craighead work. Superintendent Garrison personally saw to it that opposition to the study did not materially interfere with its effective progress. The only point of minor criticism that can be directed toward the NPS during Mr. Garrison's tenure is that inadequate emphasis or insufficient effort was made by staff officers to fully communicate with and advise all park personnel regarding the complete scope and concept of the grizzly bear study, as well as of the composition of the cooperative agreement under which the Craigheads worked.

Although there were minor operating problems during the first six years of the study, the conflicts of interest were amicably resolved between Superintendent Garrison and the Craigheads. Only under the subsequent brief administration of former Superintendent McLaughlin and present Superintendent Jack K. Anderson did the research study begin to suffer from lack of cooperation by the NPS. The transfer of Biologist Glen F. Cole to Yellowstone at this time marked the beginning of deterioration in the official relationship between the NPS and the Craigheads.

Following transfer of Superintendent Garrison from the park, an unrestrained critical attitude developed at higher echelons in the form of cutting remarks, disparaging innuendoes, and unsupported gossip adverse to the study in general and to the competence and integrity of the Craigheads in particular. Where initially park resistance to the continuation and fulfillment of the study was unorganized and undirected, it became a matter of park-wide knowledge that Superintendent Anderson and Biologist Cole actually encouraged, generated, and led the opposition to the program. Thus, ironically, as the capabilities of park rangers increased to a level where it was possible to use immobilizing techniques for management purposes, an attitude of criticism toward the Craigheads' research developed to a point where the NPS became less and less subtle in limiting their own cooperation and support to situations where their own self interests were paramount.

Although Mr. Cole had no academic reputation and relatively little recognition in wildlife research circles at the time he was transferred from Grand Teton National Park to Yellowstone during or about 1967, he quickly espoused and began to implement drastic changes in park wildlife management policies. The most charitable characterization of these endeavors is that they were obviously designed to "avoid waves", following several previous years during which Yellowstone was the focal-point of several conservation and wildlife management controversies. Soon after Mr. Cole's arrival at Yellowstone, it became a matter of common knowledge that he was casting covetous eyes on an NPS proposal to develop a research center, either within Yellowstone (as originally conceived), or in the vicinity of the park but under the aegis of the NPS (as currently proposed). It was speculated that Mr. Cole saw a future role for himself in this plan. Some observers claimed that, lacking personal competence or potential, he insidiously and persistently attempted to erode the reputation of the Craigheads. Other park personnel believed that Mr. Cole was possibly motivated by a consuming desire for recognition and further advancement, coupled with aspirations toward establishing and managing a wildlife research center in the park. In any case, it became obvious to me and to others that Mr. Cole intended to usurp or destroy the Craighead research.

Unfortunately, Superintendent Anderson - apparently lacking insight into the motives of his staff specialist - manifested a disturbing lack of good judgment in supporting the new and novel doctrines as well as the personal aspirations of his employee, "right or wrong". Then, compounding a regrettable situation, the park administration

marshalled backing at both the NPS regional level and at the Washington Office. Finally, in keeping with a trend occurring too often in government operations, a solid front - political rather than analytical in character - appears to have been formulated within the Service.

To suit his own purposes - the reasons for which remain obscure, but may be speculated upon - Mr. Cole, with or without the approbation of Superintendent Anderson, endorsed or initiated a park practice of under-reporting all bear incidents and not recording all "controlled" or otherwise deceased grizzlies. Thus, the files which had been completely and accurately maintained for decades became merely a repository for statistical information which would support his point of view. I discerned clear evidence of these discrepancies and omissions when I reviewed the official NPS bear files at Mammoth during the winter of 1967-1968.

Too many park rangers, for a variety of reasons, failed to question this change in practice. The elimination of one less piece of paperwork was a welcome relief to a ranger already overburdened with reports. Also, by no longer being accountable for submitting written dossiers on each grizzly incident, it was not necessary to always report a bear succumbing to an unintentional overdose of tranquilizing drugs. By this time, bears were not infrequently killed in this manner by the use of drugs in inexperienced hands. Even marked "study" grizzlies were killed by rangers within the park when alternate methods of control were available. Such instances were sometimes not reported, either in official records or information provided to the Craigheads. Also, park rangers being corruptible like other humans, instances are known where rangers surreptitiously disposed of bears for their own personal, ulterior purposes.

Of course, this deterioration of bear management practices was only possible because administrative and operational controls had been relaxed, modified, or rescinded. Reports and records compiled since 1967 under the direction and control of Biologist Cole and the administration of Superintendent Anderson are consequently considered by some rangers (including myself) to be inaccurate or incomplete. Records, which had been formerly maintained meticulously for both internal review and public inspection, have become distorted, and even overt attempts to mislead the public through news media have been made. Unfortunately, significant records pertaining to bear management retrogressed in this respect after 1967, at the same time that disturbing handicaps were needlessly introduced by the NPS to thwart the full effectiveness of the research study conducted by the Craigheads. I have recently been informed through knowledgeable sources within Yellowstone that the current park policy in bear management is not only misleading but obstructive to sound research principles, and that word has unofficially been passed on to rangers to "... Take care of your problem grizzlies at the local level in your own way; we don't need to hear about it at park headquarters."

So many unwarranted allegations have been made against the Craigheads - most of an extremely petty nature - that space or time does not permit full rebuttal. However, it may be stated from my personal knowledge that I know of no irregularity or impropriety - as recently attributed by news media to "park sources" - that is actually based upon fact. A typical example of the trivial nature of park-authored complaints is epitomized by a claim that the Craigheads, improperly and contrary to park direction, took personal friends and relatives into the restricted study area at Trout Creek and elsewhere. As district ranger of the main study area and, later, chief law enforcement officer covering the park, I know that such assertions during those years were unfounded. I visited all dump areas innumerable times at all hours of the day and night and at every season of the year, and was well informed regarding park-wide activities, covert as well as approved; yet I never observed an infraction of park regulations or policies committed by the Craigheads or their associates. On the other hand, I do recall instances when the Craigheads reported trespass violations of restricted areas to the appropriate park officers. Apparently, such a claim is based upon distortion of the fact that because several of the Craighead children are wildlife technicians in their own right, they participated in the study - for the same reasons and with the same authorized purpose as other students. Of course, the utilization by the Craigheads of wildlife students resulted in the most effective accomplishment at minimum expenditure, and such practice was in full accord with the basic contract and cooperative agreement covering the study. I have also read in the news media that park authorities have claimed that it was difficult to restrain the Craigheads to work within park policies and to conform to regulations. Again, I can say unequivocally that the Craigheads made every reasonable effort to abide by park regulations and policies. Where such appeared to handicap the course of the study, they would invariably attempt to resolve the matter through consultation with the superintendent; and, where compromise could not be achieved, the Craigheads would adjust their activities to conform to the park decision in the matter, even though such would exert an adverse effect upon their study operations.

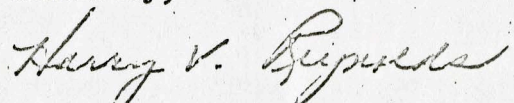
By this time, it must have been made very clear to the Craigheads that the NPS - or at least the Yellowstone park administration - had adopted a deliberate campaign to obstruct and to discredit the study. Instances of apparent collusion on the part of park management and administration occurred with increasing frequency, with the obvious design of making conditions within the park so difficult for the Craigheads that they would give up in despair and terminate their study. A notable example of such intransigence is recalled by the attempt of the superintendent in 1967 to have the old YPCo facilities razed at Canyon, while being used as a research center by the Craigheads. Fortunately, the Yellowstone Park Company, owner of the physical property at the site, refused to be coerced by the park in this matter until after the Craigheads had obtained other non-NPS facilities. Also, it was administratively condoned for supervisory rangers and naturalists to make disparaging remarks adverse to the study during staff meetings and training sessions which new or seasonal employees attended. For these and other reasons, it became obvious that the study had at least the tacit disapproval of the superintendent and the park biologist.

In the face of these circumstances, it is actually astonishing that the Craigheads were able to keep their study on schedule, despite NPS opposition and lack of support. I know that the Craigheads questioned several park proposals, particularly those which interfered with the progress of their study. From their viewpoint, they would have been unworthy of their public trust, both to the taxpayers and to the organizations which gave financial support, if they had not taken a stand at critical periods during the study. According to my own knowledge and observations, the Craigheads gave unsparingly and willingly of their own time and efforts. They were always willing to cooperate with the working ranger, and to compromise upon issues at administrative levels - up to the extent permitted by their code of ethics and professional integrity. They both possess a unique combination of ability to inspire and lead others, as well as to accomplish the most onerous tasks in a skillful manner. They are soft-spoken, exceptionally self-effacing and extremely modest in demeanor, but have the ability to express themselves in concise and effective terms. In summation, these brothers, as well as their associates who emulated them, have established a standard for expertise and excellence that will long be remembered by rangers who worked with them during these years in Yellowstone.

I have known the Craighead brothers for approximately 25 years, and share the convictions of their university colleagues as well as the scientific community at large that their honesty, forthrightness, integrity of purpose, amiability, and innate desire to be conciliatory with collaborators is far above reproach. The current shameful attack promulgated by the present park administration is unworthy of the Service I faithfully and loyally served for many years, and is obviously designed to malign the veracity of the Craigheads' research findings and to undermine the value of their scientific achievements.

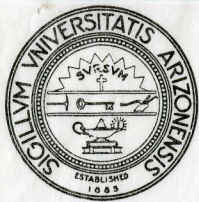
Again, I hope that these observations and experiences, while more detailed and lengthy than I originally intended, will be helpful to you in your review of the controversial issues. I have found it difficult to remain less specific and non-partisan under the circumstances. I am available to give you further assistance, if requested, and I can fully support the position I have stated in this letter.

Sincerely,



Harry V. Reynolds, Jr.

10320 Birmingham Way, Apt. 2
Rancho Cordova, California - 95670



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

TUCSON, ARIZONA 85721

COLLEGE OF MINES

DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY

January 7, 1975

TEL. (602) 884-2442

Dr. I. McT. Cowan, Dean
Faculty of Graduate Studies
The University of British Columbia
2075 Wesbrook Place
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6T 1W5

Dear Dean Cowan:

Because of my long friendship with the Craighead twins I wanted to try to set the record straight amongst their friends in Jackson Hole. I am sending you a copy of the letter I wrote to the editor of "Jackson Hole News." It struck a raw nerve and in the Superintendent of Yellowstone Park whom must have called me minutes after he read the letter. However, though he disagreed he could not dispute the statements I had made.

I wanted to make a further statement to the effect that as I read your report your committee was of the opinion that if the present policies of the National Park Services were continued the grizzly bear would eventually become extinct in Yellowstone Park. Sometimes I am tempted to believe that that is actually what the Park Service wants. After all a park with no bears would be much easier to administer. If you have time to drop me a note I would be grateful if you would tell me whether my conclusion as stated above agrees with your own.

Frank Craighead kindly sent me a copy of your letter of November 12, 1974 which I have read with great satisfaction. I suppose it is a privilege communication but there are a few people to whom I would like to show it. One of my very best friends, here at the University, is a member of the Advisory Committee for the National Parks. I sent him a copy of the letter that I am sending to you and he was dumbfounded and could hardly believe what he read. He had just returned from a meeting in October and he said the briefing the Park Service gave the Committee was totally different than the content of my letter. Somehow or other I think we have got to smoke these rascals out.

I have just been reading a NPS Environmental statement about the grizzly bears. It is absolutely shocking the way they have misinterpreted your report as well as the work of the Craighead twins.

Dr. I. McT. Cowan
January 7, 1975
Page 2

I think in particular of the statement on Page 72 which seems to me a complete falsehood since it leaves out the word "immediate" which appeared in No. 18 of your conclusions.

I shall be most grateful for any help you can give me in trying to enlighten our fellow Americans about one of the worst of our growing bureaucracies.

Sincerely yours,

Laurence M. Gould

LMG:eg
Enc.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85721

DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCES
TEL. (602) 884-2442

December 4, 1974

Mr. Michael Sellett
Editor
Jackson Hole News
Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Dear Mr. Sellett:

I have read with great interest and satisfaction your excellent editorial in the Jackson Hole News Thursday, October 17, 1974 concerning the controversy over the grizzly bear situation in Yellowstone Park. I think you have stated the case accurately and I hope you will let me add a few comments from my own experience.

The National Park Service is responsible for the controversy which should never have occurred. In 1962 the then Secretary of Interior Stewart Udall asked the advice of the National Academy of Sciences in the planning and organizing of an extended program in natural history research by the National Park Service. The report of the Academy committee (1963) recommended that; "The Park Service should make every effort to support and accommodate independent research effort and should recognize that basic research of this kind will enhance the importance of the National Parks and will contribute to the interpretational functions of the service and to our national scientific effort."

When the Craigheads began their work with the grizzlies in Yellowstone Park in 1959 they received the friendliest kind of cooperation and encouragement from the then Superintendent Lemuel Garrison. This was, of course, in keeping with the recommended policy for the National Park System.

When the present superintendent Jack Anderson took charge in 1968 the policy of welcoming and encouraging research by competent, independent workers outside the Park Service was abruptly terminated. There began a period of harassment for the Craigheads which still continues. Their laboratory building was needlessly destroyed. The markers which they had placed on the grizzly bears which they were studying were removed and they have been prevented from handling the bears with which they were working. To have continued to work in Yellowstone Park the Craigheads would have been required to submit to such restrictions as no self-respecting scientist could accept and which would have made their research impossible. They had no choice but to withdraw.

There is no point in trying to understand the grizzly population unless a quantitative study of their numbers can be made. No one has devised a more reliable method than that followed by the Craigheads. To pretend that this is a hardship on the bears is sentimental nonsense. I have watched the Craigheads work with the bears and I suspect they are less disturbed by the tranquilizers and the markers than you or I are when we have a hypodermic needle. Indeed, if we must quit marking the grizzly bears so that we can get an accurate population study then we ought to abandon bird banding and similar activities, including, of course, branding of livestock!

To settle the present controversy Secretary Morton like his predecessor former Secretary Udall sought the advice and recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences. The committee appointed was asked to "study and evaluate data on the population dynamics of the grizzly bears in Yellowstone National Park and to make recommendations concerning the scientific and technical implications of those data." When the report of the Committee was finally delivered to the National Park Service its distribution was withheld until the Park Service had made a number of news releases purporting to show that the report endorsed the National Park Service Policy. They quoted but one of 19 conclusions made by the Academy Committee which states that "there is no convincing evidence that the grizzly bears in the Yellowstone Ecosystem are in the immediate danger of extinction."

The Craigheads never claimed that this was the case. They began their research in 1959 because they recognized that the grizzly was an endangered species. Furthermore, the statement is misleading. It means little or nothing unless we know what "immediate" means.

To interpret this one statement as an endorsement of National Park Service policy is a complete misrepresentation of the Academy Committee report. Indeed, far from supporting the present policy of the Park Service the report is highly critical of it.

The report judged the Craighead research to be of the highest quality and to provide the only reliable data for the committee's study. Of the Park Service data the report comments: "the research program carried out by the National Park Service Administration since 1970 has been inadequate to provide the data essential for devising sound management policies for the grizzly bears of the Yellowstone Ecosystem."

The first recommendation in the present Academy report reiterates the policy recommended by the earlier report in 1963.

"We recommend that the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service pursue a policy of supporting and encouraging independent research on Yellowstone grizzlies. The freedom of scientists to conduct research through the Yellowstone ecosystem is imperative if the data essential to successful management of Yellowstone grizzlies are to be obtained; the

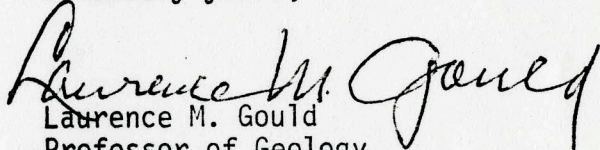
presence of independent investigators will enhance and invigorate study programs undertaken by land-management agencies."

The National Park Service appears to wish to downgrade and discredit the Academy report for which it asked and for which it paid. Coupled with its continuing effort to downgrade the research of the Craighead Brothers and their colleagues this constitutes a gross affront to the whole scientific community.

No National Park should be managed as the feudal domain of the superintendent. The National Parks belong to all of us especially Yellowstone which is surely one of the finest outdoor research laboratories in the world. The issue at stake is much larger than the welfare of the grizzly bears. It is the freedom of scientists to have access to our national parks. Such freedom is the very heart of the spirit of science and without it creditable scientific work cannot be carried on.

This is the second time in a few years that the National Park Service has requested the advice and recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences. For a second time it would turn aside from the recommendations as if it were above criticism. It is high time that the academic community expressed its vigorous opposition to such authoritarian policies which are totally foreign to the spirit of science.

Sincerely yours,



Laurence M. Gould
Professor of Geology
University of Arizona
Former member National Science Board
Former President American Association
for the Advancement of Science

LMG:eg

10
January 19, 1974
Sacramento, California

Dr. Ian McT. Cowan, Dean
Faculty of Graduate Studies
University of British Columbia
Vancouver 8, Canada

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As only one of many beneficiaries, I recall how patient and understanding Drs. John J. and Frank C. Craighead, Jr., were in demonstrating and advising selected members of the park staff in the use of their research techniques for park management purposes. Instances are too numerous to mention when local rangers, concerned because of destruction of property and actual peril to human life resulting from the presence of a grizzly in a public use area, and often lacking confidence because of limited experience in the use of control measures other than a gun, would call upon the Craigheads and their associates to help them locate and tranquilize an aggressive bear - usually in the dead of night and frequently under unpleasant climatic conditions; yet I am unaware of a single instance when the brothers failed to quickly respond. There is no question in retrospect that this willingness to help others in time of need and to share their expertise with park rangers often impaired the continuity and disrupted the timely conduct of their own programmed activities.

Early in the study, no NPS employee was familiar with the technique and limitations of the Cap-Chur gun and immobilizing drugs - prior park experience being limited to the use of mobile culvert-type traps or "direct control" by shooting. At first, park employees were unfamiliar even with the concept of the research study. In order to help in this understanding, the brothers expended many hours in training selected rangers in the use of dart-guns and tranquilizing drugs. Many information sessions were held for park employees, including naturalists and park rangers, and several public presentations were made at scheduled programs within and in the vicinity of the park.

Eventually, a sufficient number of rangers became minimally proficient in the use of sophisticated equipment utilized by the Craigheads, and so were able to meet most of their own bear management needs; but as long as the Craigheads were conducting their study within the park, they were requested by local rangers to help in unusually difficult or dangerous situations. Rank-and-file rangers sincerely appreciated these acts of cooperation by the Craigheads and their associates. Cooperation was mutually advantageous, because rangers would routinely provide information to the study group regarding the location and activities of a particular bear identified by size, coloration, and distinctive ear markings, and the Craigheads would provide advice and on-site assistance when needed - which often removed the otherwise apparent necessity for rangers to take less refined measures of control: e.g., final solution by killing.

The customary practice followed for about 50 years of prior park administration in bear management was to: (1) leave the grizzlies undisturbed unless they wandered into a public use area, (2) trap and relocate an offending bear, if possible, or (3) destroy the bear by shooting. However, since hazing and shooting a bear at night in a public use area requires calm nerves, a steady hand, a keen eye, and a lot of good judgment on the part of the ranger, only a very few rangers were authorized to dispose of bears in this fashion. Detailed reports and records of all bear-related incidents were mandatory, and administrative control extending to the superintendent was absolute. In sum-

mary, the policy followed by rangers for the past several decades has been, in effect ". . . Let the grizzlies alone unless they threaten human life or property."

However, even during the first years of the study under the superintendency of Mr. Lemuel ("Lon") A. Garrison, all park rangers and park naturalists were not wholly sympathetic with the study. This was primarily a result of the fact that Yellowstone and other NPS Service personnel were not technically trained in or familiar with modern wildlife research techniques and methods. Consequently, some rangers and naturalists did not understand the practical necessity of marking bears for identification purposes; others objected to the "so-called" intrusion into the last domain of this majestic and awesome animal by "meddling man"; and almost all park employees resented in varying degrees that "outsiders" were conducting the study.

While some of this opposition was due to misinformation and a paucity of communications, much was based on the deepseated opposition to any outsiders, which was held by otherwise intelligent and reasonable park employees. Apparently these critics minimized the fact that the markings on the ears of the bears were a one-time technique, valuable to many generations of future bears, and the public very rarely observes a free-roaming grizzly and by only an odd chance discerns such a marking on an adult bear. Also, critics of the Craigheads failed to recognize that it was vitally important that this study be conducted to determine factual data regarding the grizzly's range, habits, species population, and reproduction cycle, especially in view of increasing numbers of park visitors and the tenuous existence of the grizzly. Overlooked by some park employees who considered members of the grizzly research study as interlopers upon their domain was the historical fact that one of the primary purposes in establishing Yellowstone and the Service it represents was to provide a natural outdoor laboratory for research; also, Congress in its foresight enacted legislation many years ago which conferred primary jurisdiction upon the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service for all wildlife research on public lands.

No local endeavors by the NPS to establish a park wildlife research facility were attempted until 1968. The establishment of a research capability by Superintendent Anderson in 1968 immediately caused conflict between park rangers and park biologists, as well as between park biologists and the Craighead research team. Prior to 1968, there were instances of passive resistance to the study on the part of some rangers and naturalists, but there was no hostility or direct attempt to hinder the research or discredit the Craighead work. Superintendent Garrison personally saw to it that opposition to the study did not materially interfere with its effective progress. The only point of minor criticism that can be directed toward the NPS during Mr. Garrison's tenure is that inadequate emphasis or insufficient effort was made by staff officers to fully communicate with and advise all park personnel regarding the complete scope and concept of the grizzly bear study, as well as of the composition of the cooperative agreement under which the Craigheads worked.

Although there were minor operating problems during the first six years of the study, the conflicts of interest were amicably resolved between Superintendent Garrison and the Craigheads. Only under the subsequent brief administration of former Superintendent McLaughlin and present Superintendent Jack K. Anderson did the research study begin to suffer from lack of cooperation by the NPS. The transfer of Biologist Glen F. Cole to Yellowstone at this time marked the beginning of deterioration in the official relationship between the NPS and the Craigheads.

Following transfer of Superintendent Garrison from the park, an unrestrained critical attitude developed at higher echelons in the form of cutting remarks, disparaging innuendoes, and unsupported gossip adverse to the study in general and to the competence and integrity of the Craigheads in particular. Where initially park resistance to the continuation and fulfillment of the study was unorganized and undirected, it became a matter of park-wide knowledge that Superintendent Anderson and Biologist Cole actually encouraged, generated, and led the opposition to the program. Thus, ironically, as the capabilities of park rangers increased to a level where it was possible to use immobilizing techniques for management purposes, an attitude of criticism toward the Craigheads' research developed to a point where the NPS became less and less subtle in limiting their own cooperation and support to situations where their own self interests were paramount.

Although Mr. Cole had no academic reputation and relatively little recognition in wildlife research circles at the time he was transferred from Grand Teton National Park to Yellowstone during or about 1967, he quickly espoused and began to implement drastic changes in park wildlife management policies. The most charitable characterization of these endeavors is that they were obviously designed to "avoid waves", following several previous years during which Yellowstone was the focal-point of several conservation and wildlife management controversies. Soon after Mr. Cole's arrival at Yellowstone, it became a matter of common knowledge that he was casting covetous eyes on an NPS proposal to develop a research center, either within Yellowstone (as originally conceived), or in the vicinity of the park but under the aegis of the NPS (as currently proposed). It was speculated that Mr. Cole saw a future role for himself in this plan. Some observers claimed that, lacking personal competence or potential, he insidiously and persistently attempted to erode the reputation of the Craigheads. Other park personnel believed that Mr. Cole was possibly motivated by a consuming desire for recognition and further advancement, coupled with aspirations toward establishing and managing a wildlife research center in the park. In any case, it became obvious to me and to others that Mr. Cole intended to usurp or destroy the Craighead research.

Unfortunately, Superintendent Anderson - apparently lacking insight into the motives of his staff specialist - manifested a disturbing lack of good judgment in supporting the new and novel doctrines as well as the personal aspirations of his employee, "right or wrong". Then, compounding a regrettable situation, the park administration

marshalled backing at both the NPS regional level and at the Washington Office. Finally, in keeping with a trend occurring too often in government operations, a solid front - political rather than analytical in character - appears to have been formulated within the Service.

To suit his own purposes - the reasons for which remain obscure, but may be speculated upon - Mr. Cole, with or without the approbation of Superintendent Anderson, endorsed or initiated a park practice of under-reporting all bear incidents and not recording all "controlled" or otherwise deceased grizzlies. Thus, the files which had been completely and accurately maintained for decades became merely a repository for statistical information which would support his point of view. I discerned clear evidence of these discrepancies and omissions when I reviewed the official NPS bear files at Mammoth during the winter of 1967-1968.

Too many park rangers, for a variety of reasons, failed to question this change in practice. The elimination of one less piece of paperwork was a welcome relief to a ranger already overburdened with reports. Also, by no longer being accountable for submitting written dossiers on each grizzly incident, it was not necessary to always report a bear succumbing to an unintentional overdose of tranquilizing drugs. By this time, bears were not infrequently killed in this manner by the use of drugs in inexperienced hands. Even marked "study" grizzlies were killed by rangers within the park when alternate methods of control were available. Such instances were sometimes not reported, either in official records or information provided to the Craigheads. Also, park rangers being corruptible like other humans, instances are known where rangers surreptitiously disposed of bears for their own personal, ulterior purposes.

Of course, this deterioration of bear management practices was only possible because administrative and operational controls had been relaxed, modified, or rescinded. Reports and records compiled since 1967 under the direction and control of Biologist Cole and the administration of Superintendent Anderson are consequently considered by some rangers (including myself) to be inaccurate or incomplete. Records, which had been formerly maintained meticulously for both internal review and public inspection, have become distorted, and even overt attempts to mislead the public through news media have been made. Unfortunately, significant records pertaining to bear management retrogressed in this respect after 1967, at the same time that disturbing handicaps were needlessly introduced by the NPS to thwart the full effectiveness of the research study conducted by the Craigheads. I have recently been informed through knowledgeable sources within Yellowstone that the current park policy in bear management is not only misleading but obstructive to sound research principles, and that word has unofficially been passed on to rangers to "... Take care of your problem grizzlies at the local level in your own way; we don't need to hear about it at park headquarters."

So many unwarranted allegations have been made against the Craigheads - most of an extremely petty nature - that space or time does not permit full rebuttal. However, it may be stated from my personal knowledge that I know of no irregularity or impropriety - as recently attributed by news media to "park sources" - that is actually based upon fact. A typical example of the trivial nature of park-authored complaints is epitomized by a claim that the Craigheads, improperly and contrary to park direction, took personal friends and relatives into the restricted study area at Trout Creek and elsewhere. As district ranger of the main study area and, later, chief law enforcement officer covering the park, I know that such assertions during those years were unfounded. I visited all dump areas innumerable times at all hours of the day and night and at every season of the year, and was well informed regarding park-wide activities, covert as well as approved; yet I never observed an infraction of park regulations or policies committed by the Craigheads or their associates. On the other hand, I do recall instances when the Craigheads reported trespass violations of restricted areas to the appropriate park officers. Apparently, such a claim is based upon distortion of the fact that because several of the Craighead children are wildlife technicians in their own right, they participated in the study - for the same reasons and with the same authorized purpose as other students. Of course, the utilization by the Craigheads of wildlife students resulted in the most effective accomplishment at minimum expenditure, and such practice was in full accord with the basic contract and cooperative agreement covering the study. I have also read in the news media that park authorities have claimed that it was difficult to restrain the Craigheads to work within park policies and to conform to regulations. Again, I can say unequivocally that the Craigheads made every reasonable effort to abide by park regulations and policies. Where such appeared to handicap the course of the study, they would invariably attempt to resolve the matter through consultation with the superintendent; and, where compromise could not be achieved, the Craigheads would adjust their activities to conform to the park decision in the matter, even though such would exert an adverse effect upon their study operations.

By this time, it must have been made very clear to the Craigheads that the NPS - or at least the Yellowstone park administration - had adopted a deliberate campaign to obstruct and to discredit the study. Instances of apparent collusion on the part of park management and administration occurred with increasing frequency, with the obvious design of making conditions within the park so difficult for the Craigheads that they would give up in despair and terminate their study. A notable example of such intransigence is recalled by the attempt of the superintendent in 1967 to have the old YPCo facilities razed at Canyon, while being used as a research center by the Craigheads. Fortunately, the Yellowstone Park Company, owner of the physical property at the site, refused to be coerced by the park in this matter until after the Craigheads had obtained other non-NPS facilities. Also, it was administratively condoned for supervisory rangers and naturalists to make disparaging remarks adverse to the study during staff meetings and training sessions which new or seasonal employees attended. For these and other reasons, it became obvious that the study had at least the tacit disapproval of the superintendent and the park biologist.

In the face of these circumstances, it is actually astonishing that the Craigheads were able to keep their study on schedule, despite NPS opposition and lack of support. I know that the Craigheads questioned several park proposals, particularly those which interfered with the progress of their study. From their viewpoint, they would have been unworthy of their public trust, both to the taxpayers and to the organizations which gave financial support, if they had not taken a stand at critical periods during the study. According to my own knowledge and observations, the Craigheads gave unsparingly and willingly of their own time and efforts. They were always willing to cooperate with the working ranger, and to compromise upon issues at administrative levels - up to the extent permitted by their code of ethics and professional integrity. They both possess a unique combination of ability to inspire and lead others, as well as to accomplish the most onerous tasks in a skillful manner. They are soft-spoken, exceptionally self-effacing and extremely modest in demeanor, but have the ability to express themselves in concise and effective terms. In summation, these brothers, as well as their associates who emulated them, have established a standard for expertise and excellence that will long be remembered by rangers who worked with them during these years in Yellowstone.

I have known the Craighead brothers for approximately 25 years, and share the convictions of their university colleagues as well as the scientific community at large that their honesty, forthrightness, integrity of purpose, amiability, and innate desire to be conciliatory with collaborators is far above reproach. The current shameful attack promulgated by the present park administration is unworthy of the Service I faithfully and loyally served for many years, and is obviously designed to malign the veracity of the Craigheads' research findings and to undermine the value of their scientific achievements.

Again, I hope that these observations and experiences, while more detailed and lengthy than I originally intended, will be helpful to you in your review of the controversial issues. I have found it difficult to remain less specific and non-partisan under the circumstances. I am available to give you further assistance, if requested, and I can fully support the position I have stated in this letter.

Sincerely,

Harry V. Reynolds
Harry V. Reynolds, Jr.

10320 Birmingham Way, Apt. 2
Rancho Cordova, California - 95670

O
P
Y

March 1, 1974
Sacto, Calif

via AIRMAIL

Mr. Michael E. Tharp
The Wall Street Journal
Dow Jones & Company, Inc.
1233 Regal Row
Dallas, Texas 75247

Dear Mike:

This is in reference to your letter of February 25 and our telephone conversation of February 28, relative to my personal knowledge of the background surrounding the current Yellowstone grizzly bear controversy.

Please excuse the handwriting. A persistent case of the flu, a birthday in the family, and inclement weather have combined to make it difficult for me to go into town where typing facilities are available.

First of all, Frank Craighead may have told you that I am a forester by educational background; and while I have had some experience in wildlife management, I am not a wildlife technician. Thus, my following comments, in general reply to your inquiry, must be qualified in that light.

In order to present some logical sequence of thought, my comments are grouped in outline form, as follows:

The Basic Issue

Has the NPS grizzly bear management program since 1967 preserved a stable population of at least 200 animals, or has it resulted in a diminishing number of bears within Yellowstone National Park?

The basic issue does not concern the efficacy of closing the Yellowstone garbage dumps. Individuals who have knowingly made such distorted claims have attempted to distract attention from this basic issue.

NPS Problem (Preservation of wildlife vs. protection of people and property)

Following several suits attributable to bear injuries to park visitors during the past 15 years, which resulted in large judgments being awarded the victims, the Dept./Interior and the NPS initiated a relatively drastic "bear control program," beginning around 1961.

In essence, this Service-wide policy sought to identify and eliminate "rogue" bears. Instructions and directions were broad enough to include grizzlies, but principally affected black bears. There was little, if any, effect upon Yellowstone grizzlies.

Following the deaths of two female hikers in Glacier NP in 1967, new emphasis was placed by the Service in preventing such tragedies in the future. It was noted that one of the very obvious reasons for these two deaths was the existence of organic refuse or a garbage dump at the same location where hikers were camping and sleeping.

Whereupon, the Interior/NPS initiated more stringent precautions: (1) areas frequented by grizzlies were closed or restricted to public use, and (2) garbage dumps and other collections of refuse were to be closed and eradicated within the parks, on the premise that such attracted concentrations of bears.

To implement these new policies, Yellowstone first markedly reduced the black bear population through "direct control" by 1965-67, and initiated an aggressive policy of trapping and re-locating other roadside and campground black bears.

Following the sudden closure of Yellowstone dumps, grizzlies - which had formerly invaded public use areas only infrequently (principally in the Spring and Fall) - began to visit campgrounds more frequently.

New Situation in Bear Management

Of course, the sudden appearance of grizzlies in unprecedented numbers in and near public campgrounds during the height of the visitor season created an alarming situation because of the potential hazard to life and property.

This very situation had been foreseen by the Drs. Craighead, who had presented viable alternate measures of management, other than the sudden total closure of dumps without accessibility of other attractive food sources. However, for their own reasons, the NPS/Yellowstone administration appeared to totally ignore the overtures of these wildlife research experts, whose advice was free and readily available. As a result, a substantial (possibly untold) number of grizzlies were killed.

Prior to the implementation of bear control programs during previous decades, excellent records were maintained at Yellowstone of all bear-related incidents and deaths. These records ("Bear Incident Report" and "Report of Injured or Dead Bear") included both grizzly and black bears. However, with the acceleration of bear management activities, coupled with wholesale and rapid changes in Yellowstone ranger personnel and administrative staff, the former comprehensive and detailed record system became less complete and accurate, hence less meaningful.

It has been speculated that this deterioration of the record system, as well as reticence and outright intransigence on the part of park administrators to permit examination and review of these records by the public, was purposefully self-serving to the NPS because of mounting public concern over the unprecedented reduction of both black and grizzly bear populations within Yellowstone.

Through a concurrent park-wide program of emasculating the excellent bear identification technique developed by the Craigheads in their cooperative grizzly bear study, coupled with incomplete NPS records of grizzly bear incidents and deaths, a situation was deliberately or inadvertently created by the NPS and Yellowstone wherein facts and figures pertaining to the welfare of the Yellowstone grizzly population are at best inconclusive.

On-site observations by the Craigheads support their analysis that the Yellowstone grizzly population has been seriously endangered, due to lack of NPS recognition of research principles and investigative findings, and the application of improper bear management practices by the NPS. Meanwhile, Yellowstone maintains that the grizzly population has not materially diminished, and the bears have returned to their former wild haunts and are now more widely distributed.

The question remains: How many grizzlies were exterminated during this period of adjustment (immediately after dumps were closed), and how many individual animals remain alive?

Concluding Comments (summary)

Since 1966, NPS/Yellowstone administrators have displayed a disturbing lack of ethics and principles through failure to live up to long range commitments made in the cooperative agreement governing the Grizzly Bear Research Study.

The in-depth study of the Yellowstone grizzly was excellently conceived and expertly achieved, under the leadership and direction of Drs. Frank C. and John J. Craighead. This scientific enterprise remains one of the most comprehensive, valuable, and costly wildlife research study ever completed.

The NPS was negligent as well as obstinate in their failure to take advantage of the scientific capabilities and findings of the Craighead research team. There exists more than a mere indication that petty jealousy on the part of certain individual park employees toward the Craigheads - who were considered "outsiders" - needlessly hampered the so-called cooperative endeavor, and eventually resulted in blind refusal by NPS/Interior/Yellowstone to really accept the basic premise that wildlife preservation is dependent upon the cooperative relationship of scientific research to that of sound wildlife management practices.

Yellowstone initiated steps in 1967 which resulted in confusion and uncertainty in recording grizzly-related incidents and censusing of the population. Of course, an accurate census is basic to the evaluation of recent management practices, insofar as such concerns the continued grizzly population within the park.

The person most responsible for the specious and self-serving endeavors to undermine the Craigheads in person and the value of the scientific study in general is Supervisory Park Biologist Glen F. Cole.

He was transferred from Grand Teton NP to Yellowstone by Superintendent Jack K. Anderson in late 1966 or 1967, with a background woefully lacking in experience or training with grizzly bears and very little even with the common black bear. I sympathize with Supt. Anderson in the need to depend upon staff specialists for the discharge of his responsibilities in a large, complex national park such as Yellowstone. His staff includes a personnel officer, concessions specialist, accountants, protection and interpretive officers (rangers and naturalists), as well as wildlife and resource management specialists. Fortunate is the park superintendent that has a complete staff of his own choosing, and all measuring up to his expectations. However, in this instance Supt. Anderson personally selected Mr. Cole. Unfortunately, it is my opinion that Supt. Anderson has confused personal loyalty with good judgment in continuing to support an undeserving employee.

I have personally known Supt. Anderson for at least 11 years, and recognize him to be an energetic, capable leader with high potential as an NPS administrator. I never had the honor to serve directly with him, but I would have welcomed the opportunity.

Drs. Frank C. and John J. Craighead deserve the highest accolades for professional competence and integrity. Knowing them is to be refreshed by their warm, sincere, cooperative, friendly attitude toward all persons regardless of any individual's position or station in life. They both lack the normal frailties of human nature, yet are very tolerant of activities and philosophies of others. I have been acquainted with them for almost 25 years, but have never known either of them to misrepresent a fact, or to withhold the truth - even when it would be in their self interest. They unwaveringly adhere to the highest code of ethics.

The best evidence accrued so far in the issue is the scientific publication, entitled "A Computer Analysis of the Yellowstone Grizzly Bear Population," by Drs. Craighead, et al, 1973.

Other unsupported information could be considered questionable. It is my own conclusion that it would take the objective, expert investigative services of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to search out the pertinent and truthful evidence. Even the forthcoming report of the National Academy of Science committee, chaired by the eminently capable Dr. Cowan of the University of British Columbia, is unlikely to assure an in-depth investigation warranted by the circumstances.

My NPS experience and knowledge of Government operations leads me to believe that it is unlikely that persons in a position to know within the NPS will speak up honestly and openly. Further, I remain apprehensive that significant records and reports would be "available" unless the FBI conducted a full field investigation. I am hopeful that such an inquiry would be determined by the U. S. Department of Justice and the Attorney General's Office to fall within the statutory purview of the FBI's investigative jurisdiction. This possibility should be energetically explored.

As you previously stated, Mike, you are principally interested in background information. This I have attempted to present. However, I do not believe that any useful purpose would be achieved - at least at this stage - in quoting me; hence, I would prefer that you use the comments as background information only.

Yours truly,

HARRY V. REYNOLDS

3/7/74

Dear E, Frank, et al :

As you see, I am enclosing a photocopy of a recent handwritten letter to Michael Sharp, to whom Frank had given my name concerning the bear controversy.

I am also sending a copy to John. Upon his (Mr. Sharp's) invitation and in response to his letter, I called him on 2/28. In accordance with your own suggestions, I advised him that I didn't want him to make any reference to my recent letter to Dr. Cowan. However, I added that if he wished to directly contact Dr. Cowan and explain that he had heard in the Yellowstone area that a ranger had written to him, I would have no objection if Dr. Cowan made

the letter available to him. I
promised to send him another
letter - in a different vein than the
letter to Dr. Cowan - with the
understanding that it would be only
for background information.

I hope that this last letter
meets with your own understanding
of the situation. My hope is that
it will be helpful. Would be
interested in learning your frank
reaction to it. So far, I haven't
distributed any copies, except to John.

In event you call next week,
I have tentative plans to go to
Merced to care for my mother,
beginning 3/1 - and to continue for
about a week. Tel: (209) 722-2084

So much for now. All's well
in the family (we hope!).

Best regards,

Luis & Harry R.

November 12, 1975

Dear Harry:

Thanks for the enclosures. I had seen ~~the~~ controversy article you sent on as it appeared in the Bozeman paper. Apparently John give one of the reporters some background information on the grizzly as it related to the Ski West Yellowstone area. This was supposed to be kept in confidence but the reporter went ahead and printed it. Actually all of it was more or less true but John was not too happy that it had come out as it did. He accordingly taped an interview with KSGT radio here in Jackson and further explained the situation. I am getting a copy of this tape, will have it transcribed and will send a copy on to you. I am also sending you a copy of one of Cole's interviews that will give you some idea of where these letters to you have been originating. I cannot understand how the Park Service can let Cole make as many irresponsible statements as he has been making.

I have been sending quite a bit of material to Mrs. Shell and I also put her in contact with an editor of Natural History magazine. I am hoping that she can get some of the date that came out at the trial published in an article for this magazine.

Today we had a blizzard and have about ten inches of snow. I have not yet gotten an elk but hope to do so within the next few days. Charlie has been building a house here and I have been building a green house on the front end of my cabin. Both of us have been so busy in our spare time that we have had little time to hunt.

On about the 20th of this month Esther and I will drive to Boise and I will present a paper on our raptor study this summer and also discuss the possibilities of satellite tracking of birds.

Regards,

Nov 5, 1975 - WED

Dear Ester & Frank:

Thought you may be interested in the two enclosed news articles.

We are all fine here. Weather has been unusually pleasant. Have been staying close to home because of my mother's situation, but are planning a couple short trips (overnight) soon and a longer one to Julie's in Montana during Christmas. We plan to go "camping" in the Winebago with our traveling cousins (Betty & Bob Mitchell) to Pt. Reyes NPA during this coming weekend; and during the following week-end, we expect to watch Alton race near Vallejo.

Attended a meeting of old Yellowstone-Leton employees at the home of John Rohn's widow, Mary, in Livermore last Saturday. Jack & Bobby Davis were there, as well as Bob & Pat Jones and Marion Chapman. The Alcorns, senior from Modesto and the Chuck Cantuells (seasonal ranger at Old Faithful) couldn't come. Reportedly, Howard Chapman was in Yosemite meeting with Nat Reed re: hang-gliding in park.

→ He was seriously wounded as a "tanker" during WW-2; possibly this is the underlying cause of his problems.
Bob and Betty Sharp has planned to attend, but Bob underwent surgery (yesterday) at Reno for fatal hernia. I understand that he has been ailing.

-2-

Patricia & Harry called from Barrow the other night. all O.K. They are going to try to get away to meet with us in Kalsjell sometime during Christmas.

Patrick is also at Barrow - since early January. During last summer, he was working for a contractor developing a new water system at Barrow for the (State) Public Health Service. However, this is the off-season for that kind of work (truck driver, etc.), so he has been sort of self-employed selling water (delivery) to local residents. Patricia says that P. has been working hard and looks good. As you know, P. was at the Calif. drug treatment center at Corona for 15 mos. and has since been on parole status for almost 2 1/2 yrs. Soon, his case will routinely be heard in criminal court at Sacto for (final?) disposition. We are hoping for the best.

So much for now. Write when you have time -

Penny is at Bushy again and likes it very much, although she gets lonely for old friends.

Best regards,

Louis & Harry Reynolds

Yellowstone Bears Give Up Begging

West Yellowstone, Mont.

The bears of Yellowstone National Park have given up their begging of food from tourists in favor of a return to their natural diet of berries and bugs.

National Park Service biologists admit they are surprised at the effectiveness of their five-year campaign to get the bears off human handouts and back on natural foods.

Supervising park biologist Glen F. Cole said Sunday there were about 250 bears on hand-out diets when the massive anti-panhandling campaign was launched in 1970.

Officials bear-proofed all the park's garbage cans and warned campers in literature that feeding a bear was equivalent to signing the animal's death warrant. When the natural foods campaign was put in effect, Cole said 28 bears were killed in the park, 20 per cent struck by cars and the remainder judged incorrigible beggars and destroyed.

Bears who were reluctant to trade their liverwurst diets for the joys of nature were trapped and dumped in the park back country to forage for themselves, Cole said.

Associated Press

10/28/75

JOHN & FRANK:

1. Is it true?
2. 28 bears in how many years? One year? Five?
3. What species of bear?
Black & Grizzly?

Harry R.

11/5/75

JOHN & FRANK:

34 San Francisco Chronicle Wed., Nov. 5, 1975

Controversy About Grizzly Bears

Bozeman, Mont.

The grizzly bear, declared a threatened species this year, may still be in trouble from excessive killing both inside and outside of Yellowstone National Park, says a private researcher.

John Craighead blamed the Montana Fish and Game Department and the U.S. Park Service for excessive grizzly bear kills. He said the result is that the bears are having trouble with reproduction.

Two agencies have denied the charges.

Craighead serves on the faculty of the University of Montana and is leader of the Missoula school's Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit. He and his brother, Frank, have conducted some of the most intensive research on Yellowstone wildlife ever undertaken.

The Craighead brothers pioneered the field of radio tracking and telemetering grizzly bears to gather information about the animals' hibernation habits and other patterns of behavior.

Craighead accuses the Park Service of excessive killing of "problem" bears and of allowing too many of the bears to be hunted. The grizzly still is hunted as a trophy in some regions of Montana.

At a recent public hearing involving a proposed ski resort on the Hebgen Lake north of the park border, conservationists asked the U.S. Forest Service not to permit construction because the site is considered prime grizzly bear habitat.

*The attached news article looks like John is thinking about retirement! Is that right, John ? * ! ?*

Harry R.

Wes Woodgerd, director of the Fish and Game Department, said the grizzly is not losing population.

Craighead accused the Park Service of cutting the bear population in half from 1968 to 1973 in its campaign against problem bears.

"The bear kills are exceeding the reproductive rate," he said. "We know the park hasn't kept honest records on bear kills. They've falsified records."

Glen Cole, Park Service biologist, said there were quite a few bear kills in past years, including 37 when park camounds and dumps were closed but now "our mortality is very, very low."

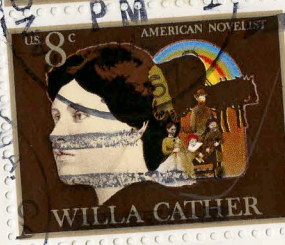
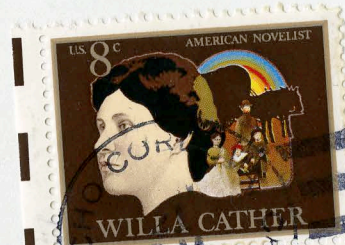
There is disagreement, however, on the number of bears living in the park. The Park Service estimates between 250 and 300 but Craighead says the figure is closer to 130 bears.

When the grizzly bear was placed on the threatened list last spring, hunting of them in the greater Yellowstone area was stopped.

Associated Press

HARRY V. REYNOLDS, JR.
10320 BIRMINGHAM WAY, APT. 2
RANCHO CORDOVA, CALIF. 95670

FIRST CLASS



FRANK C. CRAIGHEAD, JR.
P.O. Box 156
MOOSE, WYO. 83012

Harry Reynolds
9/6-362 2094

January 19, 1974
Sacramento, California

Dr. Ian McT. Cowan, Dean
Faculty of Graduate Studies
University of British Columbia
Vancouver 8, Canada

Dear Dr. Cowan:

During the past year I have read with increasing interest a number of news articles published in the National Observer, Los Angeles Times, and others, regarding a developing controversy between grizzly bear research and management within Yellowstone National Park. I was delighted to hear that a National Academy of Sciences committee is now looking into this situation. As a former National Park Service ranger, closely associated with both the study and park management objectives in Yellowstone, I am offering you and your colleagues my observations and comments with the hope that they may be helpful in differentiating fact from fantasy and distinguishing truth from fiction in this issue.

First, in the way of personal background, I was retired from the NPS in 1967, after federal service in several major national parks covering a period of 34 years. I was stationed in Yellowstone for a total of 12 years during 1947-1963. At the beginning of the Grizzly Bear Study in 1959, I served both in my regular position as the ranger in charge of the South District and as Acting District Manager of the geographic area which includes Yellowstone Lake, Trout Creek, Hayden Valley, and Canyon. This district is recognized to be the area of highest grizzly density within the park. In my role as district ranger, I was charged with responsibility for the protection and management of persons, property, wildlife, and other natural resources. As acting district manager, I exercised direct ~~overall~~

administrative control under the general supervision of the park superintendent. During the summer of 1962, I was detailed to park headquarters at Mammoth, where I served as staff officer to the chief ranger until I was promoted and transferred in 1963 to the Washington Office as staff park ranger in the Division of Resources Management. Immediately following my federal retirement in the summer of 1967, I actively participated until early Spring of 1968 in the grizzly study at Yellowstone ^{Personal} in the temporary employ of the University of Montana, as a wildlife research assistant. ^{unique} Consequently, I was in an ~~un~~ favored position to acquire an intimate and detailed understanding of the grizzly research study and wildlife management policies and practices of NPS officials throughout the most significant period of activities, 1959-1968.

At the same time the study was initiated in 1959, the NPS had no trained or experienced personnel with the academic background or requisite degree of expertise to conduct or supervise such a program on a unilateral Service basis; nor did the NPS have the fiscal resources to implement such a comprehensive, long-range research study.

As only one of many beneficiaries, I recall how patient and understanding ^{Ows. John J. and Frank C. Craighead, Jr.,} ~~the Craighead Brothers~~ were in demonstrating and advising selected members of the park staff in the use of their research techniques for park management purposes. Instances are too numerous to mention when local rangers, concerned because of destruction of property and actual peril to human life ^{resulting from} ~~by the~~ presence of a grizzly in a public use area, and often lacking confidence because of limited experience in the use of control measures other than a gun, would call upon the Craigheads and their associates to help them locate and tranquilize an aggressive bear - usually in the dead of night and frequently under unpleasant climatic conditions; yet I am unaware of a single instance when the brothers failed to quickly re-

in retrospect
spond. There is no question that this willingness to help others in time of need and to share their expertise with park rangers often impaired the continuity and disrupted the timely conduct of their own programmed activities.

Early in the study, no NPS employee was familiar with the technique and limitations of the Cap-Chur gun and immobilizing drugs, prior park experience being limited to the use of mobile culvert-type traps or "direct control" by shooting. At first, park employees were unfamiliar even with the concept of the research study. In order to help in this understanding, the brothers expended *many* hours in training selected rangers in the use of dart-guns and tranquilizing drugs. Many ~~employee~~ information sessions were held *for park employees,* including naturalists and park rangers, and several public presentations were made at scheduled programs within and in the vicinity of the park.

Eventually, a sufficient number of rangers became minimally proficient in the use of sophisticated equipment utilized by the Craigheads, and so were able to meet most of their own bear management needs; but as long as the Craigheads were conducting their study within the park, they were requested by local rangers to help in unusually difficult or dangerous situations. Rank-and-file rangers sincerely appreciated these acts of cooperation by the Craigheads and their associates. Cooperation was mutually advantageous, because the rangers would routinely provide information to the study group regarding the location and activities of a particular bear identified by size, coloration, and distinctive ear markings, and the Craigheads would provide advice and on-site assistance when

needed - which often removed the otherwise apparent necessity for rangers to take less refined measures of control: e.g., final solution by killing.

The customary practice followed for about 50 years of prior park administration in bear management was to: (1) leave the grizzlies undisturbed unless they wandered into a public use area, (2) trap and re-locate ^{an offending} the bear, if possible, or (3) destroy the bear by shooting. However, since hazing and shooting a bear at night in a public use area requires calm nerves, a steady hand, a keen eye, and a lot of good judgment on the part of the ranger, only a very few rangers were authorized to dispose of bears in this fashion. ^{of all bear-related incidents} Detailed reports and records ^{mandatory,} were maintained, and administrative control extending to the superintendent was absolute. In summary, the policy followed by rangers for the past several decades has been in effect ".....Let the grizzlies alone unless they threaten human life or property."

However, even during the first years of the study under the superintendency of Mr. Lemuel ("Lon") A. Garrison, all park rangers and park naturalists were not wholly sympathetic with the study. This was primarily a result of the fact that Yellowstone and other NPS Service personnel were not technically trained in or familiar with modern wildlife research techniques and methods. Consequently, some rangers and naturalists did not understand the practical necessity of marking bears for identification purposes; others objected to the "so-called" intrusion into the last domain of ^{this} the majestic and awesome ^{animal} grizzly by "meddling man"; and almost all park employees resented in varying degrees that "outsiders" were conducting the study.

While some of this opposition was due to misinformation and a paucity of communications, much was based on the deepseated opposition to any outsiders, which was held by otherwise intelligent and reasonable park employees. Apparently these critics minimized the fact that the markings on the ears of the bears were a one-time technique, valuable to many generations of future bears, and the public very rarely observes a free-roaming grizzly and by only an odd chance discerns such a marking on an adult bear. Also, critics of the Craighead failed to recognize that it was ^{vitaly} important that this study be conducted to determine factual data regarding the grizzly's range, habits, species population, and reproduction cycle, especially in view of increasing numbers of park visitors and the tenuous existence of the grizzly. ~~Also~~ Overlooked by some park employees who considered members of the grizzly research study as interlopers upon their domain was the historical fact that one of the primary purposes in establishing Yellowstone and the Service it represents was to provide a natural outdoor laboratory for research; also, Congress in its foresight enacted legislation many years ago which conferred primary jurisdiction upon the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for all wildlife research on public lands, ~~therefore, No local attempts by the N.P.S. to establish a park wildlife research facility were attempted until 1968. The establishment of a research capability by Superintendent Anderson in 1968 immediately caused conflict between park rangers and the park biologists and between the park biologists and the Craighead research team. Prior to 1968, there were instances of passive resistance on the part of some rangers and naturalists, but no hostility or direct attempts to hinder the research or discredit~~

Following transfer of Superintendent Garrison from the park, an unrestrained critical attitude ~~gradually~~ developed at higher echelons in the form of cutting remarks, disparaging innuendoes, and unsupported gossip adverse to the study in general and to the competence and integrity of the Craigheads in particular. Where originally park *initially* resistance to the continuation and fulfillment of the study was unorganized and undirected, it became a matter of park-wide knowledge that Superintendent Anderson and Biologist Cole actually encouraged, generated, and led the opposition to the program. Thus, ~~as~~ *research* the capabilities of park employees increased to a level where it was possible to use immobilizing techniques for management purposes, an ~~increasing~~ attitude of criticism toward the Craigheads *research* developed to a point where the NPS became less and less subtle in limiting their own cooperation and support to situations where their own self interests were considered paramount.

the Craighead work. However, Superintendent Garrison personally saw to it that opposition to the study did not materially interfere with its effective progress. The only point of minor criticism that can be directed toward the NPS during Mr. Garrison's tenure is that inadequate emphasis or insufficient effort was made by staff officers to fully communicate with and advise all park personnel regarding the complete scope and concept of the grizzly bear study, as well as of the composition of the cooperative agreement under which the Craigheads worked.

Although there were minor operating problems during the first six years of ^{the} study, the conflicts of interest were amicably resolved between Superintendent Garrison and the Craigheads. Only under the subsequent brief administration ^{of} ~~for~~ former Superintendent McLaughlin and present Superintendent Jack K. Anderson did the research study begin to suffer from lack of cooperation by the NPS. The transfer of Biologist Glen F. Cole to Yellowstone at this time marked the beginning of deterioration in the official relationship between the NPS and the Craigheads.

Although Mr. Cole had no academic reputation and relatively little recognition in wildlife research circles at the time he was transferred from Grand Teton National Park to Yellowstone during or about 1967, he quickly espoused and began to implement drastic changes in park wildlife management policies. The most charitable characterization of these ~~poli-~~ ^{endeavors} ~~cies~~ is that they were obviously designed to "avoid waves", following several previous years during which Yellowstone was the focal-point of several conservation and wildlife management controversies. Soon after

Mr. Cole's arrival at Yellowstone, it became a matter of common knowledge that he was casting covetous eyes on an NPS proposal to develop a research center, either within Yellowstone (as originally conceived), or in the vicinity of the park but under the aegis of the NPS (as currently proposed). It was speculated that Mr. Cole saw a future role for himself in this plan. Some park observers claimed that, lacking personal competence or potential, he insidiously and persistently attempted to erode the reputation of the Craigheads. Other park personnel believed that Mr. Cole was possibly motivated by a consuming desire for recognition and further advancement, coupled with aspirations toward establishing and managing a wildlife research center in the park. In any case, it became obvious to me and to others that Mr. Cole was out to usurp or destroy the Craighead research.

Unfortunately, Superintendent Anderson ^{apparently} lacking insight into the motives of his staff specialist - manifested a disturbing lack of good judgment in supporting the new and novel doctrines ^{as well as the aspirations} of his employee, "right or wrong". Then, compounding a regrettable situation, the park administration marshalled backing at both the NPS regional level and at the Washington Office. Finally, in keeping with a trend occurring too often in government operations, a solid front - political rather than analytical in character - appears to have been formulated with the Service.

To suit his own purposes - the reasons for which remain obscure, but may be speculated upon - Mr. Cole, with or without the approbation of

Superintendent Anderson, endorsed or initiated a park practice of ~~not~~ ^{under-} ~~reporting all bear incidents and not recording all~~ making records on all "controlled" or otherwise deceased grizzlies. Thus,

I discerned clear evidence of these discrepancies and omissions when I reviewed the official NPS bear files at Mammoth during the winter of 1967-1968.

-8-

the files which had been completely and accurately maintained for decades, became merely a repository for ~~records~~ ^{statistical information} which ~~could~~ support his point of view. ~~I have concrete evidence of this from my own district.~~

Too many park rangers, for a variety of reasons, ~~went along with~~ ^{failed to question} this change in practice. The elimination of one less piece of paperwork was a welcome relief to a ranger already overburdened with reports. Also, by no longer being accountable for submitting written dossiers on each grizzly incident, it was not necessary to ^{always} report a bear succumbing to an unintentional overdose of tranquilizing drugs. By this time, bears were not infrequently killed in this ^{manner} ~~way~~ by the use of drugs in inexperienced hands. Even marked "study" grizzlies were killed by rangers within the park when alternate methods of control were available. Such instances were sometimes not reported, either in official records or information provided to the Craigheads. Also, park rangers being corruptible like other humans, instances ~~occurred~~ ^{and are known} where rangers surreptitiously disposed of bears for their own personal, ulterior purposes.

Of course, this deterioration of bear management practices was only possible because administrative and operational controls had been relaxed, modified, or rescinded. Reports and records compiled since 1967 under the direction and control of biologist Cole and the administration of Superintendent Anderson are consequently considered by some rangers (including myself) to be inaccurate or incomplete. Records, which had been formerly maintained meticulously for both internal review and public inspection have become distorted, and even overt attempts to mislead the public through news media have been made.

^{new page - 3}
unfortunately,

new para?
significant records pertaining to in this respect after
~~It is only too true that bear management has retrogressed since 1967, at~~

the same time that disturbing handicaps have been needlessly introduced by the NPS to thwart the full effectiveness of the research study conducted by the Craigheads. *been informed* I have recently ~~learned~~ *known* through ~~reliable~~ *knowledgeable* sources with ~~Yellowstone National Park~~ that the current park policy in bear management is not only misleading but obstructive to sound research principles, and that word has unofficially been passed on to rangers to ". . . Take care of your problem grizzlies at the local level in your own way; we don't need to hear about it at park headquarters."

So many unwarranted allegations have been made against the Craigheads - most of an extremely petty nature - that space or time does not permit *full* rebuttal. However, it may be stated from my personal knowledge that I know of no irregularity or impropriety ~~related~~ *- as attributed by* recently ~~to~~ news media *by to* "park sources" that is actually based upon fact. A typical example of the petty and trivial nature of park-authored complain/ts is epitomized by a claim that the Craigheads, improperly and contrary to park direction, took personal friends and relatives *restricted* into the *at* study area ~~along~~ Trout Creek and elsewhere. As district ranger of the main study area and, later, chief law enforcement officer covering the park, I know that *such* ~~this~~ assertions *during those years were* ~~is~~ unfounded. I visited all dump areas innumerable times at all hours of the day and night and at *every* ~~all~~ seasons of the year and was well informed regarding ~~all~~ park-wide activities, covert as well as *approved* ~~legal~~; yet, I never observed an infraction of park regulations or policies committed by the Craigheads or their associates. On the other hand, I do recall many instances when the Craigheads *reported trespass violations* would ~~refer~~ visitor requests to the appropriate park office *or* ~~employee~~. Apparently, such a claim is based upon distortion of the fact that because several of the Craighead children

are wildlife technicians in their own right, they participated in the study for the same reasons and with the same authorized purpose as other students. Of course, the utilization by the Craigheads of wildlife students resulted in the most effective accomplishment at minimum expenditure, and such practice was in full accord with the basic contract and cooperative agreement covering the study. I have also read in the news media that park authorities have claimed that it was difficult to restrain the Craigheads to work within park policies and to conform to ~~park~~ regulations. Again, I can say unequivocally that the Craigheads made every reasonable effort to abide by park regulations and policies. Where such appeared to handicap the course of the study, they would invariably attempt to resolve the matter through consultation with the superintendent; and, where compromise could not be achieved, the Craigheads would adjust their activities to conform to the park decision in the matter, even though such would exert an adverse effect upon their study operations.

By this time, it must have been made very clear to the Craigheads that the NPS - or at least the Yellowstone Park administration - had adopted a deliberate campaign to obstruct and to discredit the study. Instances of apparent collusion on the part of park management and administration occurred with increasing frequency, with the obvious design of making conditions within the park so difficult for the Craigheads that they would give up in despair and terminate their study. A notable example of ^{such intransigence} ~~this type of tactic~~ is recalled by the attempt of the superintendent in 1967 to have the old YPCo facilities razed at Canyon while being used as a research center by the Craigheads. Fortunately, the Yellowstone Park Company, owner of the physical property at the site, refused to be

coerced by the park in this matter until after the Craigheads had obtained other non-NPS facilities. Also, it was administratively condoned for supervisory rangers and naturalists to make unwarranted, disparaging remarks adverse to the study during staff meetings and training sessions which new or seasonal employees attended. For these and other reasons, it became obvious that the study had at least the tacit disapproval of the superintendent and the park biologist.

In the face of these circumstances, it is actually astonishing that the Craigheads were able to keep their study on schedule, despite NPS opposition and lack of support. I know that the Craigheads questioned several park proposals, *particularly* ~~especially~~ those which interfered with the progress of their study. From their viewpoint, they would have been unworthy of their public trust, both to the taxpayers and to the organizations which *financial* ~~they~~ *they* gave support, if ~~the Craigheads~~ had not taken a stand at critical periods during the study. According to my own knowledge and observations, the Craigheads gave unsparingly and willingly of their own time and efforts. They were always willing to cooperate with the working ranger, and to compromise upon issues at administrative levels - up to the extent permitted by their code of ethics and professional integrity. They both possess a unique combination of ability to inspire and lead others, as well as to accomplish the most onerous task ^s in a skillful manner. *soft-spoken,* They are [^]exceptionally self-effacing and extremely modest in demeanor, but have the ability to express themselves in concise and effective terms. *In summation* [^] ~~Truly~~, these brothers, as well as their associates who emulated them, have established

a standard for expertise and excellence that will long be remembered by rangers who closely worked with them during these years in Yellowstone.

I have known the Craighead brothers for approximately 25 years, and share the convictions of their university colleagues as well as the scientific community at large that their honesty, forthrightness, integrity of purpose, amiability, and innate desire to be conciliatory with collaborators is far above reproach. ~~This~~ ^{The} current ~~scurrilous~~ ^{shameful} attack promulgated by the present park administration is unworthy of the Service I faithfully ^{and loyally} served for many years, and is obviously designed to malign the veracity of the Craighead^s' research findings and to undermine the value of their scientific achievements.

Again, I hope that these observations and experiences, while more detailed and lengthy than I originally intended, will be helpful to you in your review of the controversial issues. I have found it difficult to remain less specific and non-partisan under the circumstances. I am available to give you further assistance if requested, ^{and} I can fully support the position I have stated in this letter.

Sincerely,

Harry V. Reynolds, Jr.

10320 Birmingham Way, Apt. 2

Rancho Cordova, California - 95670

Sacramento, Caly.
January 21, 1974

Dear John & Frank:

Am writing this in duplicate, so each of you will have a copy and know what I have said to the other.

Am mailing my letter to Dr. Cowan today. Only sent the original - no dupes. Made 5 photocopies; 2 of which I am sending to each of you, and I will keep the 5th.

To each of you I am enclosing John's re-draft of my letter. Your suggestions have been included, and are underlined in red; my additional, minor editorial changes are underlined or rather written in blue ink. You may note that in the final letter (p. 4) and on the re-draft (p. 6) I have included a paragraph that was omitted from my original draft. I hope you didn't intentionally leave it out!

I agree with you, John, that it would be best if no one knows that either one of you reviewed my letter before final typing. Whom is the word?

Frank, I won't mind you making any distribution you want. I will offer the suggestion that you may agree that it would be better to wait a few days

until after Dr. Caven receives the original; otherwise someone would be more likely to claim collusion between us.

Am also including in John's letter some news clippings sent to us recently by John Thomas. He is active in Sierra Club activities in the S.F. Bay Area.

Laird and I attended Lynn Thompson's farewell dinner last week in Yosemite. We were overnight house guests, so had an opportunity to let him know where I stood in the bear controversy. Believe we told you that he is the new Rocky Mt. regional director at Denver. Regional parks include Glacier, Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Rocky Mt., Bryce, and Zion, in addition to smaller areas.

Patricia recently advised us that she and Harry tentatively plan to fly down from Alaska to Missoula around Jan. 9 for about two weeks. I believe they have contacted Jay S. about the possible use of his car for their travel in the lower 48.

So much for now. Our best to you and yours.

Best regards,

Harry

P.S. Frank, your last letter carried on old (temporary - Jones's) address!

11/25/75

Memo

To: Personal Files

From: HVR

Subject: Interview with Mr. Chester O. Contrell

The undersigned, Harry V. Reynolds, Jr., met Mr. Chester O. Contrell at his residence during 5:15-7:00 p.m., above date, for the purpose of discussing Grizzly Bear management at Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming.

Mr. Contrell is a high school teacher at Stockton, where he resides with his family at 1544 Greeley Way. (Tele: 209-478-1936). He has been continuously employed during the summer seasons since 1954 as a Park Ranger General at Old Faithful Ranger Station, Yellowstone National Park.

The purpose of the interview was to ascertain knowledge by Mr. Contrell of obstructive tactics, if any, utilized by the Park administration and/or operations in undermining the fulfillment of the Drs. Craigheads' scientific study of Grizzly Bears in the Park during 1959-1970.

During the course of the conversation, Mr. Contrell was asked if he recalled any official correspondence since 1966 which would direct or otherwise infer that field rangers need no longer follow the old established procedure of documenting in written form bear incidents resulting in personal injuries, property damage, or control measures taken against the offending animal.

To this specific inquiry, Mr. Contrell replied in the negative, although he added that it had become the practice in recent years to execute control measures via telephone. He further stated that it had been an office practice at the Old Faithful Ranger Station to make notations in the station daily log of all activities including bear management situations; however, fairly recently (he didn't attempt to identify the specific year the event took place) a "team" from Mammoth received all the old station files including the daily logs, then removed and reportedly destroyed them.

H. V. Reynolds
11/25/75

He said that he regretted the action, as much potentially valuable information and records were needlessly eliminated.

In discussing the relationship of the Craighead Grizzly study team with that of NPS personnel including rangers, he said that beginning about the time that Supt. John McLaughlin and Supt. Jack Anderson started to serve in the Park, a clearly critical attitude developed within the ranks at all levels of Park administration against the Craighead study. Specifically, he mentioned that the Park claimed that the study had continued too long for the results obtained, and that the Craigheads had provided very little substantive material helpful to the Park in bear management. Continuing, he said that this critical attitude worsened to the extent that members of the Craighead study team were persona non grata within official NPS circles and were considered to be "outsiders".

Upon my concluding invitation, Mr. Contrell said that he would consider my inquiry at more length and correspond with me at a later date. Toward this end, I left several items with him pertaining to bear management and the NPS/Craighead controversy, including letters between the National Research Council, Dr. Ian McT. Cowan, Yellowstone National Park, and one or more news releases following the Walker civil trial in southern California early during 1975.

Explaining that his primary duties were related to office work at the Old Faithful Ranger Station, he said that he personally believed that there was a drastic reduction in both black bear and Grizzly populations. He described a hiking trip he made after 1972 with Subdistrict Ranger James Brady from lower Nez Perce Creek through Hayden Valley to Canyon, during which he observed very little or no Grizzly sign within the area long known to be a favorite haunt of this species; in fact, as a result of their observations, either Ranger Contrell or Ranger Brady submitted a (written?) report to Mammoth, urging that this area be reopened to public use.

I departed Mr. Contrell's residence at about 7:00 p.m., with the promise that he would return via mail the material I had left with him.

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April 27, 1974

via AIRMAIL

Mr. Harvey E. Sheppard, Staff Officer
Division of Biological Sciences
National Research Council
2101 Constitution Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20418

Dear Mr. Sheppard:

This is in acknowledgement of your letter of April 18, concerning my comments of January 19 addressed to Dr. Cowan, Chairman of the Committee on the Yellowstone Grizzlies. A photocopy of the letter is enclosed for your ready reference.

In specific response to your inquiry, I interpose no objection for the Committee to make whatever use it believes appropriate of my letter to Dr. Cowan, under the circumstances you have outlined.

I would personally appreciate receiving a copy of the Committee's report when it becomes available for public distribution.

Sincerely yours,

Harry V. Reynolds, Jr.
Harry W. Reynolds, Jr.

10320 Birmingham Way, Apt. 2
Rancho Cordova, California
95670

Enclosure

cc (w/attachment):

Dr. Ian McT. Cowan
Faculty of Graduate Studies
University of British Columbia
Vancouver 8, Canada

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
ASSEMBLY OF LIFE SCIENCES

2101 Constitution Avenue Washington, D. C. 20418

DIVISION OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

April 18, 1974

Mr. Harry V. Reynolds, Jr.
10320 Birmingham Way
Rancho Cordova, California 95670

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

Your letter to Dr. Ian McT. Cowan, Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of British Columbia, dated January 19, 1974, because it is related directly to the study being made by the Committee on the Yellowstone Grizzlies, was made available to members of the Committee and reviewed by them at two meetings.

The Committee has requested that you be informed that it plans to refer to your letter in their report to the Department of Interior. But because the allegations contained therein are very serious ones, the Committee feels that you should be acquainted with the specific manner of this reference. As now written, that particular portion of the report reads as follows:

"Finally, data on injury rates or control actions are reliable only to the extent that Park records have been kept accurately. Certain discrepancies among injury records have been noted (Table ____). It has also been alleged (Reynolds, personal communication, January 19, 1974), that control actions have not always been recorded. If these charges are true, such failures jeopardize rational research and management programs for grizzly bears within the National Parks."

Your permission to reference your letter, as above, is requested. We do not feel that your charges should be further disseminated unless you are aware of, and concur in, the

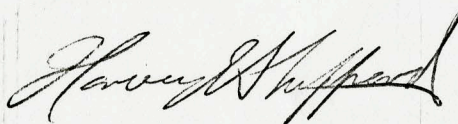
Mr. Harry V. Reynolds, Jr.
April 18, 1974

Page 2

precise wording of the report. While the Committee files are presently entirely privileged until the final report is made to the National Park Service, it is our policy to make our reports public approximately thirty days following the submission of the final report to the sponsoring agency.

A copy of your letter is enclosed for your convenient reference. Please let me have your decision as promptly as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Harvey E. Sheppard", with a stylized, cursive script.

Harvey E. Sheppard
Staff Officer

Enclosure

Oct 31, 1977 - MON
Sacto, CA

Dear John & Frank:

Will drop these few lines to let you know what developed after John called on Oct. 18 concerning Mr. Bill Brown's (Sta KUTV, SIC) interest in contacting me regarding his forthcoming TV release about the Yellowstone Grizzly situation. Have dropped a piece of carbon behind this page, so will have a copy to send to Frank.

Following our conversation on Oct. 18, I called Mr. Brown on the following morning. Consequently, we agreed on meeting in his SIC studio at 10 a.m. on the following Tuesday, Oct. 25.

I met him at the designated time and place, where I remained until 11:30 a.m. As you know, he appears to be young, intelligent, and personable. Although I tried to draw him out early in our visit concerning his motivation, objectives, and position in the Yellowstone bear situation, I did not fully understand until toward the end of our visit how deeply he had delved into the background of recent bear research study, as well as the cause and effect of the ensuing controversy. In any event I am sure that he got more information out of me than I did from him.

Not fully aware of his position, I am afraid that I needlessly plowed a lot of old ground, and consequently lost a good opportunity to stress more significant points.

We had a general conversation for about 45 minutes, followed by about 15 minutes on camera, and concluded with a final 30 minutes of non-taped discussion during a tour of his office, etc. He probably had some

pre-determined points to bring up on camera, but he didn't clearly reveal these to me. In fact, after about 45 minutes of a very general discussion, a technician entered the studio and began to operate the equipment - somewhat to my surprise because by this time I had begun to believe that the oral interview was all Mr. Brown wanted. I hope that my uncertainty and discomfiture didn't show. Of course, I would have preferred to be more prepared; but perhaps reporters normally operate in this way.

I don't mean to infer that Mr. Brown didn't seem to be fair and impartial. That is probably the most one can hope for under the circumstances.

Mr. Brown didn't bring up the matter of paying expenses, which was O.K. by me because I remained free to have "walked away" from the situation if it had turned sour at any moment. Also, contrary to your expressed intentions, I don't believe it would be appropriate for you to share my expenses; such could result in embarrassment to you in the future. Lois went with me in her car on the trip; the weather was beautiful; and we had been wanting to go somewhere, anyway, as it had been over 2 months since our last journey. So - forget the expense! We were glad to participate. I only hope that my small role was contributory to a good cause.

We are all fine, and so are all the kids. Some may be here for Xmas. After the holidays, we intend to pick up the motorhome and head for the SW until March or so, then back north again - possibly to Alaska.

Best regards,
Harry R

Esther: ... to bring your files up to date —
HARRY V. REYNOLDS, JR.
P.O. Box 60867
SACRAMENTO, CA. 95860
c/o JANA L. REYNOLDS
2200 60TH ST.
SACRAMENTO, CA. 95817
TEL: (916) 455-8229

February 6, 1974
Heats, Galy

Dear Frank:

Received your Feb. 4 letter with
enclosure today and have prepared the
return of Mr. G's ~~letter~~ and deposition.
This may set an all-time record for me
in answering correspondence. I

haven't received an acknowledgment
in reply as yet from Mr. Coover. I on
certain such occasions, I will send you
and John a photocopy.

I suppose you have seen that Fred's
response re: the highly debate on p. 16 of
National Wildlife? No comment.

We are (temporarily) looking forward to
the arrival of Patricia and Mary next week.
If their plane materialize, they will fly
from Fairbanks to Thula, where they will
board a car from Jay S. on Sunday for
travel to Galy and Mt. Mexico, and return
to Alaska from Thula via air.

Otherwise, we are in good health, and
preparing for another nice Galy Spring.
Thank it being in an old homestead in
NW Galy, where he intended to work up

a land-use plan for college credit. The area is at 3700' elev. on the Klamath River drainage, only about 12 miles from the Oregon border on the cross border. Could it often take a cross to get there, as the area is very isolated & dangerous, to leave it and is situated in the Project. I am and I know up to see them a couple weeks ago - 325 miles from here.

We heard through the paper in that but along the San Francisco Bay the USFS from San Francisco to Lake Tahoe. About to last time one of these days.

Best regards,

Darryl V.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL DOW JONES & COMPANY, INC.

Publishers

1233 REGAL ROW - DALLAS, TEXAS 75247

February 25, 1974

Harry V. Reynolds
10320 Birmingham Way
Apartment 2
Rancho Cordova
California

Mr. Reynolds,

I'm a staff reporter of The Wall Street Journal based in the Dallas bureau. I returned a few days ago from spending three days in Yellowstone Park and Jackson Hole (Moose) with Dr. Frank Craighead.

Because I'm doing a story on the controversy surrounding the grizzly bear in the Yellowstone ecosystem, I wanted to interview Dr. Craighead and Jack Anderson, Yellowstone Park superintendent, among others.

While I was with Dr. Craighead, he showed me your letter to Dr. Cowan which effectively corroborated several of the charges and allegations Dr. Craighead and his brother have made against the NPS and Department of Interior.

Naturally, I found your opinions and evaluations of the situation valuable, and I would like to use some of them in the article I'm preparing. However, Dr. Craighead urged that I should not use anything from your letter and, indeed, he explained that until Dr. Cowan had responded, it would be improper to do so.

I appreciate Dr. Craighead's prudence and his commitment to insure your confidence. However, your corroboration is significant in the controversy and would shed light (and strengthen the veracity) on the Craigheds' claims.

Consequently, I'm asking, in writing, if you could provide me with some or all of the information you wrote in your letter to Dr. Cowan, as well as any other information you may feel to be pertinent or helpful. If you would want to send a copy of your letter, with any additional data, please do so to the above address. At any rate, I would appreciate a call, collect to me at 214 631-7250 during the day to advise me of your decision.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL DOW JONES & COMPANY, INC.

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1233 REGAL ROW - DALLAS, TEXAS 75247

2

I realize, Mr. Reynolds, the delicate situation you, as a former Yellowstone Park ranger, are in. And I appreciate the reasons for Dr. Craighead desiring that your remarks remain off-the-record until Dr. Cowan might respond.

Therefore, I will guarantee your anonymity unless you personally authorize me to use your name. I am interested more in the information itself than in the name of persons providing it. (Of course, if you have no reluctance in using your name, fine, but that is entirely up to you.)

Again, Mr. Reynolds, I ask that you call me collect when you receive this letter to let me know your decision. I emphasize that I will use nothing at all from you in the story unless you give the go-ahead.

Thanks for your consideration of this request.

Cordially,

Mike Tharp

Mike Tharp

P.S. I tried to reach you this morning on the telephone, but Rancho Cordova directory information didn't have a phone number listed for you.

March 15, 1974

Mr. Harry Reynolds Jr.
10320 Birmingham Way #2
Rancho Cordova, California 95670

Dear Harry:

My reaction to your March 1 letter to Michael Tharp is that it is informative and will be helpful in resolving the grizzly bear controversy.

I don't fully agree with your analysis of Anderson's situation as he personally had much to do with the early decisions leading to the poor management of the grizzlies and to the destruction of a large segment of the bear population. He also was never honest with us in the few dealings that we had. However, I do agree that his major mistake, at least as I see it, was to listen to and follow the advice given to him by Glen Cole.

You mentioned the best evidence accrued so far is the computer analysis of the Yellowstone Grizzly bear population. There's also the article "Management of Bears in Yellowstone National Park 1967" mimeographed, and "Grizzly Bear-Man Relationships in Yellowstone National Park" (Bio-science Aug. 15, 1971).

On page 2 you mentioned that one obvious reason for the death of those two girls was the existence of organic refuse or a garbage dump at the same location where hikers were camping and sleeping. Also there were food handouts to these bears to attract visitors and this opportunity for the bears to associate food with humans was one of the major factors that made them dangerous. After these deaths the Park Service tended to equate the situation in Yellowstone with that in Glacier. In one case food attracted bears to areas where visitors congregated and in the other (Yellowstone) food zoned the bears away from campgrounds.

February 4, 1974

Mr. Harry Reynolds, Jr.
1032 Birmingham Way, Apt. 2
Rancho Cordova, Calif. 95670

Dear Harry:

C Thanks for the copies of your letter to Dr. Cowan. This is an excellent letter and one that will certainly help to clarify the Yellowstone situation, particularly in reference to the many mis-representations that are being presented and published.

O I have dropped off a short note to Mr. Steven Zetterberg, the attorney in the case involving the death of the Walker boy. I have suggested that he get in touch with you. Whether you wish to talk to him will be up to you. I am enclosing several letters from him that may be of interest to you. I am also enclosing a copy of Ranger Brady's deposition. This is my only copy, so please return it as soon as it is conveniently possible.

P We've been having lots of snow and wind. The gales have been so strong that the roads have been closed for several days with drifts up to five feet deep. Hope to see you before too long.

Y Sincerely,

Frank C. Craighead

FCC/pw

MONTANA COOPERATIVE WILDLIFE RESEARCH UNIT

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
MONTANA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
MISSOULA, MONTANA 59801

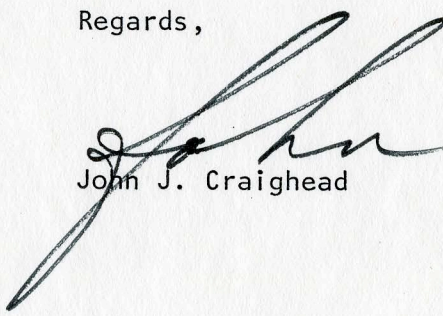
March 7, 1974

Dr. Frank C. Craighead Jr.
P. O. Box 156
Moose, Wyoming 83012

Dear Frank:

I talked to Dr. Sheppard of NAS and he assured me that the NAS committee would not make any public statement on the Yellowstone grizzly bear situation until their entire report had been reviewed by the NAS and there would be no public statements at the North American Wildlife Conference.

Regards,



John J. Craighead

JJC:gs

Encl: 3 ltrs requested

January 11, 1974

Mr. Harry Reynolds
2820 Ginger Court
Sacramento, California 95826

Dear Harry:

I thought that was an excellent letter that you prepared. If you have no objections to my sending a copy to a few selected people I would like to do so. Perhaps you could send me a copy and from this I could have a few others made up. I most certainly would not want to do this unless it meets with your approval and I will probably call you later to discuss the subject.

We now have our shed bout by the new house fixed up with beds, electric heat, running water and so on. If you and Lois can get up this way we would be delighted to have you stop in and use it. I may be away from mid January to the end of the month. If you are interested in any 'winter' we would be delighted to have you come up and use the house. Best wished for a happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Frank Craighead Jr.

FC/mh

Adog



United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming 82190

IN REPLY REFER TO:
N16

April 10, 1975

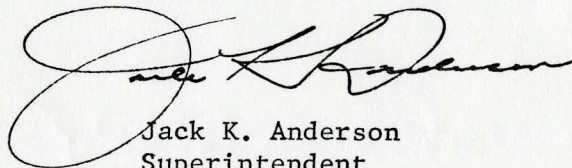
Mr. Harry V. Reynolds, Jr.
10320 Birmingham Way - Apt. 2
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

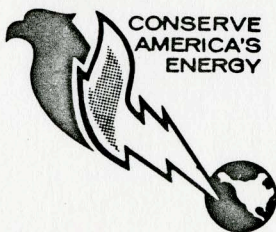
Your letter which was cited in the National Academy of Science report on grizzlies has also been used in a recent law suit against the Government, and by individuals, to question the accuracy of park records concerning the grizzly, and even the integrity of management and research programs carried out by Park Service personnel. Because of such use, of which you may be unaware, we would appreciate receiving a copy of the letter sent to the National Academy of Science.

We have contacted a number of past park employees in previous years for information which might clarify or correct past records. For this reason we would like to have your comments on file as part of the record of past bear management programs, together with the documentary evidence to support your statements.

Sincerely yours,



Jack K. Anderson
Superintendent



Save Energy and You Serve America!

June 18, 1975

Stephen I. Zetterberg
Attorney at Law
319 Harvard Avenue
Claremont, California 91711

Dear Mr. Zetterberg:

Please find enclosed copies of a Yellowstone letter, dated April 10, and a draft of my proposed reply with attachments.

I have delayed my answer because I have been uncertain of the motives which prompted the inquiry. In the first place, it is difficult to conceive that the NPS does not already have a photocopy of at least my letter to Dr. Cowan. I have considered the possibility that the letter was at least formulated by NPS Biologist Glen F. Cole and that the invitation to submit "documented evidence" could be a fishing expedition for reasons presently obscure to me. In any event, I believe that the text of the letter is something less than complete and candid.

(Done Back) → I have tried to consider possible ulterior aspects of the NPS letter, but as a layman I am limited in my awareness of possible legal pitfalls. My proposed reply is intended to reflect my full support of the Drs. Craighead, without revealing how little or how much factual knowledge I could substantiate through deposition or testimony. Further, I have directed my reply to the two NPS regional offices most involved in the Grizzly Study and subsequent controversy, on the premise that it is distinctly possible that neither of these regional offices have been fully informed regarding public criticism of Yellowstone's position. Also, I desired to reach the ears of the assistant regional director of Midwest Region and the regional director of Rocky Mountain Region, because these two officials worked closely with me early in their careers. (Lynn Thompson)

After affording you an opportunity to review both the Yellowstone letter and my proposed reply, I plan to telephone you next week to solicit your opinion concerning the contents of my answer. Should I reply at all? Should my letter be sent, as is? Specifically, to what extent should it be modified, if at all?

Your consideration of my request for advice will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Harry V. Reynolds
Harry V. Reynolds, Jr.

Encl's 4

1460 E. Twenty First St.
Merced, Calif. 95340
(tele: 209-722-2084)

June 12, 1975

Office of the Regional Director,
Rocky Mountain Region
United States National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

I am addressing my response to Superintendent Jack K. Anderson's letter of April 10 in this way, inasmuch as the inquiry itself does not appear to have the imprint of Jack's authorship and because I have recently heard that Jack is retiring in the very near future. A photocopy of the aforementioned letter is enclosed for your reference.

In compliance with Yellowstone's request, a copy of my January 19, 1974, letter to Dr. Ian McT. Cowan is enclosed, together with a copy of my March 1, 1974, letter to The Wall Street Journal.

The letter to Dr. Cowan was intended to present a personalized view of Grizzly Bear management and research programs then under review by the National Academy of Science. Briefly, my comments suggested that the NPS post-1966 method of tabulating bear-related "incidents" was imprecise, compilation of Grizzly losses through natural or human-related causes were inaccurate, and the technique of censusing the residual Grizzly population was self-serving; also, that current NPS efforts to formulate and implement a viable management program, with due consideration of the Craigheads' research, was intransigent by design and incompetently executed; and, further, that a Service-wide policy, apparently originating at the Park level, impeded and finally thwarted the effective conduct of the final and possibly most valuable phases of the Grizzly Study, upon which considerable time, effort, and money had been expended or obligated, and in which all parties had cooperatively endorsed a long range commitment beginning in 1958-59.

Although I have been critical of NPS altruism in this particular instance, I acknowledge no individual loyalty greater than my own to the basic precepts and ideals upon which the Service was founded and to the National Park System with which I was employed over a period of 34 years.

For example, while I persistently advanced an alternate method to the massive elk reduction programs of 1961-63 at Yellowstone, on the grounds that it was tactically practical and economically feasible to move and live-trap large numbers of elk with the use of specially qualified helicopter pilots, I energetically participated in the

direct reduction activities after my administrative and organizational superiors decided on a policy of wholesale slaughter by rangers within the Park. Although I had not been reticent in voicing my opinion during Park staff meetings that a more open-minded attitude toward both management and research was desirable, I closed ranks with others holding divergent views and offered my best efforts to implement the on-going official policy by performing a critically important aspect of the direct control programs. Subsequently, it was acknowledged that non-selective reduction by geographic area and direct control of elk populations by shooting was both unnecessary and unwise, when the alternative method of achieving the same objective was available. Unfortunately, in the above instance, public confidence in NPS conduct of wildlife management was so disturbed that remedial action prompted by members of Congress resulted in the removal of Superintendent John McLaughlin. As a consequence, the almost inflexible policy of direct control of elk was abandoned.

However, in the case of the more recent Grizzly controversy, I was no longer an active employee; and, eventually, in the face of obvious and continuing efforts on the part of the Park/Service/Department to undermine the effectiveness of the NPS contractual relationship with the Craigheads and to openly as well as surreptitiously impugn the character and impair the objectives of these selfless, highly motivated, and professionally ethical brother-scientists, I could no longer remain silent, and so offered comments to Dr. Cowan, Los Angeles Times, and The Wall Street Journal.

I presently am unaware of any significant disparity between the comments expressed in my two letters and either the written findings of the NAS Grizzly Report of 1974 or the recent judgment handed down by United States District Judge A. Andrew Hauk, Central District of California. Yellowstone's wildlife files must already be replete with the "documentary evidence" the Park claims to seek; therefore, I choose to demur to this specific request, in view of possible future litigation related to the issue. However, the NAS report and the judgment of the Court appear to confirm my apprehension that the integrity of the NPS has been subverted by the Park's dubious procedures, debatable activities, and questionable decisions relating to the cooperative agreement with the Craigheads. It will now be difficult for the Service to regain the confidence of the scientific community and of the citizenry it serves. Meanwhile, I share the shame of this sordid affair which has been brought unnecessarily to the Service I once represented and to the Park I deeply love.

Enclosures 3

cc: NPS, Midwest Region

Sincerely yours,

Harry V. Reynolds
Harry V. Reynolds, Jr.

1460 E. Twenty First St.
Merced, California 95340