

CURT GOWDY STATE PARK INTERPRETIVE PROSPECTUS



COMPILED BY: THE WYOMING RECREATION COMMISSION



CURT GOWDY STATE PARK
INTERPRETIVE PROSPECTUS

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INTERPRETIVE SUPPLEMENT

CURT GOWDY STATE PARK
MASTER PLAN

(Effective December 1982)

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CURT GOWDY STATE PARK

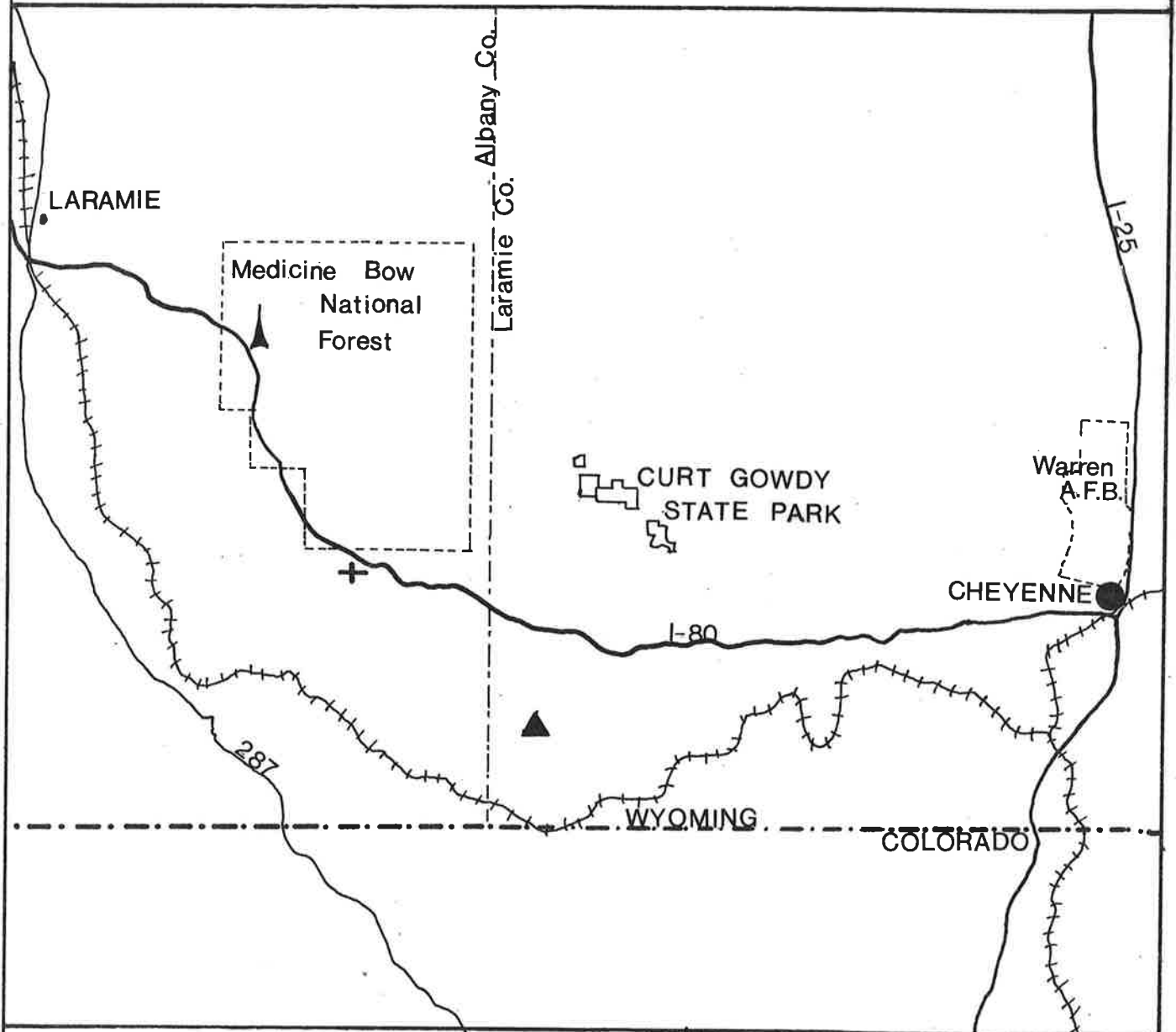
INTERPRETIVE PROSPECTUS

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Introduction

REGIONAL MAP



REGIONAL CONTEXT

LEGEND

State Boundary

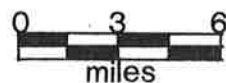
County Line

U.P. Railroad

Lincoln
Monument

Ames
Monument

+ Tree in the
Rock



Abstract

It is the purpose of this report to develop a working interpretive plan to be used by the Wyoming Recreation Commission for Curt Gowdy State Park. The interpretive prospectus is developed to cover the entire interpretive program for the park. The methodology included research and analysis of historic and environmental records, a physical survey, analysis of the site and site features, and analysis of the park visitor. The results present factors that influence selection of interpretive programs, facilities and activities; present interpretation at Curt Gowdy State Park; proposed interpretive facilities, activities, and programs. The proposals suggest an amphitheater in the Hynds Lodge area, three trails, an information center at the park headquarters, two interpretive signs and two wayside exhibits; one at each dam. Four programs are also introduced: a camping program designed to teach individuals about camping, a recreation/conservation camp for seventh and eighth graders, a junior ranger program for elementary school age children, and an elementary/junior high school program given in the classroom. These proposals are presented in an attempt to aid management in the park, and to increase the visitor's awareness about the resources indigenous to Curt Gowdy State Park and the functions of the Wyoming Recreation Commission.

INTRODUCTION

Curt Gowdy State Park consists of Granite Springs and Crystal Lake Reservoirs, the Hynds Lodge area, and Section 17. The total land area is 1,645 acres and the total water area is approximately 285 acres. The City of Cheyenne built the two reservoirs as a source of municipal drinking water. The park was established, in 1971, through a lease agreement with the Boy Scouts of America, the City of Cheyenne and the Wyoming Recreation Commission. Management of recreation, facilities, and park boundaries is under the Wyoming Recreation Commission, with fishing and hunting regulated through the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.

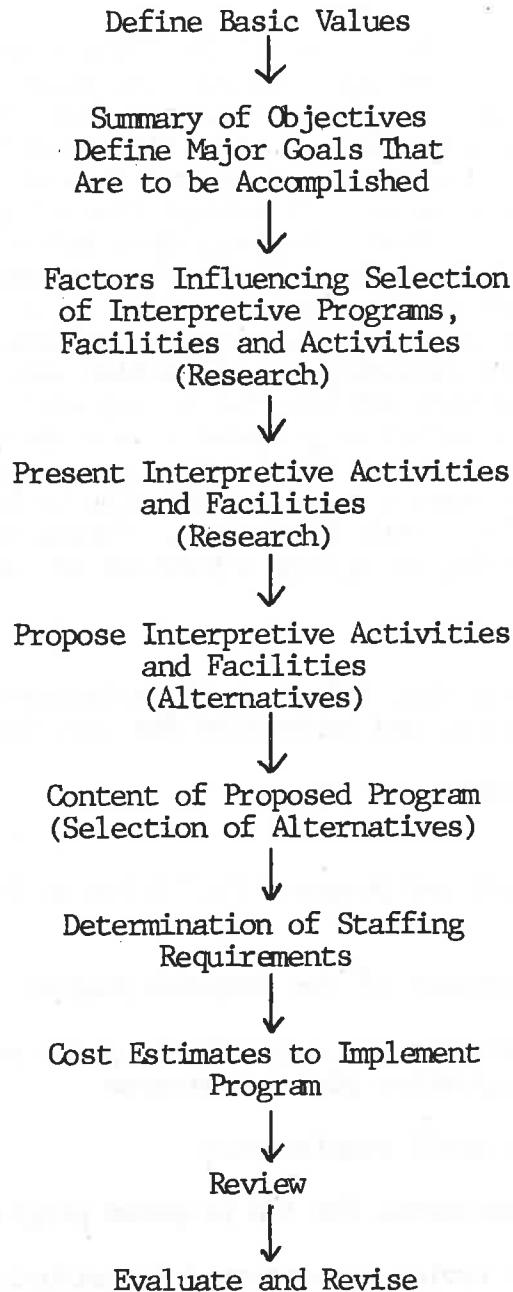
To begin, a definition of interpretation is the translation of information into understandable terms. J. Alan Wagar answers the question "why bother with interpretation" best when he states that no matter what the activity, there is one overriding goal that ties together all the diverse activities of resource management. "This goal is to provide a sustained flow of benefits for people." (Wagar) Interpretation facilitates an important flow of understanding between administration and the park visitor. Not only does interpretation enhance the visitor's park experience, but it also aids in the management of the park. (Fischer, 1966) The purpose of interpretation ideally is to mold the resource to fit the visitor, thereby enhancing his appreciation and to mold the visitor to fit the resource, thereby enhancing its protection and administration. (Fischer, 1966) Information is not interpretation, but interpretation contains information. This plan contains information gathered from a variety of sources and is compiled to serve as a data base for interpretive programs. It is the intent of this report to develop a working interpretive plan to be used by the Wyoming Recreation Commission for Curt Gowdy State Park. Future development can be phased and/or altered according to agency objectives or funding.

OBJECTIVES

1. To identify factors that influence the selection of interpretive programs, facilities, and activities for Curt Gowdy State Park
 - a. The environment
 - b. The visitor
2. To describe present and proposed facilities at Curt Gowdy State Park
3. To describe the content of the proposed program
4. To determine if studies are currently in progress that may be of value to the interpretive plan and program
5. To propose needed staff requirements
6. To present cost estimates for the proposed programs
7. To allow thorough review by concerned individuals or groups to assure all factors have been dealt with

METHODOLOGY

An outline developed by Russell K. Grater in The Interpreter's Handbook - Methods, Skills, and Techniques was used to organize the interpretive prospectus for Curt Gowdy State Park. The interpretive prospectus was developed to cover the entire interpretive program for the park (see Appendix A for specific outline). The report methodology included research and analysis of historic and environmental records, a physical survey, analysis of the site, site features, analysis of the park visitor and consideration of the Wyoming Recreation Commission's plans for Curt Gowdy State Park.



Results



Results

This section amplifies data provided by past inventories, histories, and development plans of Curt Gowdy State Park that were prepared for the Wyoming Recreation Commission.

A. Factors Influencing Selection of Interpretive Programs, Facilities and Activities for Curt Gowdy State Park

1. The Environment

Weather and Climate

The climate of Curt Gowdy State Park is described as semi-arid with the annual average precipitation range of 13 to 16 inches. The precipitation comes in the form of summer showers with occasional cloudbursts while winter snowfall averages 54 inches annually. Temperatures vary from -27 degrees Fahrenheit in winter to 98 degrees Fahrenheit in summer. The coldest months are December, January and February with an average daily high/low of 40/17 degrees Fahrenheit. June, July and August are the warmest months with an average daily high/low of 80/52 degrees Fahrenheit. On the average, 130 days a year are frost-free. Prevailing winds are from the northwest, and are relatively strong with a winter average of 15 miles per hour and summer average of 12 miles per hour. Stronger gusts occasionally do occur year around. The sun shines, on the average, 233 days during the year.

The data used for climate and weather was not available specifically for Curt Gowdy State Park. The precipitation and temperature data was supplied by the National Weather Service. Compensation for temperature differences were computed by subtracting 3 degrees from the Cheyenne averages because Curt Gowdy State Park is approximately one thousand feet higher in elevation. The wind patterns were obtained by the park superintendent. The University of Wyoming Atmospheric Sciences Department furnished the annual snow depth data. (Curt Gowdy State Park Master Plan, 1982.)

Location

Curt Gowdy State Park is located in the foothills of the Laramie Mountains in the southeastern part of Wyoming; Township 14 North, Range 70 West, and sits roughly on seven sections. The park is easily accessible from Cheyenne and Laramie. It is 26 miles west of Cheyenne and 22 miles east of Laramie. The area lies in close proximity to the Colorado border, 12 miles directly south, and the Nebraska border is 61 miles to the east.

Geography

Curt Gowdy State Park is located in an east-west corridor, and it is along this section of land the Great Plains first meet the Rocky Mountains.

The land varies in elevation from 7700 feet in the northwest corner of Section 17 to 6969 feet at the Crystal Reservoir spillway located in Section 26 in the northeast corner. Approximately 60% of the park has a slope of

10% or less. The character of the land includes low-lying meadows, gently rolling hills and precipitous slopes dotted with steep granite towers.

Natural History

Geology

Curt Gowdy State Park is set in the foothills of the southeastern edge of the Laramie Mountains. The Laramie Range, a northern extension of the Colorado Front Range, experiences a period of deformation more than 1800 million years ago. This ancient range was formed by the extrusion of molten magma formed through volcanic activity.

The Wyoming plains developed mostly on a series of essentially flat-laying rocks of the Cenozoic era. These rocks originated in debris ejected from volcanoes in the far west and were carried eastward by a system of rivers. The plains rise steadily in elevation onto the flank of the Laramie Mountains forming what is known as the "Gangplank". A narrow strip of tertiary rock goes directly from the high plains surface to a surface of low relief cut upon older rock of the Laramie Mountains.

The geologic formation known as The "Gangplank" is a narrow remnant of the flat-laying sedimentary rock of the Late Tertiary Age and is preserved along the east front of the Laramie Mountains. The narrow strip of tertiary rock provides a bridge between the High Plains surface to the east and the mountain uplands to the west. Surveyors who located the original site for the first transcontinental railroad utilized the advantages of this natural grade to accomplish a crossing of the divide and named it the "Gangplank". The Lincoln Highway later took the same route. (Blackstone, 1971.)

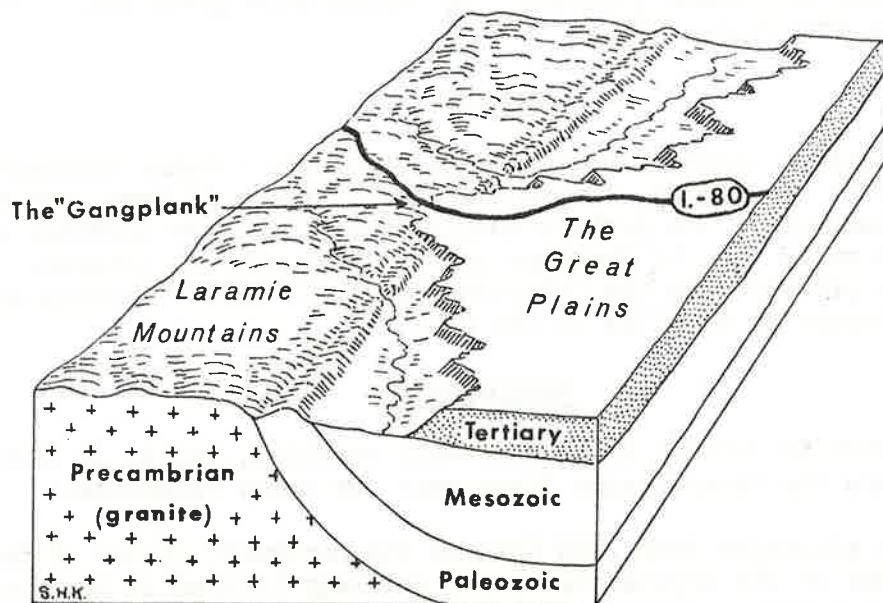


FIG. 43. Block diagram of The Gangplank. Courtesy of S. H. Knight.

Sherman Granite represents the youngest major Precambrian unit in the Laramie Range, and the rock outcroppings at Curt Gowdy State Park are composed of this material. The age of the Sherman Granite has been established at between 1390 to 1400 million years old. (Peterson and others, 1968.)

The basin areas are composed of Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Tertiary sedimentary rocks. Both Granite and Crystal Reservoirs are sedimentary rock basins formed by erosion (Master Plan for Curt Gowdy State Park, 1982.)

There is evidence in the area of small quantities of mineral deposits in the form of copper, gold and silver. (Klein, 1974.) (See Appendix B for Geologic Time Table, an explanation on the formation of rocks, and a drawing on the rock cycle.)

Ecology

Curt Gowdy State Park offers a rich variety of vegetative types and a diversity of wildlife. The vegetation consists of grasses, forbs, shrubs, and trees. Section 17 is an example of one of nature's transition zones; one dominated by prairie grasses to a zone dominated by lowland timber and climax forests. (See Appendix C for vegetative maps and Appendix D for plant and animal lists.)

Both reservoirs are stocked by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission with a large number of rainbow trout. Many ponds and streams in the Medicine Bow National Forest are also stocked with brook, rainbow and cut-throat trout.

The soils of Curt Gowdy State Park can be classified into three major types: igneous, shallow igneous and loamy.

Igneous and shallow igneous soils are composed primarily of decomposed granite. These soils occur on the higher elevations and hilltops of the park. The texture of these soils is much coarser than the loamy soils, and more permeable to water absorption and in turn, evaporation. Igneous and shallow igneous soils are less susceptible to soil and wind erosion, but both are relatively shallow soils. Consequently, the areas where these soils occur have less vegetation and higher runoff in comparison to the loamy soils.

The loamy soils consist of a mixture of clay, silt, and sand. This soil type occurs around Granite Springs and Crystal Lake and on the lower elevations that surround the reservoirs. Loamy soils are generally more susceptible to erosion because of their fine texture. Even though the loamy soils are the deepest in the park and support the greatest amount of vegetation, they are also more fragile than the other soil types within the park. (Curt Gowdy State Park Comprehensive Master Plan, 1980.)

Historical Values

Hynds Lodge

Hynds Lodge was constructed in 1922-23 on land donated to the Boy Scouts of America by the Young Men's Literary Club to be used for camping. Financial backing for the lodge was provided by one of Cheyenne's "first citizens", Harry P. Hynds.

The lodge itself includes a covered porch, kitchen, dining, recreational and sleeping accommodations. The exterior is constructed of granite blocks quarried in the region, and the roof is Spanish style red ceramic tile. The structure is 36 feet along the front and 35 feet wide including the porch which runs the length of the structure. The first floor contains a huge stone fireplace which can serve as a gathering spot for evening meetings. (WRC file)

Harry P. Hynds, for whom the lodge is named, was a prosperous Cheyenne businessman. Hynds originally came to Cheyenne in 1882 as a blacksmith and eventually became the owner of the famous Capital Bar. Hynds was also a noted philanthropist and capitalist. He was active in the founding of Frontier Days and a sponsor of baseball teams in the area. Hynds later devoted his abilities to the hotel business, development of petroleum resources and the up-building of Cheyenne.

In 1966, the X-Junior Women's Club (X-JWC) initiated the "Rescue Hynds Lodge" campaign. The campaign called for extensive renovation of the lodge as part of a community improvement project. Most of the labor for repairs and remodeling of the lodge was donated through this effort. In 1971, the City of Cheyenne leased Hynds Lodge and the surrounding land to the Wyoming Recreation Commission. In 1980, the Commission completed a major restoration project of the lodge. The lodge was rededicated to the Boy Scouts of America and other public and private groups for recreation purposes. (WRC file)

Granite Springs Reservoir

Granite Springs Reservoir was constructed as a result of water scarcity in the City of Cheyenne. The dam was planned by city officials and engineered by Mr. A.J. Wiley. Construction of the dam began in 1902 and was carried out by Gaffey and Keefe of Denver, Colorado. The dam was completed in August of 1904 at a cost of \$109,194.50. Granite Springs dam is a truly remarkable design. The Ashlor dam consists of hundreds of varying sized granite blocks that were quarried from the surrounding area. The dam was engineered and constructed in a location and time which must have tested men and their archaic equipment. (WRC file)

Crystal Lake Reservoir

Crystal Lake Reservoir was completed in 1910. The arch-shaped concrete dam is approximately 50 feet high and 189 feet across the top. It was believed the combination of Granite Springs Reservoir and Crystal Lake Reservoir would solve the water problems experienced by the City of Cheyenne. However, the drought in the 1930's resulted in the need for yet other sources of water such as the utilization of groundwater. Today Granite Springs and Crystal Lake provide the City of Cheyenne with 25% of its water needs. Both Granite Springs and Crystal Lake Reservoirs are fed from the South Fork of the Middle Crow Creek and the Middle Crow Creek. The Wyoming Water Development Commission has just recently approved a contract with the City of Cheyenne to provide funding to study the present conditions of and needs for the dams at Granite Springs and Crystal Lake Reservoirs. (Downey, 1982)

Section 17

Section 17 of Curt Gowdy State Park was owned by the Union Pacific Railroad until the 1880's when the land was purchased by the Ferguson family. The area

was logged in the 1880's through to 1890, again in 1900-20, then in 1948 and 49, and finally from about 1950-61. The timber was used as firewood, lumber, and pulp. At one time several shacks were constructed to accomodate some of the workers, but they no longer exist. All that remains is a single piece of machinery, which appears to be a portable sawmill, and a few piles of slash to indicate there was logging activity in this area. (Conversation with Walter Ferguson, Jr. 1982)

Off-site Historical Values

Early History

Before the arrival of the Union Pacific Railroad's construction crews in 1867, the region of Laramie County had no permanent non-Indian populations. It is likely that Comanches, Pawnees, Crows, and Shoshones camped along streams in Laramie County during their search for buffalo. Other tribes such as the Kiowa, Cheyenne, Arapaho, and Sioux very likely roamed the region. (Johns, WRC file)

Laramie County derived its name from a nineteenth century fur trapper, Jacques LaRamie. In 1821 LaRamie disappeared and there is much speculation as to how he died or where he went. No fur trading posts or rendezvous existed in Laramie County, but many trappers had to cross the region to get to such trade centers as Fort Laramie. White movement along overland trails and the arrival of the railroad caused Indian bands to be pressured onto ever-shrinking hunting lands until they finally were forced onto reservations. (Johns, WRC file)

Laramie and Albany Counties

Laramie and Albany Counties were established in 1867 and 1869 respectively. These counties grew as a result of mining industries, expansion of the Union Pacific Railroad, ranching and the installation of the Army/Air Force base in Cheyenne. (Curt Gowdy State Park Comprehensive Master Plan, 1980)

Fort Russell

In August of 1867 cavalry and infantry troops began to build Fort Russell on Crow Creek on the outskirts of Cheyenne. The fort was useful in operations against the Indians and instrumental in the protection of the Union Pacific Railroad. Fort Russell was later renamed Fort Francis E. Warren in 1929 and in 1947 the fort was transferred to the administration of the United States Air Force and is on the National Register of Historic Places. (Wyoming, A Guide to Historical Sites, 1966)

Happy Jack Road

Happy Jack Road (Highway 210) off U.S. 30 is an alternate route between Cheyenne and Laramie and is the main access route to Curt Gowdy State Park. The road was named for "Happy Jack" Hollingsworth who had a ranch near the foothills of the Laramie Range in 1884. (Wyoming, A Guide to Historic Highways and People, WRC file) Hollingsworth operated a small sawmill and sold the lumber in Cheyenne and Laramie. (Burns and others, 1955) It has been said he sang at his work, hence the nickname "Happy Jack". (Wyoming, A Guide to its History, Highways, and People, WRC file)

Silver Crown Hills (Silver City)

Silver Crown Hills, sometimes called Silver City, is 22 miles northwest of Cheyenne and near Crystal Lake Reservoir. Traces of silver were discovered in 1868, but there wasn't any active mining until 1877. Investors from south-eastern Wyoming Territory had hoped the camp would rival Leadville, Colorado, but their hopes were dashed when Wilbur Knight, a Geology Professor at the University of Wyoming, proved that the rich loads had been salted by the Wyoming Territory Geologist, Professor Aughey. (Pence and Homsher, 1956)

The town had a hotel, stable, general store, several log and adobe cabins and a smelter capable of handling 20 tons of ore per day. In 1887, the stage ran from Cheyenne to this mining camp. Rumored branch lines from both the Union Pacific and Colorado and Southern Railroads never materialized and so Silver City was abandoned. (Development Plan for Curt Gowdy State Park, 1975)

Hecla

Hecla, located five miles west of Silver City, was a result of a mining boom in the mid 1880's. It was founded on high hopes for gold, silver, and copper, but it never reached the fame or longevity of Silver City. The "rush" activity took place in the spring of 1886, but like so many mining adventures, the promotion of the resource was greater than what existed.

There is evidence that suggests the boom was an intentional fraud. Forty thousand dollars was initially invested, but almost immediately the mining project was abandoned. At one time Hecla had a smelter, and boasted of a brick kiln and another kiln to burn lime. Today the site is used for cattle ranching with little evidence of the town remaining. The site is on private land, as is Silver Crown Hills. (Barnhart, 1976)

Ranching and Ranches

The Texas Cattle Trail from 1866 to the close of the nineteenth century was an important link to the development of Wyoming. (Thompson, 1968) In the beginning, all one needed was cattle, horses, a place to graze the animals, and the rights to a water hole. Cheyenne was the headquarters for the "cattle kings" in the late 1860's and was once known as the cattle capital of the world. The days of free grasslands, however, are something of the past due to barb wire and homesteading. (Burns and others, 1955)

Ferguson Ranch

The Ferguson family is known to be one of the pioneering families in the State of Wyoming. Their ranch is located 20 miles west of Cheyenne off Happy Jack Road. William Matthew Ferguson, a native of Canada, came to Cheyenne in 1874 to mine for gold and silver. When the mining failed, William opened the first bakery shop in Cheyenne. In 1904, he and his family moved to Old Crow Creek, where Granite Springs is now located and established the Ferguson Ranch.

The Fergusons ran some 1200 head of Angus cattle and have specialized in that breed since 1937. Walter, Sr., William's son, had four children; his two sons Martin and Walter, Jr. were partners and ran Walter Ferguson and Sons. (Wyoming Historical Institute, 1970)

Gilchrist Ranch

Another place of interest is the Gilchrist Ranch. The ranch is 20 miles west of Cheyenne on Crow Creek. The ranch was founded in 1877 by Andrew Gilchrist, a Scotsman, who moved to Wyoming and entered the business of raising cattle. Mr. Gilchrist became extremely involved in the improvement of cattle and the importing of Herefords. Gilchrist eventually became one of the largest land owners in Wyoming. (WRC file)

Andrew Gilchrist and John Stevenson built the Gilchrist home in 1896. It was built as a home for the Gilchrists and a bunkhouse, all under one roof. The house was leased to Walter Ferguson for a time and then after Mrs. Gilchrist's death in 1932, J.A. Francis purchased the house. The ranch has been handed down in the Francis family since that time and continues to operate as a cattle ranch. (WRC file)

Other Ranches

The lands that surround Curt Gowdy State Park today are owned by the Ferguson, Garrett, Herzler, Lindi, Lorenz, Meeker, Merritt, and Wilson families.

Ames Monument

Ames Monument is located 16 miles east of Laramie, two miles south of Vedauwoo exit off Interstate Highway 80. The monument is a 60 foot high native granite pyramid and was built in 1882 to honor two of the promoters of the transcontinental railroad, Oliver and Oakes Ames. The monument is located on what once was the highest point (8,147 feet above sea level) of the Union Pacific Railroad route. It is near the former town of Sherman.

The monument was designed by H.H. Richardson, an architect known for his masonry work. Near the apex of the monument are nine-foot-high sandstone medallions of Oakes and Oliver Ames sculptured by Augustus Saint Gaudens. (Wyoming, A Guide to Historic Sites, 1976) The monument is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Lincoln Monument

Lincoln Monument is located ten miles east of Laramie at the summit of the Laramie Range. It is on the north side of Interstate 80. In 1912, construction began on the transcontinental Lincoln Highway (U.S. Highway 30). However, it was not until 1959 that Dr. Charles Jeffery sponsored a project for a Lincoln Memorial on top of Sherman Hill. The 12 foot bust of Lincoln was created by sculptor Robert I. Russin. When traffic began to flow on Interstate 80 the bust became isolated on the old Highway 30. Consequently, in 1968 the bust was moved several hundred yards north, within a rest area. Also within the rest area is an inscribed stone from the 1870's which served as a surveyor's aid and traveler's mileage marker between Cheyenne and Laramie.

Archeological Values

At present, there is no evidence of artifacts that would be of archaeological significance or value in or around the area of Curt Gowdy State Park. An archaeological survey is proposed in the most recent Master Plan for Curt Gowdy State Park. Information gathered from this survey may prove to be of value to the interpretive program at a later time.

Interpretive Activities of Other Nearby Agencies or Organizations

At present, the majority of areas near Curt Gowdy State Park do not have any interpretive activities. The Lincoln Monument on Sherman Hill serves as a travel information center for the State of Wyoming. Ames Monument has a plaque honoring Oliver and Oakes Ames. Tree in the Rock is a wayside exhibit along U.S. Interstate 80, between Cheyenne and Laramie, and explains how the tree came to be in the rock.

The Wyoming State Museum in Cheyenne has a variety of interpretive displays that range from the early Indians to military life at Ft. Russell. The museum sells a variety of books from trees to birds to Wyoming history. Pamphlets and brochures are also available.

The Wyoming Plains Museum in Laramie has displays that depict the period from the early 1890's to the turn of the century. The museum is open Monday through Friday and brochures and pamphlets are available for the visitor.

B. The Interpretive Program

1. Present Activities and Facilities

Curt Gowdy State Park has one publication printed by the Wyoming Recreation Commission available to the visitor. The Curt Gowdy State Park brochure includes a map of the park, a brief history, natural features in the area, related sites within the region, and general information about Wyoming. Brochures are available at the Park Headquarters for recreation, park and historic areas administered by the Wyoming Recreation Commission throughout Wyoming.

2. Proposed Facilities and Activities

Hynds Lodge/Park Headquarters Area (lower portion of Section 8)

1. Amphitheater

Program:

- Slide shows
- Demonstrations
- Skits
- Plays
- Entertainment
- Special Programs

2. Trail

Program:

- Self-guided nature trail, handicapped access

3. Interpretive Sign at Hynds Lodge

Program:

-Sign containing the history of the Lodge

4. Information Center at Park Headquarters

Program:

-Information about the park as well as other areas
administered by WRC
-Storage of audiovisual equipment
-First Aid Station

Section 17

1. Trail

Program:

-Nature, historical, interpretive trail

Granite Springs Reservoir Area

1. Wayside Exhibit

Program:

-History of the dam

2. Trail

Program:

-Hiking trail from Granite Springs Reservoir dam to
Crystal Lake Reservoir dam.

Crystal Lake Reservoir Area

1. Wayside exhibit

Program:

-History of the dam and use as a source of Cheyenne's
water supply

2. Trail

Program:

-Hiking trail (mentioned in previous section, item
2 under trail)

3. Interpretive Sign

Program:

-Explanation for off road vehicle road closures

On-site Assignments - These are interpretive activities that do not require specific facilities, but take place on the park.

1. Camping Program

Program:

-Teach people how to camp

2. Recreation/Conservation Camp at Hynds Lodge

Program:

-Emphasis is on recreation and conservation management

3. Junior Ranger Program

Program:

-Emphasis is on the environment; to create an awareness and allow for first hand experiences

Off-site Assignments - These are interpretive activities that take place outside of the park.

1. Elementary and Junior High Schools

Program:

-Slide shows, demonstrations, skits, special programs related to recreation, WRC, conservation, etc.

3. Summary of Present and Proposed Facilities and Activities

Facility	Existing	Proposed
Visitor Center	None	Information Center Hynds Lodge/Park Headquarters
Wayside Exhibits	None	2 Exhibits: 1) Granite Springs Reservoir dam; 2) Crystal Lake Reservoir dam.

Facility	Existing	Proposed
Interpretive Signing	None	2 Interpretive Signs: 1) Hynds Lodge; 2) Crystal Lake Reservoir area.
Self-guiding Devices	None	3 Trails: 1) Nature Trail at Hynds Lodge area; 2) Nature, history, interpretive trail on Section 17; 3) Hiking trail connecting Granite and Crystal
On-site Assignments	None	1) Camping program; 2) Recreation/Conservation camp at Hynds Lodge; 3) Junior Ranger Program
Off-site Assignments	None	Elementary and Junior High School Programs
Demonstrations	None	Given on-site as well as off-site by park superintendent or seasonal employee or WRC staff
Campfire and Amphitheater Programs	None	Amphitheater at Hynds Lodge area
Audiovisual Facilities	None	Storage at Park Headquarters. slide projector, movie projector, tape recorder, PA system, etc.
Publications Available to the visitor	WRC brochures on Curt Gowdy State Park and other state parks	Trail guides, plant and animal booklets, maps
Reference Library	None	None
Reference Collection	None	None

C. Content of Proposed Program

Hynds Lodge/Park Headquarters Area

1. Amphitheater

An amphitheater is suggested for use in the Hynds Lodge area. Initially, the amphitheater should be designed to serve groups who are using Hynds Lodge as well as the general public. The design should be simple with a seating capacity of approximately one hundred. A stage or platform should be constructed with electric hookups for audiovisual equipment. As demand warrants, the amphitheater could be expanded and changed with the needs of the park. The amphitheater could be used for a variety of activities and/or programs developed for special groups. An amphitheater would provide excellent opportunities to present skits, demonstrations, slide shows, puppet shows, small plays, etc.

The amphitheater would be one of the most effective forms of interpretation, due to the fact new programs and activities can be developed very easily and changed on a weekly basis. As noted previously, the majority of visitors are from Laramie County and more specifically, Cheyenne. Not only is Curt Gowdy State Park close to home for many of the park visitors, but it sits in a natural setting with native vegetation and creates the illusion of getting "away". In order to get people to the park for programs in the amphitheater, the programs need to be changed often. A display or interpretive sign remains the same year after year, but amphitheater programs bring in new ideas and topics and can be useful in bringing up current management problems. The amphitheater will also provide an excellent opportunity for self-promotion and direct public contact for the Wyoming Recreation Commission.

The best site for the amphitheater is located several hundred yards southeast from the lodge. The site is in a bowl shaped clearing that will work well for an amphitheater. The scene is dominated by Ponderosa pine trees, grasses and granite towers. The biggest disadvantage of the site is the visitor must hike a small distance to the amphitheater. However, there is a trail that takes the visitor gently up the slope to the clearing.

2. Nature Trail

A nature trail around the Hynds Lodge area would be very advantageous because with proper signage the trail could open up the Hynds Lodge area to those who are not aware it is part of Curt Gowdy State Park. This area is forested and during the spring and summer the vegetation is abundant with a variety of forbs and shrubs in bloom. A nature trail could be developed from the trail currently at the lodge and wind its way to the amphitheater and on around and back to the lodge. The natural history of the area should be the emphasis of this trail. This trail should be self-guiding with a guide book similar to the one at Sinks Canyon State Park, in which a numbered post on the trail corresponds to a numbered explanation in the trail guide.

A parking lot should be constructed to the south of the amphitheater for handicapped and general public access. The nature trail could be extended to allow the visitor access from the parking lot to the amphitheater, the lodge or the first portion of the trail. The trail from the parking lot to the amphitheater should be designated for handicapped visitors as well as providing access to the amphitheater.

Some of the disadvantages to having an additional parking lot away from the lodge are: 1) the area designated as a parking lot is sacrificed; 2) creates another road to access the additional lot, therefore, creating additional management problems such as erosion. The advantages to having an additional lot away from the lodge include: 1) an additional lot would reduce the traffic flow to the lodge and not disturb those groups using the lodge; 2) it would be closer to the park headquarters and the rest of the park.

3. Interpretive Sign

A small permalloy sign in front of the lodge located, possibly, on the large boulder left of the handicap walkway, detailing the history of the lodge and site would enhance the visit for those who are not familiar with the area. The sign would provide visitors using the lodge with a knowledge of its history and significance.

4. Information Center

For clarification purposes a distinction between a visitor center and an information center is necessary. A visitor center refers to a specific building in which the park visitor can become acquainted with the area through displays, slide shows, demonstrations, etc. Books and other items are generally sold at the visitor center and dissemination of information about the park may be obtained. On the other hand, an information center is simply a facility where the park visitor can obtain general information about the park and have basic questions answered regarding, for example, fishing regulations.

An information center is needed at Curt Gowdy State Park to inform the visitor as to what the park has to offer. Currently, due to lack of signs, etc. the visitor may become confused regarding facilities and opportunities available at the park as well as where to go in case of emergency. This information center should be stocked with trail guides, maps, booklets, species lists for plant and animal identification, fishing information, hiking information, etc. Because the majority of visitors are from Wyoming, specifically Cheyenne, a visitor center is not needed simply because most of the park users know the activities available at the park. Also, Curt Gowdy State Park doesn't have unique natural features which warrant the investment of large sums of money needed to develop a visitor center. Those visitors unfamiliar with the park can obtain as much knowledge of the area from an information center as from a visitor center if the information is well organized and the personnel properly trained. If it is not economically feasible to have the information center manned daily during the summer, the possibility exists to build a small booth with maps and brochures that would remain open at all hours. At present, if the park headquarters are closed, the visitor must go elsewhere for information.

Section 17

1. Self-guiding Nature Interpretive Trail

The development of this trail will have to wait until the Wyoming Recreation Commission opens the area for use. However, once the area is opened, an interpretive nature trail should be developed. Section 17 offers the visitor the opportunity to enjoy one of nature's ecological transition zones which would provide an excellent opportunity to explain the transition from prairie grasses to lowland timber. Identification of plant and wildlife habitat types typical of each zone could also be emphasized. Additionally, some historic interpretation could be placed along the trail.

Granite Springs Reservoir Area

1. Wayside Exhibit

The overlook directly southwest of the Granite Springs dam would provide an excellent location for a wayside exhibit. From this overlook there is a nice view of the dam, reservoir and northern sections of the park. At present, there is a place for vehicles to park within a short walking distance of the overlook. This parking facility can also serve those visitors who may use Granite Springs dam to Crystal Lake dam trail. This exhibit would explain the history of the dam and reservoir, as well as describe other points of interest that can be seen at this overlook.

2. Trail

The proposed trail from Granite Springs dam to Crystal Lake dam would tie the park together and create yet another recreational opportunity for the park user. The corridor down by Middle Crow Creek connecting the two reservoirs would make an excellent recreational/hiking trail. The trail would start at the Granite Springs dam and follow Middle Crow Creek. The area is forested and creates the illusion of seclusion. However, for this trail to be developed properly an easement would be necessary in order to allow trail users to cross private land on Section 22. In addition, a bridge or walkway will need to be constructed at Crystal Lake dam, so visitors will be able to get down to the dam to reach the end of the trail. Also, an agreement will need to be made with the City of Cheyenne regarding the use of Crystal Lake dam, since the dam is not within the boundaries of the park.

Before crossing Crystal Lake dam, a short nature trail could be constructed and made wide enough for handicapped access and this portion of the trail would end at the dam.

Crystal Lake Reservoir Area

1. Wayside Exhibit

A wayside exhibit by Crystal Lake dam would be similar to the exhibit at Granite Springs Reservoir. The location would be directly south of the dam and reached by foot on a closed road that could be re-opened for pedestrian traffic only. This exhibit should contain information on the history of the dam.

2. Trail

(Mentioned under heading of Granite Springs Reservoir Area.)

3. Interpretive Sign

This interpretive sign should be located around Crystal Lake Reservoir where an area has been closed off from use due to abuse from off road vehicles. This sign should explain the management problems caused by off road vehicle use. A description of the soil type, length of time it will take to revegetate, and information on areas that do allow off road vehicle use should be included.

On-site Assignments

1. Camping Program

The camping program should be set up to give people who have never camped before an opportunity to try it at a minimal cost. If properly promoted, this would be an excellent opportunity to promote Curt Gowdy State Park and increase public awareness as to what the Wyoming Recreation Commission has to offer. The park could provide the visitor with a tent, stove, cooking utensils, etc., charging a small fee to cover use. This program would be a way to introduce the visitor to the outdoors with as few hassles as possible. The equipment could be stored at the park headquarters or the information center and reserved for use. The program would be administered by volunteers or campground hosts.

2. Recreation/Conservation Camp at Hynds Lodge

This seven-day summer camp would provide an excellent opportunity to teach 7th and 8th graders about conservation, preservation, recreation and functions of the Wyoming Recreation Commission. It would also create an opportunity for them to learn in an outdoor classroom. This program would greatly benefit the public image of the Wyoming Recreation Commission and would be run by volunteers as well.

3. Junior Ranger Program

The emphasis of this program would be on the environment, and would consist of a 2½ to 3 hour session for children under 12. The purpose of the program would be to create environmental awareness and allow children to experience the environment first-hand. The Junior Ranger Program could be set up so that during a certain week, children could sign up to participate. It would be the responsibility of parents to bring the children to the park and pick them up. The program would include taking the children along a trail and teaching them about what they are seeing, touching and smelling. This program would aid children in learning and understanding the purpose of the Wyoming Recreation Commission. Patches and /or a certificate or card could be given to each child at the end of the session making them an honorary Junior Ranger. This program could be administered by volunteers or campground hosts, or possibly set up with the YMCA's day camp. Initially, the program could be developed at Curt Gowdy State Park, and then if successful, it could be expanded to the rest of the state.

Off-site Assignments

1. Elementary and Junior High School Programs

Programs regarding the Wyoming Recreation Commission should be developed to create an awareness of state parks and management problems that are encountered by park superintendents. A test program could be developed for the Cheyenne and Laramie public schools and then if successful, extend to the rest of the state.

D. List of Studies Supporting the Interpretive Program

1. Mineral Study of Curt Gowdy State Park by the University of Wyoming.
2. Plans for archaeological survey of area.
3. Granite Springs and Crystal Lake Study on needed renovations on each dam. (Downey, 1982)

E. Staffing Requirement

In the near future, a seasonal employee should be hired to do some interpretive work. This person should work at the information center and coordinate programs for the Hynds Lodge area amphitheater and other related programs. This person would have to be a "jack of all trades", required to do maintenance work as well as interpretive work.

F. Cost Estimate on Proposed Programs

The cost estimates listed are very rough. Their purpose is to give a general idea of cost only.

1. Hynds Lodge/Park Headquarters Area

<u>Source</u>		<u>Direct Cost</u>
WRC	a. Amphitheater - seating capacity of approximately 100, electrical hookups, simple design	\$6130.00
WRC	b. Slide projector and carousel	285.00
WRC	c. Movie projector	1500.00
WRC	d. Tape recorder	200.00
RS	e. P.A. System:	
	-M20 Amplifier	80.00
	-12 inch speaks @ \$50 apiece x 2	100.00
	-Microphone	20.00
	-Wiring	7.00
WRC	f. Parking lot	12,500.00
USFS	g. Trail - 3/4 mile trail x (\$5/ft) or 1460 ft x \$5/ft	7,300.00
F/P	h. Interpretive sign 18" x 12"	
	18" x 12" = 216 sq. inches x \$1.50/inch = \$324.00	
	Thickness (3/8") at 15% base	48.60
	Special edge at 10% base	32.40
	1 post - 3" at \$15.00/ft at 6' height	
	waist level interpretive sign	90.00
		495.00
WRC	i. Information center 8' x 8' room	<u>3,000.00</u>
	Subtotal	\$31,617.00

2. Section 17

USFS	a. Trail - 1 mile trail x (\$5/ft)	<u>26,400.00</u>
	Subtotal	\$26,400.00

3. Granite Springs Reservoir Area

F/P	a. Wayside Exhibit 2 signs 18" x 22" waist level 2 posts per sign	1,845.00
WRC	b. Trail 1 1/3 mile trail x (\$5/ft)	<u>35,200.00</u>
	Subtotal	\$37,045.00

4. Crystal Lake Reservoir Area

<u>Source</u>		<u>Direct Cost</u>
F/P	a. Wayside Exhibit 1 sign 18" x 22" waist level	\$495.00
F/P	b. Interpretive sign 18" x 22" eye level	495.00
WRC	c. Trail Bridge \$150.00/lineal ft. - approx. 15'	<u>2,250.00</u>
	Subtotal	\$3,240.00
	1. Hynds Lodge/Park Headquarters	Subtotal \$31,617.00
	2. Section 17	26,400.00
	3. Granite Springs Reservoir Area	37,045.00
	4. Crystal Lake Reservoir Area	<u>3,240.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$98,302.00

WRC-Wyoming Recreation Commission

RC-Radio Shack

USFS-United States Forest Service

F/P-Ford/Peters Interpretive and Architectural Signage Price List

Development Phasing

Phase I	(1984-86)	
1.	Shower Facilities at Hynds Lodge	\$35,000.00 *
2.	Information Center at Park Headquarters	3,000.00
3.	Interpretive Sign at Hynds Lodge	500.00
4.	Interpretive Trail in Section 17	26,400.00
Phase II	(1986-88)	
1.	Wayside Exhibit at Granite Springs Reservoir	\$1,845.00
2.	Wayside Exhibit at Crystal Reservoir	500.00
3.	Amphitheater in Section 17 (General Public)	28,115.00
4.	Interpretive Sign - (Respect for the resource)	500.00
Phase III	(1988-90)	
1.	Amphitheater at Hynds Lodge (Lodge use only)	\$8,000.00 **
2.	Granite Springs Reservoir to Crystal Reservoir Trail	<u>37,400.00</u>
Total Cost		\$141,260.00

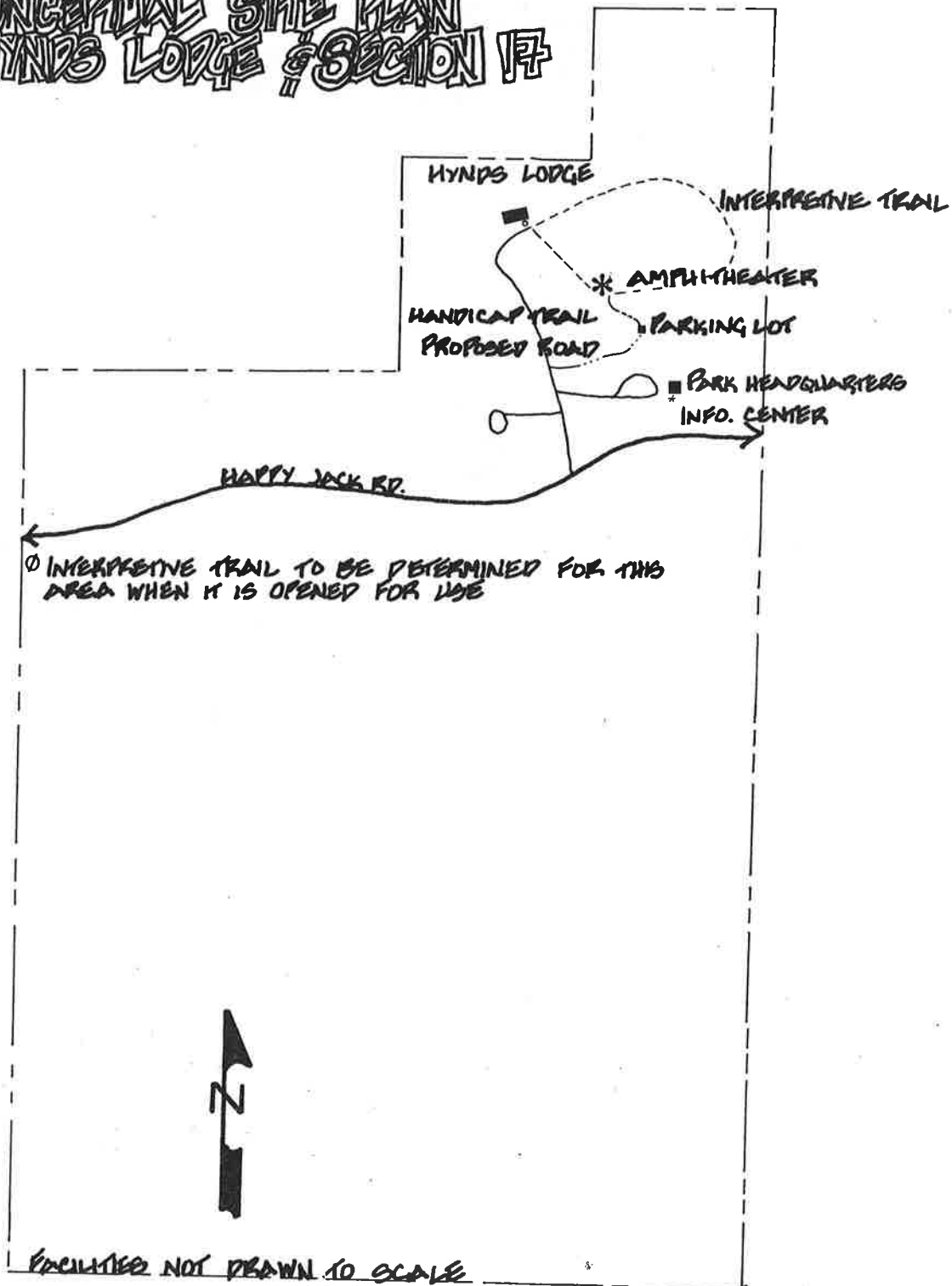
*Development in association with youth conservation camp program

**Developed only if adequate need is shown

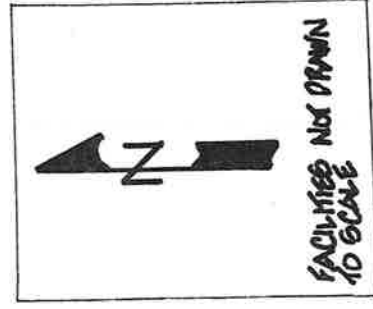
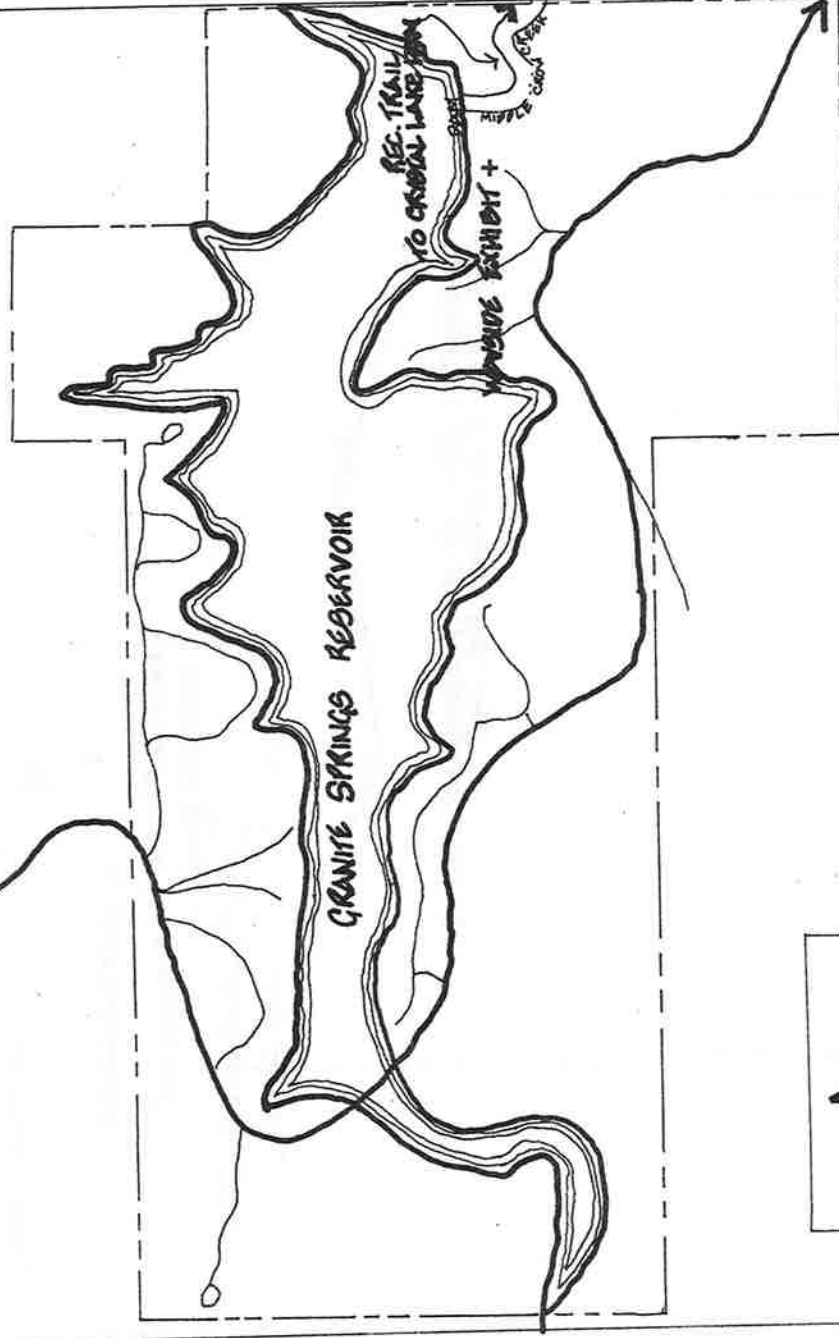
Maps



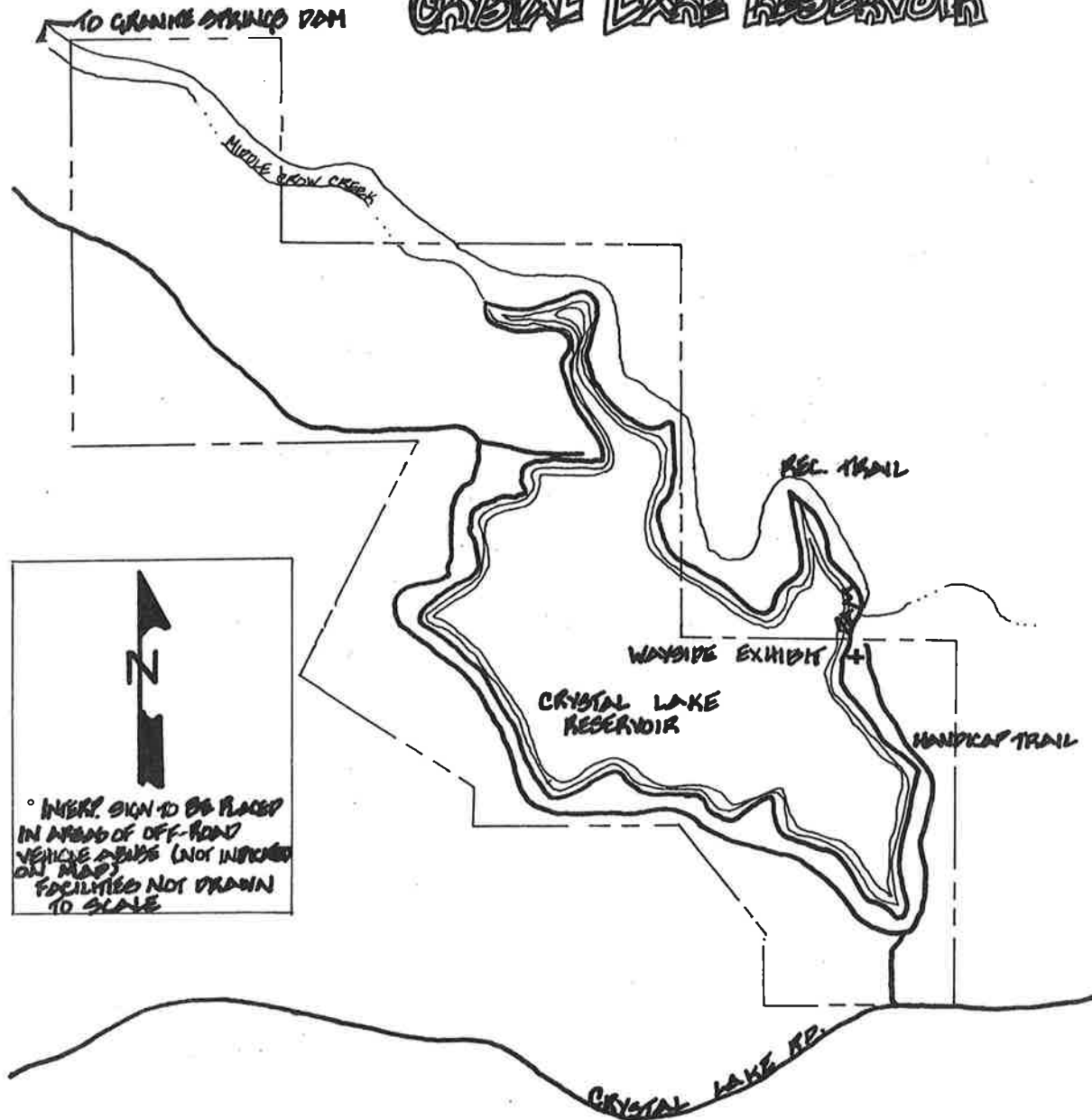
CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN HYNDS LODGE & SECTION 17



CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN GRANITE SPRINGS RESERVOIR



CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN CRYSTAL LAKE RESERVOIR



Conclusions

Conclusion/Discussion

In conclusion, this report contains information on the area in and around Curt Gowdy State Park. An inventory was taken of existing interpretive activities, facilities and programs. Proposals for interpretive facilities, activities and programs include an amphitheater, three trails, two interpretive signs, two wayside exhibits, an information center, a camping program, recreation/conservation camp, junior ranger program, and an elementary/junior high school program. These proposals are presented in hope the park user will be better satisfied with his recreational experience at Curt Gowdy State Park.

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* * * *

Phone call with Mr. Walter Ferguson, Jr. on the logging operations on Section 17 and the homesite of the ranch.

OR 431 Park Management Text, C.S.U.

Supplied papers by

J. Alan Wagar on Interpretation to Increase Benefits for Recreation.
Adapted paper titled - Interpretation in Park Operations from David Fischer's The Role of Interpretation, Park Practice
Guideline Interpretation 5/66.

Presentation of Interpretive Proposals to the Wyoming Recreation Commission

August 25, 1982

Recommendations, Suggestions and Comments

1. Suggestion of placing a restroom facility in the Hynds Lodge area to be used by visitors using the amphitheater.

Recommendation - placement of restroom facility by the proposed parking lot for convenient access and ease of maintenance.

2. Concern over maintenance of the recreational hiking trail connecting Granite Springs Reservoir and Crystal Lake Reservoir.

Recommendation - design trail similar to the United States Forest Service pack-in pack-out areas, so that the trail would only need to be policed on foot periodically, and this could be done by a volunteer or campground host.

3. Support for interpretive methods and programs in helping lessen administrative problems in areas of concern, e.g. interpretive sign for off-road vehicle abuse to be moved from area to area.
4. Support for programs in schools and other similar programs geared toward young people.
5. General overall support for interpretive proposals.

September 30, 1982

1. Concern over placement of amphitheater for general public use near Hynds Lodge area:

Recommendation - The location for an amphitheater in the Hynds Lodge area is very good; however, conflicts with the current use of Hynds Lodge could arise. In an effort to avoid possible conflicting uses, locating the amphitheater in Section 17 is feasible. If a suitable location in Section 17 can be found I would recommend it's use, however if none exist I would recommend reevaluating the Hynds Lodge location and the extent of the conflicting uses.

Appendixes



APPENDIX A

WYOMING RECREATION COMMISSION INTERPRETIVE PROSPECTUS OUTLINE

1. Interpretive statement defining basic values of the area or subject to be interpreted. These values will determine the scope of the plan to be presented.
2. Statement summarizing objectives of the area's interpretive program, defining the major interpretive goals this particular area hopes to accomplish.
3. Factors influencing selection of interpretive means:
 - a. The environment
 - (1) Weather and climate
 - (2) Location of the area
 - (3) Geography of the area (if pertinent)
 - (4) Natural history values of the area (geology, biology, ecology)
 - (5) Historical values of the area
 - (6) Archaeological values of the area
 - (7) Other values
 - b. The visitor
 - (1) Origin (his home)
 - (2) Type (economic level)
 - (3) His background
 - (a) National origin
 - (b) Educational level
 - (4) Visitor use patterns
 - (5) Interpretive activities of other nearby agencies or organizations
4. The interpretive program
 - a. Present (describe activities and facilities in some detail)
 - (1) Visitor center
 - (2) Wayside exhibits
 - (3) Interpretive signing
 - (4) Self-guiding devices
 - (5) Personal services
 - (a) Conducted walks, hikes and tours
 - (b) On-site assignments
 - (c) Off-site assignments
 - (d) Demonstrations
 - (e) Amphitheater and campfire programs

- (6) Audiovisual facilities
 - (7) Publications available to visitor
 - (8) Reference library
 - (9) Reference collections
- b. Proposed facilities and activities (summation of the same items as given above).
- (1) To be developed in some detail, giving thoughts behind each proposal
- c. Summary chart, showing present and proposed activities and facilities and locations and manner of treatment of each activity or facility
5. Content of the proposed program
- a. The visitor center
- (1) List what it is to contain and how the building is to function
 - (2) Function of the various rooms
 - (a) Lobby and contents
 - (b) Exhibit room contents, indicate the stories to be told
 - (c) Audiovisual room
 - (d) Library
 - (e) Work and storage rooms
 - (f) Other (rest rooms, offices, etc.)
- b. Wayside exhibits
- (1) List locations and basic stories to be covered and describe how each is to be accomplished
- c. Interpretive signing
- (1) List and describe how each is to be accomplished
- d. Self-guiding devices
- (1) List and describe what each is to accomplish and how it is to be done
- e. Personal services
- (1) Information desk at visitor center or museum
 - (2) Conducted walks
 - (3) Conducted tours (building, archaeological site, auto, etc.)
 - (4) On-site assignments
 - (5) Off-site assignments
 - (6) Demonstrations
 - (7) Campfire and amphitheater programs
- f. Audiovisual facilities

- g. Publications made available to the public
 - (1) Folders, maps, etc.
 - (2) Publications relating to the area and its features
 - (3) Self-guidance leaflets or booklets
 - (4) Other
- h. Reference library
 - (1) Contents, general statement
 - (2) How used
- i. Reference collections
 - (1) List types and scope of collections (biological, geological, historical, archaeological, other)
- 6. Studies supporting the interpretive program, list of studies made or being made of value to interpretive plan and program.
- 7. Staffing requirements
 - a. Present staffing
 - b. Proposed staffing
- 8. Cost estimates for the proposed program. Follow breakdown of facilities and activities as given in item 5 above.
- 9. Map area showing locations of all present and proposed facilities and activities.

The prospectus should be developed initially to cover the entire interpretive program for an area, at least in concise outline. It will often be found helpful then to break it down into sections, with each section becoming a detailed statement of how that portion of the prospectus is to be accomplished. Ideally the initial prospectus should be produced 2-3 years ahead of the fiscal year in which implementation is planned. This allows for thorough review by other concerned groups, such as landscape architects, architects, engineers, etc. Some of them will likely be affected and their needs in turn may require some plan changes.

A sound prospectus is the heart of the interpretive program. Production requires as accurate knowledge of the area, its values and its potential as is possible to obtain.

APPENDIX B

NATURAL HISTORY VALUES

GEOLOGY

Precambrian Era

600-4500 million years

- Continents in existence 4500 Million Years
- Widespread seas
- Algae growing in ancient seas
- Sequence of sedimentary material deposited, later folded
- Intrusion of Sherman batholith
- Period of metamorphism
- Mountain building
- Land reduced to broad plains of low relief
- Long intervals of erosion at close of era

Paleozoic Era

225-600 millions years

- Seas transgressed from west across entire state 600 Million Years
- State inundated by shallow warm water
- Probably emergent. Record incomplete in Wyoming
- Seas in northwestern and western Wyoming
- Entire state submerged in warm tropical seas
- Local uplift in southcentral and southern part of state
- Shallow seas in western Wyoming
- Invertebrates common
- First abundant fossil record (marine invertebrates)
- Marine plants
- Amphibia
- Spore bearing land plants

Mesozoic Era

225-65 million years

- Fluctuation of shore line 225 Million Years
- Wide tidal flats, mild climate
- Seas withdrew, boral flood plains
- Many dinosaurs
- Transgression and regression of seas
- Rocky Mountains begin to rise
- Abundant cephalopods (a mollusk having a distinct head with a beak, and muscular tentacles about the mouth usually with suckers; e.g. octopus, squid, and cuttlefish)
- Birds appear
- Conifer and cycad plants
- Flowering plants first appear

NATURAL HISTORY VALUES

GEOLOGY

Cenozoic Era

65 Million Years-Present

Tertiary Period

65-3 Million Years

- Tropical Climate
- Terrestrial deposits
- Subtropical climate
- Green river lake and terrestrial deposition
- Intense volcanic activity in Yellowstone area
- Temperate climate
- Terrestrial deposition
- Tetons formed
- Grasses become abundant
- Mammals
- Flowering plants

65 Million Years

Geological Timetable Sources

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APPENDIX B

The Formation of Rocks

There are three different types of rocks: igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic. Rocks are composed of the same materials that make up the earth's crust. Rocks contain crystals from minerals or fragments of other rocks.

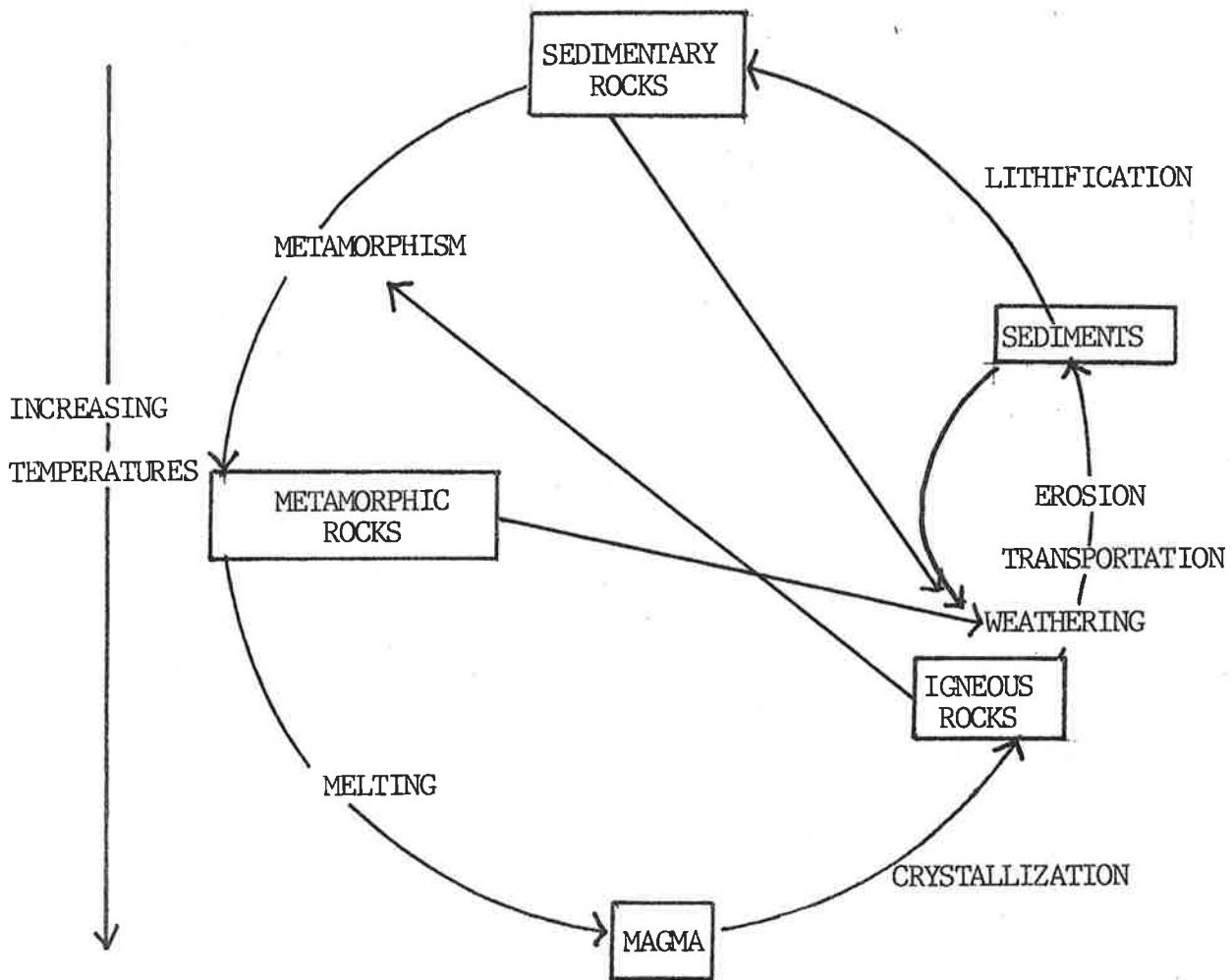
Igneous rocks - (Latin word ignis, "fire") Igneous rocks are the ancestors of all other rocks. These "fire-formed" rocks begin as a hot molten mass called magma. Eventually, as the magma cools a firm, hard rock is formed. Example: Granite.

Sedimentary rocks - (Latin word sedimentum, "settling") Sedimentary rocks consist of particles derived from the breakdown of pre-existing rocks. These particles are generally transported by gravity, water, wind, or ice to a different location, where they are deposited in new arrangements. One of the most characteristic features of sedimentary rock is the layering of deposits that make them up. Example: Sandstone.

Metamorphic rocks - (Greek word meta, "change" and morphē "form") Metamorphic rocks have been changed from their primary form to a new form. This change is due to heat, earth pressures and chemically active fluids beneath the surface which change a sedimentary or igneous rock into metamorphic rock. Example: Schist. (Leet, 1978)

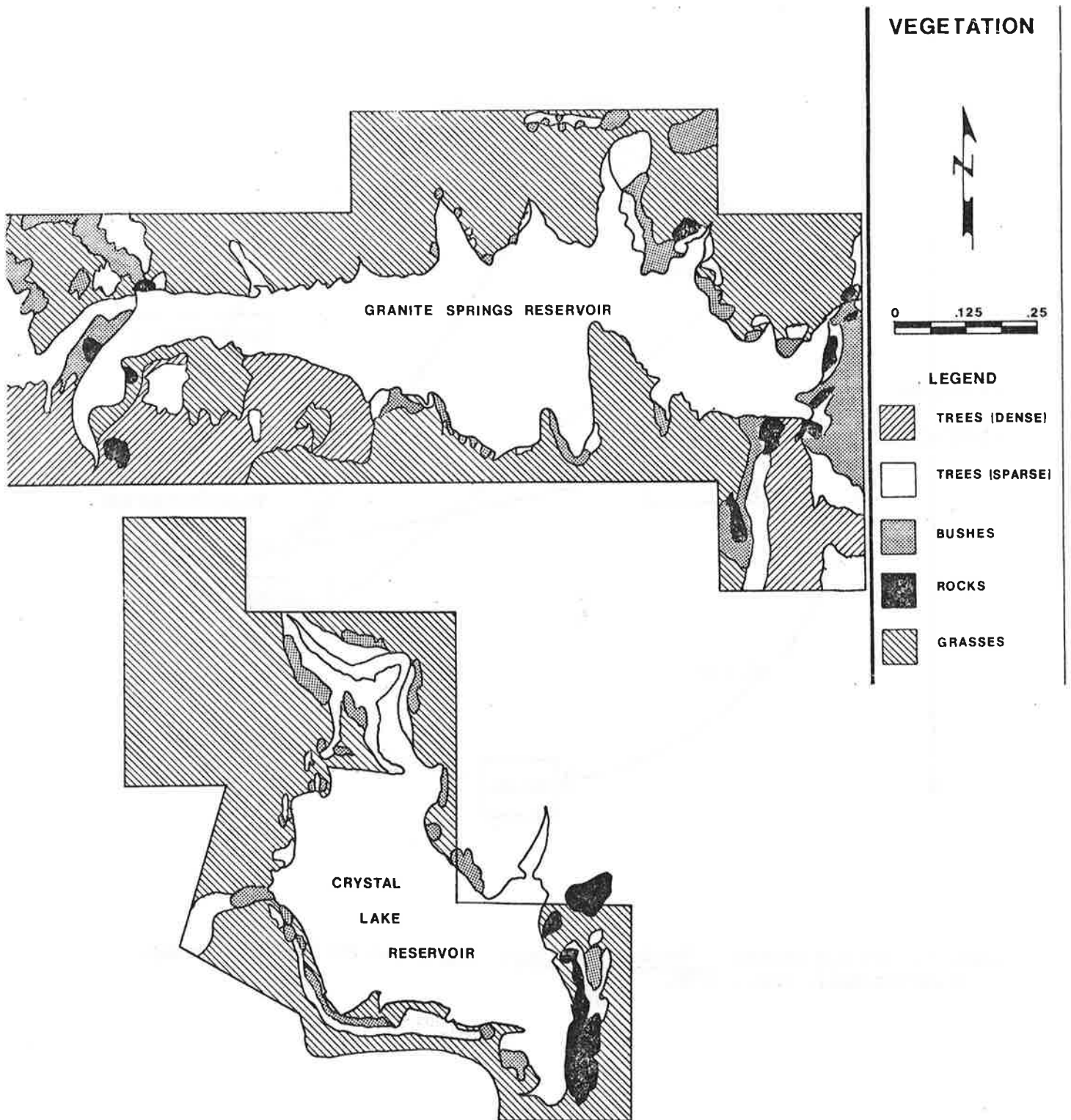
APPENDIX B

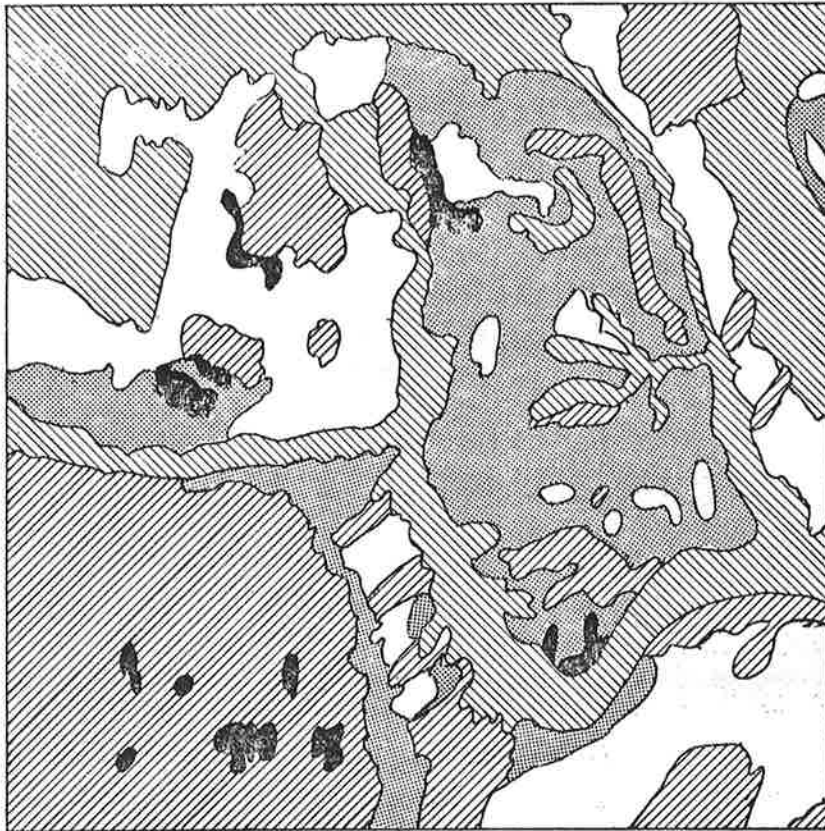
The Rock Cycle



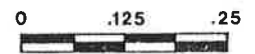
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APPENDIX C










VEGETATION SECTION 17



LEGEND

-  TREES (DENSE)
-  TREES (SPARSE)
-  BUSHES
-  ROCKS
-  GRASSES

APPENDIX D

TABLE 1

Vegetation

<u>Types</u>	<u>Species-common name</u>	<u>Types</u>	<u>Species-common name</u>
Grasses:	Basin Wildrye Big Bluestem Blue Grama Bottlebrush Squirreltail Canby Bluegrass Cheatgrass Crested Wheatgrass Green Bristlegrass Green Needlegrass Nuttall Alkaligrass Mountain Brome Slender Wheatgrass Western Wheatgrass	Forbs:	Cocklebur Goldenrod Common Ragweed Common Yarrow Gun Weed Milkvetch Family <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Field Milkvetch 2. Short Milkvetch 3. Standing Milkvetch Plains Larkspur Prickly-Pear Short Buttercup Sulfur Flower Tansy Mustard Thistle Family <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Canada Thistle 2. Flodman Thistle 3. Russian Thistle White Sweetcover Yellow Aster Yellow Sweetcover
Shrubs:	Antelope Bitterbrush Black Sagebrush Bluebur Stickseed Chokecherry Golden Currant Harefoot Loco Mountain Mahogany Rubber Rabbitbrush Saskatoon Serviceberry Sagewort Family <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Common Sagewort 2. Fringed Sagewort 3. Lousiana Sagewort 4. Tarragon Sagewort Squaw Currant	Trees:	Aspen Cottonwood Juniper Ponderosa Pine Rocky Mountain Maple Willow

NATURAL HISTORY VALUES

Ecology-Mammals

<u>Mammals</u>	<u>Habitat</u>	<u>Status</u>
Masked shrew	Moist areas near lakes and streams	Common
Vagrant shrew	Wet meadows and stream bottoms	Common
Little brown myotis	Roosts in holes, buildings, feeds near water	Common
Small-footed myotis	Feeds in wooded areas	Common
Long-legged myotis	Feeds in open country near forests	Common
Long-eared myotis	Lives in thinly forested areas	Common
Keen's myotis	Forests, caves, hollow trees	Common
Silver-haired bat	Forested area, feeds among trees	Common
Hoary bat	Wooded areas	Common
Big brown bat	Wooded areas	Common
Nuttall's cottontail	Thickets, rocks, cliffs in mountains	Common
Desert cottontail	Brushlands, rocks, forest edges	Common
White-tailed jackrabbit	Open grasslands, brushlands	Common
Least chipmunk	Open conifers, brushlands	Common
Yellow-bellied marmot	Rocky areas	Common
Richardson's ground squirrel	Open fields, roadsides, meadows	Common
Thirteen-lined ground squirrel	Shortgrass prairie, meadows	Uncommon
Golden-mantled ground squirrel	Open woodlands, forest edges	Common
Red squirrel	Conifer forests	Common
Northern pocket gopher	Open forests, grasslands, meadows	Common
Olive-backed pocket mouse	Dry areas, rocky soil, grasslands	Uncommon
Ord's kangaroo rat	Dry areas with sandy soils	Uncommon
Beaver	Streams and lakes with willow and aspen	Common
Western harvest mouse	Grasslands near dense vegetation and water	Uncommon
Deer mouse	Everywhere	Common
Northern grasshopper mouse	Grassy or shrubby areas in sandy soils	Common
Bushy-tailed woodrat	Rocks, buildings in shrublands	Uncommon
Montane vole	Moist meadows	Common
Long-tailed vole	Streambanks and moist meadows	Common
Muskrat	Streams and lakes	Common
Western jumping mouse	Near streams	Uncommon
Porcupine	Forests	Common
Red fox	Mixed forest and open country	Common
Swift fox	Open plains	Uncommon
Coyote	Everywhere	Common
Raccoon	Near streams and lakes	Common
Short-tailed weasel	Brushy or wooded areas near water	Uncommon
Long-tailed weasel	All habitats	Common
Mink	Near streams and lakes	Uncommon
Badger	Open areas in grassy or shrubby areas	Common
Striped skunk	Everywhere	Common
Mountain lion		Rare
Bobcat	Rough terrain	Common
American elk	Forested areas	Uncommon
Mule deer	Open, rough terrain, forests	Common
White-tailed deer	Brushlands, riparian habitat near water	Common

NATURAL HISTORY VALUES

Ecology-Birds

<u>Birds</u>	<u>Habitat</u>	<u>Status</u>
Western grebe	Large lakes, ponds	Migrant
Eared grebe	Shallow lakes and ponds	Migrant
Canada goose	Streambanks, lakeshores	Migrant
Mallard	Any wetland habitat	Common
Pintail	Shallow lakes and ponds	Migrant
Gadwall	Alkaline marshes, ponds	Migrant
American wigeon	Lakes and ponds	Migrant
Shoveler	Shallow marshes and floating plants	Migrant
Blue-winged teal	Small, shallow marshes	Migrant
Green-winged teal	Ponds and lakes near brush	Common
Redhead	Deep lakes and ponds with emergent vegetation	Migrant
Canvasback	Shallow marshes with emergent vegetation	Migrant
Lesser scaup	Large lakes with emergent vegetation	Migrant
Common goldeneye	Forested lakes	Migrant
Bufflehead	Forested lakes	Migrant
Ruddy duck	Lakes and ponds with emergent vegetation	Migrant
Common merganser	Lakes with timbered shorelines	Uncommon
Turkey vulture	All habitats with cliffs	Common
Goshawk	Open forests, forest edges	Uncommon
Cooper's hawk	Open forests and forest edges	Uncommon
Sharp-shinned hawk	Open forests and forest edges	Uncommon
Marsh hawk	Wet meadows, open grasslands	Common
Rough-legged hawk	Open grasslands	Common-Winter
Red-tailed hawk	Forests, wooded streams	Common
Ferruginous hawk	Open grasslands	Uncommon-Summer
Swainson's hawk	Open areas, with scattered trees	Common
Golden eagle	Everywhere	Common
Prairie falcon	Hunts in open areas, nests on cliffs	Common
Merlin	Open plains, semi-open forests	Uncommon
American kestrel	Everywhere-nests on ledges, in cavities	Common
Great blue heron	Marshes, ponds, lakes	Common
American coot	Marshes, ponds, lakes with emergent vegetation	Common
American avocet	Shallow lakes with mudflats	Common
Killdeer	Near any water	Common
Spotted sandpiper	Pebbly or rocky lakeshores	Common
Wilson's phalarope	Shallow lakes and ponds	Migrant
Common snipe	Marshes, wet meadows, streambanks	Common
California gull	Large lakes, dumps	Common
Mourning dove	Mixed forests and brushlands near open areas	Common
Great horned owl	Mountain forests, tree groves, canyons	Common
Screech owl	Tree groves in canyons, forests	Common
Long-eared owl	Forests near open country	Uncommon
Saw-whet owl	Mixed forests, stream bottoms	Uncommon
Common nighthawk	Semi open forests, plains	Common
Poor-will	Semi open forest edges, rocky, dry hills	Uncommon
Broad-tailed hummingbird	Stream bottoms, aspens	Common

NATURAL HISTORY VALUES

Ecology-Birds

<u>Birds</u>	<u>Habitat</u>	<u>Status</u>
Belted kingfisher	Streams, lakes	Common
Common flicker	Mixed forests, aspen	Common
Lewis' woodpecker	Large trees in open country, stream bottoms	Uncommon
Yellow-bellied sapsucker	Mixed forests, aspen	Common
Hairy woodpecker	Forests, stream bottoms	Common
Western kingbird	Open country with scattered trees	Common
Willow flycatcher	Aspen, stream bottoms	Common
Western flycatcher	Moist forests	Common
Western wood pewee	Aspen, stream bottoms	Common
Horned lark	Open brushlands and grassland	Common
Cliff swallow	Cliffs, dams, bridges	Common
Violet-green swallow	Cliffs, canyons, open forests	Common
Tree swallow	Meadows, stream bottoms	Common
Rough-winged swallow	Cliffs, banks near water	Common
Steller's jay	Coniferous forests	Uncommon
Gray jay	Coniferous and mixed forests	Common
Clark's nutcracker	Coniferous forest at forest edge	Common
Black-billed magpie	Open country near heavy brush or trees	Common
Common crow	Everywhere	Common
Black-capped chickadee	Mixed and coniferous forest (winter)	Common
Mountain chickadee	Coniferous forest	Common
White-breasted nuthatch	Aspen	Uncommon
Red-breasted nuthatch	Coniferous forest	Uncommon
House wren	Mixed forests, stream bottoms	Common
Rock wren	Rocky slopes	Common
Brown thrasher	Brushy habitat, forest edge	Uncommon
American robin	Everywhere	Common
Townsend's solitaire	Open coniferous forest	Uncommon
Hermit thrush	Forests	Common
Veery	Aspen	Uncommon
Mountain bluebird	Open woodlands, meadows	Common
Golden-crowned kinglet	Coniferous forest near tops of trees	Common
Starling	Wet meadows	Common
Solitary vireo	Mixed forests	Common
Orange-crowned warbler	Stream bottoms, aspen	Uncommon
Yellow warbler	Willows	Common
Yellow rumped warbler	Mixed forest	Common
Yellow throat	Wet meadows, willows	Uncommon
Yellow-breasted chat	Aspen, willows	Uncommon
Macgillivroy's warbler	Willow thickets, stream bottoms	Uncommon
Wilson's warbler	Willows	Common
American redstart	Aspen, near water	Uncommon
Western meadowlark	Open grasslands	Common
Red-winged blackbird	Marshes, pond edges	Common
Brewer's blackbird	Wet meadows	Common
Common grackle	Wet meadows near conifers	Common

NATURAL HISTORY VALUES

Ecology-Birds

<u>Birds</u>	<u>Habitat</u>	<u>Status</u>
Western tanager	Forests	Common
Black-headed grosbeak	Open aspens	Uncommon
Lazuli bunting	Scattered aspens and cottonwoods near water	Common
Cassin's finch	Coniferous forest	Common
House finch	Open coniferous woodlands	Common
Pine grosbeak	Coniferous forest	Common
American goldfinch	Weedy fields, willows	Uncommon
Green-tailed towhee	Rocky, shrub-covered hillsides	Common
Rufouse-sided towhee	Brushy habitat, forest edges	Uncommon
Vesper sparrow	Meadows	Common
Lark sparrow	Dry fields near brush and trees	Common
Dark-eyed junco	Coniferous forest	Common
Chipping sparrow	Sparse grass under scattered trees	Common-Winter
White-crowned sparrow	Dense shrubs, willows	Common
Song sparrow	Wet meadows near forests	Common
Chestnut-collared longspur	Arid open areas	Common

Common-Animals are abundant and easily seen.

Uncommon-Animals are not endangered, but are not as abundant as to fall in the common category. These animals are harder to find.

Rare-Seldom to never seen.

Migrant-Only viewed during time of migration.

APPENDIX E
Slide Show Ideas

1. History-Tales of the Past
2. Needs of Wildlife
3. Wind, Ice, and Rain
4. Hunters and the Hunted
5. Our Friends, Plants
6. Become an Outdoor Observer
7. Star Gazing
8. Fishing Tips
9. Animal Adaptations
10. Geology of the Park
11. Native Birds and Their Song
12. Campfire Safety
13. Wildflowers (Bee's Point of View)
14. Life After Dark
15. A Park for All Seasons
16. Park History
17. Song Birds
18. Weather Topics

(Mink, 1982)

TABLE 4

NATURAL HISTORY VALUES

Ecology-Amphibians

<u>Amphibians</u>	<u>Habitat</u>
Tiger salamander	Moist environment and rodent burrows
Boreal toad	Wet situations, foothills, montane
Northern leopard frog	Near or in an area of permanent water in the plains, foothills, and montane zones
Boreal chorus frog	Marshes, ponds and small lakes
*	

TABLE 5

NATURAL HISTORY VALUES

Ecology-Reptiles

<u>Reptiles</u>	<u>Habitat</u>
Red-lipped prairie lizard	Large boulders and rock cliff habitats
Eastern short-horned lizard	Grasslands and sagebrush
Wandering garter snake	Usually near water
Prairie rattlesnake	Widespread foothills zones, scarp woodlands, and foothills where there are granite or limestone outcrops
*	

TABLE 6

NATURAL HISTORY VALUES

Ecology-Fish

<u>Fish</u>		
<u>Granite Springs:</u>	<u>Crystal:</u>	<u>Crow Creek:</u>
Rainbow trout	Rainbow trout	Suckers
Longnose sucker	Perch	Chubs
Perch		

*This list of amphibians and reptiles may or may not be found in Curt Gowdy State Park. These animals are within their range of habitat type and are likely to be found in the area.

(All species lists of animals were provided by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, 1982)

APPENDIX F
Ideas for Demonstrations

1. Canoe Safety
2. Skits (management issues)
3. Star Gazing
4. Photographic Tips
5. Willow Twig Whistles
6. Swimming and Boating Safety
7. Campfire Sing Along
8. Story Telling
9. Wild Edible Foods
10. Puppet Shows
11. The Web of Life
12. Indian Uses of Plants
13. Fire Building
14. Wilderness Cooking
15. Tonight is for the Birds (or Rocks, etc.)
16. Living History
17. Limits of the Earth-Apple Demonstration
18. Modern Camp Cooking
19. Where to Catch Fish; How to Clean and Filet That Fish
20. Interview With Famous Character
21. The Snake and Other Reptiles
22. Natural Dye Demonstration

(Mink, 1982)

