

**FIREARMS REGULATIONS
IN THE NATIONAL PARKS**

1872—1936

[Please note: This information has been compiled to provide National Park Service employees more complete insight into the history of our firearms regulations. Due to difficulty in retrieving archival materials, there are some gaps in this compilation. We will continue our efforts to fill these gaps, and we invite park superintendents to provide the NPS Office of Policy any additional information they may have that would help in this effort.]

May 2, 2008

**FIREARMS REGULATIONS
1872 – 1936**

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HISTORIC FIREARMS REGULATIONS 1872 – 1936

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK¹

1. Regulations of June 1, 1897 –

(5) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing, of any bird or wild animal, except dangerous animals, when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits², including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed in the park under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be forfeited to the United States, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof. On arrival at the first station of the park guard, parties having firearms will turn them over to the sergeant in charge of the station, taking his receipt for them. They will be returned to the owners on leaving the park.

“Rules and Regulations of the Yellowstone National Park,” June 1, 1897. *Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1898, Miscellaneous Reports [vol. 3]* (Washington: Gov’t Printing Office, 1898), p. 972. See also, Act of May 7, 1894, ch. 72, 28 Stat. 73, in particular, §4 (28 Stat. 74).

N.B. In his report to the Secretary of August 31, 1897, the acting superintendent, Maj. Gen. S.B.M. Young, United States Volunteers (Colonel Third Cavalry), wrote in connection with this regulation:

Carrying Firearms through the Park

The custom of carrying firearms through the park has been almost universal among those who live in the neighboring States and travel in their own conveyances, or on saddle animals accompanied by pack animals. During the first half of the season it was found that many firearms, fastened with red tape and sealing wax at the point of entry, had broken seals at the point of exit. In many cases it was evident that the seals were broken by accident; others showed signs of having been broken and resealed. To remedy this a new system of sealing has been adopted similar to that used by express companies

The regulation prohibiting firearms in the park, except on written permission from the superintendent [in which case the arms were sealed], has been strictly enforced. It is essential to the protection of the park.

¹ The very first park regulations were apparently promulgated by Secretary of the Interior Columbus Delano at the time of the dedication of YELL. They are attached hereto as Appendix A.

² The first park regulations to mention “outfits,” were the YELL regulations of July 1, 1888, reproduced in Appendix C. The interim regulations, dated May 4, 1881, are found in Appendix B.

A certain sentiment of hostility toward the park and of antagonism toward the efforts of the authorities to protect the wild animals from destruction has existed and continues to exist among the ranchers and the people of the settlements near the park boundaries. This feeling of hostility seems to be due to an idea, which prevails widely, that a reservation of any part of the public domain for the perpetual benefit of the whole people is an invasion and an abridgement of the private rights of the people of the adjoining region. This idea naturally arises from an ignorance of the benefits that result from such reservations to the people of the whole country and an equal ignorance of the advantages which accrue to the inhabitants of the immediate vicinity. In consequence of the benefits which have already resulted to this region from the existence of this park as a breeding place from which the surplus game may wander down into the adjoining country where it may be freely taken, and from the opportunities afforded by the park for remunerative employment during the summer season, there is already a marked diminution of this hostile feeling. As these benefits come to be better understood I believe that this hostility will further diminish, and my best efforts shall be devoted to the encouragement of a friendly sentiment toward the park among the citizens of the surrounding country.

Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1897. Miscellaneous Reports [vol. 3] (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1897), pp. 781-82.

In his report for the year prior to the regulation's adoption, Acting Superintendent Young stated:

Over 200 stand of arms have been taken from persons entering the park by the two main thoroughfares, including those taken from parties found inside, and as a probable resultant, young broods of quail and grouse abound throughout the park. The deer, bear, lynx, fox, coon, tree squirrel, and chipmunk, although not scarce, are not so plentiful as they should be in their natural home in the park. If firearms, hunters, and trappers are kept out of the park they will multiply and become plentiful, and their instinctive fear of man will gradually so lessen in a few years that visitors will be enabled to see and study them in their natural state. These animals drift down below the heavy snow line in winter and the supply that is taken by ranchmen and hunters outside the park boundaries will be a sufficient trimming in numbers to promote a healthful breeding and growth in the natural game nursery within the boundaries.

Report of Secretary of the Interior; Being Part of the Message and Documents Communicated to the Two Houses of Congress at the Beginning of the Second Session of the Fifty-Fourth Congress. In Five Volumes. (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1896), vol. III, p. 740.

After the regulation's promulgation, the Sec'y of the Interior commented as follows:

The regulations prohibiting firearms in the park, except under written permission of the superintendent, have been strictly observed, the enforcement thereof being essential to the best interest of the park.

Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1897, Report of the Secretary of the Interior [vol.1] (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1897), p. LXXXIII.

2. Regulations of April 1, 1899 –

(5) Hunting or killing, wounding, or capturing of any bird or wild animal, except dangerous animals, when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed in the park under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be forfeited to the United States, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof. On arrival at the first station of the park guard, parties having firearms will turn them over to the sergeant in charge of the station, taking his receipt for them. They will be returned to the owners on leaving the park.

“Rules and Regulations of the Yellowstone National Park,” April 1, 1899. *Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1900*, p. 535.

3. Regulations of February 7, 1902 –

(5) Hunting or killing, wounding, or capturing of any bird or wild animal, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed in the park under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be forfeited to the United States, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof. On arrival at the first station of the park guard, parties having firearms will turn them over to the sergeant in charge of the station, taking his receipt for them. They will be returned to the owners on leaving the park.

“Rules and Regulations of the Yellowstone National Park,” February 7, 1902. *Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1904. Miscellaneous Reports. Part I. Bureau Officers, etc.* (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1904), p. 367.

Superintendent S.B.M. Young included the following in his annual report for FY '07:

Evidence of poaching in former unfrequented portions of the park difficult of access have been found particularly in the northwest corner, where within the last fortnight a trapper's cabin, supplied with provisions, cooking utensils, and bedding, was found . . .

In addition to the trails shown on the map crossing the boundary lines of the park there are numerous other trails – all originally made by hunters, trappers, and prospectors. There are now four main entrance roads leading into the park – north, east, south, and west – which seem to be sufficient for all purposes concerning the park and for accommodation of visitors. Applications have come to this office from far and near for permission to enter the park on these various trails with arms, in order to pass through the park for the purpose of hunting outside of the park. All such applications for permits to carry guns unsealed through any portion of the park have been refused, but permission to carry sealed guns has been granted to persons who enter the park at one of the regular stations where their guns may be sealed, and make exit at one of the regular stations (their route through the park being particularly specified) where their guns may be unsealed and condition reported upon. Permits to carry game or game trophies through the park have been refused. There has been much adverse criticism by hunters and guides on these rulings, but the best interests of the park demand that it shall no longer continue a thoroughfare for sportsmen, hunters, and game-slaughterers.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1907. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1907), pp. 551-52.

In 1908, Young added:

Poachers and other violators of the law were arrested in every quarter of the park, and several arrests were made outside the park in Wyoming and Montana on information and evidence furnished by park scouts, and the parties were convicted. It is evident, however, that many poachers escaped arrest. There are not sufficient scouts for thorough protection against poachers.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1908. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1908), pp. 409.

4. Regulations of July 2, 1908 –

(5) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed in the park under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be forfeited to the United States, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof. On arrival at the first station of the park guard, parties having firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives will turn them over to the sergeant in charge of the station, taking his receipt for them. They will be returned to the owners on leaving the park.

Laws and Regulations Relating to the Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1908), p. 13.

5. Regulations of May 27, 1911 –

(5) Hunting or killing, wounding, or capturing any bird or wild animal, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed in the park under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be forfeited to the United States, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof. On arrival at the first station of the park guard parties having firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives will turn them over to the sergeant in charge of the station, taking his receipt for them. They will be returned to the owners on leaving the park.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1911. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1912), p. 575.

6. Regulations in effect April 15, 1918 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort and no one may frighten, hunt or kill, wound or capture any bird or wild animal in the park, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under circumstances other than prescribed above, must be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner was not a party to such violation. Firearms will be permitted in the park only on written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond must, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed.

General Information Regarding Yellowstone National Park – Season of 1918 (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1918), p. 67.

7. Regulations of February 18, 1929 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and hunting, killing,

wounding, capturing, or frightening any bird or wild animal in the park, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury, is prohibited.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under circumstances other than prescribed above, shall be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner was not a party to such violation. Firearms are prohibited in the park except on written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer and in proper cases may obtain leave to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibilities for loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, seines, or other property so surrendered to any park officer nor are park officers authorized to accept responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

Circular of General Information Regarding Yellowstone National Park (1929), pp. 61-62.

8. Regulations of January 23, 1932 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of the park.

Molesting, teasing, or touching the bears is prohibited. Persons feeding bears do so at their own risk and peril.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons engaged in hunting, killing, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals within the limits of the park shall be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service. Possession within said park of the dead bodies or any part thereof of any wild bird or animals shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having the same are guilty of violating this regulation.

During the hunting season arrangements may be made at entrance stations to identify and transport through the park, carcasses of birds or animals killed outside of the park.

Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond, shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written permission to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

NOTE.—The foregoing regulation is in effect a declaration of the law on this subject contained in section 4 of the act of Congress approved May 7, 1894 (28 Stat. 73), entitled:

“An act to protect the birds and animals of Yellowstone National Park, and to punish crimes in said park, and for other purposes.”

Circular of General Information Regarding Yellowstone National Park (1932), pp. 57-58.

SEQUOIA AND GENERAL GRANT NATIONAL PARKS

1. Regulations of Sequoia National Park of June 2, 1902 –

(6) Hunting or killing, wounding, or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person, or persons, violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

“Rules and Regulations of the Sequoia National Park,” June 2, 1902. *Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1903, Miscellaneous Reports, Part I* (Washington: Govt’ Printing Office, 1903), p. 551.

2. Regulations of General Grant National Park of June 2, 1902 –

(6) Hunting or killing, wounding, or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person, or persons, violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

“Rules and Regulations of the General Grant National Park,” June 2, 1902. *Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1903, Miscellaneous Reports, Part I* (Washington: Govt’ Printing Office, 1903), p. 553.

N.B. The acting superintendent of Sequoia and Gen’l Grant National Parks added the following to his annual report for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 1905:

In my opinion, tourists entering this park have no use for guns. Hunting is at no time permitted, and the game is not threatening or dangerous. The excuse might be offered that the tourists were en route to the forest reserve and were simply taking their guns through. I would therefore recommend that the carrying of guns through the park be permitted only on the Mineral King road, which is a county road, and that it be made generally known that no gun will be permitted within the park at any other place without first obtaining the permission of the acting superintendent, and that this permission be generally denied, except to those for whom the acting superintendent himself could be individually responsible. The sealing of guns would soon lead to the belief that the general right to carry guns in the park exists, and that the absence of one authorized to seal the gun at the point where the park was entered was sufficient justification for entering the park with an unsealed gun. Notices and regulations are soon ignored and lose their effect when privileges begin to be considered as rights, and the work of the rangers and guards is increased, as a practice once tolerated, because of a misunderstanding or mistaken belief, grows into an ungovernable nuisance and a source of never-ending trouble. I therefore consider it best to have it generally known that no persons will be permitted to carry guns in the park, except over the Mineral King road, above mentioned. There would then be no excuse for a man being found in the park with an unsealed gun. Rangers and guards can not be at all points, especially along the reserve, at which people enter.

Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1905. Report of the Secretary of the Interior and Bureau Officers, etc. (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1905), pp. 712-13.

The next year, the Secretary of the Interior commented thus:

The rules and regulations were carefully observed by the soldiers, and their duties were performed in a thorough and satisfactory manner. The visitors to the parks seemed disposed to conform to all the requirements, while the residents in the vicinity of the parks seemed interested in having the regulations obeyed. Violations of the regulations occurred in but two instances: A man brought a pistol into Sequoia Park without having it sealed; it was taken from him and will be held until the close of the season. Another man was found hunting in Sequoia Park; his gun was taken from him and he was ejected from the park.

Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1906. Report of the Secretary of the Interior and Bureau Officers, etc. (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1906), p. 203

3. Regulations [of both parks] of March 30, 1907 –

(6) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands

under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person, or persons, violating this regulation, and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

Laws and Regulations Relating to the Sequoia and General Grant National Parks, California (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1908), pp. 9, 11.

4. Regulations of March 30, 1912 –

(6) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person, or persons, violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1912. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1913), p. 683.

5. Regulations in effect April 15, 1918 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort and no one may frighten, hunt or kill, wound or capture any bird or wild animal in the park, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under circumstances other than prescribed above, must be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner was not a party to such violation. Firearms will be permitted in the park only on written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or travelling through the park to places beyond must, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed.

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

1. Regulations of June 2, 1902 –

(6) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

“Rules and Regulations of the Yosemite National Park,” June 2, 1902. *Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1903, Miscellaneous Reports, Part I* (Washington: Govt' Printing Office, 1903), p. 526.

In his Annual Report for 1905, Secretary Hitchcock commented on Yosemite's firearm regulation as follows:

The duty of enforcing the regulation prohibiting the killing of game in the park continues to be a matter of considerable difficulty. Heretofore the custom has been to require persons entering the park with firearms in their possession to surrender such arms during their stay in the park, or, when the parties desired to leave the reservation by a different route, the arms were sealed up and delivered to the owners, with a permit to carry the sealed arms through the park. It has been found, however, that this system afforded no protection to the game in the park, inasmuch as persons entering the reservation with the object of hunting would have their arms sealed up by the first detachment of troops they met and as soon as they were out of sight would break the seals; thereafter, if they met other troops, they would claim that their arms had not been previously sealed; and there being no means of disproving this statement, the second detachment could only again put seals upon the weapons, to be a second time broken, so that the owners could use the weapons in violation of the park regulations.

Owing to this practice, the sealing of arms has been discontinued during the past season, and persons entering the park have been required by the first patrol they encountered to surrender any weapons in their possession. A large number of applications for permits to carry rifles and shotguns into the park for alleged “protection” were received; but as the applicants declined to give any information

regarding their plans and purposes, only one such request was granted. In the case of parties of tourists consisting partly of women permits to carry revolvers were given to some of the men in the party. Notwithstanding these precautions, it has been impracticable to prevent entirely the killing of game in the park, as entrance thereto can be had at almost any point, and hunters can thus sometimes evade the various detachments of troops patrolling the reservation.

Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1905. Report of the Secretary of the Interior and Bureau Officers, etc. (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1905), pp. 165-66.

Captain H.C. Benson, Fourth Cavalry, the acting superintendent of Yosemite reported as follows:

Permits to Carry Arms

Numerous letters have been prepared at the instance of one Congressman, requesting that a number of parties who are desirous of making trips through the park be permitted to carry firearms for their protection, promising to conform to all the regulations. Regulations positively prohibit the killing of game. The carrying of firearms in the Yosemite National Park, or any national park, means that the person so carrying them is on a hunting trip; and it is so recognized throughout this part of the country. These letters were never presented, as stated in the body of the letter, but were always mailed to the acting superintendent by the party desiring a permit, with the request that the permit be forwarded to him saying nothing, however, about his intention of conforming to the rules and regulations. Letters were therefore addressed to these people, requesting that they inform the acting superintendent of the date when they expected to reach the park, where they expected to enter, what places they expected to visit, and how long they expected to remain, requesting also a statement from each member of the party that the arms would not be used for the killing of game. In no instance whatever have these questions been answered. In some cases the letters were not answered at all, while in other instances their reply simply was that the party had changed his mind and would not visit the Yosemite, and others, again, stated that they had decided not go on a camping trip this year. The spectacle of from five to seven men arriving on the park limits on the first day of the "open" season, each an provided with a rifle, and the majority of them with shotguns also, all for the purpose of "protection," would be an amusing one were it not for the fact that it meant the slaughter of game within the park. Under the circumstances, but one such permit was granted. Permits were given for the carrying of revolvers by men when they were accompanied by women, but in no other cases.

It was positively know to the acting superintendent that the sealing of arms in previous years was but a farce, as the seals were broken immediately upon leaving the detachments, in many cases, and that when the next detachment was encountered the statement was made that the guns had not been previously sealed. As there was nothing to disprove this statement, the guns would be again sealed to be again broken

and used in violation of park regulations. For this reason, arms have not been sealed this season.

The protection of game is a very difficult matter, due to the fact that entrance can be had to the park at almost any point whatever, and to the fact that all of the inhabitants of this region believe that the game in the mountains belongs to them. With the withdrawal of the troops, there is absolutely nothing to prevent the annual influx of hunters. The game having been driven from the higher mountains by the snow and having grown quite tame during the summer from not being interfered with or frightened, fall easy prey to the unscrupulous.

Id. at 697-98.

In his report for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 1906, Secretary Hitchcock stated:

[According to the Yosemite superintendent] the Yosemite Valley has, under the control of the State of California, been a death trap to game unfortunate enough to enter it. Practically every person living in the valley kept a rifle, shotgun, and revolver, and game of every description was considered legitimate prey. It is hoped that within a short time, now that the rules and regulations prescribed by the Department for the protection of game can be enforced in Yosemite Valley, that the game will soon learn that it is a safe retreat and not a death trap.

The rules do not permit the carrying of firearms in the park. In the early part of the season two men were arrested by the park rangers for killing deer in the park; they were prosecuted under the State game laws and each fined

Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1906. Report of the Secretary of the Interior and Bureau Officers, etc. (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1906), p. 195.

The acting superintendent gave an example of the constant battle against poaching in his annual report:

In the latter part of August, 1906, a letter was received from the Department stating that Mr. W.T. Scoon, of Modesto, Cal., with a party of friends, would make a trip through the reservation for protection, promising to conform to all the regulations. Notice was received by me from Mr. Scoon on September 5 that it was his purpose, with his party of four, to leave Modesto on or about the 10th of September. I thereafter requested him to advise me as to the names of the people who would compose his party and the point at which he expected to enter the park, in order to make arrangements for their reception at the point of entrance, to which he replied, under date of September 11, stating "We will go up on the Oak Flat road by the way of Crocker's and there will be in the party A.N. Crow, R.B. Crow, James Klo, and myself, and the party expects to leave Modesto September 13."

As there is absolutely no reason for carrying firearms for “protection” in the park, and the rules do not permit the carrying of firearms, and noting that the two members of this party, namely, the Crow Brothers, have on previous occasions killed game in the park when they were carrying firearms under a permit in which they had stipulated to conform to the rules and regulations, I sent an officer and two men to accompany this party in order that they might secure the “protection” they desired. They seemed much surprised and greatly put out that they were to be furnished with this protection. They stated that they had no intention whatever of hunting generally, but desired only to kill two or three bucks, just sufficient for their own use. They remained several days, debating whether they would go on the trip if they were not permitted to hunt, but finally moved to Poopenaut Valley, remained there several days, then went to Lake Eleanor for a few days, and finally left the park. It was undoubtedly their intention of going on a hunting trip pure and simple, as each man carried a rifle and a shotgun and they were provided with thirty days’ rations. They remained in the park but ten days. It was not “protection” they desired of their firearms, but a definite intention to violate the rules and regulations of the park by hunting.

. . . . Immediately upon the withdrawal of the troops from the park it is overrun with pot hunters, and these same men often remain throughout the entire winter, killing and trapping all the game in their vicinity.

As the park can be entered from all points of the compass it is impracticable to keep these hunters out except by constant patrolling on the part of troops or rangers. As the rangers live, one on the south side and the other to the far southwest of the park, and make no attempt to patrol except a few miles from the residence of one, and that only on a wagon road, their services during winter are of but little value, and the game receives scarcely any protection from them.

Id. at 653-54.

2. Regulations of February 29, 1908³ –

(4) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is

³ In connection with YOSE, as early as 1896 the Sec’y of the Interior noted that “all persons [were] required to surrender” firearms, no permits for their carry being issued. Given “the deprivations upon the game and song birds” it was felt that this policy was necessary, in order “[t]o prevent as far as possible trespass and flagrant violation of the rules of the park during the close-season . . . of California.” The Sec’y went on to state that “[p]ersons entering by trails from the north and east on which there were no permanent guard posts, were, when discovered, disarmed by patrol parties. Notwithstanding the adoption of such stringent measures firearms have been occasionally smuggled in by campers.” *Report of the Secretary of the Interior* [etc.] (Washington: Gov’t Printing Office, 1896), vol. 1, p. CV.

shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

Laws and Regulations Relating to the Yosemite National Park, California (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1908), p. 15.

3. Regulations of June 1, 1909 –

(4) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof. On arrival at the first station of the park guard, parties having firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives, will turn them over to the sergeant in charge of the station, taking his receipt for them. They will be returned to the owners on leaving the park.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1909. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1910), p. 436.

4. Regulations of March 30, 1912 –

(4) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof. On arrival at the first station of the park guard, parties having firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives, will turn them over to the sergeant in charge of the station, taking his receipt for them. They will be returned to the owners on leaving the park.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1912. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1913), pp. 670-71.

5. Regulations of May 11, 1914 –

(4) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof. On arrival at the first station of the park guard, parties having firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives, will turn them over to the sergeant in charge of the station, taking his receipt for them. They will be returned to the owners on leaving the park.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1914. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1915), p. 738.

In his annual report for Fiscal Year 1916, the superintendent addressed the firearms regulation as follows:

Approximately 1,500 firearms of various sorts and calibers have been sealed or taken up during the year. At present firearms carried by through automobile passengers are sealed and the owners are permitted to retain possession. In such cases the number of guns sealed is stated on the permit and the seals are broken by the ranger at the point of exit. Those brought into the park by people on foot or horseback are taken up and turned in to the supervisor's office, whence they are shipped to the owner at the latter's risk. This method of handling firearms has proven very satisfactory. There should, however, be incorporated in the firearms regulations a clause stating, in effect, that in cases where arms once sealed are later found with seals broken, or in cases where arms are brought into the park unsealed in direct violation of the regulations, or in cases where there is any attempt to evade the regulations by denial of possession or concealment, said arms shall be promptly confiscated and the party shall forfeit all claim thereto.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1916. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1917), p. 794.

For Fiscal Year 1917, the superintendent noted:

Firearms to the number of 1,794, of various classes, were handled by the ranger department during the year. Of these 1,236 were sealed at the park entrances, and 558 were taken up by the park rangers at various points and were later returned to their respective owners. The method of handling firearms was the same as that used through the latter part of the 1916 season. Firearms carried by automobile passengers

are sealed at the park entrance and are allowed to remain in the possession of the owner. In this case the number of guns sealed is noted on the permit by the ranger issuing the permit and the seals are in turn broken by the ranger at point of exit. Those brought into the park by people on foot or horseback are taken up and turned into the supervisor's office, whence they are shipped to the owners at the latter's risk. Likewise, in cases where persons are found in the park with firearms which have not been sealed, such firearms are taken up and handled in the same manner. In the latter case, unless the owner can readily explain the reason for carrying unsealed firearms, additional penalties in the way of fines are imposed.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1917. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1918), p. 935.

6. Regulations in effect April 15, 1918 –

(5) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and no one may frighten, hunt or kill, wound or capture any bird or wild animal in the park, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under circumstances other than prescribed above, must be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner was not a party to such violation. Firearms will be permitted in the park only on written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond must, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed.

General Information Regarding Yosemite National Park – Season of 1918 (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1918), pp. 33-34.

7. Regulations of November 24, 1928 –

(5) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying human lives or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of said park.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals within the limits of said park shall be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service. Possession within said park of the dead bodies or any part thereof of any wild bird or animal shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having same are guilty of violating this regulation. Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon

written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, seines, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

NOTE. The foregoing regulation is in effect a declaration of the law on this subject contained in sections 5 and 6 of the act of Congress, approved June 2, 1920 (41 Stat. 732), accepting cession by the State of California of exclusive jurisdiction of the lands embraced within the Yosemite National Park, Sequoia National Park, and General Grant National Park, respectively, and for other purposes.

This act by its terms applies to all lands within said park whether in public or private ownership.

Circular of General Information Regarding Yosemite National Park (1929), pp. 41-42.

8. Regulations of January 13, 1932 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of the park.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons engaged in hunting, killing, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals within the limits of the park shall be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service. Possession within said park of the dead bodies or any part thereof of any wild bird or animals shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having the same are guilty of violating this regulation.

During the hunting season arrangements may be made at entrance stations to identify and transport through the park, carcasses of birds or animals killed outside of the park.

Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond, shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written permission to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

NOTE.—The foregoing regulation is in effect a declaration of the law on this subject contained in sections 5 and 6 of the act of Congress approved June 2, 1920 (41 Stat. 732), accepting cession by the State of California of exclusive jurisdiction of the lands embraced within the Yosemite National Park . . . and for other purposes.

This act by its terms applies to all lands within said park whether in public or private ownership.

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

1. Regulations of March 19, 1908 –

(8) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than those prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will be permitted in the park only on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

Laws and Regulations Relating to the Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1908), p. 9.

2. Regulations of March 30, 1912 –

(8) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will be permitted in the park only on written permission from the superintendent.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1912. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1913), pp. 715-16.

3. Regulations in effect April 15, 1918 –

(5) *Hunting.*—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort and no one should frighten, hunt or kill, wound or capture any bird or wild animal in the park except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild

animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under circumstances other than prescribed above, must be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner was not a party to such violation. Firearms will be permitted in the park only on written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or travelling through the park to places beyond must, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and, in proper cases, may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed.

General Information Regarding Mesa Verde National Park – Season of 1918 (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1918), p. 47.

CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK

1. Regulations of August 27, 1902 –

(4) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing, any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

“Rules and Regulations of the Crater Lake National Park,” August 27, 1902. *Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1903. Miscellaneous Reports. Part I. Bureau Officers, etc.* (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1903), p. 567.

2. Regulations of June 10, 1908 –

(4) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

Laws and Regulations Relating to the Crater Lake National Park, Oregon (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1908), p. 6.

N.B. In his annual report for Fiscal Year 1911, superintendent W.F. Arant addressed the system of surrendering firearms upon arrival thus:

During the last season all guns were taken at the superintendent's office, checked, and returned upon presentation of the coupon when the visitor was ready to depart from the park.

As a matter of safety and a prevention of violation of the rules and regulations of the reserve this mode was not objectionable, but was laborious and somewhat inconvenient to both the management of the park and the public. Under this method there are usually from 20 to 50 guns in the office all the time. I made requisition to the department for gun seals, such as are used in the Yellowstone Park, with instructions regarding their use.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1911. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1912), p. 657.

3. Regulations of March 30, 1912 –

(4) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1912. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1913), p. 730.

4. Regulations in effect April 15, 1918 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort and no one should frighten, hunt or kill, wound or capture any bird or wild animal in the park except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild

animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under circumstances other than prescribed above, must be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner was not a party to such violation. Firearms will be permitted in the park only on written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or travelling through the park to places beyond must, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and, in proper cases, may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed.

General Information Regarding Crater Lake National Park – Season of 1918 (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1918), pp. 14-15.

5. Regulations of January 15, 1932 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of the park.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons engaged in hunting, killing, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals within the limits of the park shall be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service. Possession within said park of the dead bodies or any part thereof of any wild bird or animal shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having the same are guilty of violating this regulation.

During the hunting season arrangements may be made at entrance stations to identify and transport through the park, carcasses of birds or animals killed outside of the park.

Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond, shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

NOTE. The foregoing regulation is in effect a declaration of the law on this subject contained in section 4 and 5 of the act of Congress approved August 21, 1916 (39 Stat. 521), accepting cession by the State of Oregon of exclusive jurisdiction of the lands embraced in the Crater Lake National Park, and for other purposes.

This act by its terms applies to all lands within said park whether in public or private ownership.

Circular of General Information Regarding Crater Lake National Park (1932), pp. 22-23.

MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

1. Regulations of August 1, 1903 –

(2) The hunting or killing, wounding or capturing of any bird or wild animal on the Government lands in the park, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. Firearms will only be permitted in the reservation on the written permission of the acting superintendent.

“Regulations Governing Mount Rainier National Park.” *Annual Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1904. Miscellaneous Reports. Part I. Bureau Officers, etc.* (Washington: Gov’t Printing Office, 1904), p. 442.

N.B. In his annual report, the acting superintendent commented on this regulation thus:

Public sentiment very strongly indorses the regulation which prohibits carrying firearms within the limits of the park except by written permit issued by the acting superintendent. This regulation has been thoroughly enforced by the forest rangers without any special difficulty. In one instance they were obliged to take the guns from two men who were in the park under the pretext of being prospectors, but who were actually there to kill whatever large game they might come across. This was not long after the regulation was issued, and they were, perhaps, not at the time aware that guns were prohibited.

Id. at 440.

2. Regulations of June 10, 1908 –

(4) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

Laws and Regulations Relating to the Mount Rainier National Park, Washington
(Washington: Gov’t Printing Office, 1908), p. 8.

3. Regulations of March 30, 1912 –

(4) Hunting or killing, wounding, or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or

inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1912. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1913), p. 700.

4. Regulations in effect April 15, 1918 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort and no one should frighten, hunt or kill, wound or capture any bird or wild animal in the park except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under circumstances other than prescribed above, must be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner was not a party to such violation. Firearms will be permitted in the park only on written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or travelling through the park to places beyond must, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and, in proper cases, may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed.

General Information Regarding Mount Rainier National Park – Season of 1918 (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1918), p. 33.

5. Regulations of December 21, 1932 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying human lives or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of the park.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons engaged in hunting, killing, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals within the limits of the park shall be forfeited to the United States and may be seized by the officers of the park and held pending the prosecution of any person or persons arrested under the charge of violating this regulation, and upon conviction such forfeiture shall be adjudicated as a penalty in addition to other

punishment. Such forfeited property shall be disposed of and accounted for by and under authority of the Secretary of the Interior. Possession within said park of the dead bodies or any part thereof of any wild bird or animal shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having the same are guilty of violating this regulation.

During the hunting season arrangements may be made at entrance stations to identify and transport through the park, carcasses of birds or animals killed outside of the park.

Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond, shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, seines, nets, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written permission to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

NOTE.—The foregoing regulation is in effect a declaration of the law on this subject contained in sections 4 and 5 of the act of Congress approved June 30, 1916 (39 Stat. 243), accepting cession by the State of Washington of exclusive jurisdiction of the lands embraced within the Mount Rainier National Park.

This act by its terms applies to all lands within said park whether in public or private ownership.

General Information Regarding Mount Rainier National Park (Washington: U.S. Gov't Printing Office, 1933), pp. 27-28.

PLATT NATIONAL PARK⁴

Regulations of June 10, 1908 –

(6) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

Laws and Regulations Relating to the Platt National Park, Oklahoma (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1908), pp. 11-12.

⁴ Originally Sulphur Springs Reservation, renamed and redesignated Platt National Park June 29, 1906; combined with Arbuckle National Recreation Area and additional lands and renamed and redesignated Chickasaw National Recreation Area March 17, 1976.

WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK

1. Regulations of June 10, 1908 –

(5) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof.

Laws and Regulations Relating to the Wind Cave National Park, South Dakota (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1908), p. 7.

2. Regulations of March 30, 1912 –

(5) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the supervisor and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the supervisor thereof.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1915. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1916), p. 1046.

3. Regulations in effect April 15, 1918 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort and no one may frighten, hunt or kill, wound or capture any bird or wild animal in the park, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under circumstances other than prescribed above, must be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of

the Director of the National Park Service, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner was not a party to such violation. Firearms will be permitted in the park only on written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or travelling through the park to places beyond must, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed.

General Information Regarding Wind Cave National Park – Season of 1918 (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1918), pp. 16-17.

4. Regulations of December 21, 1932 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying human lives or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of the park.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons engaged in hunting, killing, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals within the limits of the park, under circumstances other than prescribed above, shall be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner was not a party to such violation.

During the hunting season, arrangements may be made at entrance stations to identify and transport through the park, carcasses of birds or animals killed outside of the park.

Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond, shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, seines, nets, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written permission to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

General Information Regarding Wind Cave National Park (Washington: U.S. Gov't Printing Office, 1933), p. 9-10.

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

1. Regulations of December 3, 1910 –

(4) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring,

or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof. On arrival at the first station of the park guard, parties having firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives will turn them over to the officer in charge of the station, taking his receipt for them. They will be returned to the owners on leaving the park.

Laws, Regulations, and General Information Relating to Glacier National Park, Montana 1910 (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1911), p. 6.

2. Regulations of March 30, 1912 –

(4) Hunting or killing, wounding or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof. On arrival at the first station of the park guard parties having firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives will turn them over to the sergeant in charge of the station, taking his receipt for them. They will be returned to the owners on leaving the park.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1912. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1913), p. 752.

3. Regulations of May 13, 1914 –

(4) Hunting or killing, wounding, or capturing any bird or wild animal on the park lands, except dangerous animals when necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting an injury, is prohibited. The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, will be taken up by the superintendent and subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner thereof was not a party to such violation. Firearms will only be permitted in the park on written permission from the superintendent thereof. On arrival at the first station of the park guard, parties having firearms, traps,

nets, seines, or explosives will turn them over to the officer in charge of the station, taking his receipt for them. They will be returned to the owners on leaving the park.

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1914. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1915), p. 833.

4. Regulations in effect April 15, 1918 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort and no one should frighten, hunt or kill, wound or capture any bird or wild animal in the park except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under circumstances other than prescribed above, must be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner was not a party to such violation. Firearms will be permitted in the park only on written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or travelling through the park to places beyond must, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and, in proper cases, may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed.

General Information Regarding Glacier National Park – Season of 1918 (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1918), p. 65.

5. Regulations of December 12, 1928 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, pursuing, or capturing at any time of any bird or wild animal, except dangerous animals, when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying human lives or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of said park.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons within said park limits when engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals, shall be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service. Possession within said park of the dead bodies, or any part thereof, of any wild bird or animal shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having same are guilty of violating this regulation. Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, seines, or other property

so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

NOTE. The foregoing regulation is in effect a declaration of the law on this subject contained in sections 4 and 5 of the act of Congress, approved August 22, 1914 (38 Stat. 700) accepting cession by the State of Montana of exclusive jurisdiction over the lands embraced within the Glacier National Park.

This act by its terms applies to all lands within the park, whether in public or private ownership.

Circular of General Information Regarding Glacier National Park (1929), pp. 33-34.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

1. Regulations of May 29, 1915 –

(5) The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and no one should frighten, hunt or kill, wound or capture any bird or wild animal in the park except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury.

(6) The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under other circumstances than prescribed above, must be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Secretary of the Interior, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation and the actual owner was not a party to such violation. Firearms will be permitted in the park only on written permission of the supervisor. Visitors entering or travelling through the park to places beyond should, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and, in proper cases, may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed.

“Rules and Regulations Approved May 29, 1915.” *Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1915, Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes* (Washington: Gov’t Printing Office) vol. 1, p. 1124.

In his annual report for Fiscal Year 1916, the superintendent added:

There is no evidence of the slaughter of game during the past year in the park, a strict vigilance having been kept during the winter months for hunters and trappers. Mountain sheep are plentiful and no doubt increasing, and have been seen more frequently by tourists than in former years. It is now possible to approach them quite closely, and one instance is known where an automobile came within 30 feet of a group which did not disturb them. One ranger reports seeing 182 in one group near Specimen Mountain.

Firearms are not allowed in the park and notice to this effect is posted at all entrances.

2. Regulations in effect April 15, 1918 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort and no one may frighten, hunt or kill, wound or capture any bird or wild animal in the park, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing such birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands under circumstances other than prescribed above, must be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner was not a party to such violation. Firearms will be permitted in the park only on written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or travelling through the park to places beyond must, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and, in proper cases, may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed.

General Information Regarding Rocky Mountain National Park – Season of 1918 (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1918), pp. 26-27.

3. Regulations of December 21, 1932 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying human lives or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of the park.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons engaged in hunting, killing, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals within the limits of the park shall be forfeited to the United States and may be seized by the officers of the park and held pending the prosecution of any person or persons arrested under the charge of violating this regulation, and upon conviction such forfeiture shall be adjudicated as a penalty in addition to other punishment. Such forfeited property shall be disposed of and accounted for by and under authority of the Secretary of the Interior. Possession within said park of the dead bodies or any part thereof of any wild bird or animal shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having the same are guilty of violating this regulation.

During the hunting season arrangements may be made at entrance stations to identify and transport through the park, carcasses of birds or animals killed outside of the park.

Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond, shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, seines, nets, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written permission to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the

loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

NOTE.—The foregoing regulation is in effect a declaration of the law on this subject contained in sections 4 and 5 of the act of Congress approved March 2, 1929 (45 Stat. 1536), accepting cession by the State of Colorado of exclusive jurisdiction of the lands embraced in the Rocky Mountain National Park.

This act by its terms applies to all lands within said park whether in public or private ownership.

General Information Regarding Rocky Mountain National Park (Washington: U.S. Gov't Printing Office, 1933), p. 26.

HAWAII NATIONAL PARK

Regulations in effect 1929 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and hunting, wounding, capturing, or frightening any bird or animal in the park, except the wild goat, as provided in Rule 1, is prohibited. Firearms are prohibited in the park except on written permission of the superintendent, who also has authority to waive inquiry as to the possession of firearms by visitors traveling through the park to places beyond.

Circular of General Information Regarding Hawaii National Park (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1929), p. 14.

ACADIA NATIONAL PARK

Regulations of January 14, and December 21, 1932 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and hunting, killing, wounding, capturing, or frightening any bird or wild animal in the park is prohibited. No light shall be used for the purpose of observing the wild life in the park except as authorized in writing by the superintendent.

Firearms are prohibited in the park except on written permission of the superintendent.

Circular of General Information Regarding Acadia National Park (1932), p. 13; *General Information Regarding Acadia National Park* (1933), p. 16.

LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK

Regulations of January 14, 1932 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of the park.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons engaged in hunting, killing, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals within the limits of the park shall be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service. Possession within said park of the dead bodies or any part thereof of any wild bird or animal shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having the same are guilty of violating this regulation.

During the hunting season arrangements may be made at entrance stations to identify and transport through the park, carcasses of birds or animals killed outside of the park.

Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond, shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

NOTE. The foregoing regulation is in effect a declaration of the law on this subject contained in section 4 and 5 of the act of Congress, approved April 26, 1928 (45 Stat. 463), accepting cession by the State of California of exclusive jurisdiction of the lands embraced within the Lassen Volcanic National Park, and for other purposes.

This act by its terms applies to all lands within said park whether in public or private ownership.

Circular of General Information Regarding Lassen Volcanic National Park (1932), p. 16.

MOUNT MCKINLEY NATIONAL PARK

Regulations of January 29, 1932 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of the park.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons engaged in hunting, killing, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals within the limits of the park shall be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service. Possession within said park of the dead bodies or any part thereof of any wild bird or animal shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having the same are guilty of violating this regulation.

During the hunting season arrangements may be made at entrance stations to identify and transport through the park, carcasses of birds or animals killed outside of the park.

Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond, shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

Circular of General Information Regarding Mount McKinley National Park (1932), pp. 22-23.

ZION AND BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

Regulations of February 6, 1932 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of the park.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons engaged in hunting, killing, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals within the limits of the park shall be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service. Possession within said park of the dead bodies or any part thereof of any wild bird or animal shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having the same are guilty of violating this regulation.

During the hunting season arrangements may be made at entrance stations to identify and transport through the park carcasses of birds or animals killed outside of the park.

Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond, shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

Circular of General Information Regarding Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks (1932), pp. 20-21.

NATIONAL MONUMENTS

1. Regulations of November 19, 1910⁵ –

- (2) No firearms are allowed.⁶

Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1912. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1913), p. 769.

2. Regulations in effect 1930⁷ –

(5) *Hunting*.—The national monuments are sanctuaries for wild life of every sort, and the hunting, killing, wounding, capturing, or frightening of any bird or wild animal in any monument is strictly prohibited, except poisonous snakes or dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury.

Glimpses of Our National Monuments (Washington: U.S. Gov't Printing Office, 1933), p. 71.

N.B. Note that the explicit firearm prohibition of the 1910 regulation has been deleted.

CARLSBAD CAVERNS NATIONAL PARK

Regulations of February 28, 1933 –

- (1) Preservation of Natural Features and Curiosities.

* * *

No canes, umbrellas, or sticks of any kind, or firearms or any other explosive material will be permitted to be taken into the caverns.

⁵ Prior to being promulgated for general application to all national monuments, this same regulation was prescribed for Muir Woods National Monument, on September 10, 1908. *General Information Regarding the National Monuments Set Aside under the Act of Congress Approved June 8, 1906* (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1917), p. 9.

⁶ National Monuments administered by the Department of the Interior at the time, and administered by the National Park Service today, include: Devils Tower, Montezuma Castle, El Morro, Chaco Canyon, Muir Woods, Pinnacles, Tumacacori, Mukuntuweap (now part of Zion NP), Natural Bridges, Gran Quivira, Sitka, Rainbow Bridge, Colorado, and Petrified Forest. See, *Reports of the Department of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1912. Administrative Reports in 2 Volumes. Volume I* (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1913), p. 769.

⁷ National Monuments administered by the National Park Service in 1930: Arches, Aztec Ruins, Capulin Mtn., Casa Grande, Chaco Canyon, Colorado, Craters of the Moon, Devils Tower, Dinosaur, El Morro, Fossil Cycad, Geo. Washington's Birthplace, Glacier Bay, Gran Quiriva, Hovenkeep, Katmai, Lewis and Clark Cavern, Montezuma Castle, Muir Woods, Natural Bridges, Navajo, Petrified Forest, Pinnacles, Pipe Spring, Rainbow Bridge, Scotts Bluff, Shoshone Cavern, Sitka, Tumacacori, Verendyre, Wupatki, and Yucca House. *Glimpses of Our National Monuments* (Washington: U.S. Gov't Printing Office, 1930), pp. I-II.

* * *

(3) Hunting.—The park is a sanctuary for wildlife of every sort, and hunting, killing, wounding, capturing, or frightening any bird or wild animal in the park, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting injury, is prohibited.

Story, Isabella F., *Carlsbad Caverns National Park* (Washington: U.S. Gov't Printing Office, 1935), p. 23.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

Regulations of March 10, 1933 –

(4) Hunting.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, pursuing, or capturing at any time of any bird or wild animal, except dangerous animals, when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying human lives or inflicting personal injury, or taking the eggs of any bird, is prohibited within the limits of said park. Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent.

General Information Regarding Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Washington: 1933), p. 16.

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK

1. Regulations of January 16, 1928⁸ –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort and hunting, killing, wounding, capturing, or frightening any bird or animal in the park is prohibited.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation used by persons engaged in hunting, killing, trapping, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals, or in possession of game killed on the park lands, shall be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service, except in cases where it is shown by satisfactory evidence that the outfit is not the property of the person or persons violating this regulation, and the actual owner was not a party to such violation. Firearms are prohibited in the park except on written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond, shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in

⁸ In a 1928 article entitled “U.S. National Parks Magnificent Schools,” Dr. Frank Thomas, formerly the park naturalist at Yellowstone, gave potential visitors to the parks a few helpful tips, including the following:

Don't carry any firearms. They'll only be sealed at the park entrance, and you lose the gun and a stiffish fine besides if you tamper with the seal.

The Science News-Letter, Vol. 13, No. 366, American Traveler Number (April 14, 1928), pp. 227, 228.

their possession to the first park officer and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

Circular of General Information Regarding Grand Canyon National Park (Washington: U.S. Gov't Printing Office, 1929), p. 43-43.

2. Regulations of February 15, 1932 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of the park.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons engaged in hunting, killing, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals within the limits of the park shall be taken up by the superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service. Possession within said park of the dead bodies or any part thereof of any wild bird or animal shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having the same are guilty of violating this regulation.

During the hunting season arrangements may be made at entrance stations to identify and transport through the park, carcasses of birds or animals killed outside of the park.

Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond, shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

Circular of General Information Regarding Grand Canyon National Park (1932), p. 47.

GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK

Regulations of January 29, 1932 –

(4) *Hunting*.—The park is a sanctuary for wild life of every sort, and all hunting or the killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying life or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of the park.

The outfits, including guns, traps, teams, horses, or means of transportation of every nature or description used by any person or persons engaged in hunting, killing, ensnaring, or capturing birds or wild animals within the limits of the park shall be taken up by the

superintendent and held subject to the order of the Director of the National Park Service. Possession within said park of the dead bodies or any part thereof of any wild bird or animal shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having the same are guilty of violating this regulation.

During the hunting season arrangements may be made at entrance stations to identify and transport through the park, carcasses of birds or animals killed outside of the park.

Firearms are prohibited within the park except upon written permission of the superintendent. Visitors entering or traveling through the park to places beyond, shall, at entrance, report and surrender all firearms, traps, nets, seines, or explosives in their possession to the first park officer, and in proper cases may obtain his written leave to carry them through the park sealed. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss or damage to any firearms, traps, nets, or other property so surrendered to any park officer, nor are park officers authorized to accept the responsibility of custody of any property for the convenience of visitors.

Circular of General Information Regarding Grand Teton National Park (1932), pp. 15-16.

GENERAL REGULATION⁹

Regulation of June 18, 1936 –

(7) *Protection of wildlife.*—The parks and monuments are sanctuaries for wildlife of every sort, and all hunting, or the killing, wounding, frightening, capturing, or attempting to capture at any time of any wild bird or animal, except dangerous animals when it is necessary to prevent them from destroying human lives or inflicting personal injury, is prohibited within the limits of the parks and monuments.

Unauthorized possession within a park or monument of the dead body of any part thereof of any wild bird or animal shall be prima facie evidence that the person or persons having the same are guilty of violating this regulation.

During the hunting season arrangements must be made at entrance stations to identify and transport through the parks and monuments, where necessary, the carcasses of birds or animals legally killed outside the parks and monuments. Failure to make such arrangements shall be deemed a violation of this regulation.

⁹ The general regulation states it is “for the proper use, management, government, and protection of, and maintenance of good order in all the National Parks, National Monuments, National Military Parks, National Historical Parks, Battlefield Sites, and miscellaneous memorials which are, or hereafter may be, under the administrative jurisdiction of the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior: *Provided, however,* That these rules and regulations shall not apply to National Cemeteries or to National Capital Parks. All previous rules and regulations . . . except such local subsidiary regulations as are continued in force under the provisions hereof . . . are hereby repealed.” *Id.* Such “subsidiary regulations” included explicit special regulations, such as those for mining in Death Valley National Monument (section 16), and the prohibition on fishing in Muir Woods National Monument (section 9), contained in the general regulation itself. Other park-specific regulations were clearly contemplated therein, for example, those regulating the hours of swimming at Hot Springs National Park (section 2(m)), and restricting the use of spring water at Platt National Park (section 4). No special regulations, either explicit or implicit, were included with respect to firearms. *Id.* at 673-75.

(8) *Firearms, etc.*—Firearms, explosives, traps, seines, and nets are prohibited within the parks and monuments, except upon written permission of the superintendent or custodian. Visitors entering or traveling through the parks and monuments to places beyond shall, at entrance, report and, if required to do so, surrender all such objects in their possession to the first park or monument officer, and, in proper cases, may obtain his written permission to carry them through the park or monument sealed. Failure to obtain such written permission shall be deemed a violation of this regulation. The Government assumes no responsibility for the loss of, or damage to, any such objects so surrendered to any park or monument officer, nor are park or monument officers authorized to accept the responsibility or custody of any other property for the convenience of the visitors.

1 *Federal Register* 672, 673-74 (June 27, 1936).

APPENDIX A

Original Rules and Regulations of Yellowstone National Park

1st. All hunting, fishing, or trapping within the limits of the Park, except for purposes of recreation, or to supply food for visitors or actual residents, is strictly prohibited; and no sales of fish or game taken within the park shall be made outside of its boundaries.

2nd. Persons residing within the park, or visiting it for any purpose whatever, are required under severe penalties to extinguish all fires which it may be necessary to make, before leaving them. No fires must be made within the park except for necessary purposes.

3rd. No timber must be cut in the park without a written permit from the superintendent.

4th. Breaking the siliceous or calcareous borders or deposits surrounding or in the vicinity of the springs or geysers for any purpose, and all removal, carrying away, or sale of specimens found within the park, without the consent of the superintendent, is strictly prohibited.

5th. No person will be permitted to reside permanently within the limit of the park without permission from the Department of the Interior, and any person now living within the park shall vacate the premises occupied by him within thirty days after having been served with a written notice so to do, by the superintendent or his deputy, said notice to be served upon him in person or left at his place of residence.

Source: Report of the Secretary of the Interior; Being Part of the Message and Documents Communicated to the Two Houses of Congress at the Beginning of the Third Session of the Forty-Fifth Congress, in Two Volumes (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1878), vol. I, pp. 993-94.

APPENDIX B

1881 Rules and Regulations of Yellowstone National Park

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4. Hunting, trapping, and fishing, except for purposes of procuring food for visitors or actual residents, are prohibited by law; and no sales of game or fish taken inside the Park shall be made for purposes of profit within its boundaries or elsewhere.

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Approved by Sec'y of the Interior S.J. Kirkwood, May 4, 1881.

Source: *Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior on the Operations of the Department for the Year Ended June 30, 1881, in Four Volumes* (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1882), vol. II, p. 819.

APPENDIX C

1888 Rules and Regulations of Yellowstone National Park

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5. Hunting, capturing, injuring, or killing any bird or animal within the Park is prohibited. The outfits of persons found hunting or in possession of game killed in the Park will be subject to seizure and confiscation.

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Approved by Sec'y of the Interior William F. Vilas, July 1, 1888.

Source: *Report of the Secretary of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1888. In Six Volumes* (Washington: Gov't Printing Office, 1888), vol. III, p. 656.