

The Custer National Forest - As It Was -

2010 Custer National Forest Retiree Reunion

***First Supervisor's Office
Ashland, MT - 1908***



***Broadwater Avenue
Billings, MT - 1964***



***Present Supervisor's Office
Billings, MT - 2010***





Big Park RS
Beartooth National Forest ~1920s



Canyon RS
Beartooth National Forest - 1920s



Cooke City RS
Beartooth National Forest ~1924



East Rosebud RS
Beartooth National Forest~1920s

A Few of Our Stations

- Beartooth -



Line Creek RS
Beartooth National Forest ~1920s



Red Lodge Creek RS
Beartooth National Forest ~1920s



Rock Creek RS
Absarokee Forest Reserve ~1906



Sage Creek RS
Beartooth National Forest ~1920s

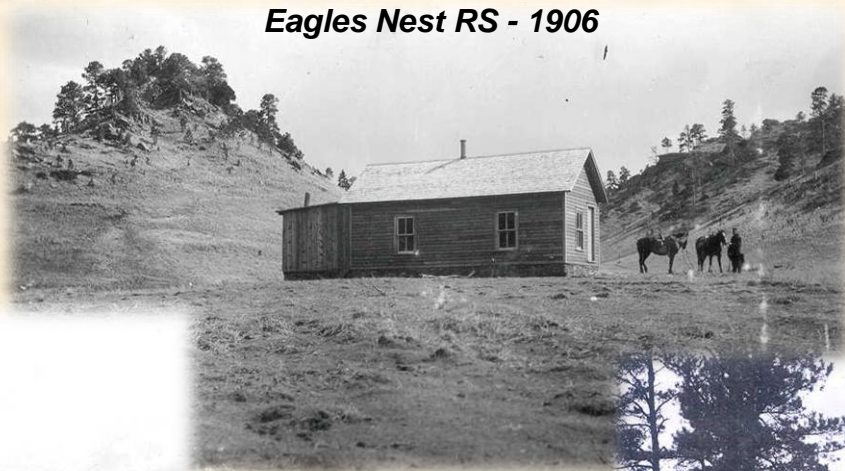
***Sioux National Forest - Supervisor's Office
Camp Crook, South Dakota ~1917***



***The first building in the U. S. built for the sole use of the Forest Service
- built in 1909 at a cost of \$1,100 -***

- Sioux -

Eagles Nest RS - 1906



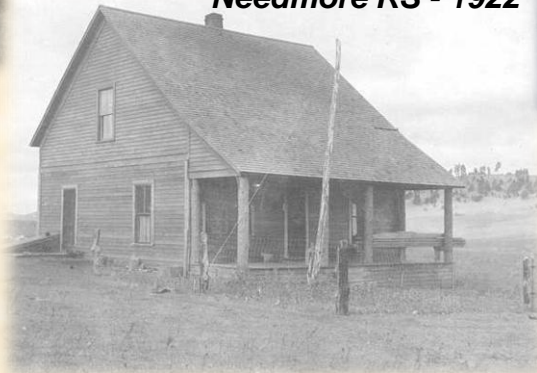
Jessie Elliott RS - 1922



McClary RS - 1918



Needmore RS - 1922



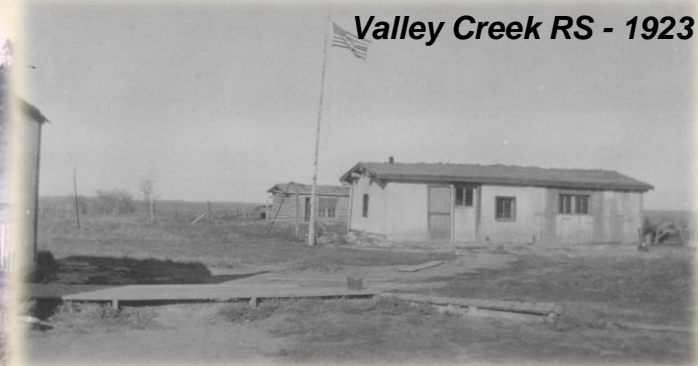
Maverick RS - 1913



Tie Creek RS - 1920



Valley Creek RS - 1923



Fort Howes RS - 1918



Poker Jim RS - 1910



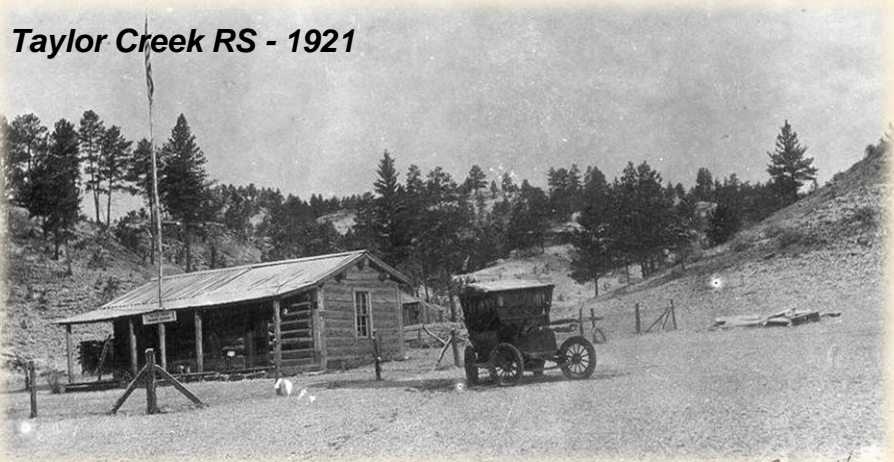
Poker Jim RS



- Ashland -



Taylor Creek RS - 1921



7300-11

Whitetail RS - 1921



7805-23

In 1954 the administration of Land Utilization (LU) Project Lands in western North Dakota and northwest South Dakota was assigned to the Custer National Forest and in 1966 the Sheyenne National Grasslands were transferred to the Custer National Forest



***Columnar juniper
Burning Coal Veins
Medora District***



***Chimney Butte
McKenzie County***



***Badlands
Grand River District***

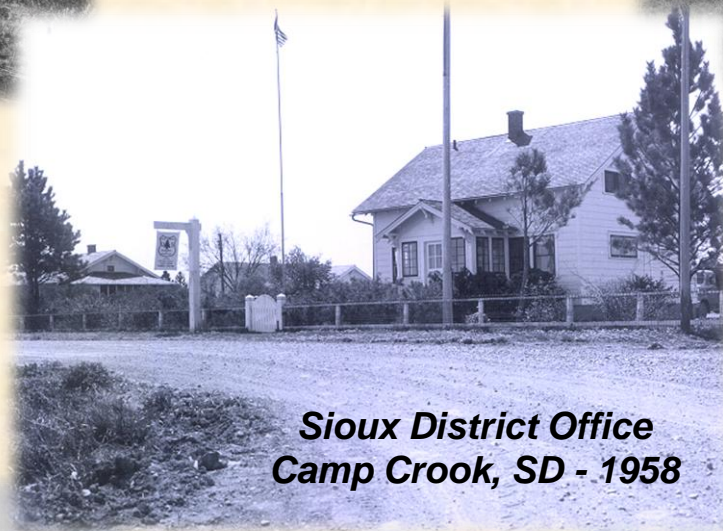
***Beartooth District Office - Red Lodge
August 1963***



***Ashland District Office – Ashland
September 1938***



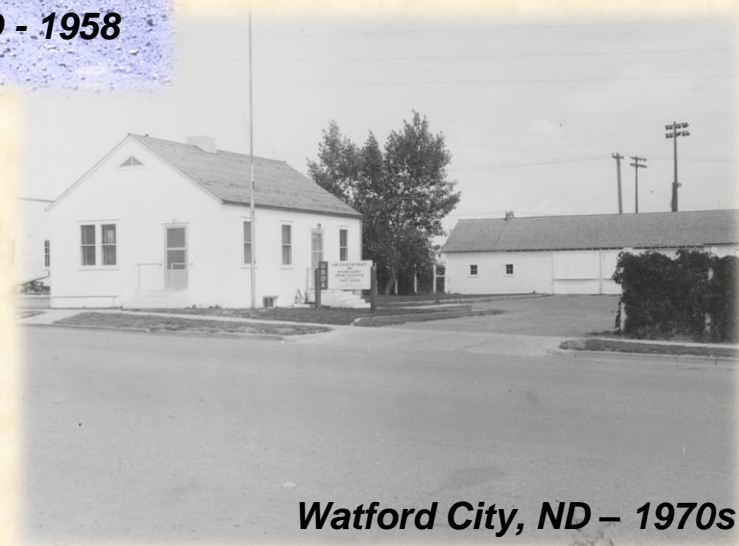
***A few offices
- later on -***



***Sioux District Office
Camp Crook, SD - 1958***



***Medora Administrative Buildings
- 1960***



Watford City, ND – 1970s

In 1998 four grassland units—the Little Missouri National Grassland, the Sheyenne National Grassland, the Cedar River National Grassland and the Grand River National Grassland located in North and South Dakota—split off from the Custer National Forest to form the ~1.2 million acre Dakota Prairie Grasslands.



***Today, the Custer National Forest consists of three Districts
the Beartooth, the Ashland and the Sioux
encompassing ~1.3 million acres in Montana and South Dakota.***

In 2008 the Custer National Forest celebrated its 100th anniversary.



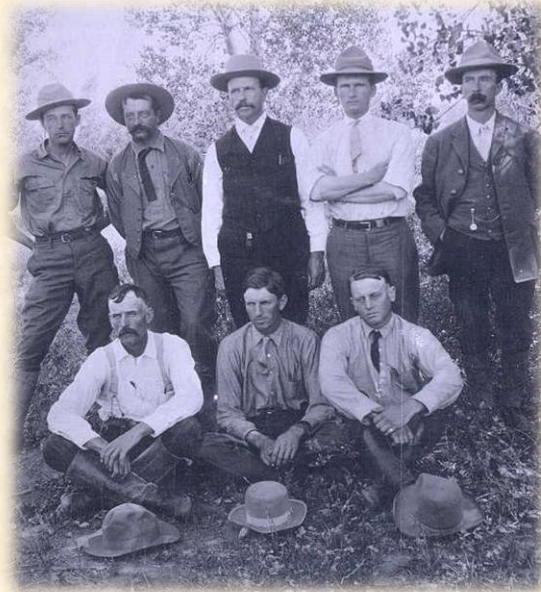
***Since 2009 the Custer National Forest and the Gallatin National Forest have
been experimenting with shared leadership positions
with Forest Supervisor Mary Erickson and
Deputy Forest Supervisor Chris Worth.***



Early day dudes and duties on the Custer



***Ranger Dave F. McGill
Sioux District - 1909***



***Ranger Jack Thompson
1918***



***First automobile in Harding, SD
Forest Guard Louis W. Shevling on right
July 1911***



***K. D. Swan
Sioux NF - 1912***



Sioux District fire-fighters - 1918



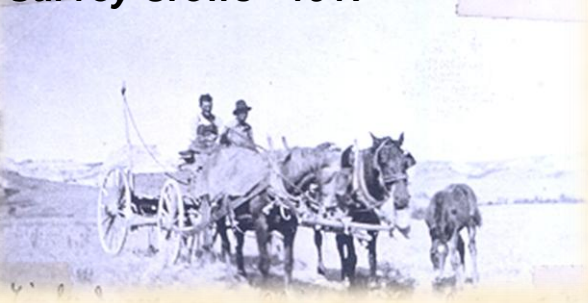
Land Classification Camp - 1910



Forest Officer on Poker Jim Butte signaling to lookout 30 miles away

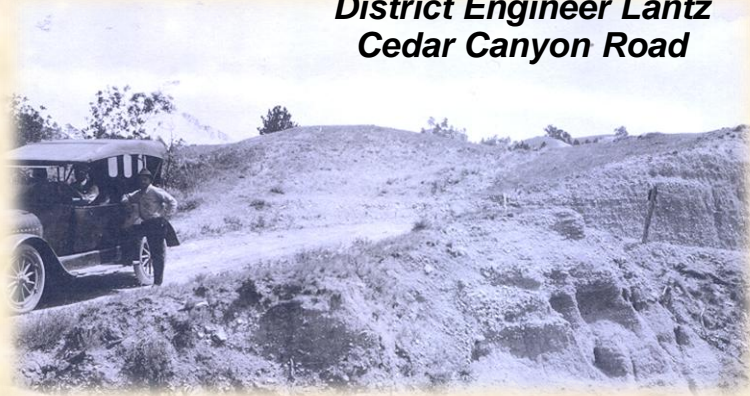


Timber Survey Crews - 1917



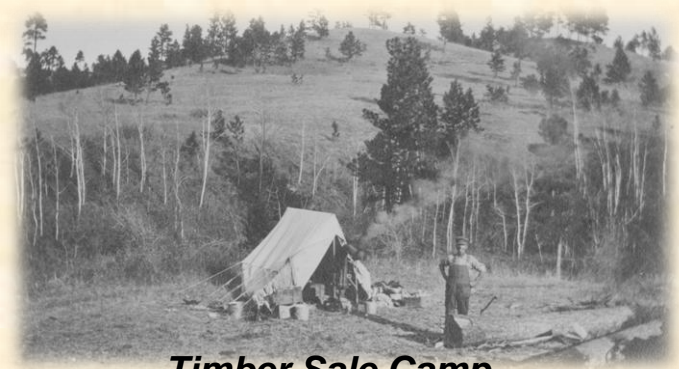
Plane table survey - 1912

Timber Cruising Crew - 1910

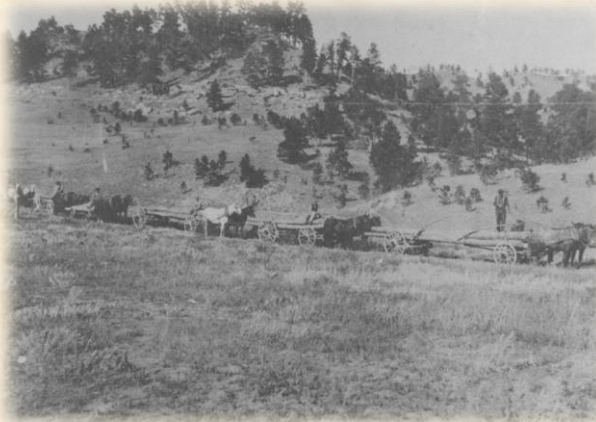


District Engineer Lantz Cedar Canyon Road

...Timber Harvest



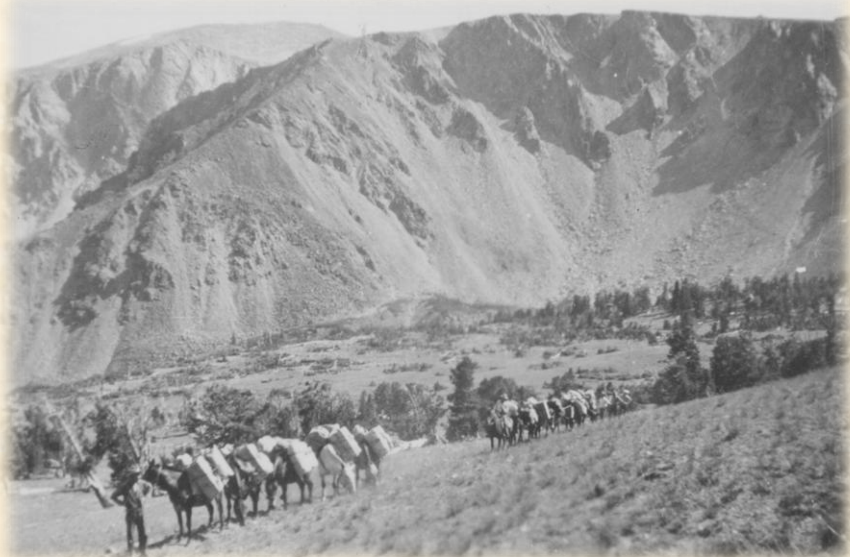
**Timber Sale Camp
East Short Pine Hills - 1908**



**Joe Papez
Beartooth National Forest - employee 1928-1940**



Road & Trail Construction



Recreation



Willow Creek Ski Hill



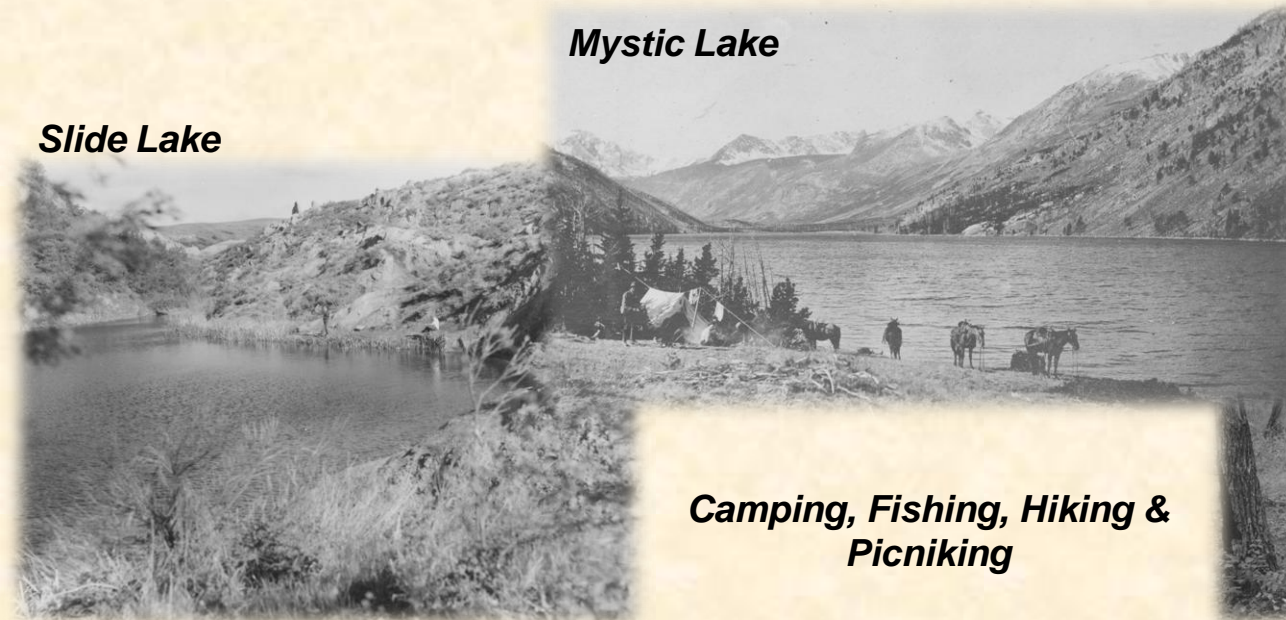
Hunting



***Ikerman/Beartooth Ranch
guest ranch***

Mystic Lake

Slide Lake



***Camping, Fishing, Hiking &
Picnicking***

Ekalaka Park CG



1947



Limestone Butte

Fire Lookout Towers

~1956



Diamond Butte

1952



Tri Point

Yager Butte



1960

Poker Jim



1948

1962

Organizations - Special Use Permits



**Girls and boys at Billings Lions Camp
Beartooth District – August 1951**



CAMP SENIA RECREATION CAMP

CAMPING
MOUNTAIN CLIMBING
FISHING
HUNTING, KODAKING
SADDLE HORSE
WALKING TRIPS



**Boy Scout Camp
near Whitetail RS - 1921**



**Billings Rotary Club Camp
Beartooth District – August 1941**

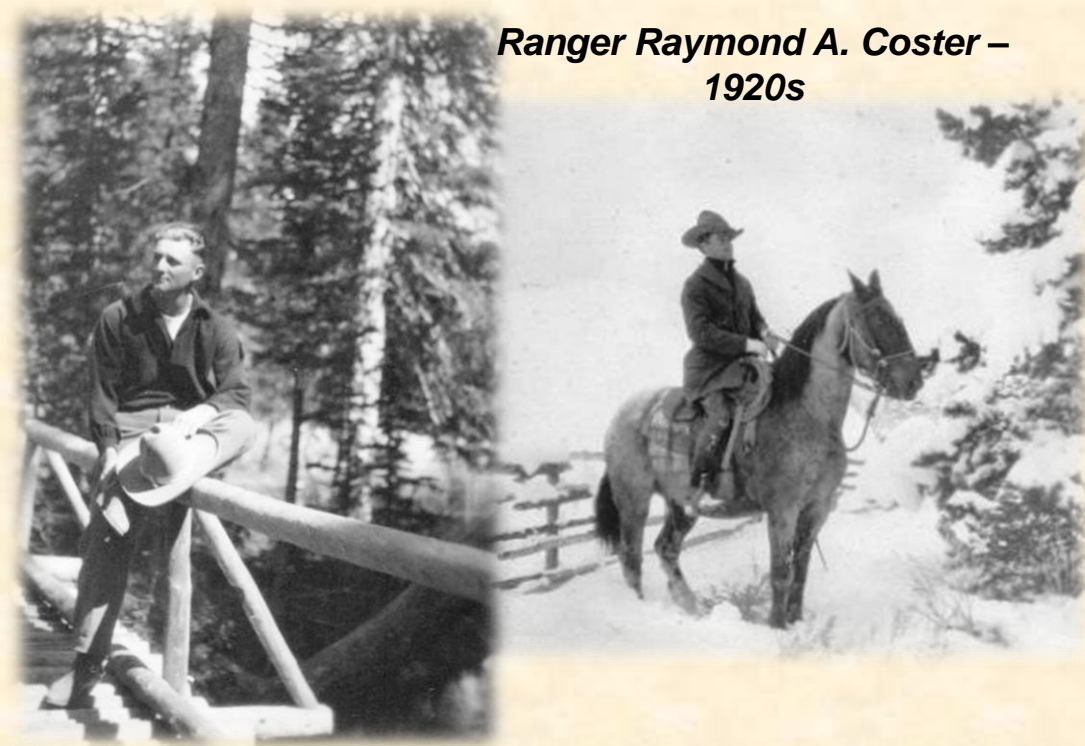


Fred Inabnit – Mountaineer of the Beartooths



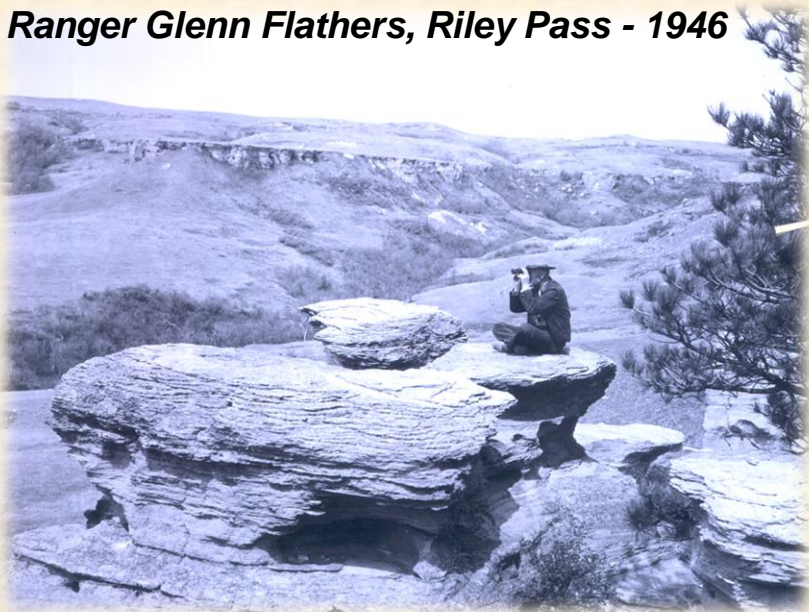
David Branger (TO Bar Ranch), Charles Umland (Beartooth Fireguard), Harold Rixon, R. T. Ferguson (Beartooth Forest Supervisor), Carl Eden at the Fred Inabnit plaque on the shore of Snow Lake - 1930.

**Ranger Raymond A. Coster –
1920s**

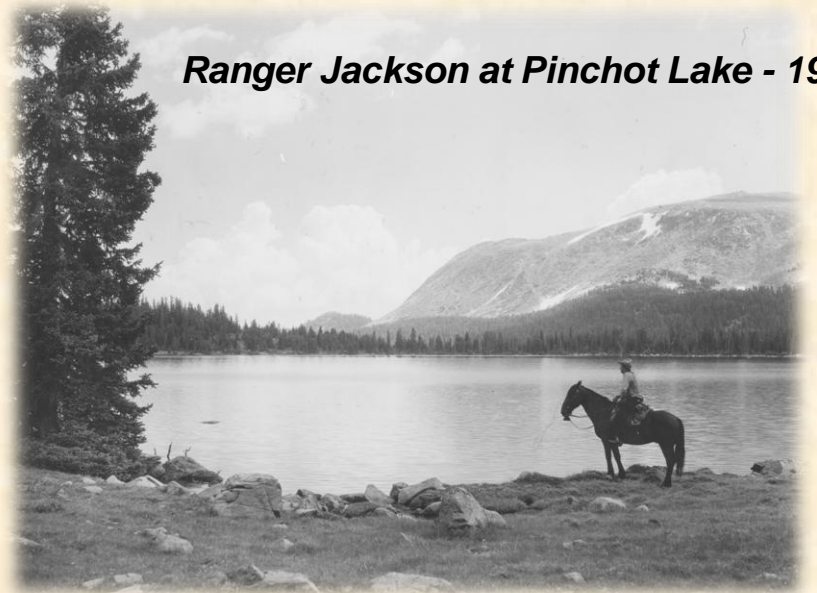


Supervisor W. J. Derrick - 1938

Ranger Glenn Flathers, Riley Pass - 1946



Ranger Jackson at Pinchot Lake - 1938

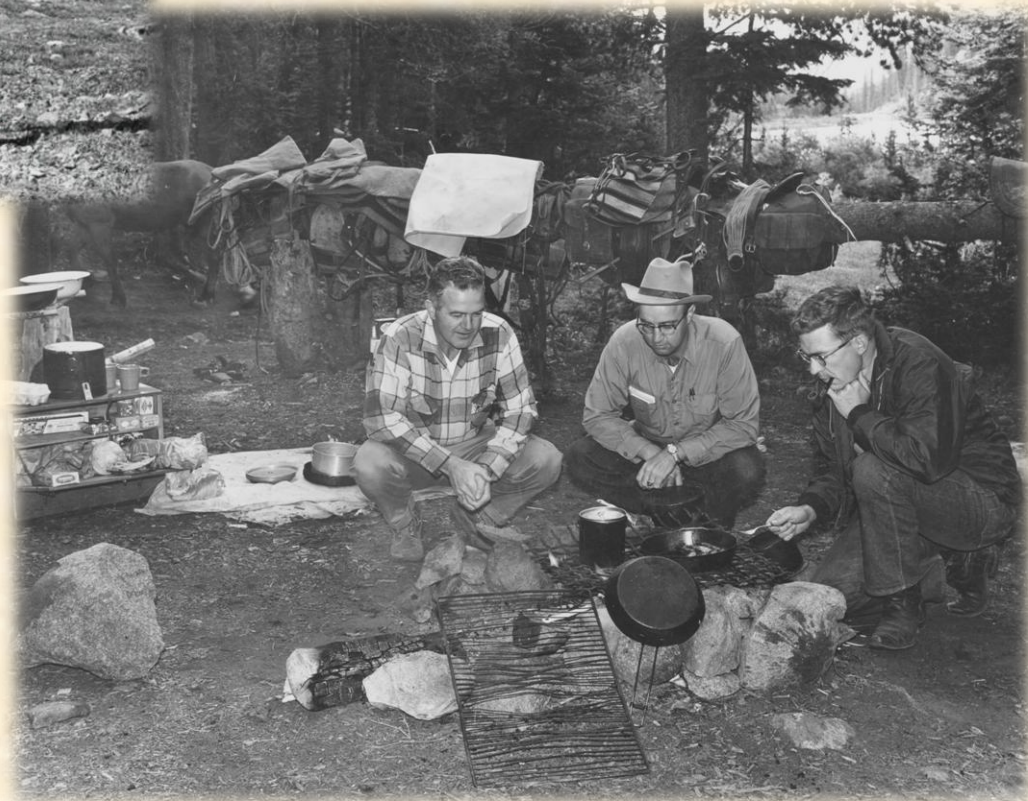


**Jack Royle (Assistant Ranger)
and Boy Scouts planting trees in
Rock Creek Burn, Beartooth District - 1955**



**Hal Smith (Alternate Ranger)
and Boy Scouts planting trees in
Rock Creek Burn - 1955**

***Hank Rate, Thad Lowary and Bob Van Gieson
– 1962 Granite Peak climb attempt***



***A Beartooth Backcountry Breakfast
Bob Van Gieson, Jack Royal and Don Lantz***



Sage Creek Cabin – variable plot cruising school students and instructors; (left to right) Monte Suppola, Hank Greitl, Gary Nelson, Bob Mathison (RO Instructor), Gene Owen, Jim Watson (RO Instructor), Jack Royle, George Racely, George Kokko, (lady cook), Darrol Harrison, (lady cook), Dave Filius, Jim Abbott, Don Watsch, Ode Cusker, Howard Challinor – May 1963



***John Padden (Range Technician) and Darrol Harrison (Assistant Ranger)
Bad Canyon Allotment, Beartooth District – September 1964***



***Bill Evans (Forest Supervisor) and Roy Wise (Forest Engineer)
at Rimrock Lake***

***Sioux District Ranger Glenn Flathers
and family - 1946***



***Sioux District Fire Control Assistant
Smokey Cunningham and family - 1946***





Sioux District Ranger Bernie Alt and family - 1960

***Sioux District Ranger
Monte Suppola and family - 1963***

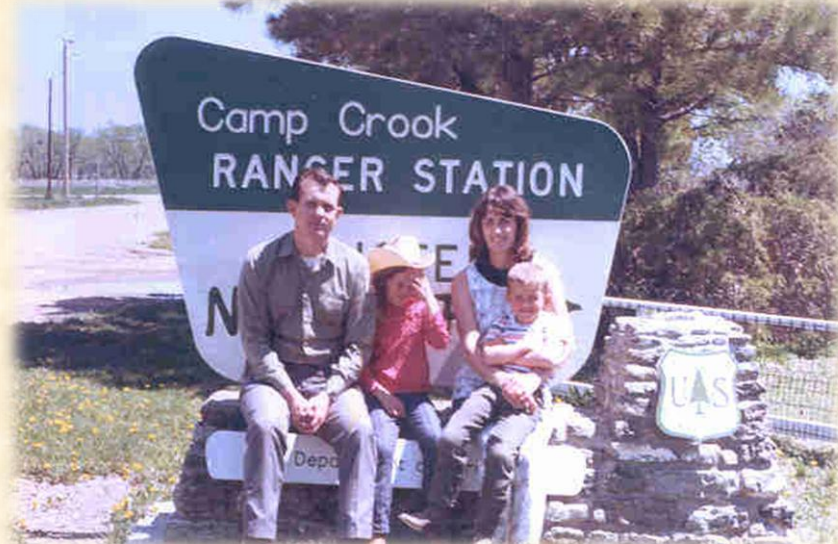




***Jake (Sioux District Radio Technician) and Shirley Jacobson
and family***



***Sioux District Ranger
John Sherred and family
- 1967***

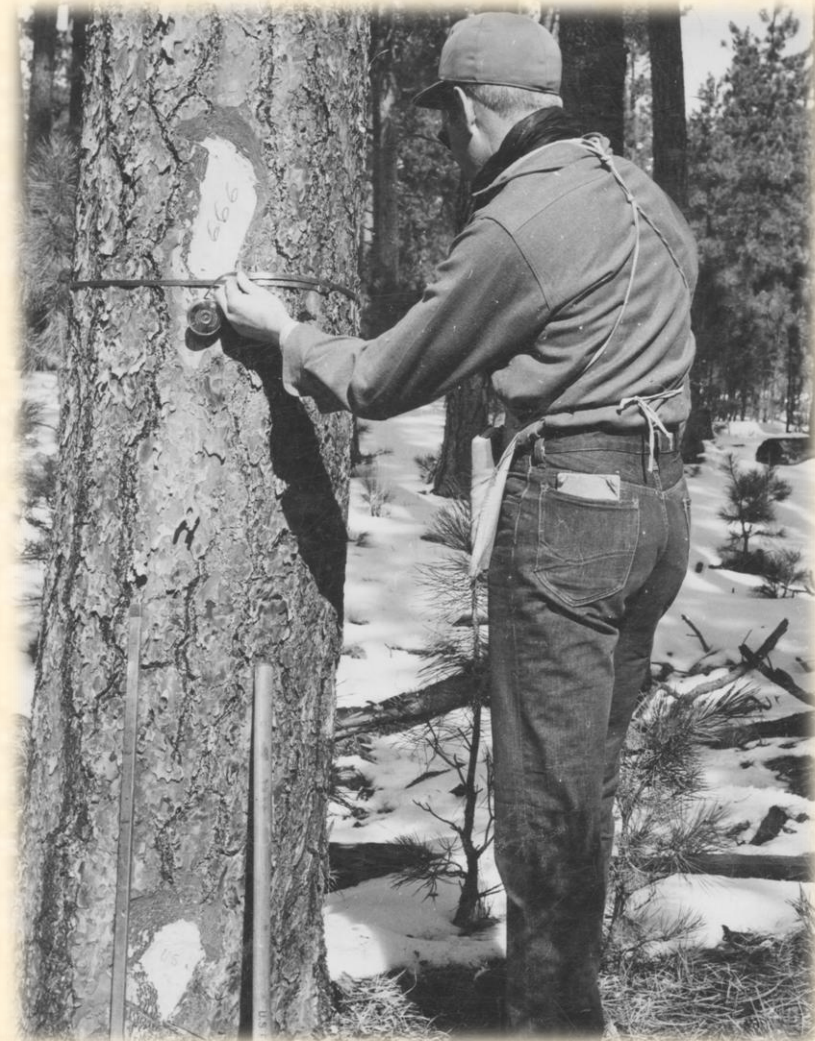


***Sioux District Forester
Dale, and Judy Shanholtzer and family
- 1967***

***Wallace Owens and Roy VanDewerker
Sioux District - 1967***



**Walter Derrick and Roy Phillips
(Forest Supervisor)
Ashland Ranger Station - August 1948**



**Ranger Carl Simpson measuring D. B. H.
in the Black Sale Area, Ashland District - March
1951**

The 1970s and 1980s



***Horseshoe Cave excavation - 1976
Ashland District Ranger Chuck McGlothlin at screen controls***

Gwen McKittrick



**Shorty Creek rock check dam
Ashland District- 1960**



**Uranium mine pit
North Cave Hills - 1964**



**Mine claim marker
Beartooth District - 1969**



***Robert Kramlich (Engineering Tech, Medora District) and
Ronnie Geiger at Poker Jim Butte - September 1967***

**Earl Williams (Engineering Tech, Medora Ranger District)
at Magpie Creek, McKenzie Ranger District - April 1962**



**Bob Richmond (Range Con) at a petrified stump
Little Missouri National Grasslands - 1960s**

**Ranger Orian "Ode" Cusker
overlooking Pasture 9-A
Grand River District - April 1962**



**Ranger Arnold Wisness
and Boy Scouts
planting trees at Sather Dam
- May 1966**





***Forest Supervisor
John Forsman
(1952-1963)
Betty and family***

***Forest Supervisor
Bill Evans (1963-1971)
and family***





***Left to right : Gary Wetsteon, Jim Mann, Dave Lee, Mike Burnside, John Inman,
Dave Filius, John Gibson, Wayne Smetanka, Don Wisler, Chuck McGlothlin
– April 1982***



Left to right: Jim Mann, Phil Jaquith, Dave Lee, John Inman, Cary Frost, Fred Dauber, Jim Fishburn, Mike Burnside, Dave Aicher, Ron Stellingwert, Jerry Reese, Don Wisser, Dave Filius, Robert Riddle, Wayne Smetanka, John Gibson, Curt Glasoe - April 1982



**Bill Evans, Ken Gallick,
Gary Wetzsteon, Evelyn Caudill
- 1969**

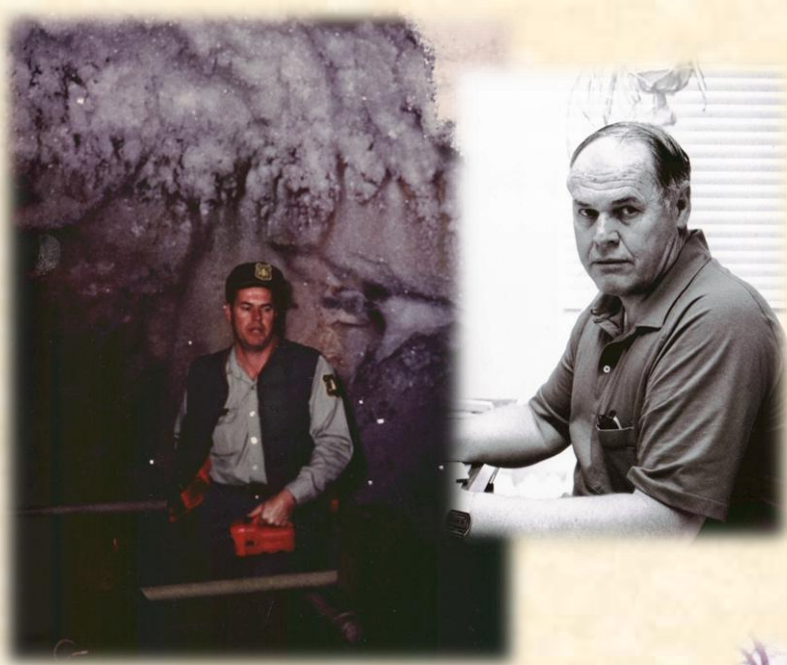


**Vern Thompson, Gary Wetzsteon,
Ken Gallick, Gwen McKittrick
- 1969**



**Dayton Nelson, Norma Koski,
Betty Beitman - 1972**

George Schaller
Big Ice Cave
- 1979



**(front) Jim Mann (Forest Supervisor), Dave Aicher (Ranger),
Dave Filius (Deputy Forest Supervisor)**
**(back) Todd Phillipe (Timber), Roy VanDewerker (Forestry),
Charlie O'Dell (Range Con),
Bob Gilman (Range Con), Gail Arnold (Clerk)**
- November 1980



**Bill Fortune, Jim Mann, Beverly Thompson,
Dave Filius, Mike McNeill**

Camp Needmore Range/Timber Conference - 1986



***(front, 1 to r) Dave Aicher, Jeff DiBenedetto, Fred Dauber, Mark Petroni, Tom Heintz, Wayne Smetanka
(2nd, 1 to r) Larry Theivagt, Lee Schmunk, Tom Komberec, Ted Rieger, Rob Hamilton, Bernedette Braun
(3rd, 1 to r) Margaret Walker, Dave Filius, Rose Heine, Scott Reitz, John Edwards, John Inman
(back, 1 to r) Glenn Kostelecky, Charlie O'Dell, John Logan, Bill Fortune, Jim Shell, Bob Anderson, Mike McNeill***



***Left to right; Norm Smeyers (Geologist), Joleen Reed (A. O., shared with the Helena NF),
Mike Beckes (Forest Archaeologist/Recreation Staff),
John Inman (Deputy Forest Supervisor), Wayne Smetanka (Fire/Aviation/Timber Staff),
Jim Fishburn (Range Staff), Dave Lee (Forest Engineer), John Edwards (Wildlife/Fisheries),
Dave Filius (Forest Supervisor), Carl Wolf (Lands Staff/Appeals Coordinator)
- 1987***



***Left to right; John Inman (Deputy Forest Supervisor), Phil Jaquith (Beartooth Ranger),
Dave Aicher (Sioux Ranger), Bill Fortune (Sheyenne Ranger),
Tom Heintz (Grand River Ranger), Dick Farrar (Medora Ranger),
Fred Dauber (Ashland Ranger), Wayne Paintner (McKenzie Ranger),
Dave Filius (Forest Supervisor)***

- 1987

Dan MacIntyre and Ron Stellingwerf
- 1980



Bernie Lea

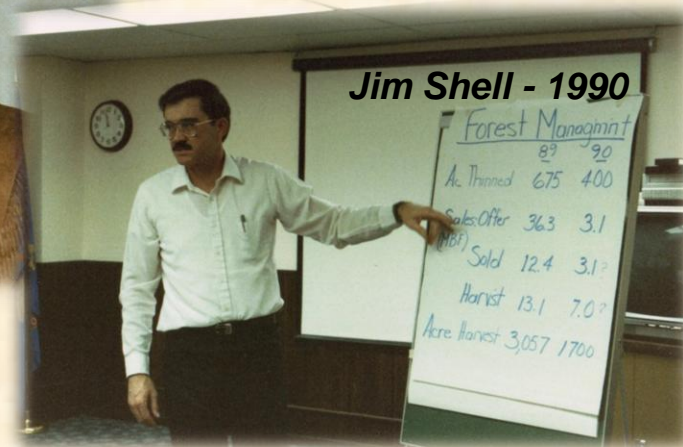
Dan MacIntyre



Lou Bates



Jim Shell - 1990

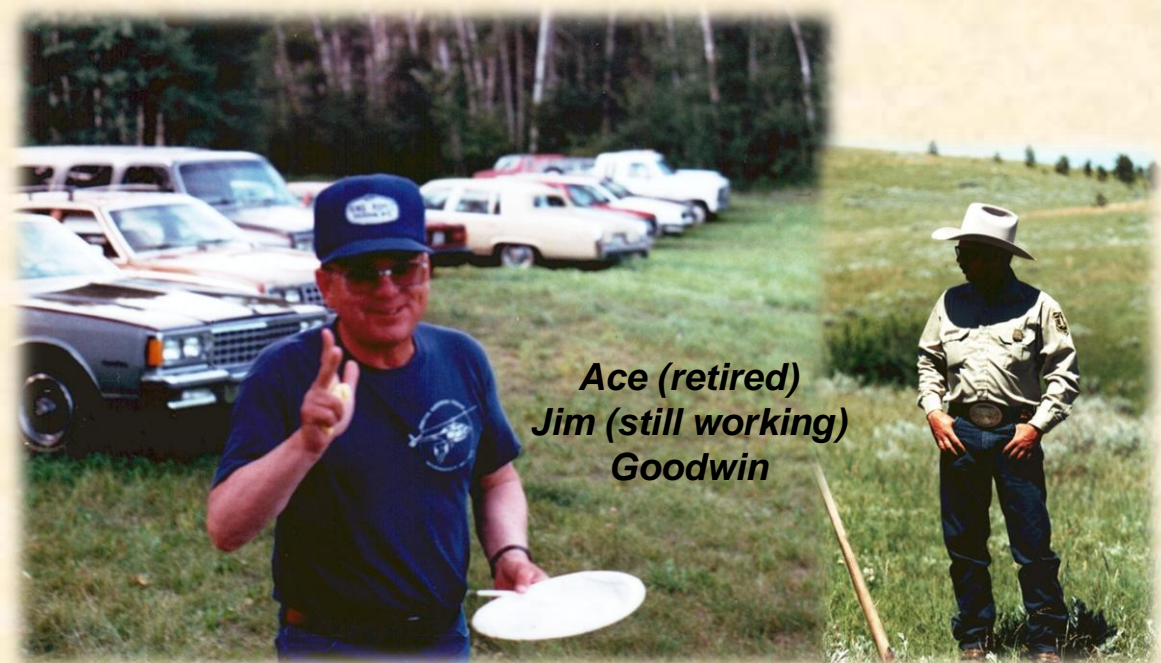




George and Theora Mumm and family



Dale and Judy Shanholtzer



*Ace (retired)
Jim (still working)
Goodwin*



Gay Kary



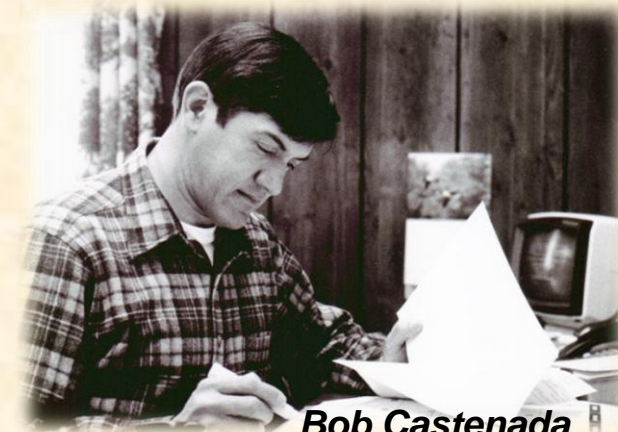
Dean Bassett, Jim Mann



Mary Bell Lunsford



Dave Lee, Will Clark

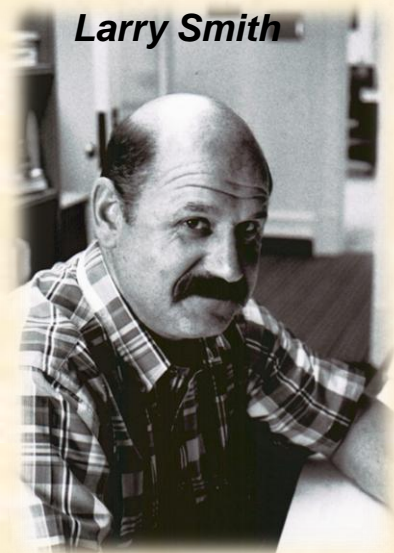


Bob Castenada



Carl Fager

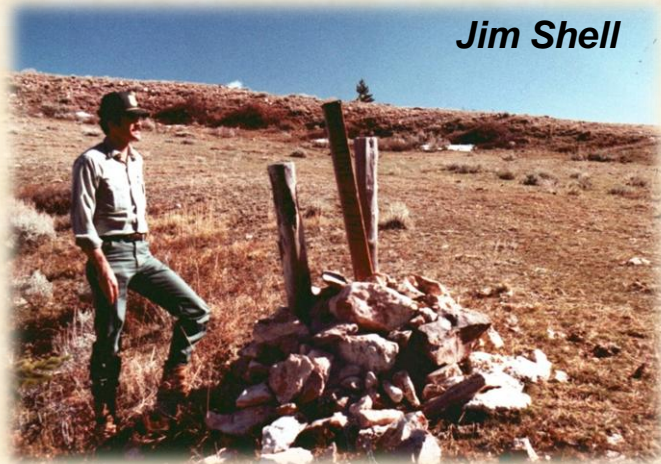
Larry Smith



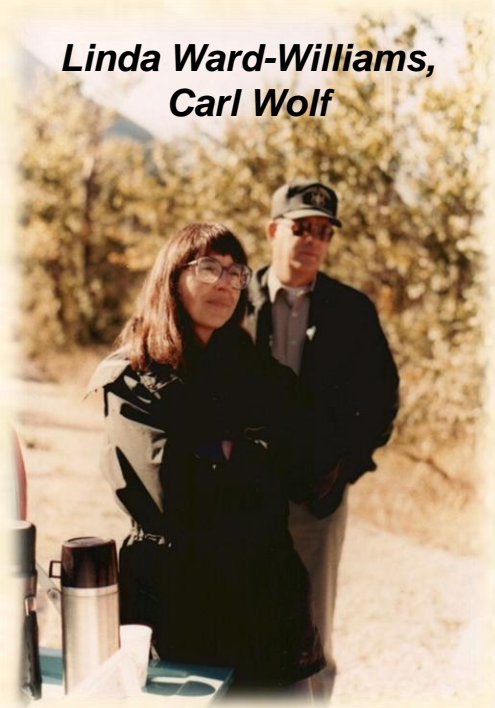
Lee McConnel, Mike Beckes



Jim Shell



**Linda Ward-Williams,
Carl Wolf**



Jim Grey



**Halcyon La Point , Gary Coats
and roofing crew**



Gerard Baker

Barbara Robbins



Sherry Milburn



Dixie Young





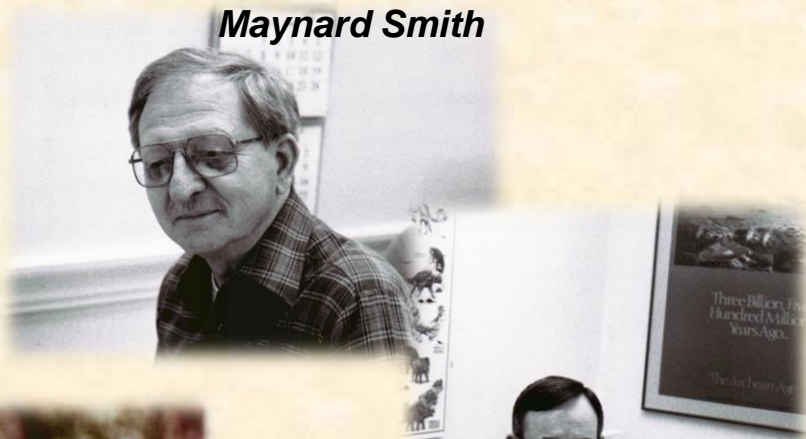
Halcyon La Point
Still Working!



Louise Odegaard



Bob Gilman

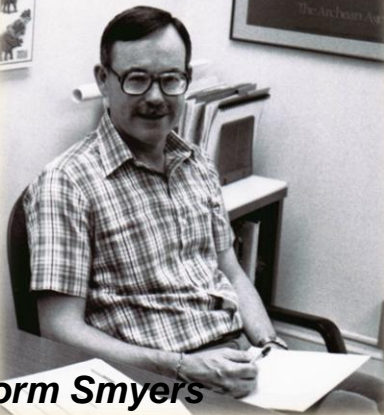


Maynard Smith

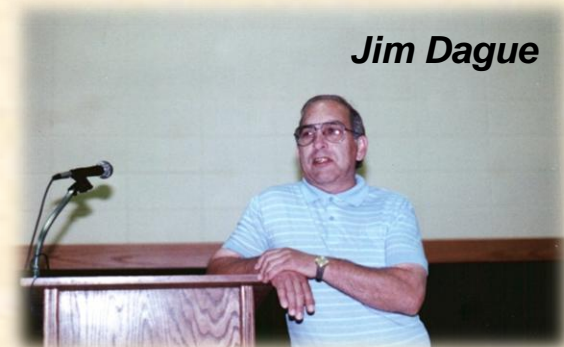
Babete Anderson
Still Working!



Sue Zike



Norm Smyers



Jim Dague



Jeff DiBenedetto
Still Working!



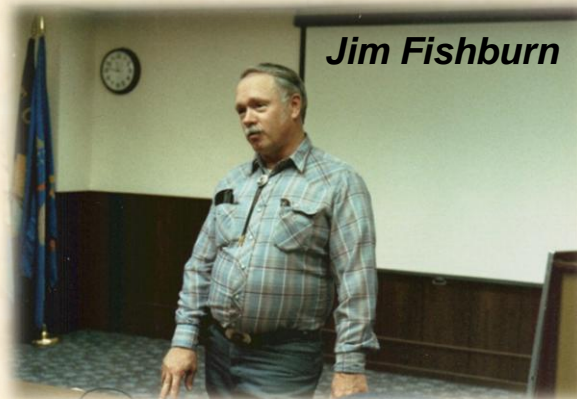
Bob Lucine



Barb Pitman
Still Working!



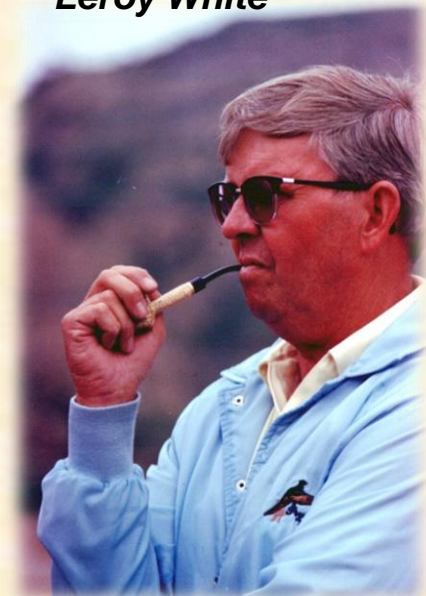
John Edwards



Jim Fishburn



Nancy
Curriden



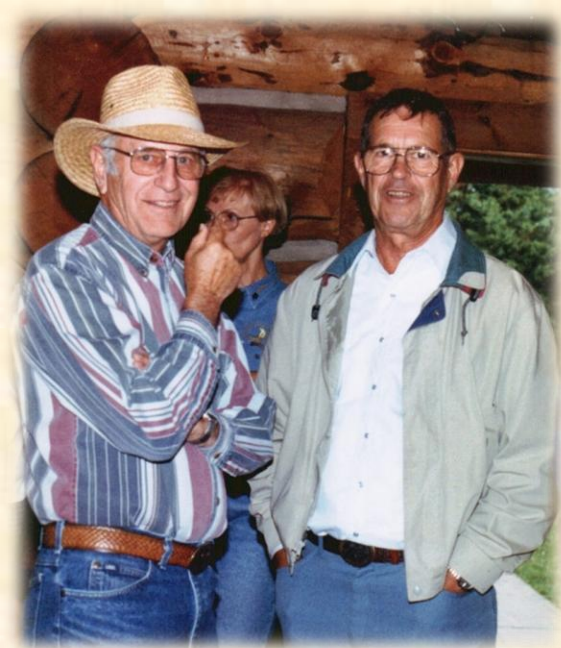
Leroy White



Leta Brown



Marcia Thomas



Bob Kramlich, Monte Suppola



**Ruth McGlothlin, Della Kramlich,
Ingeborg Howard**



**Mildred McKittrick,
Caroline Hoem**

Gary & Mary Osier



Shirley & Bob Jacobson

Chuck & Maggie Teague





**Ace Goodwin, John Sandmeyer,
Bob Miller**



Bob & Helen Van Gieson



**Frieda Miller, Addie Goodwin,
Katie Sandmeyer**



Jack & Betty Royal



Dorine & Hank Rate

**Sue Fortune, Barb Riveland,
Bill Fortune**

Willard John & Juanita Padden



***With fondness we recall many memories of the Custer National Forest
“As It Was”,
and thank all the people that helped shape its varied character and unique landscapes.***



The Custer



***The Custer is a Forest that's some different from the rest
Some see tremendous problems, others think that it's the best
It's Montana's snow capped mountains, and Dakota's open plains
It's the bitter cold of winter and the springs torrential rains***



***Twelve thousand feet of drop from the high point to the least
And nearly seven hundred miles from the west edge to the east
Its wilderness and rivers; deer elk and mountain sheep
Grizzly bears and prairie dogs; eagles, hawks, and snakes that creep***



***It's the gray and red of badlands, and it's lakes of azure blue
It's the western prairie orchid and the prairie chicken too
There's parts are densely timbered and there's others with tall grass
It's a home for lots of cattle, or a place for oil and gas***



***Yes the Custer as a forest is a mighty diverse place
Filled with history and grandeur, wind and sun and lots of space
But the Custer's also people, who with blood and sweat and tears
Help protect this precious treasure for the public, through the years***



***There's a history of conflict; here the white and red men fought
And there still are diverse values coming from the things we're taught
But this land is still the peoples, so we'll try to do what's right
As we move into the future, working hard with all our might***



***That the people who are watching from the sidelines or above
May understand that what we do, is done mostly out of love
Love for people and for nature, as we try to do our best
No doubt the Custer's people will stand strong and meet the test***

Jim Fishburn

Retired SO Resource Program Manager