



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



White Grass Ranch - Cabin #1158

Guest Information



Grand Teton National Park



This booklet is property of Cabin #1158 at White Grass Ranch.  
Please take care to see that it remains within this facility.





**Welcome Guests!** The staff of the Western Center for Historic Preservation (WCHP) welcomes you to White Grass. Whether you are staying a night, several days, or longer, we hope your stay will be pleasant, restful, productive, and replenishing. Please let us know if there are things we can do to make your time here a grand experience, enough so that you will want to come stay with us again.

**To Our Volunteers!** Whether a returning volunteer or new volunteer, we (WCHP staff) welcome you and thank you for your dedication and contribution to the preservation of cultural resources in Grand Teton National Park. We greatly appreciate your commitment to preserving our park’s cultural resources, and are grateful for your donation of time and hard work. The WCHP is only able to achieve their far-reaching goals with the help of our dedicated volunteers!

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If you have any questions not addressed in this binder, please feel free to contact our White Grass Ranch caretaker, in the Hammond Cabin.

# I. The Western Center for Historic Preservation

The Western Center for Historic Preservation (WCHP) is a preservation education center that serves parks throughout the Intermountain, Pacific West, and Alaska Regions of the National Park Service as part of the Vanishing Treasures program. The WCHP strives to reduce the maintenance backlog on cultural resources by promoting the preservation of traditional craft skills through education and hands-on training opportunities at historic properties throughout the American west. In response to a shortage of preservation skills and critical resources imperative to the preservation of rustic architecture in our western parks, the WCHP was founded in 2005 and based in Grand Teton National Park. The National Trust for Historic Preservation, in recognition of this need, collaborated with the National Park Service to develop a plan to establish the necessary skills and resources required for the stewardship of cultural resources.

WCHP offers a full range of services for the preservation of rustic architecture specializing in log structure, wood frame, and vernacular preservation of all types of construction. Our woodworking shop specializes in the reproduction and preservation of architectural millwork including doors, windows, and molding that are no longer commercially available. WCHP provides project planning, management, and execution for any level of treatment. Additionally, skilled craftspersons can provide training to clients seeking skill enhancement for their employees.



**Below:** Dewey Gifford Barn, Capitol Reef National Park. WCHP project in 2008.



## Areas of Expertise

Log Cabins, Barns, Bridges, Fire Lookouts

- Wall and sill log repair and replacement
- Log crown preservation
- Rafter tail and roof substructure repair
- Lifting and leveling structures
- Chinking and daubing, wood or masonry
- Fencing and landscape preservation of corrals
- Log hewing, corner notching

Vernacular and Conventional Frame Structures

- Exterior siding replacement
- Structural repair walls, floor and roof systems
- Mothballing, ventilation
- Roofing replacement, shingle, shake, metal, sod, board and baton
- Painting, finishing, and refinishing



Masonry

- Chimney re-pointing
- Pathways and walkway concrete repair
- Foundation replacement and repair
- Stone wall repair/replacement, repointing
- Dry-stack (stone) preservation
- Mortar analysis
- Exterior stucco and interior plastering

Architectural Millwork

- Window and door preservation/repair work
- Reproduction of windows, doors, moldings
- Cabinet and furniture reproduction, (Molesworth)
- Finish and paint analysis



Below: WCHP headquarters in Moose, WY.



## Location

The WCHP is located in Grand Teton National Park in northwest Wyoming. The center workshop and offices are located in Moose, WY, a small town at the southeastern entrance to Grand Teton National Park. The center's summer operations are centered at the White Grass Dude Ranch, a historic dude ranch located approximately 5 miles south of Moose. The thirteen cabins at the White Grass Dude Ranch are currently being rehabilitated by the WCHP for use as an National Park Service (NPS) preservation training center. The project is due to be completed in 2016, the 100th anniversary of the NPS.

The Grand Teton National Park website, [www.nps.gov/GRTE](http://www.nps.gov/GRTE), includes additional information about the park and the area. Check out our blog for posts on current WCHP projects: <http://wchpgrte.blogspot.com/>

### Nearby towns:

**Moose:** Moose is home to the Grand Teton National Park Craig Thomas Discovery & Visitor Center, a post office, gas station, Dornan's small grocery store and deli, and Dornan's Pizza Pasta Company restaurant.

**Teton Village:** Teton Village is located 10 miles south of Moose, WY down the Moose-Wilson Road. There is a small grocery store, gas station, and several restaurants and hotels in Teton Village.

**Jackson:** Jackson is the largest town in the valley, and home to many hotels, grocery stores, and restaurants. It is located approximately 15 miles from Moose.

## II. White Grass Ranch History and Current Rehabilitation Plans

The White Grass Ranch is the third oldest dude ranch in Jackson Hole. Homesteaded under the Forest Homestead Act in 1913 by Harold Hammond and Tucker Bispham, the ranch was originally 320-acres. The ranch began hosting paying guests as early as 1919, and remained in operation through 1985 with only a brief closure during World War II. This sixty-five year life as a functional dude ranch made White Grass one of the longest running active dude ranches in Jackson Hole. In 1985, Hammond's stepson Frank Gale, died and the ranch was transferred to the National Park Service.



Photos c. 1950

The Forest Homestead Act extended the right of individuals to establish homestead claims up to 160-acres on agricultural lands inside national forest boundaries. Homesteaders were required to keep a portion of their land agricultural, to establish residency on their claim, and to make improvements such as constructing buildings and fencing. Many ranches, including White Grass, were established on Homestead Act claims.

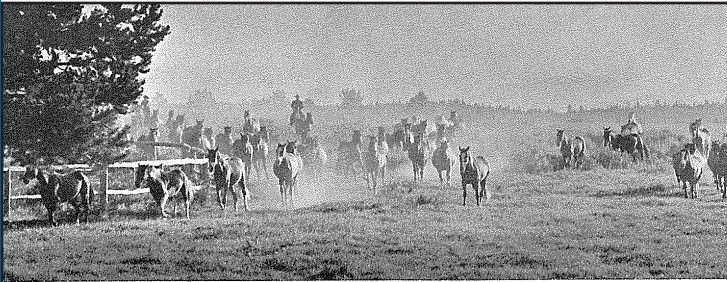


Advertisements from the 1935 brochure.



“White Grass” = a term used by the Native Americans to describe the sage that covered the ranch’s meadowlands at the base of the Teton Range.

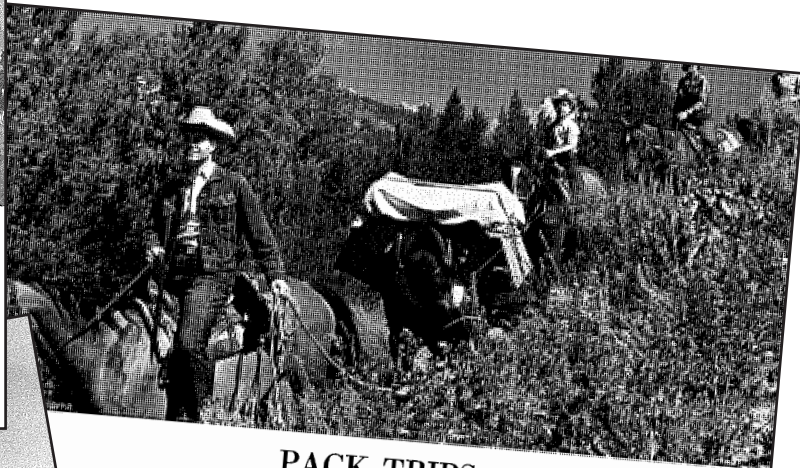
Through the first two decades of operation, Hammond and Bispham branched into other industries, including operating a silver fox farm, in order to make their operation economically sustainable. Between 1923 and 1928, Hammond and Bispham deeded their claims to Bar BC Ranches, Inc., a partnership that consisted of themselves, Struthers Burt and Horace Carncross (founders of the Bar BC Ranch), and Irving Corse and Sinclair Armstrong. During this time, White Grass was designated the White Grass Ranch for Boys, and thirteen more cabins and a swimming pool were added to the property. In 1928 Hammond and Bispham withdrew from the partnership, and soon after Hammond bought out Bispham. For the next decade, Hammond owned and operated the 320-acre ranch, managing guests as well as all of the agricultural operations at the ranch.



### HORSES

Our herd of 120 sleek horses are the best we can obtain to accommodate every grade and age of rider. On your arrival you are assigned a suitable mount, and if he's satisfactory, he is yours while you are at White Grass.

**FOR THE ADULT RIDER:** we have plenty of cowboys to take you riding when, where and with whom you choose. When our head wrangler feels that a rider is sufficiently familiar with his horse and the country, special activities are available such as helping wrangle the herd in at sunrise; joining in one of our occasional polo games, and ordinary day riding without a wrangler. For those of you who are beginners, or may not have ridden for some time, comfortable western saddles, sure-footed horses, and attentive wranglers make riding a pleasure.

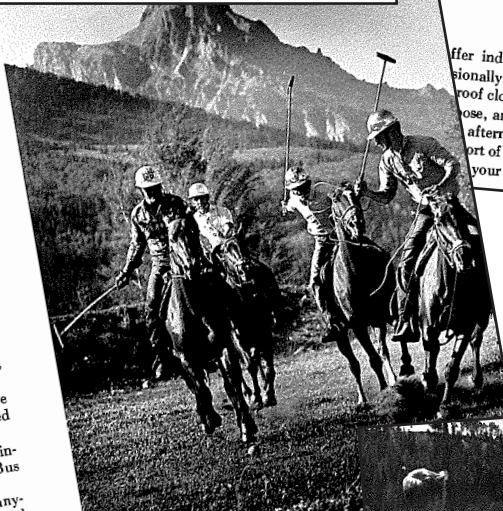


### PACK TRIPS

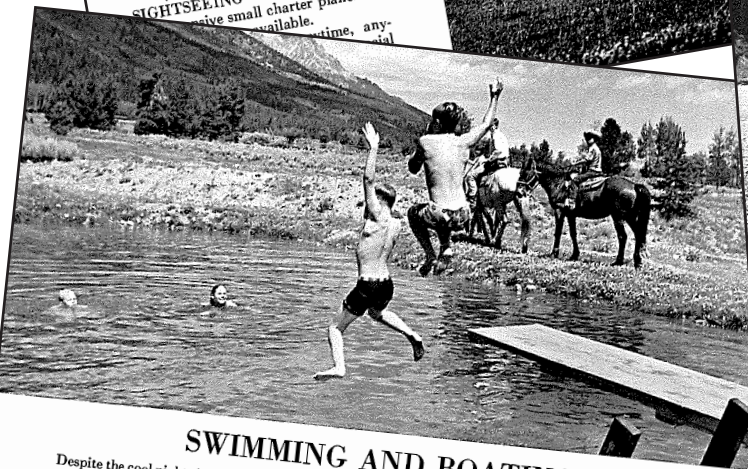
Offer individually planned pack trips for four or more of our guests. These are well equipped, professionally guided trips using our own staff, equipment and stock. You will only need to bring warm and proof clothing. It is a marvelous opportunity to get out with just your family, or with other friends if you choose, and live intimately with this unexcelled wilderness beauty. The riding can be as easy as an afternoon's ride, or as tough as you like. It can be for overnight, or as long as you'd like. You tell us what sort of pack trip you would prefer, and we will try to arrange it. Please request your pack trip when you make your reservations.

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

- MOUNTAIN CLIMBING** — an excellent school for all levels is located nearby offering one & two day climbs.
- TENNIS** — our guests are welcome at either of two tennis clubs within ten miles.
- GOLF** — an excellent 18 hole course designed by R. T. Jones is available to White Grass guests.
- THEATER** — three "little theaters" in Jackson offer family entertainment every evening.
- SNOW SPORTS** — within a half day horseback ride above the Ranch.
- SQUARE DANCING** — all corners are welcome twice a week at two of the valley's better lodges.
- TRAP** — a good trap club always makes our guests welcome.
- NATURE HIKES** — guided nature walks and slide shows are offered by Grand Teton National Park.
- SIGHTSEEING** — the best is by inclusive small charter plane. Bus service available.



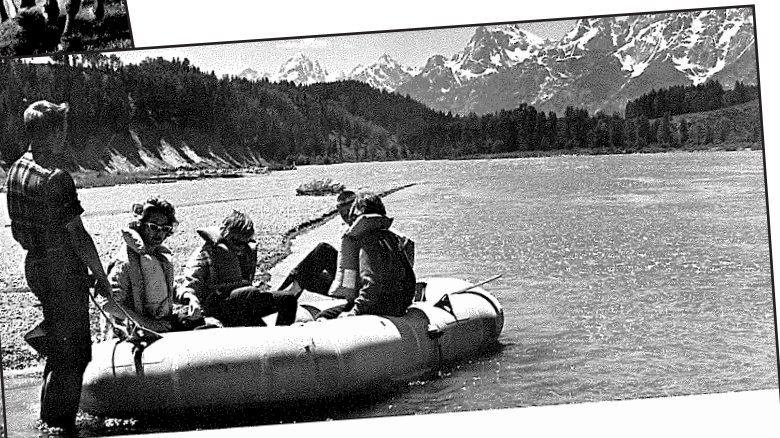
Pictured: Select pages from a 1979 brochure for White Grass.



### SWIMMING AND BOATING

Despite the cool nights in Jackson's Hole, the days are warm enough for swimming and sun bathing. On the Ranch itself is a two-acre pond about twenty feet deep and a smaller and warmer swimming hole next to it. Many dudes prefer to throw a towel and bathing suit in their saddle bags so they can tie up their horses by a mountain lake and refresh themselves in its clear waters.

Our sixteen foot runabout has its own trailer, and is available for fishing or sightseeing trips to Jackson Lake, Slide Lake or other lakes in the vicinity and in Yellowstone Park.



### FLOATING THE SNAKE

The ranch maintains several <sup>52x</sup> rubber rafts for floating the Snake River, an ideal way to see the mighty Teton, the animal and birdlife of the valley. For the fisherman, floating is an easy way to hit the best pools with but little walking.

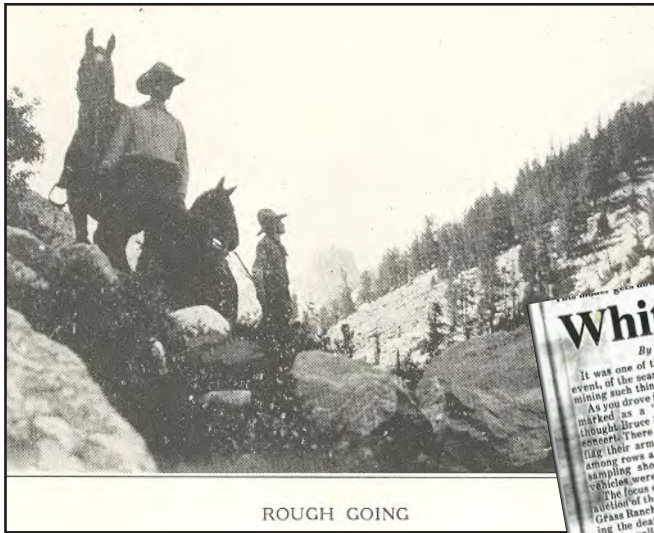


Photo: Frank and Inge Galey (and the horse, Dexter).



A TWO-ROOM CABIN

Photos: From the 1935 brochure.



ROUGH GOING

Harold Hammond died in 1939, and his stepson, Frank Galey, assumed management of the ranch. His duties as manager were cut short by the United States entry into World War II, and White Grass Ranch ceased operation for the duration of the war. In 1946, Galey returned to the ranch, which he operated until his death in 1985.

Inge and Frank were married until 1967, just over twenty years. They owned and operated the ranch together during this time and had a daughter, Cynthia.

Jackson Hole News, September 1985.

# White Grass Ranch auction big event

By George Gladney  
It was one of the major events, and maybe the event, of the season, if numbers are used in determining such things.  
As you drove into the large meadow temporarily marked as a "parking area," you would have thought there were people whose only job was to direct them to point motorists down an aisle among rows and rows of cars and trucks. A quick glimpse showed that roughly a fourth of the vehicles were from out of state.  
The focus of all this attention was the liquidation of the business assets of the historic White Grass Ranch, which closed down this month following the death of rancher Frank Galey last July 6. As the valley's oldest operating dude ranch, tracing its history to 1912, Saturday and Sunday's activity took on some hefty historical significance.  
Auctioneer L.D. Frome of Frome Auction Ser-

vice in Alton estimated at the end of the busy weekend that more than 1,500 persons stopped in at the ranch, either to buy or just to get one last glimpse of the White Grass. Blue sky and warm sun helped, too. "There's no question a lot of former guests were here," said Frome. "And there were a lot of former guests who couldn't be here but who had ridden, or a bed they had slept on," he said.  
Fully 760 bidders registered at the auction and people came from 16 states, said Frome, who was commissioned by Galey's widow, Nona, to sell all assets except the log cabins and other structures (revenue) but in terms of a lot of items scattered around and different," Frome remarked.  
The items on the block were so numerous and varied that Frome said he was lucky to get the job done in a weekend. "We had to go exceptionally

fast," the auctioneer explained. "I should have been a three-day auction but we didn't feel we could get people back for the third day," he said. Saturday was devoted to sale of items in the buildings, as well as mechanical items and farm implements. For the most part, Frome said, the prices bid were roughly equal to market value and much of it was salvage.  
Not so, however, with the ranch's abundant lodgepole pine furniture, which Frome said represents "real Western antiques. If there is such a thing." Some onlookers were amazed at the prices for some of the furniture, with one lodgepole pine lounge going for \$1,250. On another item, a chair, an observer exclaimed, "I looked at this little table—nothing really special about it, just built in at the joints and figured I'd be willing to pay \$10, maybe \$15, \$25 at most. It finally sold for \$300. I couldn't believe it!"  
Continued on page 27

# Sale marks end of colorful era in Jackson Hole

At last weekend's big auction at the White Grass Ranch, many of the items fetched above-market prices because buyers felt they were taking home more than just objects—they were taking home a piece of the valley's history.  
Indeed, the White Grass Ranch represents a significant chapter in the history of Jackson Hole. It was, after all, the oldest operating dude ranch in the valley.  
To trace its beginning one must go back to the year 1913 when Harold Hammond and Tucker Bispham registered adjoining 160-acre homesteads to form a ranching partnership named "White Grass," a term used by the ranch's meadowlands at the base of the Teton Range.  
Hammond and Bispham were an unlikely pair. Hammond was a native of Blackfoot, Idaho, and was well acquainted with ranch life, hunting and guiding. Bispham was a Rhodes scholar and a dude from Philadelphia when he first came to the valley to visit fellow Philadelphian Struthers Burt, who was operating the Bar BC Ranch.  
The first ones man come to the White  
Continued on page 27



Dudes of another era arrive at White Grass Ranch.

Below: Frontier Day early 1930s.



## Callin' the Brand

Like many dude ranches, the White Grass Ranch began as a cattle ranch. The brand used by the ranch was the H quarter-circle B, which stood for Hammond and Bispham, the ranch founders. As White Grass transitioned into a dude ranch, the brand remained a significant symbol, both for the continued agricultural workings of the ranch, but also as a logo used to advertise the ranch.



The White Grass Ranch Brand. The H stood for Hammond, and the B for Bispham.

The ability to read a cattle brand is called "Callin' the brand". Many ranches in Jackson Hole were known by their brand.



Bar BC Ranch



Triangle X Ranch

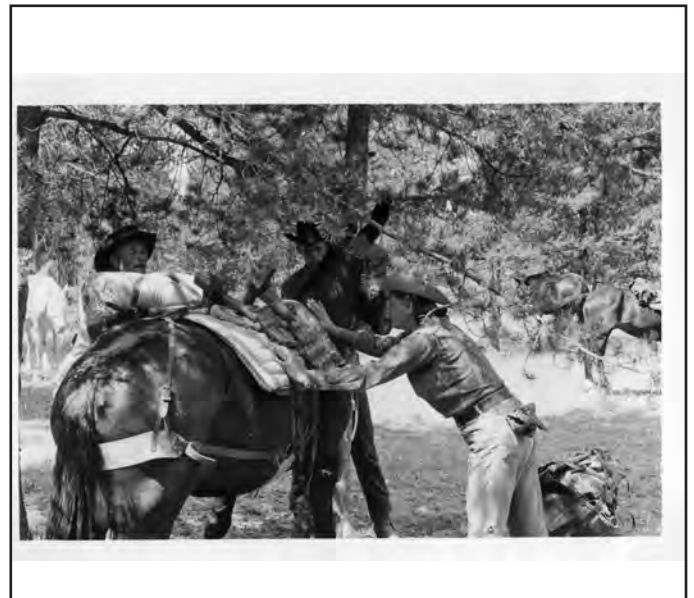


Bar Flying U Ranch



The JY Ranch

Below: Main Cabin 1954; and Photos from pack trips.



Above: Frank and Inge Galey on a pack trip, 1935.

Historic photos courtesy of the Galey, Peck, Schmitt, and Huebner families.



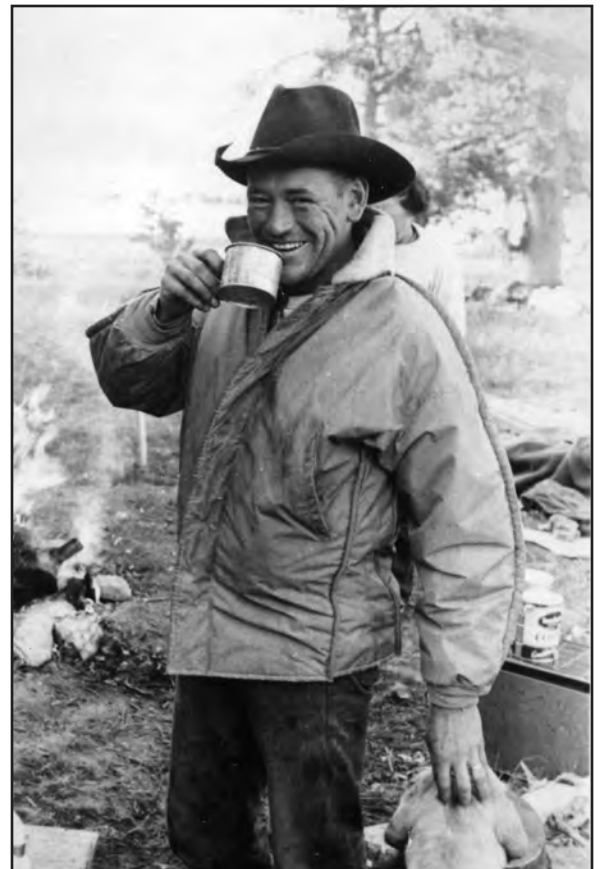
“If you want to sum up the dude business in a sentence, it consists in giving people homemade bedsteads but forty pound mattresses.”  
*-Maxwell Struthers Burt*



**CW from above:**  
 Main Cabin c. 1920s; The Grand Teton 1967; wranglers outside the Main Cabin 1955; #1155 front porch; Frank Galey 1954.

**Dude ranches** were an outgrowth of traditional cattle ranches and guided sport hunting. The first dude ranches in Wyoming and Montana were simply traditional ranches that began charging guests for lodging. Dude ranches provided their guests (dudes) with a unique vacation experience that included horseback riding, fishing, hunting, and hiking. The three oldest dude ranches in Jackson Hole - the Bar BC Ranch, the JY Ranch, and the White Grass Ranch - led the way to the area's thriving dude ranch culture.

In addition to hosting dudes, White Grass was also a fully operational agricultural ranch. The agricultural operation included running about fifty head of cattle on a grazing lease from the park, irrigating, and haying.





Historic photos courtesy of the Gale, Peck, Schmitt, and Huebner families.



**Page Left, top to bottom:**  
 Dudes outside the Main Cabin - 1955;  
 Getting ready for the childrens' ride -1962;  
 Kids hang out by the barn - 1965.

**Page Right, CW from bottom left:**  
 Sunday cookout - July 5th, 1959  
 Bernie Huebner repairing the barn - 1961  
 Swimming in Ingeborg Lake at White Grass -1955  
 (lake was in the field; no longer exists)  
 Frank Galey irrigating - July 1958



Pictured: Pre-1953 dining room of the Main Cabin.



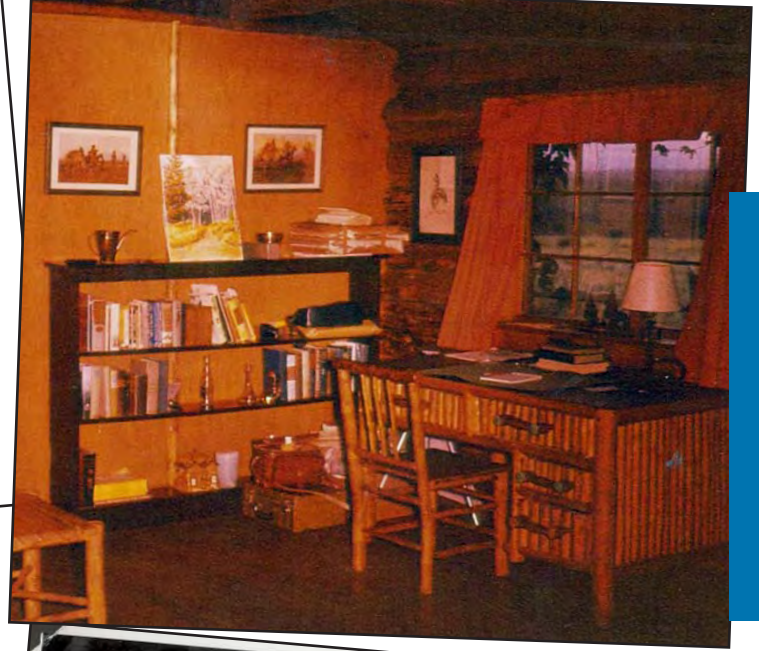
Historic photos courtesy of the Galey, Peck, Schmitt, and Huebner families.

Frank, Rachel Trahern and Inge checking the pack trip list, 1956.



# Historic Interior Photos

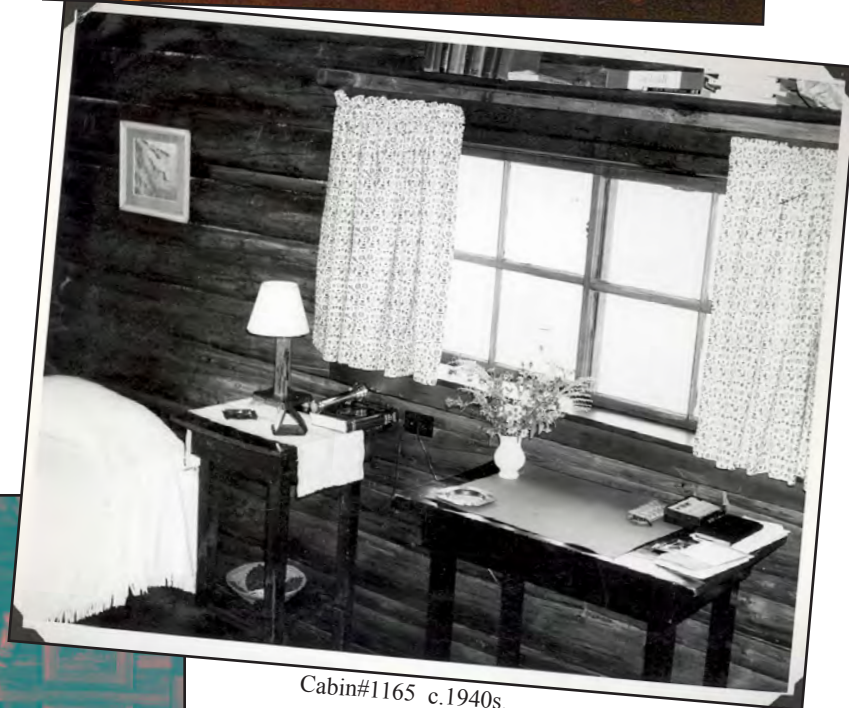
Messler Cabin (no longer existent) 1957.



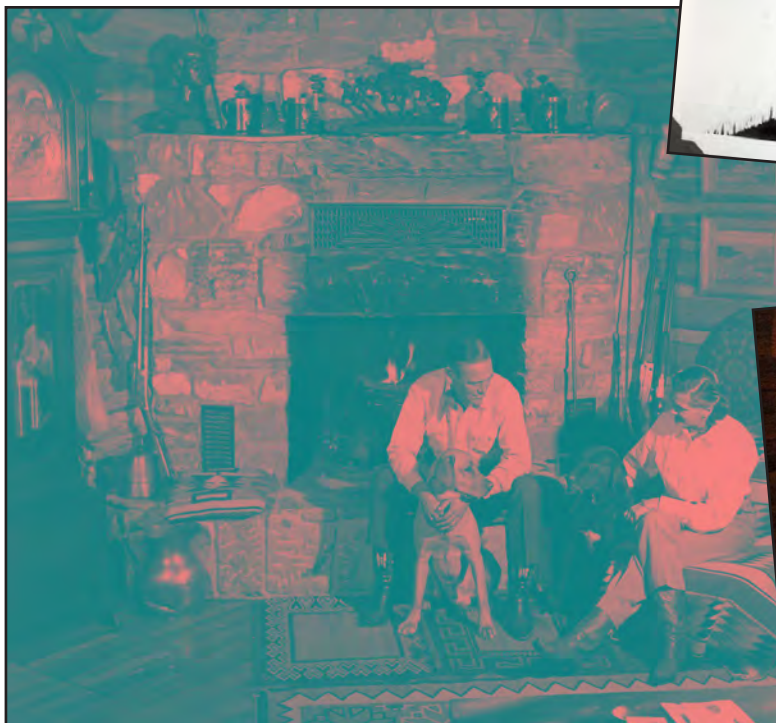
White Grass Then & Now



Inside the O.A. Corral tent, 1957.



Cabin#1165 c.1940s.



Frank and Inge Galey, in the Galey House c. 1950s.



Messler Cabin (no longer existent) 1957.

Below: Laidlaw (#4) family cabin at White Grass; now renovated and located by the Jackson airport.



White Grass Then & Now

Below: Main Cabin 1957



Historic photos courtesy of the Galey, Peck, Schmitt, and Huebner families.



# Historic Furnishings



Staff cleaning the cabins 1958.

White Grass Then & Now

Below: Main Cabin card room, 1940s.



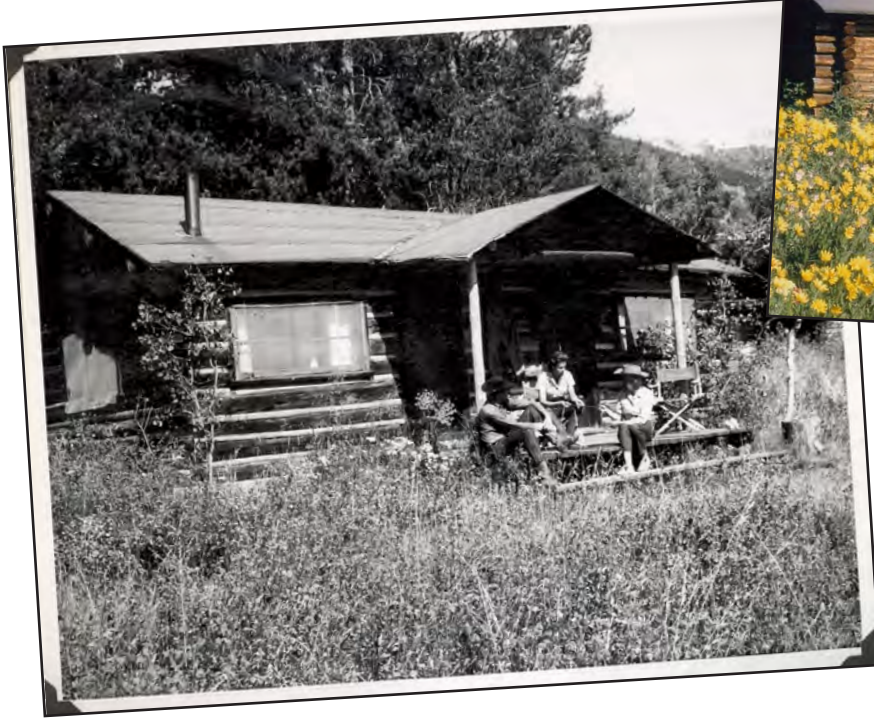
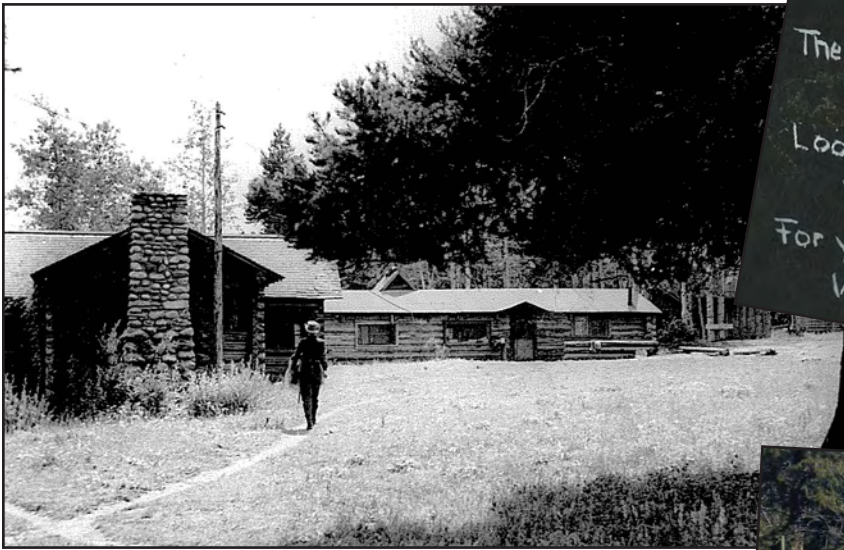
Below: Aerial photo of White Grass. c. 1950s.



Historic photos courtesy of the Galey, Peck, Schmitt, and Huebner families.



DREAM back beyond the cramping lanes  
To glories that have been —  
The camp smoke on the sunset plains,  
The riders loping in:  
Loose rein and rowelled heel to spare,  
The wind our only guide,  
For youth was in the saddle there  
With half a world to ride.



**CW from top:**  
Aerial photograph from 1950s  
Poem written by Judy Schmitt while working  
at White Grass - 1960.  
Cabin #1159 and #1160 - July 1961  
Cabin #1163 - 1940s.  
Looking towards the Main Cabin - 1955

## 2006

Students from the Youth Conservation Corp completed general site clean-up making the area safe for workmen. They also helped stabilize the porch on Cabin 1159 and removed a non-historic addition from the Girl's Cabin, 1154.

NPS employees from the Preservation and Skills Training (PAST) program removed deteriorated roofing and the front porch from the Main Cabin, stabilized Cabins 1159 and 1157, and replaced roof decking on the Hammond Cabin.

WCHP crews removed and labeled salvageable windows and doors, and transported them to the Moose shop for preservation treatment.



## 2007

A grant from the Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund enabled WCHP staff to rehabilitate Cabin 1155, including replacing the roof, replacing deteriorated logs, and replacing the foundation.

Doors and windows for Cabin 1155 were removed and transported to Moose for rehabilitation in the WCHP workshop.

Basic utility infrastructure was installed by contractors and Grand Teton National Park maintenance staff.

WCHP crews replaced the foundation and floor joists in the Girls' Cabin 1154.

### CW from top left:

Removing the addition to the Girls' Cabin

Hammond Cabin log replacement

Girls' Cabin is lifted before new foundation is poured

Cabin 1159 / aka. #9



## 2008

Utility work begun in 2007 is completed, including the installation of sewer, water, and electric systems. The pump house is also constructed, and former utility trenches are re-vegetated.

The focus of the preservation work undertaken in 2008 centered on the Hammond Cabin. WCHP crews and volunteers replaced the foundation, repaired (and where needed replicated) the windows and doors, and installed new sill logs where necessary.

Other work completed included roof stabilization on Cabin 1159, rethinking and door and window replacement on the Girls' Cabin 1154, and the removal of a deteriorating porch from Cabin 1160.



### CW from above:

Roof stabilization; Lifting the Hammond Cabin; Interior plumbing complete and ready for fixtures, Hammond Cabin; Log replacement on Hammond front porch; Completed interior of Hammond; Sewer system installed, 2007.



## 2009

Two YMCA youth groups aided WCHP crews in completing essential work on the Hammond Cabin, including the removal of bark from logs to be used as replacements for the cabin walls, chinking, and installing willow stops to the space between wall logs.

WCHP crews replaced and chinked a significant amount of the logs on the north, east and south walls of the Hammond Cabin. Interior logs were cleaned, and floor framing, subflooring and insulation were installed.

Bathrooms were completed with tile floors and working plumbing fixtures in both Cabin 1155 and the Girls' Cabin. Further utilities were installed, including a water line for fire protection.



Today at White Grass there are 14 buildings on site. They include:

These White Grass structures are now fully rehabilitated and available for use by guests and residents:

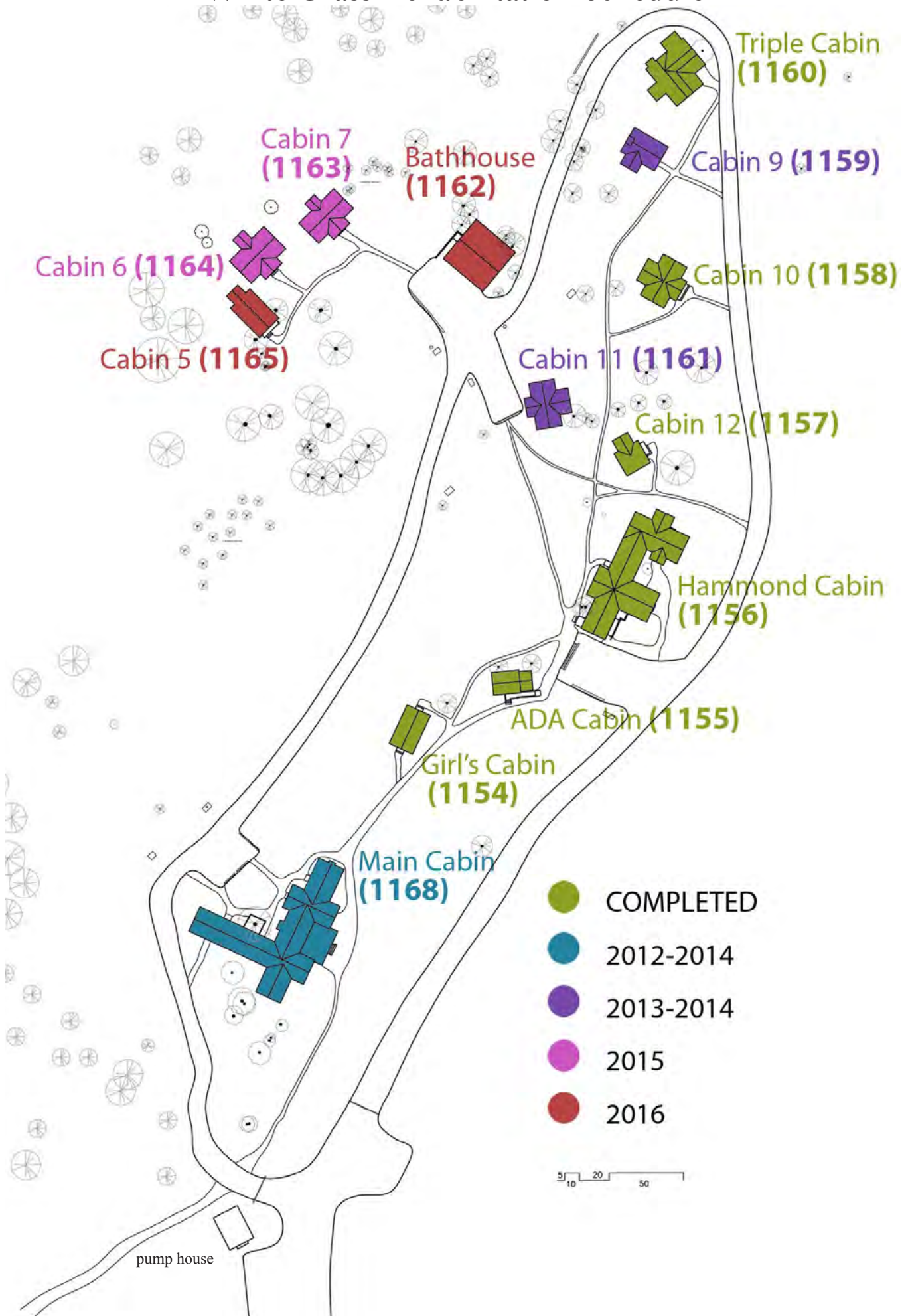
1. The Hammond Cabin #1156 houses the resident quarters for the seasonal caretaker. In addition, it houses the community kitchen and the community dining and recreation area, which doubles as a seminar space. This facility is ADA compliant with a ramp and an accessible restroom.
2. Cabin #1154 “The Girls’ Cabin” has sleeping quarters, shower, toilet, and sink.
3. Cabin #1155 has been rehabilitated according to Americans with Disability Act Standards with ramp, roll in shower, large doors, etc. Additionally, pathways in many parts of the Ranch are suitable for manual and power wheelchairs. Residents will be responsible to make arrangement for a Personal Care Attendant, oxygen, special dietary needs, etc, if needed. For any individual who needs to reserve this cabin, be sure to communicate this clearly on the Application Form and/or call the Program Director for more details and/or clarification of individual needs while staying at White Grass.
4. Cabin #1160, “The Triple” has three separate sleeping rooms. One room has its own shower, toilet, and sink. The remaining two sleeping rooms have individual sinks and share a shower and toilet.
5. Cabin #1158, “The Double” has two separate sleeping rooms and private sinks and share a shower and toilet.
6. Cabin #1157 is a single room cabin with a double bed, shower, toilet, and sink.
7. The pump house, a new structure, provides water to all White Grass buildings.

The following structures have not been rehabilitated and/or are in various stages of rehabilitation. These buildings are not utilized/inhabitable - at the time this booklet was printed:

8. The Main Cabin used to be the dining hall, library, kitchen, card room, and sitting room. Once rehabilitated, it will contain a conference room, a training library, interpretive displays, and provide additional kitchen, recreational, and office space.
9. Cabin #1159, “The Fireplace Cabin” has one sleeping room, bathroom and a fireplace.
- 10-12. Cabins #1161, #1163, and #1164 each have two sleeping rooms with a shared bathroom.
13. Cabin #1165 has one sleeping room and bathroom.
14. The bathhouse #1162, which now serves as a tool shed, will eventually house kitchen and laundry facilities, and a wood working shop.

All of this rehabilitation work would not be possible without the fundraising efforts of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. A public-private partnership between the National Trust and the National Park Service raised \$980,000 in private donations to match federal dollars for the rehabilitation of five of the most significant cabins on the ranch.

# White Grass Rehabilitation Schedule



# The Future of White Grass Dude Ranch

White Grass will operate as a training facility for employees, students, or volunteers who want to learn preservation skills pertinent to the western-style of architecture. It will also serve as a meeting place for the Vanishing Treasures program of the National Park Service, and other partners in preservation. Periodic reunions for ex-wranglers and dudes who worked at White Grass before 1985 are also held at White Grass.

Cabins #1163, #1164 and #1165, located on the west end of the site, will be restored primarily by trainees in 2015-2016. All structures on site will be rehabilitated by 2016, in time to celebrate the National Park Service's 100th anniversary, and in collaboration with the Centennial Vision for the next 100 years of NPS service.



Above: Previous training events that WCHP has held for employees and volunteers, 2011.



Above: NPS employees in the Preservation and Skill Training (PAST) program volunteers 2006.

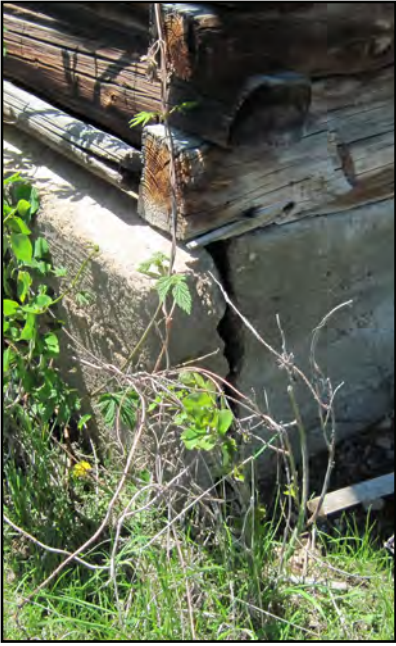


### III. Your Cabin: Images and Descriptions Relating to the Rehabilitation of Cabin #1158



**Pictured:** Initial elevation photos taken in 2006 before preservation efforts began.





Rehabilitation Work





August 2010, the front porch is removed to stabilize the cabin before moving.

In September of 2010, the cabin was lifted, the existing foundation removed and a new foundation was poured.



Rehabilitation Work



**Below:** New concrete foundation before cabin is moved back in place.



Rehabilitation Work



**Above:** Log replacement in-kind, and a new roof.



Exterior rehabilitation work included: vegetation removal, grade leveling, pouring a new concrete foundation, replacing deteriorating wall logs, installing a new bathroom, new outside chinking, reconstructing steps, new porch added, and a complete renovation of the roof. Windows and doors were restored or rebuilt at the WCHP shop in Moose.

On the interior, wall chinking and floor repairs were made. Electrical, plumbing, heating, as well as smoke and carbon monoxide detector installations were also completed.



Above: New front porch, summer 2012.



During the winter of 2012-spring of 2013, rotted floors were replaced, and new electrical, plumbing, heating and fire detectors were installed.

Above: Winter 2012 interior work.



The door opening between rooms was closed off and used as as a built in shelving space.



Below: Cabin 1158, winter 2011.



By 1929, the Hammonds had built the Main Cabin and 18 other cabins as well as buildings to shelter livestock, house cooks, and store supplies. Three of these cabins were built during the homestead era (1919-1923), while the others, including 1158, were presumably built during the Bar BC partnership (1923-1928).



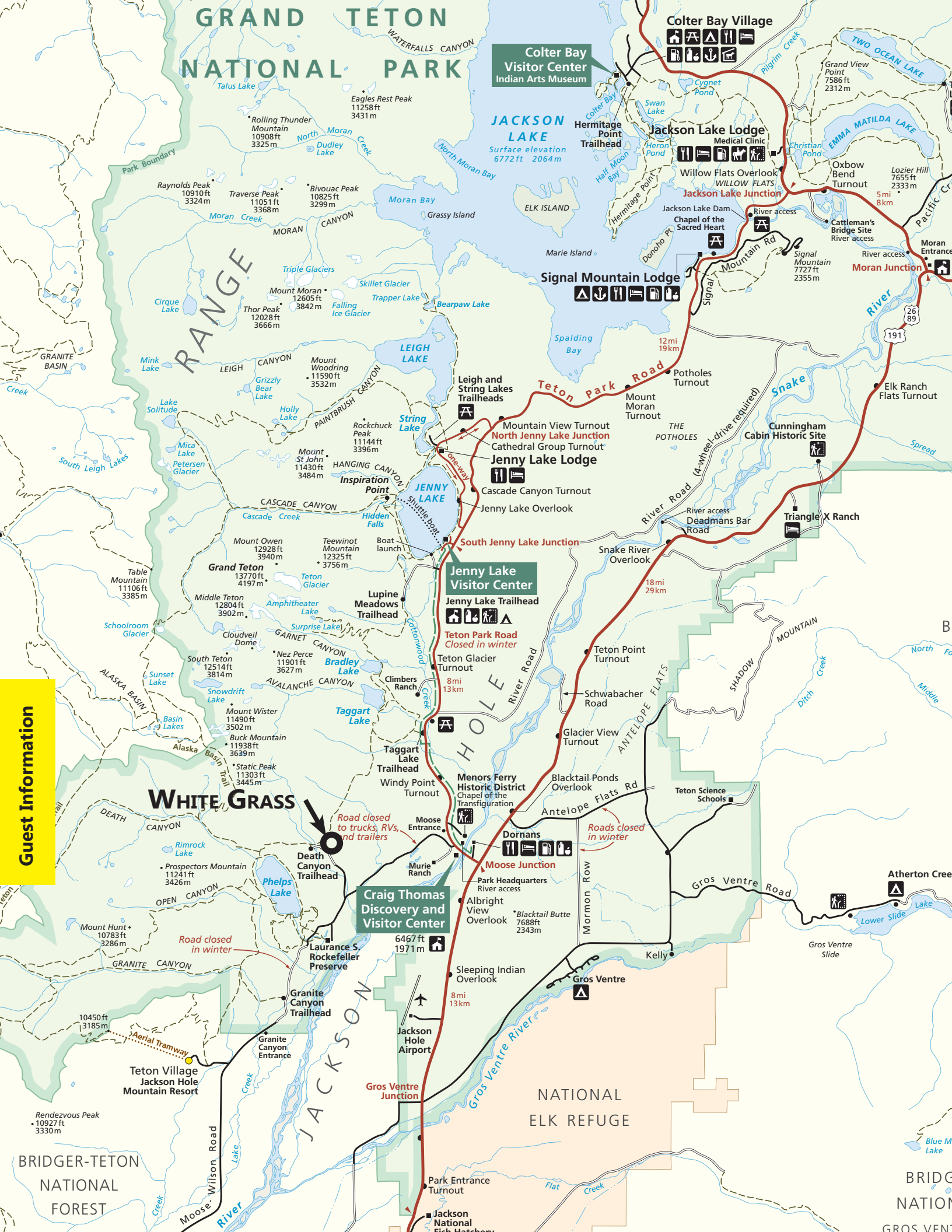
Above: Greg transports supplies, winter of 2008.





**CW from top:**  
Snow machines: White Grass winter transportation.  
Hammond Cabin under snow loads, winter 2008.  
Chirs Frank, of WCHP, loads up restored windows on a sled.  
Working inside the Hammond Cabin, winter 2008.

# GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK



**Colter Bay Visitor Center**  
Indian Arts Museum

**Jackson Lake Lodge**  
Medical Clinic

**Signal Mountain Lodge**

**Jenny Lake Lodge**

**Jenny Lake Visitor Center**  
Jenny Lake Trailhead

**Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center**

**Guest Information**

BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST

NATIONAL ELK REFUGE

BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST

## IV. Guest / Volunteer Information

### Housing:

A seasonal caretaker resides in the Hammond Cabin and is responsible for daily operation of the ranch. If you have any questions about your stay, please direct them to the caretaker.

**Cabins:** The sleeping cabins are equipped with electricity, hot/cold running water, showers, flush toilets, baseboard heat, beds and mattresses, and side tables. Bed linens, blankets, and pillows are provided by the WCHP. Baths are either private or shared between two sleeping quarters. Cabins do not have phones, internet connections, TV's, clocks, or kitchens. A shared kitchen is located in the Hammond Cabin. Food preparation and storage is not permitted in the sleeping cabins.

One sleeping cabin at White Grass has been rehabilitated according to standards of the American's with Disabilities Act. For specifics about this cabin or to reserve it, please contact the White Grass Ranch caretaker in advance of your stay. Personal Care Attendant(s) needed by any resident will be the responsibility of the resident.

**Check-in:** Check-in is at the Hammond Cabin with the caretaker. For guests / volunteers staying at White Grass check-in is between 3:00 pm and 6:00 pm the day before the volunteer work begins. All volunteers are expected to attend an orientation meeting at 6:00 pm check-in day. Volunteers should arrive at White Grass with food for, at least, their first evening and first full day.

At check-in, guests and volunteers will be issued cabin keys, bear spray, and bed linens. If one plans to arrive in Jackson prior to the assigned check-in date, you will be responsible for your own accommodations.

**Check-out:** All guests must check-out before 12:00 pm (noon). Volunteers must check-out before 12:00 pm the day after their project ends. (A typical workweek is Monday-Thursday).

Prior to check-out, guests and volunteers should at a minimum:

- Sweep the cabin and bathroom
- Empty trash in a bear-proof dumpster
- Return cabin key and bear spray along with dirty linens and towels to the caretaker.

**Connectivity:** Cell service is relatively good at the ranch, although not always reliable. Service is available in Moose and many places in the Park. There is currently no internet at White Grass, but complementary Wi-Fi is available at the Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center in Moose

### Contact Information

Roger Butterbaugh, Ranch Caretaker (summers only), WCHP	(307) 690-1851
Al Williams, Rehabilitation Project Lead, WCHP	(307) 739-3389
Volunteer Coordinator, WCHP	(307) 739-3459
Katherine Wonson, Cultural Resource Specialist, Grand Teton NP	(307) 739-3671

### Emergency Contact Information

Roger Butterbaugh, caregiver at White Grass, 307-690-1851  
Al Williams, Rehabilitation Project Lead, WCHP, 307-739-3389.

In case of emergency, dial 9-1-1.

Additional emergency resources include:

Grand Teton National Park Dispatch: 307-739-3301

Saint John's Hospital, Jackson, WY: 307-733-3636

# General Rules for Guests / Volunteers

White Grass Ranch is contained within and is part of Grand Teton National Park. The Western Center for Historic Preservation is part of the National Park Service's Vanishing Treasures Program which is run out of the Intermountain Region Office in Santa Fe, NM. Guests and visitors of White Grass Ranch are subject to the same laws, regulations, and policies as other park visitors.

- Park in designated areas only, and walk on designated paths only.
- Quiet time is observed between 9:00 pm and 6:00 am daily. Guests and residents are expected to keep music, voices, and noise to appropriate levels at all times in respect for fellow residents and local wildlife.
- Residents must clean the kitchen immediately after use.
- Smoking is not permitted in the cabins. Following Grand Teton fire regulations, smokers may not wander with a lit cigarette and must extinguish and dispose of properly.
- Food and beverages (other than water) are not permitted in sleeping cabins.
- Outdoor fires and campfires are not permitted for any purpose. Outdoor cooking is permitted on camp stoves and approved barbeques only. All stoves and barbeques must be stored inside.
- No RV's, trailers, campers, or buses are permitted at White Grass or on the Moose-Wilson Road. No tent camping is allowed at the White Grass Ranch.
- Illegal activity will not be tolerated at White Grass including but not limited to:
  - Use and/or sale of illegal drugs
  - Providing controlled substances to minors
  - Public intoxicationNOTE: Any illegal activity will be reported promptly to  
Grand Teton National Park Law Enforcement Officers.
- Grand Teton National Park staff and the White Grass Caretaker reserve the right to enter an occupied cabin at any time for inspection/maintenance, etc. without prior notice to the resident.
- Possession of firearms at White Grass Ranch and Grand Teton National Park is subject to current law and policy on firearms as established by Congress and the National Park Service
- The Western Center for Historic Preservation and the National Park Service are not responsible for any lost or stolen personal property.
- Guest, Volunteer, and/or Resident participation at White Grass Ranch may be terminated at any time for willful and/or repeated violation of the above General Rules.



**Above:** Hammond Cabin, circa 1950s. This photo was taken for a Union Pacific advertisement, encouraging people to come west.

## Useful Websites

**WCHP Website:** <http://www.nps.gov/grte/historyculture/wchp.htm>

**WCHP Blog:** <http://www.wchpgrte.blogspot.com/>

**Grand Teton National Park:** [www.nps.gov/GRTE](http://www.nps.gov/GRTE)

**Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce:** [www.jacksonholechamber.com](http://www.jacksonholechamber.com)

**National Trust for Historic Preservation White Grass Project:** <http://savingplaces.org/treasures/white-grass-dude-ranch>

**Information for group camping within the park:** <http://www.nps.gov/grte/planyourvisit/campgrounds.htm>

**Jackson Hole & Greater Yellowstone Visitor Center:** <http://www.fws.gov/nationalelkrefuge/JacksonHoleVisitorCenter.htm>

# Food Requirements

**Meals and Grocery Stores:** All guests, volunteers and residents will be responsible for their own food purchase and preparation. Everyone staying at White Grass has full access to the community kitchen in the Hammond Cabin, which has two refrigerators, two microwaves, two four-burner stoves with ovens, a dishwasher, utensils, pots and pans, and dishes. The kitchen also has a coffee maker. All dry-goods must be stored in the provided plastic bins to prevent mice from eating any food and to comply with wildlife food storage requirements. All who use the kitchen are responsible for cleaning it after each use. Please keep in mind that the kitchen is small and is shared by all. It is imperative that the kitchen is cleaned promptly, both out of respect for your fellow residents and to keep the critters away.

## Local Grocery Stores:

- Smith's Food and Drug: 1425 S. Hwy 89; Jackson, WY 307-733-8908
- Albertson's: 105 Buffalo Way, Jackson, WY 307-733-5950
- Jackson Whole Grocer: 974 W. Broadway, Jackson, WY; 307-733-0450;  
<http://jacksonwholegrocer.com/>
- Kmart: 1357 S Hwy 89, Jackson, WY; 307-739-0865
- Aspen's Market: 4015 W. Lake Creek Dr., Wilson, WY; 307-200-6140;  
<http://aspensmarketjh.com/>
- Mangy Moose Market: Teton Village, WY; 307-733-4913; <http://mangymoos.com>
- Dornan's: At Moose Junction off Hwy 191, Moose, WY; 307-733-2415;  
<http://dornans.com/>



2011



2012



2011



2007



## What to Expect When You Volunteer

**Volunteers on Work Crews:** Guests should expect to eat breakfast at White Grass and bring a prepared lunch and snacks to work. Volunteers are encouraged to take insulated lunch and water containers to their worksite each day. Restaurants in nearby Teton Village (10 minutes), Moose (12 minutes) and Jackson (30 minutes) are available for evening meals, although residents are also welcome to use the Hammond Cabin kitchen. Camp stoves and barbeques are allowed for cooking, but must be stored indoors after use due to curious wildlife.

**Typical Work Day for Volunteers:** A typical workday with WCHP begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 4:00pm. Residents eat breakfast at White Grass prior to 8:00am. Work begins with a safety discussion and overview of the tasks and goals for the day. The morning may include some instruction, depending on the group interests and project tasks. After a break for lunch around 12:30, work continues until 4:00 p.m. If the worksite is away from White Grass, residents are responsible for bringing brown-bag lunches and appropriate clothing for the day.

**Transportation:** Guests, volunteers, and residents are responsible for their own transportation to and from White Grass and to and from their worksite. In order to minimize the number of vehicles parked at White Grass, residents are encouraged to carpool whenever possible.

**Laundry:** Laundry facilities are available at the White Grass at no charge.

**Pets:** Pets are not allowed at White Grass.

**Guests and Visitors:** Daytime guests are permitted so long as their presence does not interrupt general operations and work. Guests are not permitted in construction zones or around power equipment unless they sign the Volunteer Consent Forms. Overnight guests for volunteers and residents are not permitted. RV's, trailers and tent camping are not permitted at White Grass, but several campgrounds and lodges/motels are available in the park and nearby Jackson.



Above: Becket Chimney Corner volunteers mix the daubing material in a wheelbarrow, 2013.

Right top: Volunteer replacing roof on #1159, 2013.

Right lower: Volunteers notch log ends, 2011.

**Daubing** is the mortar-like material that is often used to fill the chink areas between logs. This process is often referred to as chinking. This maintains the historic appearance of the log structure while retaining air temperatures inside and keeping out small pests and animals.





Volunteer work will vary and is based on a number of factors. Work experience, physical ability, and the timeline of scheduled tasks all play a contributing role. Often enough, we need extra hands with chinking the rehabilitated cabins!



**Guest Information**

**CW from above:**  
 Half lap notch with cut to splice into original log.  
 Replacing flooring.  
 Deconstructing before repair.  
 Stabilizing cabin roof beams.  
 Historic daubing over the synthetic backer.



# What to Bring to White Grass

## For Those on Work Crews:

- Work boots or other sturdy, close-toed shoes (sandals are not allowed at the work site)
- Long work pants or jeans
- T-shirt and long-sleeved shirt for sun protection
- Warm layers, including a fleece or jacket
- Rain jacket (ponchos are not recommended)
- Sun hat, sunscreen, lip balm, and sunglasses
- Bug spray
- Water bottle
- Leather work gloves
- Hard hat (if you have one)
- Safety glasses (if you have them)
- Personalized first aid and prescription medications. Volunteers are responsible for the dispensation and use of personal prescription medications. White Grass will provide general first aid items.

## For Guests, Volunteers and Residents:

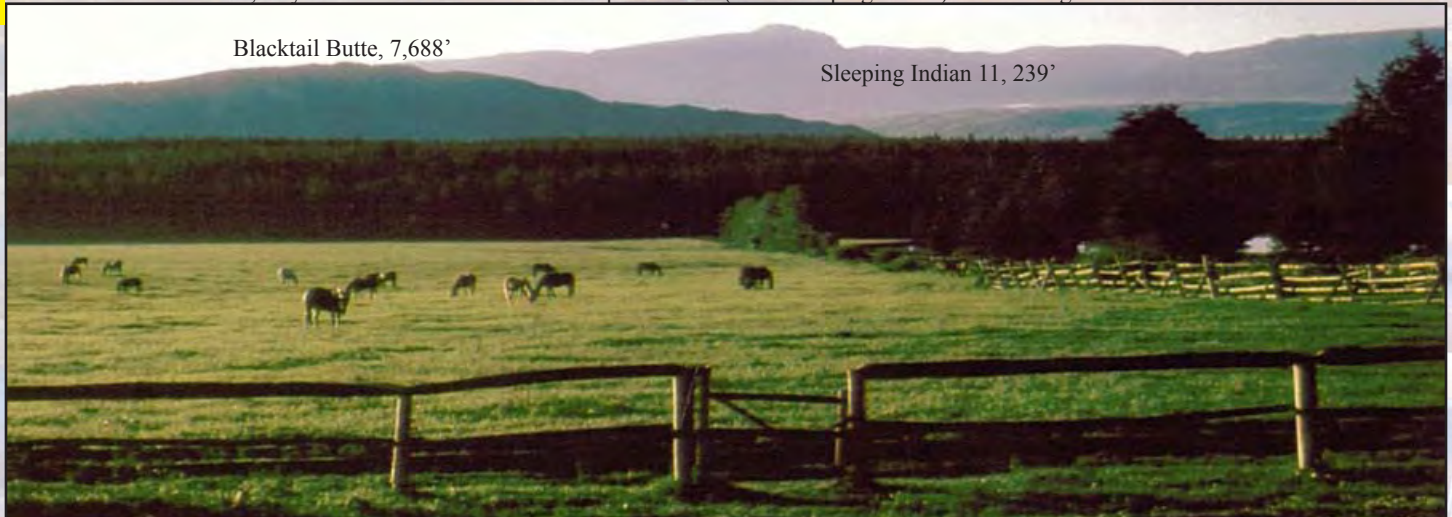
- Personal hygiene items (including soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc.)
- Flashlight
- Food (see details under “Meals” below)
- Other personal items of choice

## Items Provided at White Grass:

- Bed linens
- Blankets
- Pillows
- Bath towels
- Bear spray (must be returned at end of stay)

**Wildlife:** Bears and other wildlife enjoy White Grass as much as you do! For your safety, please carry bear spray and a good flashlight with you whenever you leave your cabin after dusk. To protect residents present and future, all food items and cosmetics must be properly secured in vehicles, bear proof containers, or inside the Hammond Cabin. No food or beverages are to be in individual cabins or unattended outside at any time. All food scraps and garbage must be discarded in the designated bear-proof dumpster.

**Below:** White Grass field, July 1957. Blacktail Butte and Sheep Mountain (a.k.a. Sleeping Indian) in the background.



Blacktail Butte, 7,688'

Sleeping Indian 11, 239'

## V. Guest / Volunteer Sign-in: Journaling About Your Stay

Please feel free to write down a message about your stay here at White Grass Dude Ranch! Read what others have written. Illustrations are welcome. Be sure to check out the main registration book, in the Hammond cabin, as well!

To get you started, here is a poem written by Judy Allyn Schmitt in 1955. Judy spent four summers working at White Grass (1955-1959), and has kindly donated many of the historic photos that we use today. Judy read this on July 22nd, 1989 at the first White Grass reunion.

### BALLAD OF WHITE GRASS

She got off the train filled with excitement, electricity  
in the air.

She saw a dark pensive cowboy dressed in black  
waiting there.

He was hunched against the wall looking left,  
then right.

Was he looking for her, she thought? He was, for it  
felt so very right.

He walked over slowly, offered his hand and said softly,  
"Howdy, Ma'am"

He tipped his black hat. She was speechless, her legs  
weak as sand.

Said his name was Ben, smiled, but she still  
couldn't speak.

She felt wooden, star struck, a foolish young girl  
from the East.

Here she was in Wyoming, land of her fantasies  
and dreams,

Where her heroes rode white horses and fouled up  
rustlers' schemes.

A place where clouds drifted thru endless blue skies  
and mountains reigned supreme.

Where Elk, Mule Deer and Buffalo grazed the plains  
and drank from crystal clear streams.

They traveled north and by nightfall he drove up  
a long graveled roadway,

Deposited the young girl in her cabin and before leaving  
said, "I hope you enjoy your stay."

Too excited to go to sleep, too dark to see outside,  
she listened to the magical night.

Was that an owl she heard? Coyotes singing their songs?  
Were they, too, waiting for the daylight?

That summer, like for so many, started a Wyoming love  
affair that she knew was waiting just for her.

The Tetons, the Galeys, the dudes and dudines, Ellen  
the cook and Rachel Trahern.

The Huebners, Dick and Pat Quast, the Thomas family, Elise  
Clover, Alice and Evans Dunn.

The pack trips, picnics and riding that all made up  
for great summer fun!

Who could forget the Clearys, Dorothy's beautiful  
paintings and pen and inks,

And Cappy Pennock who drank the bleach in a gin  
glass sitting on the bathroom sink?

The Bar-B-Q's in the North pasture, cocktail parties  
at the Galey's house, friendly and warm.

Frank's fishing and pack trips where he spun Western  
tales and boyish charm.

Then there was Curt Winsor with his guitar singing  
many a cowboy song

While we all would sit around that starlit campfire  
and try to sing along.

The antics of the Matthews boys, the Fox boys, Tink  
Elliot and Frannie Strawbridge, too.

George Clover must have felt he ran a school for Wranglers  
when day was through!

The cabin girls, the waitresses, they ran from Inge's  
and Rachel's sight!

The trips to town and Dornan's Bar that lasted well  
into the night!

We were lucky to have Suki Matthews, the Gordon Crouters,  
and the Balderstons to the northwest.

Cynthia's Shane, Parni, Ckaptain, Strawberry, Spade, crafty  
black Coon, they were the best.

Then there was Rachel's toad sandwich given to Bob  
Lewis with love.

Bananas in George's boots, pigs in the girls' cabin, bats  
in the bathroom...heavens above!

What fun we all had and stories and memories we will  
always share.

Our milk runneth over, thanks to the Chore boy's  
special care!

The young Eastern girl who arrived in Rock Springs,  
you know was me.

We all have our memories, our love for this ranch, our  
desire for the West to remain free.

So raise a toast to all who are here and those who are not,  
for never more shall we walk through that enchanted door.

But in our hearts wildflowers will bloom, coyotes will sing and we  
will hear the Elk's bugle in this place for evermore.

July 14-21, 2013

Cabin 1158 was one we worked on in 2011 & so much it was really nice to experience the finished "product" & recall the mess, chaos, animal droppings, wounded logs, leaky roof, dark & damp bathroom from 2011. We got to clean it out, take out logs, put in new ones (B-side) along with Al Williams - who is a great person to work with, volunteer & an amazing choir song & artist.

We first saw White Grass in 1997 with Mike Johnson for RTNP. This was our 3<sup>rd</sup> visit to work on ~~the~~ some of the 280<sup>+</sup> old historic buildings in the park. We started on the Chamber floored in 1955. In 1997 we had a crew of 15 people - all but one from Michigan at that time (my mother came from England - she was 82 years old). Mike had us do some work at B-DK rehabilitating the cabins & some of us came to White Grass to put roller roofing on 1163-4-5 (which we got to do again last year!) The site was beautiful & different views than Moraine Row.

It is so GREAT to see what has happened here at White Grass since 1997. It is even more special to see the old buildings being used again - & appreciated by so many. Thanks for providing us the opportunity to be Preservationists.

Janeth Tugh  
Michigan Volunteer

1158 A + B

15 July 2013

Very comfortable facilities. Great time to spend with family. Reconnected with several folks from the past & met some others with whom connections will be maintained in the future.

Ed Brown - Michigan Volunteer

White Grass's Cabin 1158 has a special meaning to me, as it is a major first in my preservation life. Never before have I stayed in a structure which I have helped with logwork years prior. I almost didn't recognize the place since last time I left 1158, some logs were in, some were out, no floors were down, etc... but now, the place is homey, clean, finely crafted, & ever so comfortable to sleep in! Thank you for restoring my faith in this old preservation work!!!

Elisabeth Brown  
Michigan Volunteers  
Raleigh, North Carolina  
July 20, 2013

July 25, 2012  
Cabin 1158B

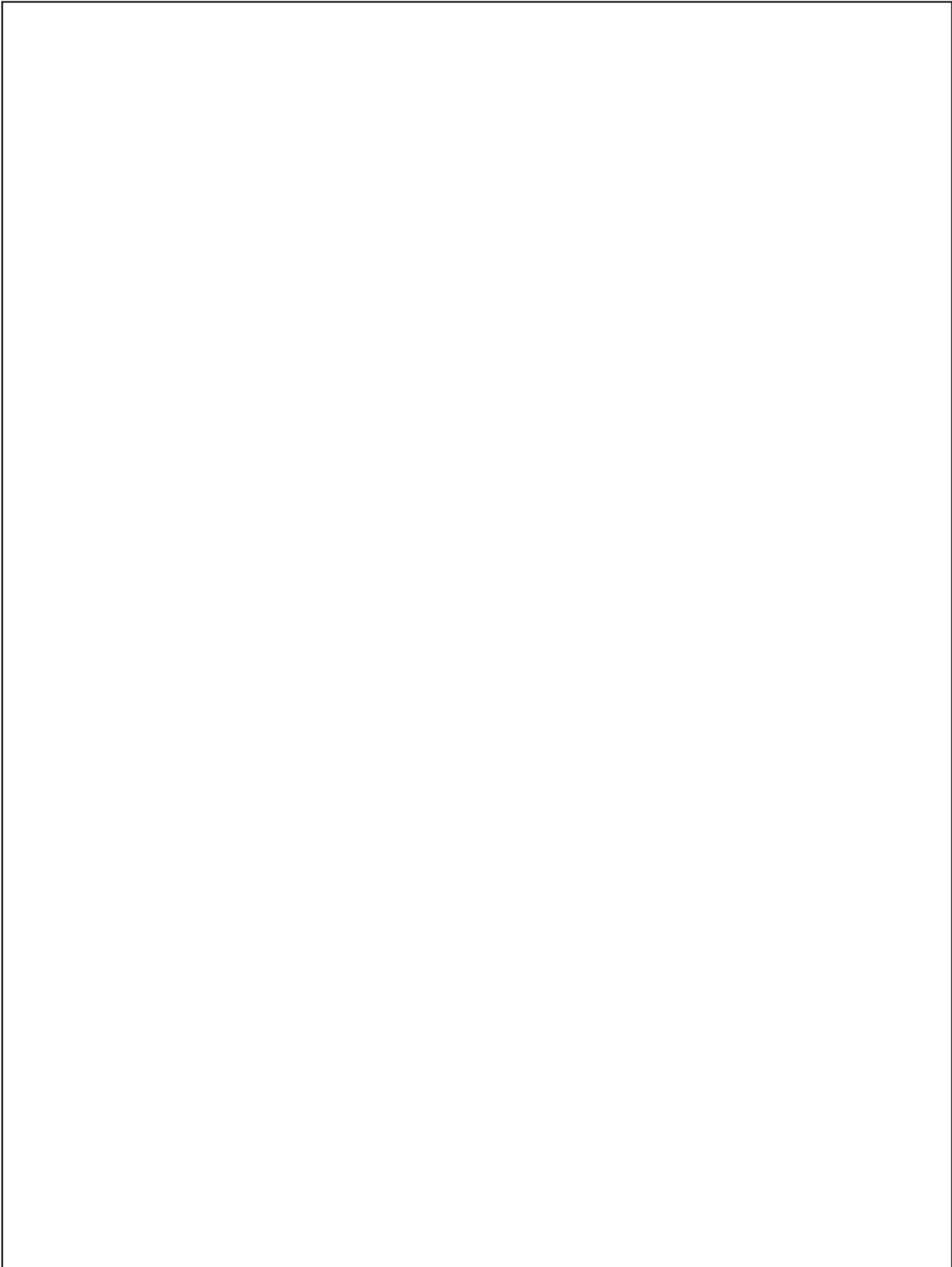
As the maiden guest of room 158 B  
I have found the White Grass  
Dude Ranch's quarters to be a  
step back in time. Working down  
at the BC ranch and staying here  
at White Grass has been a  
fascinating comparison of history  
preserved and in the art of  
restoring history. I feel privileged  
to have been able to add my name to  
the names of those before me. May the  
spirit of this place live on.

Katie Shene  
Portland, OR  
Volunteer with the Michigan Party.

July 29, 2012  
1158B

Perhaps the most telling thing I can say  
about this place is that I have been  
here a week and have not found time  
to write in this book. This place is  
not just a cabin or a historical site  
but an experience that vanishingly few  
people will ever have. I hope that  
everyone that stays here realizes that  
and makes the most of this place.

Fourth Rice Miles City, MT Michigan Volunteers.



**Guest Sign-In**





