

White Grass to cease operation

Grand Teton National Park Superintendent Jack Stark said Tuesday the White Grass Ranch will cease operating after this season due to the death of former owner Frank Gale.

Stark said the Park Service purchased 301 acres of the ranch for \$165,000 in 1957. A clause in the purchase contract allowed Gale to operate the dude ranch until his death. He died July 6.

In 1983 the park purchased the remaining six acres of private White Grass land for \$195,000 in a deal that allows use of two cabins and five

acres for 10 years. The arrangement also allows Gale's wife Nona to use the main ranch cabin for her lifetime.

The ranch is located in the southern end of Grand Teton National Park about half a mile northeast of Phelps Lake. "With Frank's death the right to operate White Grass as a guest ranch has expired," Stark said Tuesday.

Many fixtures from the historic ranch will go on sale at a public auction scheduled for 10 a.m. Sept. 14 and 15. Among the advertised items are more than 80 horses, 70 western saddles, bedding, stoves that were used to accommodate 70 guests and a large crew.

School buses start rolling Tuesday

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