

BEAR CREEK RANGER STATION

- 1912 First Bear Cr. Ranger's Dwelling built in 1912. The only ranger Leroy Lewis knew of to use this cabin was Chas. A. McGregor in 1919.
(Leroy Lewis/ Taped Interview)
- 1916 Ranger Station was built near mouth of Bear Cr. and Selway River headquarters for Bear Cr. Dist. until early 30's when it was consolidated with Moose Cr. District.
(Bill Samsel/ Taped Interview/ 7-30-70)
- 1923 spotted fever territory
or
1924
1. one of the smokechasers at Moe Peak the year before died of spotted fever
 2. son of Kirkwood, Prof. at University of Montana, came down with spotted fever while collecting plant specimens.
 - a. waited for help at Bear Cr. R.S.
 - b. packer who brought boy out had contracted disease and died although the 16 year old boy lived.
- (Louis Hartig/ Letter to M.E. Ackerman/ 6-16-70)
- 1923 Floyd Cossit Ranger at Bear Cr.
- 1925 March, Ray Ferguson assigned to Bear Cr. District until June, 1926
1. routine management and administration
 2. trail work
 - a. extension of trail up Brushy Fork of Bear Cr.
 - b. extension of main Bear Cr. trail
 - c. access trail to Moe Peak
- (Ray Ferguson/ Letter to M.E. Ackerman/ 7-10-70)
- d. trail to be built from Paradise Flats, ten miles up Bear Cr. to Twin Butte L.O.
- (Leroy Lewis/ "Highlights"-unpublished manuscript)
- 1925 Bear Cr. bridge completed in 1927
- 1926 Moose Cr. Ranger Fred Shaner and Leroy Lewis whipsawed the decking for this bridge in March and April, 1927.
(From the back of Leroy Lewis photo)
- 1926 Jack Parsell stationed there
1. before he left he salvaged what he could of two stations and moved two buildings up to Shearer and burnt rest of her
 - a. had two wheel tractor and cart
 - b. took logs down and numbered them and hauled them to Shearer

(2)

2. decided to move outfit to Shearer
 - a. they were going back to irrigate at Shearer
 - b. better place to operate from
3. moved telephone system
4. fixed up Phil Shearer's old buildings and moved in and refloored them
5. wooden cabin-F.S. commissary
 - a. built cabin at upper end of airstrip so planes could unload there
 - b. another reason why moved from Bear Cr. because had to pack all stuff down to former station

(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)

1927 March and April: Fred Shaner and Leroy Lewis whipsawed lumber for window frames. Ernie Kauffman finished Bear Cr. Commissary. Summer: Ernest Kauffman hand planned all rough lumber and completed building.
(From back of Leroy Lewis's photo)

1930 Bear Cr. R.S. built fall of 1930 (eight m n bunk house)
Excellent axe work in one-third dove tailed corners.
(From back of Leroy Lewis's photo)

1934 Bert Waldron Moose Cr. Asst. at Bear Cr. Station

1934 Jack Rice-Dispatcher

1. trapped some and counted game in winter
2. visited Phil Shearer and drank quite often, but never on the job
(Alna Renshaw/ Taped Interview)
3. when he came out in fall, he celebrated all winter
(Ed Gilroy/ Taped Interview)

-1940's Bob Henderson Asst. Ranger
(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)

Personnel

I. Rangers

- A. David Langley-alternate Ranger for Jack Parsell worked primarily on Magruder
(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)
- B. George Turner
- C. Bert Waldron
- D. Bob Henderson

- E. Jack Parsell
(Alna Renshaw/ Taped interview)

II. Packers

- A. Bert Cochran
 - B. Alvin Renshaw
 - C. Bert Waldron
 - D. Jack Lykins
 - a. unknown by George Nichols as to whether Lykins had own string or U.S.F.S.
 - b. Lykins's wife cooked for crew at Bear Cr.
- (George Nichols/ Interview by Richard Walker/ 7-29-70)
- E. G.I. Ervine-river packer
(From Leroy Lewis's photoback)

Bridge

The Bear Creek Bridge was built by Italian prisoners of war. They stayed in tents while building the bridge.
(From back of photo of George Nichols)