National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

FINDING AID

William J. Barmore Research Papers
1915-1979 and undated

Prepared by
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Yellowstone National Park Archives
P O Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190-0168

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HISTORY

William "Bill" J. Barmore, Jr., was born in 1931 and grew up in Crown Point, Indiana. He began his National Park Service career at Mount Rainier National Park in 1951. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War (1951-1953) and then attended Purdue University, graduating in 1958 with a B.S. in agriculture with an emphasis in wildlife management. Barmore received a M.A. in wildlife science from Utah State University in 1961. His thesis research was on bighorn sheep and their habitat in Dinosaur National Monument.

Barmore was employed as a biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to working at Yellowstone National Park. He also worked for the U.S. Forest Service. Barmore began working as a wildlife biologist at Yellowstone in 1962, studying the northern range's elk herd as well as other ungulate species and their winter habitat. He also participated in population reduction programs for elk, pronghorn, and bison. In 1967, Barmore was reassigned as a research biologist in the Office of Natural Science Studies, Washington, D.C., but stationed at Yellowstone, and expanded his research on the ecology of ungulates and their winter habitat.

In 1970, Barmore began his Ph.D. studies in range ecology at Utah State University. While there he complied, analyzed, and interpreted his research in Yellowstone. He began working at Grand Tetons National Park in 1974 as a research biologist, where he wrote that park's first Natural Resource Management Plan. He also became involved in other environmental issues in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and served on the board of directors for the Jackson Hole Alliance for Responsible Planning.

Barmore retired from the NPS in 1986 with 30 years of government service. As of 2012, he resides near Wilson, Wyoming, and remains active working on environmental issues.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

WILLIAM J. BARMORE RESEARCH PAPERS,
1915-1979 AND UNDATED (BULK: 1950s-1970s)

CATALOG NUMBER: MSC 053 (YELL 229646)

VOLUME: 4.75 LINEAR FEET (9 BOXES)

DESCRIPTION

This collection consists of raw data, statistical analyses, and narrative manuscripts of biologist William J. Barmore, primarily related to his research on elk in Yellowstone National Park. The collection includes raw data, statistical analyses, and narrative manuscripts created during Barmore's tenure as a Ph.D. student at Utah State University (1970-1974). Also included are observation cards created while he was a research biologist with the Office of Natural Science Studies, Washington, D.C., stationed at Yellowstone (1967-1970).

There are statistical analyses that Barmore later used to draft his manuscript, which in turn was incorporated into his book. This data was produced on large computer-generated print-outs. These reports include computer simulations of habitat use for elk and other ungulates. There is also a research paper authored by Barmore describing the computer simulations. A manuscript is part of this collection and is likely a version used to prepare a semi-published report titled "Distribution and Abundance of Ungulates in the Northern Yellowstone Ecosystem in Pristine Times and Today" (1987). Barmore writes in the preface of his book, "Ecology of Ungulates and their Winter Range in Northern Yellowstone National Park" (2003), that his unpublished research was finally published after his retirement in 1986, and this may be the report mentioned above.

Also included in the collection are photographic slides, most of which are related to Barmore's study of ungulates and grazing; many photos of vegetation plots, especially aspen, willow, and sage; and photos of the park's elk reduction program, wildlife, and a bison trap.

Barmore's data and manuscripts may be of value to researchers of Yellowstone's elk herds as well as the park's Northern Range. The collection may also contribute to larger studies of ungulate population dynamics, wildlife effects on habitat, and National Park Service management policies and results.

ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged by format and then chronologically.

PROVENANCE

Gift of William J. Barmore via Don DeSpain and Yellowstone Center for Resources, 1997 and 2006.

ESTRICTIONS: NO

ASSOCIATED MATERIALS: Publications by Barmore, Yellowstone Research Library

CONTAINER LIST

Box

01	Observation Cards describing Habitat Selection, Snow Conditions, 1967-1970
02	Computer Simulation of Elk Use Dimensions, 1972; Printout of Data of Observations and Availability of Habitat Use by Ungulates, 1973
03	Ungulate Habitat Use and Analyses on the Winter Range along with Program Data and Analyses, 1973-1974
04	Yellowstone Ungulate Habitat Use, Printout of various Summations of the Data, 1974
05	Manuscript: Population Characteristics, Distribution, and Habitat Relationships of Six Ungulates in Northern Yellowstone National Park, 1975-1979
06	Photographic Slides, 1915-1979
07	Photographic Slides, 1915-1979
08	Magnetic Cards, no date
09	Manuscript: Population Characteristics, Distribution, and Habitat Relationships of Six Ungulates in Northern Yellowstone National Park, circa 1975