



# WYOMING

**W**IND +++

**Y**EREX'S ON TOUR

**O**PEN SPACES

**M**INING URANIUM, OIL AND GAS

**I**NCREDIBLE SNOWED JUNE 6<sup>th</sup>

**N**ATIONAL PARKS: YELLOWSTONE; GRAND TETON

**G**RAND TETON MTNS

**DAY 53 Walden Chedsey Motel to Lazy Acres Motel/CG Riverside WY**

**May 27/08 Tuesday D78.66km M 46.3 A16.3 T4h49 TT7h total 3986.7 km**

**Temp** 5C on leaving the motel and didn't get over 10 until late afternoon now 20C

**Wind** into a mild wind all day



**Food: Breakfast** usual cereal with banana, yogurt and nuts... Ken cheese sand ,apple,coffee

**Lunch** stopped at a fishing access without any tables or services except parking... pb sands, avocado, carrots and tomato

**Supper** not too inventive, but spaghetti with red sauce and cheese

**This is why restaurant eating isn't really an option!**

**Road Conditions** frost heaves were a bit annoying for the last couple of days, but good shoulder, little traffic



**Accommodation** very nice quiet site in the tiny town of pop.69 Riverside [Encampment pop560 1 m up the road] \$7.49/pp. for hiker/bikers

**Overall:** good day a lot of down hill Walden at 8099ft, Coxidrey 7910ft, Riverside 7137ft ... a little deceiving as was up and down all day. As we came into Wyoming it was nice. A long wide valley stretched out ahead of us. We saw 5 deer today and 5 antelope, lots of cattle... the map says there are 450,000 pop of Wyoming... Ken thinks the cows outnumber the people! I think we will find lots of open spaces.

Guy from Chester England biked by early this morning headed for Rawlins today... will be over 100miles for him... he is strong and young! We are doing a shorter day... did consider going on to Saratoga [30km] but decided we liked the campsite here with hot clean showers!

We are suddenly out of the mountains and into the foothills once more. We stopped for coffee on arrival in town and one other man in the restaurant had 'John Waynes' voice! Also a gentle giant of a man.

Day 49 Hanson Park CG (Walden CO) to Lazy Acres Motel & CG (Riverside/Encampment WY) 78.4 km

Head west on 4th St toward Main St Walden 8099ft	75 m	0.1 km
Turn right at CO-125/Main St Continue to follow CO-125	21.1 km	21.2 km
Turn left to stay on CO-125 Cowdrey @ 15km 7910ft	14.1 km	35.3 km
Entering Wyoming Continue on WY-230	43.1 km	78.4 km
<b>Riverside [7137 ft] G/M/R/SS Encampment SS/R</b>		

No Services on route groceries on arrival very very expensive

Lazy Acres Campground & Motel (307) 327-5968 110 Fields Ave, Encampment, WY 82325

Vacher's Bighorn Lodge (307) 327-5110 508 Mccaffrey Ave, Encampment, WY 82325



**The antelope are incredible... like rabbits everywhere**



**They are curious about us and then run with us... we haven't a hope of keeping up!**



BUT HARD TO GET A PHOTO OF

**DAY 54 Riverside Lazy Acres CG to Rawlins Western Hills CG WY**  
**May 28/08 Wednesday D 100.55km M 41.4 A14.7 T6h51 TT 9.5 h total 4087.2 km**

**Temp** cold overnight 2C in tent but no frost... very dry Got up to 20C by time in camp

**Wind** UNBELIEVABLE see the overall

**Food: Breakfast** usual

**Lunch** Mom's Kitchen in Saratoga for second "breakfast"

**Supper** Had a salad in Sinclair and Ken had another omlet with cheese and hash browns... medicinal rum before bed

**Road Conditions** the ride was hard until Walcott with side/front/tail winds swirling then onto I 80 with good shoulder

**Accommodation** very nice spotless showers and bathrooms... nice tent spot with wind shelter wall Full of migrant oil/gas workers in a large parking lot style RV park

**Overall:** headed off from Riverside with a slight tail wind Got to Saratoga and stopped for "pancakes" at "Mom's Kitchen" with Mom as cook. Very nice. We should have come on to here yesterday as they have a free mineral pool up to 128F! now that's hot but it was a bit rolling hills so we would have had a 110km day and been exhausted. Continued on to Walcott which was supposed to have a café... NOT just a dirty truck stop so we turned into the wind and I mean wind. The trucks were having troubles keeping the rigs on the road. We could see they were tilted down to the right. There were mega 18 wheelers... one every 5 seconds passing, but we had a huge shoulder. If Ken hadn't been beside me I could not balance. If I went slightly behind or ahead I was blown to the ditch! Extremely mentally exhausting for both of us. The 30km to Sinclair was a nightmare hope to not repeat soon! We stopped again not that we were hungry but we needed to get out of the wind and constant noise of the traffic! I should have eaten something with protein as a salad gave me no extra energy for the following 10km into the wind. We headed off on WY 76 with no shoulder but 2 lanes thru the refinery area then minimal cars passed us as we took the entire lane so I could be beside Ken for protection from the exhausting gusting wind. A train ~1km long was 100yds to our left going slow so we don't know what the wind might have been without that. A woman told us 45mph winds No trees or hills for protection either! We road into Rawlins with motel after old motel. Struggled and I mean it to the RV park full of workers rigs. It's a Good Sam park so very nice, but no pool! Mini golf isn't an amenity to me! \$12. We were so tired we just wanted to get off the bikes and get out of the wind and noise. Well I 80 is a ways away, but the sound bounces off the hills so it's like it is right beside us! My lips are blistered! I'm a wreck! We set up, drank lots of fluids and hit the hay!

Day 50 **DO** Lazy Acres Motel & CG (Riverside WY) to Western Hills CG (Rawlins WY) 99.9 km

Head west on Riverside Ave/WY-230 toward 1st St Continue to follow WY-230	19.6 km	19.6 km
Continue on WY-130 @9.4 Saratoga AS	42.3 km	61.9 km
Turn left to merge onto I-80 W/US-287 N/US-30 W <b>Walcott G/R/SS @11km Rest Area</b>	20.6 km	82.5 km
Take exit 221 toward Sinclair	0.8 km	83.3 km
Turn right at WY-76	2.6 km	85.9 km
Turn left at Union Ave <b>Sinclair R/SS</b>	0.9 km	86.8 km
Continue straight onto S 9th St/WY-76 Continue to follow WY-76	6.6 km	93.4 km
Turn left at I-80-BL W	3.7 km	97.1 km
Turn right at 3rd St	0.3 km	97.4 km
Slight left at W Spruce St <b>Rawlins AS</b>	15 m	97.4 km
Turn left at I-80-BL W/W Spruce St	2.0 km	99.4 km
Turn right at 23rd St	0.1 km	99.5 km
Turn left at Wagon Circle Rd/Wagon Circle St	0.3 km	99.8 km

Western Hills Campground (307) 324-2592 2500 Wagon Circle Road, Rawlins, WY 82301 (OPEN)

RV World Campground 3101 Wagon Circle Rd, Rawlins, WY 82301 (877) 328-1091

American Presidents Campground (307) 324-2318 2346 W Spruce St, Rawlins, WY 82301

Super 8 Motel (307) 328-0630 2338 Wagon Circle St, Rawlins, WY 82301

Motel 7 (307) 324-2263 1915 W Spruce St, Rawlins, WY 82301

pass Discount Grocery on East Cedar(I-80 Bus Loop) on way to CG



THIS IS THE TRAIL OF THE PIONEERS



**I think it should say "Strong winds Probable"**



**These snow fences go for miles and miles... when ever you see them you know it is windy!**

## DAY 55 Rawlins Western Hills CG WY REST DAY!!

May 29/08 Thursday D 00000km

**Temp** not so cold overnight We were toasty warm and stayed in bed until 9am!

**Wind** Still blowing but might have helped if we were on the road today.... Just too tired!

**Food: Breakfast** walked and walked to the grocery and deli for breakfast

**Lunch** not many restaurants surprisingly with all the motels... had a spinach salad that was yummy... Ken a CLT sand and tomatoe maci soup [his personal favorite]

**Supper** Bagels and hot rum!

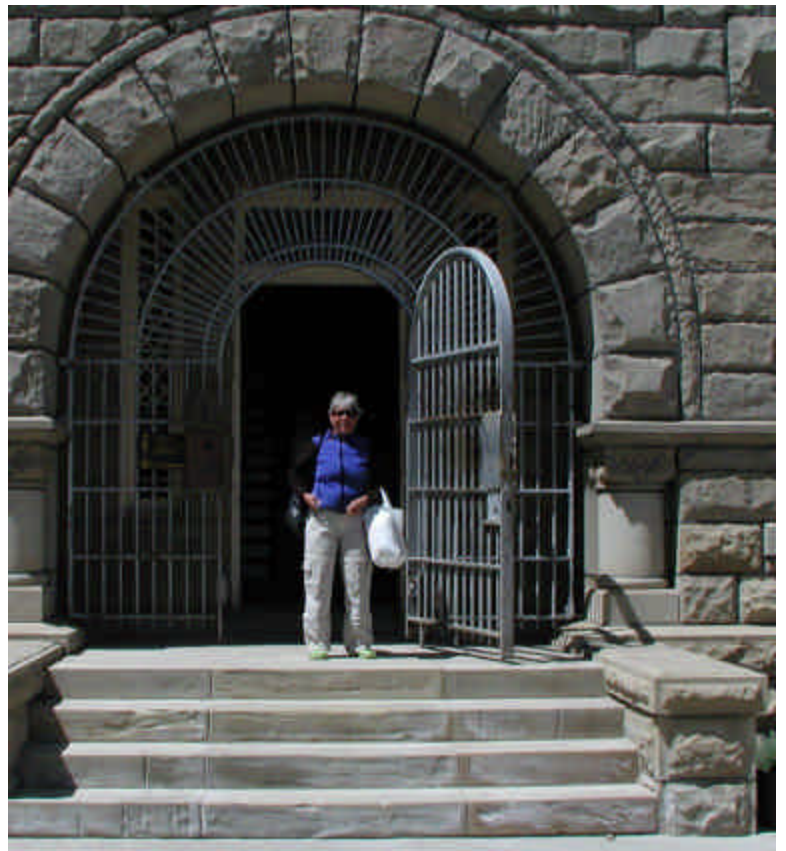
**Overall** Very nice sleep in day. I awoke at usual 5am with tired legs and aching hands [from gripping the handlebars]. We had decided a rest day was in order so we got up and walked to the town... nothing much here. It is worse than Kelowna for stretching out along the hiway. We got some food and went to the 'Wyoming's Frontier Prison' museum Very interesting. We got a tour and Ken sat in the gas chamber! It was from 1888 to 1981 so had all types of changes... one being that it didn't have hot water or much other than wood heat until 1965 and it gets to -40F here in the winter. It was cold to us today so I just can't imagine it. She said the prisoners would be bad so they could go to solitary where it was warmer. She also told us that the cyanide used in the gas chamber eats the seals on the windows that the warden and viewers watch thru, so they were resealed after each use and then they used a PIG to test if sealed before used again... It was a really interesting tour... Wyoming still has the death penalty... interesting there were no pardons when this prison was open so once you were on death row the excision was in 2 days. Prior the gas chamber they had a grewsome hanging chamber that the prisoner stepped on a triggered floor that started a pail full of water, measured to his weight, and when the pail was empty the floor dropped away. It wasn't very humane as they were strangled. They did execute some 15 persons I think in the almost 100years it was open. The prison was set for demolition when the town took it over. The buildings are sturdy and probably could be refered for something besides tours. I don't think I would like a loft apartment there, but someone might.

We did our laundry and just chatted and walked the day away. The wind is as strong or stronger than yesterday so would have been a help to blow us to Lamont, but we will see what tomorrow brings. There are few trees... the prison had a project of growing trees with the prisoners doing the gardening and that is where most of their trees have come from over the years. They have a lot of trouble with deer, rabbits and antelope eating anything that grows. It is spring once more as we head north so the deciduous trees have no leaves yet. Seems strange. They have no garden plots or flower beds. It is a dry dry windy land that is at it's greenest right now with the tumble weed or sage brush sort of in bloom. I can't get away from I-80 fast enough!

Rawlin's has been a "boomtown" for 3 types of natural resources... coal, mining or, and oil & gas. Boy is it booming now. Sort of sad to see all these men here in trailers and motels by themselves and there families who knows where. Very similar to Lloydminster. Even the Pizza delivery is in a 1/2 ton truck! They are building some new homes in hopes they might keep some of the workers when the boom dies down. Homes are pretty cheap here... \$100 thou gets a 3 bedroom bungalo not new, but kept up.

The wind has suddenly just stopped.

# Wyoming Frontier Prison Museum





**Ken got in a little trouble while we were here at the prison!**

**DAY 56 Rawlins Western Hills CG WY to Jeffrey "City"**  
**May 30/08 Friday D 112.65km M 38.5 A14.3 T7h51 TT 11 h total 4199.9 km**

**Temp** same...cold overnight 2C in tent but no frost... very dry Got up to 20C by time in camp

**Wind** not as bad, but seemed to come from side and head on all day

**Food: Breakfast** usual

**Lunch** Grandmother's café in LAMONT... only population of 2... grandma and her spouse... town gone

**Supper** tomato, avocado, cuc sands at the Lions shelter

**Road Conditions** Well really good shoulder but some spots where the frost heaves were bad. Little traffic some trucks

**Accommodation** Well a big disappointment... at Muddy Gap Junction we were told no groceries, nothing at Jeffrey City but a pub and café. We were still hoping that the grocery store Ken had marked just out of town was still there...Not. The RV park is here but unattended \$20 and no wash house so must be self contained units. The Lions CG is a nice large shelter with a restroom that is non functional and a portapotti that is lying on it's side... so we are able to use the fellow at the "Monkey Bird Pottery" shoppe's BR as he is in an old gas station and the washroom is accessed from outside. Also the café opens at 6am... so hold it!



**Overall:** Started out of Rawlins up up hill thru the residential part of town which is quite nice. They have a very large high school. The wind wasn't too strong but from the side and increased as the morning progressed. We were making really good time and then I got a rt side ache that was like a gall bladder attach... ouchy for 2 hours. We went up and over the Continental Divide again into the Great Divide Basin... sort of a valley... the divide makes a circle here and we assume no water flows out of this valley. Very dry dessert like with no farm houses to see. The earth looks to be sand and tumble weed is about all that is growing. We limped in to Lamont... which we thought was to be a town, but I think we are in Saskatchewan as there is no town, just Grandmother's café [who by the way is the cook and at least 80]... had a good BLT minus the B for cheese. {M38.5 A13.8 T 4h D 54.71 I had hoped to get a post card, but non to be had... no post office even! After a walk about, 1 ½ T3's and a sandwich my pain was sort of go ne... might have been caused by the egg I had last night in my salad as I haven't been eating eggs... better keep away from them for a while. We crossed over the Continental divide again, out of the basin area, just out of Lamont. Then we headed to the Muddy Gap Pass 6250Ft... Lamont was 6640ft so some up mostly down and we were

in Muddy Gap Junction which has a Coneco gas station with a few groceries.



The woman working there was really friendly and told us about our destination Jeffrey City which is a ghost town [was 6000pop, now 50] we turned into the wind and on rolling hills headed off. There is a nice rest stop at Split Rock National Heritage site. This area was known for when the settlers came thru here they used the rock formation to guide them thru this open valley area. The area has a notation of no camping, but in a pinch it would have worked better than Jeffrey if we had known. It's another 25km to Jeffrey rolling and down hills. Overall not too hard a day for 112km, but long time in the saddle. We aren't too happy with the lack of accommodations... there is a moldy hotel that the café runs... not worth the price \$65 +tax for 2 so rather than a lumpy old mattress we chose our own beds with the song birds singing and the 2 robins nesting over head. Note that they call gofers "whistle pigs"

DAY 51 Western Hills CG (Rawlins WY) to Lion's Club Park (Jeffrey City WY) 111.0

Head northeast on Wagon Circle Rd/Wagon Circle St	0.3 km	0.3 km
Turn right at 23rd St	0.1 km	0.4 km

Turn left at I-80-BL E/W Spruce St Continue to follow W Spruce St	2.0 km	2.4 km
Turn left at 3rd St/WY-789 N Continue to follow WY-789 N <b>in 53 km Lamont R only</b> Muddy Gap Pass	70.9 km	73.3 km
Turn left at US-287 <b>SS/G (limited)</b> <b>Coneco</b> Muddy Gap corner	37.0 km	110.3 km
<b>Jeffrey City M/R</b> nothing else no BR at Park left side of hwy just past cafe	58 m	110.4 km

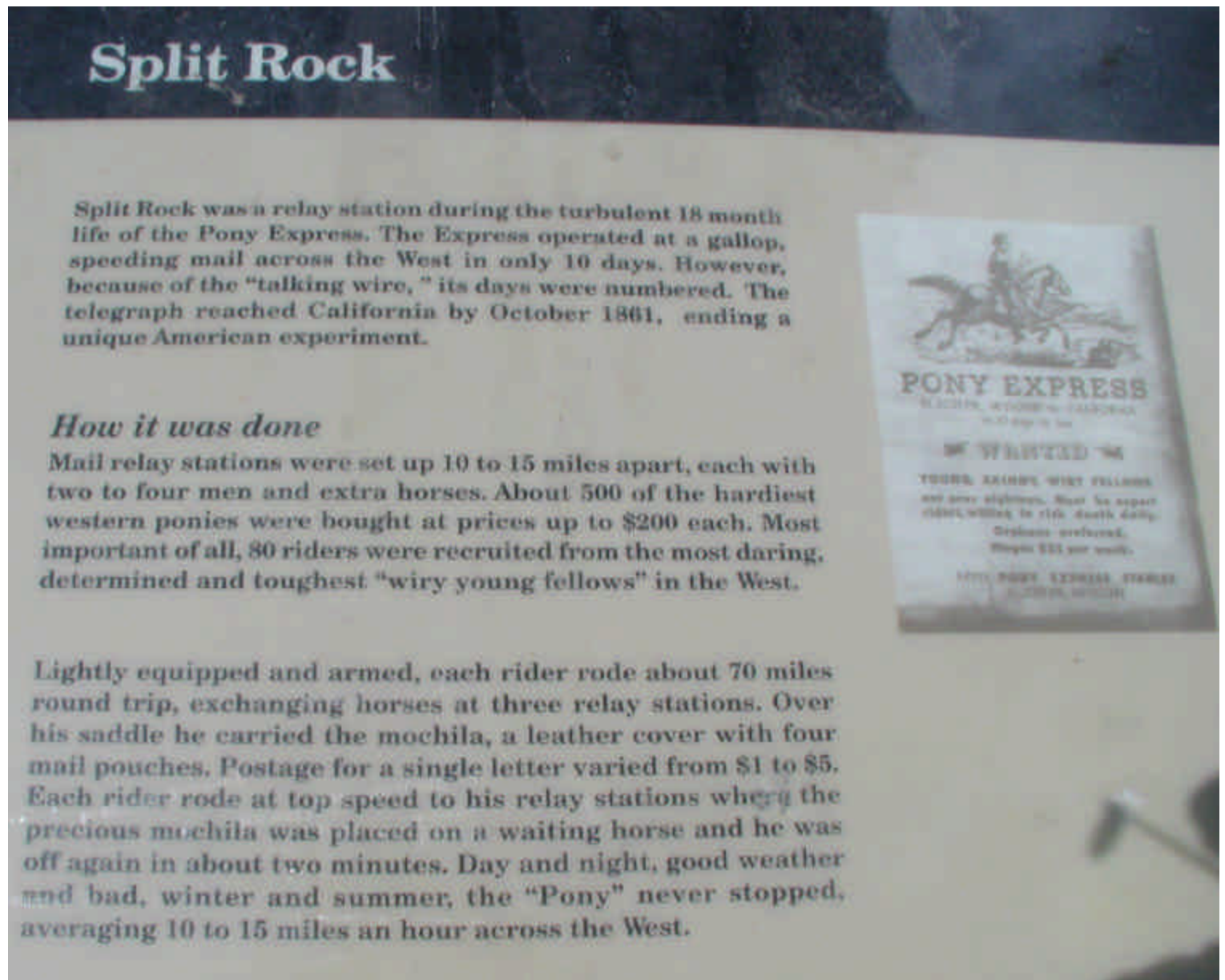
Lion's Club Park shelter now owned by the municipality... no washrooms

Also: Cowboy RV Park (303) 319-5195 6 Rattle Snake St, Jeffrey City, WY 82310 No washrooms here either

Both Google and Yahoo show these motels, High Plains Bar & Cafe and O & J's Food Mart 7KM before the town ??? These do not exist! The bar and café run a motel of sorts expensive for here \$40 single \$65 double

~~Green Mountain Motel (307) 544-2202 2271 Wy-789, Jeffrey City, WY 82310~~

~~JC Motel (307) 544-9317 2271 Us-287, Jeffrey City, WY 82310~~



We always think of Europe being steeped in history, but we have a lot of history too.



### *The Pony's echo*

Completion of the transcontinental telegraph line on October 24, 1861 doomed the Pony Express. During its short life, the Express attracted world-wide attention that has not faded with time. Russell, Majors, Waddell and Company lost over \$1 million on this venture. Nevertheless, the Pony Express stands tall as an outstanding example of American enterprise, endurance, courage and determination.

**Pony Express**

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management



*The need was there*  
Competing with slow, harsh climates, long distances, rough terrain and the hostility of numerous Indian bands, the Pony Express carried the mail 1800 miles across the West. From April 6, 1860 to October 24, 1861, the California-Oregon Mail and Pike's Peak Express, better known as the Pony Express, was this Nation's western communication link. It kept the West informed and helped keep California in the Union at the outbreak of the Civil War.



*Buffalo Bill and the Long Ride*  
Legend says that Pony Express rider William "Buffalo Bill" Cody exchanged horses here on a record ride from Red Buttes Station to Rocky Ridge Station and back. Due to another rider's untimely death, Cody was forced to add an extra leg to his relay and eventually covered a total of 322 miles in 21 hours and 40 minutes, using 21 horses. On another occasion, he rode one horse at top speed for 24 miles when chased by Indians from Horse Creek Station east of Independence Rock to Plant's Station just east of here.



Split Rock.... The Valley the Oregon trail goes thru



A weary traveler at Split Rock WY



The Valley out of Split Rock



Split Rock seen from down the road... you can see how the settlers could travel towards this landmark.



Accommodations at Lions Pk Jeffery City



Monk King Bird Pottery Studio in Jeffery City



This is the main street boarded up of Jeffery City No houses to be seen as they have all been moved away to Lander in 1981 last bust

## DAY 57 Jeffrey "City" to Lander City Park

May 31/08 Saturday D95.57 km M42.6 A16.1 T6h TT9 h total 4295.5 km

**Temp** not so cold this morning under the shelter Got nice and warm 20+C

**Wind** not a very strong wind today but a slight head wind or from the south all day

**Food: Breakfast** bananas and pineapple with cereal then went to the café and Ken had pancakes... I can't tell a lie I had a sticky bun.... Same calories as pancakes and syrup!

**Lunch** stopped along the road after Sweetwater once in the "canyons"

**Supper** great mashed potatoes and corn nuggets in the park

**Road Conditions** very nice shoulder all day... a few frost heave bumps but good



**Accommodation** nice spot they welcome all tenters or Rv's to 3 nights free in their city park... the showers are somewhere at the pool so we did without for a nite. Lots of families in the park having picnics and playing horseshoes!

The sun was shining and we were able to make our supper with the Kelly kettle. Lovely warm evening with no bugs!



The view on leaving Jeffery City... it is in a spectacular spot. Wind River Mtns in the distance.

**Overall:** A good day. I was glad to leave Jeffery City. We had a lite breakfast! At the café and spoke with the owner. She said the 40 houses mostly mobiles were moved in 1981 after the Uranium mine closed and the town has been dwindling since. A Canadian company has bought the Uranium rights and is drilling to get core samples and may start up operations again. They have a high school with pool and gym that was built and never opened. The floors are buckling apparently. We headed off and the terrain was up and down gradual inclines mostly Stopped at a Mormon Handcart Historic site for a tour. It was so interesting and the couple doing their mission there were so sincere and emotional as both of them were decendants of the settlers who came thru here at the sixth crossing of the Sweetwater River and became snowbound and almost perished. 500 persons came from Denmark, United Kingdom to Iowa City and then they got a late start as the handcarts were not built and their supplies were not ready ie blankets and food stuffs. They left so late that the snow came and they got trapped starving and cold. They sent a scout to Salt Lake City

and they sent wagons to rescue the survivors and they eventually got there by Nov 9<sup>th</sup> with about 400 persons. They must have had great faith to go on day after day over this rocky terrain with a hand cart. She said the cattle were so starved when they killed one to eat it there was no meat at all so they made soup and then cooked the hide to eat. These were mostly city dwellers from the countries they came from so they didn't have hunting skills. I would really like to read more about this part of history. I really enjoyed the tour. The Mormon religion was not really brought up in the tour other than to say why they were doing this was to get to Zion. It was more the historical aspect even though both of these people are of the Mormon faith. Ken and I pushed a hand cart which they have replicated... although it is 3 times heavier than the ones used due to the bearings for the wheels. They have camps here for kids and they fill the carts and take them on the trail for different periods of time to experience the way it might have been.

We went on and met another fellow from England doing the trail west to east. I think we will meet more cyclists this month than in the past 2. We had a lot of nice down hill today and the scenery is really splendid. Ken and I both like the greener hills and the red cliffs.

We arrived in Lander and got to the bike shop with 10 minutes to spare. He told us about the city park so here we are. Our "Walmart" survey continues of the "fitness/fatness" of America. This town seems to pass with flying colors at having a lot of fit people... even the manager of Safeway arrived on his bicycle! I really like what I see of this town of 6000 population. Homes are well kept, neat and tidy yards. First time for a long while that we have seen First Nations Americans and they are all "family" in the park just like everyone else. We go thru a large reservation tomorrow.

DAY 52 Lion's Club Park CG (Jeffrey City WY) to City Park CG (Lander WY) 94.1

Turn right at US-287 in 30km Sweetwater Station Rest area SS/G (limited) and Mormon Historical site with campground at Sixth Sweetwater crossing	78.9 km	79.0 km
Slight right toward US-287 Sleeping Bear Ranch RV CG/R/G(limited) kind of junky	0.3 km	79.3 km
Slight right at US-287	13.3 km	92.6 km
Turn left at Buena Vista Dr Lander AS City Park free camping for 3 days	1.1 km	93.7 km
Turn right at Wyoming St	0.3 km	94.0 km
Turn right at S 3rd St	0.1 km	94.1 km

Lander City Park CG **Also:**

Sleeping Bear RV Park & Campground (307) 332-5159 715 E Main St, Lander, WY 82520 \$16.00

National 9 Holiday Lodge (307) 332-2511 (Temporarily Closed) 210 McFarlane Dr, Lander, WY 82520

Downtown Motel (307) 332-3171 569 Main St, Lander, WY 82520

There is a Safeway on Westmain and 5<sup>th</sup> street



This historic site is at the sixth crossing of the Wind River of the cart settlers.



I don't think I would like to trade in my bicycle for this cart! Way to heavy without any gear.



This is one of the guides at the historic site. His ancestors were on this journey.

## Women of Sixth Crossing



Late in the year of 1856, the Willie and Martin Handcart Companies and the Hunt and Hodgetts Wagon Companies left Iowa City for their journey westward. Near this spot, these companies crossed the Sweetwater River for the sixth

time, thus the name Sixth Crossing. Because the companies left late in the year, they encountered severe winter storms, suffering from cold, rain, and snow. Barely surviving on scant rations, they were rescued by a relief party from Salt Lake City, Utah, sent by Brigham Young. With much faith in each footstep, they struggled on through thick dust, mud, and snow.

We pause to remember all the pioneer women who crossed the ocean and the plains, forded streams and rivers—some which were covered with ice, bore children along the way, and lost and buried loved ones. The women gathered anything that would burn for their fires and cooked from meager supplies. They came with little but gave their all on the journey west.

Bound together in faith and with tears of joy and sorrow, mothers, daughters, and sisters worked together for one cause and one purpose. They walked on, enduring one of the most tragic, yet most heroic events of the pioneers going west. They left a treasured legacy to their descendants.



2005

No. 537

Fremont Company, Wyoming  
Benton Company, Washington

[part of the message above is as follows]

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**DAY 58 Lander City Park to Longhorn Motel/CG Dubois Wy [said Doo Boys]  
 June 1/08 Sunday D117.95 km M43 A15.1 T7h50 TT10 h total 4415.9 km**

**Temp** not too cold this morning +5C then up to 20C for the rest of the day

**Wind** no trouble for once and we had a slight tail wind the last few km

**Food: Breakfast** bananas cottage cheese/cereal my usual; Ken cheese sand, apple, coffee

**Lunch** at a rest area after Fort Washakie where 287 turns Left on 26 nice spot could camp here

**Supper** bread stuffing and sandwiches

**Road Conditions** very good shoulder all the way rolling hills a bit tougher than we expected with the elevation gains

Lander El 5357 Dubois El 6917 but they forgot to go up only once instead of up... down...up... down

**Accommodation** Excellent A bit pricey at \$20 for a tent with no electric, beautiful new full bathroom for a shower

They must have deer in the yard as deer dodo everywhere on the grass... well aged so must be the winter campers.

**Overall:** really a great day. After Lander we were in Wind River Indian Reservation most of the day.... Part of the way is National Forest lands so no farms or homes of any kind, then into the reserve which is a really nice change with lots of ranches and they are farming and looking prosperous. There is a casino and they have oil wells but who knows if the common man gets his cut of that. There is a nice grocery in Fort Washakie and really nice Indian craft store with everything from hand made saddles to earrings... really nice stuff. Crowheart has a store/SS which is on Indian Res but appears to be owned by non natives. Burriss has no services and we didn't even see it. We followed the Wind River which is really in high water... it was flowing down stream as we went up hills. Lot so old log homes restored and lots of new log houses... how can I say... I think they are called "stick"log homes as the logs aren't very big. The houses are not pretentious either which is really nice. We went thru a red rock canyon that was really beautiful. Well tired and low batteries so that is all the thoughts for today.

DAY 53 City Park CG (Lander WY) to Longhorn CG (Dubois WY) 117

Head north on S 3rd St toward Fremont St	1.0 km	1.0 km
Turn left at Main St/US-287 Continue to follow US-287 <b>in 14 km Ray Lake R/CG in 24 km Fort Washakie G/SS</b>	50.3 km	51.3 km
Turn left at US-26/US-287 <b>in 22 km Crowheart G/SS</b>	65.2 km	116.5 km

Have to cary greceries from Lander since not going as far as Dubois

**Riverside Inn M/SS/CG** Dubois is 4km further on but we have already gone 117km

There are 3 motels and a KOA in Dubois





LONELY HOME HOME ON THE RANGE!



THESE HILLS WERE SO RED! ALONG THE WIND RIVER

## DAY 59 Dubois Wy to Hatched Resort[Moran Jct]

June 2/08 Monday D80.52 km M42.6 A11.7 T6h53 TT 10 h total 4496.4km

**AVERAGE 9.6 before the great down hill!**

**Temp** Got up 10C up to 20C then back down to 8C in pass

**Wind** into the wind most of the day which made the going much tougher than usual

**Food: Breakfast** usual fruit/yo gurt

**Lunch** We had sandwiches at Aspen Meadows... sort of a store but no cabins or CG or Restaurant as per Adv cycle Then stopped at Lava Mtn Lodge for artichoke spinach dip snack! And Ken had a chocolate cake item It looks like a really nice lodge, but even though we were tired and it was 2pm we set off towards the Togwotee Pass as I didn't want to do it first thing tomorrow.

**Supper** finally broke down and had Raman noodles

**Road Conditions** great shoulder, goes up up and more up until the great 17miles 6% downhill at the end of the day

**Accommodation** finally got to Hatched Resort to find out it has no camping... I made the decision to stay inside as it is 1830h and we are both bushed Well I didn't make the decision the girl did... she took one look at me when I asked about the camping... as it says there is from Adventure cycle... and said "but I can give you a really good deal on a room... with a hot shower" I was sold easily as it was after 1800 and we didn't have energy for a tent camp. She also said the funniest things... "so you retired and the next day you said 'Honey go out to the garage and get my bike, put as much stuff on it as you can and lets go adventuring' She really is a funny woman!

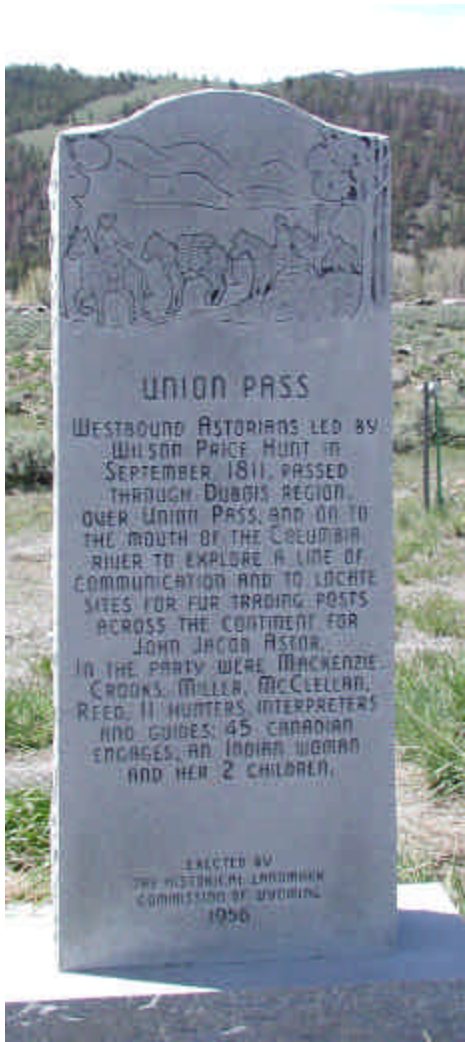


**Overall:** started off from the CG outside Dubois and got to town to discover Ken had a slow leaky tire. We needed to get groceries for 2 days as no towns on our path. The town is really nice. All the businesses on main are made of Lodgepole pine. They don't have a bylaw for such but everyone just likes them. A lot of the houses in town are log also.

Sent a postcard to Dagny from Crowheart and set off on US 287 into the wind. We hoped Aspen Meadows had a restaurant for breakfast, but no such luck. Had a sandwich at a picnic table and headed back into the wind.



They really mean it when they say no trespassing in Wyoming.... Violators will be shot, survivors will be shot again!



UNION PASS was right where we had our lunch stop, we did not go over it as it was going west. This area is steeped in history. This indicates that in 1811 explorers were going thru here to the Columbia river.



Met a fellow from Victoria BC [our first Canadian and first going east on the TransAmerican trail] who has his wife driving the sag wagon and he is going with the wind!

We continued on to Lava Mtn Lodge and had a snack. Average 10.2 M25.7 D36.33 3h33 thought about staying there, but we thought our total today was to be 67km so kept on going.



The pass isn't all that difficult, but 6% for about 17km but not constant... there are some reprieves and the trees yes finally some pine trees to block the wind at times. The top of the pass our average was 9.6 at 53km 5.5hours. We saw a female moose on our way down and several deer. We had a disappointment that the Togwotee Mtn Lodge was at 67km and not our destination....





Another crossing of the divide... we are not sure if we are on the west or east side now! Didn't expect this! 9658 ft  
The best part was that our destination was 13km downhill 6% grade... didn't take much longer! The view of the Teton Mountains was incredible. They looked almost unreal. I'm hoping my photos turn out. Anyways I finally got to stay in one of the log structures... and it is really nice!



DAY 54 Riverside Inn CG (Dubois WY) Hatchet Resort 80 km

Head west on US-26/US-287 toward Kingfisher Rd	4.1 km	4.1 km
Turn left at W Ramshorn St/US-26/US-287 Continue to follow US-26/US-287 <b>Dubois AS</b> <b>in 15 km Aspen Meadows small store @36 km Lava Mtn Lodge &amp; CG M/SS/G</b> <b>@67 km Togwotee Mtn Lodge G/M/R/SS</b>	63.4 km	67.5 km
<b>Hatchet Resort G/R/M/SS no camping [national forest CG 1/2m back]</b>	13 km	80.5 km

Stock up on food in Dubois for next couple of days



VERY RUSTIC HEAD BOARDS



AND CUTE BENCHES OUTSIDETHE DOORS

**DAY 60 Hatchet Resort[Moran Jct] to Flagg Ranch Resort Teton National Park**  
**June 3/08 Tuesday D 53.74km M 45.8 A 14.6 T3h41 TT 4 h total 45550.2km**

**Temp** left resort motel at 10C temp dropped as we climbed up to snow level and then a bit warmer 8C when we quit  
**Wind** into the wind once more ho hum  
**Food: Breakfast** usual fruit/yogurt  
**Lunch.** Flagg Ranch Resort restaurant  
**Supper** none

**Road Conditions** good shoulder thru the trees so a little reprieve from the wind

**Accommodation** decided at lunch if we went on we would be 1000ft higher and there is snow here in the CG so here we are... lovely warm clean shower houses. A few other campers in motorhomes.

**Overall:** Well the day didn't start too well. We both got up really still tired from yesterdays struggle in the wind and hills. And Ken realized he spent 2 hours last night on bike maintenance and his tire is flat again! So we didn't even leave until 9am. The traffic is enough that we wouldn't want to be on this road on a weekend. Lots of Cruise America rented RV's We were a little surprised by the elevation gains and losses started out at 6850ft headed up and down and up again to 6742ft at Moran Jct. The views of the Tetan Mts was another wonderful surprise. They just jump out at you. I'm so glad we are not going with the wind! What a view we would have missed.



We entered Teton National Park which charges for hikers and bikers unlike our parks \$12 each I think I will email them and say if they are to charge for us on the road they should sweep the shoulder! Anyways it is a lovely park with lots of picnic sites and places to stop and admire the view. Jackson Lake is huge and we go along it's shore for a while... up on the hills mind you... I think it is a dammed river as you can see stumps near the edge. There was piles of snow in the bush and ditch some places up to 3 ft high. Made for a cool breeze off that.





We went up up up and down and up up and down to 6850ft again and arrived at Flagg Ranch Resort. From the elevation of the stops you would think it was a flat ride... oh no not so fast. Another reason for stopping early today is we cross the continental divide 3 times tomorrow! So we will need to rest up for that.

We saw at least 10 female moose today. No bears, but the campsite has signs to keep no food around. They have bear safe caches... half full of water so Ken had to do some maintenance before putting our stuff there, but I think bears are still asleep it's so cold... then again a fellow we met said when he was on a bus tour in Yellowstone last week he saw a bear. Better safe than sorry.



Now that's a traffic sign

Finally some cow pokes!

DAY 55 Hatchet Lodge to Flagg Ranch Resort Teton National Park

Head west on US-26/US-287 Elevation 6850ft	12.8 km	12.8 km
Turn right at US-191/US-287/US-89 Elevation 6742ft <b>20 km Jackson Lake Lodge M/R/SS Elevation 6850ft</b>	41.2 km	54 km
<b>Flagg Ranch R/SS/CG/G Elevation 6850ft</b>		54 km

Flagg Ranch Resort PO Box 187 Moran WY 800 443-2311



THESE MOUNTAINS ARE REALLY BEAUTIFUL.



CAMPING AGAIN!

**DAY 61 Flagg Ranch Resort Teton National Park to Yellowstone Old Faithful Lodge**  
**June 4/08 Wednesday D 72.75km M 43.3 A 13.7 T5h19 TT all day total 4622.9km**

**Temp** 0-2C on rising; 5C going up the hill and about 10C around noon then back to 5C Cool day

**Wind** no wind factor today

**Food: Breakfast** usual fruit/yogurt difference was the location... we went to Yellowstone Entrance picnic site

**Lunch.** Well planned to eat in Grant's Village cafeteria, but only meat items so asked and we bought bagels in their store and made sandwiches .... Bought a pop and coffee \$4. Not an economical place to eat anyways

**Supper** Veggie Lasagna with corn and garlic toast at the Old Faithful Lodge... was okay too

**Road Conditions** besides crossing the GREAT DIVIDE 3 times, yes you got it THREE times it was good. Lots of cars, rental rv's who don't move over very much, and vans. Wouldn't want to ride this on a weekend. Grades 6 or 7% Not much for guard rails. Lots of great views of canyons, waterfalls, snowy mountains and wildlife.

**Accommodation** long story short we planned to stay in a hotel in Old Faithful and when arrived were told "NO rooms at the INN" so we waited and watched the geyser blow at 1710, then went back in to ask if any cancellations.... Thank you another angel crossed our path we got the cutest cabin with 2 beds... no tv or internet up here but we are so happy not to cycle another 25km at this time of night to a campground as it rained/grappled for the 1 hour we were waiting for the geyser to blow.



**Overall:** very good day. We left Flagg Ranch after going to their store and meeting our 5<sup>th</sup> grumpy American... the manager came out and said "are you coming in the store?" then he proceeded to very rudely tell me to move our bikes out of the path to the door.... Hello It's 0730 and not a sole around... anyways not going to let him ruin my day Off we went to have breakfast where we are appreciated about 4km at the entrance to Yellowstone park. The ranger station is a lovely old large log building. We came to a water fall and stopped to take a picture with lots of others and a coyote came out of the bush and crossed the road right in the group of people. He looked a little starved and there was a small pup on a chain... I don't know if he was after that, but he did come back after we cycled off. at 20km and our first

1000ft [78/0ft] got us to our destination campsite for yesterday which was not open so lucky we didn't make it! Lots of snow and about 5C We continued to climb to our first crossing of the Great Divide for today [7988 ft] then down to Grant's Village [7860ft] which is 1km off the road and kind of confusing as some things aren't open yet. The cafeteria only sells burgers and chicken meals with no side orders of chips etc. Huge rubber tomahak store attached and a small grocery... very expensive \$3 for 3 cookies but the bagels were only double so we made sandwiches for lunch. Still only 5C. Lots of traffic on the road and lots of people at all our stops. Like Banff mid summer. We went on up to West Thumb [no services] 8391Ft and went up up down down up up up to our second crossing of the Great Divide[ ft] We thought that it would be an easy ride to the third crossing of the divide but oh no you have to go down down down before you get to 8262ft once more. We saw 5 female moose at different times thru the day, but didn't see a buck. The females, one in particular looked starved and she came up on the road towards us as if maybe she had lost her calf. The ride down hill was great and we seemed to be between bouts of traffic so we got a good run for our efforts of up hill. Old Faithful is a funny spot. The actual geyser is mid "town" and free to watch. There are 3 hotels... all seem to be owned by the parks department: The Old Faithful Inn is the original, Old Faithful Lodge and Old Faithful Snow Lodge Very original names! There are several shops with all the same stuff, an okay grocery.. over priced but not excessive and fruit was cheaper than other places. We ate in the Lodge cafeteria and it started to grozzle and then pour rain. We got wet waiting for the rise, but it was kind of neat. I for one was so glad we got a room after all. I'm not sure but I think they keep rooms for hiker/bikers that are in need as when I told her we would have to go 25km so be on the road until 7pm or so... she found us a room and not bad price either for a place like this.



Lots of snow along the side of the road



the falls coming off Lewis Lake



A coyote beside the road

Day 56 Flagg Ranch Resort to Old Faithful Lodge

Head north US-191/US-287 to Yellowstone entrance	0 km	4 km
US-191/US-287 Lewis Lake CG @44 km	16 km	20 km
Grants Village G/R/CG	17km	37 km
West Thumb	4 km	41 km
Left to Craig Pass <b>Old Faithful AS</b>	31 km	72 km



NOW THIS IS GETTING A LITTLE REDICULOUS CROSSING THE DIVIDE 3 TIMES IN ONE DAY!





OLD FAITHFUL

**DAY 62 Yellowstone Old Faithful Lodge**  
**June 5/08 Thursday Rest Day total 4622.9km**  
**WHAT A GREAT DAY IN PARADISE!**

**Temp** 10C with gropple at one point but sun on and off

**Wind** didn't ride so didn't matter

**Food: Breakfast** usual fruit/yogurt

**Lunch.** At the snack pit in the Old Faithful Inn very expensive but good salad/sandwichs in great atmosphere

**Supper** had soup and sands in our room after a long day of walking walking walking

**Road Conditions** gave us a look at tomorrows route.... Good shoulder and along the river mostly

**Accommodation** Old Faithful Lodge cabin for a second night..... very nice indeed and full.



**Overall:** We had a lazy morning ... not up until after 9am and then straightened up all our gear and headed to the Old Faithful Inn Tour: 11am What a neat old building. All logs. Built in 1903 with add ons 1913 and 1916 and in the midst of referbing now. The logs were left with bark on originally and then decided to remove in the 1980's must have been a Mammoth job. The rooms are not that expensive in the restored old part with sink in room and showers/BR down the hall or a claw foot bathtub! So many stories but the one I liked best was the lobby with it's 3 storey high [76ft high lodgepole pine trees] and the architect had the branches added to make it seem like you are in the forest... the addition I like is the tree house hidden at the very top... not accessible any longer due to safety regulations but there just the same. The Inn was originally reached via horse and wagon after taking the train to Mammoth. After the Second WW so many people wanted to come to the park and cars were more common they built roads which are mostly open in summer only and access to Old Faithful is by snowcat in winter. That would be a really fun trip to come here cross country skiing or snowshoeing.





the architect put a tree house up in the top of the open roof in the lobby. It is no longer accessible to the public



Met a young girl from Scotland touring on her own all decked out in a Washington road crew's reflective vest. Should have gotten her name, but we were off on our tour. Starting to see more and more cyclists every day.

Firehole Basin Adventure Tour 1245h: This tour in a 1938 "White" yellow bus was great. We were the only people on the tour so he could go and stop when ever we wanted. We got a lot more for our \$ as we didn't have to wait for others. The tour guy, Mark from Montana, was about our age and has worked in the park as director of food services and has just come back to run tour buses. He knows the history really well and has a genuine love for the place. We went to all the geysers and hot springs etc saw bison and the cute cafes, female moose and lots of fly fishermen. He said come summer they are almost shoulder to shoulder in the rivers. There has been some talk to stop the fly fishing as they must catch and release anything that is "native" to the waters and a good deal of those die, but it has been a recreation in the park since it's inception.



They have done a really good job here to keep out the commercial establishments. Every store, hotel and venue is owned by the Parks so there are not a ton of tomahawk stores... just one per hotel. They did discuss destroying all the hotels at Old Faithful except one part of the Inn as an information office and have no lodging here, but it was decided not to. By keeping to the WILD theme, there are bison right up to the road and people are fishing right beside them or walking so close. Too close for my liking. Also they don't pick up the elk carcasses they leave them for fodder for other animals. In some spots there are no guard rails or signs where there would be in Banff or Jasper. Interesting concept. They do have deaths.... He told a tragic story of 3 youths staff that had gone out to party after dark at a known swimming hole and didn't take a flashlight... they wandered into one of the hot pools [170F] and died. The elk and grizzly bears come around the hot steam and pools in winter as it melts the snow and makes foraging for food easier. We have not seen a grizzly but he said there are about 150 here. Also they have wolves, coyotes, foxes, cats and

some brown bears. It would be fun to come back and hike here in a bit warmer season. The steam is a bit spooky at some of the sites ie Artists Paintpots



The Bison were everywhere on the loose and people were going way too close to them. So much we saw I hope Ken can remember more from this trip here than he says he remembers of coming as a child. He says he only remembers it was COLD out and when we went on the old canyon road he thought that seemed like the road they came on with the single track and the drop off right there.

One comment about the staff in the park are all really nice and in the training mode. They are from Russia, Germany, Mexico, all over but not Americans. The tour guide said staff are all young kids or retirees so as he isn't either it is a little hard to fit in.



This bison was swimming across the river.



**DAY 63 Yellowstone Old Faithful Lodge to West Yellowstone Evergreen Motel MONTANA**  
**June 6/08 Friday D51.56 M44.4 A 15.3 PT3h 22 tt 4h total 4674.5 km**

**Temp** wasn't to bad when we left 10C then dropped to 2C and snowed, then back up to 20C and melted

**Wind** at our backs until we turned towards West Yellowstone then from the side

**Food: Breakfast** usual fruit/yogurt

**Lunch.** Pb sands at the hotel

**Supper** chicken nuggets and veggies

**Road Conditions** great shoulder rolling and down hill

**Accommodation** Boy were we glad to make it to this nice clean motel with a laundry!

**Overall:** Well it was very interesting ride. We headed off 26km to Madson which really is just a campsite. We stopped a few times to see the Bison and a female Elk; it was rather windy from the rear for once; we turned west to west Yellowstone the sky got darker and darker and thunder started just as we got to the Park gates it started to gropple and snow heavily and the temp dropped. We had to hide under the pay booth awning for almost an hour as the snow piled up about 2inches. We decided we better try to make it to town... 1km away so we slip slid our way to West Yellowstone and found the Evergreen Motel. It kept snowing for a couple of hours, then the temp rose and we had water flooding everywhere. This is a cute town with a lot of shops and mega number of motels. We went to a "bike"shop which has been in an old school house for 40 years. The owner rents bikes, fixes bikes and also rents videos and sells all kinds of kites and toys. He said in years gone by he rented bikes with panniers for tourers to go into Yellowstone. He was interesting to talk to but I wonder how he can fix bikes with the super arthritic hands.



THESE ARE BOBBY SOCK TREES KILLED BY THE MINERALS IN THE WATER



WILD FLOWERS

# Captive Tourists

## The Nez Perce Encounter

During their fighting retreat toward freedom in Canada, the non-treaty Nez Perce passed directly through Yellowstone National Park in August, 1877. Their route followed this creek. When outsiders encountered a party of sightseers camped nearby, the Nez Perce held the group hostage for several hours.

Angry at past betrayals, a pair of Nez Perce shot and left for dead George Cowan; but a chief intervened and the rest of the tourists were released unharmed. Six weeks later the Nez Perce surrendered to the U.S. Army in northern Montana. They were then transferred to reservations far from their home lands.



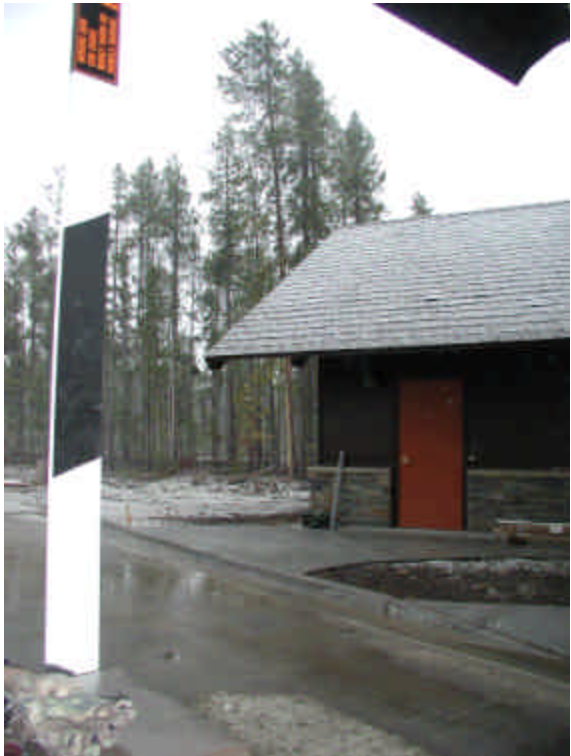
Then, as now, park boundaries were no protection from political conflicts.



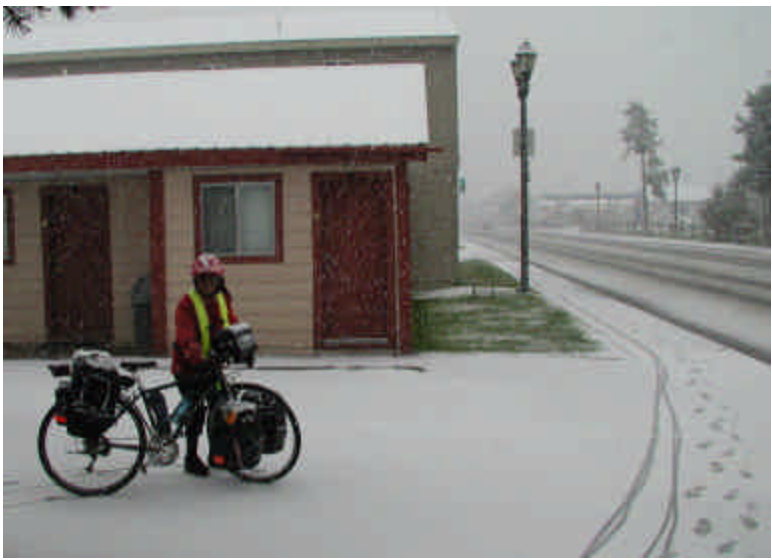
Mr. and Mrs. George Cowan are believed to be the two middle figures standing in front of the stagecoach.



GETTING COLDER BY THE MINUTE



YES THAT IS SNOW COMING DOWN



NOW THIS IS REDICULUS..... IT IS JUNE THE 6TH



SNOWING FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS.....THEN THE SUN CAME OUT AND MELTED IT ALL!

PS Well we looked out this morning and the sun is shining there is no snow on the ground and it's about +5C so off we go again. Happy Birthday to Bruce as couldn't reach him by phone yesterday. Spoke with Thalia and she is getting prepared to move into the lodge in Edson as soon as they have a room for her. Angus and Karen are well. Lorna is looking for a job, Jessie is off camping, Jim I think camping with Jessie and Stewart, Grandma Dagny is great and Paula and Dave are baby sitting Grandbabes Keith and Julie are moving to Vancouver. Tyson is busy with bands. Well that's all the news we have Keep in touch it's a big family! Oh and Ivan has cars if anyone needs one.