

forest fires.

The cabinet-level officials will report to President Reagan either Monday or Tuesday on their findings, Hodel said.

The fires in the Greater Yellowstone Area on Saturday covered 1.24 million acres and had cost \$89.5 million to fight, according to fire information officer Frank Mosbacher at the command center in West Yellowstone. About 9,000 people were fighting the blazes.

Hodel was met with loud jeers and hisses from local residents when he told around 150 members of the press and 200 local residents that firefighters tried to put out the

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Not all wild animals escape park blazes

By SCOTT McMILLION
Chronicle Staff Writer

COOKE CITY — At least one black bear and a mule deer buck died as a result of fire near Cooke City, and enough reports of other hurt animals have been received that firefighters have been warned to stay away from any burned or injured animals they encounter.

The black bear was suffering from deep burns on his feet and was unable to do more than lift his head Friday evening when he was shot and killed by a highway patrolman about a half mile east of Silver Gate.

Tom Safford, the patrolman who dispatched the animal, said Saturday morning that "all four pads were burned off the feet and down to the bone. He must have run through a bunch of hot coals. It looked to me like he would have been permanently immobile."

The bear, whose age was estimated at about 4 years, had

been seen lying in a marsh about 200 yards above Highway 212 for about 24 hours before he was killed.

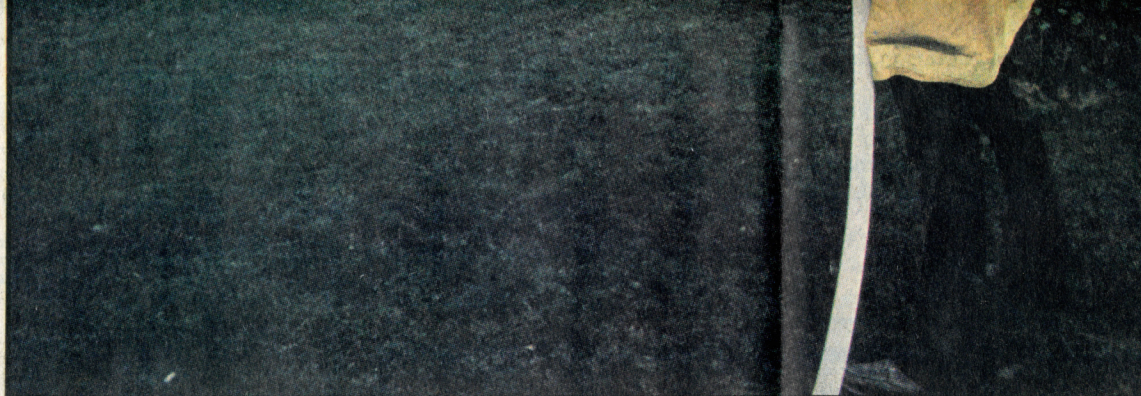
The action was taken after a joint decision by the Park County Office of Emergency Services and the sheriff's office, according to Tom Tucker of the OES.

The state Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks had granted permission to shoot the animal, Tucker added.

Larry Folenius, safety officer on the Storm Creek fire, told firefighters at Saturday's 6 a.m. briefing that there had been sightings of some hurt bears and cautioned firefighters to be careful around them if they were spotted.

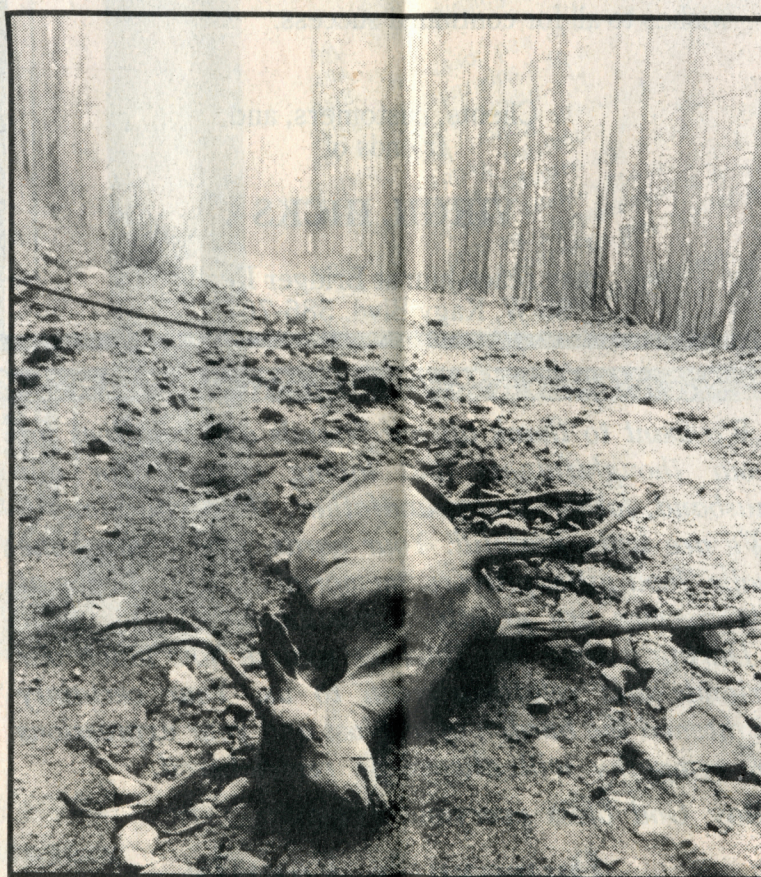
About seven miles west of where the bear was killed, the charred carcass of a mature buck deer lay beside the road to Daisy Pass.

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LINDA BEST/CHRONICLE

Firefighter Ralph Revermann, of Melrose, Minn., sprays down the dining hall at Mammoth Saturday as fires came within a mile of the park headquarters.



LINDA BEST/CHRONICLE

A dead mule deer lies on a mountain road just above Cooke City.

mph, the 229,000-acre North Fork fire moved dangerously close to homes near the park border 8 miles northeast of here and caused the Gallatin County Sheriff's Department to close Highway 191 south of Big Sky.

A crew of 20 soldiers lit backfires to stem the advance of a section of the fire as it threatened several houses in the area, including the exclusive Duck Creek development with about a dozen handsome, rustic wood homes valued at \$250,000 and up.

"About noon or so the sheriff's deputies drove up and said, 'Evacuate,'" said Bob Eaton, caretaker of the Tom Koelzer residence. "But they haven't forced any homes

Barbee: C 'lynch mo

By ELIZABETH LADEN
Chronicle Staff Writer

WEST YELLOWSTONE — Enraged by the battle with the Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Bob Barbee charged Saturday that critics of the park's fire policy have a "lynch mob mentality."

In an interview Saturday, Barbee said, "A lynch mob, hang him, the mentality is directed at me."

Critics have "an hysterical view that the area is on fire because of misguided fire policy," he said. "Such a view, that the entire American West is on fire because of a fire policy, is ridiculous."

Barbee was referring to recent comments by firefighters and members of gateway communities that the Yellowstone fires could have been put out if he had let firefighters use heavy equipment such as bulldozers and chain saws to fight the fire. The national park fire management policy calls for minimal use of motorized and heavy equipment.

Barbee said he "absolutely feel