

Warden Luther Ferguson

Born 1933 at Shellbrook, SK

Attended public school in the Mayview District, joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1951. Served in Korea.

Joined the Warden Service in June 1962. Served in Prince Albert National Park, Glacier National Park, Wood Buffalo National Park and returned to Prince Albert National Park in 1976. Served in PANP until October 1988. Retired from the Park Service Nov. 1988.

Life as a Warden

Upon my introduction in the Warden Service I was told that a warden's primary responsibility was park protection. We as wardens were to protect people from the park and the park from the people. Training courses were held at the Park Level and at the National Training School in Jasper Park.



Back country ski patrol. Half Moon Lake area



Beaver trapped in pond by old campground



Warden Ferguson crossing the ice with canoe loaded with supplies.

Unlawful spring trapping included muskrat and beaver. During the early 60s trapping was still an activity that took place in the Northern districts of PANP. I remember a patrol in the company of Warden Davies. This patrol took place in the early spring while ice conditions were still good for travel. Our adventure started at Montreal Lake where we unloaded our canoe onto the ice. This canoe with all of our supplies was then pulled across Montreal Lake to the McLennan River, which was generally free of ice. Thus providing an ice free water way to Tibkska Lake and into the main poaching area. Ron and I had the pleasure of close to a month in this beautiful Northern wilderness.

Upon completion of our patrol duties we returned to Montreal Lake only to find that the ice was starting to move and break up. We launched our canoe onto the shifting ice and made our way to the east shore of the lake. This was done by some times paddling the canoe and other times jumping from one ice block to another. All in all a wonderful experience for two young wardens. Is there any wonder we stayed in Parks for thirty plus years? The day after we crossed the lake the lake was wide open ice free.

Other pictures from Luther Ferguson



Bridge over Sturgeon River West side prior to road closure



Ervin Amudson's cattle on way home. West side road close to Sturgeon River North Crossing in PANP.



Warden Ferguson and Daryl Brayford with a 35 pound lake trout from Crean Lake. This trout is displayed in the Waskesiu Heritage Museum



Margaret and Luther Ferguson enjoying a wild iris field in Scagway, Alaska



Sandhill crane nesting area