



YELLOWSTONE
ASSOCIATION
INSTITUTE

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS * SUMMER 2009

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INSPIRE . EDUCATE . PRESERVE .

www.YellowstoneAssociation.org

WELCOME TO THE YELLOWSTONE ASSOCIATION INSTITUTE

THE MISSION OF THE YELLOWSTONE ASSOCIATION

The Yellowstone Association, in partnership with the National Park Service, fosters the public's understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of Yellowstone National Park and its surrounding ecosystem by funding and providing educational products and services.

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REGISTRATION INFORMATION

LODGING AND LEARNING

Registration has begun. One phone call is all it takes to arrange a learning vacation based at hotels inside the park and led by expert naturalist guides from the Yellowstone Association Institute. These programs have a limit of 9 to 12 participants per session and have a minimum age of 12 unless otherwise stated. Rates are per person and do not include taxes. **Call 866-439-7375.**

PRIVATE TOURS

Register any time for your private tour with an Institute naturalist guide. **Call 307-344-2294.**

FIELD SEMINARS

Yellowstone Association member registration begins January 5, 2009 at 8 a.m. Mountain Time; January 12 for non-members. The minimum age is 18, or 16 if accompanied by an adult. **Register by phone at 307-344-2294 OR online at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org.**

BACKPACKING COURSES

Yellowstone Association member registration begins January 5, 2009 at 8 a.m. Mountain Time; January 12 for non-members. The minimum age is 18, or 16 if accompanied by an adult. **Register by phone at 307-344-2294 OR online at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org.**

For detailed information on our policies, please contact our registrar at 307-344-2294 or visit our website at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org.

COVER PHOTOGRAPHY: Shirley Cope, Bill Mahoney, Karen Withrow.

SUMMER 2009 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

WHICH OF OUR PROGRAMS IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

LODGING AND LEARNING

Lodging and Learning programs mix just the right amount of education and recreation on your vacation. You'll be based at park hotels and taught by Institute naturalist guides who are intimately familiar with Yellowstone. If you want a vacation package that covers almost all you'll need and provides fun and discovery, Lodging and Learning programs are for you. See page 4.

PRIVATE TOURS

Private tours are educational programs that immerse you, your family, or other small group in Yellowstone's wonders. You choose the experience that best fits your group's itinerary and interest—whether it's a one-day tour or a combination of programs for a multi-day experience. Institute naturalist guides introduce you to Yellowstone, provide advice about making the most of your visit to the park, and lead you on your adventures. See page 6.

FIELD SEMINARS

Field seminars are educational experiences that go deep! Taught by researchers, field biologists, and other experts, field seminars focus on specific subjects such as predator/prey relationships, vegetation of the park, illustrating the wild, and observing wildlife. You'll be amazed at how much you can learn in one to four days. See page 8.

We offer two different settings for field seminars:

- Our Lamar Buffalo Ranch campus is based in the quiet northeast corner of the park, far from other development. You share a cabin with up to two other participants, and prepare your own meals in the group kitchen. **LAMAR TITLES APPEAR IN BROWN.**
- Courses based in and around the park take advantage of vast learning opportunities throughout the Yellowstone region. You stay in hotels at various park locations and in gateway communities, and enjoy the restaurants and amenities of these areas during your learning experience. **REGIONAL TITLES APPEAR IN GREEN.**

BACKPACKING COURSES

Backpacking courses take you on a learning adventure in the vast wilderness of the Yellowstone area. Designed to be both light on the land and educational, backpacking courses are taught by a professional outdoor leader and a content expert. If you are physically fit and can carry your own gear and prepare your own meals, then venture into the Yellowstone backcountry on one of these courses. See page 28.

HOW FIT DO YOU NEED TO BE?

Institute courses are based in the field, and most require you to be an active participant. If you take part in a field outing, you will need to carry a daypack—with food, clothing, water, and other essentials—that generally weighs up to 15 pounds. You will be exercising at elevations of 5,000 to 12,000 feet. Activities at these altitudes are more strenuous than the same activities at lower altitudes, and some people can experience associated health complications. To help you decide which course is best for you, we have developed a rating system that takes into account a hike's distance, pace, elevation gain, and terrain. Please note that these ratings are only guidelines: What is labeled "strenuous" might be routine for a very fit visitor while a "moderate" course might be quite difficult to a non-hiker who lives at sea level. For the most precise information about each activity and/or the effects of Yellowstone's altitude or environment, please refer to your course letter or contact the Institute registrar at 307-334-2294.

 **MINIMAL ACTIVITY**—Leisurely hikes up to 1 mile per day through relatively flat terrain on maintained trails.

 **EASY**—Hikes up to 3 miles per day with elevation gains of up to 250 feet. Some off-trail hiking possible.

 **EASY TO MODERATE**—Brisk hikes of up to five miles per day with occasional elevation gains up to 500 feet in undulating terrain.

 **MODERATE**—Brisk aerobic hikes of up to eight miles per day with climbs up to 1,000 feet on dirt trails. Loose rocks, uneven footing, and off-trail hiking are possible. Good coordination is recommended.

 **STRENUOUS**—Brisk aerobic, destination-oriented hiking of up to 12 miles a day. Elevation changes of up to 2,000 feet on dirt trails or off-trail; loose rock, uneven footing, steep hillside traverses, and stream crossings are possible. Good coordination is required.

SUMMER 2009 LODGING AND LEARNING PROGRAMS

Experience the best of Yellowstone National Park with one of our award-winning Lodging and Learning programs. By day you'll explore Yellowstone with a fun and knowledgeable Institute naturalist guide from the Yellowstone Association, the official educational partner of the National Park Service. Each night you'll return to park hotels for excellent meals and comfortable accommodations provided by Xanterra Parks & Resorts®, the official concessioner for Yellowstone National Park hotels. All programs include expert instruction, most meals, in-park transportation, and optional evening programs by the National Park Service or Xanterra. Programs have a limit of 9 to 12 participants per session. The minimum age is 12 unless otherwise stated. Rates are per person and do not include taxes. Members of the Yellowstone Association receive a \$10 discount per person.

SO HOW DOES THIS ALL WORK?

To register or for more information about Lodging and Learning programs, call Yellowstone National Park Lodges at 866-439-7375, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mountain Time, seven days a week. Programs fill fast so register early. A 50% deposit, payable by check or major credit card, is required within two weeks of registration.

You'll receive a confirmation with a student letter, clothing and equipment list, park entrance pass, and personal data forms you need to fill out and return right away. These help us get to know you better so we're prepared for your arrival.

You must pay the balance of 50% program cost 30 days prior to your arrival, otherwise your reservation will be cancelled.

You are responsible for transportation to and from the location where the program begins.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR LODGING AND LEARNING PROGRAMS

Your deposit is fully refundable if you cancel at least 60 days prior to arrival. Cancellations made between 60 and 30 days prior to arrival will result in a 50% penalty of the package cost. Cancellations made inside 30 days prior to arrival will result in a penalty of the total package cost. If we cancel, you will receive a full refund. We cannot make exceptions to the refund policy for any reason including but not limited to illness, travel delays, emergencies, or weather. We recommend that you purchase accident, baggage, and trip cancellation insurance through a travel agent or website such as www.TravelGuard.com. Travel insurance can help protect you against financial loss if you must cancel or interrupt your trip.

In Cooperation with the Park County Travel Council.



Photo: Sharon Spence



Photo: Bill Mahoney

NEW! BEST OF YELLOWSTONE

See the best that Yellowstone has to offer! Bring up to eight friends or family members to enjoy a private tour of Yellowstone designed to fit your interests and abilities. Enjoy geology, wildlife viewing, hiking, history and family activities. Like visitors of a bygone era, you will be escorted by an expert naturalist guide and a personal driver in high style around the Grand Loop Road in a classic yellow bus, which features large windows and a retractable canvas top perfect for wildlife viewing. Each night you'll enjoy fine dining and the comfort and charm of our hotels. This is the classiest tour available in Yellowstone, so book your trip today! ✨

Dates: June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 25, August 1, 8

Lodging: 3 nights at Lake Hotel, 1 night at Old Faithful Snow Lodge, 1 night at Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel.

Rates: \$2,199 Double Occupancy
\$2,684 Single Occupancy

Limit: Minimum 5 people; Maximum 9, all ages welcome

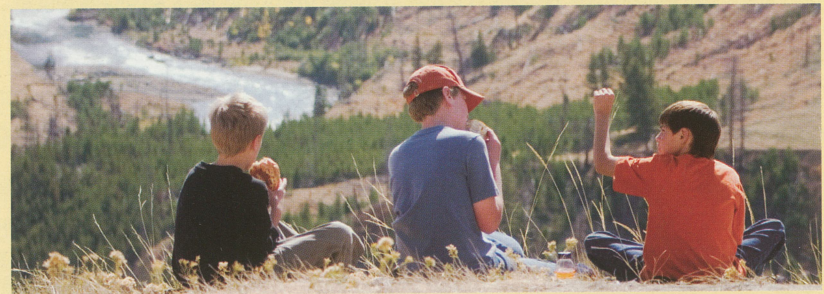


Photo: Bill Mahoney

Visit our website at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org or call 866-439-7375.



Photo: Terri Tipping



Photo: Sharon Spence

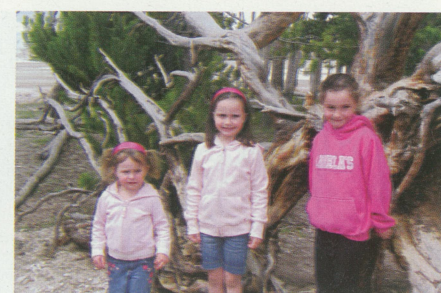


Photo: Sharon Spence

SPRING WOLF AND BEAR DISCOVERY



This is your opportunity to delve into the world of Yellowstone's wolves and bears. You'll join an Institute naturalist guide for sunrise trips in Yellowstone's Northern Range to look for these charismatic carnivores. During the day, you'll take leisurely hikes in their habitat, learning about their behavior, ecology, and conservation. And throughout, you'll be immersed in the beauty and wonders of Yellowstone in the spring. Your program fee includes dinner the last night. *

Dates:

3-day programs offered May 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, June 2, 5, 8

Lodging:

4 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs

Rates:

\$619 Double Occupancy
\$843 Single Occupancy

ESSENTIAL YELLOWSTONE



Experience Yellowstone during one of two intriguing seasons, spring or autumn. In either season, an Institute naturalist guide leads you on explorations to find the hidden secrets and sights of the park. You'll enjoy wildlife watching in the Hayden Valley, walking along the rim of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River, and touring the heart of the Yellowstone volcano. Each evening, you can spend time at "geyser central"—the Old Faithful area—where you'll be staying at the cozy Old Faithful Snow Lodge. Your program fee includes dinner the last night. *

Dates:

4-day programs offered May 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6, September 19, 26, October 3, 10

Lodging:

5 nights at Old Faithful

Rates:

\$1,039 Double Occupancy
\$1,542 Single Occupancy

OLD TIMES ON THE GRAND TOUR



Take the famous and historic Grand Tour of Yellowstone in the same high style as visitors of a bygone era. You'll travel with an Institute naturalist guide in one of the park's classic yellow buses, which features large windows and a retractable canvas top perfect for wildlife viewing. Your guide will escort you to cultural sites from Yellowstone's past and on walking tours of historic and thermal areas. Enjoy the spontaneity of a Yellowstone tour, too, by stopping when wildlife watching opportunities arise. To complete each day of history and sightseeing, you'll stay overnight in three historic areas—Mammoth, Old Faithful, and Lake. *

Dates:

5-day program offered May 17, 24, 31, June 7, September 13, 20, 27

Lodging:

2 nights each at Mammoth Hot Springs, Old Faithful Snow Lodge, Lake Hotel

Rates:

\$1,549 Double Occupancy
\$2,087 Single Occupancy

TRAILS THROUGH YELLOWSTONE



Lace up your hiking boots and sling on your daypack for four days of hiking, wildlife viewing, and discovery in the world's first national park. You'll be led by an Institute naturalist guide on carefully chosen hikes to explore Yellowstone's diverse landscapes throughout the park, from the geyser basins around Old Faithful to the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River. Search for elk, bison, grizzly bears, wolves, and other species on a sunrise wildlife viewing expedition. Be prepared for exciting hikes each day in this active program. *

Dates:

4-day programs offered Monday to Friday from May 25 to September 21

Lodging:

2 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs
2 nights at Grant Village

Rates:

\$719 Double Occupancy
\$976 Single Occupancy

YELLOWSTONE FOR FAMILIES



SELECTED "BEST SUMMER FAMILY CAMP IN AMERICA" BY GOOD MORNING AMERICA AND FAMILY FUN MAGAZINE!

Experience the magic of Yellowstone with this unique learning adventure for families with children 8–12 years old. Led by an Institute naturalist guide, your family can explore canyons, waterfalls, and geyser basins, and enjoy activities together including animal tracking, wildlife watching, photography, painting, and hiking. During the program, your children can become Yellowstone National Park Junior Rangers. *

Dates:

4-day programs offered Monday to Friday and Friday to Tuesday from June 12 to August 21

Lodging:

4 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs or Grant Village

Mammoth Rates:

\$639 Double Occupancy
\$863 Single Occupancy
\$389 Each Child

Grant Rates:

\$709 Double Occupancy
\$999 Single Occupancy
\$389 Each Child

We saw many more animals and learned more about them than we ever would have on our own.



Photo: Diane Simpson

FALL WOLF AND ELK DISCOVERY



This is your opportunity to delve into the world of Yellowstone's wolves and elk. You'll join an Institute naturalist guide for sunrise trips to look for these charismatic mammals. Elk should be easy to find—they are gathered for their annual rutting season, which is full of drama. Wolves are more elusive in the fall, but with an insider's advantage you'll have a good chance to see them. During the day, you'll take leisurely hikes in elk and wolf habitat, learning about their behavior, ecology, and conservation. Your program fee includes dinner the last night. ☀

Dates:

3-day programs offered August 26, September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Lodging:

4 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs

Rates:

\$619 Double Occupancy

\$843 Single Occupancy

ROOSEVELT RENDEZVOUS



The historic Roosevelt Lodge sits in the center of Yellowstone's Northern Range, where you can enjoy the arresting bugle of bull elk among the fall colors of aspen, willow, and cottonwood. During the day, you'll be able to choose from a variety of exciting full-and half-day field trips. Each year brings new options and this social event is one you'll never forget. Learn how to capture the fall colors in photographs; discover the stories that animal tracks can tell; search for wolves; enjoy strolling in the Yellowstone volcano or tackle a challenging hike. At night, we convene in the main lodge for buffet-style dinners and entertaining evening programs. You'll stay in rustic but comfortable individual guest cabins. Each program has a limit of 52; daily field trips are in small groups. ☀

Dates:

4-day programs offered September 11, 15, 19

Lodging:

4 nights in private cabin, with bathroom facilities nearby

Rates:

\$679 Double Occupancy

\$813 Single Occupancy

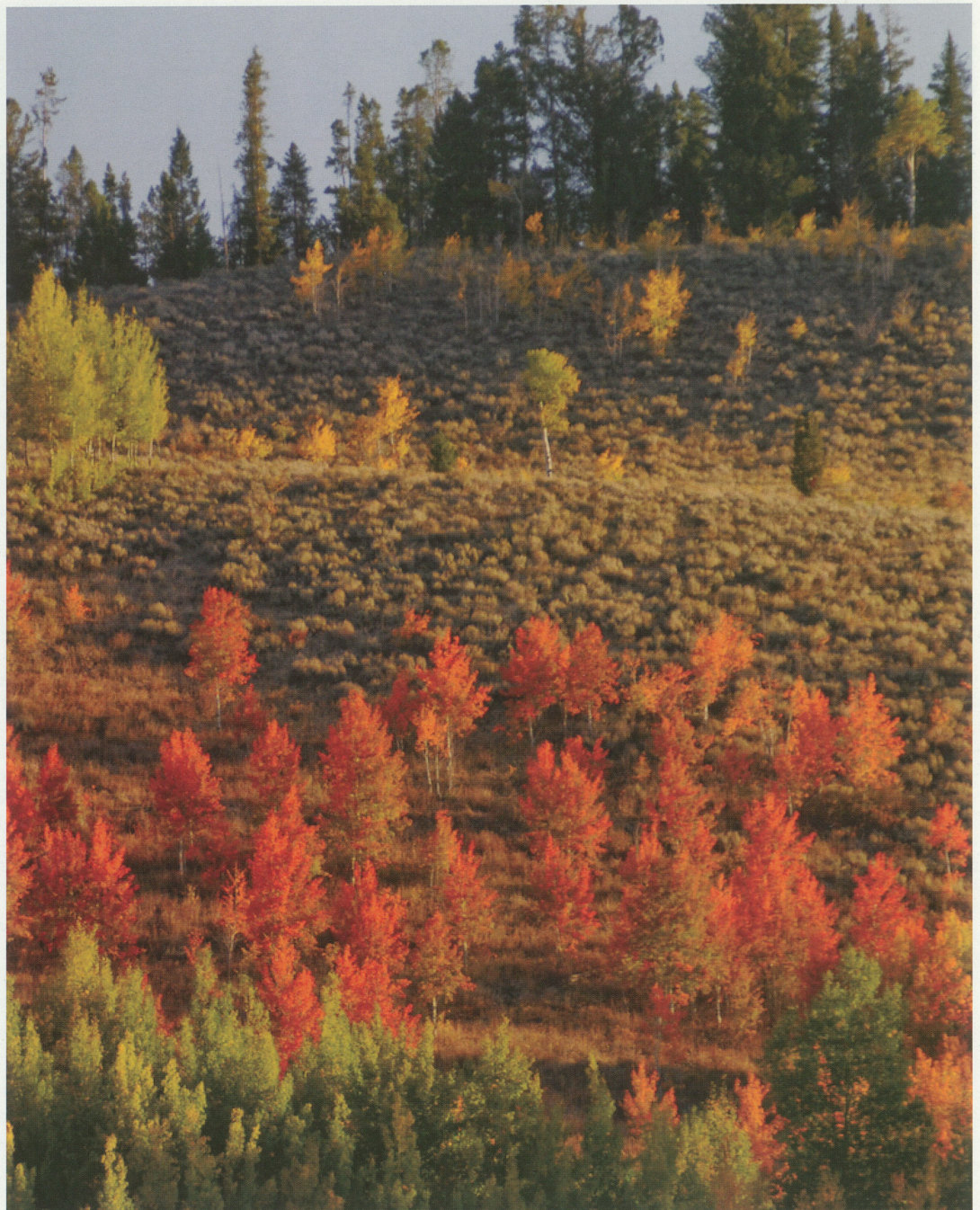


Photo: Diane Simpson

SUMMER 2009 PROGRAMS FOR PRIVATE GROUPS

PRIVATE TOURS are educational programs that immerse you, your family, or other small group in Yellowstone's wonders. Choose from the four programs listed below to best fit your itinerary and interests—one for a day-long experience or several for a multi-day program. Days will be tailored to your group's activity level and include an optional walk or hike. Your Institute naturalist guide will introduce you to Yellowstone, provide advice to make the most of your visit, and lead you into the wonders of the park. Tuition includes expert instruction, transportation for the day, snacks, and use of high-power spotting scopes and binoculars. We'll also help your children work on their Junior Ranger badge! Meals and lodging are not included. Facilities inside the park may not open before 8 a.m., so be prepared to have all meals ready the day before each program.

WILDLIFE WATCHING ON THE NORTHERN RANGE

Start: 6 or 8 a.m. at Gardiner or Mammoth, 6:30 or 8 a.m. at Roosevelt or Lamar

Discover the diverse and abundant wildlife of Yellowstone's Northern Range. As you look for animals, you'll learn how to effectively use essential wildlife-watching equipment—binoculars and spotting scopes. Your private wildlife-watching day can be road-based, include short walks to prime viewing points, or involve moderate hikes. It's up to you!

NATURAL HISTORY AND GEOLOGY: YELLOWSTONE LAKE AND GRAND CANYON OF THE YELLOWSTONE

Start: 8 a.m. at Gardiner, Mammoth, Canyon, Norris, or Lake

Explore the natural and geologic history of the Yellowstone Lake Area, and the spectacular Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River. Search for wildlife in the bison-rich Hayden Valley, and learn about the Yellowstone volcano on easy geology strolls.

GEYSERS, MUDPOTS, AND HOT SPRINGS: OLD FAITHFUL AREA

Start: 8 a.m. at Gardiner, Mammoth, Norris, Madison, or Old Faithful

From the center of the world's greatest concentration of hydrothermal features, take an in-depth look at how they form and why they do the things they do. You'll travel on boardwalks and easy trails, observing geologic features that reveal the wonders of Yellowstone's volcano.

DAY HIKING IN YELLOWSTONE

Start: 8 a.m. at Gardiner, Mammoth, Canyon, Old Faithful, Lake, Roosevelt, or Madison

Travel Yellowstone on carefully chosen hikes that show you the park's diverse landscape. Learn the basics of safe, low-impact backcountry travel in grizzly country with an Institute naturalist guide skilled in backcountry travel. Hikes are selected to match your group's ability level and interests.

LENGTH

Approximately 8 hours per day

DAILY TUITION RATES

1–5 participants \$495

6–13 participants \$625

OTHER OPTIONS FOR YOUR PRIVATE GROUP

include backpacking trips and Lodging and Learning programs. To find out more, call 307-344-2294.

NEW! See page 4 for our private **Best of Yellowstone** program!



Photo: Karen Withrow

Members of the Yellowstone Association receive a \$10 discount.

FIELD SEMINARS

Enjoy focused educational experiences that closely examine individual aspects of the Yellowstone ecosystem. You'll learn about the park through the eyes of an animal tracker, a wolf biologist, a photographer, a geothermal scientist, and other noted experts, with just the right combination of field excursions and classroom presentations.

WE OFFER TWO DIFFERENT SETTINGS:

LAMAR BUFFALO RANCH FIELD CAMPUS: Far from other development in Yellowstone's quiet northeast corner, the Buffalo Ranch offers comfortable lodging in a remarkable wilderness setting. For just \$30 per night, you will enjoy cozy log cabins with propane heaters, a bathhouse with private showers, and a common building with fully equipped kitchen and classrooms. You cannot camp at the Buffalo Ranch, and you cannot bring pets—but service animals are allowed. You are responsible for transportation to and from the Lamar Buffalo Ranch. An Institute staff person will greet you at check in and orient you to the facility.

LAMAR TITLES APPEAR IN BROWN.

PARK HOTELS AND LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE YELLOWSTONE REGION:

These field seminars are based at hotels in the park and in gateway communities, with lodging, restaurant, and other amenities available. For multi-day courses based at hotels inside the park, we have set aside a block of rooms that will be held until 30 days prior to the course. Call 866-439-7375 for rates and reservations. You are responsible for booking your own rooms and arranging for your own meals. Often, meals are enjoyed as a group, sometimes out in the field. You are responsible for transportation to and from the meeting locations, but transportation is provided during the day. **REGIONAL TITLES APPEAR IN GREEN.**

Please remember that these courses are for adults. Children over 15 may attend if accompanied by an adult. For most field seminars, you will need basic day-hiking supplies such as trail food, water, sunscreen, rain gear, daypack, plus notebook and pen or pencil. If you are a member of the Yellowstone Association, you'll receive a \$10 tuition discount.

SO HOW DOES THIS ALL WORK?

NEW THIS YEAR! Before you register, find out more details about the courses that interest you by reading the course letters. (In the past, you received these letters only if you registered for the class.) They contain detailed agendas, special equipment you'll need, and books or articles you might want to read in advance. To view course letters, go to www.YellowstoneAssociation.org, click on "Take a Class," then "Field Seminars," then "View Course Calendar."



Photo: Terri Tipping

When you are ready to register, or if you need more information about a field seminar, call us at 307-344-2294, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Mountain Time, Monday through Friday or visit us online at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org. Courses fill fast so register early. Full payment is required at the time of registration. Online course requests are not final until confirmed by our registrar.

After you register, we'll send you a confirmation letter, park entrance pass, and personal data forms. You need to fill out the forms and return them right away; they help us get to know you better so we're prepared for your arrival.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR FIELD SEMINARS

Payments are fully refundable, less a \$35 per course processing fee, if you cancel at least 60 days before the course. Tuition and cabin fees are non-refundable for cancellations received fewer than 60 days before the start of the course, unless your space can be filled. If we can fill your space, a refund will be made, less the course processing fee. As an alternative, we can credit your tuition and cabin fees to another course of the same type offered before October 1, 2009, on a space available basis. We reserve the right to cancel a course up to 30 days before the first class day. If we cancel, you will receive a full refund. We regret that the Institute cannot make exceptions to the refund policy for any reason, including but not limited to illness, travel delays, emergencies, or weather. We urge you to purchase accident, baggage, and trip cancellation insurance through a travel agent or website such as www.TravelGuard.com. Travel insurance can help protect you against financial loss if you must cancel or interrupt your trip.



Photo: Bill Mahoney

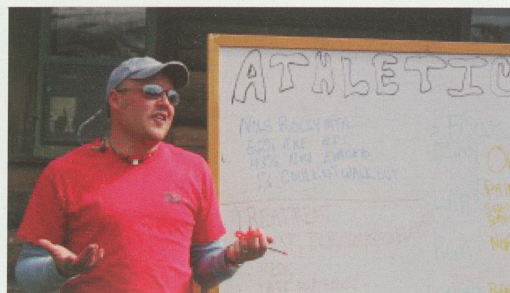


Photo: Dave Syfert



Photo: Bill Mahoney



Photo: Diane Simpson

#401 **NEW!** CERTIFIED INTERPRETIVE GUIDE TRAINING WORKSHOP



Start: April 6 at 9 a.m.
End: April 9 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Jenny Golding, M.S.
\$360
Limit: 12

Hone your interpretive skills in this professional certification course presented in partnership with the National Association for Interpretation. You'll receive coaching to make your programs enjoyable, relevant, and organized. You'll explore using tangible objects to connect audiences to intangible ideas and universal concepts while practicing your presentation and communication skills. To earn certification, you'll prepare a written outline of a ten-minute presentation, deliver the presentation, and complete an open book exam. All materials and certification and NAI fees are included in the class fee. ☀

#402 THE MAGIC OF WATERFOWL MIGRATION



Start: April 24 at 7 p.m.
End: April 26 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Terry McEneaney
\$225
Limit: 8

Loren Eisley once wrote "If there is magic on this planet it is contained in water." Explore the magic of Yellowstone's aquatic environments and the birds that inhabit them during the season that waterfowl are most abundant and colorful. Your guide will be an ornithologist who has studied Yellowstone's birds for forty years. From him, you'll learn the nuances of waterfowl identification and also discover the differences among common to extremely rare species of ducks, geese, and swans. ☀

#501 **NEW!** ABSTRACT FORM IN THE YELLOWSTONE LANDSCAPE



Start: May 7 at 9 a.m.
End: May 10 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Thomas Lee
\$400
Limit: 12

Transform your pictures of Yellowstone into celebrations of natural beauty. You'll learn to examine the landscape for abstract forms and see how shapes, forms, colors and textures relate to each other. With these skills, you'll create photographs that leap far beyond the usual pretty landscapes. The first evening, you'll examine photographs that use the abstract to convey landscape. Each day you will be in the field making photographs and in the classroom working on your images. You will need to bring a digital camera, ample memory cards, and a laptop computer with photo software. ☀

#502 BIRDS ON THE MOVE



Start: May 7 at 7 p.m.
End: May 9 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Terry McEneaney
\$225
Limit: 8

During this weekend, you can join the celebration of International Migratory Bird Day right here in Yellowstone. Find out which of Yellowstone's summer avian residents have migrated from Mexico, Central and South America, and which birds have shorter migrations. You'll also see species passing through, with a long way to go to their summer homes. Search for these winged travelers from Yellowstone's subalpine country to its lowland foothills with the ornithologist who began the Yellowstone International Migratory Bird Count in 1993. Along the way, you'll compare data collected in previous years and add your own observations to the information produced internationally on this special weekend. ☀

#503 **NEW!** SPRING WILDLIFE WATCHING



Start: May 11 at 9 a.m.
End: May 13 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: George Bumann, M.S.
\$300
Limit: 12

Who's waking up, giving birth, or landing back in Yellowstone after winter "abroad"? You'll spend three full days in the field observing wildlife with a seasoned wildlife biologist. Enjoy the antics of bison calves and ground squirrels; look for wolves; watch bears and coyotes search for still-hidden elk calves; and maybe see returnees such as sandhill cranes and peregrine falcons. Observe how animals deal with this transitional time and learn to recognize their patterns of behavior. Compare what you observe with what scientists have discovered about Yellowstone's wildlife and engage in lively discussions about your experiences and those of other participants. ☀

The instructor's knowledge was so broad that she was able to teach a technical topic in a way that was easy to understand.

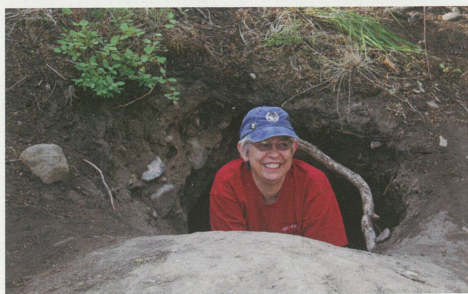


Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Dave Syfert



Photo: Dave Syfert



Photo: Bridget Lyons

#504 INTO THE BEAR'S DEN



Start: May 15 at 8 a.m.
End: May 15 at 5 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Kerry A. Gunther, M.S.
\$100
Limit: 12

The bears are awake and away from their dens—a great time to explore where they've spent the winter. You'll begin with a classroom overview of bear denning behavior and hibernation physiology, then hike to an unoccupied bear den. Along the way and during lunch, you'll discuss bear behavior, food habits, habitat use, predation, bear-human interactions, and nuisance bear management. Be prepared for a four-mile hike that begins with a strenuous, extremely steep section. ☀

#505 WILDLIFE WATCHING IN GRIZZLY COUNTRY



Start: May 18 at 1 p.m.
End: May 20 at 9 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Gene Ball
\$300
Limit: 12

The grizzlies are out and about, which makes wildlife watching especially interesting now. You'll find out how to adjust and use spotting scopes and binoculars for safe viewing. You'll also learn to observe the park's many wildlife species unobtrusively and ethically while exploring their habitats. In between and during viewing sessions and a few high-elevation hikes, you'll discuss various wildlife topics, issues, and controversies. ☀

#506 BEHIND THE SCENES OF WOLF MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGY



Start: May 18 at 4 p.m.
End: May 20 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Jon Trapp, M.A.
\$225
Limit: 12

Step into the shoes of wolf biologists to better understand carnivore ecology and the complexity of wolf management. What effects have wolves had on coyotes, grizzlies, cougars, ravens, and vegetation in Yellowstone? What happens to wolves when they leave the protection of the park? What will happen when wolves are removed from the Endangered Species List? You'll view wolves in the wild, visit original reintroduction sites, and delve into the ecology, politics, economics, and mythology of this keystone predator. Be prepared for time outdoors in cold, wet weather. ☀

#507 WILDERNESS FIRST AID



Start: May 21 at 8 a.m.
End: May 22 at 5 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Wilderness Medicine Institute Staff
\$230
Limit: 24

Do you spend a lot of time in the outdoors? Have you ever wondered how you would respond to a backcountry emergency? This 16-hour certification course is ideal for hikers, skiers, and outdoor professionals who want to learn the basics of emergency care in remote settings. You'll learn patient assessment, shock, wilderness wounds, fractures and dislocations, hypothermia, heat illness, altitude illness, and bites and stings. May be used to re-certify as a Wilderness First Responder. No previous certification is required. ☀

#508 WHO'S THE MOOSE?



Start: May 23 at 8 a.m.
End: May 24 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Dan Tyers, Ph.D.
\$200
Limit: 12

Of all the major wildlife that people want to see in Yellowstone, the moose is among the largest—and hardest to find. Find out why they are so seldom seen by exploring some of the best moose habitat in Yellowstone—the northeast corner of the park. As you enjoy short hikes, you'll find out why moose live in this area, how scientists study these large animals, what they have discovered, and issues facing park managers. In the classroom, you'll learn more about this elusive animal and its natural history—and its future in Yellowstone. Be prepared for short hikes in cold, wet weather. ☀

Classroom lessons were excellent—intelligent and engaging. That, combined with the field time, took it far above and beyond the tourist attraction/guided tour level. It takes you to the core of what makes Yellowstone an incredible place.



Photo: Bill Mahoney

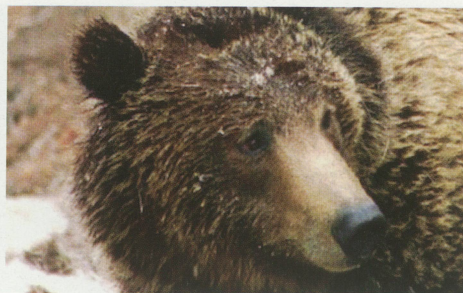


Photo: Diane Simpson



Photo: Diane Simpson

#509 WE ARE NOT FOOLS YET! CROW TRIBAL CULTURE AND YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK



Start: May 23 at 7 p.m.
End: May 25 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Timothy P. McCleary, Ph.D.
\$225
Limit: 12

In this class led by an anthropologist for the Crow tribe, you will examine the importance of Yellowstone National Park to Crow people historically and today. Through a combination of classroom sessions and field trips to critical cultural sites, you will learn about the origins and history of Crow people, the Crow explanation of how natural features within Yellowstone National Park were created, child rearing and training, hunting and warfare, historic and contemporary Crow beliefs and practices in Yellowstone Park. ☀

#510 MAMMAL SIGNS: INTERPRETING TRACKS, SCAT, AND HAIR



Start: May 26 at 9 a.m.
End: May 29 at 5 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: James Halfpenny, Ph.D.
\$415
Limit: 12

Mammals are elusive and hard to observe in the wild, but you can discover their behavior in the signs they leave behind. Through illustrated lectures and laboratories, you'll learn about natural history, ecology, anatomy, gaits, track averaging, relative size, estimating track age and speed, print identification, finding clues, and following trails. During afternoons in the field, you'll put your learning into practice as you explore animal behavior by reading the stories that tracks tell. ☀

#511 NEW! COUGARS: YELLOWSTONE'S SELDOM SEEN LARGE CARNIVORE



Start: May 27 at 9 a.m.
End: May 28 at 5 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Toni Ruth, Ph.D.
\$300
Limit: 12

Meet the cougar, also known as the "ghost of the Rockies." You'll be introduced to these elusive cats by the wildlife biologist who knows them best. Through illustrated lectures and field instruction, you will learn what cougars eat and how often they kill prey, how wolves affect their hunting success, and what the instructor's research has revealed about cougar conservation. You will also learn the "detective work" needed to find cougar sign, and go looking for them! You must be in good shape and have sturdy hiking boots that provide ankle support, because cougars live in steep, rocky, and rugged terrain. ☀

#513 GRIZZLIES: FROM DUMPS TO RECOVERY?



Start: May 29 at 7 p.m.
End: May 31 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructors: Mark Haroldson and Sue Consolo Murphy, M.S.
\$270
Limit: 11

Spring is a time when grizzly bears roam nose to the ground, searching for elk calves and other vulnerable prey. You'll be in the midst of the bruin action, participating in field trips and classroom discussions about grizzly natural and cultural history, their current status and threats. Explore reasons why grizzlies were removed from the federal list of threatened species and if they've really recovered. ☀

#514 FROM BISON TO BIGHORN: THE HOOFED MAMMALS OF YELLOWSTONE



Start: May 30 at 9 a.m.
End: June 1 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructors: Harold Picton, Ph.D. and Terry Enk, Ph.D.
\$360
Limit: 11

Yellowstone visitors have a good chance of seeing bison and elk. But what about the other cud-chewing, hoofed mammals that inhabit the park? In this class, you'll learn about them all: elk, bison, mule deer, pronghorn, bighorn sheep, moose, mountain goats—and maybe see each of them. Through field observation, you'll examine their adaptations and their roles in the Yellowstone ecosystem. ☀



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Glen Cope

#601 BEARS: BONES, SIGNS AND STORIES



Start: June 1 at 9 a.m.

End: June 4 at 4 p.m.

Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch

Instructors: James Halfpenny, Ph.D.
and Jim Garry, M.S.

\$490

Limit: 11

Ursophiles (Greek for “bear lovers”) unite! Discover a uniquely broad view of bears from their evolutionary origins to compelling renditions of classic bear tales. In lectures and the field, you’ll learn about bear evolution, ecology, and management from carnivore ecologist Dr. James Halfpenny and the rich cultural history of bears from folklorist Jim Garry. Perhaps you’ll see these magnificent bears during the field trips. ☀

#603 NEW! BEYOND BOUNDARIES, BEYOND BIOLOGY: GRIZZLIES AND WOLVES OUTSIDE YELLOWSTONE



Start: June 2 at 9 a.m.

End: June 5 at 4 p.m.

Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch and
Madison Valley

Instructor: Steve Primm, M.A.

\$450

Limit: 10

Wolves and grizzlies thrive inside Yellowstone National Park, but what happens when they go beyond the park where the biological and legal landscape are different? Find out in this class that is inside and outside Yellowstone. For the first two days, you will be in the Lamar Valley watching and learning about wolves and grizzlies. The last two days, you will be in Montana’s Madison Valley, where you’ll meet with residents who are finding creative ways to allow ranching and predators to coexist. Lodging will be based at the Lamar Buffalo Ranch and the Madison Valley. You’ll need to make reservations. Call 307-344-2294 for details. ☀

#604 NATIVE TROUT CONSERVATION IN YELLOWSTONE



Start: June 3 at 7 p.m.

End: June 5 at 5 p.m.

Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch

Instructor: Bob Gresswell, Ph.D.

\$225

Limit: 12

If cutthroat trout and other native sport fish are to survive in Yellowstone National Park and remain an ecologically significant component of the ecosystem, it will be through intensive efforts based on sound, defensible science. You can join this effort by participating in spawning stream surveys, stream inventories, native fish restoration activities, and other management and scientific projects. You will be working on specific projects on the streams and lakes of the park, but you’ll have some class time to learn details about the trout and current issues making their management so challenging. ☀

#605 PHOTOGRAPHING YELLOWSTONE’S EARLY SUMMER



Start: June 5 at 9 a.m.

End: June 8 at 4 p.m.

Location: Gardiner, MT

Instructor: Pete Bengeyfield, M.S.

\$410

Limit: 12

Yellowstone’s early summer days feature unpredictable weather but guarantee an abundance of spectacular photographic opportunities. Find these opportunities in this class for experienced photographers who already know their equipment well. You’ll be hiking short distances to interesting destinations over varying terrain—trips bound to reveal landscapes, features, wildlife, and wildflowers perfect for photography. You’ll learn how to use your equipment to maximize opportunities that come your way. And you’ll learn to analyze these opportunities for composition, exposure, and depth of field. With this analysis, you’ll be able to translate any situation into a beautiful photograph. ☀

#606 IN CELEBRATION OF BIRDS



Start: June 5 at 7 p.m.

End: June 7 at 4 p.m.

Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch

Instructor: Katy Duffy, M.S.

\$225

Limit: 12

Do birds fascinate you? Do sweet bird songs make you smile? Then come enjoy Yellowstone’s winged wonders. You’ll search for birds around the Buffalo Ranch and across the Northern Range to Mammoth Hot Springs. In other areas, you might be able to observe bald eagles and peregrine falcons. And you’ll visit classic birding sites around the north end of Yellowstone Lake. Along the way, you’ll investigate specialized adaptations to habitats, how birds migrate, and why birds sing. During the evenings, you’ll learn the common birds of Yellowstone, including hawks, eagles, falcons, and owls. ☀



Photo: Terri Tipping



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Bill Mahoney

#607 SPRING WILDFLOWERS



Start: June 6 at 9 a.m.
End: June 7 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Jennifer Whipple, M.A.
\$200
Limit: 12

From the low-elevation sagebrush to high subalpine meadows, the northern portion of Yellowstone National Park is home to an extraordinary variety of wildflower habitats. In discussions with the park's botanist, you'll learn about wildflower lore, the influence of wildlife, and how climate and geology determine the park's vegetation. You'll learn to recognize wildflower families, genera, and species, including some rarely seen in the park. And you'll look for early blooming wildflowers, such as bitterroot and calypso orchid, by identifying and exploring their habitats. ☀

#608 NEW! BEYOND GRACE—SANDHILL CRANES IN YELLOWSTONE



Start: June 13 at 9 a.m.
End: June 14 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Clem Klaphake, M.A.
\$200
Limit: 12

Sandhill cranes fly like gray grace on wings, warbling a call that carries across valleys. This time of year, they may be flying in from their long migration, searching for nesting sites, or already be involved in mating rituals. You'll listen and look for them—and observe them as you learn about what they do while they are here and where they go when they leave in the fall. In the classroom, the instructor will treat you to illustrated discussions about the role of cranes in human cultures as mythical beings, guardians, and symbols of peace and longevity—and about their connection to dinosaurs. ☀

#609 POETRY+ ECOLOGY = CREATIVE FUSION



Start: June 13 at 9 a.m.
End: June 15 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Susan Zwinger, Ph.D.
\$300
Limit: 12

What happens when a scientist stumbles upon an organism so elegant that it must be celebrated? Or an intertwining of life so complex it must be described? That's when the poet and naturalist within us all fuse to create words that convey wonder. Come experience this fusion in this *Poetry In The Wild* workshop. You'll learn how to combine the skills of the poet with the understanding of the scientist through delightful exercises and adventurous explorations. Emerge as a better poet and an eloquent spokesperson for nature. ☀

#610 WOLVES OF THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



Start: June 15 at 9 a.m.
End: June 17 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructors: James Halfpenny, Ph.D. and Jim Garry, M.S.
\$370
Limit: 11

Discover a uniquely broad view of wolves from their evolutionary origins to interpretation of their sign to compelling renditions of classic wolf tales. In lectures and the field, you'll learn about wolf evolution, ecology, and management from carnivore ecologist Dr. James Halfpenny and the rich cultural history of wolves from folklorist Jim Garry. During field trips, you'll look for these magnificent canids and learn more about their restoration to Yellowstone. ☀

#611 NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY IN YELLOWSTONE: THE DIGITAL IMAGE



Start: June 15 at 6:30 p.m.
End: June 19 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Sandra Nykerk
\$435
Limit: 11

With the diverse photographic opportunities in Yellowstone National Park as inspiration, you'll integrate the various aspects of digital photography into your photographic skill set. Learn the digital lexicon and explore the digital workflow from pixels to prints, including the differences between film and digital cameras and techniques of image editing and adjustment. You'll have time to practice these new digital skills both in the field and in the classroom. Bring a digital SLR camera with which you are familiar; and you should also understand basic photographic principles. ☀

This program made me realize how much more I have to learn about the parks, the environment, and our personal responsibility to enable the earth to survive and flourish, with respect to ourselves and nature.



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Janice Smith

#612 PLANTS OF YELLOWSTONE'S INDIAN PEOPLE



Start: June 16 at 9 a.m.
End: June 18 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Wayne Phillips, Ph.D.
\$240
Limit: 12

For centuries, people came to Yellowstone to gather the plants they needed for food, medicine, fiber, dyes, and ceremonies. You'll learn how these plants were used and how to identify them. And you'll search for them in Yellowstone's dry sagebrush valleys, lush mountain meadows, and coniferous forests. You'll learn how to identify them, where they grow, and how they were used by Shoshone, Bannock, Crow, Nez Perce, Blackfeet, and other tribal people. ☀

#613 **NEW!** WRITING THE NATURAL HISTORY ESSAY



Start: June 18 at 9 a.m.
End: June 20 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Susan Zwinger, Ph.D.
\$300
Limit: 12

Come to Yellowstone where you can give yourself over to the muse of the wild. You'll engage all your senses and heighten your attentiveness through writing exercises conducted outdoors and while you explore the Lamar Valley. Inside, you'll play word games to increase your skills with metaphor, archetype, organization, humor, illusion, and symbolism. Bring these skills and your experience together in crafting an essay, which you can discuss with the other participants and the instructor, who is a master of this genre. Please bring a journal or a notebook for your words, and excerpts from authors who inspire you. ☀

#615 CHALLENGES FACING THE BIG CARNIVORES



Start: June 19 at 8:30 a.m.
End: June 21 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructors: Steve Primm, M.A. and Jason Wilmot, M.E.M.
\$360
Limit: 11

Grizzly bears, gray wolves, Canada lynx, and wolverines are in dramatically different stages of recovery in and around Yellowstone National Park. You'll learn about the contentious crossroads facing grizzly recovery, the political controversies surrounding wolf recovery, and the formation of recovery plans for lynx and wolverine. Explore why the wolf was relisted as an endangered species after only a few months, and why the status of grizzlies and wolverines is being challenged. You'll also talk with ranchers whose livestock are at risk from wolves and bears, learn about living in grizzly country, and visit a wolverine research site. Throughout, you'll have plenty of time to watch wildlife. ☀

#616 MAP, COMPASS, AND GPS: EXPLORING YELLOWSTONE



Start: June 20 at 9 a.m.
End: June 20 at 4 p.m.
Location: Old Faithful
Instructor: Orville E. Bach, Jr., Ed.D.
\$100
Limit: 12

Look at a hiking map of Yellowstone National Park, and you'll notice that trails traverse only a small fraction of the land. So how do you get to that little lake that is located away from any trails? Find out how in this short, fun course. You'll learn the classic skills of map and compass navigation that have helped travelers for centuries find their way. See how a GPS unit works, and why satellite navigation has enhanced route-finding. You'll use these skills to find that hidden lake and historic sites in the Old Faithful area, and take home the knowledge to find other little-known sites away from any well-marked trail. Maps and compasses will be provided. ☀

#617 FISH BONES AND SCAT PILES: OTTERS IN THE WILD



Start: June 21 at 8 a.m.
End: June 22 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Jamie Crait, Ph.D. candidate
\$200
Limit: 12

Secretive otters may not reveal themselves during this class—but you'll spend plenty of time looking for them. Along the way, you'll learn to identify their tracks and signs, investigate a den, and find out how they choose their habitats. You'll collect otter scat to dissect for clues to their prey. And in class sessions, you'll find out more about their role in the Yellowstone ecosystem, examine how the decline in cutthroat trout impacts them, and how humans affect them. No doubt you'll keep searching for these intriguing animals long after the class ends. ☀



Photo: Bill Maboney

#618 EXPLORING THE LOWER GEYSER BASIN



Start: June 21 at 9 a.m.
End: June 21 at 5 p.m.
Location: Old Faithful
Instructor: Orville E. Bach, Jr., Ed.D.
\$100
Limit: 12

Experience Yellowstone as the early explorers did—by “discovering” some of the little-seen wonders of the Lower Geyser Basin. Several short hikes will lead to spectacular hot pools, mudpots, and geysers. You’ll discover the fascinating geology of Yellowstone’s hydrothermal basins, the microorganisms that thrive in the hot water, and the complex interrelationships between large mammals and the hydrothermal basins in which they survive. ☀



Photo: Dave Syfert

#619 NEW! AMPHIBIANS: MEASURING YELLOWSTONE'S VITAL SIGNS



Start: June 22 at 9 a.m.
End: June 26 at 5 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructors: Brad Bulin, M.S. and Charles R. Peterson, Ph.D.
\$500
Limit: 8

Wade into the wetlands of Yellowstone to find and observe frogs, toads, and salamanders. You’ll learn to identify these fascinating animals, where to find them in the various kinds of wetlands, and participate in an ongoing monitoring program. You’ll help conduct population surveys, document the animals and their habitat with photographs, and measure environmental variables such as temperature and pH. As you explore and record data about these wetland dwellers, you’ll discover why they are considered “vital signs” that reflect the health of Yellowstone National Park—and you’ll be contributing to a body of research designed to help national parks plan for the future of wildlife. ☀



Photo: NPS

#620 NEW! HIKING THE HISTORY OF YELLOWSTONE



Start: June 22 at 7 p.m.
End: June 25 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Julianne Baker, M.A.
\$325
Limit: 12

Walk the historic trails that crisscross northern Yellowstone and let their history be revealed. You’ll walk portions of the Bannock Trail and learn about the people who walked this way for centuries and why they came. Switch gears as you walk the path of confusion followed by Truman Everts, who was lost in Yellowstone for 37 days back in 1870. Then strike off in search of the old stage coach road between Cooke City and Mammoth, learning about early travel and tourism in the park as you go. In the evenings, enjoy more stories and historic photographs that deepen the picture of Yellowstone’s colorful history. ☀



Photo: Karen Withrow

#621 WILDLIFE ARTISTS AND ILLUSTRATORS



Start: June 22 at 7 p.m.
End: June 24 at 5 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Gene Ball
\$225
Limit: 12

Come to North America’s premier wildlife country and explore how wildlife art has developed and changed over the years. You’ll examine the themes in this genre and how they parallel the movements to conserve and restore wildlife populations. See how wildlife illustrations and paintings follow artistic movements—or not. And consider how wildlife art contributed to the ongoing guidebook phenomenon and the vast market of prints and reproductions available today. In addition to illustrated discussions, you’ll view the collections of the Heritage Research Center in Yellowstone and the National Museum of Wildlife Art in Jackson, Wyoming (admission not included). ☀

#622 WOLVES—REALITY AND MYTH



Start: June 23 at 7 p.m.
End: June 25 at 3 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Nathan Varley, Ph.D.
\$225
Limit: 12

Immerse yourself in the scientific and spiritual realm of the wolf with the guidance of a scientist who studies these provocative carnivores. Through field observations and classroom discussions, you’ll explore your own relationship with wolves, how it may relate to various myths about wolves, and how it relates to the actual wild animal living in Yellowstone. Look for wolves on sunrise and sunset forays; hike through their habitat during the day. And throughout, learn how the wolf recovery project has ushered in a new era of scientific understanding. ☀



Photo: Diane Simpson



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Sharon Spence



Photo: Karen Withrow

#624 THE ART OF WILDFLOWER IDENTIFICATION



Start: June 26 at 8:30 a.m.
End: June 28 at 3 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Meredith E. Campbell
\$300
Limit: 12

Develop a new way to identify and remember the names of the diverse and beautiful wildflowers that enhance our world. You'll begin with a classroom session on basic botanical terminology, how to use beginner key and field guides, and simple sketching techniques. Then you'll spend most of the time on short hikes to observe wildflowers and develop these new skills. With this knowledge and the observations that come with field sketching, you'll better understand and appreciate Yellowstone's wildflowers. ☀

#625 LEARNING BIRDS BY SOUND



Start: June 26 at 7 p.m.
End: June 28 at 3 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Terry McEneaney
\$225
Limit: 8

Challenge your birding skills by undertaking identification not with binoculars or field guides, but with your ears. Learn to identify bird songs, calls, chip notes, vocal clucks, quivering, fluttering, gaping, and even flying noises. Using intense concentration, you'll focus on the sounds of 30 species to form a sound learning foundation, and will learn approximately 20 more species. You'll spend most of your time in the field developing these difficult but rewarding skills. ☀

#626 NEW! GHOST HOTELS OF YELLOWSTONE—NORTHERN LOOP



Start: June 27 at 8 a.m.
End: June 27 at 5 p.m.
Location: Old Faithful
Instructor: Leslie J. Quinn, M.Ed.
\$100
Limit: 12

Which park hostelry did an English nobleman describe as "the last outpost of civilization—that is, the last place where whiskey is sold"? Which popular feature can we visit because engineer Hiram Chittenden blasted a hillside to reveal it? Do you really drive right through a now-vanished tunnel somewhere on the Grand Loop Road? You'll discover the answers to these and other questions as you visit the sites of former hostelries and other historical oddities around the northern part of the park. You may have to look and listen carefully, though—some clues will reside in antique photographs and stories told by your instructor, a park hotel expert. ☀

#627 YELLOWSTONE'S GEOECOSYSTEM



Start: June 27 at 8 a.m.
End: June 29 at 4 p.m.
Location: Mammoth Hot Springs, Lake Village
Instructor: Paul Doss, Ph.D.
\$300
Limit: 10

Find out firsthand how geology puts the "system" in ecosystem by exploring the geologic controls so magnificently displayed in Yellowstone National Park. During field trips and brief lectures, you'll learn how geology controls the ecosystem—from entire landscapes to small hillside niches, from charismatic megafauna to microscopic plants and animals. You'll also discover the intricate interplay among volcanic and hydrothermal processes, rock types, hydrogeology, and the distribution of flora and fauna that make Yellowstone unique. Participants should have a small overnight bag for the stay at Lake on the second night. Rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course. Call 866-439-7375 for rates and reservations. ☀

#628 GHOST HOTELS OF YELLOWSTONE—SOUTHERN LOOP



Start: June 28 at 8 a.m.
End: June 28 at 5 p.m.
Location: Old Faithful
Instructor: Leslie J. Quinn, M.Ed.
\$100
Limit: 12

Did a Yellowstone hotel really use hot spring water to provide its guests with hot baths? Which hotel was slated to have a "drive through" installed for automobiles? Was the Canyon Hotel really lost because of a conspiracy to make the new Canyon Lodge viable? You'll discover the answers to these and other questions as you visit the lost hotels in the southern part of the park. While visiting these sites at Old Faithful, West Thumb, Lake, Canyon, Norris, and Fountain, you'll envision the scenes through antique photographs and learn the hotel histories from a park hotel expert. ☀



Photo: Diane Simpson



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Karen Withrow

#629 **NEW!** YELLOWSTONE'S WOLVES: ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR, AND CONSERVATION



Start: June 29 at 9 a.m.
End: June 30 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructors: Douglas Smith, Ph.D. and
Christine Smith
\$240
Limit: 11

Some people wonder if wolves are worth all the public attention and scientific research they are receiving. You can learn about the value of this attention to humans and to ecosystems in which wolves live by finding out what scientists are learning from long-term research in Yellowstone and other parts of the world. You'll learn about wolf natural history through field trips to observe them and to examine their scat, tracks, other sign, and carcasses they have killed. *

#630 YELLOWSTONE'S BUTTERFLY BOUNTY



Start: June 29 at 9 a.m.
End: July 1 at 5 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Robert Anderson, Ph.D.
\$300
Limit: 12

Flitting among bluebirds and bison, from mud puddles to lupine, butterflies abound in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. You'll explore their varied habitats and see many of the nearly 130 species living here. Learn how their sensitivity to local environments and microhabitats has resulted in this rich array. As you watch them, you'll be able to study their field marks, flight characteristics, and preferred foods. Class and field discussions include details about their life cycles and other amazing attributes of these winged beauties. *

#701 MAMMOTH: 320 MILLION YEARS IN THE MAKING



Start: July 1 at 8 a.m.
End: July 2 at 4 p.m.
Location: Mammoth Hot Springs
Instructor: Paul Doss, Ph.D.
\$200
Limit: 12

In this field course, you'll unravel the unique geological history and development of the Mammoth travertine terraces and the surrounding landscape. During field trips and short hikes, you'll study the geology forming the Gallatin Range, the Lamar Valley, Norris Geyser Basin, and learn how they relate to the geologic history of Mammoth. You'll also see how geologic materials behave differently and you'll make specific geological, ecological, and hydrothermal observations in the backcountry. Rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course. Call 866-439-7375 for rates and reservations. *

#702 DAY HIKING THE WILD YELLOWSTONE: NORTHERN RANGE AREA



Start: July 2 at 7 p.m.
End: July 5 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Julianne Baker, M.A.
\$325
Limit: 12

John Muir once exclaimed that Yellowstone is "wild enough to awaken the dead." More than 100 years later, Yellowstone's wild side is still out there waiting for you lace up your boots, leave the roadside, and hike into the backcountry. After an evening to review the basics of safe, comfortable, low-impact backcountry travel, you will hit the trail to soak up the history, geology, ecology, wildlife, and wildflowers with stories, discussion, and hands-on exploration. Daily hikes will range from 8 to 12 miles with 2000-foot elevation gains, so come prepared to breathe the air that "is electric and full of ozone." *

#703 A TRAIL THROUGH LEAVES: THE ART OF THE ILLUSTRATED FIELD JOURNAL



Start: July 3 at 9 a.m.
End: July 6 at Noon
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Hannah Hinchman
\$400
Limit: 12

Enter nature in a new way, through the exhilaration and creativity of an illustrated field journal. You'll learn to mix words and images with exploration and introspection to record your encounters with the natural world. Explore these techniques through early morning writing rambles, classroom and field instruction in basic drawing methods, creative mapping, design and color, and careful observation. You'll have ample time for solitude and for browsing in the instructor's extensive library. *

I went to places in Yellowstone that I never would have otherwise visited. I also enjoyed associating with so many interesting and well-educated people.



Photo: Terri Tipping



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Karen Withrow

#704 EMERGING KNOWLEDGE OF WOLVES



Start: July 6 at 7 p.m.

End: July 9 at 3 p.m.

Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructors: Nathan Varley, Ph.D., Dan MacNulty, Ph.D., and Linda Thurston, M.S.

\$455

Limit: 24

In this unique seminar, you'll discover the latest results of three leading wolf researchers. Their collective work addresses important questions such as: Are wolves lowering elk numbers and changing their distribution? For the wolf, is a bigger body size necessarily better for hunting large prey? Is being older necessarily better? Will wolf effects on prey alter beleaguered plant communities? Can wolves be deterred from hunting domestic prey, and thereby reduce conflict with ranchers in agricultural lands? Instructors will present these and more fascinating topics in the classroom while also leading groups into the field each morning and evening for wildlife viewing and short hikes. ☀

#706 DAY HIKING THE WILD YELLOWSTONE: LAKE AREA



Start: July 8 at 7 p.m.

End: July 11 at 4 p.m.

Location: Lake Village
Instructor: Julianne Baker, M.A.

\$325

Limit: 12

From the top-of-the-world views on Avalanche Peak to the scenic shores of Shoshone Lake, Yellowstone's interior offers an outstanding diversity of backcountry hiking. After an evening to review the basics of low-impact backcountry travel, you will hit the trail to soak up the history, geology, ecology, wildlife, and wildflowers with stories, discussion, and hands-on exploration. Daily hikes will range from 8 to 12 miles, with possible 2000-foot elevation gains, so bring the boots that are your feet's best friend. In the evening, rest in the comfort of the historic Lake area. Rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course. Call 866-439-7375 for rates and reservations. ☀

#707 YELLOWSTONE UNDER ICE



Start: July 10 at 8:30 a.m.

End: July 12 at 5 p.m.

Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Kenneth Pierce, Ph.D.

\$300

Limit: 12

Through field trips and hikes, you can observe first-hand the geologic forces that shaped dramatically different terrains in the northern Yellowstone area and laid the foundation for its ecosystems. Find out how glaciers helped create the grassland ecosystems that support much of Yellowstone's wildlife. Hike to the summit of Mount Washburn to see tell-tale glacial polish and striations from an overriding ice cap during the last glaciation, and for an overview of Yellowstone's geologic landscape. Follow these forces beyond the park's borders to observe how glaciers, volcanoes, and catastrophic floods sculpted other parts of this rich landscape. ☀

#708 WRITING WHAT NATURE REVEALS



Start: July 10 at 9 a.m.

End: July 13 at 4 p.m.

Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Jeff Hull, M.F.A.

\$400

Limit: 12

In the river fishing. In the field exploring. Hiking a ridge, looking for wolves, listening to birds. All of these experiences reveal stories about yourself and the natural world. In this workshop, learn how to encourage and recognize these revelations, and how to use them to create your own stories. What details or events are most revealing? Which can help build the story? How can you sharpen your rendering of them? You'll spend mornings in the field and afternoons writing, coming together again later to share and discuss your work. ☀

#709 ALPINE ECOLOGY IN THE BEARTOOTH



Start: July 13 at 6 a.m.

End: July 15 at 4 p.m.

Location: Cooke City, MT
Instructor: James Halfpenny, Ph.D.

\$305

Limit: 12

Led by an avid cold-weather ecologist, you'll explore the high-elevation landscapes of the Beartooth Plateau. Experience first-hand the dichotomy of stunning alpine wilderness and a forbidding environment of bitter cold and cutting wind. You'll learn how geology, climate, plants, and animals form the alpine ecosystem. Using an ecosystem approach, you'll examine individual species and their remarkable adaptations to this extreme environment of unsurpassed beauty. Rooms will be held at Alpine Motel until 30 days prior to the course. Call 888-838-1190 for rates and reservations. ☀

Just to see Hannah's journals was a treat. She made the class the best ever. She is fabulously talented and an incredible teacher.



Photo: Janice Smith



Photo: NPS



Photo: Karen Withrow

#710 ALPINE WILDFLOWERS OF THE BEARTOOTH PLATEAU



Start: July 13 at 7 p.m.
End: July 15 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: John S. Campbell, Ph.D.
\$225
Limit: 12

High, windswept, and cold, the Beartooth Plateau seems inhospitable to wildflowers. In this field course, you'll discover the truth: the plateau is rich with wildflowers adapted to live at high altitudes. Many of them are blooming right now on the tundra, although their tiny sizes make them challenging to locate. As you look for them, you'll learn to identify families of flowering plants and individual species. Find out how they survive, what adaptations allow them to live in the tundra, and how alpine plant communities reveal subtle differences in the tundra habitat. ☀

#711 FLY FISHING FOR NOVICES



Start: July 14 at 10 a.m.
End: July 17 at 6 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Rhea Topping
\$425
Limit: 8

Learn to fly fish in Yellowstone's world-class trout waters! You'll start casting the first day, and learn the basics: knots, equipment, fly patterns and the insects they imitate, playing and landing a fish, wading safety, catch-and-release fishing, and fly-fishing etiquette. Learn about the kinds of trout inhabiting Yellowstone waters and the conservation issues surrounding them. You'll have plenty of time to practice and fish on your own, and to enjoy wildlife viewing at dusk. Be sure to purchase your Yellowstone National Park fishing license before the class. ☀

#713 MAMMAL SIGNS: INTERPRETING TRACKS, SCAT, AND HAIR



Start: July 16 at 9 a.m.
End: July 19 at 5 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: James Halfpenny, Ph.D.
\$415
Limit: 12

Mammals are elusive and hard to observe in the wild, but you can discover their behavior in the signs they leave behind. Through illustrated lectures and laboratories, you'll learn about natural history, ecology, anatomy, gaits, track averaging, relative size, estimating track age and speed, print identification, finding clues, and following trails. During afternoons in the field, you'll put your learning into practice as you explore animal behavior by reading the stories that tracks tell. ☀

#714 YELLOWSTONE'S NORTHERN ROADSIDE HISTORY



Start: July 17 at 8:30 a.m.
End: July 19 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Lee Whittlesey, M.A., J.D., Ph.D. (Hon.)
\$300
Limit: 12

Yellowstone's landscape is rich with evidence of previous human activity. Through roadside viewing and short hikes (up to 3 miles round trip), you'll examine sites that reveal this history from early Native American use to more recent human activity. You'll learn more interesting details through the illustrated discussions led by Yellowstone's historian. He will also take you on a special tour of Yellowstone's antique stagecoaches and early buses, which are not usually on view to the public. ☀

#715 PICKING BUGS OUT OF THE PAINT: THE ART OF PLEIN AIR



Start: July 18 at 9 a.m.
End: July 21 at 5 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Aaron Schuerr
\$400
Limit: 12

Whether you are new to painting or an old hand, bring your paints and palette to Yellowstone! You'll learn to translate the complex beauty of the park into the visual language of art. Spend mornings and evenings sketching and painting outdoors—known as plein air painting—when the shadows are long and the color is rich. During these field sessions and in the classroom, you'll discuss fundamentals of value, design, and color, and planning larger studio paintings from plein air studies. Instruction includes demonstrations in oil, pastel and charcoal, and is open to any medium. ☀

This was one of the best classes I have ever attended. Jim Halfpenny is beyond excellent.



Photo: Bill Maboney



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Karen Withrow

#716 **NEW!** DISCOVERING GRASSHOPPERS: MEANING, MYTH AND REALITY



Start: July 20 at 7 p.m.
End: July 22 at 4 p.m.

Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Jeffrey Lockwood, Ph.D.
\$225
Limit: 12

What's the difference between a locust and a grasshopper? What are the odds you'll be catching—and identifying—either? Find out in this action-packed and thought-provoking class that will have you chasing insects through the grasslands of Yellowstone. You'll hear the incredible story of the Rocky Mountain locust, the insect that once blackened the skies of the West, and engage in provocative discussions about the role of grasshoppers in human culture. Discuss literary works that reveal deeper meanings of the natural world through encounters with grasshoppers. And find out how many species of grasshopper inhabit Yellowstone while you test your hopper-catching skills. ☀

#717 DAY HIKING THE BEARTOOTH



Start: July 21 at 7 p.m.
End: July 24 at 4 p.m.
Location: Cooke City, MT
Instructor: Julianne Baker, M.A.
\$325
Limit: 12

Outside Yellowstone's northeast corner rises the Beartooth Plateau—an ancient high country with the largest expanse of tundra in the lower 48 states. After an evening review of low-impact backcountry travel, we'll spend three days hiking to glacial lakes, walking among blazing wildflower meadows, and soaking up the history, geology, and ecology of the Beartooths. Hikes range up to 12 miles, with 2000-foot elevation gains, so take a deep breath and tighten up those boot laces. At day's end, you'll find good food and relaxation in Cooke City, where rooms have been set aside at the Alpine Motel until 30 days prior to the course. Call 888-838-1190 for rates and reservations. ☀

#718 BIRDING FOR BEGINNERS



Start: July 22 at 7 p.m.
End: July 24 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Brian Thorpe, M.S.
\$225
Limit: 12

Yellowstone's varied habitats make the park a great place to begin watching birds. You'll start with a classroom introduction to birding, with tips on what field marks to look for, how to describe what you see, and how to use field guides, binoculars, and spotting scopes. Then spend a full day in the park, closely examining the more common species in Yellowstone, learning which birds live in particular habitats in Yellowstone, and exploring the wonder of bird migration, song, and courtship. You'll also find out how to help birds wherever you live, and to enjoy birding no matter where you are. ☀

#719 EXPLORING NATURE'S BEST IDEAS



Start: July 22 at 9 a.m.
End: July 24 at 3 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Robyn Klein, M.S.
\$360
Limit: 11

From spiders spinning silk stronger than steel to plants converting sunlight into energy at hyperspeed—nature's best ideas are capturing the attention of scientists, engineers, and philosophers. Explore the fascinating science of biomimicry by learning directly from Yellowstone's inhabitants. You will hike trails watching for clues given by animals and birds. Examine nature's designs by asking: How does nature attach? Use shape to color? Cooperate and communicate? How does nature create conditions conducive to life? Come explore ideas that nature teaches us based not on what we can extract, but on what works, sustains, and nourishes life on Earth. ☀

#721 **NEW!** THE UNIVERSE OVER YELLOWSTONE



Start: July 24 at 7 p.m.
End: July 26 at 3 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Bob Berman
\$225
Limit: 12

The skies over Yellowstone are a planetarium come to life—and you are a first-row participant in this lively class. Nationally known astronomer Bob Berman takes you on a whirlwind exploration of the latest mind-twisting concepts, from string theory to quantum paradoxes, while also helping you discover the stars, motions, mythology and “secrets” hidden within the summer sky. Your class time will be spent at Lamar—two sessions are in the classroom during the day, where you'll enjoy humorous and interesting discussions about the skies, and two night sessions viewing the phenomena you've only heard about until now. ☀



Photo: MacNeil Lyons



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Bill Mahoney

#722 MEET THE MESOCARNIVORES



Start: July 24 at 7 p.m.

End: July 26 at 4 p.m.

Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch

Instructor: David Gaillard, M.S.

\$225

Limit: 12

Come to the Lamar Valley, Yellowstone's famous home of wolves and grizzly bears, to learn about a trio of seldom-seen and smaller predators. Classified as mesocarnivores (medium-sized hunters), lynx, wolverine, and fisher don't get the attention of the bigger predators, but they are important players in the ecosystem. Enjoy time outside observing wildlife and challenging yourself to find elusive evidence of this trio. As you explore their habitats, you'll learn about their lives and interactions with other animals. In class, find out more about their status and conservation, how people are working on their behalf at the local, state, and national level, and what you can do to help. ☀

#723 TEACHER WORKSHOP: TAKE IT OUTSIDE!



Start: July 27 at 9 a.m.

End: July 30 at Noon

Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch

Instructors: Julianne Baker, M.A. and

NPS Educator

\$435

Limit: 26

Yellowstone is the teacher and it makes your job easier! In this workshop learn how to use Yellowstone to reach your students and teach important standards. We'll combine activities from *Expedition: Yellowstone!* (a National Park Service award-winning curriculum), Project WILD, and other exciting programs. You'll participate in curriculum activities taught by experienced instructors and learn best practices for teaching in any outdoor setting—skills you can easily transport home to share with your students and inspire them to value spending time outdoors. ☀

#725 TRACKING THE HEAT: YELLOWSTONE'S HOT SPOT AND CALDERAS



Start: July 29 at 7 p.m.

End: August 2 at 5 p.m.

Location: Old Faithful

Instructor: Lisa Morgan, Ph.D.

\$425

Limit: 12

You've heard the story of Yellowstone's volcano, whether on TV or in books or at the Canyon Visitor Education Center. Now you can experience the story up close and in the field. Led by one of the leading experts on the Yellowstone hot spot and calderas, you'll hike to locations rich with geologic evidence of the volcano. You'll learn to identify the rocks, their relationships to each other, and to the volcano. Rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course. Call 866-439-7375 for rates and reservations. ☀

#726 FLY FISHING AND ECOLOGY FOR SEASONED ANGLERS



Start: July 30 at 4 p.m.

End: August 2 at 6 p.m.

Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch

Instructor: Rhea Topping

\$370

Limit: 10

Unpack your fly rod and head out to Yellowstone's world-class trout waters to fine-tune your skills and knowledge. On the first day, you'll concentrate on the double haul and presentation casts, which enable you to fish all types of Yellowstone water. You'll learn about the aquatic entomology that Yellowstone's trout thrive on and what conservation issues face the park's trout. The next two days, using ethical and safe practices, you'll be fly fishing in the first meadow of Slough Creek with dry flies and in pocket water of several other rivers with fish nymphs and streamers. ☀

#801 SEARCHING FOR YELLOWSTONE'S MOST ELUSIVE CARNIVORES



Start: August 1 at 9 a.m.

End: August 2 at 5 p.m.

Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch

Instructors: James Halpenny, Ph.D. and Kerry Murphy, Ph.D.

\$245

Limit: 11

How do you study an animal you seldom see? You'll discover the answers by working with two scientists who are researching Yellowstone's most elusive predators—the wolverine and the Canada lynx. You'll learn to identify these carnivores, their footprints, and their sign. You'll visit a live-trap used on the wolverine research project and see how hair-snare devices can detect Canada lynx. And you'll find out why this research is so important to these animals and the rest of Yellowstone's ecosystem. ☀

I teach geology to seventh graders, and love geology, and wanted to spend time in Yellowstone. This course was perfect!



Photo: Mark Pilant



Photo: Sharon Spence

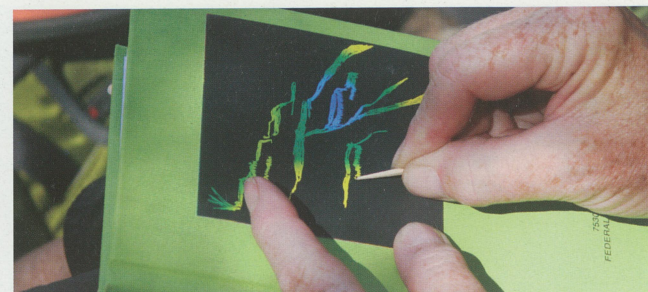


Photo: Karen Withrow

#802 THE BISON OF YELLOWSTONE



Start: August 3 at 9 a.m.
End: August 5 at 3 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructors: Jim Garry, M.S. and Harold Picton, Ph.D.
\$360
Limit: 11

The big boys are rumbling. While you're observing the often noisy and always fascinating bison rut, you'll also learn about one of the Old West's classic, enduring symbols. You'll explore the biology and natural history of bison, its role in native cultures, and its role in the expanding white culture of the nineteenth century. Discover the role of the Buffalo Ranch in the survival of the bison and explore the current political turmoil around bison management and the definition of the Yellowstone ecosystem. 🌟

#803 THE PLACE NAMES OF WONDERLAND



Start: August 3 at 9 a.m.
End: August 5 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Lee Whittlesey, M.A., J.D., Ph.D. (Hon)
\$300
Limit: 12

Have you ever wondered if the Gibbon River is named after a man or a monkey? Find out the origin of this name and hundreds of others in Yellowstone while traveling around the park with its historian. Stop to look at a mountain, and find out who it is named for and who decided to honor this person and why. Learn how Greek and Roman mythology affected Yellowstone's place names, plus discover the influence of American politics and religion. And find out the role the U.S. Government plays today in naming places here and around the country. 🌟

#805 OLD TIMES AT OLD FAITHFUL



Start: August 8 at 9 a.m.
End: August 8 at 5 p.m.
Location: Old Faithful
Instructor: Leslie J. Quinn, M.Ed.
\$100
Limit: 20

Imagine diving into a swimming pool as Old Faithful erupts, or enjoying hothouse flowers in your room at the Old Faithful Inn. You'll explore these long-gone experiences through site visits, antique photographs, and discussions with a park hotel expert. You'll also visit current places important to the cultural history of Old Faithful village, such as the Inn, the Lodge, and the two general stores. Find out what happened to the Haynes Photo Shops, why the Upper General Store is nicknamed the B.A.C., and other interesting details about Old Faithful village past and present. 🌟

#806 NEW! CREATE YOUR YELLOWSTONE SONGBOOK



Start: August 11 at 9 a.m.
End: August 13 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Hal Cannon
\$300
Limit: 12

Come sing songs of Yellowstone! . . . and write your own. You'll enjoy field trips and hikes to generate inspiration for creating your own songs, ditties, or poems. Build a songbook of traditional and new sing-alongs that fit the landscape of Yellowstone. Add to the fun by bringing a couple of favorite campfire songs to share and instruments you play. Each night you'll sing around the campfire with other folks—including those in Teresa Jordan's journal class. This is a perfect opportunity for family and friends to enjoy the Buffalo Ranch together while taking different classes. 🌟

#808 NEW! THE ILLUSTRATED FIELD JOURNAL: CAPTURING YELLOWSTONE WITH WORDS AND SKETCHES



Start: August 11 at 9 a.m.
End: August 13 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Teresa Jordan
\$300
Limit: 12

In a rich mix of field and class work, you'll develop a way of journaling that fits your interests and personality. Explore the techniques of writing and illustration that work magic on the journal page. Participate in exercises to expand your writing and visual skills, and enjoy hikes and field trips to explore Yellowstone and receive its inspiration. As a special treat, each night you can sing around the campfire with Hal Cannon's songbook class. This is a perfect opportunity for family and friends to enjoy the Buffalo Ranch together while taking different classes. 🌟

This feels like a once in a lifetime opportunity. I am so glad not to have missed it!



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Jim Peaco (NPS)

#809 **NEW!** LANGUAGE AND LAND: EXPLORATIONS IN THE WRITTEN WORD



Start: August 13 at 6 p.m.
End: August 16 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Tami Haaland, M.A., M.F.A.
\$325
Limit: 12

With Yellowstone as your muse, you'll develop your poetry or prose by learning to cultivate the language of sensory experience in the wild. Challenge your writing through exercises designed to explore rhythms, senses, and their connections with place, memory, and imagination. Whatever your writing level, you'll enjoy the hours of meandering, composing, sharing, and revising. During the last afternoon, you'll have an opportunity to share what you've written with the other participants. ☀

#810 **SHAPING THE NORTHERN YELLOWSTONE LANDSCAPE**



Start: August 14 at 9 a.m.
End: August 16 at 3 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Grant A. Meyer, Ph.D.
\$300
Limit: 12

Northern Yellowstone displays the spectacular geologic processes—from volcanism to huge landslides—that shaped this region. You'll learn to read this landscape, interpret its evolution, and understand how physical processes and climate affect Yellowstone's ecosystems. With illustrated programs, you'll see less accessible areas and learn about scientific methods of interpreting geologic processes and history. During short hikes each day, you'll apply this knowledge and use maps and digital images to understand this still-evolving landscape. ☀

#811 WONDERLAND'S SERENE SPOT: HISTORY ON YELLOWSTONE LAKE



Start: August 18 at 9 a.m.
End: August 18 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lake Village
Instructor: Leslie J. Quinn, M.Ed.
\$125
Limit: 10

Lake Hotel has long been a place to slow down and enjoy Yellowstone, but the hotel's button-down exterior belies the area's colorful past. Traveling on foot and by bus, you'll visit the hotel and Lake Lodge plus the sites of a vanished lodge, the colorful Wylie "Permanent Camp," and other historical curiosities. You'll also travel by boat to Stevenson Island, where the shipwrecked SS E. C. Waters rests. ☀

#812 **NEW!** THE GREENING OF YELLOWSTONE: CLIMATE CHANGE IN OUR NATIONAL PARKS



Start: August 22 at 8 a.m.
End: August 23 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructors: Beth Pratt and John Muir Laws, M.S.
\$200
Limit: 11

What challenges does climate change present to our national parks? You'll explore this question through discussions, hikes, and field trips. The Lamar Buffalo Ranch provides the perfect setting, with its solar panels, energy- and water-efficient bathhouse, and paths lit with solar lights. From this base, you'll expand out into the park. Search for animals most affected by climate change, such as grizzly bears and pikas. Examine damage from pine bark beetles, and learn why they are proliferating at this time. Take home a sense of urgency bolstered with tips to help you meet the challenges of climate change at home. ☀

#813 THE WOLVES OF YELLOWSTONE



Start: August 22 at 9 a.m.
End: August 24 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: George Bumann, M.S.
\$315
Limit: 12

Are you intrigued by wolves and hungry to learn more? This course will satisfy even the biggest appetite for wolf knowledge and experience. You'll begin with a comprehensive overview of wolf evolution, behavior, communication, and predation. Then you'll learn about Yellowstone wolf restoration, how well the wolves are doing, and how they relate to prey species, scavengers, and other animals. In addition to some class time, you'll spend plenty of time in the field observing wolves and prey, visiting the carcass of an animal killed by wolves, and exploring wolf habitat. ☀

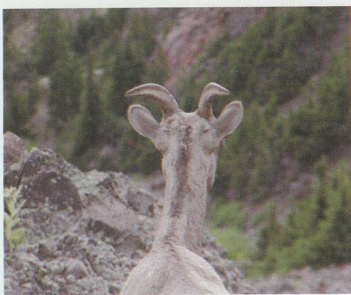


Photo: Bill Maboney

#814 CALLING YELLOWSTONE HOME: THE SHEEP EATERS



Start: August 24 at 9 a.m.
End: August 26 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Larry Loendorf, Ph.D.
\$300
Limit: 12

In this class led by an expert on Yellowstone's native people, you'll explore the rich culture of the Sheep Eaters. You'll walk trails they used as they traveled in and out of Yellowstone on their annual hunting and gathering cycles and visit a site where their old travois poles still lean against the trees. See why Obsidian Cliff was so important to the Sheep Eaters, and to other tribes throughout North America. Find out how they used bighorn sheep for far more than simple sustenance. ☀



Photo: Karen Withrow

#816 DAY HIKING THE WILD YELLOWSTONE: NORTHERN RANGE AREA



Start: August 24 at 7 p.m.
End: August 27 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Julianne Baker, M.A.
\$325
Limit: 12

John Muir once exclaimed that Yellowstone is "wild enough to awaken the dead." More than 100 years later, Yellowstone's wild side is still out there waiting for you lace up your boots, leave the roadside, and hike into the backcountry. After an evening review of low-impact backcountry travel, you will hit the trail to soak up the history, geology, ecology, wildlife and wildflowers with stories, discussion, and hands-on exploration. Daily hikes will range from 8 to 12 miles with 2000-foot elevation gains, so come prepared to breathe the air that "is electric and full of ozone." ☀

#817 BEARS: FOLKLORE AND BIOLOGY



Start: August 31 at 9 a.m.
End: September 2 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructors: Jim Garry, M.S. and Harold Picton, Ph.D.
\$360
Limit: 11

Why does the bear loom large in Yellowstone and in our psychic landscape? You'll explore this question in both the classroom and the field. Learn about the bear's basic biology, including reproduction, behavior, food habits, home ranges, habitat use, and population biology. You'll also delve into the bears of myths, dreams, folklore, and popular culture. Throughout the course, you'll explore the importance of both scientific and folk knowledge as part of our relationship with the land. ☀



Photo: Diane Simpson

#818 NEW! WRITING INSPIRED BY LANDSCAPE



Start: August 31 at 7 p.m.
End: September 3 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Mark Spragg
\$325
Limit: 12

Immerse your writing in the inspiration of Yellowstone's mountains and valleys. Explore how this wild landscape can determine pacing, dialog, tone, and action. You'll pay special attention to maintaining a balance between description and narrative pacing. Develop these effects through outdoor writing exercises and sharing your writing with other participants. Whether you write fiction or nonfiction, you'll come away with an understanding of the landscape of character. ☀

#901 BEHIND THE SCENES OF WOLF MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGY



Start: September 2 at 4 p.m.
End: September 4 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Jon Trapp, M.A.
\$225
Limit: 12

Step into the shoes of wolf biologists to better understand carnivore ecology and the complexity of wolf management. What effects have wolves had on coyotes, grizzlies, cougars, ravens, and vegetation in Yellowstone? What happens to wolves when they leave the protection of the park? What will happen when wolves are removed from the Endangered Species List? You'll view wolves in the wild, visit original reintroduction sites, and delve into the ecology, politics, economics, and mythology of this keystone predator. Be prepared for time outdoors in cold, wet weather. ☀



Photo: Bill Mahoney



Photo: Harry Engels (NPS)



Photo: Karen Withrow

#902 WRITING RETREAT: THE WILD SHORE OF YELLOWSTONE



Start: September 3 at 9 a.m.
End: September 7 at 4 p.m.
Location: Yellowstone Lake
Instructors: Alan Kesselheim and Patty Walton
\$700
Limit: 10

Climb in the boat and leave the workaday world behind—you're heading to the remote southern reaches of Yellowstone Lake to write and reflect and learn. Author and adventurer Kesselheim will help you focus on nature-writing techniques—the art of journal keeping, using wilderness as a source for metaphors, becoming a mindful observer, finding story themes through inquiry, and drawing connections between raw events and universal human experience. We'll be based at one wilderness campsite, so you won't be required to backpack, but you'll learn about backcountry travel and camping in bear country. Fuel your creative fire with days exploring and observing some of Yellowstone's most untouched and spectacular wilderness. ☀

#903 NEW! DRAWING IN DEPTH: THE PLANTS OF YELLOWSTONE



Start: September 4 at 9 a.m.
End: September 7 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: Nancy Seiler
\$400
Limit: 12

Get up close to Yellowstone's plants and learn how to draw them true to life. You'll spend each morning on excursions to observe, draw, and collect field information about plants in different habitats. Learn to see clues about where they grow and why; examine them with magnification while taking extensive notes and sketching their details. In the afternoon, you'll develop your field sketches into botanically accurate illustrations using pencil, pen, colored pencils, or watercolors. Through these experiences, you'll hone valuable skills for observing life closely. ☀

#904 RAPTORS ON THE WING



Start: September 4 at 7 p.m.
End: September 6 at 3 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Terry McEneaney
\$225
Limit: 8

Look above Yellowstone's mountains and ridges this time of year, and you are likely to see raptors (birds of prey) soaring on updrafts on their way south. You'll find out why they fly along these ridges and where they are going. Because you are likely to see so many raptors so close, this is the perfect time to learn the nuances of raptor identification—especially the field marks for immature and adult hawks, eagles, falcons, and osprey. If you are an advanced birder, you'll also pick up new identification tips as you observe these traveling raptors. ☀

#905 UNRAVELING THE CANYON



Start: September 4 at 7 p.m.
End: September 7 at 4 p.m.
Location: Canyon Village
Instructor: Cheryl Jaworowski, Ph.D.
\$325
Limit: 12

Imagine the area now occupied by the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone being covered by fiery, flowing lava or frozen beneath 3,000 feet of ice. Find out how these events are related and their role in creating the sinuous, precipitous flow of the Yellowstone River through the Grand Canyon. You'll spend each day hiking to geologic sites where you'll examine lava flows, ash falls, and layers of sediment built up over millions of years. Follow these clues through time to unravel the complex story of the spectacular Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River. ☀

#906 NEW! READING THE STORIES THAT TREES TELL



Start: September 5 at 7 p.m.
End: September 7 at 4 p.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Instructor: John King
\$225
Limit: 12

That bump on a log or twist of a limb could tell stories of floods, fires, and climate change—if they could talk. You'll learn to understand these and other tree stories in this field-oriented class about tree ecology. On visits to ancient trees, dead and alive, you'll find out why scientists use them to study climate, fire, hydrothermal activity, and soil erosion. Learn how to decode tree rings for clues to the tree's life and the environment it lived in. And find out what environmental forces give rise to tree oddities, such as a living tree with no leaves. ☀



Photo: Diane Simpson

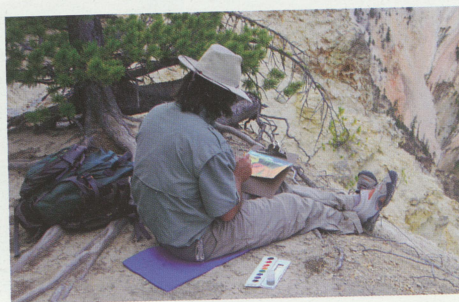


Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Bill Mahoney

#907 RAPTORS ON THE WING



Start: September 7 at 7 p.m.
End: September 9 at 3 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Terry McEneaney
\$225
Limit: 8

Look above Yellowstone's mountains and ridges this time of year, and you are likely to see raptors (birds of prey) soaring on updrafts on their way south. You'll find out why they fly along these ridges and where they are going. Because you are likely to see so many raptors so close, this is the perfect time to learn the nuances of raptor identification—especially the field marks for immature and adult hawks, eagles, falcons, and osprey. If you are an advanced birder, you'll also pick up new identification tips as you observe these traveling raptors. ☀

#909 NEW! FALL ON THE NORTHERN RANGE



Start: September 11 at 9 a.m.
End: September 13 at 4 p.m.
Location: Mammoth Hot Springs
Instructor: Jim Garry, M.S.
\$300
Limit: 12

Explore Yellowstone's famous Northern Range during its lively fall season, when you can see—and hear—what the elk, bears, wolves, and cranes are up to. Sometimes called the Northern Winter Range, this vast open area of Yellowstone is year-round habitat for many species. Through field trips and discussions, you'll find out how the Northern Range landscape influences who lives here and what they do. Look for clues in the variations of geology, vegetation, and climate. You'll also be traveling through a couple of thousand feet of elevation change—yet another factor in the variety of this vast land of wildlife. Rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course. Call 866-439-7375 for rates and reservations. ☀

#911 THE BEAUTY AND SCIENCE OF AUTUMN



Start: September 18 at 1 p.m.
End: September 20 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: James Halfpenny, Ph.D.
\$270
Limit: 12

Luminescent aspens, gold-colored fields, subtle lines of red running up mountains—the colors of fall signal changing seasons, life and death, procreation and preparation. Immerse yourself in this wealth of wonder on field trips to explore and photograph aspen groves, colorful hillsides, dying conifers, elk in rut, and traveling wolves. Learn why aspen colors change and how beetles cause red evergreens. Look for wolves teaching their young essential skills for surviving the coming cold and watch elk in the throes of their annual mating season. It's a colorful, wild time in Yellowstone—experience it all! ☀

#912 THE PLEASURE OF PLEIN AIR WATERCOLOR



Start: September 18 at 7 p.m.
End: September 21 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Molly Hashimoto
\$325
Limit: 12

Discover the pleasures of plein air (open air) painting among the flowing travertine terraces and simmering hot springs of Yellowstone. Enjoy studio time in Gardiner learning watercolor techniques and developing your palette. Practice each day in one of the park's colorful thermal areas, drawing and painting Yellowstone's landforms and hydrothermal features. You'll also have the opportunity to view the magnificent art collection held in the Yellowstone Heritage and Research Center, which includes works by Moran, Twachtman, and Widforss, and serves as inspiration to artists around the world. ☀

#913 THE WONDERLAND COLLECTIONS: UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL



Start: September 26 at 9 a.m.
End: September 26 at 5 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Colleen Curry, M.A.
\$100
Limit: 12

This rare behind-the-scenes day at Yellowstone's Heritage and Research Center will take you into the collections of cultural and natural history specimens seen by few other people. You'll be able to study rarely seen items such as Thomas Moran's original watercolors, early souvenirs, rare books and manuscripts, and natural history specimens such as skulls from the wolves restored in the 1990s. Search for additional information on objects of your choice through the collections database and find out how the park collects, processes, handles, and stores these and other irreplaceable items. ☀

#914 AUTUMN PHOTOGRAPHY IN YELLOWSTONE



Start: September 27 at 9 a.m.
End: September 30 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: Sandra Nykerk
\$410
Limit: 11

Immerse yourself in Yellowstone's autumn while exploring unparalleled photographic opportunities, from bugling elk to the spectacular colors of the changing landscape. You'll build a foundation of technical photographic principles and then move on to explore your own creative vision. You'll also learn the differences between film and digital imaging, the possibilities of macro photography, the importance of understanding natural history, and the essential role of ethics in nature photography. You will need a film or digital SLR camera with which you are familiar and a thorough understanding of basic photographic principles. ☀



Photo: Bill Mahoney



Photo: Bill Mahoney



Photo: Bill Mahoney

#1001 AUTUMN DAY HIKING IN YELLOWSTONE



Start: October 1 at 9 a.m.
End: October 4 at 5 p.m.
Location: Mammoth Hot Springs
Instructor: Melissa Pangraze
\$400
Limit: 12

Autumn day hikes in Yellowstone enliven all of your senses. You'll hear the eerie sounds of bugling elk, smell the fragrance of aspens and cured grasses, feel the contrast of cold breezes and hot sun. As you hike through the park's backcountry, you may see bighorn sheep and migrating hawks, find moose along willow-filled creek beds, or spot the elusive coyote, wolf, and bear. Enjoy an easy first day to acclimate to the climate and elevation, taking a short hike and watching wildlife. After that, plan on hiking 8 to 12 miles each day with elevation gains up to 1500 feet. Rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course. Call 866-439-7375 for rates and reservations. ☀

#1002 THE WOLVES OF YELLOWSTONE



Start: October 2 at 9 a.m.
End: October 4 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: George Bumann, M.S.
\$300
Limit: 12

Are you intrigued by wolves and hungry to learn more? This course will satisfy even the biggest appetite for wolf knowledge and experience. You'll begin with a comprehensive overview of wolf evolution, behavior, communication, and predation. Then you'll learn about Yellowstone wolf restoration, how well the wolves are doing, and how they relate to prey species, scavengers, and other animals. In addition to some class time, you'll spend plenty of time in the field observing wolves and prey, visiting the carcass of an animal killed by wolves, and exploring wolf habitat. ☀

#1003 AUTUMN DAY HIKING IN YELLOWSTONE



Start: October 6 at 7 p.m.
End: October 9 at 5 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructors: Mike Tercek, Ph.D. and Ashea Mills
\$390
Limit: 11

Autumn day hikes in Yellowstone enliven all of your senses. You'll hear the eerie sounds of bugling elk, smell the fragrance of aspens and cured grasses, feel the contrast of cold breezes and hot sun. As you hike through the park's backcountry, you may see bighorn sheep and migrating hawks, find moose along willow-filled creek beds, or spot the elusive coyote, wolf, and bear. Enjoy an easy first day to acclimate to the climate and elevation, taking a short hike and watching wildlife. After that, plan on hiking 8 to 12 miles each day with elevation gains up to 1500 feet. Rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course. Call 866-439-7375 for rates and reservations. ☀

#1004 AUTUMN WILDLIFE WATCHING



Start: October 7 at 9 a.m.
End: October 9 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructor: George Bumann, M.S.
\$300
Limit: 12

Who's migrating and who's hunkering down? Which animals are still busy mating, and which have already gone underground? You'll spend three full days in the field observing as many species as possible, with the guidance of a seasoned wildlife biologist. You'll see how different animals deal with this transitional time and learn to recognize their patterns of behavior. Compare what you observe with what scientists have discovered about Yellowstone's wildlife and engage in lively discussions about your experiences and those of other participants. ☀

#1005 TEACHER WORKSHOP: LIVING ON THE EDGE



Start: October 15 at 7 p.m.
End: October 18 at Noon
Location: Gardiner, MT
Instructors: Julianne Baker, M.A. and NPS Educator
\$335
Limit: 26

Teachers: dare to visit a super volcano! Explore one of the most geologically dynamic places on Earth in search of forces shaping Yellowstone National Park and the planet on a grand scale. Using observation, measurement, simulation, modeling, and research, you'll learn about magma and hot spots, future volcanic activity, geyser basin systems including microbial ecology, hydrothermal activity, and other geologic forces. Learn interdisciplinary techniques that will excite your students in the classroom and field, and that are correlated to Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho education standards. You'll also take home copies of all instructional materials demonstrated during the workshop. ☀

This was a good learning opportunity from an impressive instructor.

BACKPACKING COURSES

If you are a physically fit adult, consider experiencing the Yellowstone wilderness in a small group. Two experts lead each backpacking course. The backpacking instructor will teach the group about wilderness travel, including minimum-impact camping and bear safety. A content instructor will teach about a specific subject (for example, wolves or history) related to Yellowstone.

Every course begins with a classroom day where the morning is spent on orientation to the course topic, the Yellowstone backcountry, the route and itinerary, Leave No Trace principles, and the group expectations and goals. Both instructors will present important information to prepare the group for their backpacking seminar. After lunch as a group, the backpacking instructor will cover the logistical details of backcountry travel, including reviewing food and gear requirements, packing techniques and helpful hints, bear safety, and other backpacking information. You'll be able to make last minute purchases at this time. Stores in nearby communities and in the park carry some backpacking supplies. The afternoon session is required for all participants new to Yellowstone Association Institute backpacking courses. Students who have taken a YAI backpacking course within the last year may be eligible to skip the afternoon session and use the time to pack on their own, purchase supplies, or relax in Yellowstone.

Rates include tents, stoves, and other group equipment but you must provide your own personal equipment (such as backpack, water bottles, sleeping bags, clothing) and food. Students who are not prepared at the time of their course may be asked to refrain from participating.

For all backpacking courses, trip itineraries may change based on trail conditions and the availability of campsites. Participants must secure their own accommodations before and after the course, and for the first evening of the course.

SO HOW DOES THIS ALL WORK?

NEW THIS YEAR! Before you register, find out more details about the backpacking courses that interest you by reading the course letters. (In the past, you received these letters only if you registered for the class.) They contain detailed agendas, special equipment you'll need, and books or articles you might want to read in advance. To view course letters, go to www.YellowstoneAssociation.org, click on "Take a Class," then "Backpacking Courses," then "View Course Calendar."

When you are ready to register, or if you need more information about a backpacking course, call us at 307-344-2294, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Mountain Time, Monday through Friday or visit us online at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org. Courses fill fast so register early. Full payment is required at the time of registration. Online course requests are not final until confirmed by our registrar.

After you register, we'll send you a confirmation letter, park entrance pass, and personal data forms. You need to fill out the forms and return them right away; they help us get to know you better so we're prepared for your arrival.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR BACKPACKING COURSES

Payments are fully refundable, less a \$35 per course processing fee, if you cancel at least 60 days before the course. No refunds will be made for cancellations received fewer than 60 days before the start of the course, unless your space can be filled. If we can fill your space, a refund will be made, less the course processing fee. As an alternative, we can credit your tuition to another course of the same type offered before October 1, 2009, on a space available basis. We reserve the right to cancel a course up to 30 days before the first class day. If we cancel, you will receive a full refund. We regret that the Institute cannot make exceptions to the refund policy for any reason, including but not limited to illness, travel delays, emergencies, or weather. We urge you to purchase accident, baggage, and trip cancellation insurance through a travel agent or website such as www.TravelGuard.com. Travel insurance can help protect you against financial loss if you must cancel or interrupt your trip.

WHAT'S THE BEST BACKPACKING COURSE FOR YOU?

Backpacking in a high-altitude environment is a physically demanding activity, and to enjoy your Institute experience without endangering yourself or others, you must be sufficiently fit. You will be required to carry a backpack weighing 50-60 pounds and hike up to eight hours a day at elevations ranging from 5,000 to 12,000 feet. Unless you live at this altitude, your body will experience the stresses associated with hypoxia (low oxygen). You should expect significant demands on the heart, lungs, and all major muscle groups. You also should be prepared to hike in inclement weather and a dry environment. Hiking in these conditions is more strenuous than hiking in fair weather at sea level, and some people experience associated health complications. We recommend that you talk to your doctor about your suitability before enrolling. To help you decide which course is best for you, we have developed a rating system that takes into account distance, elevation gain, terrain, and even pace. Please do not overestimate your ability. Selecting a course that is too difficult can endanger your health and the safety of those around you, and it can diminish everyone's enjoyment.

NOTE: Each backpacking course is rated according to the difficulty scale. ►

BACKPACKING DIFFICULTY SCALE

- ① Leisurely to moderately paced hikes of up to 6 miles per day over relatively flat terrain. Total elevation change will be less than 500 feet per day.
- ② Moderately paced hikes of up to 8 miles per day over undulating terrain. Elevation changes up to 1,000 feet per day are possible.
- ③ Moderately to briskly paced hikes of up to 8 miles per day over sometimes rough and steep terrain. Elevation changes of 1,000 feet per day are likely.
- ④ Brisk to aggressive hiking is expected. You will cover up to 13 miles per day over sometimes rough and steep terrain with possible daily elevation changes of 1,000 feet or more.
- ⑤ Aggressive hiking over extended courses of seven days or longer. Each day can include hikes of up to 13 miles over sometimes rough and steep terrain, on- or off-trail. Elevation changes of up to 2,000 feet likely.

Please note that these ratings are only guidelines: What is labeled "5" might be routine for a very fit hiker while a "3" might be quite difficult to a non-backpacker who lives at sea level. The difficulty of any course can be affected by weather, current environmental conditions, route hazards, and your own fitness, preparedness, and acclimatization. If you still have questions about any course, or if you would like more information about local conditions or the effects of altitude, please call the Institute office and a staff member will be happy to help.



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Diane Simpson



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Terri Tipping

#512 GRIZZLY BEAR BASECAMP

2

Start: May 27 at 9 a.m., Gardiner, MT
End: May 30 at 4 p.m.
Location: Slough Creek
Instructors: Jim Garry, M.S. and Patty Walton
\$480
Limit: 8

Venture into the heart of picturesque Slough Creek, where elk calves are being born and grizzly bears are hunting them. Find out why and how grizzlies seek elk calves; discover what other foods they search for. See where the great bears have been by learning to identify and interpret their tracks, scat, and other sign. Along the trail and in camp, you'll also learn about grizzly bear evolution, taxonomy, folklore, conservation, and management. At sunrise and sunset, you'll be able to look for elk, bear, canids, and other critters. ☀

#602 **NEW!** LEAVE NO TRACE TRAINER CERTIFICATION COURSE

1

Start: June 1 at 7 p.m., Gardiner, MT
End: June 3 at 3 p.m.
Location: Northern Range
Instructor: Julianne Baker, M.S.
\$265
Limit: 8

Gain the skills—and certification—to teach Leave No Trace techniques and ethics to your family, friends, and clients. Through classroom work and practice during an easy one-night backpack, you'll learn the concepts of Leave No Trace and how to teach these concepts in a variety of settings such as schools, camps, parks, and wilderness. Topics include planning, low-impact camping skills, and respecting wildlife and other people you encounter on the trail. Successful participants earn certification as a Leave No Trace trainer, which gives you a competitive edge in the outdoor and environmental education fields. ☀

#614 DUSTY BOOTS AND SPLATTERED PAINT—ART AND SCIENCE IN THE BACKCOUNTRY

2

Start: June 18 at 9 a.m., Gardiner, MT
End: June 21 at 4 p.m.
Location: Slough Creek
Instructors: George Bumann, M.S. and Aaron Schuerr
\$480
Limit: 8

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced artist, pack up your paints and pencils, then hit the trail into the backcountry! Learn how to observe and sketch wildlife, and the biology of the animals you paint. Practice techniques for landscapes, including composition, color, and perspective. Explore solutions to challenges such as depicting reflections and surfaces of water, interpreting wildlife accurately, and applying light and shadow. Figure out why a mountain looks the way it does, and how to render it with art. Each day you'll hike to locations for field work, participate in basecamp discussions and lessons, and enjoy friendly critiques of everyone's work. ☀

#623 FAMILIES HIT THE TRAIL

2

Start: June 24 at 9 a.m., Gardiner, MT
End: June 28 at 4 p.m.
Location: Pebble Creek
Instructors: Alan Kesselheim and Patty Walton
\$600
Limit: 10

Come join the fun this summer in Yellowstone, and introduce your family to backpacking. During the first day, your family will learn about Leave No Trace principles, how to plan your meals, and tips for packing for the trail. The next day, you'll hit the trail for four days far from roads and crowds. We'll alternate each backpacking day with a day in camp. You'll have plenty of opportunities to explore, play, and contemplate nature; and your kids can participate in games, activities and camp chores. Everyone will learn the essential skills of camp and trail etiquette and backcountry decision-making. The minimum age for this course is 9. ☀

#705 BACKPACKING THE TRAIL OF THE NEZ PERCE

5

Start: July 7 at 9 a.m., Gardiner, MT
End: July 12 at 4 p.m.
Location: Northern Range
Instructors: Jim Garry, M.S. and Patty Walton
\$840
Limit: 8

Follow the flight of the Nez Perce out of Yellowstone as they fled the U.S. Army in 1877. We'll pick up their trail along the Lamar River, follow Miller Creek into the spectacular high country of the Hoodoo Basin, then out into Sunlight Basin. Along the way, you'll learn about historic accounts of the trek, alternate routes various groups of Nez Perce might have taken, Nez Perce history and traditions, and why this trail remains significant to the tribe. ☀



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: John Morrison

#712 PELICAN VALLEY GRIZZLY BEAR BASECAMP

5

Start: July 16 at 9 a.m., Gardiner, MT
End: July 19 at 4 p.m.
Location: Pelican Valley
Instructors: Kerry A. Gunther, M.S. and Patty Walton
\$480
Limit: 8

Hikers familiar with Yellowstone know the Pelican Valley as one of the best places to see grizzly bears in the backcountry. Explore this spectacular country and learn about bear behavior, food habits, habitat use, bear-human interactions, and bear-human conflict resolution. You'll also learn to distinguish the tracks and other sign of a grizzly from a black bear, and perhaps see both species. Our basecamp will be over Mist Pass, so the first and last days are a long backpack with an extremely strenuous climb over the pass, and the middle observation days will require descending and ascending the pass. ☀

#720 BEARTOOTH BASECAMP

3

Start: July 23 at 9 a.m., Gardiner, MT
End: July 26 at 4 p.m.
Location: Absaroka/Beartooth Mountains
Instructors: John Campbell, Ph.D. and Patty Walton
\$480
Limit: 8

Enjoy exploring the spectacular Beartooth Plateau and Absaroka Mountains from a basecamp, with daily hikes into alpine and subalpine habitats. You'll study this high and windswept country's ecology—its dramatic geology and its affects on its inhabitants, and why this rugged country is actually so fragile. You'll be in the midst of the high-summer growth season, a perfect time to learn about its wildflowers and trees, and their adaptations to this harsh environment. Discover for yourself the fascination and beauty of this enchanted realm of miniature plants, hay-gathering pika, and birds that dive into snow. ☀

#724 NEW! EXPLORING YELLOWSTONE'S MICROBES BACKPACK

4

Start: July 28 at 9 a.m., Gardiner
End: August 1 at 4 p.m.
Location: Heart Lake
Instructors: Anna-Louise Reysenbach, Ph.D. and Patty Walton
\$600
Limit: 7

Discover the spectacular microbe communities thriving in one of Yellowstone's major backcountry hydrothermal areas. Your expedition begins with a 9 mile backpack to the shore of Heart Lake, where you'll wake up in the dawn glow on Mount Sheridan for a layover day. You'll then continue on the Heart Lake trail on a through hike along the Snake River to the park's south entrance. Along the way you'll explore unique microbes living in hot springs and geyser runoff channels. Learn how they thrive in extreme environments, study their role in fire-disturbed soils, and discover their connection to possible life on other planets. You'll discover seldom-seen and little known secrets of Yellowstone. ☀

#804 NEW! FLY FISHING BACKPACK

3

Start: August 4 at 9 a.m., Gardiner, MT
End: August 7 at 4 p.m.
Location: Northern Range
Instructors: Rhea Topping and Patty Walton
\$495
Limit: 8

Attention experienced fly fishers! Embark upon a true fly-fishing adventure, with no lodges, cars, or fly shops. Lace up your boots and strap your fly rod to a backpack and head into Yellowstone's Northern Range with a world-class fishing guide. You'll hike to remote waters where the trout are more wild and wily, and their watery habitats uncrowded by other anglers. You'll see plenty of other wildlife, too, as you experience Yellowstone at its best. ☀

#807 NEW! NORTHWEST CORNER EXPEDITION

5

Start: August 11 at 9 a.m., Gardiner, MT
End: August 20 at 4 p.m.
Location: Gallatin Range
Instructors: Jim Garry, M.S. and Patty Walton
\$1,000
Limit: 8

Join this 10-day expedition exploring Yellowstone's rugged and wild northwest corner. You'll crisscross the Gallatins, mountains that are 72 million years old and still seem young. Explore the evidence these soaring peaks give of their ancient volcanic origins and their endurance of the more recent "supervolcano" action, and the softening effects of ice caps and glacial flow. You'll follow a trail named Sky Rim and cross a pass called Fawn. Emerge from this breathtaking backpack along a trail that winds past the northeast corner's iconic mountain, Electric Peak, and across the wildlife rich Swan Lake Flat. ☀



Photo: Bill Mahoney

#815 BECHLER BACKPACK

3

Start: August 24 at 9 a.m., Gardiner, MT
 End: August 29 at 4 p.m.
 Location: Bechler
 Instructors: Jim Garry, M.S. and Patty Walton
 \$720
 Limit: 8

Shoulder your backpack and explore this southwestern corner of Yellowstone in all its wonder. The Bechler is a land of waters—hot and cold, running and still, and falling over dozens of waterfalls. Hike through canyons formed by volcanoes and glaciers, lived in by elk and bear, and carpeted with forests. Soak in hot springs, wet your feet fording streams, and pause in the rejuvenating spray of waterfalls. Along the way, you'll learn of the people who passed through here—of tribes and explorers, of hunters and poachers. In the evenings, you'll relax to amiable discussions and well-told stories. ☀



Photo: Karen Withrow

#908 AUTUMN WOLF AND ELK BACKPACK

3

Start: September 10 at 9 a.m., Gardiner, MT
 End: September 13 at 4 p.m.
 Location: Northern Range
 Instructors: Dan Stahler, Ph.D. candidate and Nathan Varley, Ph.D.
 \$480
 Limit: 8

On this wildlife viewing expedition, you'll backpack four days in outstanding elk and wolf country—the open meadows of the southern Gallatin Mountains. Spend frosty mornings and crisp, starry evenings in the company of elk as they gather, feed, and engage in their intricate annual mating ritual. With luck, you'll also see their primary predator—wolves—in action. We'll certainly see sign of wolves and discuss their relationships with elk in Yellowstone. ☀

#910 AUTUMN WOLF AND ELK BACKPACK

3

Start: September 17 at 9 a.m., Gardiner, MT
 End: September 20 at 4 p.m.
 Location: Northern Range
 Instructors: Nathan Varley, Ph.D. and Linda Thurston, M.S.
 \$480
 Limit: 8

On this wildlife viewing expedition, you'll backpack four days in outstanding elk and wolf country—the open meadows of the southern Gallatin Mountains. Spend frosty mornings and crisp, starry evenings in the company of elk as they gather, feed, and engage in their intricate annual mating ritual. With luck, you'll also see their primary predator—wolves—in action. We'll certainly see sign of wolves and discuss their relationships with elk in Yellowstone. ☀



Photo: Diane Simpson

Great course, good pace, friendly group—instructors were a great team!

INSTRUCTOR PROFILES

ROBERT ANDERSON, PH.D. (17) is an entomologist and retired professor of biological sciences at Idaho State University, where he taught and wrote about applied ecology and medical entomology. He has also produced videos on crickets, insect collecting, and butterflies of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks.

ORVILLE E. BACH, JR., ED.D. (14, 15) is a familiar face at the Old Faithful Visitor Center, where he works each spring and fall as an interpretive ranger. He wrote *Exploring the Yellowstone Backcountry*, a popular hiking guide, and *Tracking the Spirit of Yellowstone: Recollections of Thirty-One Years as a Seasonal Ranger*.

JULIANNE BAKER, M.A. (4, 5, 6, 7, 15, 17, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30) moved to Gardiner, Montana, after more than 30 years visiting Yellowstone to hike, backpack, kayak, and ski. She retired from teaching in Michigan, where she taught environmental science, and now is a resident instructor for the Yellowstone Association Institute. She is a graduate of the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), a Wilderness First Responder, and a certified Leave No Trace master educator.

GENE BALL (10, 15) was director of the Yellowstone Association and Institute from 1985–88. He now lives in Meeteetse, Wyoming, and teaches a wide variety of topics and does other freelance projects for a variety of organizations throughout the West.

SHAUNA BARON (4, 5, 6, 7) is a biologist who has studied large and small carnivore species, including wolves, bears, fishers, and bobcats. She has worked with the Colorado-based Mission Wolf captive wolf program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Red Wolf Project in North Carolina, and as a volunteer for the Yellowstone Wolf Project. Shauna is a resident instructor for the Yellowstone Association Institute.

PETE BENGEYFIELD, M.S. (12) has been a hydrologist with the U.S. Forest Service for 28 years. Also an accomplished self-taught nature photographer, Pete has been published in *National Wildlife*, *Outdoor Photographer*, and Sierra Club calendars and many regional publications. He has combined his photography with writing to produce two books, *Mountains and Mesas*, and *Incredible Vision—The Wildlands of Greater Yellowstone*.

BOB BERMAN (20) takes his eyes away from the stars long enough to write a monthly column for *Astronomy*, one of the most popular magazines on the subject. He also is the astronomy editor for *The Old Farmer's Almanac*, has written four books, and is the current director of the Overlook and Storm King observatories in New York state. He also appears frequently on popular TV shows to talk about his favorite subject—the universe.

BRAD BULIN, M.S. (4, 5, 6, 7, 15) is a wildlife biologist with more than 10 years experience teaching science at the K–12 and college levels and conducting extensive field research on carnivores, raptors, amphibians, and plants. In addition to being a resident instructor for the Yellowstone Association Institute, Brad is an amateur videographer who spends considerable time capturing Yellowstone on tape.

GEORGE BUMANN, M.S. (9, 23, 27, 30) can draw, paint, describe, and teach about all aspects of Yellowstone National Park's ecology. He has a degree in wildlife ecology and experience teaching field biology, ornithology, dendrology, mammalogy, drawing, and field journaling. His art and writing have appeared in popular and scientific publications. His bronze sculptures can be found in collections across the United States, Europe, and in the National Museum of Wildlife Art in Jackson, Wyoming.

JOHN S. CAMPBELL, PH.D. (19, 31) has studied arctic and alpine plant ecology in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem since 1973. He is a professor of biology at Northwest College, located immediately east of Yellowstone National Park, and has published an extensive review of North American alpine ecosystems.

MEREDITH E. CAMPBELL (16) holds a Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis in botany and a certificate in Scientific Illustration. Meredith's botanical and wildlife illustrations have been published in numerous books, magazines, and other publications. She is a professional artist who has been teaching drawing to both adults and children for the past 20 years.

HAL CANNON (22) chronicles Western rural life through his poetry, songs, and other media. He founded the Western Folklife Center in Elko, Nevada, and its famous Cowboy Poetry Gathering. His books, recordings, and films have garnered fans around the world and numerous awards. With his wife, Teresa Jordan, he created the series, *The Open Road: Exploring America's Favorite Places*, which was featured on Minnesota Public Radio's *Savvy Traveler*.

JAMIE CRAIT, PH.D. CANDIDATE (14) has been studying otters for more than 5 years, earning his master's degree in 2005 and now working toward his Ph.D. at the University of Wyoming. He has earned several awards for his research and has published numerous articles about otters and the ecology of Yellowstone Lake. His research focuses on how declines in cutthroat population affect otters and the ecology of the lake.

COLLEEN E. CURRY, M.A. (26) is the supervisory museum curator at Yellowstone National Park where she oversees the park's museum program, the archives, and the research library. She planned and supervised moving the park's 5.3 million item collection to the Heritage and Research Center in 2004. Before coming to Yellowstone, she was curator at other National Park Service sites and at the U.S. Supreme Court.

PAUL DOSS, PH.D. (16, 17) vividly describes geologic processes so that you can almost see the landscape forming. Supervisory geologist for Yellowstone National Park from 2000–2001, he teaches in the Department of Geology and Physics at the University of Southern Indiana. For over two decades, he has taught field geology, conducted research, and completed geologic mapping in the Rocky Mountain Region and the Yellowstone Plateau.

KATY DUFFY, M.S. (12) identifies raptors on the wing and songbirds by sound. She is a licensed bird bander specializing in owls, hawks and songbirds, and holds an ecology degree from Rutgers University. A resident of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem for more than two decades, she was a naturalist for Grand Teton National Park before becoming the West District Interpretive Ranger for Yellowstone National Park.

TERRY ENK, PH.D. (11) studied bighorn sheep and mountain lions for his doctorate from Montana State University. He has also conducted mountain lion research with the Hornocker Wildlife Institute, assisted in developing a strategy to protect wildlife along the U.S.-Mexico border, and served as wildlife biologist for the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. He now is a wildlife consultant from his home in Boise, Idaho.

DAVID GAILLARD, M.S. (21) works to protect and restore imperiled carnivores—particularly lynx, wolverine, and fisher—and their habitats, and to increase understanding and appreciation of these predators. He earned his Masters of Environmental Studies degree from the Yale School of Forestry, and has worked with Keystone Conservation (formerly Predator Conservation Alliance), the Northern Rockies Conservation Cooperative, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, and Defenders of Wildlife.

JIM GARRY, M.S. (12, 13, 22, 24, 26, 30, 31, 32) weaves together natural history, human history, folklore, and myth into spell-binding stories. A naturalist and folklorist, he has spent a good part of the past four decades in the Yellowstone ecosystem. Since 1980 he has directed Great Plains Lore and Natural History, Inc. His books include *This Ol' Drought Ain't Broke Us Yet* and *The First Liar Never Has a Chance*.

JENNY GOLDING, M.S. (9) has worked in the adult environmental and outdoor education field for 14+ years, for organizations such as the Appalachian Trail Conference, Student Conservation Association, and Virginia Tech. She is a certified Leave No Trace Master Educator, Certified Interpretive Trainer through the National Association for Interpretation, and Wilderness First Responder. Jenny is currently a program manager for the Yellowstone Association.

BOB GRESSWELL, PH.D. (12) knows the cutthroat trout intimately after more than 30 years studying this fish. He is a research biologist with the USGS Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center in Bozeman, Montana, and has affiliate faculty appointments at Montana State University and Oregon State University.

KERRY A. GUNTHER, M.S. (10, 31) is the bear management biologist for Yellowstone National Park, where he has worked in grizzly bear and black bear research and management for more than two decades. He has published papers on bear management, grizzly bear-human interactions, bear inflicted human injuries, and grizzly bear predation on elk calves, bison calves, and spawning cutthroat trout. He is the recipient of the 1997 Sigurd Olsen Environmental Achievement Award and the 2005 U.S. Department of Agriculture Conservation Project of the Year Award.

TAMI HAALAND, M.A., M.F.A. (23) shares her inspiration and writing skill with students at Montana State University Billings, where she has taught creative writing since 1994. Her first volume of poetry, *Breath in Every Room*, won the Nicholas Roerich Prize. Her work has been included in several anthologies, including *Montana Women Writers: A Geography of the Heart*, and has been featured on Garrison Keillor's *The Writer's Almanac*.

JAMES HALFPENNY, PH.D. (11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 21, 26) is an ecologist, educator, and writer who has taught field courses since 1961 and was coordinator of Long-Term Ecological and Alpine Research at the University of Colorado. Jim, president of A Naturalist's World, produces educational books, computer programs, and videos, and travels the world teaching about bears, wolves, and animal tracks. Jim's most recent books are *Yellowstone Wolves in the Wild* and *Yellowstone Bears in the Wild*.

MARK HAROLDSON (11) has studied bears for more than 30 years. He is supervisory wildlife biologist for the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team in Bozeman, Montana, and has authored or coauthored more than 25 publications about grizzly bears. Recent works include co-authoring a *Wildlife Monograph* (no. 161) on grizzly bear population parameters in the Yellowstone ecosystem and a book chapter on grizzly bear ecology and management.

MOLLY HASHIMOTO (26) has been painting watercolors for over 25 years. Her paintings of the North Cascades and Pacific Northwest have been widely exhibited; she has also illustrated several children's books. In addition to teaching at the Yellowstone Association Institute, she teaches at the North Cascades Institute and the Sitka Center for Art & Ecology.

HANNAH HINCHMAN (17) teaches renowned illustrated journal workshops around the country. She has also worked with graduate students in architecture, geography, and design at Louisiana State University. Her books include *A Trail Through Leaves: the Journal as a Path to Place* and the award-winning *Little Things in a Big Country: an Artist and her Dog on the Rocky Mountain Front*. She is earning her MFA in graphic design at Indiana University.

JEFF HULL, M.F.A. (18) has led a diversified and entertaining life as a freelance writer since a class-assigned query letter landed him a magazine assignment. He teaches journalism at the University of Montana and has published articles in magazines as varied as *Audubon*, *Men's Journal*, *Fortune*, and *Travel & Leisure*. His writing has been nominated for the National Magazine Award by *The Atlantic Monthly*, and listed by *Best American Sports Writing* (2001).

CHERYL JAWOROWSKI, PH.D. (25) is a geologist for Yellowstone National Park. Her scientific research and interests include Yellowstone's volcano, glacial geology, geologic mapping, and the evolution of the landscape. She has enjoyed hiking and skiing in the Greater Yellowstone area for more than 20 years.

TERESA JORDAN (22) grew up on a ranch in Wyoming and has been writing about Western rural culture ever since. In recent years, she has been adding watercolor sketches to her words in the series, *Sketchbook Expeditions*. In addition to writing and painting about the west, Teresa has taught throughout the region. She occasionally collaborates with her husband, Hal Cannon.

ALAN KESSELHEIM (25, 30) is a wilderness adventurer, accomplished paddler, freelance writer, and workshop leader. Adventures in wild places have fueled much of his writing. He has written hundreds of magazine pieces and nine acclaimed books, including *Water and Sky: Reflections of a Northern Year* and *Threading the Currents: A Paddler's Passion for Water*. He has taught popular writing classes at the Buffalo Ranch and on the shores of Yellowstone Lake since 2001.

JOHN KING (25) studies trees and what they tell us about climate and our changing environment. He received his training and education at the University of Arizona Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research. He collaborates with other specialists in this field, publishing scientific articles and technical papers, and conducts on-going research with the Forest Service and U.S. Geological Survey.

CLEM KLAPHAKE, M.A. (13) leads birding trips in the heartland of America, and lends his expertise and time to the Audubon Society of Omaha, Nebraska Ornithologist's Union, Fontenelle Forest Nature Center, and other organizations. A professor of sociology and environmental studies at Bellevue University, he takes students on field trips every spring to observe the spectacular sandhill crane migration along the Platte River.

ROBYN KLEIN, M.S. (20) has taught about medicinal and edible plants for over 20 years, including at Montana State University. She helped to pass one of the strictest laws in the nation against poaching medicinal plants, and now serves as Phytosleuth of the Biomimicry Guild, searching for nature's best ideas.

JOHN MUIR LAWS, M.S. (23) delights in exploring the natural world and sharing this love with others. Trained as a wildlife biologist, Laws teaches natural history, conservation biology, scientific illustration, and field sketching. His books include *The Laws Guide to the Sierra Nevada*, a pocket field guide to the Sierra Nevada. Currently, he is coordinating efforts in California to help teachers convey a love of nature and an understanding of biodiversity to their students.

THOMAS LEE (9) received a camera and a finance degree the same year and spent that summer photographing and falling in love with the American West. After a brief banking career in Denver, he has made his living in photography. Currently, he is Chief Photographer for the critically acclaimed *The Montana Quarterly* and travels all over the region to photograph the independent, varied peoples and extraordinary landscape that make this region so magnificent.

JEFFREY LOCKWOOD, PH.D. (20) explores the relationships between nature and humanity through the interplay of science with the arts, humanities, and social sciences. He shares this interesting field of inquiry with his students—whether in the university classroom or during informal seminars—and with the public through his writing. His books include *Grasshopper Dreaming: Reflections on Killing and Loving* and *Prairie Soul: Finding Grace in the Earth Beneath My Feet*.

LARRY LOENDORF, PH.D. (24) has always been interested in the hunting and gathering cultures of Montana and Wyoming. He has contributed to the understanding of these cultures through his archeological and historical research, his university teaching, and his writing. Loendorf co-wrote *Restoring a Presence: American Indians and Yellowstone National Park* with Peter Nabokov. He is also the author of *Mountain Spirit: The Sheep Eater Indians of Yellowstone*.

MACNEIL LYONS (4, 5, 6, 7) is an experienced National Park Service ranger and educator. He has served at the Blue Ridge Parkway, Point Reyes National Seashore, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and Yellowstone National Park. Currently a resident instructor for the Yellowstone Association Institute, he designed the Institute's award winning Yellowstone for Families program. MacNeil is also a published writer and photographer.

DAN MACNULTY, PH.D. (18) began his career as one of the park's first volunteer wolf research assistants, where he led efforts to document the behavior of wolves hunting elk and bison. In his graduate work at the University of Minnesota, he examined the development to wolf hunting ability, and the role of cooperation in group hunting behavior.

TIMOTHY P. MCCLEARY, PH.D. (11) works with the Crow Nation to record and share their history, traditions, and culture. He is a professor at Little Big Horn College, the Crow tribal college, and received his Ph.D. in anthropology at the University of Illinois: Urbana-Champaign. He has published papers on Crow culture, and the book, *The Stars We Know: Crow Indian Astronomy and Lifeways*.

TERRY MCENEANEY (9, 16, 25, 26) recently retired after serving more than 30 years as Yellowstone National Park's ornithologist. He teaches field ornithology throughout Montana and Wyoming, and wrote *Birds of Yellowstone*, *The Uncommon Loon*, and *Birding Montana*. He is writing a book on the ecology of Yellowstone birds and a scientific monograph on the Yellowstone trumpeter swan.

GRANT A. MEYER, PH.D. (23) studied fires and climate change in northern Yellowstone, which earned him the 1997 Kirk Bryan Award of the Geological Society of America. He is assistant professor in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at the University of New Mexico and has studied landforms and geological processes in Yellowstone since 1983.

ASHEA MILLS (4, 5, 6, 7, 27) is an expert naturalist who has worked in many spectacular places across the United States. Her passion, though, is Yellowstone—and she has been teaching and guiding here for more than ten years. An inspiring educator and experienced backcountry traveler, she is equally knowledgeable about this region's wildlife, geology, and history, and is passionate about sharing the wonders of Yellowstone with visitors of all ages.

LISA MORGAN, PH.D. (21) studies the geology and geophysics of volcanic terrains in and near Yellowstone National Park as a research geologist for the U.S. Geological Survey. With Ken Pierce, she developed major concepts and a model for the Yellowstone hot spot. Currently, she is focusing on caldera-forming eruptions, rhyolitic lava flows, hydrothermal explosions, and the geology of Yellowstone Lake.

KERRY MURPHY, PH.D. (21) is a wildlife ecologist and management biologist for Yellowstone National Park. He has researched and managed the wild cats of the Northern Rocky Mountains. He currently works on furbearer (e.g., lynx) and endangered species conservation, and has published numerous scientific and popular articles on carnivore ecology.

SUE CONSOLO MURPHY, M.S. (11) is the chief of science and resource management at Grand Teton National Park, and also worked for Yellowstone National Park from 1982 to 2003. She has worked with the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team and served on the conservation strategy team for Yellowstone's grizzlies. She has written papers on grizzly management and a book, *Wildlife @ Yellowstone*.

SANDRA NYKERK (13, 26) is a naturalist and photographer who lives in Gardiner, Montana. She has taught photography workshops and natural history programs throughout the country for nearly 25 years and her photographs and fine art images are widely published and exhibited. Sandra's interdisciplinary degree in photography, cultural anthropology, and environmental history explored the role of photography in the cultural and personal perceptions of natural spaces, especially Yellowstone National Park.

MELISSA PANGRAZE (27) obtained her degree in wildlife science from Purdue University. As an Institute backpacking instructor, she specializes in leadership, communication, and low impact backpacking techniques. She has guided for many organizations in a variety of places, but always finds her way back to Yellowstone country where she feels education about the ecosystem is of utmost importance.

CHARLES R. PETERSON, PH.D. (15) has studied the amphibians and reptiles of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem since 1989. He currently is a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Idaho State University and curator of Herpetology at the Idaho Museum of Natural History.

WAYNE PHILLIPS (14) is a former Forest Service ecologist who now teaches and writes about the flora of the Rocky Mountains and Great Plains and is active in the Montana Native Plant Society. He wrote *Central Rocky Mountain Wildflowers*, *Northern Rocky Mountain Wildflowers*, and *Plants of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*.

HAROLD PICTON, PH.D. (11, 22, 24) is emeritus professor of wildlife at Montana State University and studies herbivores, carnivores, and wildlife management history. He and his former graduate students have published over 100 scientific papers, many of which deal with the Yellowstone area. He has also published two books and produced a television documentary.

KENNETH PIERCE, PH.D. (18) retired from the U.S. Geological Survey where he studied the geologic origin of Rocky Mountain landscapes. He received the Kirk Bryan Award of the Geological Society of America for his report on the glacial geology of northern Yellowstone. He co-authored *Interpreting the Landscape: Recent and Ongoing Geology of Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks* and *Creation of the Teton Landscape*, and is exploring geologic controls on Yellowstone's ecology.

BETH PRATT, M.B.A. (23) is the director of environmental affairs for Xanterra Parks & Resorts at Yellowstone. She joined Xanterra after nearly nine years as vice president and chief financial officer for the Yosemite Association, which produced award-winning stewardship and environmental education programs in partnership with the National Park Service.

STEVE PRIMM, M.A. (12, 14) has conducted field research, and worked on projects involving community-based conservation and backcountry food storage. Steve has published articles on carnivore conservation and ecosystem management in *Conservation Biology and Policy Sciences*, and contributed chapters to the book, *Co-existing with Large Carnivores: Lessons from Greater Yellowstone*.

LESLIE J. QUINN, M.ED. (16, 22, 23) trains park bus tour guides, boat guides, and wranglers for Xanterra Parks and Resorts in Yellowstone. He also contributes to *Yellowstone Science*. His special interests include Yellowstone Park village history, the Howard Eaton Trail, and the maritime history of Yellowstone Lake.

ANNA-LOUISE REYSENBACH, PH.D. (31) studies the ecology of microorganisms from high temperature environments. Over the past decade, her work has taken her to the thermal springs of Yellowstone National Park, Iceland, New Zealand, and the Azores, and in research submersibles to the deep-sea hydrothermal vents along the mid-oceanic ridges. She teaches at Portland State University, Oregon.

TONI RUTH, PH.D. (11) has studied cougars and other large carnivores in habitats throughout the United States—including Yellowstone. She spent many winters snowshoeing the park's backcountry studying how wolf reintroduction affected cougars; now she is writing a book about that project. She is currently a contract biologist with the Selway Institute in Bellevue, Idaho.

AARON SCHUERR (19, 30) has taken many trips to Yellowstone from his home in Livingston, Montana, to capture the park's varied landscapes in luminous paintings. His art has been featured in *The Montana Quarterly*, *The Pastel Journal*, and *Artist's Magazine*. His work has been shown with the Pastel Society of America, the C.M. Russell Auction and the Santa Fe Art Auction. He is represented by Legacy Gallery in Jackson Hole, WY, and Scottsdale, AZ.

NANCY SEILER (25) creates her detailed botanical illustrations in graphite, pen and ink, colored pencil, and watercolor. An experienced instructor, Seiler received her certificate in botanical illustration through The Denver Botanic Gardens. She is a member of the Montana Native Plant Society and the American Society of Botanical Artists.

CHRISTINE SMITH (17) runs her own Gardiner-based photography business. She previously taught high school wildlife biology and worked in Yellowstone National Park organizing and regulating research in the park. She has lived in the Yellowstone area since 1994 and has worked with the Yellowstone Wolf Project since 1999.

DOUGLAS SMITH, PH.D.

(17) leads the Yellowstone Wolf Project. He has published widely on the subject in magazines, books, and scientific journals. He is the co-author of *The Wolves of Yellowstone* and *Decade of the Wolf*, a summary of the first ten years of wolf recovery in Yellowstone. He also appears in the National Geographic video entitled *Return of the Wolf*.

MARK SPRAGG (24) grew up wrangling horses and dudes on his parents' ranch near Yellowstone. Today he wrangles words into novels such as *An Unfinished Life*, which was made into a film of the same name in 2005. His memoir, *Where Rivers Change Direction*, won the Mountains & Plains Booksellers Award. It and his first novel, *The Fruit of Stone*, were top-ten Book Sense selections and have been translated into seven languages.

DAN STAHLER, PH.D. CANDIDATE

(32) has studied wolves since 1996. He earned his master's degree studying the relationship between Yellowstone's ravens and wolves, and is now researching wolf social dynamics and genetics for his doctorate. He is the project biologist for the Yellowstone Wolf Project where he helps coordinate and direct research on wolves, their prey, and scavenger communities.

MIKE TERCEK, PH.D. (27) runs his own ecological research and consulting business, Walking Shadow Ecology. Currently, he is studying riparian willows on Yellowstone's Northern Range and plant communities exposed to high levels of carbon dioxide. He earned his doctorate in ecology and evolutionary biology, focusing on the genetics of endemic plants near Old Faithful.

BRIAN THORPE, M.S.

(20) has been interpreting Yellowstone and Glacier National parks for visitors since 1988 for the National Park Service, Yellowstone National Park Lodges, and the Yellowstone Association Institute. He earned his masters degree in 2000 with a thesis project examining neotropical migrant birds in Yellowstone National Park.

LINDA THURSTON,

M.S. (18, 32) has worked on wolf management and research throughout the Rocky Mountains of the U.S. and Canada, including the wolf recovery project in Yellowstone, a wolf-elk research project near Banff National Park, addressing livestock depredation issues in Montana, and monitoring wolf populations in the Clearwater National Forest. She earned her masters degree from Texas A&M University for studying wolf denning behavior in Yellowstone.

RHEA TOPPING (19, 21, 31) is certified as a Master Casting Instructor worldwide by the Federation of Fly Fishers and was named Woman of the Year by that organization in 1999. She has been an Institute instructor since 1998, and instructs and runs angling trips worldwide under the company name Mayfly Adventures. Rhea is the author of *Rod Rage, A Guide to Angling Ethics*, the first book written on fly-fishing etiquette, and recently produced her first DVD, *The Double Haul*.

JON TRAPP, M.A. (10, 24) served as a wolf biologist for Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks until 2007. He has worked for the Mexican Wolf Program in Arizona, the Nez Perce Wolf Program in Idaho, and for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on Wyoming wolf management. He earned his master's degree in conservation biology and environmental education from Prescott College, with a thesis focusing on wolf den site selection in the Northern Rockies.

DAN TYERS, PH.D. (10) has been involved in wildlife research and management in the Yellowstone area over 30 years. Currently, he is the district wildlife biologist and program manager for wildlife, wilderness, and trails for the Gardiner Ranger District, Gallatin National Forest. His doctoral research involved the winter ecology of moose in the Northern Range of Yellowstone.

NATHAN VARLEY, PH.D.

(15, 18, 32) is a natural and cultural historian specializing in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, where he has lived almost his entire life. As a wildlife biologist, he has studied many of Yellowstone's large mammals, including elk, wolves, bears, and bison. For his Ph.D. at the University of Alberta, he focused on the effects of wolf restoration on the park's Northern Range elk herd.

PATTY WALTON (25, 30, 31, 32) has resided in the Yellowstone ecosystem for the past 20 years. She is an outdoor enthusiast who shares her passion when teaching safety, communication, and low-impact backpacking techniques through Leave No Trace principles. She is also a practicing paramedic and CPR instructor.

JENNIFER WHIPPLE, M.A.

(13) brings enthusiasm and expertise to her work as botanist for Yellowstone National Park. She has lived in Yellowstone for more than 25 years and taught many classes in botany for the Institute. She also has taught plant taxonomy and grass identification labs at Humboldt State University, is former president of the Wyoming Native Plant Society, and co-authored the *Wyoming Rare Plant Field Guide*.

LEE WHITTLESEY, M.A., J.D., PH.D. (HON.)

(19, 22) can tell you who named Old Faithful, when it happened, and probably what the weather was. He is Yellowstone National Park's historian. He has written more than a half dozen books about the park, including *Death In Yellowstone* and *A Guide to Yellowstone Waterfalls and Their Discovery*. His most recent book is *Storytelling in Yellowstone: Horse-and-Buggy Tour Guides in the Grand Old Park, 1872-1920*.

WILDERNESS MEDICINE INSTITUTE

(10), an institute of the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), has been a leader in wilderness medicine education since 1976. WMI provides all levels of wilderness medicine training for state and federal agencies, colleges, and outdoor programs throughout the West.

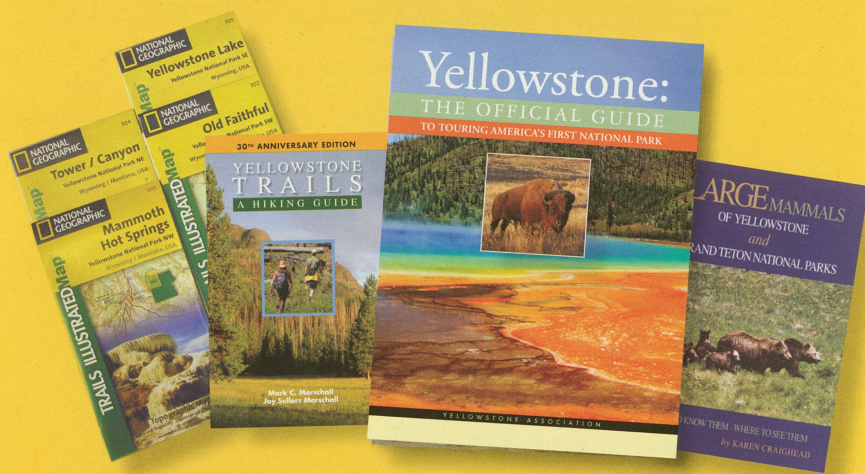
JASON WILMOT, M.E.M.

(14) is the executive director of the Northern Rockies Conservation Cooperative in Jackson, Wyoming. He is the lead field biologist with the Absaroka Beartooth Wolverine Project, and is a contributor to *Co-existing with Large Carnivores: Lessons from Greater Yellowstone*.

SUSAN ZWINGER, PH.D.

(13, 14) infuses her teaching with her enthusiasm, curiosity, knowledge, and extensive art and writing experience. She avidly explores natural areas and environmental issues, bringing them to audiences through her many articles and books. She has published more than 70 poems; her first of five natural history books, *Stalking the Ice Dragon*, won the 1992 Governor's Writers Award.

TWO WAYS YOU CAN HELP YELLOWSTONE...



1. JOIN THE YELLOWSTONE ASSOCIATION

Now that you know about our classes, find out more about the Yellowstone Association. By joining, you'll increase your support for Yellowstone National Park and reduce your class fees. The Yellowstone Association has been the park's official educational partner since 1933, providing a wide range of educational programs and services designed to help people understand and enjoy this remarkable place. We believe education is the best way to protect wild places, and we need your help to preserve Yellowstone for future generations. To become a member, please complete the membership section on the Institute registration form on page 38 or join online at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org. You'll receive benefits including a \$10 discount on each Institute course that you attend, a 15% discount on products at our Park Store, and a subscription to our quarterly magazine, *Yellowstone Discovery*.

2. BUY BOOKS AND GEAR FROM THE PARK STORE

The Yellowstone Association's Park Store features more than 900 books, maps, and videos to help you plan your visit. You'll also find a wide selection of shirts, hats and other gear you can use in the field—and which will remind you of your time in Yellowstone. To purchase items, please visit the Park Store at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org or call toll-free 877-967-0090. Members of the Yellowstone Association receive a 15% discount.

Proceeds from memberships and purchases are donated to the National Park Service to support education and research in Yellowstone.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ALTITUDE

Most of Yellowstone Park is above 6000 feet. If you live at or are coming from altitudes below 5000 feet, allow at least one acclimatization day before beginning strenuous activity. This will give your body time to begin adjusting to the altitude.

RELEASE FROM LEGAL LIABILITY AND COLLECTION OF HEALTH INFORMATION

On receipt of your completed registration form, we will send you an Assumption of Risks/Release of Liability form. All participants, including minors, are required to sign and return these forms. We will also send a form that will help us identify medical conditions that could be affected by the environment or activity. All information on your health form will remain confidential and will be reviewed only by Institute personnel or a licensed physician.

SAFETY, RESPONSIBILITY, AND RISK

Your safety is important to the Institute. We have established procedures to minimize the potential for medical emergencies and to provide an appropriate response, should an emergency occur. All members of the Institute staff are expected to follow these procedures. Our staff has also received training in driver safety, wilderness medicine, and the use of portable emergency radios.

Once you enroll, you will need to complete a health form and fully and accurately inform Institute staff of relevant medical conditions that could affect your well-being and the well-being of others on your trip. Specifically, we will want to know if you have any conditions that can be aggravated by the environment of Yellowstone (e.g., altitude; dry, hot summer weather; smoke from nearby fires, etc.), by the activity or workload, or might otherwise cause you to be a risk to yourself or others. The Institute needs and expects you to take an active role in protecting yourself. You will be asked to obtain and arrive with proper clothing and equipment. (A list with recommendations will be provided for your convenience.) Once you arrive, you will be expected to continually monitor your condition, stay hydrated and well fed, make prudent decisions, and keep Institute staff informed of your status and well being. If and when you see any type of potential danger, you need to point it out to your course leader and your co-participants.

Even with these combined efforts toward participant safety, it is important that you realize we cannot guarantee your safety. All Institute programs entail inherent risk; many of these risks simply are associated with exercising at moderate altitudes in mountainous or wilderness terrain. Even in our leisurely programs that do not stray far from developed areas, advanced medical care may be significantly delayed.

WEATHER

The weather in Yellowstone Park obviously varies according to the season, but it is dry nearly year-round. Be sure to drink plenty of fluids, which will not only help prevent dehydration, but can assist with acclimatization. If you are coming during a particularly hot or cold time, realize that the temperature extreme can add considerably to the difficulty of the course.

2009 REGISTRATION/MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____

Cell Number _____ Email Address _____

Where can you be reached one month prior to the course? (if different than above)

ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE _____

- ☐ I have read the refund policy and understand to receive a refund, I must cancel at least 60 days before a course and pay \$35 course processing fee.
- ☐ Check here if you are a current member of the Yellowstone Association or are joining now.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

☐ Renewing ☐ Joining

Memberships are family memberships, and include children through the age of 18. One membership card is usually issued per family. Additional cards are available upon request.

Annual Membership Dues:

- ☐ Gardner \$35
- ☐ Gibbon \$50
- ☐ Firehole \$100
- ☐ Lewis \$250
- ☐ Madison \$500

The Yellowstone Society:

- ☐ Lamar \$1,000
- ☐ Gallatin \$2,500
- ☐ Bechler \$5,000

MEMBERS NOTE:

Members receive a \$10 per course discount. If you are a Yellowstone Association member, be sure to deduct \$10 from each course cost when calculating tuition!

Course #	Title	Dates	Tuition
1.			
2.			
3.			

Lodging:

- ☐ I want to stay at the Institute cabins at Lamar the following nights at \$30/night.

Dates _____

☐ Male ☐ Female (Please check for cabin lodging.)

☐ My class does not meet at the Lamar facility. See course descriptions for recommended lodging or contact the registrar.

☐ I will make my own lodging or camping arrangements.

Total tuition fee(s) \$ _____

Cabin fee(s) at \$30 per person per night _____

Membership (optional, see left) _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Payment by: ☐ Check ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Credit Card# _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Before you register, find out more details about the courses that interest you by reading the course letters. (In the past, you received these letters only if you registered for the class.) They contain detailed agendas, special equipment you'll need, and books or articles you might want to read in advance. To view course letters, go to www.YellowstoneAssociation.org.

Mail to:
Yellowstone Association Institute
P.O. Box 117
Yellowstone Park, WY 82190

Fax to:
307-344-2485

Telephone:
307-344-2294

Please duplicate this form for multiple participants, or go to our website for additional forms.

Visit our website at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org or call 307-344-2294.



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ASSOCIATION
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Yellowstone National Park
Wyoming 82190

www.YellowstoneAssociation.org

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