YELLOWSTONE FOREVER

INSTITUTE

SUMMER 2017

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The Yellowstone Association and Yellowstone Park Foundation have merged into a single nonprofit supporting Yellowstone National Park. Yellowstone Forever will take the best of education and the best of philanthropy to provide an unforgettable experience for all those who care about the park.

Through the Yellowstone Forever Institute, they connect thousands of people to the park with in-depth educational programs. Together, Yellowstone Forever and the National Park Service work to provide a full range of educational opportunities that help visitors learn about and enjoy all that Yellowstone has to offer.

Yellowstone Forever offers a variety of programs to help you experience the park this season. We look forward to welcoming you this summer, and hope you will join us as we kick off a second century of engagement and stewardship in Yellowstone.



Superintendent Dan Wenk
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

YELLOWSTONE FOREVER INSTITUTE STAFF

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PROGRAM MANAGER
YOUTH, COLLEGE, & TEACHER
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PROGRAM MANAGER
LODGING & LEARNING,
PRIVATE, GROUP, & CUSTOM TOURS
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FLEET & LOGISTICS MANAGER
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CHIEF OPERATIONS &
EDUCATION OFFICER

SUMMER 2017

YELLOWSTONE FOREVER INSTITUTE

PROGRAMS

Yellowstone Forever, in partnership with the National Park Service, provides educational programming that helps people enjoy, understand, and appreciate the wildlife, geology, and cultural history of the park. Join the Yellowstone Forever Institute this summer on a journey of discovery, and engage with Yellowstone like you never have before.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LODGING & LEARNING...2

PRIVATE, GROUP, & CUSTOM TOURS...4

TEACHER INITIATIVES...5

YOUTH & COLLEGE...6

FIELD SEMINARS...8

LODGING...22

INSTRUCTORS...23

ACTIVITY LEVEL SCALE



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



Hikes up to 3 miles per day with elevation gains up to 600 feet. Some off-trail hiking possible.



Brisk hikes up to 5 miles per day with occasional elevation gains up to 1000 feet in undulating terrain.



Brisk aerobic hikes up to 8 miles per day with climbs up to 1500 feet on dirt trails. Loose rocks, uneven footing, and off-trail hiking are possible. Good coordination is recommended.



Brisk aerobic, destination-oriented hiking up to 12 miles a day. Elevation changes up to 2000 feet on dirt trails or off-trail. Loose rock, uneven footing, steep hillside traverses, and stream crossings are possible. Good coordination is required.

HOW DOES ALL THIS WORK?

STEP 1

Preview our offerings on the following pages.

Visit our website for detailed information.

STEP 2

Register on our website or via phone.

Yellowstone Forever supporters receive discounts on programs.

If you're not yet a supporter, you can join when you register.

Financial aid may be available for your program.

STEP 3

Read through your paperwork and return any requested information and payment as soon as possible.

Pack your bags and prepare to be inspired and educated!

HOW FIT DO YOU NEED TO BE?

Institute programs are based in the field and require you to be an active participant. To help you decide which program is best for you, we use an activity level scale (left) that takes into account a hike's distance, pace, elevation gain, and terrain. Please note that these ratings are only guidelines. For information about the physical requirements of each activity, please refer to program details on our website.

For more information or to register, please visit

Yellowstone.org or call us at 406.848.2400.

LODGING & LEARNING

Lodging & Learning programs combine just the right amount of education and recreation. You'll be based at park hotels and taught by Yellowstone Forever Institute instructors who are intimately familiar with Yellowstone. Packages are offered in partnership with Yellowstone National Park Lodges and include daily field trips, lodging, most meals, in-park transportation, and optional evening programs. This is our vacation package that covers almost everything and provides fun and discovery, too. Minimum age is 12 unless noted. Rates are double/single occupancy and don't include taxes or utility fees.



SPRING WOLF AND BEAR DISCOVERY

This is your opportunity to delve into the world of Yellowstone's wolves and bears. On sunrise trips you'll search for these charismatic animals on the northern range and learn about their behavior, ecology, and conservation on leisurely hikes. Throughout, you'll be immersed in the beauty and wonder of Yellowstone in the spring.

4-DAY PROGRAMS START DATES

MAY 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23

4 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs

$879/$1,209

ESSENTIAL YELLOWSTONE

Join us for an exploration of the quintessential secrets and sights of the park. Enjoy wildlife watching, walking the rim of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, and learning about the park's geology while you tour the heart of the Yellowstone volcano. Each evening, return to the serenity of Yellowstone Lake.

4-DAY PROGRAMS START DATES

MAY 30, JUN 6, 13, 20, 27,
JUL 4, 11, 18, 25, AUG 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

4 nights at Lake Yellowstone • $929/$1,255

OLD TIMES ON THE GRAND TOUR

Relive the golden age of Yellowstone's Grand Tours and travel in a similar style as visitors of a bygone era. Tour the park in a classic Yellowstone bus with a retractable top for wildlife viewing. By day, explore the park's colorful history and dynamic geology on walking tours of historic sites and thermal areas. Exclusive to this program, you'll enjoy a guided tour of Yellowstone's Heritage & Research Center. Relax each evening in the best park hotels.

5-DAY PROGRAMS START DATES

MAY 15, 22, 29 JUN 5, 12, 19, 26,
JUL 3, 10, 17, 24, 31,
AUG 7, 14, 21, 28, SEP 4, 11, 18

3 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs,
1 night at Old Faithful, 1 night at Lake Yellowstone • $1,889/$2,355

TRAILS THROUGH YELLOWSTONE

Pack your boots and backpack for four days of hiking, wildlife watching, and discovery in Yellowstone. Hike with naturalist guides to explore the park's diverse landscapes—including geyser basins, the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, and valleys rich with wildlife. Search for elk, bison, grizzly bears, wolves, and other animals on a sunrise wildlife watching expedition.

5-DAY PROGRAMS START DATES

MAY 28, JUN 4, 11, 18, 25, JUL 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, AUG 6, 13, 20, 27 SEP 3, 10, 17, 24

3 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs,
2 nights at Grant Village • $1,189/$1,675

YELLOWSTONE FOR FAMILIES

Experience the magic of Yellowstone on this learning adventure for families with children ages 8–12 years old. Your family will explore canyons, waterfalls, and geyser basins, as well as enjoy activities together including animal tracking, wildlife watching, photography, painting, and hiking. During the program, your children can become Yellowstone National Park Junior Rangers.

5-DAY PROGRAMS START DATES

MAY 29, JUN 4, 11, 12, 18, 25, 26
JUL 2, 9, 10, 16, 23, 24, 30, AUG 6, 7

3 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs,
2 nights at Old Faithful.
$1,119/$1,639/$599 per child

5-DAY PROGRAMS START DATES

MAY 30, JUN 5, 6, 13, 19, 20, 27,
JUL 3, 4, 11, 17, 18, 25, 31, AUG 1, 8

3 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs,
2 nights at Grant Village
$1,119/$1,605/$599 per child

YELLOWSTONE SUMMER EXPEDITION

Travel over land and water to experience the highlights of summer in Yellowstone in new and exciting ways. From a comfortable base camp at Canyon Lodge, you'll venture off the beaten path to explore geyser basins, enjoy backcountry hikes, and search for wildlife. You'll also take a private boat tour on Yellowstone Lake.

5-DAY PROGRAMS START DATES
JUN 12, 19, 26, JUL 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, AUG 7, 14, 21, 28
5 nights at Canyon Lodge · $1,439/$2,099

FALL WOLF AND ELK DISCOVERY

Immerse yourself in the world of Yellowstone's wolves and elk as you study the dance between predator and prey. Rise early to search for wolves, and observe the elk mating season, including the dramatic displays of mating bulls. Learn about wolf and elk behavior, ecology, and conservation on leisurely hikes in their habitat.

4-DAY PROGRAMS START DATES
SEP 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27
4 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs
$879/$1,209

ROOSEVELT RENDEZVOUS

Enjoy the arresting bugle of bull elk among the fall colors of aspen, willow, and cottonwood from your base at the historic Roosevelt Lodge. Choose from several classic fall adventures each day, such as naturalist-led wildlife watching trips, hiking Yellowstone's scenic trails, or learning how to interpret animal tracks. In the evenings, enjoy buffet dinners and programs in the main lodge.

5-DAY PROGRAMS START DATES
SEP 8, 12
4 nights at Roosevelt Lodge
$1,069/$1,255

REGISTER TODAY!









PRIVATE, GROUP, & CUSTOM TOURS

Private, Group, & Custom Tours offer four daily options that can be tailored to the interests of your group. Combine days for a more in-depth experience. We'll make sure everything, including optional hiking trips, matches your activity level. Your Yellowstone Forever Institute instructor will provide an incredible experience designed to help you see the park in a whole new way. Tuition includes instruction, transportation for the day, and use of high-power spotting scopes and binoculars. Early start times are strongly recommended to avoid crowds and have the best chance of seeing wildlife. We'll also help your children work on their Yellowstone National Park Junior Ranger patch. Meals and lodging are not included.



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

PICKUP LOCATIONS GARDINER, MAMMOTH, CANYON, NORRIS, OR LAKE

Explore the natural and geologic history of the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone Lake areas. You'll look for evidence of glaciers, lakes, and thermal features that sculpted the landscape while learning about the underlying volcano. You'll also search for wildlife and learn about their role in the Yellowstone ecosystem.

GEYSERS, MUDPOTS, AND HOT SPRINGS: OLD FAITHFUL AREA

PICKUP LOCATIONS GARDINER, MAMMOTH, NORRIS, MADISON, OR OLD FAITHFUL

Hot springs, geysers, mudpots, and fumaroles: Yellowstone is home to the world's greatest concentration of hydrothermal features—more than 10,000! With an Institute instructor, you'll explore geyser basins and the Yellowstone volcano to view these dynamic features and learn about the fascinating geologic processes that make them work.

WILDLIFE WATCHING ON THE NORTHERN RANGE

PICKUP LOCATIONS GARDINER, MAMMOTH, ROOSEVELT, OR LAMAR

Discover the diverse and abundant wildlife of Yellowstone's northern range. Learn how to search for wildlife and interpret their behavior. You'll also explore the vital role each species plays in the Yellowstone ecosystem.

DAY HIKING IN YELLOWSTONE

PICKUP LOCATIONS GARDINER, MAMMOTH, CANYON, NORRIS, ROOSEVELT, LAKE, MADISON, OR OLD FAITHFUL

Venture into the wilderness of Yellowstone on carefully chosen hikes that show you the park's diverse landscapes. Enjoy the quieter rhythms of travel away from the roadside, and learn how to interpret animal signs. Along the way, you'll gain insights into Yellowstone's geology, history, and wildlife.

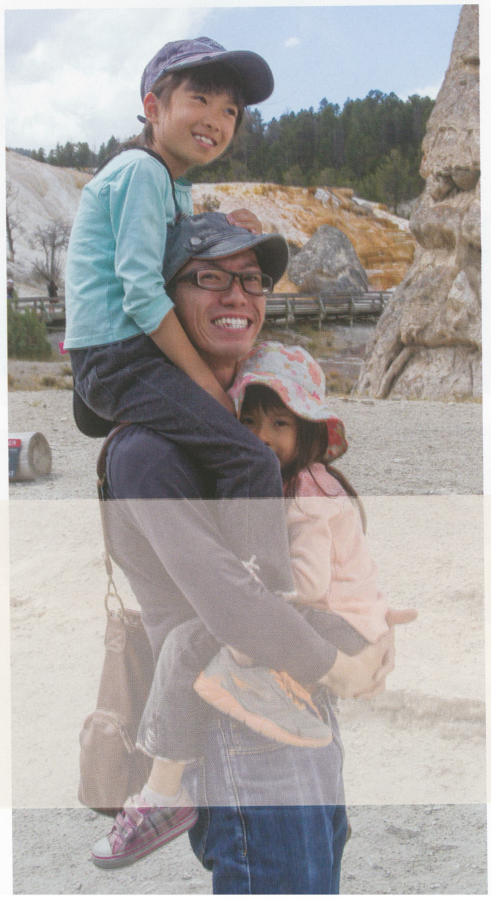
Tour Length for Private & Group Tours:
Approximately 8 hours per day. Call for start times.

Daily tuition rates:
1–5 participants $610
6–14 participants $825
15–28 participants $1,650

Rates effective through October 31, 2017, and do not include taxes.

CUSTOM GROUP PROGRAMS

Do you work with a group or organization who would like to have a customized educational experience in Yellowstone? Contact us at 406.848.2400 to learn more about designing a program tailored to your group.



TEACHER INITIATIVES

Get Inspired in Yellowstone!

Educators play a critical role in connecting young people to parks and wild places. To honor this, Yellowstone Forever offers a selection of teacher specific initiatives during the 2017 summer season: financial aid, continuing education credits, and teacher workshops. Whether you're a classroom teacher or an informal educator, join us in Yellowstone and let nature take its course.









TEACHER WORKSHOP: YELLOWSTONE STEAM!

SESSION 1

JUN 19 AT 6 PM – JUN 23 AT 12 PM

SESSION 2

JUL 24 AT 6 PM – JUL 28 AT 12 PM

Yellowstone Overlook Field Campus
Jessica Haas, Trudy Patton
Limit: 12 • $200
Lodging and meals included

With Yellowstone National Park as the venue, learn how to use both traditional and innovative methods to incorporate Art into STEM lessons (STEAM)! Explore new ideas and strategies while networking with other educators on best practices for cross-curricular design.

Applications are available at Yellowstone.org and are due January 16, 2017.

NEW! TEACHER WORKSHOP: DIVERSIFYING OUR NATIONAL PARKS

OCT 19 AT 6 PM OCT 22 AT 12 PM
Yellowstone Overlook Field Campus
Institute Staff
Limit: 26 • $150
Lodging and meals included

Explore hands-on activities that bring the importance of our public lands to your classroom and integrate parks into your students' experiences. Spend evenings discussing the impacts of nature in education, as you become part of a nationwide effort to diversify America's national parks.

YF supporter registration begins January 18, 2017, at 8 a.m. Mountain Standard Time. General registration begins one week later.

Financial Aid

Yellowstone Forever supporters are proud to provide financial aid for teachers taking one of our Field Seminars and also for educators bringing youth to Yellowstone to participate in one of our programs. In addition, we offer teacher workshops at a reduced rate. To find out more about financial aid, or to help support these education initiatives, please contact us.

YOUTH & COLLEGE

Youth & College programs provide rich learning experiences that engage young people with the wonders of Yellowstone National Park. Yellowstone Forever and the National Park Service are committed to working with teachers and leaders of youth organizations and schools to inspire students to become active stewards of all wild places—in Yellowstone and their home communities. Lodging is available at the Yellowstone Overlook Field Campus. Transportation is available to and from the Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport.

STEWARDSHIP OF PUBLIC LANDS

FOR COLLEGE-AGE GROUPS

Monday–Friday

Introduce your students to the stewardship of public lands through the science, history, and politics of Yellowstone National Park. Students will examine resource issues and the roles citizens, organizations, and agencies play in the management of our public land legacy.

MY YELLOWSTONE ADVENTURE

FOR 9-12TH GRADE

Monday–Friday

Bring your group to Yellowstone to experience an introduction to nature, national parks, and conservation. Students explore the natural history, geology, and cultural history of Yellowstone National Park while learning about the significance of wild places. Students will explore extraordinary landscapes, observe wildlife, take photos, and paint during this active program.

NEW! HIGH SCHOOL FIELD EXPERIENCE

FOR 9-12TH GRADE

Monday–Friday

Let Yellowstone be your high-school classroom. Watch science come alive as your students use the scientific method and critical thinking skills to investigate Yellowstone in-depth. In addition, pre-program curriculum planning with our staff will connect your Yellowstone experience to national education standards. Early college credit is available through the University of Montana Western.

EXPEDITION YELLOWSTONE

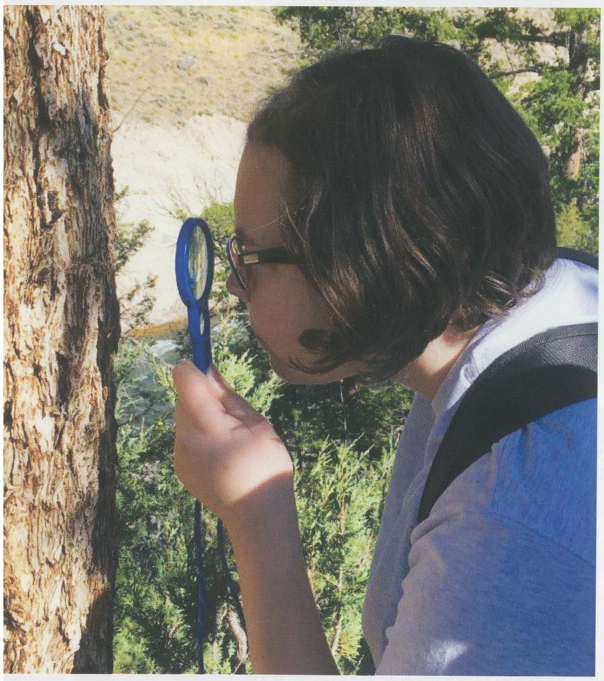
FOR 4-8TH GRADE

Monday–Friday or Friday–Monday

Explore the geology, ecology, and human history of Yellowstone with National Park Service education rangers for 4 or 5 days. Learning takes place outside through hikes, field science investigations, discussions, creative dramatics, and journaling. Indoor lessons round out the experience as students examine the current issues affecting the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and their role in stewardship of public lands.













***Not seeing a program that fits your group? Contact us to tailor a Yellowstone experience to meet your educational goals.**

REGISTER TODAY!

FIELD SEMINARS

Field Seminars examine specific aspects of the park ecosystem through just the right combination of fun field excursions and classroom presentations. Our seminar leaders are experts in their fields and include professors, naturalists, scientists, and acclaimed photographers, writers, historians, and artists. Most programs are based at the Lamar Buffalo Ranch Field Campus in the park's northeast corner or in Gardiner, Montana. See page 22 for rates and more information about lodging options while learning with us.
Please visit our website for minimum participant ages and other details about each course. Rates do not include taxes.



Continuing Education

Look for the "🍎" denoting Field Seminars that are pre-approved for semester credits or renewal units from the University of Montana Western. We are also happy to provide a letter of completion and supporting documentation that you can submit to the institution of your choice to request approval for university credit or CEUs.

NATURALIST GUIDE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM 🍎

APR 9 AT 7 PM – APR 28 AT 5 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Julianne Baker, M.A.,
Carolyn Harwood
Limit: 12 • $1,500 • 170401

In this professional-level certification course, you will gain the skills of a naturalist and the experience for sharing that knowledge. Learn to understand and interpret the wildlife, geology, plants, and climate of a landscape. Acquire the skills for effective interpretation, including interpretive principles and how to facilitate and manage a group during a program or tour. You can become a certified interpretive guide (National Association for Interpretation) and Leave No Trace trainer (Leave No Trace, Inc.), and earn four undergraduate credits through the University of Montana Western. Most of the class is outdoors. Shared lodging is available for this course for a reduced rate in Yellowstone Forever Institute lodging.

A GUIDE'S GUIDE TO YELLOWSTONE

MAY 8 AT 8 AM – MAY 12 AT 5 PM
Gardiner, Montana, and Old Faithful
Julianne Baker, M.A., Jim Garry, M.S.
Limit: 12 • $725 • 170501

Here's your chance to learn about Yellowstone from area experts who know this park inside and out. You will spend one day at each of the park's major areas: Old Faithful and the Upper Geyser Basin, Yellowstone Lake, Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, and the northern range. Find out what each location has to teach you about geology, wildlife, and human history. Whether you are new to the park, a seasoned veteran, or a naturalist in training, you will learn new details about the inner workings of the world's first national park.

WILDERNESS FIRST AID

MAY 15 AT 8 AM – MAY 16 AT 5 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Wilderness Medicine Institute Staff
Limit: 30 • $285 • 170502

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 and how to treat shock, wounds, fractures and dislocations, hypothermia, heat illness, and altitude illness. May be used to recertify a current or in re-entry year WMI Wilderness First Responder. No previous certification is required.

SUPPORTER REGISTRATION: JAN 18, 2017, AT 8 AM M.S.T.









CELEBRATE THE MARVELS OF MIGRATION

MAY 19 AT 7 PM – MAY 21 AT 4 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Katy Duffy, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $277 • 170503

Each spring, migratory birds pour north across the continent as they hasten to breeding areas. Some stop here to nest; others stop to refuel before resuming their journey. Join us to welcome them. You'll enjoy an evening program about the birds you are likely to see and learn how birds weighing as little as a nickel find their way back to summer nesting sites. Rise up early the next two mornings to spend all day in the bird-rich habitats of Yellowstone's northern range and the Hayden Valley. We'll drive to a number of sites to do the "birders' shuffle"—slowly walking to observe as many migrants as possible.

NEW! THE ART OF BIRDS

MAY 22 AT 7 PM – MAY 24 AT 5 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Meredith Campbell
Limit: 13 • $277 • 170504

Use a creative lens to delve deep into the world of birds. One of the most diverse life forms on Earth, birds' adaptations and mating rituals are fascinating as well as beautiful. In this class, you'll learn how to sketch, draw, and paint birds from the inside out, and increase your ability to identify and document the birds you see around you. Through reference photos and sketching from life in the park, you'll see birds in a whole new light, discovering the specialized features—like beaks, feet, and stature—that provide clues to the niche they fill in their environment.

MAMMAL SIGNS: INTERPRETING TRACKS, SCAT, AND HAIR

MAY 26 AT 9 AM – MAY 29 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
James Halfpenny, Ph.D.
Limit: 13 • $507 • 170505

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, identifying prints, 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. Evenings will be spent analyzing data collected in the field. Expect to be hiking off trails, in mud, and wading in water.

INTRODUCTION TO WOLF MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGY

MAY 26 AT 5 PM – MAY 28 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Jon Trapp, M.A.
Limit: 13 • $277 • 170506

In this class, you can walk in the footsteps of wolf biologists—literally. You'll visit some of the original reintroduction sites, following the trails worn by the biologists' daily visits. Stop at roadside locations where park biologists listen for signals from radio-collared wolves. Discuss questions such as: How have wolves affected coyotes, grizzlies, cougars, ravens, and vegetation in Yellowstone? Can wolves survive outside the protection of the park? What happens now that wolves are no longer federally classified as an endangered species? You will be up early and out late looking for wolves. Be prepared for time outdoors in any weather.

SLOUGH CREEK WILDLIFE BACKPACK

MAY 26 AT 4 PM – MAY 29 AT 5 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Jim Garry, M.S., Patty Walton
Limit: 8 • $475 • 170507

In May, the entire park is alive with the abundance of spring. Animals have emerged from winter; the grasses are greening, creeks are filling with snowmelt. Baby animals—from bison and elk calves to bear cubs and baby birds—are starting to appear across the landscape. It's a great time to leave behind the pullouts and boardwalks and venture into the backcountry in Slough Creek, an area teeming with new life. You'll begin with an evening session that will cover safety and preparation. Hike to a base camp on the second day, from which you'll wander up to 8 miles on daily explorations of this inspiring backcountry valley.

INTO THE HEART OF THE YELLOWSTONE VOLCANO

MAY 26 AT 7 PM – MAY 28 AT 5 PM
Old Faithful
Jacob Lowenstern, Ph.D.
Limit: 13 • $297 • 170508

Explore one of the world's largest volcanoes with one of its leading researchers. You'll be based at Old Faithful, in the heart of the hydrothermal action. Investigate the geyser basins, study steam vents, and take a close look at rocks for clues to the volcano's behavior. Visit other geologic features that reveal details about the volcano's history and learn how the Yellowstone Volcano Observatory monitors for current activity. And explore that intriguing question: "What's in store for the future?" A limited number of rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course; call us for details.



The Yellowstone Naturalist Series

This series was created for those who would like to develop a practice of deep, observation-based understanding. Read the landscape and become a certified Yellowstone Forever naturalist by successfully completing seven programs in the series. This year's Yellowstone Naturalist series programs are:

NATURALIST SERIES
Citizen Science
JUNE 12 – 14

NATURALIST SERIES
The Plants of Yellowstone
JUNE 15 – 16

NATURALIST SERIES
Cultural History
AUGUST 17 – 18

NATURALIST SERIES
Landscape Geology
AUGUST 27 – 28

NATURALIST SERIES
Thermal Geology and Biology
AUGUST 29 – 30

SUPPORTER REGISTRATION: JAN 18, 2017, AT 8 AM M.S.T.

SPRING INTO WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY

MAY 29 AT 9 AM – JUN 1 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Meg Sommers
Limit: 13 • $507 • 170509

Calling all photographers looking to advance your skills! Now is the time to learn tips for photographing Yellowstone's spring wildlife action. You'll spend most of the day outdoors, learning how animals big and small behave and where they are—keys to finding them for your photos. You'll also practice photographic fundamentals, techniques, and the ethics of wildlife photography, including tips to keep you safe. In class sessions, you'll focus on composition, lighting, equipment, and computer skills. So, pack your digital camera and tripod and head into the wild that is spring in Yellowstone.

BEARS: BONES, SIGNS, AND STORIES

MAY 31 AT 9 AM – JUN 3 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Jim Garry, M.S.,
James Halfpenny, Ph.D.
Limit: 12 • $582 • 170510

Ursophiles (Greek for "bear lovers") unite! Discover a uniquely broad view of bears from their evolutionary origins to interpretation of their sign 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 about the rich cultural history of bears from folklorist Jim Garry. We will observe these magnificent bears during the field trips.

WHO'S THERE? OWLS IN YELLOWSTONE

JUN 2 AT 9 AM – JUN 3 AT 12 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Katy Duffy, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $188 • 170601

Are you fascinated by owls—their huge eyes and fabled hearing, their secretive habits and cryptic beauty? Through talks and field trips, you'll explore how these adaptations work and why they help owls successfully live in Yellowstone. Visit places in the park that owls call home to find out why these habitats work so well for them. You'll learn to read other park landscapes for signs of good owl habitat, and read signs that these secretive birds leave as clues. You might even see owls hunting in daylight—and find out why this suits them so well.

NEW! GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP: GARDINER TO PARADISE VALLEY

JUN 3 AT 8 AM – JUN 3 AT 6 PM
Gardiner, Montana
John Gillespie
Limit: 13 • $125 • 170602

Step into a geologic time machine and learn the multi-faceted story of the dramatic landscape outside Yellowstone's northern border. On roadside stops and short hikes between Gardiner and Emigrant, Montana, you'll learn to read the hieroglyphs of earth history written in the rocks, and decipher an amazing story of ancient floods, petrified forests, glaciers, and more. You'll travel through geologic time, pondering the powerful convective and tectonic forces that pulse through our living, breathing planet. Along the way, you'll begin to piece together the big stories that comprise the vast and complex geologic history of the Yellowstone ecosystem.

HIKING NORTHERN YELLOWSTONE'S GEOLOGY

JUN 5 AT 5:30 PM – JUN 8 AT 6 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Dave Egan, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $406 • 170603

Strap on your pack and lace up your boots for three full days exploring the fascinating geology of the northern range. On adventurous hikes of up to 12 miles, you'll investigate firsthand how microclimates, soil types, and landforms drive the conditions for both human settlement and habitat for the diverse wildlife you observe along the way. As you hike, you'll learn why geology was key to Yellowstone becoming the world's first national park, and travel back in geologic time to visualize the forces that shaped the landscape you see today.

THE BEARS OF YELLOWSTONE

JUN 9 AT 7 PM – JUN 11 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Michael Rosekrans, M.Ed
Limit: 12 • $281 • 170604

June is the month 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, learning about bear biology and behavior through presentations, field trips, and discussions. You'll also practice simple ways to keep yourself—and bears—safe while you and the bears are both out and about in Yellowstone.

NEW! HIKING THE LANDSCAPE OF WOLVES

JUN 9 AT 7 PM – JUN 12 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Carolyn Harwood
Limit: 13 • $406 • 170605

Immerse yourself in the world of wolves and see through their eyes. In this active class, you'll explore wolf biology and ecology hands-on through a combination of roadside wildlife watching and off-trail hikes. You'll spend the early mornings searching for wolves with binoculars and spotting scopes, in hopes of observing and learning about their behavior and social dynamics. In the afternoons, you'll go beyond the roadside on hikes into wolf habitat. As you wander through wolf country, you'll learn about wolf restoration, research, and the interaction between wolves and their environment.

GHOST HOTELS

JUN 11 AT 8 AM – JUN 12 AT 5 PM
Old Faithful
Leslie J. Quinn, M.Ed.
Limit: 13 • $270 • 170606

This is your chance to tour Yellowstone while learning about its ghost hotels and other historical oddities. Which park hostelry did an English nobleman describe as "the last outpost of 'civilization'"? Was the Canyon Hotel lost because of a conspiracy to make the new Canyon Lodge viable? Do you really drive right through a now-vanished tunnel somewhere on the Grand Loop Road? You'll uncover other fun pieces of Yellowstone's history through antique photographs and stories told by your instructor, a park hotel expert. A limited number of rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course; call us for details.

NEW! NATURALIST SERIES: CITIZEN SCIENCE

JUN 12 AT 9 AM – JUN 14 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Joshua Theurer, M.S., NPS
Limit: 12 • $375 • 170607

Here's your chance to think like a scientist about the future of Yellowstone's plants and animals and give something back to the park. The timing of natural events—like bison being born when native grasses green up in spring—has evolved over millennia. Yellowstone Forever and the National Park Service are teaming up to study how park phenology—the timing of these natural processes—is being affected by a changing climate. Become a citizen scientist—collecting data on plant communities, pollinators, soil, and other environmental conditions—and better understand Yellowstone's interconnected systems.

SPRING BABIES

JUN 13 AT 9 AM – JUN 15 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Shauna Baron, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $375 • 170608

It's spring! And time to look for spring babies in the wilds of Yellowstone. You'll look for bear cubs, wolf pups, bison calves, elk calves, bighorn lambs, and lots of young birds. Find them with spotting scopes and binoculars, and by taking short walks to better vantage points. As you search, you'll also talk about why species choose certain birthing grounds and how they protect and raise their young. Expect to be outside from before dawn throughout the day to after sundown. Even so, you'll have plenty of free time to enjoy all aspects of Yellowstone's vibrant spring.

NEW! FORT YELLOWSTONE: THE U.S. ARMY IN AMERICA'S FIRST NATIONAL PARK, 1886–1918

JUN 14 AT 7 PM – JUN 16 AT 5 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Wes Hardin, M.Ed., M.A.
Limit: 13 • $281 • 170609

On August 17, 1886, 50 members of the U.S. Cavalry rode into Mammoth Hot Springs to assume responsibility for administering and protecting Yellowstone National Park. Although the army intended this to be only temporary duty, its "unusual assignment" of supervising Yellowstone would last for nearly 32 years. Come explore the enduring cultural identity of the park's headquarters, once known as Fort Yellowstone. You'll enjoy in-depth tours of historic sites in and around Mammoth Hot Springs, including Camp Sheridan, the army cemetery, and the park's archives to see a variety of army-era artifacts.

NATURALIST SERIES: THE PLANTS OF YELLOWSTONE

JUN 15 AT 9 AM – JUN 16 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Danielle Oyler
Limit: 13 • $250 • 170610

Plants are the foundation of our ecosystem. From the bison to the hummingbird, plants shape the distribution and ecology of the animals you see in the park today. In this survey of Yellowstone plant species, you'll focus on how to identify and learn from many important plants in the Yellowstone ecosystem. Plan to spend most of your time in the field locating and identifying many of the trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and grasses that are found in Yellowstone's diverse landscapes. You'll also use observation tools—such as sketching—to help you learn.







NEW! PREDATOR AND PREY: NATURE IN BALANCE

JUN 16 AT 7 PM – JUN 19 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Brad Bulin, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $406 • 170611

Witness the eternal dance of survival between predator and prey. In Yellowstone, everything is connected—from the bison, largest land mammal in North America, to the tiny shrew, one of the smallest yet most voracious predators. Rise at dawn each morning to search for animals and observe their behavior, and spend the afternoons wandering through wildlife habitat to learn more about predator and prey from the signs—scat, bones, and tracks—they leave behind. Along the way, you'll gain a deeper understanding of evolution, hunting strategies, evasive techniques, and the fascinating relationships between different species in their quests for survival.

FOUNDATIONS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE IN YELLOWSTONE

JUN 17 AT 6:30 PM – JUN 20 AT 6 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Wes Hardin, M.Ed., M.A.,
Elizabeth Watry, M.A.
Limit: 13 • $471 • 170612

With the stroke of a pen on August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed into being the National Park Service. One of America's greatest legacies, the NPS formed new ideals of conservation, education, and perceptions of nature. The innovation and ingenuity of many early NPS trailblazers helped shape public land stewardship from 1872 to today, in a model that is emulated around the world. On field trips to historic sites throughout the park, history will come alive as you gain a deeper understanding of Yellowstone and the evolution of the American ideal of national parks.

BIRDS OF YELLOWSTONE

JUN 17 AT 7 PM – JUN 19 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Brian Thorpe, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $281 • 170613

Yellowstone's varied habitats make the park a great place to begin watching birds. You'll start with a classroom introduction to birding that includes tips on key markings, behavior, sound, and habitat, which will give you the basics for bird identification in the field. Then spend two full days 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.

GENERAL REGISTRATION: ONE WEEK LATER

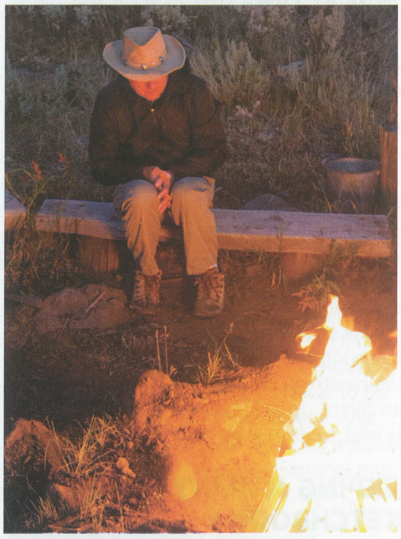


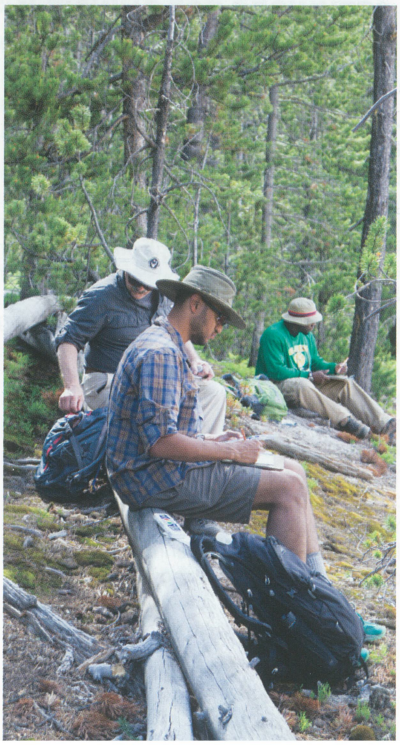




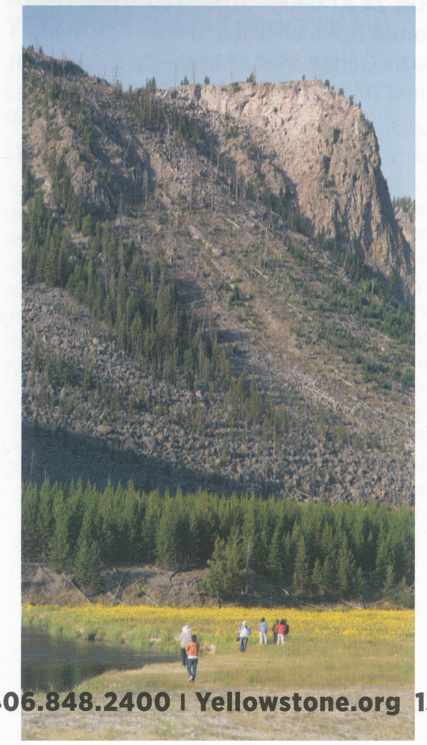














NEW! YELLOWSTONE LGBT RETREAT

JUN 20 AT 7 PM – JUN 23 AT 9 AM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Hobie Hare, M.A., Kai West, M.A.
Limit: 24 • $435 • 170614

Join us in creating brave space and developing a deeper connection to nature with other LGBT participants, allies, and retreat facilitators. Choose from a variety of inspiring daily field trips, including wildlife watching, short hikes, and learning about the park's geology while touring the heart of the Yellowstone volcano. There will be time each day to reflect on your journey, and find ways to incorporate nature connection into your daily life. Each evening, we'll come together to laugh, learn, share stories, and absorb the serenity of the picturesque Lamar Valley.

OFF-TRAIL HIKING ON THE NORTHERN RANGE

JUN 24 AT 7 PM – JUN 27 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Julianne Baker, M.A.
Limit: 13 • $406 • 170615

Barbara Kingsolver has written: "People need wild places. We need to be able to taste grace and know once again that we desire it." Hiking off-trail in the northern range is to taste Yellowstone's grace. You'll explore this area of grassy meadows and sagebrush while enjoying wide vistas, easy route finding, and zigzag meanderings. After an evening to review the basics of safe, comfortable, low-impact backcountry travel, you will head off the beaten path on hikes ranging up to 5 miles with climbs up to 1000 feet. Come wander this wild, seldom-seen place.

KEEPING A TRAVEL SKETCHBOOK

JUN 24 AT 9 AM – JUN 25 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Suzie Garner, M.A., M.F.A.
Limit: 13 • $250 • 170616

Celebrate your Yellowstone memories by learning 100 ways to document your park experiences in a travel sketchbook. You'll experiment with quick sketches, notes, stamps, maps, ephemera, color, and drawing techniques to find new approaches to capturing the moment. You'll spend lots of time in the park on easy field excursions, observing your surroundings and creating your own memories. Guided by instructor demonstrations and examples, you'll fill your pages with unique visual information that captures the essence of your experience—regardless of drawing ability. Afterwards, you can look back and see your travel adventures laid out in creative and engaging ways.

NEW! ART OF THE AMERICAN WEST

JUN 26 AT 9 AM – JUN 27 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Suzie Garner, M.A., M.F.A.
Limit: 13 • $250 • 170617

Moran, Jackson, Bierstadt, Remington, and Russell: artists have long portrayed the landscape, myths, and ideals of the American West. Through stories, discussions, and lectures, you'll learn how artists over the past two centuries have interpreted the West, including the expeditionary artists who helped establish Yellowstone National Park. You'll gain insight into the individual stories behind the creative works that grace the walls of many major art museums and understand their historical significance. Then, you will have the opportunity to spend time with some of these works in person, at the Yellowstone Heritage and Research Center.

NEW! HIKING YELLOWSTONE'S PEAKS AND RIVERS

JUN 28 AT 7 PM – JUL 1 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Julianne Baker, M.A.
Limit: 13 • $406 • 170618

From soaring heights to rushing river bottoms, Yellowstone is a dramatic and fascinating place to hike. From early artists to present-day peak-baggers, mountain peaks have attracted Yellowstone visitors since the beginning, providing broad views of a remote wilderness. The park's rivers wind through a wild landscape; telling stories of wildlife and the Native Americans and early explorers who traveled their serpentine routes. Geology, history, wildlife, and great views: What more could one want in a hike? Come explore Yellowstone from top to bottom on hikes of about 12 miles each day.

WOLVES: REALITY AND MYTH

JUN 28 AT 7 PM – JUN 30 AT 3 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Nathan Varley, Ph.D.
Limit: 12 • $281 • 170619

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 how different cultures relate to wolves, how these relationships may relate to various myths and stories, and how the stories relate to the actual wild animal living in Yellowstone. Look for wolves on sunrise forays; hike through their habitat during the day. And throughout, learn how the Yellowstone wolf recovery project has ushered in a new era of scientific understanding.

A YELLOWSTONE NATURALIST EXPERIENCE

JUL 1 AT 6 PM – JUL 3 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Katy Duffy, M.S., Jim Garry, M.S.
Limit: 12 • $326 • 170701

Explore northern Yellowstone as a naturalist does—with your senses on full alert. You'll become more familiar with Yellowstone's animals and plants by using your ears and eyes, feeling with your feet and fingers, and interpreting scents. Explore a track with your fingers to feel clues to the animal's behavior. Examine a daybed with your nose to detect who slept there. You'll observe nesting birds discreetly, and decipher their songs and calls. And don't forget the plants—search for wildflowers and their pollinators in forests, meadows, and wetlands. With this naturalist experience, you will become an insider outside in Yellowstone.

PHOTOGRAPHING WILDFLOWERS AND WATERFALLS

JUL 2 AT 9 AM – JUL 4 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Tom Kirkendall, Greg Vaughn
Limit: 12 • $435 • 170702

Combine Yellowstone's legendary scenes with the peak of summer wildflowers as you practice the art of landscape and close-up photography. Focusing on creative expression and composition, you'll explore Yellowstone to capture images of wildflowers, waterfalls, grand vistas, and intimate portraits of the land. Traveling by mini-bus and on brief hikes, you'll be on location both at sunrise and sunset to take advantage of the best light. In class you'll discuss field technique and digital file preparation, and enjoy a slideshow of participants' photos on the final afternoon. Beginners welcome. A SLR camera and tripod are highly recommended.

HELL AND HIGH WATER: GEOLOGY ON THE NORTHERN RANGE

JUL 2 AT 5:30 PM – JUL 5 AT 5 PM
Gardiner, Montana
John Gillespie
Limit: 13 • $406 • 170703

Cataclysmic volcanic eruptions, epic floods, giant seas and oceans, petrified forests, glaciers, massive mud and landslides, mountains as large as the Himalayas. What do earth-shaping forces like these have to do with the northern range we see today? On roadside excursions and short hikes you'll look for clues to Earth's ancient history in the rocks of the northern range, traveling sequentially through geologic time from the Big Bang to today's geysers and hot springs. Delve into "deep" geologic time—imagining hundreds, thousands, millions, even billions of years and pondering the forces at work on our living, breathing planet.

LIFE AQUATIC: RIVER OTTERS IN YELLOWSTONE

JUL 4 AT 9 AM – JUL 6 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Thomas Serfass, Ph.D., Kelly Pearce, M.S.
Limit: 12 • $375 • 170704

Summer is the perfect time to learn about one of Yellowstone's most endearing mesocarnivores: river otters. You'll join two researchers and hike to river otter habitat to study the otters' field sign, learn about their ecology and habitat, and hopefully observe these compelling creatures. Back at the Lamar Buffalo Ranch, you'll get to try your hand at research techniques, such as evaluating river otter food habits by identifying aquatic prey remains from their scat. You'll also learn how field biology and social science are used to promote the conservation of otters and aquatic ecosystems.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY IMMERSION

JUL 5 AT 5:30 PM – JUL 10 AT 3:30 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Cindy Goeddel
Limit: 10 • $799 • 170705

Take your intermediate or advanced digital photography skills to the next level with five days of photographing the best of Yellowstone. Shoot, eat, breathe, and discuss the endless wonders of this park while mastering the technical aspects of camera, equipment, and workflow. In the field, learn to strengthen and simplify your compositions. In classroom sessions, learn to optimize those images and to work with metadata, keywording, and templates. This class requires specific equipment—a digital SLR camera capable of capturing in RAW, laptop computer with at least 8GB RAM and three empty, portable, external hard drives, plus Adobe Lightroom, Adobe Photoshop, and Adobe Bridge.

FLY-FISHING FOR BEGINNERS

JUL 7 AT 9 AM – JUL 9 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Jesse Logan, Ph.D.
Limit: 8 • $400 • 170706

Wily trout await you in the legendary fly-fishing waters of Yellowstone National Park. Learn how to catch them with classic fly-fishing techniques that you learn on dry land and further refine on the park's streams and rivers. You'll find out how to choose and use the right equipment and gear. On the water, you'll learn to select flies for different conditions and how to read water to improve your success. In between casts, you'll look beneath the surface to examine the world of trout and the aquatic insects they depend on.

NEW! CASTING THE FLY: AN ON-STREAM CLINIC

JUL 9 AT 8 AM – JUL 10 AT 2 PM
Old Faithful Lodge
Steve Harvey
Limit: 8 • $248 • 170707

Learn how to make the most of your precious time on the water in this focused workshop for advanced beginner and intermediate fly anglers. Your days will be spent on the Firehole and Madison rivers where, after a review of the basics, you will learn advanced casting techniques with roving one-on-one instruction tailored to your experience level. Even experienced fly anglers will benefit from reinforced basic skills and this organized introduction to advanced techniques. Both days will be spent on the water learning not only about casting but also the wonders of Yellowstone stream and riparian ecosystems—and the challenges they face. A limited number of rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course; call us for details.

MEANDERING THROUGH WILDFLOWERS

JUL 10 AT 9 AM – JUL 12 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Wayne Phillips
Limit: 13 • $382 • 170708

Go beyond simple flower identification in this fun and engaging course. Delve into plant ecology, learning the structure of plants and their flowers from the ground up; and study the edible, medicinal, Native American, and wildlife uses for the plants you encounter. Meandering at a relaxed pace through sagebrush and grassland valleys, colorful subalpine meadows, and the cool, shady spruce forests along streams, you'll have time for careful observation and meditation. Creative tools like poetry, song, photography, and sketching will help you learn, remember, and document the features of the plants and flowers you've come to know.

FLY-FISHING II: BEYOND THE BEGINNER

JUL 12 AT 7 PM – JUL 15 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Steve Harvey
Limit: 8 • $511 • 170709

Up your fly-fishing game by taking your skills to the next level. The Yellowstone and Lamar rivers will be your classroom as you learn to think like a trout. During full days on the river, you'll dig in to trout ecology and stream entomology, deepening your understanding of cold-water systems and improving your ability to catch those canny fish. Learn how to handle difficult conditions, such as winds, brushy stream banks, and variable currents, while practicing responsible fishing. In evening classroom sessions, you'll learn how to tie your own flies and consider challenges facing Yellowstone's waters.

HIGH COUNTRY WILDFLOWERS

JUL 13 AT 7 AM – JUL 15 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Wayne Phillips
Limit: 13 • $382 • 170710

Spend three glorious summer days hiking in subalpine woodlands and meadows in carpets of intensely colorful wildflowers, and climbing to reach the alpine tundra above tree line. You'll visit three high country locations in Yellowstone National Park and the Beartooth Plateau, hiking up to 8 miles each day with elevation gains up to 1500 feet. Your rewards: dazzling light, eye-popping color, and discovering plants that grow in cushions and forests full of trees about your height.

TECTONIC TROUT AND BOILING BACTERIA: THE GEOLOGY OF ECOLOGY

JUL 15 AT 9 AM – JUL 17 AT 6 PM
Gardiner, Montana, and Yellowstone Lake
Paul Doss, Ph.D.
Limit: 13 • $395 • 170711

Ever wonder why Yellowstone is called America's Serengeti, or why NASA scientists come here to look for clues to potential life on Mars? On short hikes off the beaten path, you'll explore the incredible convergence of geologic factors that created one of the world's largest volcanoes, with its life-sustaining and life-threatening heat flow and its expansive high-altitude plateau. Delve into the details as you study the park's complex array of climate and soil. Follow the behavior and distribution of life in Yellowstone and how it relates to the geology of this magnificent landscape. This course moves locations each night, so a limited number of rooms will be held in Gardiner and at Yellowstone Lake; call us for details.

ROADSIDE GEOLOGY OF YELLOWSTONE COUNTRY

JUL 16 AT 9 AM – JUL 18 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Robert C. Thomas, Ph.D.
Limit: 13 • $375 • 170712

Jump into the bus for three days of exploring the most amazing roadside geology in the world: Yellowstone, Earth's largest active volcano. You'll examine rocks formed in continental collisions billions of years ago, ponder the forces that buried forests, and follow glaciers that covered the entire park in thousands of feet of ice. While traversing roads in and around the park, you'll find evidence of volcanic eruptions during the past 2.2 million years—including signs that the volcano continues its action today.

NATIVE AMERICAN PLANTS AND THEIR USES

JUL 16 AT 7 PM – JUL 19 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Linda Black Elk, M.S., Luke Black Elk
Limit: 12 • $431 • 170713

Explore the relationship between people and plants from instructors whose ancestors passed on intimate knowledge of plants that spans thousands of years. Learn how to identify plants of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and how Native Americans use them for food, medicine, and other purposes. You will identify and collect plants during field trips in the Gallatin National Forest. In classroom sessions, you will use these collections to make traditional and contemporary medicinal salves, teas, and other medicines that you can use and take home.

OLD TIMES AT OLD FAITHFUL

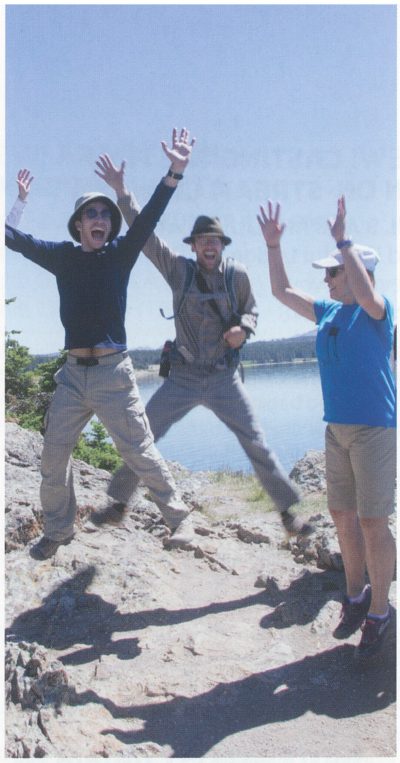
JUL 19 AT 9 AM – JUL 19 AT 5 PM
Old Faithful
Leslie J. Quinn, M.Ed.
Limit: 20 • $145 • 170714

Imagine diving into a geyser-heated swimming pool as Old Faithful erupts in the background, or enjoying flowers grown in Old Faithful Village's thermally-heated greenhouse. Explore these long-gone experiences through site visits, antique photographs, and discussions with a park hotel expert. Find out why the village's oldest building is abandoned in the forest and why the Upper General Store is nicknamed the B.A.C. Take your seats at the Bear Feeding Grounds that closed in 1936; and learn other interesting details about Old Faithful Village past and present. A limited number of rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course; call us for details.

LAKOTA CREATION STORIES: THE ANIMALS OF YELLOWSTONE

JUL 19 AT 7 PM – JUL 21 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Luke Black Elk, Linda Black Elk, M.S.
Limit: 12 • $281 • 170715

Journey into the hearts and minds of the Lakota people as you learn about the cultural significance that Yellowstone animals have to the tribe. Stories, songs, and star knowledge will guide you into Lakota traditions as you travel to some of the park's most beautiful settings. During the day, search for animals and hike to culturally significant sites. In the evenings, you'll gather around the campfire as the Lakota ancestors did to hear stories of the creation of the world and the animals within it.







BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE: FACING GEOLOGICAL CHALLENGES IN YELLOWSTONE

JUL 20 AT 9 AM – JUL 22 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Paul Doss, Ph.D.
Limit: 13 • $375 • 170716

How does the park manage issues like threatened and endangered species, millions of annual visitors, and building infrastructure in the land of hydrothermal features, rockfall, debris flow, and an active volcano? Geological processes in Yellowstone are dynamic, unpredictable, and easily exploited, providing serious challenges for park managers. On short field excursions to places in and around the park, you'll observe historic and current geological challenges firsthand, make your own field observations, and consider the management implications related to resource protection, visitor safety, and the conduct of scientific research on public lands.

NEW! TIMELAPSE AND NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

JUL 22 AT 9 AM – JUL 24 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Jonathan Byers
Limit: 13 • $375 • 170717

Welcome to the realm of night photography and timelapses. Modern digital cameras open up a whole world of pictures after sunset, and Yellowstone's dark skies and low light pollution allow you to see the night sky from a different perspective. This three-day course will teach you the skills you need to take incredible photos at night and the tools to process your photos into timelapse videos or still images. Bring your digital SLR camera with a selection of lenses, a tripod, and a portable camera bag, and discover an exciting new approach to photography.

THE ARTISTIC JOURNAL: CULTIVATING COLOR AT OLD FAITHFUL

JUL 22 AT 9 AM – JUL 25 AT 4 PM
Old Faithful
Eleanor Williams Clark, M.L.A.
Limit: 13 • $552 • 170718

Pack your journal and paints and tap into your creative side amidst the steam, hot water, and brilliant colors in the dynamic Old Faithful area. On the balcony of the Old Faithful Inn, and on wanderings through geyser basins, you'll learn to sketch and paint this remarkable area. Spend the early mornings and evenings exploring and searching for colorful thermal features, wildlife great and small, and other Yellowstone vignettes to observe and record. Experiment with paint and papers, practicing your skills as you capture Yellowstone on paper. A limited number of rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course; call us for details.

EVOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN YELLOWSTONE LANDSCAPE

JUL 23 AT 9 AM – JUL 25 AT 2 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Grant Meyer, Ph.D.
Limit: 13 • $344 • 170719

From Tower Junction to the Northeast Entrance, investigate how dynamic events in the recent geological past have sculpted this mountain country. See how volcanoes, glaciers, landslides, and fast-flowing water formed today's landscape. Through daily hikes, field observations, maps, and illustrated programs, you'll explore how landforms and soils underpin the ecosystem. Learn how streams shape their channels and valleys by measuring their flow rates and sediments, and how scientists use past landscape changes to understand the future. Hikes will be less than 3 miles a day, however primarily off-trail on sometimes loose, steep terrain requiring good balance.

DRAWING THE LANDSCAPES OF YELLOWSTONE

JUL 25 AT 7 PM – JUL 28 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Alan Petersen, M.A.
Limit: 13 • $406 • 170720

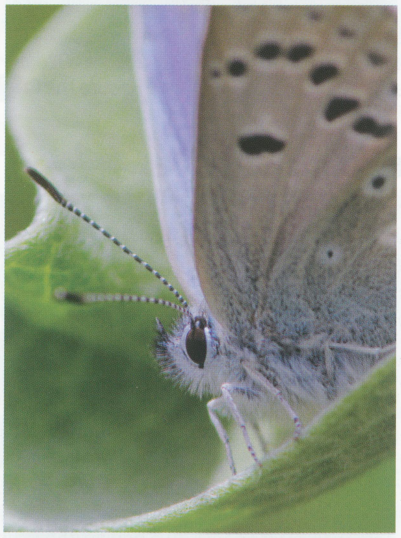
How did Thomas Moran begin his memorable paintings of Yellowstone? The same way you will learn in this class—by using time-tested drawing and observation skills to capture the forms and details of the land. You'll learn these techniques during two indoor sessions, and then spend the rest of the time outdoors applying what you've learned to create your own landscapes. Whether you are new to drawing or experienced, you'll learn to see Yellowstone National Park in a new way.

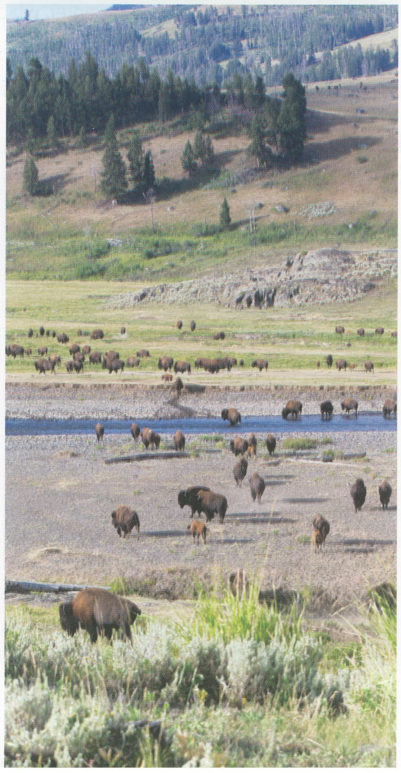
BACKPACKING AND FLY-FISHING: HEART LAKE TO SOUTH BOUNDARY

JUL 29 AT 4 PM – AUG 4 AT 3 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Steve Harvey, Patty Walton
Limit: 8 • $953 • 170721

The joys of fly-fishing for native trout in a remote backcountry setting is your reward on this backpacking trip in southern Yellowstone. On daily hikes of 5–8 miles, explore the rich land south of the Yellowstone Caldera, where the water flows to the Pacific from the Continental Divide. Our itinerary will allow plenty of time to fly-fish some of Yellowstone's spectacular rivers and streams and perhaps even catch an elusive fine-spotted cutthroat trout. Evenings and down time will provide the opportunity to discuss the great Yellowstone ecosystems, their wonders, and the challenges they face.







THE BISON OF YELLOWSTONE

JUL 30 AT 9 AM – AUG 1 AT 3 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Jim Garry, M.S., Harold Picton, Ph.D.
Limit: 12 • $435 • 170722

The big boys are rumbling. It's mating time in the land of the buffalo. You'll divide your time between the field—observing the fascinating behavior of rutting buffalo—and the classroom—learning about one of the Old West's most enduring symbols. You'll look at the biology and natural history of bison, its role in native cultures, and its role in the expanding white culture of 19th-century America. Learn how the Lamar Buffalo Ranch played a part in the survival of the bison, and explore the current turmoil surrounding bison management in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

LESSER-KNOWN CARNIVORES

JUL 31 AT 9 AM – AUG 1 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
James Halfpenny, Ph.D.
Limit: 13 • $250 • 170723

Meet the lesser-known carnivores of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem: coyotes, foxes, cougars, lynx, bobcats, wolverines, otters, badgers, and martens. You'll follow their trail from a way-back time when no carnivores existed to their present-day diversity of shapes and forms. Many of these and other lesser-known carnivores are rare, exist in low densities, produce few young, and are often in danger of local extinction. Find out more about these carnivores as you explore their biology, ecology, and behavior in classroom sessions and field trips to where they live.

YELLOWSTONE FAMILY RETREAT

AUG 2 AT 5:30 PM – AUG 6 AT 9 AM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Institute Staff
Limit: 26 • $865 per adult/
$756 per child under 12 • 170801
Minimum age: 5 • All meals included!

This summer, leave the planning, driving, and meals to us! In this family-style retreat, you and the kids will learn side-by-side about Yellowstone's wildlife, geology, and history through a variety of engaging activities. Do as much or as little as you like, depending on the interests and ages of your children. Head out for a full- or half-day excursion, or stay on campus for nature art and exploration. You'll stay in private log cabins and enjoy delicious and kid-friendly meals in the historic bunkhouse. We welcome all combinations of adults and children who want to rediscover their sense of wonder, make new friends, and take home memories that last a lifetime.

NEW! GLACIERS, LAVAS, AND LAKES: A GLIMPSE INTO YELLOWSTONE'S RECENT GEOLOGIC PAST

AUG 2 AT 7 PM – AUG 6 AT 5 PM
Yellowstone Lake
Lisa Morgan, Ph.D.
Limit: 12 • $551 • 170802

Since formation of the Yellowstone Caldera, dozens of volcanic eruptions have filled in the depression created when over a million cubic meters of hot ash erupted, resulting in the caldera collapse. This seminar focuses on the volcanic deposits of the most recent volcanic eruptions in Yellowstone, a time of lakes and glaciation. We will examine how the rhyolitic lava flows filling the caldera were emplaced, in what types of environment, how they shape the current landscape within the Yellowstone Caldera, and how they currently control much of the distribution of active hydrothermal features. Hike daily to volcanic vistas and discuss the range of geologic environments into which the flows were emplaced. A limited number of rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course; call for details.

YELLOWSTONE'S GEOLOGICAL LEGACY

AUG 10 AT 5:30 PM – AUG 13 AT 4 PM
Old Faithful
Pat Shanks
Limit: 13 • $426 • 170803

Over 100 years of geological exploration have contributed to today's understanding of Yellowstone's geyser basins and hot water systems. As you travel through the park—with hikes up to 8 miles on boardwalks and trails—you'll visit a variety of hydrothermal areas, including lesser-known sites first described by early explorers. Learn about key scientific breakthroughs, from the 1870 Washburn expedition to the modern-day Yellowstone Volcano Observatory, which have helped scientists understand how geysers work. By the end, you'll recognize characteristics of the waters, mineral deposits, vents, and bacteria found in geothermal areas, and gain a deeper appreciation for the processes at work underground. A limited number of rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course; call us for details.

NEW! WOLVES AND WILLOWS

AUG 14 AT 9 AM – AUG 16 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Brenna Cassidy, Dan Kotter
Limit: 12 • $435 • 170804

How predators affect the Yellowstone ecosystem through their prey is a fascinating scientific question—and one fiercely debated in Yellowstone. In this class you'll travel the northern range investigating the idea of trophic cascades. You'll ask questions such as: Which animals change riparian habitats? How do researchers measure the effects of these changes? How are plant communities, beaver colonies, willow-dependent songbirds, resident elk herds, and wolves interconnected? You'll search riparian areas dense with willows, and wide-open valleys full of predators and prey, looking for answers to these and other intriguing questions.

NEW! WOMEN'S FLY-FISHING FOR BEGINNERS

AUG 14 AT 7 PM – AUG 18 AT 12 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Tyrene Riedl
Limit: 8 • $494 • 170805

Ladies, join us to discover what the world of fly-fishing is all about. In this hands-on class, you'll learn how to read a river, cast a line, and land a fish correctly. You'll spend some time in the classroom and on dry land practicing important skills before heading out to Yellowstone's legendary trout waters to practice what you've learned. As you build your skills and practice hooking that elusive fish, you'll also gain an appreciation for the complex ecosystem conditions that create good trout habitat and ways you can help ensure the future of Yellowstone's trout streams.

NATURALIST SERIES: CULTURAL HISTORY

AUG 17 AT 9 AM – AUG 18 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Owen Carroll
Limit: 13 • $250 • 170806

Bring your own unique perspective to this course on Yellowstone's cultural history. Create your own "Top Ten Historic Events" list as you learn what others have stated in the past. To do so, you'll explore cultural sites in the park, including Fort Yellowstone, old railroad sites in Gardiner, Montana, and the park's collection of historic automobiles. Dig deeper on a behind-the-scenes tour of the Heritage and Research Center, which houses the park's museum collection, rare books, and archives. History will come alive as you explore Yellowstone's "top ten"—and beyond.

NEW! DARK SKIES: SOLAR ECLIPSE PHOTOGRAPHY

AUG 19 AT 12 PM – AUG 21 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Lynn Powers, M.S., Ted Gatlin, M.Ed.
Limit: 12 • $363 • 170807

Celebrate the day and night skies over Yellowstone and observe a rare solar eclipse in this hands-on photography and astronomy class. Each evening, you'll explore the dazzling night sky over the Lamar Valley—navigating with a star map and planisphere, finding planets with your own eyes, and studying stars and nebula through binoculars and telescopes. In daytime sessions, you'll study astronomy, optics for safe viewing, and choosing a telescope. On August 21, you'll be ready to capture the solar eclipse, which will block out the sun's light and set the stage for once-in-a-lifetime natural wonders.

BIG HIKES IN BIG SKY COUNTRY

AUG 19 AT 7 PM – AUG 22 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
David Laufenberg, Joshua Theurer, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $471 • 170808

If you long to explore remote mountain terrain, this course is for you. Stretch your legs, your lungs, and your mind exploring the far reaches of Yellowstone's backcountry on foot. You'll travel light and fast through some of the most spectacular territory in northern Yellowstone, learning to cover miles of remote destinations while still appreciating the ecological forces at play on the landscape. From a comfortable base camp at the Lamar Buffalo Ranch, you'll hike up to 16 miles and 4000 feet elevation gain per day, exploring distant and challenging trails rarely covered in Institute hiking courses.

NEW! BACKPACKING: PELICAN VALLEY TO LAMAR VALLEY

AUG 20 AT 6 PM – AUG 25 AT 5 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Brad Bulin, M.S., Carolyn Harwood
Limit: 8 • $735 • 170809

Travel the untamed wilderness between Yellowstone Lake and Lamar Valley and experience the wild essence of Yellowstone. Hike through the Pelican Valley—home to one of Yellowstone's oldest wolf packs, as well as a dense population of grizzly bears—on a wildlife-rich migration corridor filled with beautiful mountain scenery. See how this remote country sheltered the last wild herd of plains bison in North America from poachers more than 100 years ago. You'll backpack 7–11 miles per day with elevation gains up to 2000 feet, learning about Yellowstone's diverse wildlife and colorful human history along the way.

NEW! SKETCHING YELLOWSTONE

AUG 22 AT 7 PM – AUG 24 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
George Bumann, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $281 • 170810

Spend a weekend sketching the wildlife and landscape of Yellowstone with a professional artist and naturalist as your instructor. Experienced or not, you'll learn drawing techniques to capture animal behavior and complex geology, plus other tips for drawing under challenging outdoor conditions. You'll also have time in the class to view examples, receive personal instruction, enjoy demonstrations, and practice what you've learned.

SUPPORTER REGISTRATION: JAN 18, 2017, AT 8 AM M.S.T.









THE ART OF THE ILLUMINATED FIELD JOURNAL

AUG 23 AT 9 AM – AUG 26 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Hannah Hinchman
Limit: 13 • $500 • 170811

An illustrated field journal is a nimble instrument, where you can combine drawings, maps, commentary, and questions, enfolding the smallest of events into the largest of landscapes. As a beginner or a veteran journal keeper, you will learn a world of ways to bring your Yellowstone experiences to the page. You'll use your journal both in active adventure and quiet absorption, exploring many tools and techniques. Expect lots of personal attention from the instructor and an unforgettable experience at the Buffalo Ranch.

EXPERIENCE THE GEOLOGY OF YELLOWSTONE

AUG 25 AT 7 PM – AUG 27 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Dave Egan, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $281 • 170812

Yellowstone is a geologist's paradise. Explore the natural features of Yellowstone and the surrounding area as a geologist does. On short walks to a variety of formations in and around the park, you'll examine up-close the diversity of rock types and features characteristic of Yellowstone and its many geysers. Learn to make your own interpretations of what you see on the landscape, and gain a greater appreciation of the geologic processes that created the park. You'll also leave with a new perspective—the ability to look at the landscape through the eyes of a geologist—in Yellowstone, or beyond.

NATURALIST SERIES: LANDSCAPE GEOLOGY

AUG 27 AT 9 AM – AUG 28 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Virginia Miller
Limit: 13 • $250 • 170813

Have you ever wondered what geologic forces shaped the landscape of the park? Come spend two days exploring the geology of Yellowstone, learning how to read the land. Traveling through the park to places like the northern range, Yellowstone Lake, and Mount Washburn, you'll find evidence of glaciers, hydrothermal explosions, and volcanic eruptions. You'll keep your observations in a journal, looking carefully at the landscape while creating simple drawings, lists, and descriptions of the terrain over which you travel.

NAVIGATING THE WONDERS OF YELLOWSTONE'S BACKCOUNTRY

AUG 27 AT 7 PM – AUG 29 AT 4 PM
Old Faithful
Orville Bach, Ed.D.
Limit: 13 • $301 • 170814

Step off the trail and into adventure during this combination navigation, hiking, and natural history class. You'll begin with an evening presentation about how to utilize a compass and topographic map to explore the wonders of Yellowstone's backcountry. During the day, you'll practice your new navigation skills and experience the thrill of setting your own course across the landscape. The pace is slow, so you can observe the life and land around you. Along the way, you'll learn about the animals, plants, and geology you are seeing, as well as some of the park's human history. Your guide is one of the park's most experienced park rangers. A limited number of rooms will be held until 30 days prior to the course; call us for details.

CROW TRIBAL CULTURE AND YELLOWSTONE

AUG 28 AT 9 AM – AUG 29 AT 2 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Shane Doyle, Ed.D.
Limit: 13 • $250 • 170815

The land we now call Yellowstone National Park used to be the heart of Crow country. Today it remains a place of deep meaning to the tribe. In this class led by a Crow tribal member, you will examine the tribe's relationship to Yellowstone through a combination of classroom sessions and field trips to critical cultural sites. Hear explanations of how natural features within the park were created, and how the park figures into the origin of the tribe. You'll also learn about contemporary Crow beliefs and practices in the park.

NATURALIST SERIES: THERMAL GEOLOGY AND BIOLOGY

AUG 29 AT 9 AM – AUG 30 AT 5 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Joshua Theurer, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $250 • 170816

At a glance, the waters of Yellowstone's magnificent thermal features offer bright colors and stunning photographic opportunities. But look closely and you'll find they are teeming with a hidden world full of tiny, heat-loving microscopic organisms. Visit enormous terrace formations, steaming pools, and diverse communities of microbes to learn about different thermal life forms. You'll also gain an understanding about the volcanic forces deep underground driving the heat and water systems that define this microbial community. Use field journaling to capture your observations, both large and small, from geothermal landscapes to the microscopic life.

LATE SUMMER WILDLIFE WATCHING

AUG 30 AT 7 PM – SEP 2 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Brad Bulin, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $406 • 170817

Welcome to Yellowstone's northern range, known worldwide for its "charismatic megafauna," such as grizzly bears, bison, wolves, and elk. You'll spend three full days looking for these and other wild animals and learning how they fit into the park's ecosystem. Enjoy early morning and evening searches for wolves, bears, and songbirds, and then look to the midday sky for falcons and other birds of prey as they migrate for warmer temperatures. Keep a watchful eye on the ground, too, where you might spot small animals preparing their food caches for winter.

SLOW HIKING AND CAREFUL OBSERVING

AUG 31 AT 9 AM – SEP 2 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Gene Ball
Limit: 13 • $375 • 170818

If you like to hike with plenty of time to enjoy the scenery and smell the wildflowers, then come along on these rambles down Yellowstone's trails. You'll take two easy short hikes each day, stopping often to observe wildlife, birds, wildflowers, and whatever comes into view. Along the way, discuss and learn about the park's wildlife, history, and challenges—or whatever else comes to mind. You'll hike through a variety of habitats in different parts of the park, each with its own hidden gems awaiting those who slow down and observe.

NEW! BACKPACKING: WATERFALLS, HOT SPRINGS, AND GEYSERS

SEP 1 AT 4 PM – SEP 4 AT 3 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Jim Garry, M.S., Patty Walton
Limit: 8 • $475 • 170901

The Firehole Valley is a great place to experience the beauty of water in all its natural forms. This adventure beckons hikers new to backpacking or those more experienced backpackers seeking a shorter exploration of a unique Yellowstone landscape. Hike through a lodgepole pine forest naturally reseeded after the 1988 fires; find out why Fairy Falls is one of the tallest waterfalls in the park; and visit dynamic hydrothermal features—all while learning how to backpack comfortably and safely in bear country. Your adventure begins with an afternoon classroom session followed by three days of backpacking of up to 5–7 miles a day.

RAPTORS OVER YELLOWSTONE

SEP 8 AT 7 PM – SEP 9 AT 6 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Katy Duffy, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $154 • 170902

It's a raptor time of year. Start your weekend with an evening classroom session about raptor identification and ecology and then head out in the field the next morning to watch for birds of prey (raptors) flying overhead on their journeys south. Join a former Yellowstone education ranger and bird expert and visit one of Yellowstone's valleys—such as Hayden Valley—where you might see individuals filling up on plentiful grasshoppers and small rodents. With any luck, you'll see eagles, osprey, and a variety of hawks and falcons.

WOMEN IN WONDERLAND

SEP 10 AT 6:30 PM – SEP 13 AT 6 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Elizabeth Watry, M.A.
Limit: 13 • $400 • 170903

Come explore the lives, legends, and legacies of fourteen remarkable women who figured significantly in the development of Yellowstone National Park. From developing nature trails to researching bison and plants to supplying visitors with lodging and curios, these spirited, ambitious, and independent women have long gone uncelebrated. Learn of their contributions, visit some of the places they worked, and celebrate their lives through engaging discussions and field trips.

AUTUMN WILDLIFE WATCHING

SEP 17 AT 9 AM – SEP 19 AT 4 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Gene Ball
Limit: 13 • $369 • 170904

Who's gone missing? Who's new on the scene? Can you spot the wolf pups trying to act like adults? See if you can find a bear doing anything other than eating. Are the bison still busy mating? Which female elk are paying attention to which bugling bull? Watch all this and more as we explore the behavior of critters during three full days out and about in Yellowstone's wildlife-rich north and central areas.

AUTUMN WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY

SEP 17 AT 9 AM – SEP 20 AT 4 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Meg Sommers
Limit: 13 • $507 • 170905

Calling all photographers, novice and veterans alike! Now is the time to learn tips for photographing Yellowstone's autumn wildlife action. You'll spend most of the day outdoors, finding out what animals, big and small, do and where they are—keys to finding them for your photos. You'll also practice photographic fundamentals, techniques, and the ethics of wildlife photography, and learn tips to keep you safe. In class sessions, you'll focus on composition, lighting, equipment, and computer skills. So, pack your digital camera and tripod and head into Yellowstone's wild autumn.

AUTUMN DAY HIKING IN YELLOWSTONE

SEP 21 AT 7 PM–SEP 24 AT 4 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Carolyn Harwood
Limit: 13 • $400 • 170906

Some days are diamonds—and autumn sparkles with more diamond days than any other season in Yellowstone. Chilly mornings give way to sunny afternoons. Cobalt skies press against the white of new snow in the high country. Golden sunlight plays upon cured yellow grasses. Elk enliven the air with their eerie bugles, and birds flock as they prepare to migrate south. Come spend three diamond days in Yellowstone, hiking up to 12 miles each day, with elevation gains up to 2000 feet.

THREE DAYS IN THE WORLD OF WOLVES

SEP 23 AT 7 PM – SEP 26 AT 4 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Brad Bulin, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $400 • 170907

Spend three days immersed in the lives of Yellowstone's wolves. Through a combination of discussions, field trips, and hikes, you'll explore wolves and their lives, their interactions with other predators, and their relationship with humans. Visit one of the pens where wolves spent time acclimating to Yellowstone after their abrupt departure from Canada. Look for wolves in the Lamar Valley and other wolf habitat. And find out what we have learned about wolves since their restoration more than 20 years ago.

THE INTELLIGENCE OF ANIMALS

SEP 26 AT 9 AM – SEP 28 AT 4 PM
Lamar Buffalo Ranch
George Bumann, M.S.
Limit: 13 • $369 • 170908

What is the raven's word for eagle? How does a wolf know when to give up the chase? How do animals pass on information through time? Delve into these and other questions of animal intelligence by directly observing Yellowstone's summer wildlife. You'll learn to decipher body language, behavior, and vocalizations for clues about intelligence. Watch how different species interact with each other and their environment. Explore how they learn and pass their knowledge to their offspring. And consider how this information applies to other species—including those you may know from home.

COLORS ON THE LANDSCAPE: FALL PHOTOGRAPHY

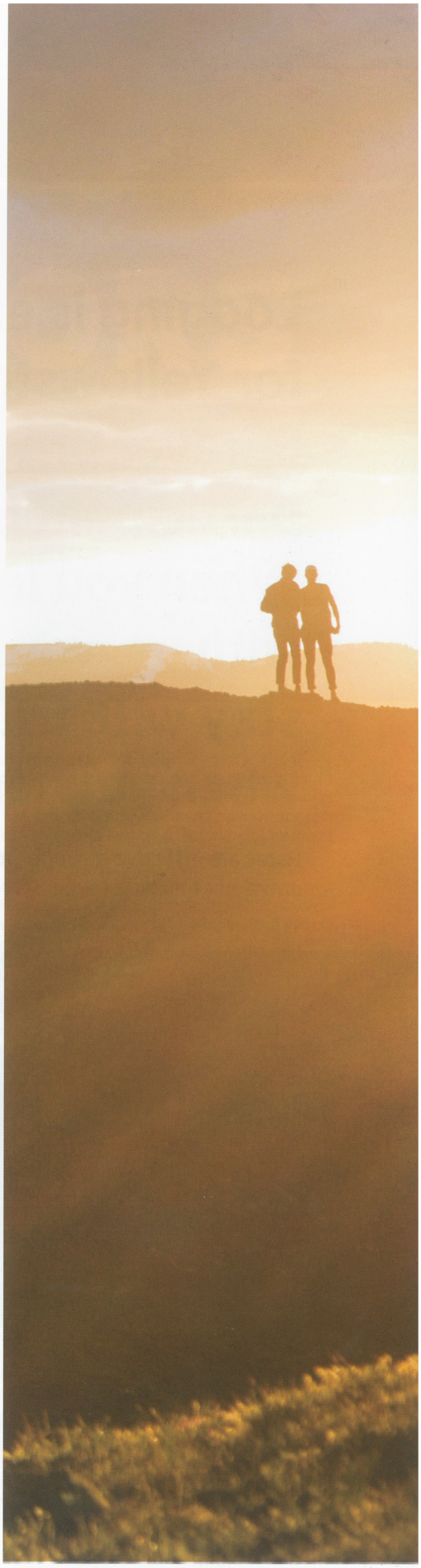
SEP 28 AT 9 AM – OCT 1 AT 5 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Tom Kirkendall, Greg Vaughn
Limit: 12 • $572 • 170909

Immerse yourself in Yellowstone's autumn while exploring unparalleled photographic opportunities—from steaming thermals to the spectacular colors of the changing landscape. Working with two professional landscape photographers, you'll build a technical photographic foundation before moving on to explore your own creative vision. Learn the nuances of creative composition; develop an understanding of natural history; and understand the essential role of ethics in nature photography. You will need photographic equipment with which you are familiar, as well as a solid understanding of basic photographic principles.

BECOME A CERTIFIED INTERPRETIVE GUIDE

OCT 2 AT 8 AM – OCT 6 AT 3:00 PM
Gardiner, Montana
Jessica Haas, Carolyn Harwood
Limit: 24 • $425 • 171001

In this professional certification course presented in partnership with the National Association for Interpretation (NAI), you'll learn from professional interpreters as they work in the world's first national park. Sessions will be held on the trail focusing on informal interpretation, as well as indoors emphasizing formal interpretation techniques. To earn certification, you'll prepare a written outline of a 10-minute presentation, deliver the presentation, and complete an open-book multiple-choice exam. The week will end with a celebratory wildlife-watching morning and closing ceremony. All materials, certification, and NAI membership fees are included in your tuition.



Lodging is exclusively for Yellowstone Forever program participants. When you learn with us, you can stay with us! Inquire when you register.

Rates are effective through October 31, 2017, and do not include taxes.

LAMAR BUFFALO RANCH FIELD CAMPUS

Far from other development, the ranch in Yellowstone's northeast corner offers comfortable lodging in a historic wilderness setting. You'll enjoy a log cabin with a propane heater, a bathhouse with private showers, and a common building with fully equipped kitchen where you prepare your own meals. The Lamar Buffalo Ranch is available to participants in Field Seminars based out of Lamar.

NIGHTLY RATE IN SHARED CABIN

$37 per person

YELLOWSTONE OVERLOOK FIELD CAMPUS

Perfect for families and groups, the Yellowstone Overlook features comfortable cabins on 80 acres, awe-inspiring views, and easy access to the northern section of the park. Cabins have self-serve kitchens for preparing meals and open floor plans perfect for group dining and evening activities. Enjoy our educational learning libraries. Groups that need a formal classroom setting can arrange to use the classrooms at our headquarters just down the hill in Gardiner, Montana. The Yellowstone Overlook is available for Private Tour participants, Youth & College groups, and participants in Field Seminars based out of Gardiner.

NIGHTLY RATES

Electric Peak or Davis Cabin $435 for up to 12 people

Bunsen Peak Cabin $220 for up to 5 people

FIELD SEMINAR RATE

Shared cabins $40 per person for shared room





LODGING

INSTRUCTORS



ORVILLE BACH, Ed.D., has worked for more than 40 years as a seasonal interpretive ranger in Yellowstone National Park. He is the author of *Exploring the Yellowstone Backcountry* and *Reflections from Yellowstone and Beyond: 43 Years as a Seasonal Ranger.* He has traveled Yellowstone's backcountry during all seasons, including an 18-day wilderness ski trip through the park.

JULIANNE BAKER, M.A., joined the Institute over a decade ago after a career teaching environmental science in Michigan. This experience, coupled with her certification as an interpretive trainer, makes her one of the Institute's most valued mentors for up-and-coming naturalists. When she's not teaching, she can be found hiking, skiing, or nature journaling in the wilds of Yellowstone.

GENE BALL was director of the Yellowstone Association and Institute from 1985–1988. He now lives in Cody, Wyoming, and teaches a wide range of topics and pursues other freelance projects for a variety of organizations throughout the West.

SHAUNA BARON, M.S. was a resident instructor for the Yellowstone Association Institute for more than a decade. She has studied large and small carnivores and worked with the Colorado-based Mission Wolf captive wolf program and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Red Wolf Project, as well as a volunteer for the Yellowstone Wolf Project.

LINDA BLACK ELK, M.S., is a Catawba ethnobotanist specializing in traditional uses of plants by native people of the Great Plains. She holds degrees in botany, anthropology, science education, and ecology and environmental sciences. She lives on the Standing Rock Reservation in South Dakota and teaches ethnobotany at Sitting Bull College.

LUKE BLACK ELK (Thítȟunwan Lakota, Itázipčho Band) has spent his life learning the oral traditions, creation stories, and star knowledge from elders throughout the Lakota Nation. He is a Sundance leader, practitioner of the seven sacred rites of the Lakota people, and specializes in culturally significant plants and animals of the Great Plains.

BRAD BULIN, M.S., is a wildlife biologist who has taught science at the K–12 and college levels and conducted extensive field research on carnivores, raptors, amphibians, and plants. He is a professional wildlife cinematographer who spends considerable time capturing Yellowstone on camera.

GEORGE BUMANN, M.S., is a resident of Gardiner, Montana, at the park's northern entrance and can draw, sculpt, and teach about all aspects of Yellowstone. He has a degree in wildlife ecology and works as a professional artist and educator. His art and writing have appeared in popular and scientific publications, and his sculptures can be found in collections throughout the United States and abroad.

JONATHAN BYERS is a photographer, filmmaker, and scientist based in Missoula, Montana. His passion for documenting the intersection of wild places, science, and activism leads him to visually engage people with the beauty and complexity of our world.

MEREDITH CAMPBELL is a professional artist specializing in wildlife and plants. Her illustration work has been published in books, magazines and journals. Meredith's paintings have been sold in galleries and art shows and to private collectors. She has been teaching drawing and painting classes for more than 20 years.

OWEN CARROLL grew up exploring the wilds of the Intermountain West. He has worked for a variety of organizations focused on public land stewardship and education, and recently completed Teton Science School's graduate program. He continues his passion for connecting people to nature as a resident instructor for Yellowstone Forever.

BRENNA CASSIDY is a biological technician with the Yellowstone Wolf Project. She has worked on a number of projects in Yellowstone including the Raptor Initiative, the Core Bird Program, and the Yellowstone Cougar Project. Brenna will be returning to graduate school at the University of Montana in September 2017.

ELEANOR WILLIAMS CLARK, M.L.A., has produced more than 200 volumes of artistic field journals. Her work in field journaling and landscape design involves ecology, sculptural aspects of landscape, and the influence of art in shaping our connections to the land. She has numerous years of experience in art, illustration and comprehensive planning in Yellowstone National Park.

PAUL DOSS, Ph.D., makes geology come alive for his students. A former supervisory geologist for Yellowstone National Park, he now teaches in the Department of Geology and Physics at the University of Southern Indiana. For more than three decades, he has taught field geology, conducted research, and completed geologic mapping in the Rocky Mountain Region and the Yellowstone Plateau.

PHOTOS MARIA BISSO: COVER, TOC, PGS. 2-9, 16-17, 19, 21-22; KAREN WITHROW: COVER; NPS: II; JESS HAAS: PGS. 5, 7; TYRENE RIEDL: PG. 7; ROSEMARY JOHNSON: PG. 13; LEO LECKIE: PG. 13; JIM FUTTERER: PG. 16; TED GATLIN: PG. 17; TRACY RAICH: PG. 22; KEN VOORHIS: PG. 23; ANN SKELTON: BACK COVER; DOUG LONEMAN: BACK COVER

SHANE DOYLE, Ed.D. worked with Montana tribes as a post-doctoral researcher for the Centre for Geogenetics in Denmark. A singer of Plains Indian-style music, he travels throughout Montana Indian Country as a professional educator, researcher, and pow-wow participant. He is currently writing a book about the cultural geography of the northern plains.

KATY DUFFY, M.S., 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. She has lived and worked in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem for more than three decades, primarily as an education ranger in Yellowstone National Park.

DAVE EGAN, M.S., has been leading geology trips in the U.S. and Canada for more than 25 years, making complicated geologic concepts accessible and fun. The author of numerous articles in professional journals, Dave also enjoys kayaking, coaching Unified Sports for Special Olympics, and teaching yoga.

SUZIE GARNER, M.A., M.F.A., leads the art department at Colorado Mesa University, where she teaches drawing and graphic design. She has led field sketching workshops in several western national parks. Her work has been exhibited nationally and published in *1,000 Artist Journal Pages: Personal Pages and Inspirations*.

JIM GARRY, M.S., weaves natural history, human history, folklore, and myth into spellbinding stories. A naturalist and folklorist, he has spent most of the past five decades in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. His latest book is *The Weapons of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*.

TED GATLIN, M.Ed., is a dedicated naturalist and photographer. He has traveled to many wild places across the world, and brings a global perspective of the environment to Yellowstone. He uses the camera's lens to help him discover the beauty found in nature, and encourages others to develop their own vision of the outdoors.

JOHN GILLESPIE has been fascinated by the geology of Yellowstone since his first visit in 1972. After studying at the University of Delaware, John founded two geologic consulting firms and applies his 40-year career in natural resources to Yellowstone. He regularly explores the northern range from his home in Paradise Valley.

CINDY GOEDDEL is a professional photographer and naturalist whose photographs have been published widely and have won international awards, including first place National Wildlife 2009 and 2016 and NANPA best of show 2015 and 2016. She enjoys leading tours in the park for aspiring and professional photographers. An Adobe Certified Expert, she provides the ultimate in digital photography training.

JESSICA HAAS, is a program manager and instructor for the Yellowstone Forever Institute. She landed in the Rockies while teaching at the McCall Outdoor Science School. She has researched wolverines in Central Idaho and has taught science and math both in and out of the classroom. She is certified through the National Association for Interpretation as a certified interpretive guide (CIG), host (CIH), and trainer (CIT).

JAMES HALFPENNY, Ph.D., travels the world teaching about bears, wolves, animal tracks, and cold ecosystems. He produces educational books, computer programs, and videos. He coordinated the Long-Term Ecological and Alpine Research programs at the University of Colorado. His books include *Yellowstone Wolves in the Wild* and *Yellowstone Bears in the Wild*.

WES HARDIN, M.Ed., M.A., has worked at museums and cultural institutions throughout the United States and as an interpretive park ranger in Yellowstone. He is the author of the upcoming book about early bicycling in Yellowstone Park entitled *Wheeling Through Yellowstone: Adventurers, Tourists, and the Twenty-fifth Infantry Bicycle Corps in America's First National Park, 1883–1898*.

HOBIE HARE, M.A., is a former Yellowstone interpretive park ranger and Institute instructor who helps people connect with nature, no matter where their feet are. Hobie brings his enthusiasm for Yellowstone and other wild places to life through nature connection mentoring, guiding, photography, and in-person courses and retreats.

STEVE HARVEY built his first fly rod and taught himself to cast at the age of 12. He has since spent more than four decades fishing fresh and salt water on four continents. As a certified fly casting instructor, Steve enjoys sharing his experience with others and helping them increase their on-stream satisfaction. When not fishing, Steve pursues climbing, mountaineering, hiking, skiing, and photography adventures worldwide.

CAROLYN HARWOOD is a resident instructor for the Yellowstone Forever Institute. She studied outdoor recreation leadership and management at Northern Michigan University, and holds certifications from the National Association for Interpretation and the Wilderness Medicine Institute. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, canoeing, and cross-country skiing, and tracking and filming cougars.

HANNAH HINCHMAN teaches journal workshops around the country. Her work is included in Cathy Johnson's *Artist Journal workshop* and Danny Gregory's *An Illustrated Journey: Inspiration from the Private Art Journals of Traveling Artists*. Her books include the award-winning *Little Things in a Big Country: An Artist and Her Dog on the Rocky Mountain Front*.

TOM KIRKENDALL has been exploring the outdoors all of his life and working as a professional photographer for half that time. Travels have taken him around the world, and his landscape work has been widely published in calendars, magazines, and books. He uses everything from an 8x10 view camera to a plastic Holga and keeps a darkroom to process and print his work.

DAN KOTTER is a Ph.D. student at Colorado State University studying ecosystem transition in Yellowstone's northern range. Dan's expertise across the fields of geomorphology and wildlife and plant ecology—gleaned from working with multiple agencies on management and research projects—drives his holistic approach to studying large ecosystems.

DAVID LAUFENBERG has a background in avian research and science education. Over the years, he has worked in his home state of Wisconsin, as well as Ecuador, Colombia, California, and Montana. His passion for the natural sciences has drawn him to the field of education and to the Institute. When not birding or teaching, he enjoys rock climbing, skiing, and fly-fishing.

JESSE LOGAN, Ph.D., is a retired entomologist, a lifelong resident of the Rocky Mountain West, and an avid fly fisherman and outdoorsman. He also holds certificates from the National Association for Interpretation, Leave No Trace, and the Yellowstone Association. He uses this combination of experience and skills to teach seminars about fly-fishing.

JACOB LOWENSTERN, Ph.D., is a leading expert on volcanoes and geothermal systems and the gases and waters that emerge from them. He is a research geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey and is the scientist-in-charge of the Yellowstone Volcano Observatory. He has studied volcanoes in Yellowstone, California, Chile, Alaska, Italy, Indonesia, Russia, Japan, and Eritrea.

GRANT A. MEYER, Ph.D., investigates the relationships between fire, erosion, and climate change in Yellowstone, which earned him the 1997 Kirk Bryan Award of the Geological Society of America. He is professor of geomorphology at the University of New Mexico and has conducted research on streams, landforms, and recent geological processes in Yellowstone since 1983.

VIRGINIA MILLER is a Yellowstone Forever resident instructor. She taught and directed programs with the Inside the Outdoors Outdoor Science School in California and the Girl Scouts before coming to Yellowstone. She uses her B.A. in theater to make the outdoors and science come alive to students of all ages.

LISA MORGAN, Ph.D., studies the geology and geophysics of volcanoes in and near Yellowstone as a research geologist for the U.S. Geological Survey. She focuses on caldera-forming eruptions, rhyolitic lava flows, hydrothermal explosions, and the geology of Yellowstone Lake. With Ken Pierce, she has developed a model for the Yellowstone hotspot over the past three decades. With Pat Shanks, she mapped Yellowstone Lake and has developed a model for large hydrothermal explosions.

DANIELLE OYLER is a resident instructor alum of Yellowstone Forever Institute. She grew up in Yellowstone National Park and has worked for the National Park Service in Yellowstone as an interpretive ranger, backcountry trail crew leader, and as an intern with the Yellowstone Center for Resources. She now devotes her time to helping people coexist with bears in the Greater Yellowstone Area.

TRUDY PATTON is originally from Idaho and has been a ranger in Yellowstone National Park since 1998. Her previous experiences include being a day camp director in Germany and an aquatics camp director in Korea. Trudy taught in the classroom and also at an outdoor school before becoming an Expedition: Yellowstone! ranger.

KELLY PEARCE, M.S., is dedicated to promoting carnivore conservation by developing field education programs for students K–12. She is currently a Ph.D. student at the University of Maryland's Marine, Estuarine, and Environmental Sciences Program. She is a member of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources' Otter Specialist Group and Nearctic Otter Education Group.

ALAN PETERSEN, M.A., paints the landscapes of the Grand Canyon, the Colorado Plateau, and other inspirational places. He is a professor of art at Coconino Community College and curator of fine art at the Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff. He has published numerous articles about Western art history and painters and is working on books about painters Merrill Mahaffey and Gunnar Widforss.

WAYNE PHILLIPS is a former U.S. Forest Service ecologist who teaches about the flora of the Rocky Mountains and Great Plains. He has taught for the Institute since the early 1980s. He is the author of *Central Rocky Mountain Wildflowers*, *Northern Rocky Mountain Wildflowers*, and *Plants of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*.

HAROLD PICTON, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of wildlife at Montana State University and studies herbivores, carnivores, and wildlife management history. He and his former graduate students have published more than 100 scientific papers, many about Yellowstone. He has also published three books and produced a television documentary.

LYNN POWERS, M.S., became fascinated with the night sky as a child and turned her interest into a career. Today she serves as NASA/JPL solar system ambassador, heliophysics ambassador, and president of the Southwest Montana Astronomical Society.

LESLIE J. QUINN, M.Ed., trains park bus tour guides, boat guides, and wranglers for the park concessioner Yellowstone National Park Lodges. As a historian, his interests include Yellowstone Village history, the Howard Eaton Trail, and the maritime history of Yellowstone Lake. He contributes to *Yellowstone Science* and other park publications.

TYRENE RIEDL is a seasonal Instructor for Yellowstone Forever, and has been fly-fishing, hiking, and backpacking in Yellowstone for over 20 years. In addition to being an Interpretive Naturalist, she has been guiding and instructing new fly-fishers on park rivers since 2007.

MIKE ROSEKRANS, M.Ed., brings a zeal for natural ecosystems and enthusiasm for teaching to his position as resident instructor for Yellowstone Forever. Mike has worked in national parks across the west, including Yellowstone. His graduate work focused on the restoration of grizzly bears and wolves to the Pacific Northwest.

THOMAS SERFASS, Ph.D., teaches wildlife ecology and environmental science at Frostburg State University and the University of Maryland. His research focuses on restoration of wildlife populations, particularly mesocarnivores. He is currently the North American coordinator of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources' Otter Specialist Group.

PAT SHANKS has studied Yellowstone's hydrothermal systems for more than two decades. As a geochemist with the U.S. Geological Survey, he has also studied hot springs hydrothermal vents and black smokers on the deep ocean floor. He was a professor at the University of Wisconsin and University of California–Davis before joining the USGS.

MEG SOMMERS shares the beauty and grace of Yellowstone through her award-winning photographs. She visits the park and its environs in all seasons, photographing landscapes, wildlife, and wildflowers. She is also an enthusiastic naturalist, and brings her considerable knowledge of the area to the groups she leads.

JOSHUA THEURER, M.S., has worked in the field as a biological technician contributing to both avian and mammalian research, where his passion for ecology blossomed. As a resident instructor for Yellowstone Forever, he now brings a unique perspective to Institute programs as he melds science, art, and philosophy in order to help students forge a deep connection to the natural world.

ROBERT C. THOMAS, Ph.D., teaches geology at the University of Montana Western. He co-authored geological roadside exhibits along the Lewis and Clark Trail as well as the book *Roadside Geology of Yellowstone Country*. He is a Montana regents' professor and fellow of the Geological Society of America. In 2009, he was awarded the prestigious Carnegie Foundation U.S. Professor of the Year Award.

BRIAN THORPE, M.S., has been interpreting Yellowstone and Glacier national parks for visitors since 1988 for the National Park Service, Xanterra Parks and Resorts®, and the Yellowstone Association Institute. He earned his master's degree in 2000 with a thesis project examining neotropical migrant birds in Yellowstone National Park.

JON TRAPP, M.A., served as a wolf biologist for Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and has worked for wolf programs in Arizona, Idaho, and Wyoming. He earned his master's degree in conservation biology from Prescott College, with a thesis focusing on wolf-den site selection in the Northern Rockies. He is a wildland firefighter who works on fire mitigation projects near Yellowstone.

NATHAN VARLEY, Ph.D., is a natural and cultural historian specializing in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, where he has lived most of his life. He has studied many of Yellowstone's large mammals. For his doctorate, he studied the effects of wolf restoration on the park's northern range elk herd.

GREG VAUGHN is a freelance photographer specializing in recreational travel and the natural world. His photography is featured in leading travel magazines and websites and is distributed worldwide through photo agencies. He received the Benjamin Franklin Awards of the Independent Book Publishers Association for his guidebooks *Photographing Oregon* and *Photographing Washington*.

PATTY WALTON has resided in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem for more than 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 paramedic and CPR instructor.

ELIZABETH WATRY, M.A., studies the history of tourism and women in the 19th- and early 20th-century American West. She is the curator for the Museum of the Mountain Man in Pinedale, Wyoming, and has previously worked in many museums, including the Yellowstone Heritage and Research Center. Her most recent books are *Women in Wonderland: Lives, Legends, and Legacies of Yellowstone National Park* and *Images of America: Fort Yellowstone*.

KAI WEST, M.A., trains field science educators with NatureBridge Golden Gate. He raised over $10,000 for the San Francisco Aids Foundation and the LA Gay and Lesbian Center and has facilitated support groups for LGBT populations. He is excited to combine his work with LGBT people and his passion for the outdoors.

WILDERNESS MEDICINE INSTITUTE, an institute of the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), has been a leader in wilderness medicine education since 1976.

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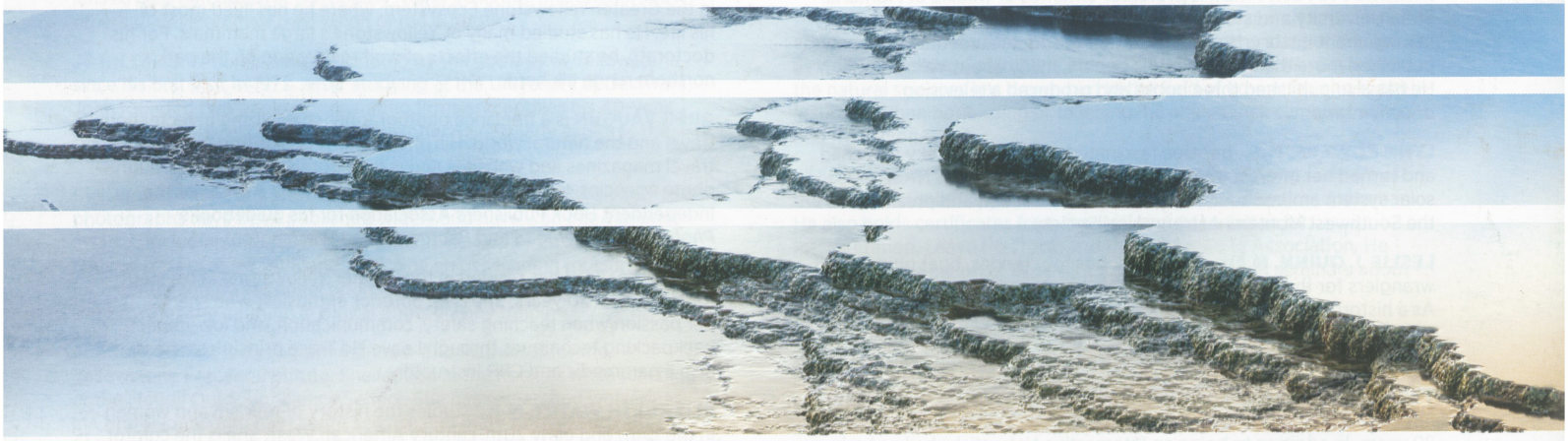

Yellowstone Forever



"Yellowstone Forever—formerly the Yellowstone Association and Yellowstone Park Foundation—is the official nonprofit partner of Yellowstone National Park. We connect people to Yellowstone today and work to preserve it for tomorrow. The opportunities we provide—to experience, appreciate, connect, and contribute—are the first steps in a lifelong journey for people who want to preserve and enhance the park for future generations.

I hope you will join more than 50,000 supporters worldwide who have made a commitment to fund visitor education and park preservation. Together, we can ensure that Yellowstone lasts forever."

—Heather White, PRESIDENT & CEO