



# YELLOWSTONE FOREVER

## WINTER WILDLIFE WATCHING

### Itinerary & Details

FIELD SEMINAR – WINTER 2022/23

**INSTRUCTOR:** Samuel Archibald, M.E.M.

**INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY:** Sam Archibald is a Lead Field Educator for Yellowstone Forever. After completing his B.A. in history, Sam served with the US Peace Corps, working with an Ecuadorian nonprofit organization to develop outdoor leadership and environmental education programs for youth. Sam has continued to focus on outdoor education, joining the National Park Service as a Crew Leader for the Yellowstone Youth Conservation Corps and earning his Master's degree in Environmental Management. Sam is grateful for every day he gets to spend out in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and looks forward to the continual discoveries offered by this wild and wonderful landscape.

**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** This course is an activity level 2 and students enrolled in this course are expected to be active participants. Be prepared to hike, snowshoe, or ski on snow-packed trails, up to 3 miles per day, with climbs up to 250 feet. \*

*\*All field activities will be conducted as a group. If you cannot meet the activity level expectations during your program, you may be restricted from participation in daily outings. We will not alter program itineraries or activities to accommodate participants who cannot meet the expectations of the stated activity level.*

**LOCATION:** Lamar Buffalo Ranch – Yellowstone National Park, WY

**PROGRAM DATES & TIMES:** The program begins at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, February 6, 2023, and goes through Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

**LODGING CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT:** Lodging check-in begins at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 6, 2023 and lodging check-out is at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 10, 2023.

**MEALS:** This course is catered. If you have any food allergies or dietary restrictions, please include those in your registration form.

**SHUTTLES:** For an additional fee, we provide an optional Bozeman airport shuttle for those interested. The shuttle service will pick up participants from the Bozeman International Airport on the first day of the program with a 1:00 p.m. departure. The shuttle will return participants to the Bozeman International Airport on the last day after lodging check-out with a departure from the Lamar Buffalo Ranch at 8:00 a.m. If you opt-in to the shuttle service, please ensure that your flight booking will allow for you to be picked up and dropped off during the above timeframes.

**For general information about the facilities, preparing for classes, what to expect, cancellation policies, and more, please see the [Lamar Buffalo Ranch - Winter General Information](#) document.**

## PROGRAM ITINERARY

Winter in Yellowstone is a wonderful time to visit – less people, enchanting snowscape scenery, and opportunities to view Yellowstone's lesser-seen wildlife. Although much of the wildlife viewing may be possible from the road, each day will consist of short snowshoe jaunts. While snowshoeing participants will learn more about wildlife that thrive in Yellowstone's harsh winter climate. Tracks and signs of various species will also be examined in the field with a comprehensive look at wildlife ecology within the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, to include winter adaptations, natural history, and wildlife management. Evenings will be spent at the historic Lamar Buffalo Ranch surrounded by new and existing friends, conversing about that day's activities and hosting facilitated discussions related to Yellowstone specific topics.

The itinerary is designed to take advantage of the best opportunities in the park, but may be adjusted to adapt to weather conditions, wildlife activity, holidays, and road construction.

*The details and timing of the agenda are subject to change.*

**2/6/23**

### **Welcome**

Participants are welcome to check into the Lamar Buffalo Ranch starting at 4:00 p.m.  
Class orientation begins at 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner at 6:00 p.m.  
After dinner meet and greet and introduction to the course.

**2/7 - 2/9/23 Wildlife Watching and Observations**

Mornings will be spent in the field looking for wildlife. During the day, the group will take snowshoe jaunts and learn about snow tracking, winter ecology, and wildlife management. After dinner, participants will have the evenings to relax on their own or join the larger group to discuss wildlife controversies.

**2/10/23**

### **Check-Out**

Breakfast and check out of cabins by 10:00 a.m.

## PROGRAM EQUIPMENT

This course does not require any specific equipment unless you wish to bring your own snowshoes. For a full list of what is included in this course, in addition to recommended equipment check out the [Lamar Buffalo Ranch - Winter General Information](#) document.

## RECOMMENDED READING

There are books and reference materials at the ranch for you to enjoy during your stay. In addition to those materials, the following recommended readings are not required but may enhance your visit.

- Smith, Douglas W., et al. [\*Yellowstone Wolves: Science and Discovery in the World's First National Park\*](#). The University of Chicago Press, 2020.
- McIntyre, Rick. [\*The Reign of Wolf 21: The Saga of Yellowstone's Legendary Druid Pack\*](#). Greystone Books, 2022.
- Lamplugh, Rick. [\*Deep into Yellowstone: A Year's Immersion into Grandeur and Controversy\*](#). CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017.
- Nelson, Megan Kate. [\*Saving Yellowstone: Exploration and Preservation in Reconstruction America\*](#). Scribner, 2022.
- National Park Service. [\*2022 Resource and Issues Handbook\*](#). NPS, 2022.

## WHOM TO CONTACT

**For any questions, concerns, or additional information please contact the following:**

- Program itinerary, health forms, payment, and general program questions please contact Yellowstone Forever at [institute@yellowstone.org](mailto:institute@yellowstone.org) or 406-848-2400
- Road updates, park conditions, and general park information please contact Yellowstone National Park Service at <https://www.nps.gov/yell/contacts.htm>
- If running late for a program, please contact 406-848-2400