



YELLOWSTONE FOREVER

INCONSPICUOUS YELLOWSTONE: AN APPRECIATION FOR THE SMALL

Itinerary & Details

FIELD SEMINAR – SUMMER 2024

INSTRUCTOR: Cedar Mathers-Winn, M.S.

INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY: Cedar Mathers-Winn is a naturalist, biologist, and educator based in Bozeman, MT. He earned his Master's degree studying animal communication in southwestern Montana, and has studied ecology and animal behavior in mountain forests, tropical Australia, and the Sonoran Desert. As an instructor, Cedar emphasizes the wonder and wildness of things that are everywhere but easily ignored.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: This course is activity **level 2** and students enrolled in this course are expected to be active participants. Be prepared to hike up to 3 miles per day, comfortably, with elevation gains up to 600 feet. Some off-trail hiking possible.

**All field activities will be conducted as a group. If participants cannot meet the activity level expectations during the program, they may be restricted from participation in daily outings. Program itineraries or activities will not be altered 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 7:00 p.m. on Friday, June 14, 2024, and goes through Sunday, June 16, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

LODGING CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT: Lodging check-in begins at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 14, 2024 and lodging check-out is at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, June 17, 2024.

MEALS: This course is not catered. Participants will need to bring their own food; lunch should be able to travel in the field.

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

PROGRAM ITINERARY

The wildness of Yellowstone is not just in its wolves and geysers - you will find countless worlds of struggle and beauty, hidden in plain sight. In this course, you will explore some of the most fascinating ecological stories and processes that are so often overlooked. Through classroom instruction and exploration in the field, you will learn about a wide range of topics in natural history and ecology, and you will see how careful attention can bring new depth to your experience of the natural world.

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.

Day 1

Welcome

The program starts with an evening orientation. You will get to know one another and be introduced to the program. Throughout the evening, the itinerary and seminar key concepts will be discussed, as well as what to expect to pack for the field each day.

Day 2 - 3

Exploring wild hidden worlds

Each day will begin with a 1-2 hour lecture, followed by a full day in the field. You will explore the biology and ecology of plants, fungi, and animals through observation and instruction, and through individual and group exercises. Lunch will be in the field, and return to the ranch will be before 5pm.

Day 4

Check-Out

Check out of cabins by 9:00 a.m.

PROGRAM EQUIPMENT

For a full list of what is included in this course, in addition to recommended equipment check out the [Lamar Buffalo Ranch - Summer General Information](#) document.

- Hand lens or magnifying glass
- notebook or journal and pencil for use in the field

RECOMMENDED READING

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

- National Park Service. *2023 Resource and Issues Handbook*. NPS, 2023.

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 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.