

A full-page photograph of a Yellowstone National Park landscape. In the foreground, a brown bison with curved horns is grazing on green grass. Behind it is a wide, shallow, yellowish-brown geothermal pool. In the background, a large, terraced geyser with white and yellow mineral deposits is erupting, with steam rising from its top. The sky is a pale blue.

# PARK PROJECTS

**2025-2026**



YELLOWSTONE  
FOREVER





# PARK PROJECTS

**2025-2026**









# INTRODUCTION

**Yellowstone Forever is the official nonprofit partner of Yellowstone National Park. Our mission is to protect, preserve, and enhance Yellowstone through education and philanthropy.**

We connect people to Yellowstone National Park through outstanding visitor experiences and educational programs, and translate those experiences into lifelong support and philanthropic investments that Protect Yellowstone’s Ecosystem & Wildlife; Preserve Yellowstone’s Heritage, History, & Trails; and Enhance Visitor Experiences & Education.

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Yellowstone isn't just any park; it's the crown jewel of America's national park system, a symbol of our commitment to preserving these natural and cultural resources for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of current and future generations.

Despite its iconic status, Yellowstone faces challenges that require our collective support. Increased visitation and limited budgets put places like Yellowstone at risk.

As the official nonprofit partner of Yellowstone National Park, we are committed to ensuring that Yellowstone endures forever. Our work is essential to the park's mission and legacy, from wildlife and ecosystem conservation to education and cultural heritage.

We are thrilled to present the 2025-2026 slate of park projects. These critical projects will help protect, preserve, and enhance this great American idea. By supporting Yellowstone Forever, you can help us make a difference.

Your generosity directly impacts the park's wildlife, landscapes, and visitor experience. Together, we can ensure that Yellowstone remains a source of inspiration for all who visit. We invite you to explore the work ahead and join us in preserving Yellowstone—forever.

With gratitude,



**Lisa Diekmann**  
President & CEO  
*Yellowstone Forever*



**Sam Barkley**  
Chief Development Officer  
*Yellowstone Forever*





# PROTECT

Yellowstone National Park has one of the most incredible ecosystems in the world. It is home to more than 10,000 thermal features, the largest concentration of mammals in the lower 48 states, and endless rivers, lakes, and trails. But this ecosystem needs constant protection from human interference, invasive species, and more. Yellowstone Forever funds projects that conserve native wildlife, biodiversity, and contribute to a healthy and resilient environment for the future.



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# Bear Conservation & Management Project

As the morning mist lifts, the silver hump of a grizzly bear glistens as it lumbers along foraging for fresh food. The park is home to diverse wildlife and sightings of grizzly bears and black bears are among the biggest highlights for park visitors. Both species contribute uniquely to the ecosystem. In 1931, the park began keeping detailed records of bear activity. Nearly 95 years later, much



has been learned. Long gone are the days of bears eating from trash dumps and being fed by eager visitors from car windows. The Bear Management Team collects information used to monitor grizzly and black bear population numbers, food habits, and causes of mortality. Crucial funding for the park’s Bear Management Program supports conservation, research, and management of bear interaction in the park. The National Park Service has taken a prominent role in developing methods to manage park visitors and reduce human-bear conflicts and human causes of bear mortality while promoting conservation of these magnificent creatures.

Continuation of the Bear Conservation & Management Project is essential to long-term conservation of grizzly and black bears in the Yellowstone region.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$425,000**



## Bear-Proof Food Storage Boxes

Preventing bears from obtaining human food is one of the best ways to ensure grizzly and black bears do not become conditioned to human food. This is a top priority of Yellowstone's wildlife managers, and the park emphasizes the importance of bear-proof food storage to ensure the safety of both visitors and bears. Installing sturdy steel bear-proof food storage boxes featuring bear-resistant locking mechanisms prevents bears from accessing human food or other attractants such as toiletries and scented items. Bear boxes improve visitor safety and ensure a safe camping experience for all. This ongoing project depends exclusively on funding from donors.

"The most successful method to prevent bears from becoming conditioned to human foods has been to provide park visitors with bear-proof food storage boxes that are convenient and easy to use," says Yellowstone's bear management biologist Kerry Gunther. "The park's ultimate goal is to have a bear box in every campsite in every campground."

To date, 1,577 bear boxes have been installed, but there is still work to be done. The park's overall goal is to install 2,147 bear boxes to complete all public campsites and employee trailer courts. Financial support for this project is crucial to install the remaining 570 bear boxes. Support for this project will protect bears and safeguard people.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$200,000**





## Yellowstone Wolf Project

Between 1995 and 1996, 31 gray wolves were reintroduced to Yellowstone National Park after nearly 70 years of absence. The Yellowstone Wolf Project is one of the most detailed studies of a large carnivore in the world, spanning 30 years since wolves were first reintroduced to the park. This ongoing project is world-renowned and crucial to understanding the role of wolf packs in Yellowstone's ecosystem. Year-round field research allows biologists to obtain data on wolf population dynamics, predator-prey interactions, social behavior, genetics, disease, multi-carnivore competition, ecosystem impacts, and human-wolf relationships. New advances in noninvasive monitoring techniques, including bioacoustics and remote cameras, allow additional research into the complex lives of the park's wolf packs.



The Wolf Project team also educates and does outreach to visitors, leveraging the talent of dedicated technicians, research associates, and graduate students. Collectively, this work serves the park's mission to understand and preserve native species and ecological processes and informs wolf conservation efforts worldwide. Without Yellowstone Forever funding, the Yellowstone Wolf Project would not be able to operate. Private funding is imperative to the continuation of this iconic and impactful project.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$947,500**

# Bison Conservation & Transfer Program

The sight of a massive herd of North America's largest land mammal is like taking a step back in time when an estimated 30 to 60 million bison roamed the grasslands and plains of North America. Yellowstone bison descended from the last wild bison herd in North America and represents the last truly wild and free-ranging population of plains bison in existence today. In the early 1900s, there were only about two dozen Yellowstone bison remaining before these icons of the American West were brought back from the brink of extinction—one of the greatest success stories in the history of wildlife conservation.



Decades in the making, the Bison Conservation and Transfer Program is a collaborative effort to support the continued natural and cultural conservation of this iconic species. Through this program, Yellowstone bison that are identified as brucellosis-free through a quarantine process are transferred to establish new Tribal and conservation herds across North America, as an alternative to being sent to slaughter. Since 2019, a total of 414 Yellowstone bison have been transferred to the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes at Fort Peck. Nearly all of those bison and their offspring have then been further distributed to 26 Tribes across 12 states in partnership with the InterTribal Buffalo Council.

Yellowstone Forever also supports the Bison Conservation Tribal Internship Program. Coordinating with Yellowstone National Park and the InterTribal Buffalo Council, Tribal interns work alongside National Park Service staff for six months to learn all the techniques needed in caring for and testing bison within the park's quarantine facility. These interns are then able to take that knowledge back to their Tribes to help reestablish and support Yellowstone bison herds on Tribal lands throughout North America.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$300,000**



# Cougar Research Project

The elusive cougar, also known as the mountain lion, is Yellowstone's top feline predator and one of the largest cats in North America. Cougars returned to Yellowstone on their own, recolonizing the ecosystem more than 35 years ago. The Yellowstone Cougar Project monitors these impressive animals by integrating year-round field work with cutting-edge research and monitoring. The project aims to understand cougar population trends, predation patterns, habitat selection, and behavior using tools like Global Positioning System (GPS) accelerometer collars, remote cameras, and noninvasive genetic surveys. This knowledge helps answer questions regarding the role cougars

play in predator-prey dynamics, competition with wolves and bears, and how Yellowstone's predator diversity influences the park's ecology. Support of this project is critical because there are very few places left to truly understand how carnivores coexist, compete, interact, and impact their ecosystem.

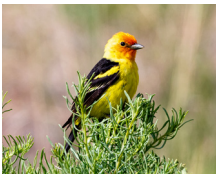
*FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$180,000*



# Bird Program: Raptors & Songbirds

Catching a glimpse of the white head of a soaring bald eagle, the dive of an osprey hunting for fish, or a peregrine falcon, the world's fastest bird, in flight are special moments in Yellowstone. Smaller, but no less important, is the park's songbird population. Spring air is filled with their welcoming tweets and calls. Yellowstone National Park's long-term Bird Program has provided nearly 40 years of data regarding the

park's bird populations. Birds are key indicators of ecosystem health. The goal of the project is to maintain long-term monitoring and advance research of raptor species, including bald eagles, golden eagles, owls, red-tailed hawks and Swainson's hawks, osprey, and peregrine falcons. Biologists also work with volunteers to band songbirds as part of the nationwide program MAPS-Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship. This is particularly important in the face of climate change impacts. Yellowstone Forever donor support is needed to continue this long-term project.



*FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$100,000*

## Elk Calf Survival Study

Elk are abundant in Yellowstone with approximately 20,000 calling the park home in the summer months. These herds are especially active during the rut (mating season) when the bulls (males) bugle to attract cows (females) and fight off other males in intense battles. Each spring, cow elk may birth a single calf. Calves are born with brown fur and white spots that provide good camouflage. Calves can walk within one hour of being born but they spend much of their first week of life bedded down as cow elk hide their newborns to protect them from predators. Elk that inhabit Yellowstone represent a crucial keystone species that influence ecosystem structure and function, sustain large carnivore and scavenger populations, and are of importance to human communities throughout the ecosystem.

This project will conduct a multi-year elk calf survival study in northern Yellowstone to determine survival rates and causes of death. Importantly, this study will seek to follow survival of calves over winter using expandable GPS collars that grow with the neck size of the growing calf. This overwinter survival and growth into the adult age class is a current gap in park biologists' knowledge and is important to elk herd growth and stability. Data from this study will also directly feed into key objectives of the Wolf and Cougar Projects' efforts to understand the relative role of predation and other factors on elk population dynamics. Elk represent an essential component to the park's wildlife community.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$174,000**





## Native Fish Conservation Program

The park's decades-long work to recover the world-class native Yellowstone cutthroat trout species is critical to the overall health of the Yellowstone ecosystem. Non-native predatory lake trout were first discovered in Yellowstone Lake in 1994. Within a decade, it was estimated that lake trout depleted 90% of the native Yellowstone cutthroat trout that once thrived in Yellowstone Lake. As Yellowstone cutthroat trout—once a reliable food source—began to disappear, grizzly bears, bald eagles, ospreys, otters, and dozens of other native species were negatively impacted. Through sustained efforts, biologists are once again seeing an abundance of Yellowstone cutthroat trout in the lake's many tributary streams and the Yellowstone River. They have also documented grizzly bears once again feeding on the protein-rich food source in the spring. The Yellowstone Native Fish Conservation Program is committed to significantly reducing the number of invasive lake trout in Yellowstone Lake through annual gillnetting with the goal of restoring and increasing the native Yellowstone cutthroat trout population to its historic levels.



Park biologists are also working to expand the ranges of native Westslope cutthroat trout and Arctic grayling to contend with a changing climate, warming waters, and nonnative species in the Yellowstone ecosystem. Biologists have restored Westslope cutthroat trout or Arctic grayling, or both, to 67.2 miles of streams, and 281 lake acres in the Gallatin and Madison watersheds in the past two decades.

For 20 years, Yellowstone Forever has funded the Native Fish Conservation Program and contributed to the successful elimination of millions of nonnative, predatory lake trout from the native Yellowstone cutthroat trout's habitat. This critical work is ongoing and paramount to the integrity of the ecosystem. Yellowstone Forever financial support is imperative to continue the decades of progress for this project.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$1.3 MILLION**

## Yellowstone Bat Study

Though you may have never seen them, or even known of their existence in Yellowstone, bats play a vital role in the health of the park's ecosystem (in addition to the health of humans). Thirteen bat species can be found in Yellowstone, and each are voracious predators of insects—including those pesky mosquitoes. From the Big Brown to the Spotted, Western small-footed and Hoary, each bat species is an insect-eating machine. Bats are the only flying mammal in the world and live anywhere from 10-30 years.

There is no greater threat to the survival of bats in North America than White-nose Syndrome (WNS). This fungal disease has devastated bat populations in the eastern United States and Canada, leading to regional extinctions of several species. WNS has resulted in the listing of bat species

under the Endangered Species Act in the United States and the federal Species at Risk Act in Canada. The disease has not yet been observed in Yellowstone, but it is spreading across Wyoming and Montana.

Support is needed for park biologists to fully implement a comprehensive and effective monitoring program, without which the impacts and threat of WNS would largely be unknown. The monitoring program integrates three critical elements: 1) early detection, 2) monitoring impacts—have bats been impacted, and 3) recovery—how are bat populations responding to population declines. Extensive resources, diagnostic testing, and data analysis are required to complete this important study.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$24,000**







## Whitebark Pine Research & Recovery

When hiking through the high elevations of the park, you may hear the distinct raspy calls of the Clark's Nutcracker. For the hardy Whitebark pine, this bird is more than a noisy member of the forest. It is a key component to the pine's survival. Whitebark pine (*Pinus albicaulis*) is a slow-growing, rugged tree that thrives in high-elevation mountain regions of North America. Renowned for its resilience, this keystone species plays a vital role in the park's ecosystem by stabilizing soil, regulating water flow, and providing food for over 19 wildlife species including grizzly bears, and is habitat for numerous wildlife species. One of its most notable mutualistic relationships is with Clark's Nutcracker, a bird that

relies on Whitebark pine seeds for sustenance. In turn, the bird helps disperse these seeds, ensuring the tree's propagation. However, Whitebark pines are currently facing severe threats from a changing climate, pine beetle infestations, and white pine blister rust. Conservation efforts are crucial to protect and restore these trees, which are integral to the health and biodiversity of the park.

This project relies on Yellowstone Forever funding to gain park-level data and knowledge of Whitebark pine health so park managers can strategically identify areas of highest risk and probability of successful recovery of this keystone species.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$109,000**

# Geothermal Systems Protection

As visitors explore Yellowstone, they may not realize they are traveling on one of the world’s largest active volcanoes—an astonishing 30 by 45 miles in size. Heat from this supervolcano forms the most dynamic geothermal system on Earth with more than 10,000 hydrothermal features. Hot springs, gushing geysers (more than 500), bubbling mud pots, steam vents, and other geological wonders found within Yellowstone’s boundaries played a key role in the creation of the world’s first national park.

The park’s Geology Program will study these vast geothermal systems using infrared (IR) image data which is recognized as the most effective way to capture and monitor changes in hydrothermal areas. IR imagery is captured by flying fixed-winged aircraft over hydrothermal areas twice a year, with visitor-sensitive sites being flown at greater frequencies. The IR images reveal any notable changes for further study by park geologists. This program will utilize more modern thermal imaging

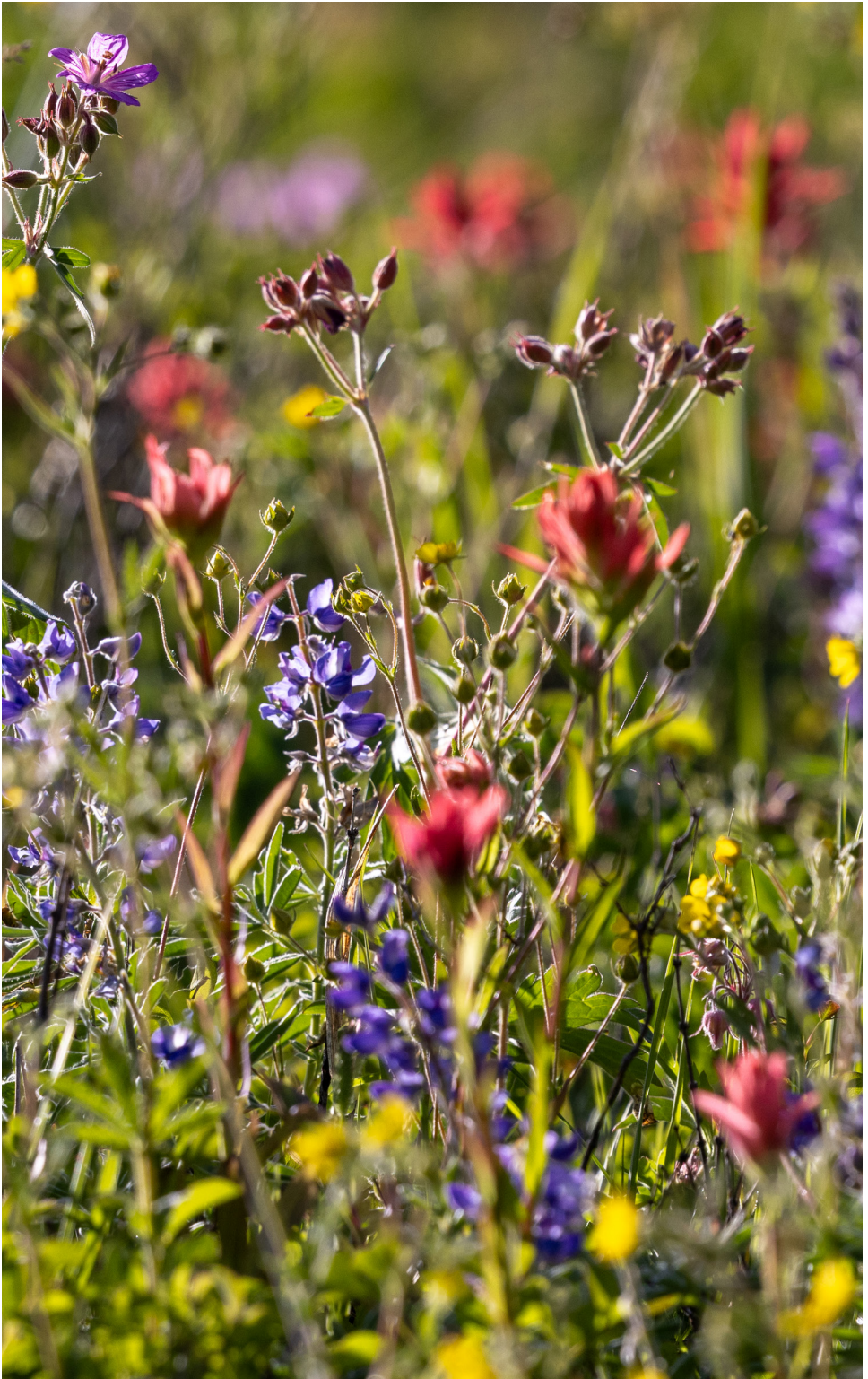
technology and flights will occur more frequently allowing geologists to quickly analyze and compare data captured at different times (from 10 plus years ago and current data that will be captured every six months or more). The collection, processing, analysis, and dissemination of this data is a combined effort through the Yellowstone Volcano Observatory (YVO), a consortium of nine state and federal agencies including Yellowstone National Park, USGS, and Montana State University.

Yellowstone’s fascinating and dynamic geothermal activity also poses a threat to visitor safety and the park’s infrastructure. Monitoring the park’s geothermal areas, and how they evolve with time, is fundamental to understanding and preserving them and protecting visitors from their hazards. This important project needs your financial support to kick-off the use and application of this cutting-edge technology.

*FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$200,000*









# PRESERVE

Yellowstone National Park was visited by more than 4.7 million people last year, and, if trends continue, the number of visitors will continue to rise. With the park's over 1,000 miles of trails and boardwalks, there is a constant need to rehabilitate and restore trails for the benefit of future generations. Yellowstone Forever funds projects that preserve, rehabilitate, and restore Yellowstone's resources and recreational amenities in order to ensure visitors are able to enjoy the park's great treasures.



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## Ranger Horses, Mules & Corrals

The use of horses and mules for transportation of people, equipment, and supplies in the backcountry is critical for Yellowstone's operations, from ranger patrols and trail work to research studies. These stock animals are vital during the summer and fall seasons to support ranger travel and operations throughout the park. The goal is to purchase replacement stock for Yellowstone's backcountry rangers and trails packing program, which requires approximately 12 replacement head of horses and mules each year. This ensures that the park keeps the herd the appropriate age, class, and quality that is needed to accomplish

Yellowstone's mission. Some of the horses are also used to support the Bison Conservation & Transfer Program. Yellowstone Forever is the primary funding source for ranger stock purchase and replacement, as well as corral rehabilitation.



**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$242,000**

## Trails & Boardwalks Restoration

Yellowstone National Park is one of America's premier wilderness areas. The park encompasses more than 2.2 million acres and has over 1,000 miles of hiking trails, and more than 15 miles of boardwalks. Trails and boardwalks not only connect Yellowstone's visitors with its wild places and natural wonders, but they're also the park's primary tool for protecting visitors from harm.

With extensive visitor-use and environmental deterioration, many of the park's boardwalks are worn and damaged, creating safety hazards, a poor visitor experience, and a threat to these fascinating and scientifically significant features. There are over 40,000 linear feet of boardwalk in critical need of repair and replacement. This project will fund the improvement and accessibility of trails, directly ensuring that future visitors will be inspired by and safely experience the park's otherworldly thermal features and spectacular scenic vistas.



**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$300,000**

## Sustainable Housing in Yellowstone

Yellowstone faces a housing crisis with the average age of park homes at 70 years old, and long overdue for upgrades. The rate of deterioration of homes combined with harsh weather conditions have left houses throughout the park in a state of disrepair, no longer meeting modern standards for safety, comfort, and efficiency. These living conditions must be improved for the park to attract and retain its skilled workforce.

Yellowstone has made housing improvements over past decades, but these efforts have not kept pace with the speed of decline in housing or the loss of external affordable housing availability. This multi-year housing project will renovate the interior and exterior of all the remaining National Park Service housing units. This will include replacing roof surfaces, siding, insulation, double pane windows, interior flooring, kitchens, bathrooms, and adding attic insulation. Where appropriate, solar panels will be added. Updates have been made to 232 interiors. This leaves 167 interiors that are out of date and past their components' life cycle, and exteriors need to be updated on almost all housing units. The park anticipates a five-year timeline to sequence the remaining housing improvements.

This project, funded through a mix of philanthropy and government funds, showcases an excellent public-private partnership and serves as a model for other parks facing similar challenges.



**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$700,000**



# Heritage & Research Center

Yellowstone’s Heritage and Research Center (HRC) houses historical documents and items from pre-history through the present with objects and written records that document the history and science of the park. With several million items, HRC has one of the largest collections in the National Park Service, housed within an archive, a library, and numerous museum collections. Only a handful of parks have their own facility, and Yellowstone is the only national park that is an affiliate of the National Archives.

In its current state, the HRC building is filled to capacity. New storage systems tailored to support an archive of this size and complexity are needed to maximize space to ensure long-term preservation of the materials. Yellowstone Forever will fund these upgrades which will have a significant impact on the effectiveness and longevity of the HRC with the potential to increase storage capacity by 50 percent.

Additionally, the Research Library’s collection of rare materials includes books, pamphlets, audio/visual, and other items that are fragile and irreplaceable. Yellowstone protects over 22,000 volumes of books as well as over 1,500 rare and unique books. Many of these first-edition books cover topics about the

founding and early development of Yellowstone National Park and are valuable to researchers and are a draw to attendees on public and private tours. The library’s collections are also of great value to both Yellowstone employees and researchers as they learn, study, publish, and create educational programs about Yellowstone. All these collections require active and professional curatorial management to ensure that they are protected and accessible to researchers and the public.

*FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$280,000*





# ENHANCE

Yellowstone National Park is a living classroom, with endless opportunities to learn about everything from Native American culture to hydrothermal chemistry! Ensuring park visitors get the most out of their Yellowstone experience takes immense work and dedication on the part of Yellowstone's rangers and staff. Yellowstone Forever funds projects that enhance Yellowstone's visitor experience, with a focus on education, safety, and accessibility. This support helps ensure that Yellowstone continues to lead the way in offering opportunities for visitors to connect with wild places, as well as inspiring the next generation of park stewards.



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## Yellowstone Tribal Engagement: Celebrating Cultural Heritage and Collaboration

Yellowstone Forever's commitment to deepening relationships with Indigenous communities is reflected in a growing network of education, engagement, and outreach efforts both inside and outside the park. Working in partnership with Tribal governments, Indigenous individuals, and Native-led nonprofits, Yellowstone Forever helps create opportunities for cultural exchange and public learning. Signature events such as the Voices of Yellowstone: First Peoples' Celebration provide meaningful platforms for Indigenous artists, educators, and leaders to share their stories and traditions with visitors. In collaboration with the National Park Service, Yellowstone Forever also hosts the annual Tribal Education and Engagement Gathering, bringing together Tribal partners and park staff to strengthen relationships and co-create long-term educational strategies. These ongoing programs, events, and partnerships help reshape how visitors experience Yellowstone—elevating Indigenous voices and building new pathways for mutual understanding.

*TOTAL TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT  
FUNDRAISING GOAL: **\$350,000***

# Tribal Heritage Center

Established in 2022 at Old Faithful, the Yellowstone Tribal Heritage Center serves as a dedicated space for cultural expression, education, and storytelling. Created through a collaborative effort between Yellowstone Forever, the National Park Service, and Tribal communities, the Yellowstone Tribal Heritage Center honors the deep and ongoing connections of the 27 Tribes associated with the Yellowstone region. Open seasonally, the Tribal Heritage Center provides a welcoming venue for Tribal presenters, artists, and knowledge keepers to engage directly with visitors. In the summer of 2024, 36 presenters from 17 different Tribes shared their histories, arts, and perspectives. The Yellowstone Tribal Heritage Center stands as both a physical space and a living commitment to ensuring Indigenous leadership and presence within Yellowstone’s interpretive framework.



## Oral Histories Project

To preserve and amplify Indigenous perspectives, Yellowstone Forever is launching the Yellowstone Tribal Oral Histories Project in partnership with the National Park Service and the 27 Tribes associated with Yellowstone. With Yellowstone Forever financial support, this multi-year initiative will document and archive oral histories from Tribal elders and cultural leaders, ensuring these stories are protected and shared with future generations. The project will inform

new interpretive materials—including visitor center exhibits, roadside interpretative signage, and digital storytelling—and all content will be developed through close consultation with Tribal governments. With cultural protocols and contracting with Native-owned businesses to guide every step, this initiative will help ensure that Yellowstone’s public narrative is reflective of the deep, living connections Indigenous peoples hold with this land.



## Yellowstone Resiliency Program

Yellowstone National Park strives to make meaningful improvements to the work-life environment for employees across the park. Over the last few years, Yellowstone has requested funding from Yellowstone Forever to provide in-park counseling for employees after major incidents such as suicides, park fatalities, or critical incidents where National Park Service employees are the first responders. Counseling sessions are well attended and feedback from employees recommended increased use of these mental health services.

There are several factors that make in-park counseling worthwhile including the ability for employees to speak to counselors face-to-face without needing to travel more than three hours to a nearby community. The professionals brought into the park are trained trauma counselors who are well-suited for engaging with first responders after significant medical or law enforcement incidents; counselors are familiar with the values and mission-driven mindset of National Park Service employees. Since the program was launched in 2022, nearly 750 employees have used the individual or group counseling services in Yellowstone. This program is dependent on Yellowstone Forever funding and cannot continue without your support.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$125,000**



***“This program has helped myself and my coworkers since it started in 2022. We all live, work, and play with one another so it was imperative to have someone from the outside to talk to. They’ve helped me with work, my family, my coworkers, grief, and also trauma. This is very important to us here at Old Faithful because we’re so removed from the other parts of the park/society.”***

— Yellowstone National Park employee

# Visitor & Wildlife Safety

Millions of people visit Yellowstone National Park each year—more than 4.7 million in 2024. As park visitation continues to increase each year, it is more important than ever to manage the coexistence of people and wildlife in Yellowstone. Natural seasonal events such as elk and bison calving in spring, the bison rut in summer, and the elk rut in autumn are drawing large crowds as word spreads via social media about these spectacular seasonal displays of wildlife. Yellowstone Forever funding provides support for seasonal park rangers and volunteers who educate visitors about wildlife and safety at roadside wildlife jams, at overlooks and impromptu viewing events, along

self-guiding trails, and in developed areas. These seasonal park rangers are imperative to help reduce injuries, prevent fatalities, and maintain wildlife in their natural habitat as well as add to visitors' positive experience through engagement with people exploring the park.

*FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$250,000*



# Legacy of the National Park Ranger

The story of National Park Rangers is entwined with those of the places they protect and serve. This project will fund the creation of a virtual experience for the Museum of the National Park Ranger in Yellowstone, including a new interpretive film and virtual exhibits. This project will share the voices of people who have shaped the history of the National Park Service, including those who have

not been included in the story of the Service's origins and changes over the 108 years since it was established. The project focuses primarily on the people of this profession—telling their story in their own words—in addition to preserving artifacts that support these stories. This virtual experience will give voice to all stories and knit together the diversity of what it means to be a park ranger today as well as amplify voices in the park. The Museum of the National Park Ranger sees more than 25,000 visitors per year, but by expanding our reach with digital products, the impact of this project will far exceed these in-person numbers.

*FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$78,000*





## Digital Media Innovation

As visitors to Yellowstone National Park become increasingly more reliant on technology, the importance of reaching audiences with digital media continues to grow. To provide a first-class visitor experience, it's imperative to utilize state-of-the-art digital media to communicate important safety information, establish connections, and continue the relationship with visitors long after they go home. With over 7.7 million visits to the Yellowstone website, 6.6 million visits to the Yellowstone mobile app, and 3.2 million visitors interacting with digital media in the park annually, it's easy to see how big an impact digital media can have on the park visitor. A focus on digital media updates and innovation will ensure that we maximize the potential for connections with every one of those 17.5 million visits. This funding will also provide support to the Old Faithful livestream webcam, which is consistently one of the most-visited webpages in the entire National Park Service, as well as other equipment and upgrades to visitor centers and amphitheaters throughout the park keeping people connected to Yellowstone wherever they are.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$50,000**



## Distance Learning & Outreach

The park's distance learning and outreach program, *Yellowstone to You*, provides outreach programs across the country and around the world for those that lack resources to visit the park. This program provides outreach programs for schools, community, and Tribal events. Distance learning is one of the best investments we can make to expand the park's reach and grow the next generation of respectful park visitors, stewards, and advocates through curriculum-based virtual lessons. The primary goal of *Yellowstone to You* is to help foster the next generation of park stewards, whether or not they ever visit Yellowstone National Park in person. This project relies on Yellowstone Forever funding to deliver educational programs to schools and for educational tools needed for outreach including studio equipment.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$75,000**



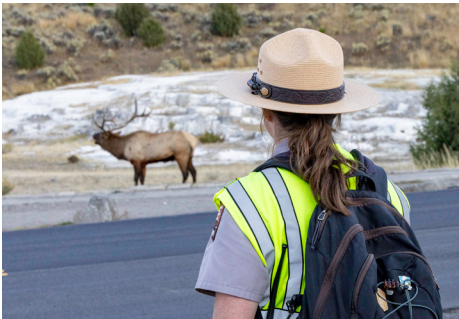
# Yellowstone Training Academy: Partnership in Action



Yellowstone National Park continues to experience increased visitation and changing use patterns. A high priority for the park is ensuring that all who serve visitors within the Yellowstone community—those who provide information, education, and recreational experiences—do so in a way that supports park regulations and visitor use initiatives.



The Yellowstone Training Academy will provide in-depth training for partners and cover crucial topics such as visitor safety and enjoyment, protection of resources, and ongoing stewardship. This training will also promote the awareness of cultural and natural resources, and enhance the knowledge and scientific understanding of Yellowstone's resources and wildlife. This is achieved through collaboration with professors from various universities, master naturalists, cultural speakers, and experts from partner agencies.



Yellowstone's success is predicated on strong partnerships, and the Yellowstone Training Academy is instrumental in disseminating the most current and critical information for all who share in the commitment of the National Park Service mission.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$25,000**



# Youth Conservation Corps

Yellowstone's Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program is focused on training and inspiring the next generation of conservation leaders through work projects, outdoor recreation, and education. The YCC program provides youth, ages 15-18, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to engage in work-based learning projects and leadership education programs while living in the park. During the month-long program, participants' personal development is broadened and enriched through educational, leadership, and recreational experiences. Additionally, YCC participants complete much

needed conservation and deferred maintenance projects in the park like installing bear-proof food storage boxes. Through this residential leadership program, teenagers depart with newfound confidence as well as skills to guide them on their life journey.

*FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$170,000*



# Junior Ranger Program

Each year, approximately 100,000 children and families participate in Yellowstone's world-renowned Junior Ranger Program. To earn the coveted Junior Ranger badge, participants learn about Yellowstone's wildlife, geology, ecosystem, history, and contemporary challenges through a workbook with engaging and interactive educational content. Funding is needed to print the Junior Ranger activity books, purchase badges and accessories, and maintain supplies for the program. For over 30 years, this self-paced learning program has educated visitors of all ages, deepening their connection to parks and natural places.



*FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$100,000*

## Expedition Yellowstone

For almost 40 years, Expedition Yellowstone (EY) has provided life-changing experiences for students to learn in one of the world's premiere outdoor classrooms—Yellowstone! Guided by Yellowstone's educational rangers, EY fosters connections to the park and the natural world, encourages teamwork and individual growth as students challenge themselves to engage with learning outdoors. A curriculum-based, multi-day education program for grades 4-8, EY offers students an opportunity to participate in hands-on learning and create personal connections to Yellowstone. More than ever, students need time outdoors, learning alongside their peers, and space to foster their physical, mental, and emotional health.

School groups are hosted at the historic Lamar Buffalo Ranch and the Youth Conservation Corps facility in Mammoth Hot Springs. Many of these students are from schools that cannot afford a class trip to Yellowstone without financial assistance. The EY scholarship funds allow disproportionately affected students and schools to participate in the program.

Scholarship requests have been increasing, and this funding is imperative to support regional schools' participation. An immersive experience in nature and in a wonderland such as Yellowstone can be life-changing and impact students for years to come.

**FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$100,000**





# WAYS TO GIVE

## Your Gift Matters

A gift to Yellowstone Forever is a powerful way to support every aspect of Yellowstone National Park. Unrestricted gifts are the cornerstone of Yellowstone Forever's mission to protect and preserve Yellowstone National Park for future generations. These flexible contributions make it possible to respond to the park's most urgent

needs, seize new opportunities, and support ongoing initiatives that enhance conservation, education, and visitor experiences. Your unrestricted gift ensures that resources can be allocated where they are needed most, allowing us to remain adaptive and effective in our stewardship of this cherished landscape. Together, we can safeguard Yellowstone's future.

## Yellowstone Society

Become a member of the Yellowstone Society, a distinguished group of stewards with a deep connection to Yellowstone. As a member, you are one of Yellowstone Forever's most valued members. Your generous annual gift of \$1,000 or more (or \$84 a month) directly supports protecting, preserving, and enhancing Yellowstone National Park through education and philanthropy.

**For more information visit:**  
***Yellowstone.org/society***

## Old Faithful Society

Become a member of the Old Faithful Society by including Yellowstone Forever in your estate plans. This is a simple way to create a lasting investment that will help preserve Yellowstone National Park forever. Planned gift opportunities can range from bequests to donor advised funds and can offer substantial tax advantages.

**For more information, or to notify us of your planned gift, please visit:**  
***Yellowstone.org/planned-giving***

## Gifts of Securities

Gifts of stock and other appreciated securities are an easy way to help Yellowstone while receiving a number of tax benefits.

**For more information call:**  
**406-848-2400**

## Corporate Partnerships

Become a corporate partner and help us meet the park's needs while solving pivotal issues that impact Yellowstone on a daily basis.

**For more information visit:**  
***Yellowstone.org/corporate-partnerships***

## Yellowstone Guardians

Provide steady monthly support to the park in the most sustainable way by becoming a Yellowstone Guardian. Setting up automatic payments through your digital wallet, credit card, or bank account is a breeze and helps reduce printing and mailing costs, which ensures more of your gift goes directly to Yellowstone.

**For more information visit:**  
***[Yellowstone.org/monthly-giving](https://Yellowstone.org/monthly-giving)***

## Donate by Phone, Mail, or Online

**Phone:** Make a one-time or monthly donation by calling **406-848-2400 (Ext. 1)**.

**Mail:** A mail-in donation form is available for download on our website to include with your gift.

**Yellowstone Forever**  
**P.O. Box 1857**  
**Bozeman, MT 59771**

**Online:** Make a one-time or monthly donation by visiting ***[Yellowstone.org/donate](https://Yellowstone.org/donate)*** or scanning the QR code.



## Memorial and Honor Gifts

Express your care and condolences or honor someone special with a tribute gift to Yellowstone.

**To make a gift please call 406-848-2400 or give online at *[Yellowstone.org](https://Yellowstone.org)* and select the option to “dedicate my donation in memory or honor of someone.”**

## Matching Gifts

Make your gift go twice as far (or more!). Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions or volunteer hours made by their employees.

**Find out if your employer will match your gift at:**  
***[Yellowstone.org/matching-gifts](https://Yellowstone.org/matching-gifts)***



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NPS/Jacob W. Frank (1)	<b>22</b>
YF/Matt Ludin (2)	
NPS/Jacob W. Frank (1-2)	<b>23</b>
YF/Matt Ludin (3)	
YF/Matt Ludin (1-2,4)	<b>24</b>
NPS/Jacob W. Frank (3)	
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YF/Matt Ludin	<b>Back Cover</b>











Yellowstone Forever is the official nonprofit partner of Yellowstone National Park. Our mission is to protect, preserve, and enhance Yellowstone National Park through education and philanthropy.

**Yellowstone Forever**  
P.O. Box 1857  
Bozeman, MT 59771



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