



18TH ANNUAL

President's Council Wildlife Conservation Workshop YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

August 6-10, 2009

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Please join us for a President's Council exclusive: a trip inside America's premier national park for a firsthand look at Defenders' conservation work, most notably the return of wolves to Yellowstone.

Far from tourists and traffic, amid the stunning scenery of the park's remote Lamar Valley—"the Serengeti of North America"—you will learn more about Defenders' programs and our work in the northern Rockies.

We designed our Yellowstone Wildlife Conservation Workshop to be educational and hands-on, with a balanced agenda of briefings by conservation experts, wildlife-viewing and hiking.* Last year's wildlife highlights included sightings of wolves from the Druid and Slough Creek packs, grizzlies, elk, mountain goats, coyotes, pronghorn, bison and numerous species of birds.

Nathan Varley, Ph.D., a naturalist, writer and park guide who grew up in the park will lead the trip. Varley has studied many wildlife species, including gray wolves and grizzly bears, and offers participants a wealth of information on Yellowstone ecology. Defenders' Executive Vice President Jamie Rappaport Clark, a biologist and former director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will be on hand to share her extensive knowledge of endangered species recovery. Her husband, Jim Clark, a professional wildlife photographer, will also be along to share tips and strategies for wildlife and landscape photography throughout the trip.

While each day has a similar structure, the focus shifts to give participants a complete overview of the Yellowstone ecosystem.

WORKSHOP AGENDA (subject to change)

Thursday, August 6

Defenders' staff greet workshop participants at Bozeman airport with lunch and transportation to the Yellowstone Association Institute's Buffalo Ranch. The ranch is located in the heart of the Lamar Valley in the northeastern corner of the park, where wolves, bison, elk and grizzlies roam. Our workshop commences with a welcome dinner and orientation.

Friday, August 7

We depart at 6 a.m. for the first of many wildlife-viewing opportunities, returning to the ranch later in the morning to hear about wolves in the park and the changes in ecosystem dynamics since the reintroduction. Following lunch, wolf reintroduction expert Doug Smith and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service special agent Tim Eicher discuss Defenders' efforts to build positive relationships between wolves and local communities, then we explore more of the beautiful Lamar Valley. After dinner, participants can choose to either relax at the ranch or take advantage of a special nature photography workshop with Jim Clark.

Saturday, August 8

We start our day with more early-morning wildlife viewing. After lunch, we hike two miles up to the historic Rose Creek wolf acclimation pen where we learn more about the events related to the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone. Later on we return to the ranch for an update and discussion on Defenders' current work and priorities with Executive Vice President Jamie Clark.

*Participants should be able to walk at least two miles over uneven terrain at altitudes ranging from 5,200 to 11,300 feet.



Sunday, August 9

After a final morning of wildlife viewing, we convene for a review of Defenders' collaborative efforts with the new administration and Congress and our plans for the future. Later in the afternoon, we split into groups for a moderate or more rigorous hike, then come together for a closing dinner and discussion.

Monday, August 10

After breakfast, we depart Yellowstone for the Bozeman airport.

LODGING AND MEALS

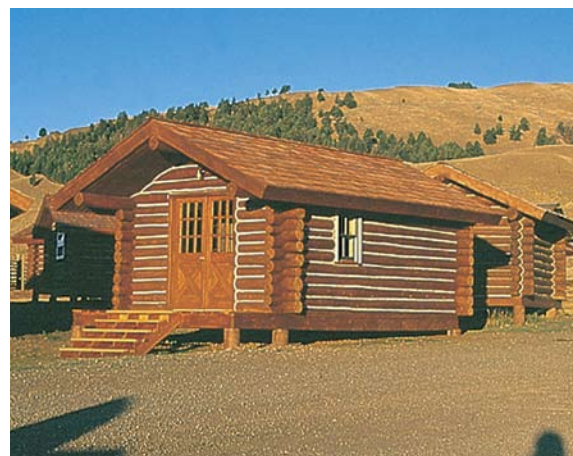
Participants stay in the Buffalo Ranch's comfortable, heated, twin-bed cabins. The ranch can accommodate families of four, although we do not recommend the workshop for children under 10. Bathroom facilities, private showers and dressing areas are in the newly constructed restroom building steps away from the cabins. Meals are in the Yellowstone Association Institute's heated log building overlooking the Lamar Valley.

WHAT TO BRING

Participants will receive a list of clothing and equipment recommended for the trip. Temperatures in the Lamar Valley typically range from the low 40s in the early morning to the mid 70s in the afternoon. Unpredictable mountain weather prevails in the high country and workshop outings take place rain or shine. We encourage participants to be prepared for everything from hot sun to cold, wind, rain and snow. Regardless of the weather or our itinerary, attire is casual. Participants must also bring their own pillows, sleeping bags (or sheets and blankets), toiletries and towels.

COST AND CANCELLATION POLICY

The cost of the trip is \$1,500 per person. **This includes three full workshop days with various experts, guided field trips, lodging, meals, use of Yellowstone Association Institute spotting scopes and other equipment and round-trip ground transportation between Bozeman airport and Yellowstone.** A deposit of \$750 is due on registration. The balance is due in full by June 30. For cancellations made at least 30 days before the trip, we will refund half the registration fee (\$750). If we can find someone to fill the spot, we will refund the full registration fee.



TOP © JIM CLARK, LEFT © PAM GOITZ

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY

Defenders' Yellowstone Wildlife Conservation Workshop is limited to 15 participants and fills quickly. To reserve your spot, please call or e-mail:

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