

Mailchimp Template Test - "February 2024 #1 Long Newsletter"

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Hi to Everyone,

I'm finally back from the Yellowstone-Teton Winter Wildlife Safari and the Utah Raptors Safari. The weather in Montana was very mild, following their extreme -30 degree days a few weeks earlier. Same in Utah, very mild. I normally say that winter safaris need winter weather to be successful, but we had good success even with the warmer temps.

Yellowstone was probably about 15" to 20" less snow than usual, and about 20 degrees warmer. We had great encounters with ermine (short-tailed weasel), river otters, moose, red fox, coyotes, bald eagles, bighorn sheep, and bison - we had no encounters with gray wolves, other than seeing them a mile away in Lamar Valley. There was a lot of activity in upper Soda Butte Valley particularly - with great moose and red fox encounters. The best river otter encounter was down at the Oxbow of the Snake River in Grand Teton National Park. An otter put on quite a show for nearly an hour - basking in the sun, catching and eating fish, sliding on the snow pack and river ice ... and just being an otter. While we encountered bighorn near Gardiner, MT, and at the Elk Refuge outside of Jackson, the really good encounter was at Slide Lake, on the Gros Ventre Road. A nice herd of about 25 animals, including several near full-curl rams worked the hillside just above the road.

The refuges and state park we work in Utah for the Raptors Safari also had little to no snow, and warm temps. Without extreme cold and snow we never got any shots of the barn owls and short-eared owls hunting in the daylight, but we had numerous excellent encounters with Northern Harriers, pied-billed grebes, tundra swans, and American Kestrels. Farmington Bay gave us the best shots, while Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge was the location for the Tundra Swan images. Antelope Island was so warm that I had a few dead bugs on the truck's windshield, though we did find 4 porcupines in the Russian

Olive trees (none in a good position) driving down to the Garr Ranch. After a long search we found the Great Horned Owls in trees adjacent to the picnic tables, instead of down in the tangle of trees where we normally find them.

Overall, I shot about 30k images - and it will take a week or two to work through them all. My personal favorite encounters were the bull moose, ermine, and red fox. The gallery will be well represented with those images. Another favorite encounter was a pair of bald eagles in the trees across the Lamar River near the Confluence of the Lamar River and Soda Butte Creek. The eagles were about 30 yards apart when one took-off to fly to the other, giving me a point-blank flying sequence of that eagle screaming as it flew. Fun stuff.

I've got a ZOOM Show I'm doing on Monday, Feb 12 on image processing. Here is the LINK to the Feb 12 Zoom show from 6-8pm PST. Copy and paste it into a browser window a couple of minutes early. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81643587645?pwd=VG83OXBOWkVWcHRrQ3owOGIBMFZSQTO9>

The spring Yellowstone-Teton Wildlife Safari is my next Yellowstone Safari. Every year this safari gets better, with more grizzlies and more encounters with baby animals throughout the areas, so I'm looking forward to that. I have two openings in my truck still, if you want to come from California. ([LINK](#)) While I have a few black bear safaris up for the summer, most of the dates will be added after the first safari dates, so I can get a feel for activity levels and locations.

Over the next few weeks I will add all the rest of the 2024 safaris, as well as the first 6 months of 2025. Next year I will be doing a few less single day safaris. **BRP**

Guard well your spare moments. They are like uncut diamonds. Discard them and their value will never be known. Improve them and they will become the brightest gems in a useful life. Ralph Waldo Emerson

[Ermine - Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari](#)

Click the link above to download the wallpaper in a new window, then right-click and copy it to your computer. You can see all **FREE** Wallpaper here: ([LINK](#)) The wallpaper is sized to 1980 px by 1080 px to easily fit most computer screens.



All the currently scheduled upcoming 2023-2024 Photo Safaris and Workshops are shown on the Safari Page on my website. That is the most accurate location to view these events. Here is a [LINK](#) to that page. Below are links to the individual safaris for the next several months. New safaris are added every few weeks. Upcoming ZOOM Shows are here - [LINK](#).

2024 Safari Schedule

February 7-8 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#)) **1 Opening**
 February 12-13 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#)) **1 Opening**
 February 22 Southern CA Bird Safari ([LINK](#))
 February 24 Blossom Trail Safari ([LINK](#))
 February 27-28 NWR Safari (Sacramento, Lower Klamath, Merced) ([LINK](#))

March 4 Santa Cruz Island Gray Fox Safari ([LINK](#))
 March 7-8 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#)) **SOLD OUT**
 March 12 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))

April 2 Butterbreddt Springs Bird (Owl) Safari ([LINK](#))
 April 4 California Poppy / Wildflower Safari ([LINK](#))
 April 16-19 Southern Utah Spring Safari ([LINK](#))
 April 24-25 Morongo Valley Bird Safari ([LINK](#))

May 1-3 San Juan Island Black Fox Safari ([LINK](#)) **1 Opening**
 May 13-15 Magee Marsh (Ohio) Bird Safari ([LINK](#))
 May 20 Peregrine Falcon Safari ([LINK](#))
 May 23 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))
 May 29-June 5 Yellowstone Spring Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))

June 11 Mineral King (if Open)
 June 13 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))
 June 25-26 Black Bear and Songbirds in Sequoia Safari ([LINK](#))

July 2 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

July 9-10 Black Bear and Songbirds in Sequoia Safari ([LINK](#))

August 13-16 Mt. Evan's Goats and Rocky Mtn Wildlife ([LINK](#))

September 9-13 Glacier National Park ([LINK](#))

September 23-28 Yellowstone-Tetons Fall Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))

September 30-Oct 3 San Juan Mtns Autumn (Colorado) Safari ([LINK](#))

Yellowstone-Teton Winter Safari Images



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Red Fox face shot - Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari



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Red Fox | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Red Fox | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Bull Moose | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Ermine (Short-tailed Weasel) | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari



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Ermine (Short-tailed Weasel) | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Bighorn Ram on wintering grounds | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Old Bighorn Ram | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Bighorn Lamb first winter fur - Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari



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Coyote finishing off a Vole - Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari



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River Otter in sunrise light | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari
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River Otter playing in the snow | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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River Otter eating fish | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Screaming Bald Eagle | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Screaming Bald Eagle - Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari



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Rare Whitetail Doe - Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari



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River Otter with snow beard | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Drake Bufflehead | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Trumpeter Swan | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Trumpeter Swan | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Bull Elk on wintering grounds | Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com

Utah Raptor Safari Images



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Female Northern Harrier | Utah Raptors Safari amwestphoto.com



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Female Northern Harrier | Utah Raptors Safari
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Female Northern Harrier | Utah Raptors Safari
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Female Northern Harrier with Vole | Utah Raptors Safari
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American Kestrel | Utah Raptor Safari amwestphoto.com



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Tundra Swans | Utah Raptors Safari amwestphoto.com



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Tundra Swans - Utah Raptors Safari amwestphoto.com



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Bison with Starlings riding along | Utah Raptors Safari amwestphoto.com



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Pied-billed Grebe with Shad | Utah Raptors Safari amwestphoto.com



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Wintering American Avocets - Utah Raptors Safari amwestphoto.com



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Rooster Ring-necked Pheasant | Utah Raptors Safari

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Last Call Notes:

There are number of good safaris coming from February to April until I get to a packed May - Black Foxes on San Juan Island, WA (1 Opening) ([LINK](#)), and the always awesome Yellowstone-Tetons Spring Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#)). In 2023 my best bobcat safaris ran in February and March, let's hope that continues this year ([LINK](#)).

Both the Southern Utah Spring Landscape Safari ([LINK](#)) and the Morongo Bird Safari ([LINK](#)) in April are outstanding for their subject material, and the quality of the encounters, whether landscapes or songbirds.

Kind Regards,

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Please forward this e-mail to your photographer friends, maybe we can make a connection that otherwise would never happen. The world of photography is vast and only getting bigger. Also, I can sometimes change safari dates to accommodate folks, so if you would like to do a custom date, or see if I can switch a date, just let me know.



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