

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

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Hi to Everyone,

As my friend Ed Hughes of Rhode Island likes to say - "We Killed It.." meaning we had a tremendous fox shoot out on San Juan Island this year. I shot nearly 39k images in three days, and am having some trouble editing them because there are so many great looks. When I pulled a few to process for this newsletter, the "few" turned into 200 quickly - so I hope you enjoy the ones I put in the gallery section of this newsletter. Next year's safari is up on my schedule for May 7-9, 2025 ([LINK](#)) and I expect it to sell out, so plan early if you can. Travel to the island was smooth, the hotel and eateries were good, but the foxes were spectacular. The other factor that is always to be considered out on the island are the entitled, arrogant American Camp islanders. These folks set a new high in poor behavior, but we managed to keep shooting and ignore them for the most part. A very nice BLM Ranger was out there just to monitor the islanders, and she seemed to enjoy visiting with the photographers. I found it rewarding to hear her say that she had never seen a photographer act anyway other than professionally, and she enjoyed watching the antics of the fox kits as much as we enjoyed shooting them. The 6 clients I had on the island all marvelled at the foxes and the quality encounters we had. And luckily, the rains held off until the drive home - we had stunningly beautiful days.

Another safari that I've added for next year is a combination Arizona-Texas Spring Bird Safari for April 13-19, 2025 ([LINK](#)) that travels to the best spring bird photography locations in both states. We will shoot the prime destination around Tucson, including Madera Canyon, Patagonia Lake, Saguaro National Park, and the Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum. In Texas, we will shoot at my friend Butch's ranch outside Laredo, Chaparral WMA, Port Aransas, and other hotspots. I still marvel at the Painted Buntings and Scissor-tailed Flycatchers (among others) I shot there three weeks ago. There is a day of travel

between AZ and TX.

Lastly, I have finished filling out most of the safaris through this time next year. Two upcoming safaris that I'm looking forward to are to the San Juan Mountains in Colorado from September 30 to October 3 ([LINK](#)) and the Southern Utah Autumn Landscape Safari ([LINK](#)) from November 7 to 10.

If you have never spent an autumn in this uniquely beautiful mountain range, you have missed something great. Everywhere we go is another iconic landscape - and the names of the locations harken back to the cowboy/mining days of the previous century - Telluride, Ouray, Silverton, Last Dollar Road, Red Mountain Mining District, and the Million Dollar Highway, to name a few. We go dawn-to-dusk each day, stopping to eat at historic places like the Gunslinger. The forest service roads in the San Juan's are amazingly well maintained, and we travel back into the mountains and aspen groves constantly looking for different angles and light.

Likewise, shooting southern Utah is just glorious in autumn as the weather cools. Potential destinations include Zion, Bryce Canyon, Monument Valley, and the extreme western edge of the Grand Canyon at Tuweep. Not only are the landscapes iconic, but we will encounter desert bighorn sheep, mule deer (both in the rut), and other wildlife.

After my safari to Yellowstone in a couple of weeks ([LINK](#)), the black bear safaris in Sequoia National Park will begin ([LINK](#)) - the snow finally melting so the roads will be open. There is still no announced date for the Mineral King Road to open, which after the damage in 2022 was closed the entire 2023 season. Stunning place with a very cool bird - the Sooty Grouse.

I hope as you go through the safari list ([LINK](#)) you will find a trip that interests you and that would push your photography to new levels. **BRP**

Get busy living or get busy dying.
"Red" from the movie The Shawshank Redemption

[San Juan Island Fox Family](#) - San Juan Island Fox 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 2024-2025 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

May 20-21 Peregrine Falcon Safari ([LINK](#))

May 23 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

May 29-June 5 Yellowstone Spring Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#)) **1 Openings**

June 11 Mineral King (if Open)

June 13 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

June 24 Peregrine Falcon Safari ([LINK](#))

June 25-26 Black Bear and Songbirds in Sequoia Safari ([LINK](#))

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

July 9-10 Black Bear/Songbirds/Wildflowers - Sequoia Safari ([LINK](#))

July 16 Mineral King (Sequoia NP) Safari (if Open)

July 22 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

August 6 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

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

August 20-21 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

August 27 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

September 4-5 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))

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

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

October 8-9 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))

October 29-30 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))

November 4-5 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))
November 7-10 Southern Utah Landscape Safari ([LINK](#))
November 21 Southern California Bird Safari ([LINK](#))
November 25-26 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))

December 3-4 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))
December 12-14 Bosque del Apache Bird Safari ([LINK](#))
December 16-19 Texas Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))
December 30 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))
December 31 California Coast Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))

January 2-3 Monterey-Big Sur Landscape Safari ([LINK](#))
January 6 Northern Pygmy Owl Safari ([LINK](#))
January 7-8 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))
January 9 Coast Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))
January 21 Coast Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))
January 22-23 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))

February 4-11 Yellowstone-Tetons Winter Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))
February 12 Utah Raptor Safari ([LINK](#))
February 19-20 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))
February 24-26 California NWR Bird Safari ([LINK](#))

March 24 Santa Cruz Island Gray Fox Safari ([LINK](#))

April 7 California Poppy / Wildflower Safari ([LINK](#))
April 8 Great Horned Owl Safari ([LINK](#))
April 13-19 Arizona-Texas Spring Bird Safari ([LINK](#))
April 28-29 Morongo Bird Safari ([LINK](#))

May 7-9 San Juan Island (WA) Fox Safari ([LINK](#))
May 27 to June 3 Yellowstone Spring Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))

Recent Safari Images (Morongo Birds and San Juan Island Foxes)



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Vermilion Flycatcher | Morongo Bird Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Male Summer Tanager | Morongo Bird Safari



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Black-headed Grosbeak | Morongo Bird Safari



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Male Hooded Oriole | Morongo Bird Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Male Summer Tanager | Morongo Bird Safari

While the birds in Morongo Valley are always giving us great looks and encounters, the wildflowers in Johnson Valley were stunning. It's not often the desert blooms like this, but this year was spectacular and we spent some time shooting the primrose, verbana, marigold, and other wildflowers that carpeted the desert.



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Evening Primrose | Johnson Valley Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Fragrant Sand Verbana | Johnson Valley Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Evening Primrose - Fragrant Sand Verbana | Johnson Valley Safari amwestphoto.com

The activity level was high - young kits jumping and running, tumbling and fighting, carrying around voles caught by the adults - even though they aren't eating them because they are nursing. Just great moments by all the foxes, and I particularly liked the fox running off the juvenile bald eagle. Those kits need to be careful because wandering away from their protected den areas can make them a target of the always present bald eagles.



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Red Fox chasing away immature Bald Eagle | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Bald Eagle | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



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Red Fox kit | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



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Black Red Fox kit | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Red Fox kit | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Red Fox Vixen nursing kit | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



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Black Red Fox hunting | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



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Vixen Red Fox with kit | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
 Vixen Red Fox with kit | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
 Red Fox mousing | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
 Black Red Fox chasing a rabbit - San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com

While the silver fox (above, left) is mousing, the silver fox (above, right) is chasing a rabbit it had flushed from a warren. Low to the ground and lightning fast, the fox was a blur of speed that only gave me a split second to shoot as it raced downhill. However, the rabbit was faster and escaped with its life. The fox (below) is hunting through rabbit warrens that are everywhere - with lots of European Hares posing above ground when the foxes were out-of-sight.



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Red Fox hunts at rabbit warren | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Red Fox kits play with vole | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



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Two Red Fox Kits | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



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Red Fox kits playing | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



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Red Fox kits playing | San Juan Island Fox Safari
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Vixen greeting Dad Red Fox | San Juan Island Fox Safari
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Vixen, Kit, and Dad Red Fox | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Red Fox resting on the trail | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Black Red Fox hunting along coastline | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Red Fox hunting along coastline | San Juan Island Fox Safari amwestphoto.com

Last Call Notes:

My Nikon D850 is still for sale at \$750, with used Nikon 850 cameras going online for about \$1300 right now. It was recently serviced and cleaned by Nikon.ds

I'm still on a fox high, and it will take another week to get a grip on the images - so don't be surprised if you see a second batch in the next newsletter. The opportunities with the foxes were endless.

The approaching summer, when bird activity begins to wane some, is a time to get up to elevation in the national parks. The bear safaris this summer are all at about 6500 feet, which even in July is cool in the mornings. Black bears, birds, butterflies, and wildflowers are all still peaking through July and into August - and we shoot all four of those subjects and a few landscapes, on the black bear safaris ([LINK](#)). The trails we walk are pretty flat, with no tough walking and no hiking, but like all trips to Sequoia - it's the adventure about what could be around the next corner that is so thrilling.

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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