

June 2025 -2 Newsletter

Black Bears, Birds, Butterflies, and Wildflowers



The Black Bear Safaris

All Summer and Fall of 2025

American West Photo Safaris

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Hi to Everyone,

The black bear safaris ([LINK](#)) are underway and we have have been seeing and photographing them on every safari so far. The meadows are still wet and lush green, so that is where we have been encountering them. Also, the bird encounters we have been having have been outstanding. We have photographed pileated and white-headed woodpeckers, lazuli buntings, Hermit - MacGillivray's - and yellow-rumped warblers, fox sparrows, golden-crowned kinglets, green-tailed towhees, mountain chickadees, and many more. Large numbers of butterflies are about, as well as dozens of wildflowers. No matter your taste the park is really providing a lot of subjects. See the gallery of images below.

The park has changed access to Mineral King for the second time. Instead of no access except of weekends, the road is now open with thirty minute delays at the rebuilding area. So I have added a Bear Safari for Tuesday, July 1, and a Mineral King Safari for Wednesday, July 2. Mineral King also has some lush meadows for birds, butterflies, and wildflowers, and they have the only active Sooty Grouse area that I know.

It is time to start thinking about safaris this coming fall. This is the last year I'm going to Glacier, on September 22-26. ([LINK](#)) Just a bit more driving than I want to do. There are two openings on the Fall Yellowstone Wildlife Safari, September 15-19, ([LINK](#)), as well as the Glacier safari that follows. There is a large 20% discount if you do these back-to-back safaris, that is savings of \$800. The Bobcat Safaris start in October ([LINK](#)), while the bird safaris to Bosque del Apache (NM) ([LINK](#)) and South Texas ([LINK](#)) run in December.

The Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#)) follows from January 9-15. Around these longer safaris are the bobcat safaris, the CA Coast Wildlife safaris ([LINK](#)), and the Pygmy Owl Safari ([LINK](#)). All these safaris are intense, full-day safaris, or, as I like to call them - "dark-to-dark" safaris. These safaris are meant for everyone, not just dedicated wildlife photographers. There is no better way to learn nature photography than to come on these safaris. You learn to see wildlife, and you learn the tactics needed to photograph them. **BRP**

Every man's road in life is marked by the graves of his personal likings. Alexander Smith

[Three Coyotes | 2025 Yellowstone 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 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](#).

2025 Safari Schedule

July 1 Sequoia Black Bear and Birds Safari ([LINK](#))
July 2 Mineral King Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))
July 10 Sequoia Black Bear and Birds Safari ([LINK](#))
July 15 Sequoia Black Bear and Birds Safari ([LINK](#))
July 21 Sequoia Black Bear and Birds Safari **SOLD OUT**
July 22 Sequoia Black Bear and Birds Safari ([LINK](#))

August 11-12 Sequoia Black Bear and Mineral King Safari ([LINK](#))
August 16 Mineral King Safari ([LINK](#))
August 20 Sequoia Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

September 4 Sequoia Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))
September 15-19 Yellowstone Fall Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#)) **2 Openings**
September 22-26 Glacier Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#)) **2 Openings**

October 2 Sequoia Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))
October 16 Bobcat Safari **SOLD OUT**
October 21-22 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))

November 13 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))
November 18-19 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))
November 25 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))

December 4 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))
December 10-12 Bosque del Apache Bird Safari ([LINK](#))
December 14-16 Texas Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))
December 21 CA Coast Wildlife ([LINK](#))
December 22-23 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))
December 29-30 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))

I will be posting the 2026 photo safaris over the next several weeks.

January 5 CA Coast Wildlife ([LINK](#))
January 9-15 Yellowstone Winter Safari ([LINK](#))
January 16 Utah Raptor Safari ([LINK](#))
January 21 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))
January 22 Northern Pygmy Owl Safari ([LINK](#))
January 27-28 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))

February 9-11 NWR Bird Safaris ([LINK](#))
February 13 Northern Pygmy Owl Safari ([LINK](#))
February 17 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))
February 19 So California Bird Safari ([LINK](#))
February 24 Bobcat Safari ([LINK](#))

March 16 Santa Cruz Island Gray Fox Safari ([LINK](#))
March 23 Southern CA Bird Safari ([LINK](#))
March 25 Great Horned Owl Safari ([LINK](#))

April 11 CA Poppies and Wildflowers ([LINK](#))

April 23-29 Arizona-Texas Bird Safari ([LINK](#))

May 4 Morongo Bird Safari ([LINK](#))

May 12-14 San Juan Island Fox Safari ([LINK](#))

May 26 to June 2 Yellowstone Spring Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))

2025 Sequoia Black Bear Safaris



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Cinnamon Black Bear | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Black Bear | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Mule Deer Buck in Velvet | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Pileated Woodpecker | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Golden-crowned Kinglet | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Lazuli Bunting | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Lazuli Bunting | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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MacGillivray's Warbler | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
 Golden-crowned Kinglet | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
 Yellow-rumped Warbler with Caterpillars | Black Bear Wildlife Safari

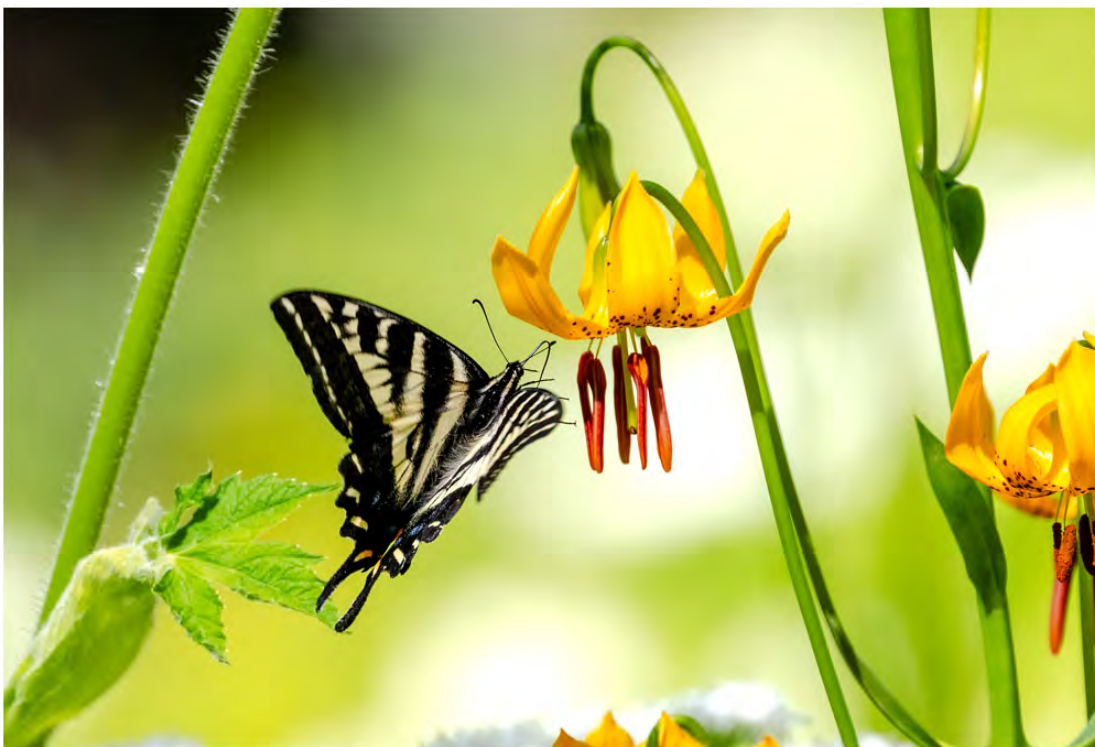


BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
 Two Golden-crowned Kinglets | Black Bear Wildlife Safari



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
MacGillivray's Warbler | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com

I shot the following flight images (below) of the Pallid Tiger Swallowtail on the leopard lily and marsh checkerbloom by simply using the bird eyes focusing selection - and it seemed to follow the butterfly around the flowers fairly well.



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Tiger Swallowtail flying to Leopard Lily | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Tiger Swallowtail flying to Leopard Lily | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Pallid Tiger Swallowtail on Marsh Checkerbloom | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Pallid Tiger Swallowtail on Fern | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Tiger Swallowtail flying to Leopard Lily | Black Bear Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Golden-crowned Kinglet with prey | Black Bear Wildlife Safari

Last Call Notes:

Of all the national parks in California, Sequoia is by far the best when it comes to black bears, birds, butterflies, and wildflowers. I always consider landscapes to be something I need to stumble on. The park has sequoias, dogwoods, pine forests, and rocky peaks - but getting quality images requires a very early arrival in order to beat the harsh shadows once the sun is up casting its rays through the forest. Sequoia (and the Mineral King section of the park) is just a photographer's paradise if you know where to go and what to be looking for.



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Window in Sequoia Trunk - Sequoia National Park amwestphoto.com

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.

