

February 2026 Newsletter



Hi to Everyone,

In my last email I mentioned mountain snows coming into the west - so before those snows could melt I made a quick trip back to the West Desert of Utah to shoot the wild horses on snow. I left Sunday morning at 2am, arrived on location at 1:30pm and shot until dark. On Monday I was out there before dawn and shot through about 1pm, then made the drive back to Tulare by 11:30pm. While I wasn't able to locate the larger herd, I was able to photograph a couple of dozen wild horses in smaller herds, especially a couple of stallions. I had a lead on a newborn colt (2 days old) but I was unable to locate that mare and colt. The horses I did encounter put on a show, and one gray stallion was nice enough to back me up 75 yards to my truck, at a slow, direct, walking pace right at me.



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Stallion guarding his Mares | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com

There was a juvenile with this stallion and his two mares, and he was very photogenic. And like most teenagers, he was late following the group and had to come running to catch up, and upon his arrival, the gray stallion got a mouthful of his mane and twisted him around some - which looked painful to me. The mare came over and bit the stallion and got him to release her juvenile, then they slowly walked away back into the sea of sagebrush. I would see him again the next morning alone, several hundred yards away from the other three horses in the small herd, and moving northwest at a pretty good jogging clip - maybe to rejoin the larger herd somewhere out-of-sight in the surrounding hills.



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Juvenile racing to catch up to Mom | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Stallion with a mouthful of the Juveniles mane | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Stallion | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com

The next morning I explored some westbound dirt roads that I hadn't driven before and encountered a beautiful flaxen chestnut stallion moving off of Round Top Mountain, alone. It was odd that he was alone and in a place with so much horse sign around. There was a mare about a thousand yards farther north that also appeared to be alone, but the stallion headed northeast, apparently uninterested in the mare. I practiced my 4x4 driving in reverse to stay ahead of the stallion - while not running he was still moving quickly.



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Stallion at Round Top Mountain | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Stallion at Round Top Mountain | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Stallion leaving to look for the Herd | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com

I was finally able to turn the truck around just in time to see him take-off across the flats to the north, never giving me another look, but I got a nice shoot of him as he moved away.

Later that morning I ran into a larger herd of horses, a herd of about a dozen, that turned into a long slog through snow and mud for me. This herd also had a stallion with them, as well as another juvenile stallion, but this dun stallion was clearly a tough hombre. He had numerous battle scars that meant he was a seasoned fighter, and I stayed much farther away from him, since my truck was a mile away, over flat, treeless ground. Also, his dark mane hung down off his head hiding his eyes, which just struck me with apprehension. I stayed safely back.



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Battle-tested Stallion | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Battle-hardened Stallion | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com

The other horses moved around feeding and biting each other, but always kept the stallion between me and them. When the juvenile stallion wandered cluelessly past the herd stallion, he got bit for his effort. While I have always considered the beauty of wild horses to be elegant and breathtaking, after doing these three shoots (the two free days after each Yellowstone winter safaris, and this one) I realize that these

horses live a tough life - maybe no different from any other wild animal, but in some ways, harsher. There were other areas that seemed to have far more green grass coming up through the snow, but the horses liked these barren flats.



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Juvenile Stallion | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Dispute between Mares | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Winter Forage | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com

In the past decade I have had very few opportunities to shoot mostly by myself. As I wandered around this area getting my truck muddy, it reminded me of what I have always loved about wildlife photography - there is something exciting around the next corner, just out-of-sight. Find it and photograph it - no matter what - figure it out. Every encounter is a test of tactics and equipment.

This newsletter is just to let everyone who follows me know that you can get out and chase on your own, just like I did here (though you shouldn't drive as much as I did). The advantage of coming on a safari with me is you don't have to wander, I know the areas I travel and the wildlife we are searching for. Wildlife photography is just fun. Information about the safaris is at the end of this newsletter. **BRP**

I walked a mile with Pleasure, she chatted all the way, but left me none the wiser for all she had to say. I walked a mile with Sorrow and ne'er word said she' but, oh, the things I learned from her when Sorrow walked with me. Robert Browning Hamilton

[Onaqui Band of Wild Horses | Utah Wild Horse 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](#).

2026 Safari Schedule

March 5 Last of the Bobcat Safaris ([LINK](#))

March 16 Santa Cruz Island Gray Fox Safari ([LINK](#))

March 23 Southern CA Bird Safari ([LINK](#))

March 25 Great Horned Owl Safari ([LINK](#))

March 31-April 1 Utah Wild Horse Safari ([LINK](#))

April 8-9 Ghost Town of Bodie ([LINK](#))

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

April 13-16 Southern Utah Spring Landscapes ([LINK](#))

April 23-29 Arizona-Texas Bird Safari ([LINK](#)) **2 Openings**

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

May 12-14 San Juan Island Fox Safari ([LINK](#)) **1 Opening**

May 18 Peregrine Falcons ([LINK](#))

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

June 3 Free Shooting Day

June 14 Peregrine Falcons ([LINK](#))

June 16 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

June 18 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

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

June 25 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

July 7 Mineral King - Sooty Grouse ([LINK](#))
July 8 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))
July 21 Mineral King - Sooty Grouse ([LINK](#))
July 22-23 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

August 4-5 Black Bear Safari ([LINK](#))

September 21-26 Yellowstone Fall Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))
September 28-Oct 2 San Juan Mountains (CO) Safari ([LINK](#))

December 15-17 Bosque del Apache NWR Bird Safari ([LINK](#))

2027 Safari Schedule

January 14-21 Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))
January 22 Free Shooting Day

February 11-18 Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))
February 19 Free Shooting Day

May 21-28 Yellowstone Spring Safari ([LINK](#))

June 1-7 Yellowstone Spring Safari ([LINK](#))

The Best of the Spring Yellowstone Safaris



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Grizzly Sow and Yearling | Yellowstone Spring Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Boar (l) and sow Black Bear - Yellowstone/Tetons Spring Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Black Bear Cubs playing - Yellowstone/Tetons Spring Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Osprey and Tetons | Yellowstone-Tetons Spring Wildlife Safari



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Red Fox Kit at Vixen's tail - Yellowstone/Teton Spring Wildlife Safari



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Grizzly Family - Yellowstone-Teton Spring Wildlife Safari

amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Calliope Hummingbird - Yellowstone-Tetons Spring Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Drake Harlequin blasting through Le Hardy Rapids - Yellowstone-Tetons Spring Wildlife Safari



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Grizzly cubs in the Spring Rain | Yellowstone Spring Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Great Gray Owl lift-off | Yellowstone Spring Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Newborn Pronghorn between dad's horns - Yellowstone Spring Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Yellow Warbler Singing - Yellowstone/Grand Teton Spring Safari



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Cross Fox - Yellowstone/Grand Teton Spring Wildlife Safari



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Badger Family - Yellowstone/Teton Spring Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Gray Wolf crossing Slough Creek - Yellowstone/Grand Teton Spring Safari amwestphoto.com

Last Call Notes:

My final Bobcat Safari for this season (October to March) is Thursday, March 5. ([LINK](#)) There are some great trips on the schedule over the next several months. The first of the 2-day Wild Horse Safaris is on March 31-April 1. ([LINK](#)) The Bodie/Eastern Sierras is on April 8-9 ([LINK](#)), while the Southern Utah Safari is April 13-16. ([LINK](#)) I have one opening for the San Juan Island Fox Safari in my truck, coming from California. ([LINK](#)) Lastly, there are two openings for the Yellowstone Spring Wildlife Safari, now is the time to book it if you are thinking of attending, the

safari will sell out soon. Just to emphasize, this is the best wildlife photography in North America. ([LINK](#)) In 2027 I'm doing two Spring Yellowstone Wildlife safaris in a row, taking the 3-day Memorial Day weekend off. The first safari is May 21-28, the second safari from June 1-7.

Over the next week or two I will add all the rest of the 2026 safaris. I realize many people like to plan far ahead, but I like to see how the year is shaping up in terms of animals and weather, then I decide if I'm doing more of a particular safari (like black bears) or changing some to do more birds.

Fun stuff. I hope you find a safari that fits your needs and desires.

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.

