

January 2026 Newsletter

Yellowstone Winter



Hi to Everyone,

One winter Yellowstone Wildlife Safari down, one to go. Like all safaris, there are times when we struggle to find the animals we are after - and then moments of high anxiety and excitement. We had one of the great wolf encounters in the western end of Lamar Valley. As is my custom, areas that have the highest probability of success get many looks each day. The wolf pack encounter happened because of a bison carcass about a 90 yards off the road, out-of-sight in the folds of the bench above the valley floor. My friend, Adam Brubaker (Tied to Nature Tours - other members of his family and parents have lived in Tulare) mentioned that a black wolf had been seen hanging out around the Fisherman's pullout at the west end of Lamar Valley. So we continued moving in that direction and spotted the wolf way out in Lamar walking around, howling.

Over time a gray wolf appeared as well, and then other black wolves - eventually we saw 5 wolves moving back-and-forth from the carcass, to the valley, and crossing the road to the ridge to our north. We made the most of this encounter, moving up and down the road, parking, exiting the truck and shooting, before moving on in the

direction the wolves travelled. We finally came face-to-face with a black wolf coming uphill from the Lamar River, crossing the road, and heading uphill to cross the ridge where we had heard other wolves howling. Quite a rush of adrenaline. All the other wildlife encounters we had drifted to the background after this stunning encounter that last about 3 hours.



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Black Wolf | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com

This series of images of the black wolf were not my closest. At one point a coyote broke out of the sagebrush on my right at a dead run, meat in his mouth, being pursued by a gray wolf running flat out about 30 feet behind it. When I saw the coyote I braked hard to not hit it, then was shocked by the wolf suddenly blasting through the snow behind it. Stopping in the middle of the road I stepped from the truck and got a few frames of the two of them racing in the opposite direction.



Coyote Running for its Life

WOLF Chasing Coyote

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Black Wolf | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com

We photographed the usual cast of characters - moose, otter, lots of coyotes, bald eagles, red fox, bighorn sheep, elk, pronghorn, white-tailed and mule deer, various ducks, bison, and a plethora of landscape opportunities when the overcast skies broke open and we had a couple of stunning blue-sky days. Of particular note was the white-tailed buck we encountered - my first buck in Yellowstone. Over the years I've photographed does and even white-tailed fawns, but never had seen a buck, until now. Just a little 8 pointer, but still, I was finally able to see and photograph this one at the western end of Little America, a few hundred yards from the finally completed new bridge over the Yellowstone River (wow, what a bridge!).

I hope you enjoy the gallery of images. The free shooting day that always follows a Yellowstone Safari was out to Utah's West Desert to chase wild horses. Thanks to my friend Jed Packer, we had a stunning encounter with a herd of about 135 animals (though we saw at least 80-90 more) - enjoy those images as well.

Also, the Sequoia Snow-shoe Safari has been moved to Thu, Feb 12. The dates are up for the 2027 Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safaris. **BRP**

When it comes to your time to die, be not like those whose hearts are filled with the fear of death, so that when their time comes they weep and pray for a little more time live their lives over again in a different way. Sing you death song and die like a hero going home. Tecumseh

[Black Wolf | 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](#).

2026 Safari Schedule

February 9-11 NWR Bird Safaris ([LINK](#))
February 12 Sequoia Snow Shoe Safari ([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 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](#)) **2 Openings**
May 18 Peregrine Falcons ([LINK](#))

May 26 to June 2 Yellowstone Spring Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#)) **3 Openings**

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](#))

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 Utah Wild Horse Safari ([LINK](#))

February 11-18 Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari ([LINK](#))

February 19 Utah Wild Horse Safari ([LINK](#))

Gallery - Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari



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Black Wolf | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Black Wolf near the bison carcass | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Gray Wolf | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Black Wolf | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari
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Black Wolf | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari
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Black Wolf | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari
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BRENT PAULL PHOTOGRAPHY
Three Black Wolves near carcass | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari
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Gray Wolf | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari
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Coyotes | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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3 of 6 Coyotes | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Two Coyotes | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Bison in Blizzard | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Full-curl Bighorn Ram | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Sleeping Red Fox | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Trumpeter Swan stretch | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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River Otter | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Frosted Bison | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Bald Eagle | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Wintering herd of cow elk | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Wintering Bull Elk | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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First Whitetail Buck in YNP | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com



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Black Wolf w/bison blood on its fur | Yellowstone Winter Wildlife Safari amwestphoto.com

Gallery Utah Wild Horse Safari



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



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Wild Horse | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



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Wild Horse | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



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Wild Horse Herd | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



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Wild Horses | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



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Wild Horse dust bath | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



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Week old Wild Horse Colt | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



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 Mom Wild Horse and Colt and other Daughter | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



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 Wild Horse interactions | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



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 Two Wild Horses | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



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Wild Horse | Utah Wild Horse Safari amwestphoto.com



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

Last Call Notes:

These images are probably not the best ones I could have used, it is just that I haven't worked my way through all 54,000 images from these two back-to-back

safaris. The Utah Wild Horse Safari alone, in just 3 hours, I shot 11,000 images - it was just amazing. The horses were in a bowl, surrounded by the low mountains, with about half the 135 horses in the bowl and the others working their way to the bowl by crossing and descending the surrounding hills. Since I no longer use a tripod for wildlife, handholding caused me to take a few short breaks to ease the strain on my shoulder. Overall, we saw about 275 horses, photographing this very large herd with multiple stallions, and one other group of about 10. They were pretty docile without many battles, just some biting and pushing. Every color of horse was represented in this large herd - just stunning.

This is a free safari for those who participate in any of my Yellowstone Wildlife Safaris (Winter, Spring, Fall), or you can book it as a stand-alone safari.

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.

