



# Spring 2016 Greater Yellowstone Wildlife Expedition

**Friday, May 20, 2016 – Wednesday, May 25, 2016**

Safari through Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks with **Woodland Park Zoo** and **Teton Science Schools** during the spring migration and birthing season. This all-inclusive experience focuses on the unique conservation of the United States most intact temperate ecosystem. **Dr. Robert Long, Senior Conservation Fellow at Woodland Park Zoo** will be leading this adventure.

**Trip Cost:** \$1,990 per person (double occupancy; \$290 single supplement). Airfare/travel to and from Yellowstone is additional and is coordinated by the individual traveler.

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## **Day 1: May 20, 2016: Arrival in Jackson Hole, Wyoming**

Arrive in Jackson Hole, Wyoming in time for a 5pm Welcome Reception with your Wildlife Expeditions Biologists. We will discuss the anticipated itinerary for the next several days of adventure in both Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. Flights into Jackson Hole (JAC) can be arranged through several air carriers with Delta and United Airlines providing the most daily service.

Lodging at the Lexington Inn is provided as part of this package.

We will meet in the lobby at 5pm for our Wine and Cheese Welcome Reception (light appetizers).

## **Day 2: May 21, 2016: Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming**

Today will be spent searching various habitats of Grand Teton and Jackson Hole in search of elk, moose, wolves and bears. Much of the valley of Jackson Hole is within Grand Teton National Park. While the high peaks of the Tetons remain snow covered the valley will begin to turn green with the lush grasses of early spring. This time of year provides us the opportunity to search for new born elk, moose and bison calves. The mid-afternoon hours will be spent enjoying a scenic float down the Snake River in Grand Teton National Park. The expert boatmen of Barker-Ewing River Trips have been piloting rafts down the Snake River for decades and will provide the unique experience of traveling at the speed of spring runoff.

Spend the night at the Hatched Resort located in the scenic Buffalo Valley, northeast of Grand Teton National Park.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included.

## **Day 3: May 22, 2016: Sunrise in the Tetons, Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone and Lamar Valley, Wyoming**

This morning we will begin with an early morning hike in an attempt to view denning wolves in Grand Teton National Park. For the last decade wolves have recolonized and resided within Grand Teton National Park. We hope that one of the resident packs continues to utilize its historic den and rendezvous site in northern Grand Teton National Park. The





hike is about 1 mile round trip with an elevation gain of 500 feet. By late morning we enter into Yellowstone National Park. We are bound for the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River. In the early 1870's several iconic images of this canyon were created by Thomas Moran and William Henry Jackson. These images of this unique geologic feature were visual evidence that helped inspire Congress to designate Yellowstone as the world's first National Park. After visiting the canyon we make our way to the Lamar Valley for an evening of wildlife viewing. The Lamar Valley and Northern Range of Yellowstone are considered to be the best places to view North America's iconic wildlife species such as bison, elk, pronghorn, wolves, black and grizzly bears.

Tonight we will spend at the Alpine Motel in Cooke City, Montana.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included.

#### **Day 4: May 23, 2016: Lamar Valley & the Northern Range of Yellowstone, Wyoming**

Today we will spend the entire day in and around the Lamar Valley. The Lamar Valley area is ground zero for wolf reintroduction into the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Several wolf acclimation pens were located throughout the Lamar Valley. We may have the opportunity to spend the midday hours hiking to the Rose Creek Acclimation Pen or an abandoned wolf den. We will spend the dawn hours searching the Lamar Valley for many species. This time is often highlighted by finding courting bears or wolves feeding on kills from the previous evening. The Lamar Valley is often referred to as the little Serengeti of America. Similar to Jackson Hole, the Lamar Valley is lush and green with spring growth, thus high densities of herbivores such as pronghorn, elk and bison exist.

We will return to the Alpine Motel in Cooke City for the evening.

Field Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are provided.

#### **Day 5: May 24, 2016: Lamar Valley and Old Faithful**

Again we will spend the early morning hours searching the Lamar Valley for wolves and bears. After enjoying the early morning in northern Yellowstone, we begin our trek to the Old Faithful area of Yellowstone. The afternoon will be spent enjoying more of the geologic highlights of Yellowstone. We will visit the famed Old Faithful Geyser and Fountain Paint Pots area. These areas may also include the opportunity to witness wildlife as well. It is the conservation of the unique geothermal features of Yellowstone that has ultimately led to the conservation of its wildlife. We will travel back to Jackson Hole via the potato fields and scenic vistas of eastern Idaho.

Tonight we conclude our adventure as we return to the Lexington Inn.

A field breakfast and lunch are included. Dinner is on your own and can be arranged at one of Jackson's many fine establishments.

#### **Day 6: May 25, 2016: Departure**

A complimentary airport shuttle service can be arranged from the front desk of the Lexington Inn. The Inn also offers an extensive complimentary breakfast.

**Tour is limited to 12 guests. Initial deposit of \$995 per person will hold your place on this exclusive adventure. Please contact Jennie Brixey at [Jennie.Brixey@zoo.org](mailto:Jennie.Brixey@zoo.org) or 206-548-2419 to register or for additional information.**

