THANK YOU for your registration in Yellowstone Forever’s Wolves: Celebrating 25 Years Lamar Premier Package; we can’t wait to see you!

Below you will find detailed information specific to your class. For general information about the facilities, park information, preparing for classes, what to expect, and more, please see the Lamar Buffalo Ranch - Summer General Information document.

CLASS INFORMATION

Class Name: Wolves: Celebrating 25 years
Instructors: L. David Mech, Ph.D., Douglas Smith, Ph.D., and Kira Cassidy, M.S.
Activity Level: This course is an activity level 2 and students enrolled in this course are expected to be active participants. Be prepared to hike up to 3 miles per day, comfortably, with elevation gains up to 600 feet. Some off-trail hiking possible.*
Class Dates and Times: The course begins at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2020, and ends on Saturday, June 20, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.
Location: Lamar Buffalo Ranch
Lodging and Shuttles: For those wishing to travel to Bozeman, Montana, the night before the course, your hotel room is available for check-in on Monday, June 15, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. (Shuttles are available from Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport to the hotel.) After enjoying a complimentary breakfast at the hotel, shuttle buses will pick up participants at the Element Hotel Lobby on Tuesday, June 16, 2020, at 10:30 a.m. Shuttles will take participants directly to the Lamar Buffalo Ranch, with stops in-between, including a catered sack lunch. Shuttles will leave the ranch around 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 20, 2020, and drop participants off in Bozeman no later than 2:00 p.m.
Meals: This course is catered. If you have any food allergies, please include those in your health form post-registration and if you have dietary restrictions please reach out to our Contact Center at your earliest convenience at 406.848.2400 or contact@yellowstone.org.

*All field activities will be conducted as a group. If you cannot meet the activity level expectations during your program, you may be restricted from participation in daily outings. We will not alter program itineraries or activities to accommodate participants who cannot meet the expectations of the stated activity level.

If you are running late call the Lamar Bunkhouse at 307.344.7749.

FROM THE INSTRUCTOR

Join us in the heart of Yellowstone National Park, the Lamar Valley, where wolves have thrived for 25 years since the historic 1995-1997 gray wolf reintroduction. Hailed as one of the most successful conservation efforts of the 20th century, wolf reintroduction has had wide-ranging effects on the ecosystem, carnivore research, and our human relationship with the wild.
We will gather the first evening at the Lamar Buffalo Ranch, for a course introduction and orientation. We will spend the next three days split between the field and the classroom with lots of time for discussion and questions and plenty of options for short hikes or relaxing time. You will hear first-hand stories about the reintroduction starting with capturing wolves in Canada, transporting to Yellowstone, and feeding the wolves in the pens pre-release. You’ll learn about some of the earliest individual wolves that ensured the success of reintroduction, and whose legacy lives on today.

Wolf reintroduction made Yellowstone one of the best places in the world to view and study wild wolves and that research continues to this day. Only a few wildlife research programs in the world focus so closely on individuals and extend for decades of continuous data collection. You will learn about Yellowstone Wolf Project published research and current projects through a combination of presentations, activities, and discussion.

It has been approximately seven wolf generations since reintroduction and there is still much to discover. We look forward to the continued future of wild wolves in Yellowstone and following all the life stories that form not only scientific discovery but also our relationship with wild nature.

Come celebrate this happy milestone with us!

We look forward to seeing you soon,

Dave Mech, Ph.D., Doug Smith, Ph.D., and Kira Cassidy, M.S.

**PROGRAM ITINERARY**

| Day 1 | Evening | Check-in to Lamar Buffalo Ranch, orientation and overview of course plan |
| Day 2 | Morning | Field time as a group looking for wolves and other wildlife, lunch (w/Doug Smith) |
|      | Afternoon | Classroom lectures/discussion about reintroduction, option for a short hike or break (w/Doug and Dave) |
|      | Evening | Videos and discussion about wolf research and behavior, dinner (w/Doug and Dave) |
| Day 3 | Morning | Short field time, short hike, classroom lecture about reintroduction and early years (w/Doug and Dave) |
|      | Afternoon | Lunch, classroom lecture topics: wolf-prey and ecosystem effects (w/Doug and Dave) |
|      | Evening | Dinner, overview, optional short evening wildlife watching (w/Doug, Dave, and Kira) |
| Day 4 | Morning | Field time and short hike (w/Kira) |
|      | Afternoon | Classroom lecture topics: current wolf research, future of research (w/Kira) |
|      | Evening | Discussion with videos and course wrap-up (w/Kira) |
Day 5
9:00 a.m. Check-out of Lamar Buffalo Ranch and shuttle to Bozeman

PROGRAM EQUIPMENT
There are NO specific items required for this class. For a full list of recommended equipment for all courses see the Lamar Buffalo Ranch - Summer General Information document.

RECOMMENDED READING
There are books and reference materials at the ranch for you to enjoy during your stay. In addition to those materials the instructor has recommended you read the following:


Again, we look forward to hosting you at the beautiful Lamar Buffalo Ranch. If you have any questions, please refer to your Lamar Buffalo Ranch – Summer General Information document or reach out to the Institute at 406.848.2400.