



ECOLOGY PROJECT
INTERNATIONAL

YELLOWSTONE WILDLIFE ECOLOGY

STUNNING VISTAS: As soon as you enter the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, you'll understand why it inspired our national parks. The landscape's singular beauty, abundance of wildlife, and fascinating thermal features combine to make this high-altitude plateau a unique and extraordinary ecosystem. While you're here, you'll gain access to research projects within the park.

YOUR FIELD WORK: Welcome to the ideal setting for immersion in wildlife, mountains, rivers, and forests. EPI's instructors will be your guides, escorting you through the wild surroundings and introducing you to the forces that shape them. By the end of your course, you'll have a strong understanding of the complex conservation issues facing the region and an in-depth knowledge of one of the park's most charismatic ungulates—bison!

ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE: With EPI, students partner with the National Park Service on ongoing research projects. You'll spend the week in and around Yellowstone National Park, where park scientists will work with you on habitat restoration and bison grazing projects. You'll observe the park's famous Lamar Valley wolf packs and fantastic thermal features, and the wildlife that make Yellowstone a spectacular and unique landscape.

Length	Research & Service Hours	Coursework Hours	Focus
5 days	15	12	conservation biology, wildlands management, scientific process

HIGHLIGHTS



Survey wildlife from bison to wolves



Camp on the edge of Yellowstone National Park



Explore Yellowstone's one-of-a-kind ecosystem



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MONTANA GEAR UP

CAMP DATES: 6/18 – 6/22

Day 1: TRAVEL TO YELLOWSTONE

- Get to know your instructor team
- Set up your camp on the edge of Yellowstone National Park
- Begin to explore the unique boundaries of the GYE and your place in the ecosystem

Days 2-3: CONSERVATION & MONITORING PROJECTS

- Contribute to improving sensitive habitat in or near Yellowstone National Park
- Collect data for Yellowstone National Park's bison studies
- Learn Leave No Trace & bear-safe camping techniques
- Develop and begin to answer a research question of your own using data collected by your group and prior EPI students

Day 4: WILDLIFE BEHAVIOR & FINAL UNGULATE SAMPLING

- Observe wildlife and record behavior as they interact with one another and the landscape
- Conduct a survey of other visitors' adoption of bear safety protocols
- Hike the park's beautiful trails

Day 5: RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS & GRADUATION

- Complete and present small group research projects explored during the course
- Celebrate your completed course and the hard work you've done to contribute to wildlife conservation