



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 and fascinating thermal features combine to make this high-altitude plateau a distinctive and extraordinary ecosystem. Experiencing Yellowstone in the winter is a unique treat. There's a solitude, beauty, and concentration of wildlife that you can't find during the bustling summer months.

YOUR FIELD WORK:

Using radio telemetry, you will track the park's top five ungulate species, including bison and elk, to collect information about herd demographics and the sites they use—data that is critical for ongoing studies. You'll also spend a morning observing Yellowstone's wolves, learning the story of wolf reintroduction, and exploring how species interact to impact an entire ecosystem's functioning.

ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE:

The small, western town of Gardiner, Montana, on the north edge of Yellowstone National Park, is your home for the week. It's also home to the famous Roosevelt Arch entrance to the park. Each day you'll get out into the snowy landscape of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem to see thermal features or collect data about wildlife movements. EPI works directly with park scientists, and your contribution to the research will help inform management practices in the park.

YELLOWSTONE WINTER ECOLOGY

HIGHLIGHTS



OBSERVE WOLVES IN THE WORLD-FAMOUS LAMAR VALLEY



TRACK WILDLIFE ON SNOWSHOES



EXPERIENCE YELLOWSTONE'S GEOTHERMAL WONDERS UNDER SNOWCOVER

YELLOWSTONE WINTER ECOLOGY SAMPLE ITINERARY



ECOLOGY PROJECT
INTERNATIONAL

Day 1: ARRIVE IN BOZEMAN, MONTANA

- Get to know your instructor team
- Head south to Gardiner, MT, the gateway to Yellowstone National Park
- Settle into the cozy lodge that will be your home for the next week

Days 2-6: WILDLIFE TRACKING & DATA COLLECTION

- Learn to snowshoe
- Track ungulates using radio telemetry, and learn to classify each species by gender and age
- Collect snow and wildlife data using your newfound skills

Day 7: EXPLORE GEOTHERMAL FEATURES & OBSERVE WOLVES

- Explore the area's geothermal features—colored pools, steam vents, and more
- Use collected data to develop a research question
- Conduct wolf observation with the park's wolf-education specialist

Day 8: RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS & COURSE GRADUATION

- Present your research findings to your peers
- Enjoy a soak at Chico, a developed hot springs just outside the park
- Celebrate your completed course and contributions to wildlife conservation

Day 9: DEPART YELLOWSTONE



Length	Research & Service Hours	Coursework Hours	Focus
9 Days	20	30	conservation biology, wildlands management, scientific process