



ECOLOGY PROJECT
INTERNATIONAL



YELLOWSTONE

WINTER ECOLOGY

EXPLORE THE ECOSYSTEM | SURVEY WILDLIFE | EXPLORE GEOTHERMAL FEATURES



WINTER IN WONDERLAND

Yellowstone’s beauty, abundance of wildlife, and fascinating thermal features combine to make this high-altitude plateau an extraordinary ecosystem — but experiencing it in the winter is a unique treat. There’s a solitude, beauty, and a concentration of wildlife that you just can’t find during the busy summer months.



YOUR FIELD WORK

Using radio telemetry, you’ll track the park’s top five ungulate species to collect information about herd demographics and the sites they use — data that is critical for ongoing species management. EPI collaborates directly with scientists, and your involvement in the research will assist in shaping the park’s management strategies.



EXPLORING THE ECOSYSTEM

Although this course involves hard work, there will be ample opportunities for enjoyable activities. Each day, you’ll venture into the snowy terrain, exploring geothermal features or observing wolves and other wildlife in the renowned Lamar Valley. On your final day, relax in a developed hot spring, located just outside the Park.



YELLOWSTONE WINTER ECOLOGY SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY 1: ARRIVE IN BOZEMAN, MONTANA

- Meet your instructor team and journey to Gardiner, the park's North Entrance gateway town
- Settle into the cozy lodge that will be your home for the next week

DAYS 2-6: TRACK WILDLIFE & COLLECT DATA

- Develop your snowshoeing skills
- Utilize radio telemetry to track ungulates and learn to differentiate between genders and ages of each species
- Apply your newfound abilities to collect snow and wildlife data

DAY 7: EXPLORE GEOTHERMAL FEATURES & OBSERVE WOLVES

- Explore the area's geothermal features — colored pools, steam vents, and more
- Use the data you've collected to develop an independent research question
- Observe wolves with the park's wolf-education specialist

DAY 8: SOAK IN A HOT SPRING & CELEBRATE YOUR EFFORTS

- Present your research findings to your peers
- Enjoy a soak at a local developed hot spring just outside park boundaries
- 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



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