

Bob Watson Photography

Reflecting the Spirit of Nature
NATURE • WILDLIFE • LANDSCAPES



Featured Photograph No. 1



Gibbon River, Yellowstone National Park

When you received my last Newsletter, I was in the midst of spending 12 days photographing winter in Yellowstone National Park ("Yellowstone"). I've been to Yellowstone several times, but I'd never been there in the winter. Its natural wonders, grandeur, and abundant wildlife make our first National Park a special place. In winter it's even more special.

The only way to travel most of Yellowstone in the winter is to either cross country ski, snowshoe, snowmobile or snowcoach. I chose snowmobiling with other photographers during the first week and covered nearly 450 miles. The remaining part of the trip was spent driving and photographing along the only road that's kept open in the winter. This road travels across the mountains and through the famous Lamar Valley in the most northern part of Yellowstone between Gardiner, Montana at the Northwest Entrance and Cook City, Montana at the Northeast Entrance (approximately 55 miles). I had never photographed so much in the pounding snow as I did this trip and with temperatures as low as -18 degrees.

It's hard to articulate the breathtaking beauty in the serene scenery of Yellowstone. It's through these photographs that I hope you get a sense of a Yellowstone winter.

In Featured Photograph No. 1, you can see dead trees mingled with healthy ones. It's common to see these skeleton trees along with the new growth. Fires in Yellowstone during the summer of 1988 burned approximately 793,000 acres (36% of the park) and together formed the largest wildfire in the recorded history of the U.S. Between plantings and new natural growth the park has made a tremendous comeback with millions of new trees and thriving vegetation. Notice, the river isn't frozen. This is also typical of most of the rivers and

streams in the park. The Yellowstone region is home to over half of the world's geothermal activity and hundreds of geysers, hot pools, etc. keep them from freezing.

Featured Photograph No. 2 below is a representative sample of Yellowstone's plentiful and diverse wildlife. The Lamar valley in the northern part of the park is often referred to as "The American Serengeti". I spotted this bull elk hunkered down and initially sleeping in a ravine. It was snowing quite hard, but he was protected from the wind and was camouflaged from any predators. The falling snow gives this image a surreal look.

You may view more photographs of winter in Yellowstone at the following hyperlink: "[Yellowstone](#)" More to come!

Featured Photograph No. 2



Bull Elk, Yellowstone National Park

By clicking on either size below, you may securely purchase these "Featured Photographs" through [Paypal](#) with your credit card or your own [Paypal](#) account. \$8 dollars will be added for shipping. _

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These photographs will remain as "Featured Photographs" available for special pricing until you receive another newsletter (approximately 1 month). _ _

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