

## Objective

To share my passion for wild, natural spaces, and use my experience in outdoor education, interpretation and guiding to encourage the protection of wilderness and public lands.

## Work experience

### 2012-Present

#### Owner, [Walking Shadow Ecology Tours of Yellowstone](#)

Conduct in-depth tours of Yellowstone Park, covering all Yellowstone-related topics including human and natural history, geology, flora, fauna, and ecology. Serve as main contact/planner via email or phone to connect client with the best customized guiding trip. Supervise a team of guides, including scheduling, payroll, training and evaluation. Manage tour vehicles, and website. Manage National Park Service permitting, insurance, etc.

### 2020-Present

#### Virtual Yellowstone Trips

##### Naturalist Guide

Offer live, engaging, interactive tours at various locations in Yellowstone including Mammoth Hot Springs, Fort Yellowstone, the Roosevelt Arch, and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone on a variety of platforms. Cover the breadth of Yellowstone topics including natural and human history, geology, wildlife, and other ecological areas, creating a meaningful experience for virtual visitors. With an audience of between 10 and 300 on-line visitors, handle questions either verbal (Zoom) or in chat box, camera work with a gimbal, and in-depth interpretation with ease.

### 2017-2019 North Yellowstone Education Foundation

#### Founder and Chair

Founded a 501c3 nonprofit organization supporting Gardiner Public Schools, including IRS task work, forming and managing a board, designing and maintaining website, program development, and other administrative tasks. Through successful grant applications, cultivating donor relations and organizing events, raised \$200,000 in 18 mos to provide a salary for a teaching position and an array of classroom grants and equipment. Organized and managed a campaign toward sustainable teacher housing including discussions with lawyers, architects, community members and donors.

### 2012-2019 Gardiner, MT-based Yellowstone Tour Companies [Yellowstone Wolf Tracker](#), [Yellowstone Wild](#), [In Our Nature Guiding](#), [Wild Bear Adventures](#)

#### Freelance Private Naturalist Guide

Conducted in-depth, road-based interpretive tours, with occasional hikes and backpacks in Yellowstone Park. Focus on wildlife, natural and human history, ecology and geology. Required clean driving record and vast knowledge of Yellowstone infrastructure, sciences and politics, and the ability to convey that information in meaningful ways.

### 2006-2013 May-October Yellowstone Association Institute Yellowstone National Park

#### Instructor Guide

Develop and lead educational programs throughout Yellowstone, including backcountry hiking and backpacking as well as road-based touring. All programs include some element of history, flora, fauna, geology and ecology, but some are specific to a particular area of interest (for instance, a multi-day bear and wolf program). Students include adult learners, children with families, high school and college class field trips. Practice a high level of risk management in a wilderness setting, and constantly assess safety and group dynamics. Responsible for the safe operation and light maintenance of a 12 passenger bus; compliant with DOT regulations.

## **Work experience cont'd**

### **2006-2012 December-March Xanterra Parks and Resorts Yellowstone National Park Winter Transportation Dispatcher**

Responsible for the safe dispatch and maintenance of a diverse fleet of vehicles, including snowmobiles and several models of snowcoaches. Managed a crew of ~25 driver-guides including training, scheduling, payroll, and evaluation. Required fast, flexible and professional judgment skills in challenging winter conditions, knowledge of different snow vehicle types, and intimate park knowledge.

### **2004-2005 May-October Allen Marine Tours Juneau, Alaska Naturalist**

Conducted interpretive whale watching/wildlife and glacial fjord boat tours on a 150 passenger catamaran in Alaska's Inside Passage. Gave in-depth tours on cetacean and other marine wildlife biology and behavior, local culture and history, and ecology and geology of Inside Passage, both marine and temperate rain forest habitats. Performed both first and second mate duties including USCG drills and general maintenance of the vessel.

### **1999-2006 December-March Xanterra Parks and Resorts Yellowstone National Park Snowcoach Driver Guide, Old Faithful Snow Lodge**

Responsible for the safe operation of a ten-passenger 1969 Bombardier snowcoach, including light mechanical duties and meeting DOT requirements. Develop and lead park-wide interpretive, thematic tours requiring in-depth knowledge and conveyance of the history, geology, geography, flora, fauna and ecology of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

### **2002 April-October Xanterra Parks and Resorts Yellowstone National Park Employee Co-op Recreation Program Supervisor, Old Faithful**

Organized and implemented activities including league sports, tournaments, van, raft and hiking trips, dances, movies and seminars for 1000 employees. Supervised and trained two coordinators and maintained an historic recreation hall with sports, game, weight and audio-visual equipment.

### **2001 May-October Xanterra Parks and Resorts Yellowstone National Park Bell Hop, Lake Yellowstone Hotel**

Primary guest service related to luggage handling, informing guests of local amenities, activities and local history, for both individuals and motor coach tours.

### **2000 May-September Xanterra Parks and Resorts Yellowstone National Park Children's Program Activity Facilitator, Old Faithful**

Designed and implemented comprehensive interpretive, thematic programs for children ages 5-12; included indoor games, arts and crafts, and outdoor activities.

### **1998-1999 May-September Xanterra Parks and Resorts Yellowstone National Park Step-on Tour Guide**

Developed and led interpretive, thematic tours on visiting motor coaches with short walking excursions. Commentary required in-depth comprehension and conveyance of the history, geography, geology, flora, fauna and ecology of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

### **1995-1997 May-October Xanterra Parks and Resorts Yellowstone National Park Sales Associate, Mammoth Hotel Gift Shop**

Carried out daily duties associated with sales including inventory and cash handling, with a focus on traveling consumers.

## **Education**

**1999 State University of New York, College at Oswego Oswego, New York**  
Bachelor of Arts in English Writing Arts, Minor in Theater

**Relevant  
experience  
and  
qualifications**

**Wilderness First Responder**

CPR Certified

Class C CDL

National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) Leave No Trace Trainer

**Backcountry Experience**

Backpacked and skied thousands of miles in the Yellowstone area and western states, including Alaska and Hawaii. Well-versed in low impact backcountry etiquette including Leave No Trace technique. Extensive mountain climbing record. Comfortable in all types of terrain and weather.

**Old Faithful Winter Search and Rescue Volunteer Winters 1999-2006**

Participate in mock search scenarios, find a patient on a backcountry ski / snowshoe trail, implement proper first responder protocol and package and transport patient in winter conditions. Knowledgeable in toboggan use and avalanche awareness.

**Writing**

Contribute to regional publications and blogs, generally on Yellowstone related topics.