

YELLOWSTONE FOREVER



March 1, 2020 – February 28, 2021

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The restoration and monitoring of cutthroat trout, cougar, and wolf populations were the cornerstone of our 2020 wildlife projects. Your support furthered our mission to understand and protect native species and ecological processes.

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Yellowstone simply wouldn't be what it is without your support of Youth Education Initiatives like the Youth Conservation Corps and our very own Yellowstone Forever Institute.



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Your support made critical operations like maintaining the park's trails and boardwalks and funding the Annual Stock Purchase Program possible.



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FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT & CEO

Nature's resiliency is rooted in its ability to adapt, and it has been inspiring to see the resilience of Yellowstone National Park despite the extraordinary challenges of the past year.

Your steadfast support made it possible for us to continue to fund priority projects that protect the park's ecosystem and wildlife, enhance visitor experiences and education, and preserve Yellowstone's heritage, history, and trails.

This annual report acknowledges what we have accomplished together over the past year, including efforts to restore native Yellowstone cutthroat trout populations, rehabilitate trails and boardwalks, and fund youth education initiatives. This work would not have been possible without your responsiveness and commitment.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the world's first national park. As we look to next year and Yellowstone National Park's 150th anniversary, we are inspired by all that has been accomplished and look forward to working with you to protect and preserve Yellowstone for the future.



Kevin Butt
Chairman of the Board



Lisa Diekmann
President & CEO



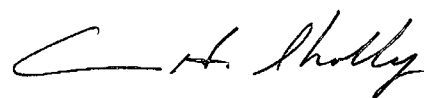
Breathtaking views like this are a testament to both the resiliency of nature and your unwavering commitment to Yellowstone. NPS/Jacob Frank

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

This past year presented unprecedented challenges, but through it all, life in Yellowstone has continued. We appreciate the unwavering support of Yellowstone Forever's dedicated community.

As our nonprofit partner, Yellowstone Forever provides a wide range of support for projects that help the park achieve conservation, visitor experience, and education priorities. Their long-standing financial support for projects like the Yellowstone Wolf Project, Native Fish Restoration, and the Yellowstone Youth Conservation Corps is critical to helping the park preserve and protect Yellowstone for this and future generations.

In 2022, Yellowstone National Park will celebrate its 150th anniversary. While we reflect on all that has happened in Yellowstone since its founding, we also look forward to the next 150 years of collaboration and conservation. Thank you for your continued commitment to the future of Yellowstone National Park.



Cam Sholly

Yellowstone National Park Superintendent



PROTECT YELLOWSTONE'S ECOSYSTEM AND WILDLIFE

Yellowstone Wolf Research and Education



Much of the Yellowstone Wolf Project's fieldwork occurs during the harsh winter months in Yellowstone. NPS/Jim Peaco

The Yellowstone Wolf Project is the longest-running program continually funded by you, our Yellowstone Forever members. In addition to increasing the public's understanding of how important wild wolves are to the park's ecosystem, it also informs wolf conservation efforts around the world.



The reintroduction of the grey wolf has led to greater biodiversity throughout the park, for a healthier, more balanced ecosystem — one that will continue to inspire generations to come. NPS/Jim Peaco

Between 1995 and 1996, 31 gray wolves were reintroduced to Yellowstone after nearly 70 years of absence. Following the reintroduction, this program has played an important role in monitoring the park's wolf population and the public's understanding of wild wolves in the park. This program is the longest-running program continually funded by Yellowstone Forever members. Year-round field research helps biologists gain data on a broad range of topics, including population dynamics, predator-prey interactions, social behavior, genetics, disease, multi-carnivore competition, ecosystem impacts, and human-wolf relationships. Collectively, this work serves the park's mission to understand and preserve native species and ecological processes, and informs wolf conservation efforts worldwide. Since this program began, Yellowstone Forever has provided approximately 60% of the project's yearly budget through private funds.



The Yellowstone Wolf Project tracks pup birth and survival rates. NPS/Dan Stahler

PROTECT

YELLOWSTONE'S ECOSYSTEM AND WILDLIFE

Native Fish Restoration



Cutthroat trout spawn in the tributaries and streams of Yellowstone Lake. NPS/Jay Fleming

Since their discovery in Yellowstone Lake in 1994, predatory lake trout have depleted 90% of the four million native Yellowstone cutthroat trout that once thrived in Yellowstone National Park. The dramatic loss of Yellowstone cutthroat trout, a keystone species, resulted in a disastrous ecological cascade throughout the

Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. As Yellowstone cutthroat trout—once a reliable food source—began to disappear, grizzly bears, bald eagles, ospreys, otters, and dozens of other native species were negatively impacted. Thanks to escalating efforts through the Native Fish Conservation Program, progress is being made. Biologists are once again seeing Yellowstone cutthroat trout in the lake's streams and tributaries and have documented grizzly bears feeding on the protein-rich food source in the spring. Because there are fewer large lake trout, juvenile Yellowstone cutthroat trout populations (4 to 8-inch fish) continue to increase. For over two decades, Yellowstone Forever has funded work in the park that has eliminated more than 3.5 million non-native, predatory lake trout from the native Yellowstone cutthroat trout's habitat.



Invasive lake trout can produce up to 9,000 eggs annually. NPS/Jay Fleming



Many native species rely on the Yellowstone cutthroat trout, including grizzly bears. NPS/Dylan Schneider

PROTECT

YELLOWSTONE’S ECOSYSTEM AND WILDLIFE

Yellowstone Cougar Project

Monitoring and tracking the elusive cougars in Yellowstone requires cutting-edge technology. NPS/Connor Meyer

The Yellowstone Cougar Project monitors Yellowstone’s top feline predator—the elusive cougar—by integrating year-round fieldwork with cutting-edge tools. Funding from Yellowstone Forever is used to monitor population trends, predation patterns, habitat selection, and behavior using tools like GPS accelerometer collars, remote cameras, and noninvasive genetic surveys. This knowledge helps answer questions regarding the role cougars play in predator-prey dynamics and competition with wolves and bears, and how Yellowstone’s predator diversity influences the park’s ecology. This information serves the park’s mission to understand and preserve native species and ecological processes, and helps inform conservation efforts in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The Yellowstone Cougar Project relies on donations from Yellowstone Forever supporters and corporate partners to fund the technology and skilled field staff needed to complete this crucial research project.



Yellowstone Cougar Project

PRESERVE

YELLOWSTONE'S HERITAGE, HISTORY, AND TRAILS

Trails and Boardwalks



The Yellowstone River Trail covers just 17 of the more than 1,000 miles of trails in Yellowstone. NPS/Jacob Frank

To hike a trail is to see this great park firsthand and be immersed in the wonders of nature. With over 1,000 miles of backcountry and frontcountry trails throughout the park and a backlog of deferred maintenance, it has become increasingly difficult for Yellowstone National Park to fund important trail restoration projects without private support. Funding from Yellowstone Forever benefits the public by restoring trails and boardwalks, addressing safety issues,

improving accessibility, and increasing enjoyment for all visitors and recreational users. The park's continuing partnerships with the Yellowstone Youth Conservation Corps and Montana Conservation Corps maximize the work accomplished in the short labor season. Yellowstone Forever's support continues to be an essential part of collaborative trail restoration while instilling park stewardship principles in future generations.



Support from Yellowstone Forever members allows the park to maintain the thousands of miles of trails that reach into the heart of Yellowstone. The experiences these trails provide capture the hearts of visitors. NPS/Jacob Frank



Many of Yellowstone's trails lead to spectacular views like Mount Everts. NPS/Jacob Frank

PRESERVE

YELLOWSTONE'S HERITAGE, HISTORY, AND TRAILS

Annual Stock Purchase Program and Corral Upkeep



Stock animals are vital to the park in the summer and fall to support backcountry logistical needs. NPS/Jacob Frank



Yellowstone's rangers are responsible for monitoring the more than 2.2 million acres that make up the park. NPS/Jacob Frank



Yellowstone National Park cares for and works 100 head of stock every year. NPS/Jacob Frank

The use of horses and mules for transportation of people, equipment, and supplies in the backcountry is critical for Yellowstone's operations, from ranger patrols and trail work to research studies. These animals are vital to the park during the summer and fall seasons to support ranger travel and logistics throughout the park. Unfortunately, these horses and mules eventually reach an end of their careers and new animals must be purchased to fill

their places. Yellowstone Forever's annual support of this project provides the funds needed to purchase new animals for the stock-use program and to reduce the average "working life" of stock to minimize animal injuries. Additionally, the numerous corrals throughout the park needed to house these animals require regular upkeep and repair. Yellowstone Forever funding and volunteer work coordination supports this important endeavor.



Obsidian Creek blooms with rare warm springs spike rush. NPS/Neal Herbert

ENHANCE

VISITOR EXPERIENCES AND EDUCATION

Youth Education Initiatives and Scholarships

Marking 32 consecutive seasons, the Yellowstone Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) continues to engage teams of youth (15 to 18-year-olds) in leadership, education, recreation, and work activities. Through this work-based residential learning program, corps members complete a wide array of projects such as backcountry trail restoration, fence repair, and citizen science projects. The program is challenging, educational, and fun, and offers participants opportunities to expand their horizons while building invaluable leadership skills. COVID-19 provided challenges this past season, so in 2020 the program was run on a smaller scale as a day program. Even with these

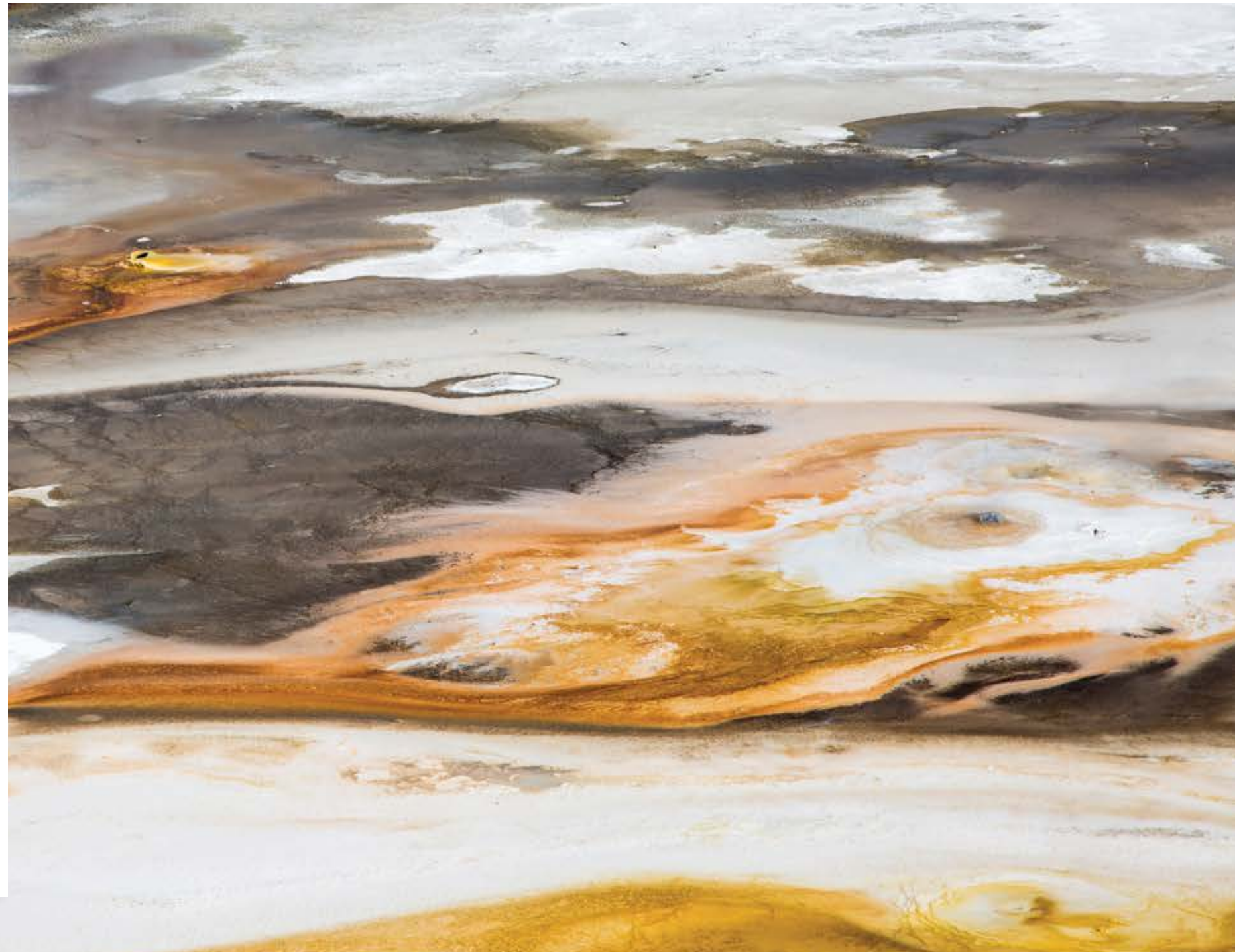
limitations, the YCC crew installed 10 new trailhead signs and removed six damaged trailhead signs. The team also installed 27 bear-proof storage boxes and repaired fencing near the Boiling River and Soda Butte Creek. The YCC team completed citizen science projects on pika as part of long-term climate change data collection and also collected dragonfly larvae as part of a national water study. Yellowstone Forever’s support helps ensure the YCC can continue to promote the stewardship of Yellowstone and other wild places among the next generation, while providing much-needed labor for priority park projects.

ENHANCE

VISITOR EXPERIENCES AND EDUCATION

Norris Geyser Basin Museum Exhibit

Built in 1930, the Norris Geyser Basin Museum is one of the park's original trailside museums and is also a National Historic Landmark. The museum exhibits were designed with silk-screened text that had rubbed away with age, and photos had become damaged over the years. Generous Yellowstone Forever supporters provided the funds needed to completely update the Norris Geyser Basin Museum exhibits, with the work completed in the fall of 2020. The updated exhibits provide visitors with detailed information about the Norris Geyser Basin, one of the hottest and most acidic of Yellowstone's hydrothermal areas. The Norris Geyser Basin is rich in history, having been named after Philetus W. Norris, the second superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, serving from 1877–1882. The updated museum exhibits explain geothermal activity and life in thermal areas and will serve to educate visitors for generations to come.



ENHANCE

VISITOR EXPERIENCES AND EDUCATION

Yellowstone Forever Institute

For many, a visit to Yellowstone National Park is the beginning of a lifelong connection to national parks. Yellowstone provides an unparalleled opportunity for people to connect with wild places and serves as an incomparable natural classroom. Visitors to the park can expand their knowledge of this remarkable place by participating

in any of Yellowstone Forever’s numerous educational programs. Through in-depth Field Seminars, Lodging & Learning programs (offered in partnership with Yellowstone National Park Lodges), and Private Tours, the Yellowstone Forever Institute helps people of all ages experience the wonder of Yellowstone.

The chance to see wildlife, like pronghorn, in their native habitat draws many visitors to Yellowstone. NPS/Neal Herbert



Visitors come to Yellowstone in all seasons for a chance to glimpse one of the more than 65 species of mammals, including moose. NPS/Jacob Frank



Yellowstone Forever Institute

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Sulphur Caldron is one of the most acidic hot springs in Yellowstone.
NPS/Diane Renkin

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The Bison Conservation & Transfer Program quarantines bison before transferring many to tribal and other public lands. NPS/Jacob Frank

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Contact us at **406-848-2400** or **supporters@yellowstone.org** if a name has been omitted or otherwise improperly reported so we can correct our records.

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Yellowstone Forever sincerely thanks the members of our corporate partner community who have invested in the future of Yellowstone National Park. In Fiscal Year 2021, the following corporations and businesses provided major support to Yellowstone Forever.



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FINANCIALS

Yellowstone Forever
Statement of Financial Position
As of February 28, 2021, and February 29, 2020

ASSETS	2021	2020
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$5,419,886	\$112,653
Accounts receivable	54,220	137,777
Pledges receivable	1,378,520	2,229,085
Inventory	1,248,785	983,080
Prepaid expenses	217,438	213,002
Total current assets	8,318,849	3,675,597
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
Land, buildings, equipment, and improvements	14,391,572	16,146,526
Accumulated depreciation	(6,160,227)	(6,654,916)
Total property and equipment, net	8,231,345	9,491,610
OTHER ASSETS		
Endowment	1,771,603	1,770,586
Pledges receivable, net of discount	1,541,069	1,886,466
Total other assets	3,312,672	3,657,052
Total assets	\$19,862,866	\$16,824,259
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$511,930	\$1,350,150
Deferred revenue	75,363	481,411
Grants payable - USFS	8,517	5,128
Notes Payable - PPP	2,351,002	-
Lines of credit	1,900,000	3,250,000
Total current liabilities	4,846,812	5,086,689
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	7,702,565	5,947,345
With donor restrictions	7,313,489	5,790,225
Total net assets	15,016,054	11,737,570
Total liabilities and net assets	\$19,862,866	\$16,824,259

Financials

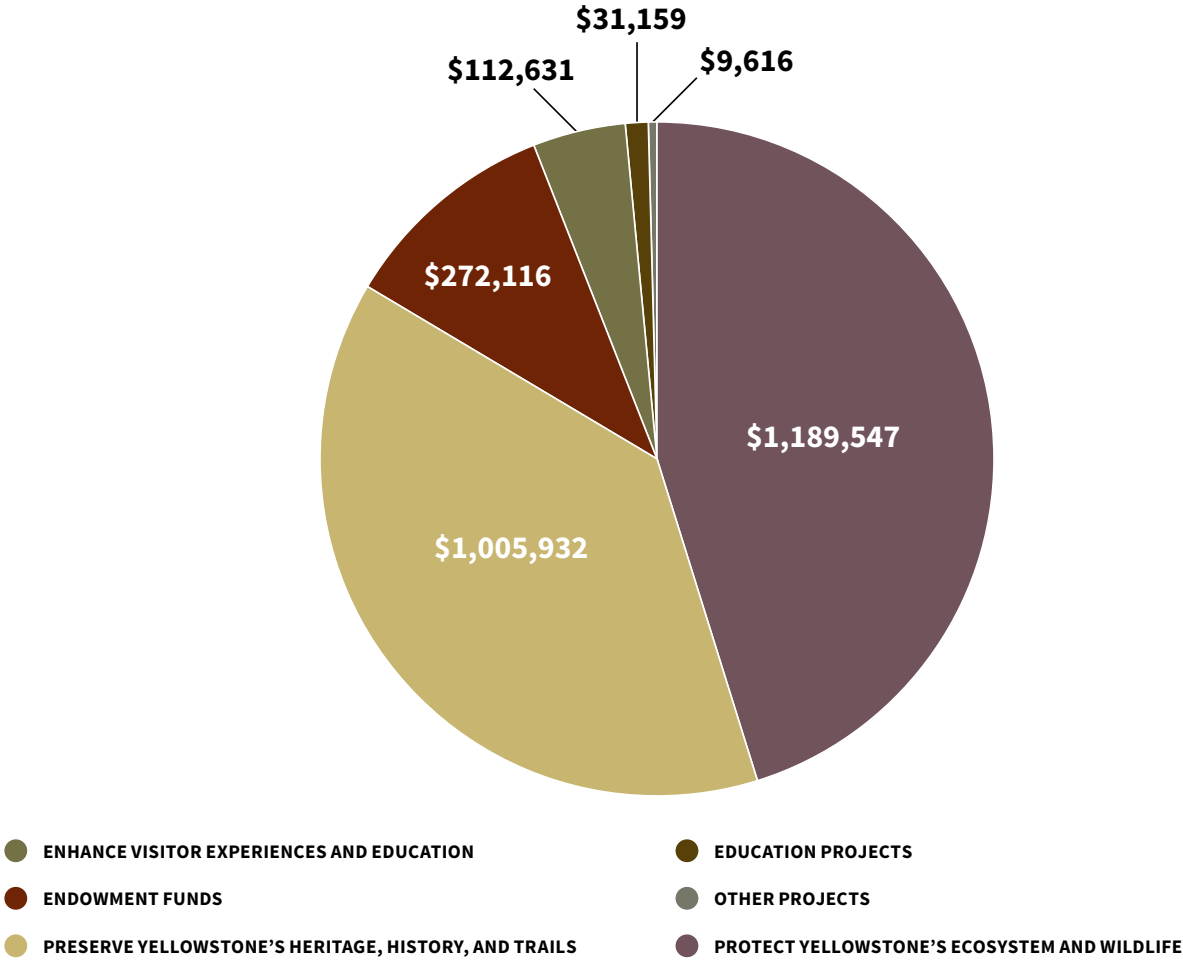
FINANCIALS

Yellowstone Forever
Statement of Activities
For the Fiscal Year Ending February 28, 2021

	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL
REVENUES AND SUPPORT			
Educational product sales, net of discounts	\$1,731,577	\$-	\$1,731,577
Less cost of goods sold	(915,137)	-	(915,137)
Educational product sales, net	816,440	-	816,440
Contributions and gifts	7,388,550	2,525,651	9,914,201
Educational tuition and fees	101,542	-	101,542
Investment earnings, net	84,935	95,350	180,285
Gain on disposal of property and equipment	422,819	-	422,819
Other revenues	85,946	-	85,946
Total revenues before releases	8,900,232	2,621,001	11,521,233
Net assets released from restriction	1,097,737	(1,097,737)	-
Total revenues and support	9,997,969	1,523,264	11,521,233
EXPENSES			
PROGRAM SERVICES			
National Park Service grants	2,135,080	-	2,135,080
Educational product sales	1,282,792	-	1,282,792
Educational programming	547,687	-	547,687
Total program service	3,965,559	-	3,965,559
SUPPORTING SERVICES			
Philanthropic fund development	2,224,946	-	2,224,946
Administration	2,052,244	-	2,052,244
Total supporting services	4,277,190	-	4,277,190
Total expenses	8,242,749	-	8,242,749
Change in net assets	1,755,220	1,523,264	3,278,484
Net assets, beginning of year	5,947,345	5,790,225	11,737,570
Net assets, end of year	\$7,702,565	7,313,489	\$15,016,054

PARK PROJECTS	REVENUES
Protect Yellowstone's Ecosystem and Wildlife	\$1,189,547
Preserve Yellowstone's Heritage, History, and Trails	\$1,005,932
Endowment Funds	\$272,116
Enhance Visitor Experiences and Education	\$112,631
Education Projects	\$31,159
Other Projects	\$9,616
\$2,621,001	

PARK PROJECT REVENUES BY CATEGORY



WAYS TO GIVE



Badgers use excavated dens for daytime resting sites, food storage, and giving birth. NPS/Josh Spice

Yellowstone Society

The Yellowstone Society is a community of like-minded philanthropy members who annually contribute a gift of \$1,000 or more (or \$84 per month as a Yellowstone Guardian). For more information visit Yellowstone.org/society.

Yellowstone Guardians

Join a special group of members who provide steady support to Yellowstone by becoming a Yellowstone Guardian with a monthly gift of \$10 per month or more. Visit Yellowstone.org/guardians to learn more information.

Planned Gift Opportunities

Leave a legacy for Yellowstone and help ensure the continuation of our work for Yellowstone National Park by making a planned gift. For more information visit Yellowstone.org/planned.

Gift of Securities

Gifts of stock and other appreciated securities are an easy way to help Yellowstone while receiving a number of tax benefits. Call us at 406-848-2400 to learn more.

Matching Gifts

Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions or volunteer hours made by their employees. Visit Yellowstone.org/matching-gifts to learn more.

Corporate Partnerships

Become a corporate partner and help us meet the park's needs while solving pivotal issues that impact Yellowstone on a daily basis. Visit Yellowstone.org/corporate-partners for more information.

Memorial and Honor Gifts

To make a gift in someone's honor or memory, please call 406-848-2400 or select "dedicate my donation in honor or in memory of someone" on our online donation page.

Donate Online

Make a one-time or monthly donation at Yellowstone.org/donate.

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While the fiscal year covered in this report is from March 1, 2020 – February 28, 2021, the board, National Advisory Council, and staff lists are as of April 15, 2021.

The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone takes on new hues in winter. NPS/Jacob Frank

Leadership



Yellowstone Forever is the official nonprofit partner of Yellowstone National Park. Our mission is to protect, preserve, and enhance Yellowstone National Park through education and philanthropy.

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