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Winter in Yellowstone

Creating a Clean & Quiet Future for Our First National Park

National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) is working to protect Yellowstone National Park's wildlife and restore the park's unique soundscape and pristine air quality by promoting a winter snowcoach-only transportation system.

A Hopeful "Do-Over"

After decades of proposed management plans that failed to safeguard Yellowstone's natural resources, the National Park Service is in its final phase of developing a long-term winter use plan. During the next year, the National Park Service will use sound science and public input to determine how to provide adequate public winter access to Yellowstone while protecting the park's wildlife, air quality, and natural soundscape.

Why Snowcoaches?

NPCA supports a snowcoach-only policy in Yellowstone National Park. Here's why:

- The National Park Service has completed 3 Environmental Impact Statements and a total of 5 studies on winter use in Yellowstone over the past 10 years. These studies consistently show that snowcoach travel best protects the park's air quality, soundscape, wildlife and provides reliable access to the park.
- Snowcoaches minimize disruption of wildlife during the fragile winter months by bringing visitors into the park using fewer vehicles.
- Snowcoaches provide visitors with improved access to park interpretation and educational information.
- Every former (living) director of the National Park Service agrees that snowcoach visitation should replace snowmobile visitation in the park.
- The American public strongly supports the "least-impacting" form of winter visitation to Yellowstone National Park - snowcoaches.



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Protecting Our National Parks for Future Generations®

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NPCA Stays the Course

Appropriate winter management in Yellowstone National Park has been the most high-profile and contentious issue in the history of the National Park Service. Despite fluctuations in park management, policy and political pressure, the scientific findings that snowcoach-only travel is the best option for the park have been unvarying.

For the past 10 years NPCA has been a constant advocate for appropriate winter use in Yellowstone, using a wide variety of tactics to ensure the final outcome best protects the resources of America's first national park.

NPCA will continue to work with our conservation partners, the American public and the National Park Service to advocate for what is best for Yellowstone National Park—the phase out of snowmobiles and a transition to snowcoaches.

For More Information:

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By the Numbers

100,000 public comments on proposed final winter use plan generated by NPCA advocacy work



The ratio of comments in support of phasing out snowmobiles in Yellowstone National Park; 4 to 1



Every living former director of the National Park Service agrees, snowcoach visitation ought to replace snowmobiles

