



WILDERNESS
AWARENESS
SCHOOL

Adult Wolf Tracking Expedition 2017

Cascade Mountains, WA

Dear Expedition Participants,

Greetings!

Thank you for registering for the **2017 Wolf Tracking Expedition** with Wilderness Awareness School.

The wolves have returned to the Cascades in Washington, and we are excited to track our local wolves in our home state after many years of expeditions to Central Idaho.

Please read this letter very carefully! You will need the enclosed information in order to prepare thoroughly and appropriately for this expedition, and to make travel plans to meet up with us in the Seattle area.

Our base camp for this expedition will be over an hour from the nearest (small) town. *Making trips into town for items you forgot to pack is not possible!* So, please plan ahead and pay close attention to the gear list and tips included in this packet.

I can't wait to see what new magic is created in this 17th year of Wolf Tracking.

Please call our office at (425) 788-1301 with any questions.

To warm summer days in the wilderness,

Mike Prince
Summer Program Director
Wilderness Awareness School
mikep@wildernessawareness.org

Wolf Tracking Expedition Information

Sunday August 6 Travel to Seattle, WA. WAS Airport Van Pickup at Noon.

1:00 PM Meet at Linne Doran

Linne Doran address is: **20410 320th Ave NE, Duvall, WA 98019**

Travel to Base Camp

August 6 - 12 Base Camp in Cascades Mountains

Saturday August 12 1:00 PM Return to Linne Doran

WAS Airport Van arrives at SEA Airport by 3:00 PM

Getting to and from Base Camp: Participants will meet us at Linne Doran and ride in School or rental vans from there to our base camp location. (~2.5 hr drive). More details about travel arrangements are included below.

Base Camp:

Our base camp is located in the Cascade Mountains. We have a 2 – 3 hour drive from Duvall depending on the site we select. The exact basecamp at which we stay will be determined in early summer based on local conditions and research information on wolves and other wildlife. The Wilderness Awareness School office will have information on our exact location for emergency purposes (such as wildfire or participant injury). There is likely to be no cell reception in that area. Program staff will have access to a satellite phone for calling out in case of an emergency.

The elevation is likely between 2,500 and 3500 feet depending on the site.

Weather in the Eastern Cascades in August is variable. It is usually hot and dry during the day, with potential for temperatures in the 80's or 90's and occasional thunderstorms with rain and hail in the afternoon. ***At night, temperatures may drop to freezing!***

What to Expect:

Daily life will center around our base camp, where meals and lessons will take place and where we will set up our tents. Each day participants will pack a lunch and water and travel in small groups into the field, either departing on foot from base camp or driving to nearby locations to cover more ground. Distances covered on foot will vary depending on group interests, energy, and the location of wolves and other wildlife.

In camp everyone is expected to spend some time helping to prepare meals and clean up group dishes, and each participant will be expected to clean their own dishes and generally keep their personal items in good repair and organized. Our bathroom facilities are wilderness-style port-a-potties. There are creeks for wading (wonderful on hot afternoons!) but in order to protect the sensitive ecosystem, washing in the creek with soap of any kind (even biodegradable) is strictly not allowed.

Food:

We will provide all meals and snacks for participants while they are at base camp. Our first group meal will be Sunday dinner; our last group meal will be lunch on Saturday. Participants will need to bring food and/or money for their travel days. More detailed explanation of this can be found below in the section about travel options, packing requirements and gear.

We consider it important to provide healthy food, and serve organic fare as much as possible – this is particularly true with regard to meat and dairy products. Please make sure that the information you provide on the dietary form is complete – traveling to town to purchase different food during the week is not an option.

Our kitchen space is small, and there is limited room to store personal food items at our base camp, unless this is a necessity for dietary/medical reasons *and has been cleared with the director*. Further, since we are in bear country, ***keeping food in tents is not an option – do not even consider it!***

Emergency Plans:

Wildfire –There are occasional wildfires during the summer season, both from human sources and from lightning. Our use of campfires is in line with Forest Service and Wilderness Area regulations, and our fires are monitored constantly until they are out. Sometimes, campfires are not allowed, following local Forest Service regulations based on wildfire risk. **We check regularly with local rangers for information on any active wildfires for miles around our location.**

Medical – All of our staff, and most of our volunteers are trained in Wilderness First Aid and CPR. We will have at least 2 staff members who are also certified as a Wilderness First Responder. There is usually a medical clinic 2 hours away from our base camp available for any medical needs during the week. Please make sure the required medical forms are filled out thoroughly so that our staff has access to all the information they might need.

Communication - Instructors and volunteers carry long-distance radios for communication in the field. There is a not reliable phone reception at our base camp.

Medical Information:

Due to the remote location of this expedition, it is absolutely vital that we have *complete* medical information and history for all of our participants. Please update the online Medical form two weeks before the expedition with any new information.

Communication and Cell Phones:

There is NO CELL PHONE reception at our base camp, and we ask that participants be prepared in advance to turn off their cell phones for the entirety of our base camp experience. Participants, please know that having a cell phone on in an area of no reception exhausts the battery quickly and we don't have a way to re-charge phones at Base Camp.

**Travel Information
Adult Wolf Tracking 2017**

Saturday, August 6

Flying into Seattle (SEA) and taking WAS Shuttle:

Meet at the SeaTac airport *baggage claim* at 12 Noon with their bags.

Please book flights that land 11:30 am or earlier on July 29.

*** Please sign up for shuttle online or call us at least 2 weeks before the program.

Driving:

Meet at 1:00 PM at Linne Doran, Duvall, WA

Linne Doran address is: **20410 320th Ave NE, Duvall, WA 98019**

You can find a map and driving directions on our website:

<http://wildernessawareness.org/resources/maps>

Cars can be parked at our Coho Ridge parking lot for the week.

Saturday, August 12

1:00 PM Return to Linne Doran

3:00 PM WAS Airport Van arrives at SEATAC Airport

Please do not book flights before 5:00pm.

** Please email any updated travel plans to registrar@wildernessawareness.org or call the office at 425-788-1301. Thank you.*

Required Gear List: Teen Wolf Tracking

- Small **waterproof** tent, tarp, or bivy sack - *please arrive knowing how to set it up!*
- Sleeping bag
- Sleeping pad – *critical to insulate your body from the ground!*
- Sturdy pants
- Rain jacket and pants or poncho
- Warm jacket
- Wool sweater and/or polar-fleece layer
- Long underwear top *and* bottoms – **not cotton!**
- Cotton T-shirts
- Shorts
- Underwear
- Socks
- Hiking shoes / boots – *we walk a lot over uneven ground and off trail*
- Water sandals or other shoes that can get wet– for creek crossing/wading
- Extra shoes or sandals just for base camp
- Swimming suit
- Warm hat
- Sun hat
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Toiletries
- Personal medication (please indicate this on your medical form)
- Spoon & fork
- Bowl
- Cup/mug
- Water bottles – *Please bring at least **TWO** 1-liter bottles or a 2 liter hydration bladder*
- 2 tupperware containers – *These need to be labeled with name and should be large enough to carry a hearty lunch and snacks into the field; bring sturdy containers to avoid them breaking.*
- Daypack – *Large enough to carry lunch, 2 liters of water, extra layers, notebook, etc.*
- Journals (paper notebooks)
- Pens and Pencils
- Pocket tape measure (6')
- Large garbage bags or pack cover for keeping your pack and gear dry at camp
- Money for meals while traveling
- Driver's License or ID if flying
- Money for baggage fees if flying

Optional gear:

- Camp towel
- Pillow
- Wool blanket for added warmth at night – *army/navy surplus blankets are warm and durable*
- “Crazy Creek” type camp chair
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Flashlight
- Musical instruments
- Bow-drill kit
- Knife
- Tracking and Nature Field Guides
- mobile phone (for travel)