

**YELLOWSTONE PARK FOUNDATION**

**TIMELINE**

**1995** A group of concerned citizens come together with a goal of protecting,

preserving, and enhancing Yellowstone National Park.

**1996** A volunteer board forms and the Yellowstone Park Foundation (YPF) is officially

incorporated in the State of Montana.

YPF enters into a formal agreement with the National Park Service (NPS) to become the official fundraising partner of Yellowstone National Park (YNP).

ConocoPhillips, then Conoco, provides the first of two $100,000 donations of

seed funding for YPF, and the foundation opens a small office in Bozeman, Montana.

One of YPF’s first funding grants: Research for the brand new Wolf Project.

**1997** YPF reaches its first $1 million fundraising mark.

**1999** YPF launches a $15 million capital campaign to help build the Old Faithful

Visitor Education Center.

**2001** YPF acquires the Davis Collection, a private treasure trove of thousands of pieces

of Yellowstone memorabilia, rare maps, photographs and other historic items that

becomes part of the Park’s museum collection housed in the Yellowstone Heritage & Research Center in Gardiner, MT.

**2002** YNP premieres the first of many Windows into Wonderland electronic field trips,

with support from YPF through a Canon, U.S.A. grant. The online field trips

reach students from 140 countries and all 50 states.

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**2004** Toyota Motor Sales, USA donates four hybrid electric vehicles to YNP, helping

reduce fleet emissions and share the alternative energy story with visitors. Toyota

also pledges $1 million to the Old Faithful Visitor Education Center, enabling the

Park to aspire to Gold-level LEED certification.

**2008** The first permanent, live-streaming webcam in the NPS zooms in on Old

Faithful, and allows Yellowstone enthusiasts all over the world to keep tabs on the

beloved geyser. Funding and technology for the webcam is provided by Canon U.S.A. through a grant to YPF.

**2008** Historic Artist Point, the world-famous promontory overlooking the Grand

Canyon of the Yellowstone River, reopens to visitors after a $1 million restoration

project funded by YPF.

**2008** YPF, in partnership with YNP, launches the Yellowstone Environmental

Stewardship Initiative. Its ambitious goals include reducing the Park’s

greenhouse gas emissions by 30% and diverting nearly all solid waste from

landfills by 2016 – the 100th birthday of the National Park Service.

**2009** YPF fundraising for YNP reaches the $50 million mark.

**2009** YPF officially launches its Sponsor a Bear Box campaign to contribute toward a   
practical solution for reducing dangerous bear-human encounters in YNP.

**2010** The Gold-LEED certified Old Faithful Visitor Education Center is officially

dedicated and opens to the public.

**2011** Construction of a barn to support Yellowstone’s stock operations is completed.

YPF contributed $750,000 toward the facility for training and caring for the 100- plus working horses and mules used for ranger patrols, research studies and trail work in the backcountry.

**2013** The restored, historic Old Faithful Haynes Photo Shop opens to the public. It

houses interactive kiosks that tell the YPF story; a Photo Op area where the public can have their photo taken in front of a gigantic Haynes postcard and send it to family and friends in real time; and a Haynes corner that allows visitors to see Yellowstone through the lenses of early Yellowstone photographers Frank J. Haynes and his son, Jack E. Haynes.

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