



Join Award winning photographers Jason Hahn and Les Voorhis for a "Weekend with Wolves"...

**3 packs including nearly 2 dozen full blooded Wolves,
3 different subspecies of wolf in one unique location
2 Professional Nature Photography Instructors
1 Extraordinary Weekend!**

This is a unique experience to photograph these incredible creatures on the largest wolf preserve in the Southeastern United States. The workshop weekend begins with an evening classroom session with Jason and Les, covering both nature photography fundamentals and advanced concepts. Then each full day includes two photo sessions with the wolf packs, morning and afternoon. These are not photo sessions shooting through a fence into distant enclosures; rather you will be in with the wolf packs where you will be able to capture amazing photos of these beautiful animals. You will see the full range of pack interaction and behavior, and get to photograph a special pack feeding each morning. Jason and Les will be on hand providing instruction, tips, and techniques during your shooting and classroom sessions. In addition, each day will also include a photo session with other small animals at the preserve such as fox, raccoon, and skunk, and a midday open topic classroom session.



Schedule

Dates - Friday, December 5th, 2008 - Sunday December 7th, 2008

Location - Seacrest Wolf Preserve, Chipley, FL

Friday – December 5th

- **Classroom Session** - Participants will receive instruction on both basic and advanced nature photography concepts, including tips for working with the wolves. They will also be given a presentation on the Gray Wolf (biology, behavior, conservation issues, etc.), a detailed overview of what to expect while photographing the wolves, and rules the participants must adhere to within the preserve. Class will begin at 4:30pm (Central Time) at Seacrest Wolf Preserve.

Saturday – December 6th

Morning

- **Morning Brief** - Participants will meet no later than 6:00am (Central Time) at Seacrest and will again be briefed on the rules, facilities, breaks, and schedule.
- **Wolves Photo Shoot** - The shoot will run until roughly 9:30am, or approximately 3 hours. Participants will be split into two groups and be paired with an instructor and preserve staff. During the session we will periodically move between enclosures to ensure both groups receive time with each pack. One pack will be feeding during the morning session, this can be graphic so those that wish to can choose to shoot a different enclosure/pack during this time.

Classroom/Lunch

- **Lunch** - At midday we will break for a working lunch (approximately 11:00am).
- **Open Questions and Critique Sessions** - During and after lunch four participants will have an open question session with the instructors on any photography topics they choose. They may also show their favorite (or not so favorite) shots from the morning sessions. The instructor will review work, and solicit comments from the rest of the group. Participation in this will be optional for each participant.
- **Small Mammals Photo Shoot** - Following the morning wolves photo shoot and lunch, participants will have the opportunity to photograph other small animals that live at the preserve including fox, raccoon, and skunk. This photo session will run approximately one hour.

Afternoon

- **Photo Shoot** - The afternoon sessions will start at approximately 2:00pm and run until sunset (4:45pm, Central Time). The instructors will work with each participant, reviewing their shots and answering questions in field. Particular emphasis will be on reinforcing the "10 Tips" article provided Friday night.
- **Open Questions** - After the shoot, time permitting, students will have the opportunity to ask any final questions for the day.

Evening

- **Dinner and Critique Session** - We will hold an evening get together for dinner at a local location, to be determined. Following dinner we will set up a screen and projector to display images for critique by the group. For those wishing to participate in the critique, you will be allowed to pick up to 3 images from the Saturday's photo shoot to present to the group. Each photo will be critiqued by the instructors and fellow participants. This is a great learning experience, and one of the educational highlights of the last workshop. Attendance and participation is optional. Each member is responsible for purchasing their own meal and any gratuities.

Sunday – December 7th

- Sunday's schedule will be similar to Saturday's, less the evening critique. We will also hold the feeding session in the afternoon instead of the morning to provide different light and composition opportunities from the first session for those who are attending the full weekend.

Gear

Lenses

Ideal focal lengths to have are in the 100-400mm range. Large lenses (500-600) are really not necessary in most situations, as the wolves will be right in front of us. I usually use a 24-70 and a 100-400 on these shoots. The wolves will be highly mobile, and the ability to quickly change your focal length is a big plus! If you have two bodies, I would recommend

having a short lens (anything in the 17 to 100mm range) on one and something a little bigger on the second (anywhere from 100 to 400mm).

If you do want to use a larger lens, you may want to bring extension tubes to cut your minimum focus distance. A large lens is great to have for one of the pond areas and the small animal session, but limited in most other situations.

Other Camera Equipment

Bring plenty of media and batteries. If batteries run low, we will be near electric hookups, so feel free to bring chargers. A flash will be of limited use for the wolves, as they will red-eye very easily at the times we will be shooting. If you do use a flash a strong diffuser or extension posts are recommend. You will still want to bring a flash as there are plenty of other photography opportunities at the preserve after we conclude the morning session. Bring a tripod, but don't plan to necessarily use it much. While a tripod will cut fatigue and help ensure crisper shots at the long focal lengths, I generally do not shoot off one with the wolves as they move around a lot and I find a tripod is too restrictive. The wolves are also very curious, so it is just one more thing for them to play with and chew on! If you need a camera support you may want to consider a monopod, ground pod, or bean bag, instead.

When we enter the enclosures with the adult wolves, we will only bring minimal gear, basically whatever you can fit in your pockets, and is concealed. The wolves are very curious, and may try to pull your gear off your belt if they get a chance, just to check it out. I usually carry an extra battery in my hip pocket, a bottle of water in my other hip pocket, and flashcards in my shirt pocket. You can wear a photo vest or belt harness, just have everything zipped up or they will want to play with anything shiny they see. We will leave everything just outside of the enclosure, so if you need something it will be very close.

Dress

Temperatures will most likely start off cool and become warm by midday. Average temperatures for the area are 40°'s at night and low 70°'s during the day, however it is not uncommon to have a hot or cold snap that time of year, so check the weather and dress accordingly! Wear clothes and footwear you won't mind getting dirty or wet (there may be dew in the morning), as we will do most of the shoot sitting or laying on the ground. I generally wear synthetic fabric clothes (they help you stay cool and dry fast), a mesh backed fishing guide style shirt with long sleeves or a fleece pullover, convertible hiking pants, hat, and a well broken in pair of water resistant hiking boots. Think layers that you can add or shed as the temperatures change, and don't forget your sunscreen and bug spray.

Rules and Conditions

Photo Shoot Rules - The preserve staff will monitor the behavior of the wolves and tour group, any directions they provide for the tour participants are to be immediately followed.

The safety of the group and the wolves is our first and foremost concern. In the event that the preserve owners, Jason Hahn, or Les Voorhis observe anyone acting in a fashion that is detrimental to the safety of the group or the wolves, they will be removed from the workshop, no refunds will be provided in this event.

Price - **\$525** for the half weekend workshop, which includes an evening classroom session (choose Friday or Saturday arrival), 2 photography sessions with the wolves, and one small mammal photography session. Lunch and snacks will be available at no charge.

You may also sign up for the full weekend at a discounted rate of **\$895** which includes the evening classroom session, four photography sessions with the wolves, and two small mammal photography sessions. Lunch and snacks will be available at no charge.

Price does not include lodging or transportation to and from the preserve, any gratuities for the preserve staff, or dinner on Friday and Saturday Nights. These are special discounted rates just for this workshop from the standard preserve photography fee.

Deposit - A non-refundable \$250 deposit is required for the half weekend, a \$400 deposit is required for the full weekend.

Contact Nicole at nicole@jasonhahn.com or (813) 956-8702 with questions or to place your reservation and deposit.

Checks, Money Orders, and Credit Cards are accepted. You can follow this link: www.jasonhahn.com/wolf_weekend.htm and use the ordering buttons on the page to place your deposit via PayPal. If you would like to use a credit card without using PayPal please call us to process your payment.

Terms - The non-refundable deposit amount specified with each workshop is due at the time you book a workshop. Your space is not reserved until we receive your deposit. The full balance is due 14 days prior to the start of the workshop. If we do not receive your balance by this time, we reserve the right to cancel your workshop and/or fill your spot off of a wait list.

Cancellations, Delays & Refunds - No refunds will be given for delays or cancellations due to inclement weather, either before or during your workshop. We are not responsible for additional costs you may incur due to delays or cancellations.

Cancellations made 30 days or more before the scheduled workshop date will receive a refund less the non-refundable deposit or a credit toward a future workshop or guided tour with Jason Hahn. Cancellations made within 30 days of the scheduled workshop date will receive a credit toward a future workshop. Credits must be used within 1 year of the cancellation date and can be applied towards any open workshop offered. Any price differences during that time period will apply and you will be required to pay the difference.

Physical Activity and Exposure to the Elements - Our workshops and guided tours are designed to appeal to a broad range of skill levels and abilities. However, each workshop or tour is held fully outdoors in the elements. There are certain risks associated with outdoor strenuous activity. You and your personal physician must be the judge of your physical abilities and limitations. We accept no liability for any injuries or illnesses that occur during one of our workshops or tours. All participants are required to complete a liability form prior to the workshop, and will not be allowed to enter any enclosure until the completed form is submitted to the tour leaders. Jason and Les will make accommodations to pace the workshop or tour according to your abilities. At any point during a workshop or tour if you feel you can not continue, please let us know. The instructors and staff reserve the right to pause or stop a workshop or tour if they feel the participants are overexerting or endangering themselves or others. If you have any concerns please contact Jason or Les prior to your workshop or tour. Before your workshop or tour, please read Jason's article, "It Ain't as Easy as it Looks: A Photographer's Guide to Florida's Natural Hazards". It is available on his website at www.jasonhahn.com under the articles section dated May 30, 2005.

This workshop is designed to be flexible and personalized to you. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Travel Information

Tour Leaders

Jason Hahn

Phone - (813) 956-8706

Email - jason@jasonhahn.com

Les Voorhis

Phone - (605) 645-6326

Email - les@royaltineimages.com

Preserve Address

Seacrest Wolf Preserve

3449 Bonnett Pond Rd.

Chipley, FL, 32428

<http://www.seacrestwolfpreserve.org>

Directions - See full directions and map on next page.

Time Zone - Central, set your clocks accordingly!

Air Travel - The two nearest airports are Panama City, FL (PFN) and Dothan, AL (DHN), which are each approximately 1 hour from the preserve.

Also nearby are Tallahassee, FL (TLH), and Pensacola, FL (PNS), each approximately 1 hour 45 minutes from the preserve

Lodging - Approximately 8 miles from the preserve is Chipley, FL, where there are a number of hotels and restaurants. Comfort Inn provides us a group rate, but please feel free to call around for the best rate.

Comfort Inn - (850) 415-1111

Holiday Inn Express - (850) 638-3996

Days Inn - (850) 415-6484

Super 8 Motel - (850) 638-8530

You may also camp at the preserve for a nightly fee, contact Seacrest for details.

Other Things to Do Nearby - Falling Waters State Park and Florida Caverns State Park are relatively close. About two hours away is the St. George Island area, with great scenic beaches, and lots to do. There are also many other parks and attractions within an hour of the area.

Driving Directions:

These are directions using mostly blacktop road. You can take a shorter route, using dirt road (see map)

From Interstate-10 Exit 120:

(Using Blacktop roads)

South to Wausau (approx 8+ miles)

Turn **Right** at the blinking light in Wausau onto CR278 / Pioneer Road. (going West)

After approx 3+ miles, Turn **Left** onto CR 278A / Bonnett Pond Road. (going South)

Keep on Bonnett Pond Road (approx 3+ miles) until you see white fence Posts and Entrance Way.
(Note: Bonnett Pond Road will turn from a Blacktop road turns into dirt Road)

From Interstate-10 Exit 119 :

(Using Blacktop roads)

South to Vernon (approx 8+ miles).

Turn **Left** immediately after the Bridge in Vernon at the "blinking light" onto CR277 / Roche Ave.
(going North East) (Blinking light in Vernon is located at the main square/city hall/library)

Go approx ½ mile and after passing "Vernon Middle School" (School will be on your right)
Turn **Right** onto CR 278 /Pioneer Road. (going East)

After approx 4+ miles, Turn **Right** onto CR 278A / Bonnett Pond Road. (going South)

Keep on Bonnett Pond Road (approx 3+ miles) until you see white fence Posts and Entrance Way.
(Note: Bonnett Pond Road will turn from a Blacktop road turns into dirt Road)

From Panama City:

(Using Blacktop roads)

North on Hwy 77 to Wausau (approx 25-30 miles).

Turn **Left** at the blinking light in Wausau onto CR278 / Pioneer Road. (going West)

After approx 3+ miles, Turn **Left** onto CR 278A / Bonnett Pond Road. (going South)

Keep on Bonnett Pond Road (approx 3+ miles) until you see white fence Posts and Entrance Way.
(Note: Bonnett Pond Road will turn from a Blacktop road turns into dirt Road)

From Panama City Beach :

(Using Blacktop roads)

North to Vernon (approx 25-30 miles).

Turn **Right** just before the second blinking light in Vernon onto CR277 / Roche Ave. (going North East)
(Second blinking light in Vernon is located at the main square/city hall/library)

Go approx ½ mile and after passing "Vernon Middle School" (School will be on your right)
Turn **Right** onto CR 278 /Pioneer Road. (going East)

After approx 4+ miles, Turn **Right** onto CR 278A / Bonnett Pond Road. (going South)

Keep on Bonnett Pond Road (approx 3+ miles) until you see white fence Posts and Entrance Way.