



Alex Berger

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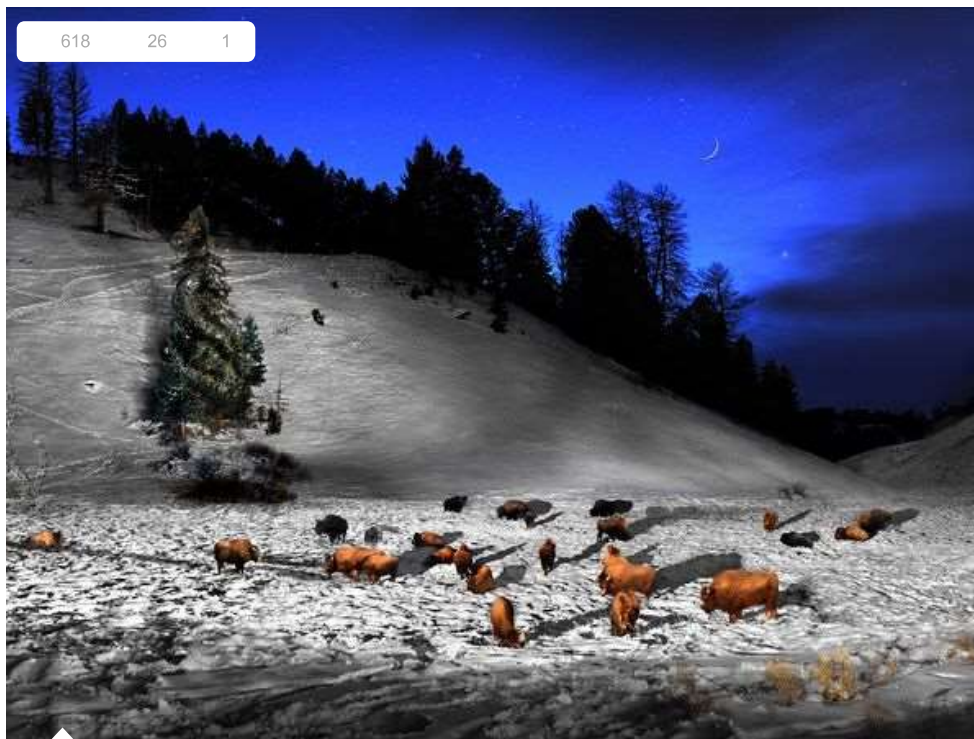
Parks & Wildlife

Published Jun 17, 2016 | [View the Assignment](#) | Features Photos From 20 Contributors

20 photos selected by

**Charlie Hamilton James**

National Geographic Photographer



618

26

1

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23

VIEW SLIDESHOW

This was a tough assignment. Wildlife photography is a hard discipline at the best of times, which makes getting something out of the ordinary very difficult. I was really keen to see images that not only showed animals but showed them where they lived—images that were evocative and even emotional. I have to say that the majority



John Warner

United States

Bison settle down for the night on Phantom Lake after a day spent rc [more...](#)

of images I saw didn't fit these guidelines, but a few really stood out. John Warner's light painting image of bison in Yellowstone at night is a great example. The image is interesting visually and accomplished technically. It is an image different from anything I have seen of Yellowstone—a very photographed place—and so it really won me over. It sets the bison in the landscape and tells us a little more about them than a straight portrait could. It fits the National Geographic ethos of telling stories through images by shooting them in a way that is visually more interesting and fit to purpose than the average photo.

Editor's Note

This fits the brief - animals set in their landscape. I think you have done a great job with the composition - the caracaras are looking into the frame from the left and you have skilfully used the pattern of the branches and leaves over the background of the mountain. Evocative stuff - well done

Charlie Hamilton James

National Geographic Photographer



Chelsea Tischler

United States

While driving in Torres del Paine National Park in Chile, a quick brea [more...](#)



268 15 1

Editor's Note

A very emotional image. Emotion is one of the most important elements, if not the most important element, in any picture. So well done on seeing and capturing such a powerful moment. Its all in the eye! well done.

Charlie Hamilton James
National Geographic Photographer



Julia Wimmerlin
Switzerland

I could have never thought that I can disregard cold, snc [more...](#)



**Thomas Szajner**

United States

Early morning
Yellowstone River
crossing

678

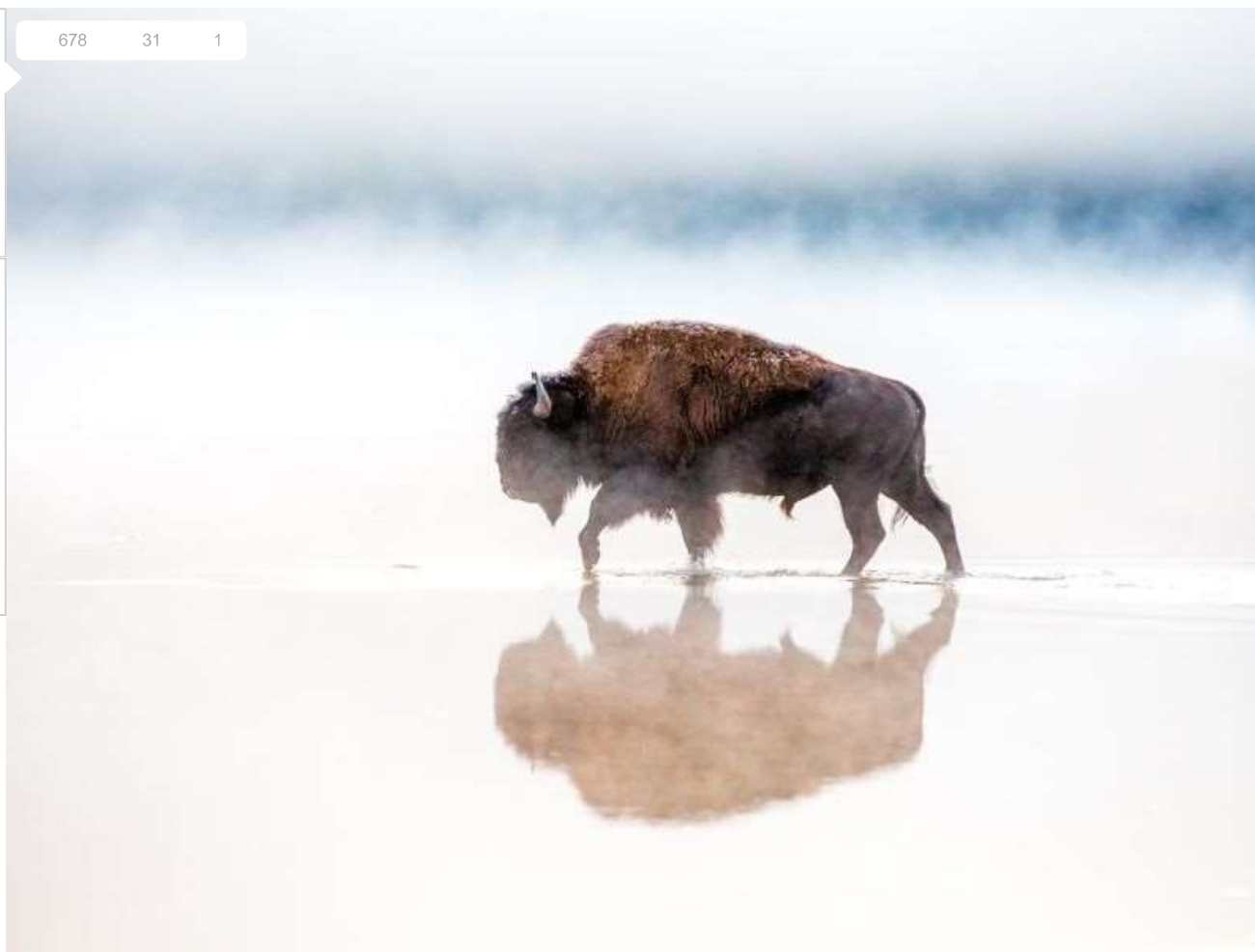
31

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Editor's Note

Just nice! Moody and emotional. It's about cold and solitude and wilderness. I like it a lot.

Charlie Hamilton James
National Geographic
Photographer

**Editor's Note**

Bjorn - as you confirmed to me that little post processing had been applied to this image I can only congratulate you - it's stunning! Well done - great work

Charlie Hamilton James
National Geographic Photographer

**bjorn persson**

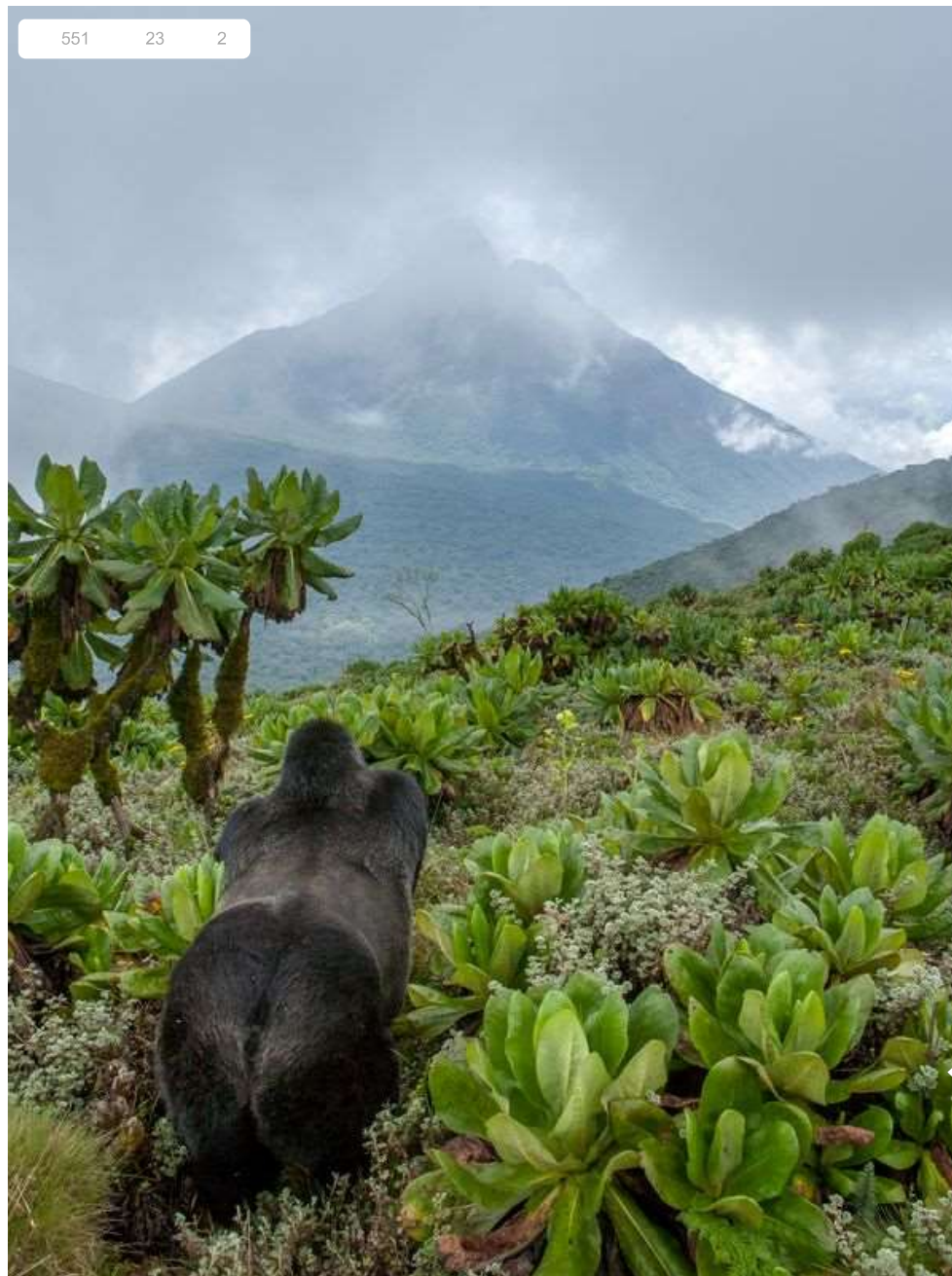
Sweden

A group of elephants
appearing from the clouds
of a sandstorm.



I also like Bjorn Persson's image of elephants in a sandstorm in Namibia. It's a very powerful image. It is out of the ordinary, but not in a gimmicky way—in an evocative and beautiful way. Of course, this image is about being in the right place at the right time, but Bjorn managed to pull it off technically and see the image he wanted to capture. It represents the power of nature.

I would like to have seen more images of landscapes with wildlife in them. There were some, but many didn't mention if they were shot in national parks or protected areas or they fell short technically or compositionally. As I



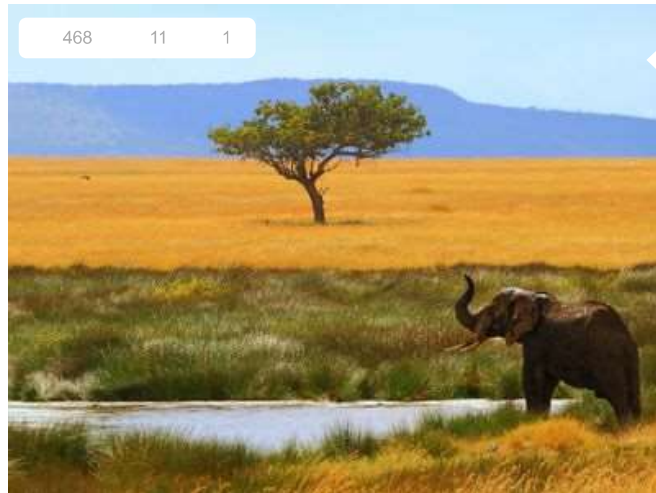
mentioned in the original assignment, wildlife photographers must realize they are photographers foremost. A snap of an animal on holiday or in a zoo is not good enough to really cut the mustard. I wanted to see images where I knew the photographer had really thought about what they were doing and why they were doing it—during the moments of taking the picture, editing the picture, and submitting the picture.



Christopher Whittier

United States

A young silverback mountain gorilla pauses as the clouds lift to [more...](#)

**Theodore Mattas**

Greece

Serengeti is a vast place to be alone....this bull elephant though se [more...](#)

**Alex Berger**

Denmark

On first glance this photo might look like a polar bear relaxing at su [more...](#)

**Editor's Note**

This is a powerful image. Its ruined slightly by the tracks in the snow but made up for by the drama and action - well done!

Charlie Hamilton James
National Geographic Photographer

**Pirooska B**

Canada

Spent some time with these wonderful foxes in Algonquin park aro [more...](#)

814

30

2

**Editor's Note**

There is an argument that a little imperfection actually can make an image better - we know what I'm talking about here. In this case that argument is right on the edge! I still like it though and keep coming back to it. What you have attempted is something interesting and visually exciting - nicely done.

Charlie Hamilton James
National Geographic Photographer

**YARON SCHMID**

United States

I spotted a herd of approximately 80 elephants walking † [more...](#)



**Joe Daniels**

United Kingdom

The abundance and diversity in Raja Ampat ,part of the Birds [more...](#)



221 3 1



901 56 2

**Kiran TRK**

India

Dream shot at Masinagudi (Mudumalai National Park) - In [more...](#)

**steven chou**

China

Free Himalaya Wild Park ,
Qiangtang Tibet

Editor's Note

Nice shot! Beautiful scene setting wild animal in wild landscape - exactly what we want for this assignment. Also - I love that place!!! Had a great time there, nice to see someone nail the shot that I didn't manage to get. Well done

Charlie Hamilton James
National Geographic Photographer

**Lucy Beveridge**

Spain

A lone gemsbok seems to welcome the first rays of light as the sun rises [more...](#)





127 3 1



Magda Oosthuizen

South Africa

Taken at Pilanesberg National Park. Elephant walking away into the distance. [more...](#)



644 118 1



Russell Moore

United Kingdom

Wild life California, U.S.A. Brown Pelicans are superb hunters, and they are always on the move. [more...](#)

Editor's Note

Nice image - always grabs my eye on the page of thumbnails. Well done.

Charlie Hamilton James

National Geographic Photographer



Chris McCann

United States

I spotted this giant tortoise on the last day of our trip, literally during the sunset. [more...](#)



**Mohd Khorshid**

Kuwait

non stopping fighting
sessions between white-
tailed eagle all for [more...](#)

375

19

1

Editor's Note

This is a great capture
of a moment of action
and drama. Its loaded
with aggression - the
power o... [More](#)

**Charlie Hamilton
James**
National Geographic
Photographer





Navtej Singh

India

As I flew over these migratory birds at the Great Rann of Kutch [more...](#)

Editor's Note

The form and composition of this image makes it stand out. The shadows and sky make it other worl... [More](#)

Charlie Hamilton James

National Geographic Photographer



Editor's Note

Great use of a wide angle lens to grab this perspective.

Charlie Hamilton James

National Geographic Photographer



Jerome Siegel

United States

I made this image at Katmai NP, Alaska. This scene reminds me [more...](#)



Of the photos that really stood out, I believe some of the photographers had really gone out to shoot and some had lucky moments. Either way, the people behind the camera made frames that pulled it off and presented to us wildlife shot in interesting and exciting ways. Well done all!

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