



## June 2008 Weekly Highlights

### I. Departmental/Bureau News

**A. Upcoming:** None

**B. Current:**

USGS research biologist Katherine Kendall co-authored the chapter "Hair Collection" in the book "Noninvasive Survey Methods for Carnivores" which will be released tomorrow (June 27) by Island Press. Katherine C. Kendall, USGS Glacier Field Station, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT 59936-0128, PHO: 406-888-7994, [kkendall@usgs.gov](mailto:kkendall@usgs.gov)

USGS-NOROCK scientists Mark Haroldson and Chuck Schwartz are featured in the 2008 summer edition of *Yellowstone Science* titled, "Grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem: from garbage, controversy, and decline to recovery." The summer edition features grizzly bears of the Yellowstone area and highlights the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC), which is celebrating twenty-five years of research and development in the study of grizzly bears in the Rocky Mountain region.

USGS-NOROCK wildlife biologist Mark Haroldson lead a course at the Yellowstone Association Institute, Lamar Buffalo Ranch, Yellowstone National Park during 30 May - 1 June with co-instructor Sue Consolo-Murphy, head of research at Grand Teton National Park. The course, titled "Grizzlies: From Dumps to Recovery?" was attended by 7 adult students from various walks of life including a Yellowstone interpretive ranger, bear enthusiasts, a paramedic firefighter, and Department of the Interior lawyer . The course consisted of field trips and classroom discussion on the natural and cultural history of grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, the science used to evaluate the current status and population trend, and concerns for the future of this population.

A chapter co-authored by USGS-NOROCK research ecologist Dan Fagre is featured in the newly published *Ecosystem ecology research trends*. The

chapter, titled "Assessing and managing wildfire risk in the wildland-urban interface." is co-authored by Fagre, A. Prato & B. Keane.

Four chapters in the newly printed *Integrated Geoscience Studies in the Greater Yellowstone Area* (USGS Professional Paper 1717) were co-authored by USGS-NOROCK researchers Kenneth Peirce, Charles Schwartz, Don Despain, and Shannon Podruzny.

USGS wildlife biologists Mark Haroldson, Katherine Kendall, and Chuck Schwartz were awarded the **Scientific Leadership Award** by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC). On June 21, 2008, IGBC will be celebrating 25 years of grizzly bear recovery at the Blackfoot Clearwater Wildlife Management Area. Kendall, Schwartz, and Haroldson will be presented with the award at the IGBC award ceremony.

**II. Agency Work on Presidential Initiatives:** None

**III. Notable Congressional Activity:**

USGS-NOROCK research biologist Katherine Kendall will be giving a congressional briefing on her work with the Northern Divide Grizzly Bear Project. The briefing will be held on June 10<sup>th</sup> in Washington DC.

**IV. Press Inquiries/Media**

• **Newspapers/magazines/wires, etc.**

USGS research biologist Katherine Kendall was contacted on June 25<sup>th</sup> by Susan Gallagher of the Associated Press about Kendall's bear research. The article has been published by several papers in the region including: Daily Interlake (Kalispell, MT), Great Falls Tribune (Great Falls, MT), Helenair (Helena, MT), and KXnet, (Bismarck, ND).

USGS research biologist Katherine Kendall was contacted on June 25<sup>th</sup> by Kelly Bastion of *Backpacker Magazine* about bear density and hiking dangers associated with bear activity. The article will likely be published in the October issue of the magazine.

USGS research biologist Katherine Kendall was contacted on June 26<sup>th</sup> by Jocelyn Mercer of the Washington Boundary Newspaper about her bear DNA study and the resulting remote camera footage. The article will be printed in the July 4<sup>th</sup> edition.

USGS wildlife biologist Chuck Schwartz was interviewed by free lance writer Andrew Findlay on June 5<sup>th</sup> about the history, workings, and collaborative successes of the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team for a story emphasizing coordinated data collection and how it has been successful. The story will be featured in *Georgia Strait* the last week of June.

USGS-NOROCK ecologist Kim Keating was interviewed by Joyce Mercer of the Waterton Boundary Newspaper on June 2, 2008. The article, scheduled to print on June 16<sup>th</sup>, will be about Keating's bighorn research in Waterton-Glacier National Park, specifically the general purpose of the study (to examine movements, distribution, and habitat use) and some major findings, focusing on the fine-scaled partitioning of the Waterton-Glacier bighorn population into local social groups and neighborhoods, and the fact that this arrangement has implications for the exchange of diseases and genetic material.

USGS research associate and wildlife biologist Jeff Stetz is featured in *Glacier Park Magazine* in an article highlighting Stetz's work with the Northern Divide Grizzly Bear Project's remote camera research on bears in Glacier National Park, Montana. The article is found in the Summer 2008 issue of the magazine. Stetz was interviewed by Chris Peterson on January 18, 2008.

- **Broadcast and Film**

USGS research biologist Katherine Kendall was contacted on June 25<sup>th</sup> by Mark Holyoak, anchor of KPAX News in Missoula, Montana, about her research with bears and the remote camera video recently released on the USGS-Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center website. The feature aired June 27<sup>th</sup>.

One May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008 USGS scientist Katherine Kendall gave a film interview to NBC News Correspondent Michael Okwu for an NBC Today Show story. She discussed the Northern Divide Grizzly Bear Project and was accompanied by USGS Central Region Chief of Communications, Dave Ozman. The featured aired the morning of June 27<sup>th</sup>.

One June 17<sup>th</sup>, USGS biologists Chick Schwartz and Pete Gogan were interviewed by journalists from Cheri Sundae Productions and Animal Planet. The scientists examined video on aggressive bison and bear behavior and provided an interpretation based on their professional, scientific perspective. No release date is scheduled at this time.

- **Other** (Forum meeting, press conference, media training, etc): None

V. **Key FOIA Requests:** None