



March 2008 Weekly Highlights

I. Departmental/Bureau News

A. Upcoming: None

B. Current:

New webpage postings have been developed for USGS scientist Kate Kendall's research. The new pages contain video and photographs of bears at bear hair traps and rub trees; all field studies associated with the Northern Divide Grizzly Bear Study. Please visit the USGS Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center News webpage (<http://nrmsc.usgs.gov/news/KendallRemoteCamera.htm>) .

In January, USGS Research Ecologist, Dan Fagre, presented on *Ecological Thresholds Relating to Climate Change*. The talk was recorded as a Podcast and can be accessed at http://communities.usgs.gov/oc_blogs/corecast/?p=60

II. Agency Work on Presidential Initiatives: None

III. Notable Congressional Activity: None

IV. Press Inquiries/Media

Newspapers/magazines/wires, etc.

USGS scientist Kim Keating was contacted by Becky Lomax of the Smithsonian Magazine about his research on tracking bighorn sheep in Glacier National Park. The story, "Tracking Bighorns", was published in the February issue and can be viewed at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/phenom-200803.html#>

Researchers from USGS Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center and the University of Montana were contacted by Cory Hatch of the Jackson Hole News & Guide about the implications supplemental feeding has on parasite levels in the

digestive track of elk. The story was printed on Wednesday, February 20, 2008.

USGS scientist Kate Kendal was contacted by Christine Paige from Montana Outdoors Magazine about research pertaining to the Northern Divide Grizzly Bear Study. The article is featured in the cover story, "State of the Grizzly", on the current (March/April) issues of Montana Outdoors Magazine. The article is about research pertaining to the Northern Divide Grizzly Bear Study (<http://nrmsc.usgs.gov/research/NCDEbeardna.htm>). Montana Outdoors magazine website is <http://fwp.mt.gov/mtoutdoors/>.

USGS scientist Katherine Kendall was interviewed March 12th by Elizabeth Pennisi of *Science* for an article in the "Newsmakers" section. The article, featuring the Northern Divide Grizzly Bear project, will be published in the March 28th issue of *Science*.

USGS scientist Chuck Schwartz was contacted by Todd Wilkenson of Jackson Hole Magazine to discuss habits of a specific female grizzly bear collared with a GPS transmitter from 2004 – 2006 in Grant Teton National Park. They also discussed the 2007 bear mortality of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The story will be published in the summer edition of Jackson Hole Magazine.

USGS scientist Kate Kendall was interviewed by Joel Achenbach of the Washington Post on Tuesday, February 26, about the Northern Divide Grizzly Bear Study in northwest Montana. The article was featured on the front page of the Washington Post March 10th (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/03/09/AR2008030902152.html>). The article, *McCain Sees Pork Where Scientists See Success: Candidate Criticizes Ambitious Bear Study*, discusses presidential candidate John McCain's criticisms with grizzly bear DNA studies in northwest Montana. The story was picked up by the Seattle Times, Batesville Herald Tribune (IN), and several online news venues such as CBS and CNN.

USGS scientist Katherine Kendall's grizzly work was the focus of a New York Times editorial piece on March 12th (http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/12/opinion/12wed4.html?_r=2&th&emc=th&oref=slogin&oref=slogin).

Broadcast and Film

USGS scientist Paul Cross was interviewed by Addie Goss of Wyoming Public Radio. The interview focused on the relationship between snowpack and elk feeding, and between feeding and brucellosis seroprevalence. Cross also discussed future studies using GPS collars on elk to determine the sites and times of greatest risk of brucellosis spread to cattle. The interview is pending for Wyoming NPR *All Things Considered*.

USGS scientist Katherine Kendall was interviewed by Missoula's KPAX television reporter Mark Holyoak. The report was about the researcher's grizzly bear work related to presidential candidate John McCain's ads about pork spending. The interview aired March 12th.

USGS researcher Chuck Schwartz was contacted by Kimberly Austin of Animal Planet (Cheri Sundae Productions) to discuss grizzly bear behavior in a movie clip for a new Animal Planet program. The new show will feature raw animal footage taken by non professional photographers with the person taking the footage describing the circumstances and a professional such as Schwartz providing an interpretation of the actual behavior.

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

V. Key FOIA Requests: None