



April 2008 Weekly Highlights

I. Departmental/Bureau News

A. Upcoming: None

B. Current:

Improving DNA-Based Mark-Recapture Population Estimates of Grizzly Bears:

A fundamental challenge to estimating population size with mark–recapture methods is heterogeneous capture probabilities and subsequent bias of population estimates. Confronting this problem usually requires substantial sampling effort that can be difficult to achieve for some species, such as carnivores. USGS research biologist Katherine Kendall and colleagues developed a methodology that uses two data sources to deal with heterogeneity and applied this to DNA mark–recapture data from grizzly bears (*Ursus arctos*). The results are published in the April issue of *Ecological Applications*. (Katherine Kendall, West Glacier, MT, 406-888-7994)

II. Agency Work on Presidential Initiatives: None

III. Notable Congressional Activity: None

IV. Press Inquiries/Media

Newspapers/magazines/wires, etc.

USGS scientist Katherine Kendall was interviewed about her grizzly bear work on April 1st by LiveScience writer Jeanna Bryner. The resulting article, *Dancing Bears Filmed in Wild*, was featured on April 3rd and can be accessed at: <http://www.livescience.com/animals/080403-dancing-bears.html>

USGS scientist Rick Sojda was contacted by Stan Finger of the Wichita Eagle on April 7th. The interview was about Sojda's work on identifying migratory bird using NEXRAD data, and the connections of this research to wind energy development.

The article will be posted to an online blog April 14th.

USGS scientist Bob Gresswell's research was featured in the article "Windows on Wetlands" in Oregon State University's winter edition of *Terra* magazine. The article discussed Gresswell's work in tracking steelhead cutthroat trout in the Alsea River Watershed in Oregon using PITs (Passive Integrated Transponder).

USGS scientist Chuck Schwartz was interviewed on March 31st by Cathy Ellis of the online newspaper, *Rocky Mountain Outlook*. The interview is featured on April 6th in the article "Yellowstone grizzlies denning later".

USGS scientist Clint Muhlfeld was interviewed on April 21st by Jim Mann of the Dailey Inter Lake. The article, published on April 23rd, discussed Muhlfeld's recently published research on Northern pike predation in the Flathead River system.

USGS scientist Clint Muhlfeld was interviewed on April 16th by Kim Ibes of Montana Magazine. The article, set to be printed summer 2008, discussed Muhlfeld's research pertaining to evolutionary significance, distribution, and threats of native fishes of Montana.

Broadcast and Film

Footage from USGS scientist Katherine Kendall's bear remote photography footage aired on *Inside Edition* on April 7th. There was no interview, but Kendall's group provided 2 minutes of remote camera footage of bears rubbing on trees and entering hair traps for the story. To see more on the remote camera project visit <http://nrmsc.usgs.gov/news/KendallRemoteCamera.htm>

USGS scientist Katherine Kendall was contacted by Agatha Kowalski of Canada's Discovery Channel on April 4th as a preliminary interview to a film interview scheduled April 16th. The interview will be for the channel's *Dailey Planet* program.

A short news bite (1 minute) about USGS scientist Kate Kendall's grizzly bear research aired on Canada's Discovery Channel on the *Daily Planet* show April 3rd at 7pm and 11pm (ET). There was no interview with Kendall, but her group provided the one minute of remote camera footage of bears rubbing on trees for the story.

USGS scientist Katherine Kendall's remote photography video footage of bears using rub trees was featured on both *The Tonight Show with David Letterman* and *Jay Leno* on April 10th.

USGS scientist Mark Haroldson was interviewed on April 17th by Jim Garry from the Draper Museum of Natural History and the McCracken Research Library of the Buffalo Bill Historic Center in Cody, Wyoming. Haroldson's interview was filmed in Bozeman for an oral history archive of bear researchers and managers who have

worked in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

USGS scientist Katherine Kendall was interviewed by Agatha Kowalski of the Discovery Channel Canada - Daily Planet Show on April 16th about the Northern Divide Grizzly Bear Project. The story will air on approximately April 28th.

USGS scientist Katherine Kendall was contacted by *The Today Show* (MSNBC) producer Curtis Vogel on April 23rd. Kendal will be interviewed mid-May about her Northern Divide Grizzly Bear Project.

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

V. Key FOIA Requests: None