



Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center



July 2008 Weekly Highlights

I. Departmental/Bureau News

A. **Upcoming:** None

B. **Current:**

USGS wildlife biologist Rick Sojda received an award for the best decision support paper (2007) from the journal, *Environmental Modeling and Software*. The award was presented at the 2008 Congress of the International Environmental Modeling and Software Society in Barcelona, Catalunya (Spain). Rick Sojda 406-994-1820 sojda@usgs.gov

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

III. **Notable Congressional Activity:**

IV. **Press Inquiries/Media**

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

USGS scientist Katherine Kendall was interviewed on July 23rd by Kathryn Sonant for an article on Kendall's career as a wildlife biologist. The article is scheduled to appear in the winter issue (mid December) of *The Wildlife Professional*, a quarterly magazine from The Wildlife Society.

USGS scientist Paul Cross was contacted by reporter Brett French of the Billings Gazette, about how snowpack is affecting feeding of elk in Wyoming and what implications that has for brucellosis.

USGS scientist Geneva Chong and Clint Muhlfeld were contacted on July 17th by Brett French of the Billings Gazette. The researchers discussed their proposals and projects relating to the new USGS initiative on Global Climate Change and Wildlife Science. Chong discussed ungulate habitat issues related to climate change and Muffled discussed the impact of climate change on fisheries and what additional work may come from the project. The date of the article is unknown.

USGS fire ecologist Don Despain participated in a conference call set up by

Yellowstone Park on June 27 to discuss the 1988 fires. The following media representatives participated in the call: Bob Moen, AP; April Reese, Land Letter; Steve Sommerdorf, Salt Lake Trib.; Ilene Olson, Powell Tribune. Despain discussed how the Yellowstone ecosystem is adapted to fire and that fire will continue to be a factor throughout the region. The date of the publication is unknown.

In 2007 the Yellowstone Institute featured a course, *Grizzly Bears: From Dumps to Recovery*, taught by USGS biologist Mark Haroldson. One of Haroldson's students, free lance writer Hannah Hoag, wrote an article on the class which is featured in the August 2008 issue of Discover Magazine.

USGS fire ecologist Don Despain was interviewed by Brett French of the Billings Gazette about the Yellowstone ecosystem recovery after the 1988 fires. The article is featured in the July 7th edition of the paper. Date of interview is unknown.

- **Broadcast and Film**

USGS researcher and Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center (NOROCK) Director Jeff Kershner was interviewed by Christian Houser of KBZK (NBC affiliate) Bozeman on July 7th. The segment, discussing NOROCK's two new projects on wildlife and climate change, aired that evening.

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

V. Key FOIA Requests: None