



## Weekly Highlights

March 2009

### I. Departmental/Bureau News

- **Upcoming**

**Presentation about Bear DNA Results:** USGS scientist Katherine Kendall will present "Demography and Genetic Structure of a Recovering Grizzly Bear Population", a discussion on the final results of the USGS Northern Divide Grizzly Bear Project, on March 5 at The 2009 George Wright Society Biennial Conference in Portland, OR. Kendall will also chair the Wildlife Ecology session and serve as a panelist during the Panel Discussion "Can Noninvasive Research Methods for Wildlife Improve Our Understanding and Management of Wilderness?". (Katherine Kendall, U.S. Geological Survey Glacier Field Station, Glacier National Park, MT; 406-888-7994; kkendall@usgs.gov).

**Article featured in Biology Letters.** An article written by USGS scientist Clint Muhlfeld and colleagues entitled *Hybridization Rapidly Reduces Fitness of Native Cutthroat Trout in the Wild* will be featured in Biology Letters on March 18<sup>th</sup>. (Clint Muhlfeld, U.S. Geological Survey Glacier Field Station, Glacier National Park, MT; 406-888-7926; cmuhlfeld@usgs.gov).

- **Current.**

**Article featured in The Wildlife Professional.** An article written by USGS scientist Katherine Kendall and colleagues is featured in the Science Shorts section of the Wildlife Professional Spring 2009 issue (pg 14). The article, *Demography and genetic structure of a recovering brown bear population*, has been published in the Journal of Wildlife Management. (Katherine Kendall, U.S. Geological Survey Glacier Field Station, Glacier National Park, MT; 406-888-7994; kkendall@usgs.gov).

Research footage from USGS research biologist Katherine Kendall was provided to Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks to produce two features: MT FWP Outdoor Report episode 3/19 "Grizzly DNA" and 3/26 "Grizzly Bear DNA II". These episodes are posted on the MT FWP website

[http://fwp.mt.gov/education/video/videolist\\_2.aspx](http://fwp.mt.gov/education/video/videolist_2.aspx) and given to all the network TV stations in Montana. (Katherine Kendall, U.S. Geological Survey Glacier Field Station, Glacier National Park, MT; 406-888-7994; kkendall@usgs.gov).

**II. Agency Work on Presidential Initiatives**

**III. Notable Congressional Activity**

**IV. Press/Media Inquiries**

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

USGS scientist Chuck Schwartz was contacted by Erin McCarthy of Popular Mechanics on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The interview was about why bear human conflicts have increased, as well as bear smart communities information and education programs that teaching humans to live compatibly with bears in their habitats. The story will be in the July or August 2009 issue.

USGS scientist Clint Muhlfeld was interviewed by Rob Breeding of Montana Sporting Journal on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The interview was about proposed coal mining and coal-bed methane development in the transboundary Flathead River system and the implications on native salmonids. The story will be in the May/June 2009 issue.

USGS scientist Dan Fagre will host reporter Lily X. Huang of NEWSWEEK march 16-17<sup>th</sup>. She will be doing a story on climate change in the Crown of the Continent ecosystem. The story will be released in early April.

USGS scientist Clint Muhlfeld was interviewed by Susan Milius of Science News on March 16<sup>th</sup>. The interview was about hybridization of native trout in Montana and the implications on fish fitness. The story was published online on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

USGS scientist Clint Muhlfeld was interviewed by Michael Jamison of the Missoulian on March 27<sup>th</sup> about trout hybridization and relevance to conservation of cutthroat trout. The article was released on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

- **Broadcasts and Film**

USGS research biologist Katherine Kendall was interviewed by National Geographic's Jenny Ewig on March 26<sup>th</sup>. National Geographic will be featuring Glacier National Park in a TV series titled "America's Wild Places". They will film a segment in July about the Kendall's project to monitor grizzly bear population trends using noninvasive methods.

- **Upcoming News Releases**
- **Other (forum meeting, press conference, media training, etc.)**

**V. Key FOIA Requests**