



Weekly Highlights

April 2010

I. Departmental/Bureau News

- **Upcoming**

USGS scientist Clint Muhlfeld will present the talk “Climate Change in the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem: Implications for Fisheries” on April 14 at the 2010 Crown Managers Forum in Fernie, British Columbia. (Clint Muhlfeld, 406-888-7926 or cmuhlfeldk@usgs.gov)

USGS scientist Clint Muhlfeld will present the talk “Hybridization between native westslope cutthroat and introduced rainbow trout: adaptive evolution or genomic extinction” on April 29th at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington. (Clint Muhlfeld, 406-888-7926 or cmuhlfeldk@usgs.gov)

USGS scientist Paul Cross co-authors the article “Mapping brucellosis increases relative to elk density using hierarchical Bayesian models” published in *PLoS ONE* on Friday, April 23rd (Paul Cross, 406-994-6908 or pcross@usgs.gov)

USGS researcher Robert Gresswell will present a lecture on the effects of fire on aquatic ecosystems in conjunction with the Fire in Ecosystem Management Course on April 27th at National Advance Fire and Resource Institute in Tucson, Arizona. (Robert Gresswell, 406-994-7085, bgresswell@usgs.gov)

- **Current.**

The Rocky Mountain Climate Organization and the Natural Resources Defense Council have released *Glacier National Park in Peril: The Threats of Climate Disruption*, a profile of how climate change may affect Glacier National Park. The report cites research information from Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center researchers Dan Fagre, Greg Pederson, Kim Keating, Clint Muhlfeld, and the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team. In addition, Dan Fagre participated in the RMCO media teleconference on April 7th. The full report can be found at: www.rockymountainclimate.org. (Dan Fagre, 406-888-7922 or dan_fagre@usgs.gov)

The 2010 Intermountain GIS Conference: *Challenges for a Changing World* will be held in Bozeman, Montana April 19 – 23. For more information visit: <http://www.magip.org/Intermountain>

The Science Applications and Decision Support element of the USGS National Global Change Program is jointly funding a new NOAA-PACE (Postdocs Applying Climate Expertise) Fellow for 2010-2012 to work with nested climate models in the Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative. For more information visit: http://gcp.usgs.gov/sads/sads_pace2010.html (Rick Sojda, 406-994-1820 or sojda@usgs.gov)

USGS researcher Robert Gresswell is attending the annual meeting of the Western Division American Fisheries Society in Salt Lake City, Utah, April 20-22. Gresswell will be participating in the symposium, "*Small river advances in PIT-tags and capture-recapture: from field data to analyses to application in fisheries research and monitoring,*" and he will present a paper entitled "*Using PIT Tags for Assessing Movement, Survival, and Growth in Headwater Streams.*" Three graduate students working with Gresswell will also present the following papers: "*Using fixed and portable half-duplex PIT tag antennas to assess fish movement and distribution in a stream network*" (Shane Vatland, Montana State University); "*The future of cutthroat trout restoration: challenges, and opportunities*" (Ted Sedell, Montana State University); "*Life-history organization of native cutthroat trout the upper Snake River*" (Kris Homel, Montana State University); and "*Predicting the responses of native trout to post-wildfire debris flows in headwater streams*" (Ted Sedell, Montana State University). (Robert Gresswell, 406-994-7085, bgresswell@usgs.gov)

II. Agency Work on Presidential Initiatives

III. Notable Congressional Activity

IV. Press/Media Inquiries

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

USGS scientist Dan Fagre was interviewed by Michelle Wilson of Audubon Magazine for a website article on glaciers. The article will be posted on April 8th. (Dan Fagre, 406-888-7922 or dan_fagre@usgs.gov)

USGS scientist and Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center Director Jeff Kershner was interviewed by Kate Brown on April 6th of the Southern Utah State University publication, University Journal about the potential effects of climate change on native trout and associated research at NOROCK. (Jeff Kershner, 406-994-5304 or jkershner@usgs.gov)

USGS researcher Paul Cross was contacted by Matt Brown of AP Billings on April 23rd. Cross summarized the findings in "Mapping brucellosis increases relative to

elk density using hierarchical Bayesian models" which will come out in PLoS ONE April 23rd. The article will be published in the next few days.

USGS researcher Kate Kendall was contacted by Juliet Eilperin of the Washington Post on April 20th. Kendall discussed her project to develop noninvasive methods to monitor grizzly bear population trends and publication of related article in the *Journal of Wildlife Management*. The article will be published on April 27th.

- **Broadcasts and Film**

USGS scientist Dan Fagre was interviewed by several media at the Rocky Mountain Climate Organization teleconference on April 7th. The story was featured in almost 200 media outlets including the Associated Press, *ClimateWire*, MSNBC, New York Times, Washington Post, USA Today, Los Angeles Fox radio, and a feature on the NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams.

USGS scientist Paul Cross was contacted by Deborah Tedford of National Public Radio about his work on brucellosis in elk in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. NPR is examining this topic for a radio feature.

- **Upcoming News Releases**

News Release on Keeping Track of Grizzly Bears: The USGS Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center is working on a news release discussing new research findings in the Greater Yellowstone and Northern Continental Divide ecosystems, the two largest remaining strongholds for grizzly bear populations in the contiguous United States. The two studies highlight dynamic tools to assist in conservation and management of this species. Both studies will be published in the April edition of the *Journal of Wildlife Management*. The news release will be distributed on April 27 and partnering agencies will be notified.

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

V. Key FOIA Requests