



The Home Range

The quarterly newsletter of

Predator Conservation Alliance

A forum for action, information and inspiration
to protect America's predators and their habitats

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2003 Annual Conference

Wyoming Game and Fish Commission
Derails Wolf Recovery

Children's Art Show

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ON THE FRONT COVER

"A Bear in Montana," by Kasey Senger, age 9.

Throughout the newsletter are the paintings from students who participated in Predator Conservation Alliance's 2002 Children's Art Show. For more on the show, see page 13.



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Predator Conservation Alliance has been dedicated to saving a place for America's predators since 1991. We work to conserve and restore ecosystem integrity by protecting predators and their habitats.

Forest Predator Ecosystem Protection Program

To ensure that predators—specifically the black bear, fisher, grizzly bear, lynx, marten, mountain lion, northern goshawk, wolf and wolverine—remain an integral part of the northern Rockies, and are distributed in self-sustaining numbers across the region.

Grassland Predator Ecosystem Protection Program

To expand and protect a system of secure habitats capable of sustaining grassland predators in the Northern Plains, including imperiled grassland predators—the black-footed ferret, burrowing owl, ferruginous hawk and swift fox.

Living with Predators

To ensure that people living, working, and recreating in predator habitats of the northern Rockies and High Plains do so harmoniously with predators by reducing human/predator conflicts and resolving conflicts without lethal measures.

Voices for Predators

To increase public understanding and support for predators, and PCA's conservation programs, thereby advancing adoption of policies and practices that protect and restore native predators in the northern Rockies and High Plains.

Predator Conservation Alliance is qualified as a nonprofit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the federal tax code, and all contributions are tax-deductible.

Staff and Board Changes: Thanking a Few, Welcoming Two

Change can be difficult and change can be empowering, but it is always inevitable. All three are truths that Predator Conservation Alliance is experiencing with some recent changes in the make-up of our staff and Board of Directors.

Since mid-summer, three of our staff have left the organization—Andrea Poet, our Communications Director; Sara Folger, our Conservation Program Director; and Don Mazzola, our Program Assistant. All three filled important roles in the organization, and helped us move forward.

The importance of Andrea's work in managing PCA's media relations and newsletter has been evident since her departure. I want to thank Andrea for playing a key role in helping PCA gain increased public exposure during her almost two years with PCA.

Sara's departure leaves a hole in our conservation program as she played a critical part in coordinating our conservation work, and stepped up to keep an eye on the overall organization when I was not available. A big thanks to Sara for taking the lead in developing and expanding PCA's internal structure and systems, as staff increased by fifty percent during her three and a half year tenure.

As for Don, he worked tirelessly behind-the-scenes to keep the program staff well supported during the last eighteen months. Don assisted the organization in so many ways—always with a helpful smile and insight, and we thank him for that.

Serving on PCA's Board of Directors for six years, Sharon Negri brought so much energy and so many good ideas to PCA that it has been difficult keeping up with her. Her influence on the organiza-



PCA file photo.

tion can be seen in our membership programs, our outreach efforts, the organization's commitment to providing a good salary and benefits to the staff, and the Board's own development and steadily increasing involvement in the organization—to name a few.

So a big thanks to Andrea, Sara, Don, and Sharon—all four will be sorely missed for their talents and friendships, both professionally and personally. We wish you well in your future endeavors and we hope you'll remain a part of the extended PCA family.

While these farewells are heartfelt, they are tempered by two new additions to the organization, and a re-focus of our resources and talents on priority issues. For starters, Jon Schwedler, as our new Communications Director, and Kelly Rudd, as a new member of the Board of Directors, are bringing fresh ideas and enthusiasm to our cause (you can learn more about Jon and Kelly on page 23). On behalf of the staff, Board, and membership, I welcome them both. Their perspectives, along with the vision of

other board and staff members, will immediately be put to work. Most importantly, PCA is strategically focusing our conservation efforts on fewer projects that will more effectively influence predator conservation policy. By strategically choosing less, we will actually be achieving more.

I am very excited by the future opportunities new minds and an intensified organizational focus will bring to PCA this year. These additions will enhance our ability to create real and significant outcomes for the wildlife and habitats we work to protect, and we look forward to another exciting and successful year in 2003.

For All Things Wild and Free,



Tom Skeelee is Predator Conservation Alliance's Executive Director. He can be reached at tom@predatorconservation.org

Wyoming Game and Fish Commission Derails Wolf Recovery

By David Gaillard

It was among the most disappointing examples of public process and policy we have ever witnessed.

At its October meeting in Jackson, the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission refused to budge from its position that wolves should be classified as a “predator” if they are removed from the federal endangered species list. Similar to the state classification of “vermin,” the result of the “predator” classification would allow for wolves to be killed anywhere, anytime, and by virtually any method once outside of Wyoming’s National Parks and Wilderness areas. The Commission remained entrenched in its position despite compelling contrary testimony from wolf supporters, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the neighboring states of Montana and Idaho and, inexplicably, even the Wyoming Game and Fish department’s own Acting Director and staff biologists!

The need for a judgement from the Commission was precipitated by a fed-

eral proposal to “delist” the wolf from Endangered Species Act protection, under which they are currently shielded. As a prerequisite for delisting the wolf, the USFWS is requiring that the states of Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming have sensible wolf management transition plans in place to ensure the long-term survival of the species.

The unfortunate classification by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission does not suggest an encouraging future for state wolf management in Wyoming, as eight of thirteen known Wyoming breeding wolf packs ranged outside of the national park and wilderness area borders in 2001. The Commission classification would clearly jeopardize a healthy population of wolves in Wyoming with unregulated killing, and does not indicate a genuine interest to manage wolves responsibly within the state.

But thankfully, the Wyoming Commission’s decision will not be the last word. The USFWS has made it known that they will only delist the wolf if the wildlife authorities in Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana have appropriate wolf management plans in place—and Wyoming’s plan certainly falls short.

Ultimately, most people agree that recovered wolf populations in Wyoming, Idaho and Montana should be managed by the states themselves. This is the option supported by Predator

Conservation Alliance, as our goal for wolves is complete recovery throughout the Northern Rockies, as facilitated by appropriate state management measures.

To reach that desired end, Predator Conservation Alliance will continue to work with Wyoming’s agencies, communities, and residents until an acceptable classification for wolves is created and a healthy, wild population is safely established. The reintroduction of wolves to the northern Rockies is one of the greatest American conservation success stories of all time, and Predator Conservation Alliance will lead the way to ensure that more wolf success stories are to follow.

What You Can Do

Wyoming’s new governor needs to hear that his Game and Fish Commission has taken a position that is bad for wolves and bad for people living with wolves. Tell him that you will not accept a policy that jeopardizes the completion of one of the greatest conservation successes of the century—restoring wolves to Yellowstone and the U.S. Northern Rockies.

The Honorable Dave Freudenthal
Governor’s Office
State Capitol, Room 124
Cheyenne, WY 82002



“Northern Lights,” by Oona Taper, age 8 art show contributor.



David Gaillard is a Program Associate with PCA. He leads our Forest Protection Program and our Living with Predators Program. He can be reached at g a i l l a r d @ p r e d a t o r c o n s e r v a t i o n . o r g

Two Paths on a Cirque for the Wolverine

By Angie Kociolek

Did you know the scientific consensus is that there are less than 1,000 wolverines across the entire lower 48 states—barely enough to fill the seats of one high school gym? While there's no denying this is a disappointing piece of information, seven distinct wolverine populations in the Northern Rockies and Northwest remain, meaning there is still hope for the wolverine.

Wolverines historically scavenged across much of America, in the wild country from the Northeast to the Southwest. Human activities and development have diminished the wolverine's current range to isolated pockets in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming.

While the wolverine situation is grim by most standards, the shaggy mustelid still has some friends in its den. For example, Predator Conservation Alliance (PCA) is spearheading a coalition pushing for protections, using the Endangered Species Act, for this elusive beast. Second, wolverines are also one of the target species of PCA's Multi-Carnivore Conservation Initiative, a quarterly report provided to policy-makers and land managers to promote and secure the use of science-based best management criteria for the wolverine, fisher, lynx, grizzly bear, and wolf in the northern Rockies and Northwest.

But as the conservation community tackles policy and regional land conservation design measures, what else can be done to help the wolverine? One answer involves the decisions that many of us make every winter.

Wolverines are tenacious animals, known to withstand freezing tempera-



High mountain habitat frequented by wolverines. Photo by Don Backman.

tures, steep slopes and formidable distances between food sources. From February through April, they den in snowy, high-elevation cirques—which also are perfect places for adventurous people to play.

This sharing of “habitat” can sometimes lead to problems. In fact, a former Idaho Department of Fish and Game researcher, Jeff Copeland, has documented that “technological advances in over-snow vehicles and increased interest in winter recreation has likely displaced wolverines from potential denning habitat and will continue to threaten what may be a limited resource.”

While wolverines, with their strong jaws and solid frames, may seem like tough characters, they are known to be extremely sensitive to the presence of humans—whether on snowmobiles, in helicopters, on skis or, even, on snowshoes. Females with young kits will frequently

abandon their dens when they sense humans, with the fate of their litters unknown.

The choice of whether we share the high country of our mountains with wolverines or, instead, push them out of their last refuges with inappropriate use is *our* choice. This decision will reveal how much we truly value the wildness of the places we visit, and what we are willing to do to keep them.

Driven by hope, these decisions can protect the snowy landscapes of our dreams.



Angie Kociolek is PCA's Outreach/Organizing Director. Contact her at angie@predatorconservation.org.

Getting Behind the Gallatin

By Shawn Regnerus

Travel planning

The first round of public comment for the revised Gallatin National Forest Travel Plan closed this past November. The Gallatin travel plan, which is reviewed on a 10 to 15-year basis, sets regulations for the type of transportation allowable within the forest—from single track hiking trails to logging roads. These travel plans have a tremendous impact on the quality and amount of wildlife habitat within the forest. As many predator species will not cross trails or roads heavily used by humans, a poorly designed travel plan has the potential to fragment national forest habitat beyond suitability for wildlife.

In an effort to preserve the Gallatin's fishers, grizzlies, lynx, martens, wolver-

ines, and wolves, Predator Conservation Alliance (PCA) submitted comments on the travel plan that reflected a science-based vision of how the Gallatin can be managed to provide vibrant, diverse fish and wildlife populations as well as equitable, balanced recreation. Our vision has a three simple themes; 1) protecting pristine areas, 2) restoring damaged areas, and 3) focusing the various forms of recreation in those areas most capable of sustaining them, without negative impacts to resources and other people.

Protecting pristine areas — With this travel plan, Gallatin National Forest has the opportunity to honor the overwhelming national, state, and local support for protecting our remaining roadless lands. For one, protecting the large, core

blocks of secure roadless habitat is critical for the continued survival of the remaining wolverine populations. These roadless areas contain the best wolverine denning sites, and without large areas free from motorized access, the last of our wolverines could be trapped out of existence.

Restoring roaded areas — As part of the travel plan we asked the Gallatin National Forest to develop long-term restoration plans for the most heavily roaded parts of the forest. For example, the mid-to lower elevation slopes on the eastern portion of the Bridgers Mountains in the northwest section of the Gallatin National Forest have been heavily roaded and logged in the past. The clearcuts are now beginning to revegetate, providing potential foraging areas for species like the snowshoe hare, on which lynx depend. Yet the roads remain. Removing the roads would allow the area to more fully recover its true potential as lynx habitat.

Equitable, sustainable recreation — Not only are excessive roads harmful to wildlife, they add nothing to most people's recreational enjoyment; most of them are

Work party volunteers take a break from trail-busting to pose for a group photo in Montana's Gallatin National Forest. PCA file photo.



National Forest in Montana



Single-track hiking trail in Gallatin National Forest documented by PCA's field monitors. PCA file photo.

poorly maintained and go nowhere. By focusing their efforts on maintaining only those roads that lead to popular recreational sites, such as trailheads or campgrounds, and removing the rest, the Forest Service can actually improve both human recreation and wildlife habitat.

Monitoring

This past summer three PCA field monitors completed our most comprehensive all-terrain vehicles (ATV's) monitoring project to date. Over the

course of three months they systematically visited every trail-head of the Gallatin National Forest in the Bridger, Absaroka, Crazy, Gallatin, and Madison mountain ranges. At each trailhead, they documented with photos and written accounts the trail width, condition, and the type of use occurring on the trail. If the trail was wide enough to accommodate four-wheeled ATV's, the field monitors followed the trail until it either narrowed or ended. The end result of this work is the first comprehensive set of data re-

vealing which trails have been widened by ATVs in the Gallatin National Forest, and most importantly, which trails are still single-track foot and horse trails.

This information is crucial to PCA's work on the revised Gallatin National Forest Travel Plan. The Gallatin currently allows four-wheeled ATVs on a vast majority of its trails, even though it acknowledges that "few trails are wide enough to accommodate 3 or 4-wheeled trail vehicles." Armed with a photographically documented record for each trail still

unmarred by ATVs, we can more effectively use the travel plan revision process to close those trails to future ATV use.

Work parties

On a late August weekend this past summer, a work party jointly organized by PCA and Montana Wilderness Association accomplished a longstanding goal: restoring the natural quiet and wildlife security of upper Rock Creek basin, five miles north of Yellowstone National Park. The day's work was prompted by a survey by PCA's field monitors, who four summers ago discovered the tire tracks of ATV's illegally entering the alpine meadows of Rock Creek, an area of rich grizzly bear habitat. Over the next two years, these tire tracks deteriorated into a wide, rutted trail. Despite pressure from PCA and other local conservation groups, the U.S. Forest Service refused to close the trail until PCA filed a lawsuit on the issue, whereupon the Forest Service finally relented and agreed to a restoration plan. On the day of the work party, 12 volunteers used pick axes and shovels packed in by a member of the local Backcountry Horsemen's club to loosen up soil compacted by ATVs. After loosening the soil to allow the ruts to revegetate, the volunteers dug drainage bars to prevent erosion and pulled branches and logs over the trails to discourage future use, and to protect next spring's new growth.



Shawn Regnerus is a Program Associate with our Forest Predator Protection Program. He can be reached at shawn@predatorconservation.org

New Federal Plan Cuts National Grasslands Short

PCA Appeals Decision on Behalf of Wildlife

By Jonathan Proctor

After five years of planning, writing, researching and asking for public input, the United States Forest Service unveiled new management plans for our northern Great Plains National Grasslands this past summer. While the new plans mark a dramatic shift in philosophy on how these lands are to be managed, they do not go far enough to protect and restore the wildlife of the northern plains. For these reasons, a coalition of conservation groups, including PCA, has appealed the plans and asked the Forest Service to enforce existing laws, and strengthen policies that will best protect the long-term viability of the Great Plains grasslands.

Thanks in large part to the public's 70,000 comments, the most ever for any National Forest or Grassland plan revision (the vast majority of which supported greater wildland and wildlife protections), the plans do contain some very good reforms to guide the management of almost three million acres of our public grasslands in the Dakotas, Nebraska and Wyoming. For example, prairie dog towns will be allowed to expand so that they and the many species that depend on them can thrive. Livestock grazing will be reduced to allow for a more diverse landscape.

But even these changes are not enough, because the net result of these plans is that we will continue to lose our wildlife and wildlands. Among the many requests devalued in the Forest Service

...the net result of these plans is that we will continue to lose our wildlife and wildlands.

plans was the setting aside of only four black-footed ferret reintroduction sites, instead of the nine sites recommended by another federal agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The Forest Service plan also rolled back several wildlife protection "standards" (regulations which the Forest Service must comply) to merely "guidelines" (which allows less stringent interpretation of protection measures). In addition, a request to reconsider all poisoning and shooting of prairie dogs, and trapping of other species such as swift fox, were not addressed in the plans.

To speak to these concerns, PCA has

appealed these plans in an effort to convince the Forest Service to incorporate greater considerations for wildlife into account before the plans go into effect. We must now wait and see how the Forest Service rules on our requests. Predator Conservation Alliance remains committed to seeing that real reforms are implemented for the benefit of the wildlife and the people of the northern Great Plains.



Bison passing through prairie dog town. Prairie dogs and bison co-evolved on the Plains. Photo by Raymond Gehman.



Jonathan Proctor is PCA's Grassland Program Associate. He runs our Grassland Predator Ecosystem Protection program. He can be reached at jonathan@predatorconservation.org

Poised for a Comeback, Black-footed Ferrets Still in the Red

PCA Provides Blueprint for Successful Ferret Recovery

Jonathan Proctor

During the 1970s, biologists lamented the extinction of a species unique to America's Great Plains, a small but ferocious ferret that survived by hunting prairie dogs. Thin and elongated, the furry, black-masked carnivore was small enough to scoot down prairie dog holes, and smart enough to corner its prey despite a myriad of escape outlets.

Yet these special skills and tools were directly responsible for its downfall. Ill-equipped to hunt alternative prey or construct its own homes, the black-footed ferret found it difficult to maintain a clawhold as more and more prairie dog towns were eliminated (to the point where only 1% of their historic population remained). To add insult to habitat loss, a nasty, invasive plague from Europe started

wiping out both prairie dogs and ferrets. Given that recipe for extinction, biologists sadly closed the book on the black-footed ferret and chalked up another species lost forever.

But then in 1982, strange and wonderful news came from Wyoming—a remnant population of black-footed ferrets had been discovered! Biologists from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Wyoming Game & Fish quickly descended and began a captive breeding program to build back the population of black-footed ferrets. Today, 20 years later, over 700 black-footed ferrets are the result of that program, with nearly half of the ferrets living in the wild.

But now the black-footed ferret restoration efforts face an unexpected problem, one literally born of the program's own success. Put simply, today there are

not enough large prairie dog towns to support the number of black-footed ferrets waiting to be set free. Black-footed ferrets require prairie dog towns larger than 10,000 acres, but unfortunately only a few of these sites have been used as ferret reintroduction locations.

To help address the problem, Predator Conservation Alliance (PCA) is stepping in to propose a solution. Over the next several months PCA will launch a visionary new plan to identify the best places across the Great Plains to restore large prairie dog towns, and thus habitat for black-footed ferrets.

Gathering mapping information from over 20 federal, state, and academic sources, PCA researched and identified the 25 best locations across the Great Plains to reintroduce and restore the black-footed ferret. These 25 locations were prioritized based upon prairie dog population data, size of habitat, proximity to other habitat sites, and land ownership. As it is the only existing public research that identifies the best sites for black-footed ferret reintroduction, PCA will be showcasing the document in presentations to federal and state agencies, and also to community groups to involve the public in black-footed ferret recovery.

Counted out before, the feisty black-footed ferret has proven its resilience, and PCA and its members will continue to work to make sure the second act of the black-footed ferret is not a short-lived one.



Black-footed ferret stretching for a view of its prey, the black-tailed prairie dog. Photo by Louise Forrest.

Field Notes

This is a summary of the outreach efforts and field work conducted by Predator Conservation Alliance since our last newsletter.



Chewing on the Facts

This past summer PCA hosted Betsy Robinson & Steve Gehman, wildlife researchers and founders of "Wild Things Unlimited," at a Brown Bag Lunch Seminar at the Bozeman Public Library. Amidst the sandwich nibbles, the duo highlighted the lives of wolverines, lynx, and fishers of the Northern Rockies with an amazing slide presentation. They also reported the results of their Rare Carnivore surveys in the southern portion of the Yellowstone to Yukon region. The audience left satiated with food, drink and facts.



Conferring About Wildlife

On November 19, PCA Program Associates David Gaillard and Jonathan Proctor presented PCA's bold visions for predator conservation and restoration at the bi-annual Defenders of Wildlife Conference, held this year in Monterey, California. David unveiled our new Multi-Carnivore Conservation Initiative, which promotes best management criteria to protect the entire community of forest carnivores, focused on the needs of fishers, grizzly bears, lynx, wolverines, and wolves. Jonathan presented our new analysis of the most suitable habitat for black-footed ferret reintroduction across the Great Plains.



On Nature's Terms

On September 19, PCA Program Associate David Gaillard presented "On Nature's Terms: Predators and People Co-existing in Harmony," at a public meeting hosted by the Environmental Resource Center in Ketchum, Idaho. "On Nature's Terms" is a project of WildFutures, which is led by former PCA Board President Sharon Negri. The film was written and produced by John de Graaf, an accomplished producer, writer, and editor of documentaries for public television. The Ketchum presentation was timely because of immediate threats facing wolves, wolverines, and black bears in the Sun Valley area.



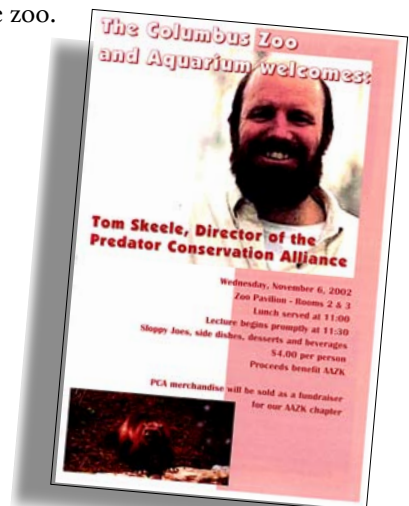
Columbus Zoo Times Two

On November 6, Executive Director Tom Skeele presented a double-header of PCA's educational slide program "The Wild Bunch" at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium in Columbus, Ohio. The program delves into the reclusive lives of lynx, fishers, martens and wolverines. His afternoon audience was zoo staff and docents. His evening showing was for the Columbus Zoo Foundation board and local PCA members. Never having seen a wolverine in the wild, Tom was excited to have the chance to observe one of the mustelids in a tour of the zoo.



Back to Nature

On November 6, PCA Program Associate Shawn Regnerus and Missoula-based Wildands CPR representatives co-led the National Network of Forest Practitioners (NNFP) on a field trip to the Gallatin National Forest. NNFP are forest restoration experts contracted by the U.S. Forest Service to remove roads. Sustainable foresters, loggers, heavy machinery operators, scientists, and activists had a productive discussion about closing roads and what it would take to restore the area to benefit wildlife.



New Video Debuts in Time for Travel Planning

This past fall, Predator Conservation Alliance (PCA) debuted our latest educational production, “Backcountry Travel: The Question of Multiple Use on Our Public Lands” at the Emerson Cultural Center in Bozeman, Montana. As part of our quarterly Predator Conversations series, “Backcountry Travel” drew a crowd of locals interested in the balance between human recreation and the needs of wildlife.

“Backcountry Travel” is not like our other educational slide presentations. With the immeasurable help and inspiration of PCA Board member Kristin Wimberg and her husband Randy, collectively known as Wimberg Productions, we’ve upgraded to video!

Excerpt from the “Backcountry Travel” video:

James Posewitz, Executive Director, Orion, the Hunter Institute, excerpted from the Backcountry Travel video: *“The idea that you need machinery to remove usable parts of an animal from the field, I think is also bogus. Human beings have been hunting on this continent for about 15,000 years. Early on, they killed some very large animals. And in all those years, they never needed motorized assistance in getting the animal home, generation after generation after generation.”*

In fact, retrieving game sort of adds to the pleasure and challenge of the hunt. You have to learn how to use terrain, you have to learn to remember where you are. And you have to learn primitive methods to move heavy weights with relatively simple tools.

What the real success of hunting is the opportunity to be out there, pursuing a population of animals that are secure in the habitat that they live.”



Cover of Backcountry Travel video, highlighting the many uses for humans and other species.

“Backcountry Travel” is a compilation of on-the-ground footage and personal interviews representing the perspectives of hiker, horseman, hunter, rancher, skier, wildlife biologist, roads expert, mother, child, young and old. This video is thought provoking but not dictatorial as it addresses the choices we make, as individuals and as a society. It explores the impacts, trends and ethical implications of recreation on the land and in our lives.

“Backcountry Travel” is suitable for individuals, organizations, schools and libraries. Available on video for \$7 or DVD-R for \$13.

Motorin' for a Cause

Meet PCA Member Bev Steffens-Claudio

By Angie Kociolek

One might say this issue's *Meet a Member* subject is an interesting example of "opposites attract" with an overall positive charge.

Bev Steffens-Claudio grew up in the Motor City surrounded by a mosaic of automobile manufacturers and the gentle country of fields and forests. She came from a legacy of General Motors service but couldn't resist the heroic inspirations of Joy Adamson, Jane Goodall and Diane Fossey.

Like any good, young natural scientist and educator, Bev found herself working to instill in children an ecological consciousness and respect for nonhuman life. But, as fate would have it, there were no such full time opportunities to share those values in Michigan in the early '80s. With

the headlights pointing the way, Bev found herself on the road to corporate executivedom in Detroit's automotive industry, which has indulged her interest in travel and new places. But today she advises young people that, "there is no substitute for a job for which you have a passion—follow your dreams."

While Bev will probably never work in conservation full time, she says her trips out to Yellowstone and to PCA's annual conferences "fill my soul." "I have met so many like-minded individuals at the conferences and it gives me hope to see people who stuck with wildlife research and conservation." Bev has recruited friends to attend the conferences and, next year, she hopes to bring her husband, the other "opposite" in her life.

Gary Claudio, an ex-New York City cop and current marketing executive for GM Racing, tends to feel a bit uncomfortable in earthy places. Bev tells a humorous story of a trip they took to the Florida Everglades when Bev had to guide a dismayed Gary through the marshy territory of the swamp. But she, likewise, quickly admits her own discomfort in Gary's old stomping grounds in New York City.

An animal lover by nature, Bev has followed in her godmother's footsteps and is very active in domestic animal protection. Struck by the suffering of neglected animals, Bev started a doghouse delivery program to educate people about the needs of outdoor pets, an effort that enjoys the corporate sponsorship of Pet Supplies Plus.

A driven spirit, Bev finds herself wanting to do more and has her sights on wildlife advocacy and local habitat issues. While most corporate executives concern themselves more with the bear market than bears, we here at PCA are certainly proud of our member Bev Steffens-Claudio, who bears both in mind.



Bev Steffens-Claudio in Yellowstone's Lamar Valley during PCA's 2002 Annual Conference. PCA file photo.

Lions and Wolves and Bears Make Center Stage

By Angie Kociolek

Bears, wolves and mountain lions are very special to me because they are wild and free. Free to party any time! — Madison Hoeninghausen, age 10, Gardiner

Predator Conservation Alliance has a new rallying cry, “Lions & Wolves & Bears, Oh Yes!” It’s emblazoned on our brand new bumper sticker and it was the proud theme of our first-ever children’s art show.

In September, PCA asked the children of Gallatin and Park Counties in Montana to create original artwork illustrating what lions, wolves, and bears mean to them. The idea was to stimulate children to think about the role wildlife plays in nature and in their lives.

In our ongoing commitment to expand and strengthen public interest in support of predators, PCA embarked on this fun and celebratory program to promote the ecological, economic and cultural value of these animals.

We prepared ourselves for a variety of pictorial interpretations of a human’s relationship to predators, recognizing the diverse make up of this community—from liberal conservationists to utilitarian land users to wildlife antagonists. From the start, we made a commitment to show every piece of artwork no matter how wolves, coyotes or bears may be depicted because it was a true representation of each child’s relationship to predators, after all.

We were not disappointed. In fact, participation was higher than we expected, with 61 entries in total. Some entries were pragmatic, others abstract, and others whimsical, but all of them

evoked a positive message about predators and their place in the world.

The “Lions & Wolves & Bears, Oh Yes!” children’s art show was on display in and around Bozeman for five weeks including at our annual conference in Yellowstone National Park. Hundreds of kids of all ages were exposed to the art show and hopefully walked away with a renewed (or a new) appreciation for these magnificent animals that make the Rockies such a special place.

Here’s what some of the young artists had to say:

“Mountain lions are incorporated in the forest and in our life. Please keep respect for the animals of nature’s home. Mountain lions and bears are very special. Look at the little fishies going off the diving board! We love lions, bears and wolves and they kind of love us too!”

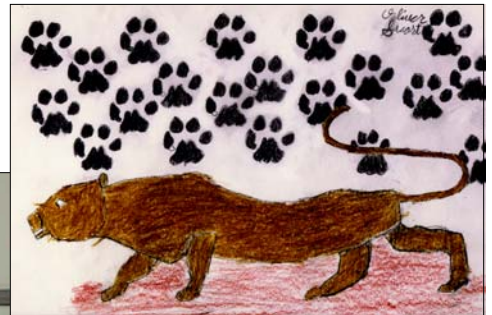
—Eliza Spogis, age 6, Bozeman

“I like the mountain lion, bears, wolves, wolverines and lynx...because they have been doing so well with reproducing. I don’t like the coyote, fishers and martens as much. Every animal has its place in its life and my life because every thing is alive so they have to eat. Predators eat meat so they have to kill the herbivores to eat. Herbivores eat plants and they get eaten by the predators.”

—Laura Bueter, age 9, Yellowstone National Park

“Bears, wolves and mountain lions are very special to me because they are wild and free. Free to party any time! They give me enjoyment when I see them out in the wild. I think we all should be more like the animals and make our life a party.”

—Madison Hoeninghausen, age 10, Gardiner



Top: “Cuger,” by Oliver Swart, age 11. Bottom: “Just Wandering,” by Rose Montagne, age 12. Left: Headwaters Academy 6th-graders displaying their artwork. PCA photo.



Humans need mountain lion's roar, wolf's howl, bear's growl

Editorial by David Engel

One of my friends from Seattle, a university professor who was raised on a Montana ranch, recently asked me why I got involved in efforts to conserve mountain lions, wolves, bears and other predator wildlife species. Such an interest seemed strange to him—indeed foolish—and not something he would do.

I also had a rural upbringing and it was an unwritten rule that predators were “bad” and should be shot on sight. That was 50 years ago, but in much of the American West today that philosophy is sadly still followed by many. My friend's skepticism prompted a question of my own: why does anyone care about conserving predator wildlife? After all, few of us have ever seen rare mid-size predators such as wolverines, lynx or fishers. And large predator wildlife species can interfere with our civilized lives. Occasionally they may kill our livestock or pets, and in rare instances even attack us. Why should we care about sharing the planet with them?

There are several answers to this question. First, there are functional, ecological answers; predators keep the numbers of prey species in balance, and improve the health and genetic vigor of their prey. In addition, preserving the large areas of habitat these animals need also benefits humans in the form of recreation and economic opportunities, clean water and a biodiverse reservoir of genetic information from which future useful products



The “bedrock gene of affinity we have for all the large carnivores like ourselves” is evident in PCA art show participant Hayden Kaiser's painting of a mountain lion, above. Photo at right by Daniel Cox.

may emerge. Finally, the most important answer may be that predators also fulfill deep-seated human emotional and spiritual needs, feelings that even those who love to hate predators may harbor.

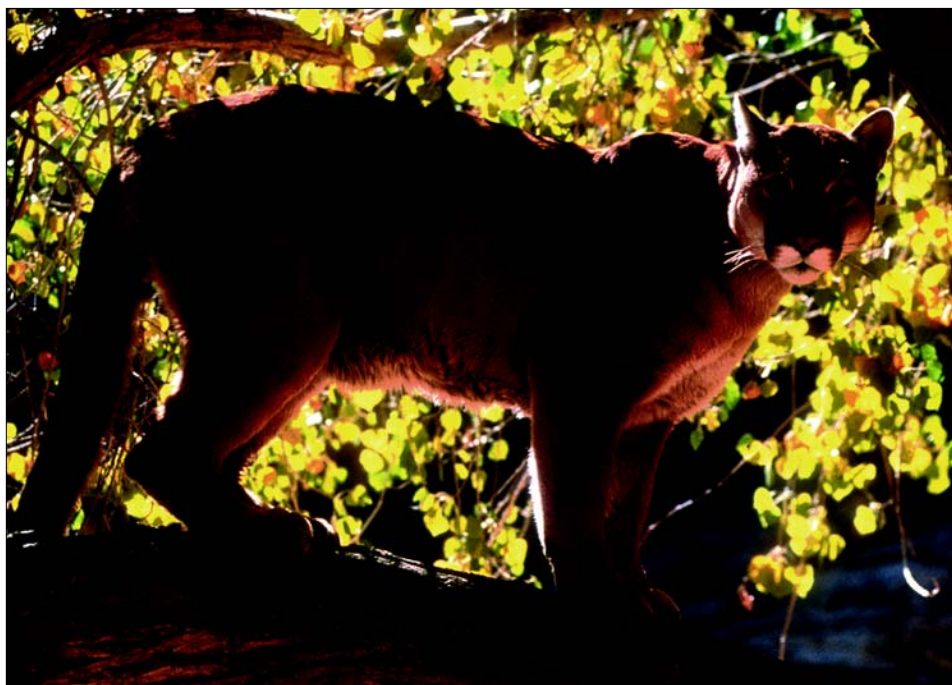
We are living in a period of almost unprecedented decline and loss of species from our planet.

These feelings may relate in part to the fact that humans share many traits with wild predators. Montana writer Rick Bass calls this the “...bedrock gene of affinity we have for all the large carnivores

like ourselves.” We recognize and are in awe of their intelligence, hunting skills and athletic abilities. Though most people's survival, unlike predators, no longer depends on it, many of us love to hunt prey such as deer and elk. Like wolves, we form family units, teach our kids to hunt, play with our siblings and mourn when family members die. Like bears, we enjoy eating berries, fruits, honey and fish. Human mothers, like predator moms, are fierce and devoted defenders of their children. And like all predators, we are territorial.

The moment in Earth's history we find ourselves today is undoubtedly also a factor in why people feel a need to protect these animals. We are living in a pe-

Gnawing the Bones



We need the roar of the mountain lion, the howl of the wolf and the growl of the bear to wake us up and restore our spiritual contact with the natural world of which we are an important and critical part.

riod of almost unprecedented decline and loss of species from our planet. Scientists predict that up to 50% of the world's species will become extinct during this century because of human activity. Author Bill McKibben, in an essay entitled *Human Restoration*, states "We may be entering a period of overwhelming and unavoidable loss, of species extinction so profound that it may leave us with a planet almost empty of other meanings."

Does keeping a few token members alive in zoos fill the human need for the company of species such as mountain lions, wolves and bears? I don't believe it does. I think humans benefit from what McKibben calls "...the sweet battle and concert of life bumping up against other life..." that we experience by knowing that wild predators roam free in the world.

We humans tend to become preoccupied with ourselves, losing our connec-

tions to the complex Web of Life. I think we need the roar of the mountain lion, the howl of the wolf and the growl of the bear to wake us up and restore our spiritual contact with the natural world of which we are an important and critical part.

Ancient Hebrew writings report a great flood in the time of Noah. Other ancient cultures have similar stories. As the Hebrew story is told, God instructed Noah to build a boat, and to fill it with two of "every living thing of all flesh." This would have been a convenient time to eliminate predators from the face of the earth, but neither God nor Noah chose to do so. No one can know why God and Noah saw fit to include predators in the Ark, but I suspect it may have been because they knew that the earth would have been a much emptier, less interesting place without them. Perhaps, in the final analysis, we care about predator wildlife species because they enrich our lives and our own well being as a species.



David Engel, of Bozeman, is the president of Predator Conservation Alliance.

From Control to Coexistence: Reframing How We Live With Predators

By Tom Skeele

To help advance the idea and practice of people coexisting with wolves, bears, cougars and coyotes, Predator Conservation Alliance chose the theme of *From Control to Coexistence: Reframing How We Live With Predators* for our third annual conference. We had hoped the conference would be a compelling and fruitful two-day conversation on how best to reduce conflicts between people and predators, and by all accounts the conference was a success.

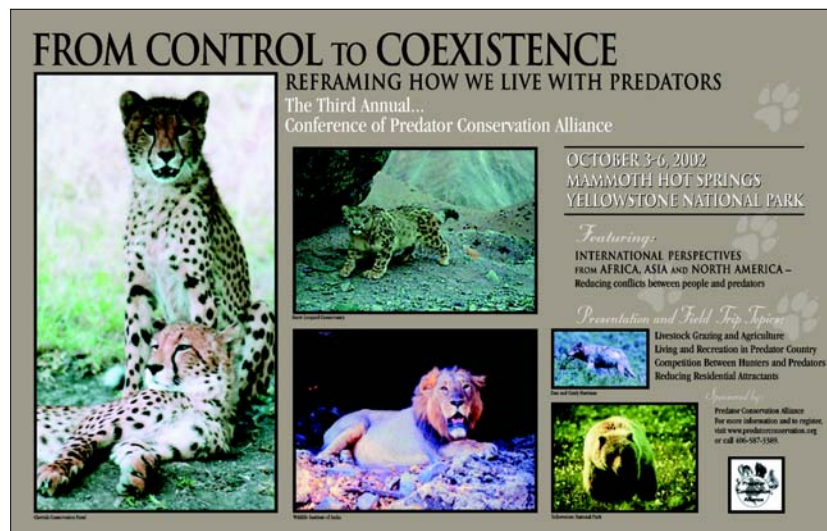
In what initially seemed counter-intuitive to many who attended the conference, most of the speakers we invited were from outside the region, and, indeed, outside the United States. Our hope was that these international perspectives would help all of us think outside of our present situations in considering ideas and practices toward a better coexistence between people and predators. We thought this would be an informative and provocative way to address this issue, and it certainly proved to be.

The conference focused on six different “case studies,” which addressed the four greatest challenges of living in predator habitat: 1) **Livestock:** grazing and agricultural pursuits; 2) **Residential:** reducing residential attractants; 3) **Human Safety:** living and recreating in predator country; and 4) **Hunting:** competition between hunters and predators.

Our keynote speakers provided a “big picture” look at the opportunities and challenges we face in improving the balance between people and predators, and those who presented case studies highlighted their community-based conservation programs and the important lessons they have learned. The afternoon field

tacts.” Jennifer Miller Goethals, PCA’s past Development Director who now works for a regional philanthropic foundation, wrote: “I think that coexistence is one of the subjects that lends itself really well to a case-study approach, because it allows people to consider the whole range of circumstances that affect this

kind of work. Incredibly interesting.” Minette Johnson, a Montana representative for Defenders of Wildlife, wrote: “Thanks for pulling together an excellent conference! It was indeed one of the most worthwhile I have ever attended—excellent speakers with on-the-ground solutions.” PCA member Bob MacPherson wrote “I’ve attended all three of these meetings and all have been very worthwhile events, however, this one was really wonderful.”



2002 Annual Conference poster, "Coexistence with Predators."

trips provided all of us the opportunity to discuss regional conflicts between people and predators, and see what could be learned and applied locally from the international stories.

Based on the responses we have received, the conference achieved the goal of creating a forum for learning and sharing of coexistence strategies across continents. For instance, Rod Jackson, who spoke about his work with snow leopards, wrote: “You folks put on a very interesting and productive conference with a fantastic mix of participants and presenters. I learned a lot and made some great con-

The following pages of this newsletter provide an overview of the discussion, strategies, people, and fun of our third annual conference. Proceedings from the conference will be available early 2003.

In acknowledging the success of the annual conference, Predator Conservation Alliance would like to again thank The Leonard X. Bosack and Bette M. Kruger Foundation for their generous support of this meeting. Our third annual conference would not have been possible without their support.

2002 Annual Conference

Sharing the Landscape, and the Podium

By Jon Schwedler

The nine conference speakers were met by an enthusiastic and attentive audience, composed of PCA members, conservationists, biologists, researchers, and government officials, all excited by the topic of *From Control to Coexistence: Reframing How We Live with*



Dr. Rosie Woodroffe, keynote speaker, holding an African wild dog. Photo by Leanne Shannon.

Predators. As the conference progressed, common themes emerged from the presentations, and not only did speakers receive questions from audience members, but also from other speakers. The two and a half days proved to be an informative and enjoyable forum for discussion on how people all over the world live with predators, the methods used to coexist, and sharing successful strategies.

The first keynote speaker for the conference came directly from Kenya, although she has traveled all over the globe studying predator/human interactions. Dr. Rosie Woodroffe, who bases her research out of the University of California-Davis, has spent time in Europe and Africa researching everything from European badgers to Serengeti lions.

Dr. Woodroffe kicked off the conference with gusto, and delved in to the long history of humans and predators. She was not afraid to openly discuss controversial issues, such as human mortality due to lion attacks, livestock loss, and trophy hunting issues. Her presentation spawned a good deal of questions from the audience, and appreciation for her research.

The next speaker was Dr. Ravi Chellam, from the Wildlife Institute of India, who focused on human safety. Dr. Chellam's work focuses on the rare Asiatic lion, which today remains in India's Gere National Forest. The lions of Gere nearly disappeared 100 years ago, but today the population has been raised to 330 individuals. Dr. Chellam's presentation brought to light issues that would be repeated throughout the conference—protected areas are not large enough to contain the full ranging territories of predators,

which leads to conflicts with livestock.

But the issue most audience members were struck by was the number of lion attacks on humans around Gere National Forest. Since 1980, the Gere has averaged 40 attacks and two deaths a year. Yet despite this, support for lion conservation remains high in India, even among the communities surrounding Gere. The tolerance of the Indian people for predators, even when it can reduce their own personal safety, illuminated how cultural perspectives play a role in how people interact with their environment.

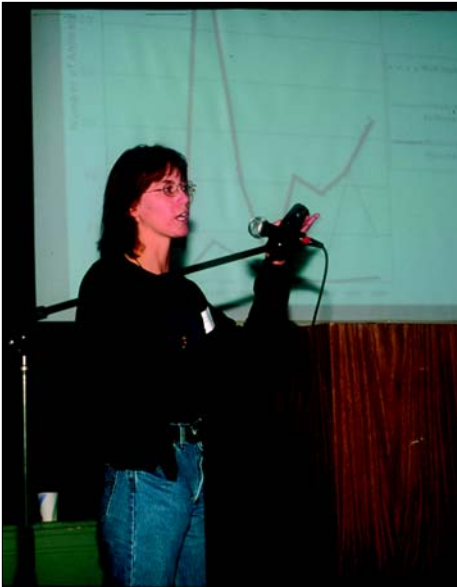
From Namibia, another African perspective came from Dr. Laurie Marker, director and founder of the Cheetah Conservation Fund. Dr. Marker discussed how land use conversion can negatively affect predator populations, and how creative solutions can help address problems caused by land scarcity.

100 years ago, it is believed over 100 thousand cheetahs existed in Africa and Asia. Today, it is believed only 15,000 remain. In addition to being a target of other predator species, like lions, leopards, and hyenas, cheetahs are often the underserving targets of farmers, who use a knowledge of cheetah behavior (the marking of a common tree between cheetah territories) to destroy cheetahs.

Looking to Asia, Dr. Marker sought a solution to cheetah mortality in the form of a dog, in particular, the Anatolian shepherd. By placing these large guard dogs with livestock herds, depredation of livestock by cheetahs has been reduced by 76%. In combination with encouraging the breeding of more aggressive cattle, and

continued on page 18

Annual Conference



creating “calving camps” for cattle (the holding of calves together in a pen with direct human oversight), the placement of the guard dogs has created an opportunity for cheetah restoration in Namibia.

The final presentation of Friday morning came from Scandinavia, as Dr. Scott Brainerd from the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research provided background on the historical and contemporary competition between humans and predators over prey in Scandinavia.

Dr. Brainerd’s presentation provided information that surprised some members of the audience, including the fact that Swedish hunters kill 15 times more moose a year than the 7,000 moose killed in Alaska annually. He also highlighted another instance where cultural differences can lead to an alternative perspective on wildlife, as he revealed that hunters pay landowners the equivalent of \$5.00 per pound of moose killed on the landowner’s

property. This perspective of respect for wildlife, Dr. Brainerd believes, can be capitalized upon to engender a place for all hunters in Scandinavia, both human and otherwise.

Saturday morning’s keynote speaker brought the conversation closer to home, as Ben Alexander of the Sonoran Institute used stories of his work in the West to discuss conservation from a social and economic perspective. Ben pointed out that while wolves, bears and other predators spend most of their time on public lands, increasingly they are moving onto private lands and even into communities, where there are more conflicts. As such,

of the Central Rockies Wolf Project, an organization that researches wolf/livestock issues in Alberta, Canada. Carolyn’s presentation was particularly interesting to the audience as much of her research mirrors U.S.-based research on American wolves.

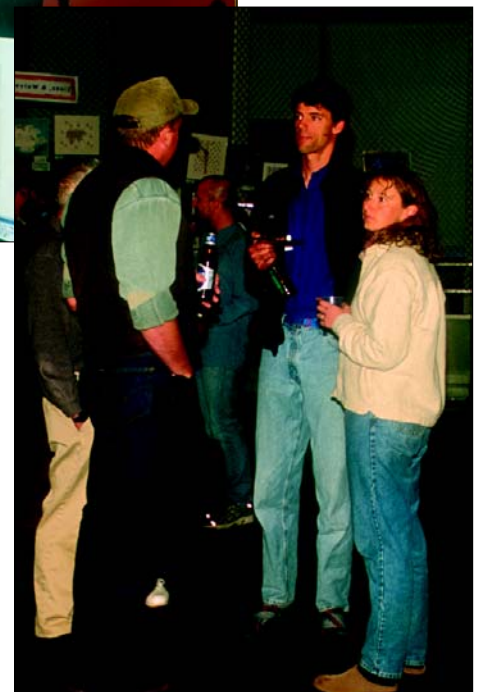
The Central Rockies Wolf Project has investigated several methods for reducing wolf predation on livestock, many of which could be used in the United States. The most effective and cheapest measure discussed by Carolyn is called “fladry,” the placement of flagging on fences to discourage wolves from entering livestock areas. Originally used in Russia and East-

ern Europe to hunt wolves, Carolyn has turned the fladry practice around to help save wolves. In addition, Carolyn also touched upon methods men-



he thinks that, increasingly, the issues are not just biological, but rather social. In light of this, Ben discussed how community-based collaborative solutions can be developed in solving conflicts between human beings and predators, and that this will help us move from what has been a very polarized environment around predator conservation to something approaching acceptance and coexistence.

A northern perspective was brought to the conference by Carolyn Callaghan



Above: Carolyn Callaghan of the Central Rockies Wolf Project. Center: A conference attendee viewing the children’s art show. Right: Ben Alexander (middle) of the Sonoran Institute speaks with conference attendees. Photos by Mary Sadowski.

Annual Conference

tioned by other speakers as well, such as motion detectors and guard dogs.

The elusive snow leopard was the subject of the next presentation, as Rod Jackson of the Snow Leopard Conservancy shared his experiences in Nepal. The focus of Rod's presentation was his work with Nepalese communities to develop economic capacity in the form of tourist services. In addition, his organization also helps farmers design more effective fencing to prevent snow leopards from snatching their goats. The net effect of his work is to help prevent losses of livestock to snow leopards, and when they do occur, provide an alternative economic means to offset livestock losses.

The final case study of the annual conference was John Wiczorek, from the British Columbia Conservation Foundation, which uses a "Bear-Aware" program to educate communities on how to live with grizzly and black bear populations nearby.

John discussed cultural perceptions of bears, and methods used to reduce bear attractants within human communities, thus reducing the opportunities for human/bear conflict. Besides just providing measures to make human communities less attractive to bears, John noted the importance of educating people about the biology of bears, creating an environment where the first response to a bear interaction is not the lethal removal of the bear.

The final speaker of the conference was PCA Board member and Montana sheep rancher Becky Weed, whose experiences in maintaining a profitable business in predator country provided insights



PCA executive assistant Shannon Roberts, executive director Tom Skeeel, and Kathy Savesky of The Leonard X. Bosack and Bette M. Kruger Foundation at the 2002 Annual Conference. Photo by Mary Sadowski.

for solutions around the globe. For more on Becky's presentation, go to page 20.

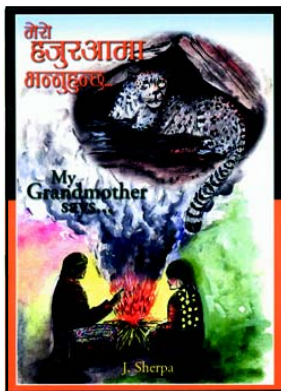
PCA was exceptionally pleased by the conference's speakers—each showcased a great deal of knowledge about human/predator relations. But perhaps most compelling to the audience was not the perspective of any one presenter, but instead the common challenges and solutions that emerged and were echoed from around the globe.

The ecological understanding of predators resonated as a key point among the speakers to help reduce conflicts between human/predator communities. This ecological understanding could manifest itself in a variety of ways—from an understanding that adequate wild prey will result in less predation on domestic herds, to using the ecol-

ogy and behavior of predators to develop effective deterrents, in either the form of human vigilance or biological slight-of-eye, such as fladry.

Another point re-iterated throughout the presentations was the need for local community engagement. Local investment pays off on multiple fronts, as: a) obviously, these are the communities most likely to experience conflicts with predators, b) they usually have on-the-ground knowledge of predators and their behavior, which can assist stewardship practices, and c) these communities will most benefit from efforts to make these animals an asset, not just a liability.

The sum total of the conference was an irrevocable sense that these issues can be resolved, and that predators can, and should, have a viable and sustainable place in our world. Predator Conservation Alliance was proud to facilitate this meaningful discussion among such prominent wildlife experts, and will build upon this conference to advance the concept and practice of coexistence around the world.



A children's educational book on the snow leopard, written in Nepalese and English. Photo by Rod Jackson.

A Conservationist in Sheep's Clothing

By Becky Weed

There was a certain cosmopolitan flavor at the Annual Conference this year, as the Co-Existence with Predators theme brought speakers from all over the world, as far away as Africa and Asia. Even our local speaker, Montana sheep rancher and Predator Conservation Alliance board member Becky Weed, originally hails from half a continent away, in Maine. But even though she “has never worn a pair of cowboy boots,” Becky shared her hard-earned Western wisdom about running a business in predator country, and being a part of a living landscape.

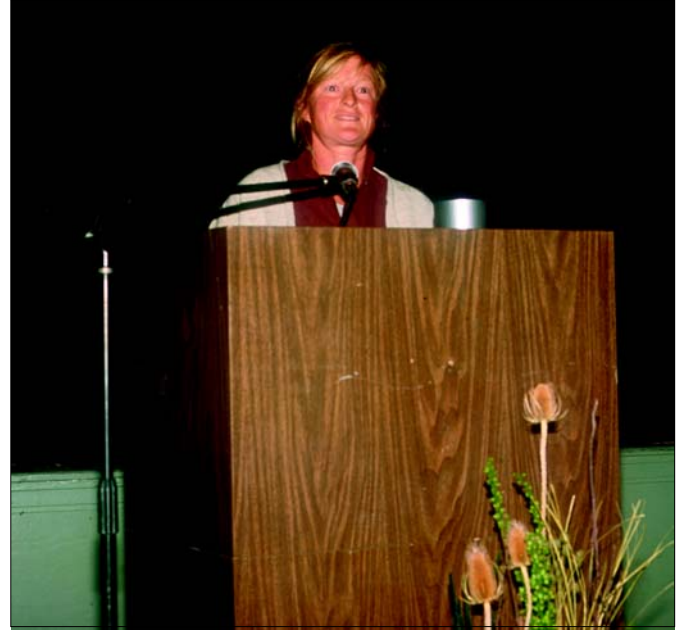
Becky worked as a geologist before she and her husband, Dave Tyler, started sheep ranching fifteen years ago. They established Thirteen Mile Lamb & Wool company based upon a philosophy of co-existence, producing “predator-friendly” wool by using non-lethal measures to discourage predators from preying on livestock.

In their time at Thirteen Mile Farm they have seen their share of predators—visiting by air and by land. Over the years they learned from watching, and being watched by, local wildlife. The year that lambing season started too early, bald eagles took to the lambs since gophers had not yet emerged for spring. Dave later watched a transient, three-legged wolf shadow Becky on the farm, hoping for a cast-off meal. And in drought years mountain lions wandered down from the hills to snag the occasional ewe.

But through these educational times, Becky and Dave remained committed to

non-lethal measures. They found creative ways to profitably share the land with the wildlife that has lived in the northern Rockies for millennia. Today, two long-necked llamas escort Becky's sheep herds, gliding above the sheep flocks like furry schooners, discouraging (and possibly confusing) curious coyotes from approaching. Night-time walks around the farm at unpredictable hours have thrown off the rhythm of visiting mountain lions, especially when accompanied by a high-powered flashlight. And all the lambs are born in late spring now at Thirteen Mile Farm, to encourage the eagles to stick to their natural prey of rodents and fish.

And Becky emphasized the push for new ways of thinking should not just applied to wildlife. Sometimes it takes a broader understanding of the underlying common denominators between conservation and ranching, as she presented in an analysis of grass. This century's devolution from grass-fed to grain-fed stock has had many negative implications, both for humans (waste disposal, water quality, and food-borne disease issues) and for wildlife, which has seen the amount of



Becky Weed, Montana sheep rancher and PCA Board Member, discussing living with predators. Photo by Mary Sadowski.

Living with predators on her farm is ‘part of the richness for those of us who live here.’ — Becky Weed, Sheep Rancher

available wild grass pasture decline precipitously (only 50% of our northern grasslands remain). With enough grass for both elk and livestock, predators are less likely to effect ranching. Common ground issues like grassland preservation may be a way to promote the importance of conservation issues beyond the typical environmental community.

In Becky's words, living with predators on her farm is “part of the richness for those of us who live here.” Predators do affect the way she ranches, but they also provide a sense of place and wholeness to the landscape. In a theme repeated throughout the conference, Becky emphasized we all have a role to play in keeping these wild places wild, from ranchers to conservationists, doctors to animal rights' activists. For, in the end, some of the wild places we end up saving may just be within ourselves.

Coexisting with Predators Program

Protecting People and Predators in the Northern Rockies

By Tom Skeelee

Predator Conservation Alliance (PCA) was first established in 1991 to address the question of whether wolves, grizzly bears and other predators were going to exist in the forests and grasslands of the northern Rockies and northern Plains. Today, with their increased numbers, we now face a new, and equally difficult, question: how are we going to coexist with these animals, sharing the land with fewer conflicts?

PCA believes that wolves, bears, mountain lions and coyotes, as well as people's relationship with them, are at a crossroads. As the numbers of both people and predators in the northern Rockies steadily increases, we are seeing increased conflicts in the backcountry, on agricul-

tural lands and in residential areas. For decades, agencies and others have responded to these conflicts by moving or killing these wildlife, efforts that are fundamentally reactive and have not provided long-term solutions. To date, we have not put enough focus on determining why these conflicts occur, and how we can reduce them.

To help address this need, PCA is initiating a "Coexisting with Predators" program. This is an education and outreach effort to provide the vision, information and programs needed to bring about the long-term ability for people in the region to co-exist with predators with fewer conflicts and losses to both. This focuses on the social side of predator conservation—human acceptance, tolerance,

appreciation and coexistence. This new approach will complement, not replace, our existing advocacy work to affect policy and management based on the ecological needs of these animals.

Specifically, we will work with people who live, work and recreate in predator country to establish stewardship programs and community celebration programs that lead to fewer conflicts. On the predator side, we will focus on the wolf, grizzly bear, black bear, mountain lion and coyote—those species that people have the most conflicts with. On the people side, we will work with those groups that experience the most conflicts with these predators:

1. traditional agriculture landowners;
2. conservation-minded landowners;
3. homeowners who live next to wild-land habitats;
4. hunters; and
5. backcountry recreationists.

By providing both information on how wolves, bears, cougars and coyotes benefit our lives, and programs that help us reduce conflicts with these animals, we will increase how often people take proactive steps to protect themselves and their personal well-being, as well as these animals and their habitats. Ultimately, this program is as much about helping people live with predators as it is about protecting predators—because it is becoming increasingly clear that without the former, we will not accomplish the latter.

Tom Skeelee, PCA executive director, addressing 2002 Annual Conference on the topic of coexistence with predators. Photo by Mary Sadowski.



Make Your Mark!

In this Season of Giving, Give a Place to America's Wildlife

In pursuit of one great American tradition, the season of sharing with others, we ask you to support another great American tradition—the conservation of our wildlife and wild lands. We are fortunate to live in a nation that had the foresight to protect much of its natural heritage through the establishment of National Parks, Wilderness areas, National Wildlife Refuges and other public lands. These public lands have provided homes for wolves, bears, lynx, ferrets and other forest and grassland predators for over a century. But now America's public lands are under attack by those who do not share our values for wildlife and wild places.

For the past 11 years, Predator Conservation Alliance has been uniquely instrumental in assisting federal and state wildlife agencies in identifying and protecting the most crucial habitat areas on our public lands for wildlife. We have challenged policies for our public lands that would harm the survival of these threatened species, and worked for wildlife protection under federal and state law. At the same time, we are working on the ground to promote coexistence between people and wildlife. We need your help to continue this work, so future generations of Americans can continue to enjoy our wonderful variety of wildlife that still exists today.

Please help us start the new year in a strong financial position with a generous year-end contribution. And know that whatever your gift, it will be well-used to help conserve America's special wildlife species.

What can you do to help

By making a tax-deductible contribution, you can become part of Predator Conservation Alliance's efforts to save bears, wolves, lynx, and other wildlife. Your gift helps us in so many ways, including making it possible for us to:

- ◆ Deliver action alerts, informing the public on pending state and national wildlife management decisions.
- ◆ Create and distribute educational materials on the ecological, economic and cultural value of these animals.
- ◆ Map critical habitats identifying the most suitable areas for reintroduction efforts.
- ◆ Restore critical habitats.

Join our efforts TODAY!

- ◆ Know a friend who would be interested in PCA? Gift memberships are a perfect way to share your conservation interests.
- ◆ Looking for the perfect gift? You can make a donation to honor someone's birthday, anniversary, wedding, or holiday gift.
- ◆ Remembering someone special? Memorial gifts are a perfect way to honor someone who is no longer with us.
- ◆ Are you taking advantage of all your employer's benefits? Employers with matching gift programs will match your gift, sometimes even doubling it!

Yes, I want to help PCA protect predators in the Northern Plains & Northern Rockies

MEMBER: \$25 SUPPORTING MEMBER: \$50 SUSTAINING MEMBER: \$100
PATRON MEMBER: \$250 PATRON DONOR: \$500 PATRON COUNCIL: \$1000+

With your membership, you will receive a one-year subscription to our quarterly newsletter, *The Home Range*, timely action alerts and other updates.

Amount: _____

Name _____
Address _____
Town/State/ZIP _____
Phone _____ Fax _____
E-mail _____

Because we are committed to ensuring your confidentiality, we do not share member information with other organizations.

Or give a membership

Name _____
Address _____
Town/State/ZIP _____
Phone _____ Fax _____
E-mail _____
Your Name and Phone Number _____

Predator Conservation Alliance ♦ P.O. Box 6733, Bozeman, MT 59771

New Staff

Jon Schwedler, Communications Director

What's stocky, blonde, and traveled 2,300 miles to work for the Predator Conservation Alliance? Jon Schwedler, Predator Conservation Alliance's new Communications Director, that's what! A native of Maryland, Jon spent the last four years working for The Nature Conservancy, both at their international headquarters and their Maryland chapter. In that time Jon worked in communications (writing and editing newsletters, outreach materials, and websites) and media relations (generating conservation stories in television, radio, and print).

Jon has a BA in archaeology from St. Mary's College of Maryland, and is halfway through a Master's degree in rural planning. Driven by a strong desire to become a more vocal advocate for predator species, Jon made the long journey to Bozeman accompanied by his two best friends, fiancé Jennifer (teacher) and Leroy (professional dog).

Jon is looking forward to making Predator Conservation Alliance a "conservation force" in the northern Rockies and northern Plains. He is also looking forward to Montana's snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, hockey, and ice fishing opportunities, none of which he has any idea how to do yet.



New Board Member

Kelly Rudd

If you run across a rabid fly fisherman who speaks eloquently on the subject of conservation easements and is accompanied by a golden retriever named Huckle, there's a high probability you've come across PCA's newest board member, Kelly Rudd. Originally from Spokane, Washington, Kelly has spent most of his life exploring and protecting the natural world.

Kelly moved to the Greater Yellowstone area to work as an outfitter with World Cast Anglers, a fly fishing guide service out of Jackson, Wyoming. Along the way, Kelly helped establish the Teton Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited, serving as its founding vice president. Today, Kelly works as a consultant in real estate transactions, advising private land owners and conservation-minded buyers on land-use issues and the conservation easement process. He holds a Master's degree in Business, Government, and Not-for-Profit Management from Willamette University in Oregon.

Kelly is committed to protecting the biodiversity of our planet, and understands the tremendous importance of predators in our ecosystems. For that reason, we are proud to have Kelly join Predator Conservation Alliance as a new board member.



Join Predator Conservation Alliance's Wildlife Viewing Trips

Experience some of the American West's most spectacular places and animals

Yellowstone in Winter: Wildlife and Wonders
February 27-March 2, 2003

Experience the serenity and wildlife of our oldest National Park in winter, a time when very few others visit. Your expert naturalists will guide you to the best viewing opportunities where you may experience wolves, elk, bison, coyotes, trumpeter swans, bald eagles, bighorn sheep and hawks. We invite you to join us on this magical winter journey.

Trip Cost: \$925. Trip cost includes all accommodations, meals, group airport transfers, group transportation, park fees and professional guide service. *Note: Alcoholic beverages, rental equipment and guide gratuities are not included.*

Yellowstone's Spring Awakening
June 3 - 8, 2003

Spring in Yellowstone is a busy time for wildlife and also one of the most beautiful seasons in the Park. Snow melts exposing lush green valleys and creating rushing swollen rivers. This is an incredible time of year in our oldest National Park. We invite you to welcome the season with us.

Trip Cost: \$1,200. Trip cost includes all accommodations, meals, group airport transfers, group transportation, park fees and professional guide service. *Note: Alcoholic beverages, rental equipment and guide gratuities are not included.*

Glacier to Grasslands
August 29 - September 3, 2003

Nearly 200 years ago, the Lewis and Clark expedition entered what is now Montana on their Journey of Discovery. Join Predator Conservation Alliance for your own journey of discovery from the mountain meadows of Glacier National Park to the big sky prairie of Charlie M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge and surrounding area. Look for grizzly bears, wolves, black-footed ferrets, prairie dogs, elk, antelope, bison and more!

Trip Cost: \$1,675. Trip cost includes all accommodations, meals, group airport transfers, group transportation, park fees and professional guide service. *Note: Alcoholic beverages, rental equipment and guide gratuities are not included.*

Please contact Predator Conservation Alliance on the web at www.predatorconservation.org, or call (406) 587-3389 for more information.

◆ Yellowstone ◆ Glacier ◆ Montana Prairie

From the bears and wolves of the mountainous country to the black-footed ferrets and burrowing owls of the open grasslands, Predator Conservation Alliance has a wildlife viewing trip for everyone.

Each of our wildlife viewing trips highlights each region's unique wonders and offers a field-based opportunity to learn about the natural history and ecology of the area. By design, our trips offer some of the best opportunities to view wildlife and better understand the environments in which they live. We coordinate with naturalists, agency officials, tribal representatives, and others to have conversations about the conservation of predators and other wildlife, and the land they call home.

We at Predator Conservation Alliance hope you will join us for one, or all, of our wildlife viewing trips. A wild world awaits, and we look forward to sharing it with you.



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