

Research and Monitoring Final

FL Panther Research Projects Project Title	Principal Investigator(s)	Period of Performance	Comments
Using Mark-Resight Models to estimate abundance of the Florida panther population	Brett McClintock (NOAA), Julien Martin (FWC), Dave Onorato (FWC)	Oct 2011- Summer 2014	Analyses are wrapping up and we anticipate a manuscript will be compiled in winter 2013
Using camera trap surveys within a spatial mark-recapture framework to obtain panther population density estimates	Dave Onorato (FWC)	Proposal in fall/winter 2013, commence in Spring 2014	Currently in the early stages of contemplating a research proposal.
Assessment of different home range estimators for large GPS collar data sets from Florida panthers	Dave Onorato (FWC), W. David Walter (USGS)	Jan 2012- Spring 2014	Analyses are currently still underway.
Florida panther movements assessed with GPS collars	Marc Criffield (FWC)	2010- Winter 2013	Project should be submitted for publication in Winter 2013
Florida panther food habits	Mark Cunningham, Gretchen Caudill (FWC)	Jul 1. 2013 - present	Stomach contents and feces collected at necropsy are currently being examined.
Genetic assessment of the Florida panther population	Dave Onorato (FWC) Collaborators: Mike Schwartz and Kristy Pilgrim (USFS, RMRS)	1980s - ongoing	This project involves monitoring as well as the potential for research projects related to panther genetics.
Determination of the species and prevalence of <i>Trichinella</i> in Florida panthers	Marc Criffield (FWC), Mason Reichard (OK State Univ).	2011 -Fall 2014	Analysis of tongue samples is underway in Italy.
The impact of genetic restoration on cranial morphology of Florida panthers	Kyle Finn and David Reed (FLMNH) Collaborators: Dave Onorato and Marc Criffield (FWC)	Published Oct 2013	Publication in J Mammology, Oct 2013
Modeling feline leukemia virus in the Florida panther populations	Mark Cunningham (FWC)	Proposed	Proposed project in collaboration with Dr. Sue Vandewoude (University of Colorado). Proposal for funding is pending.
Environmental contaminants in the Florida panther	Mark Cunningham (FWC)	Jul 1, 2007 - present	A final report was submitted to the USFWS in 2012. Additional toxicology data collected since completion of the final report will be included with more detailed analyses related to panther home ranges and other demographics in the preparation of a more comprehensive report/publication.
Evaluating the effects of rehabilitation of injured/orphaned Florida panthers on the population	Mark Cunningham (FWC)	Jul 1, 2009 - present	Data are currently being analyzed and a manuscript will be prepared for publication.

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Impact of pseudorabies virus on the Florida panther	Mark Cunningham (FWC)	Jul 1, 2012 - present	Archived samples are currently being analyzed using new techniques to identify cases of pseudorabies that may have been misdiagnosed. Data is being analyzed and a manuscript will be prepared for publication.
Comparison of genetic variation between historic and pre-introgression Florida panthers	Mark Cunningham (FWC)	Jul1, 2012 - present	Historic panther samples are being collected and will be shipped to Dr. Melanie Culver (University of Arizona) for a more detailed comparison of genetic variation. This project will complement her previous work by substantially increasing the sample size.
Panthers, perceptions, and cattle ranching in Florida	Caitlin Jacobs, MS Candidate (UF) Advisor Marty Main (UF)	Jun 31, 2011 – Aug 31, 2014	Graduate Research; Dave Onorato adjunct faculty
The effect of spatial heterogeneity and behavioral interactions on the dynamics and persistence of the endangered Florida panther population.	Madelon van de Kerk, PhD candidate, UF Advisor: Madan Oli (UF)	Aug 1, 2011 - Sept 30, 2015	Dave Onorato (FWC) adjunct faculty
Functional genomics of the endangered Florida Panther	Alexander Ochoa, PhD Candidate, (U Arizona) Advisor: Melanie Culver (U Arizona)	Jan 2012 - Fall 2015	Graduate Research; Dave Onorato adjunct faculty
Assessing the effectiveness and reliability of the Roadside Animal Detection System on US Highway 41 near the Turner River in Collier County	Daniel Smith (UCF)	Aug 13, 2012 - Feb 13, 2015	
Aerial monitoring 3x/week to locate radiocollared panthers	FWC	1981 - ongoing	Ongoing routine monitoring of the panther population. Provides data on movement, home range, intraspecific interactions, habitat use, road crossings, survival, cause specific mortality
Locating dens of female panthers to sample and mark kittens	FWC	1992 - ongoing	Ongoing monitoring to provide demographic data regarding kitten production and female reproductive parameters
Site visits to panther depredation events	FWC	2004 - ongoing	Assess characteristics of panther depredation sites and events

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Monitoring of parasites, contaminants and general health of the panther population	FWC	1981 - ongoing	Panthers sampled at capture and necropsy are assessed for diseases, etc. through serology, ectoparasite and endoparasite surveys, contaminant analyses, disease testing, histology, etc. A manuscript updating causes of mortality is in preparation.
Synoptic survey of the Florida panther population by categorizing physical evidence	Roy McBride, Rancher Supply	March 1, 2007 - Dec 31, 2014	Uncorrected counts of the panther population generally used to assess the number of panthers in South Florida.
Review of Camera Trap Survey Data of the Florida Panther and their Prey in southwestern Florida: Analyses using Statistical Estimation Methods & Recommendations for Future Survey Design	Allan O'Connell (USGS)	18 months from 2010 - 2012	Final Report received - waiting on additional documents associated with report ; peer reviewed article has been published
Monitoring use of wildlife underpasses in SW Florida	Daniel Smith (UCF)	March 25, 2013 - March 24, 2015	