



— \ / — **2011** / —
ANNUAL REPORT

Helping People and Predator Species Coexist

Dear Friends of Keystone Predators,

2011 was an eventful year for wolves, bears, and people in the Northern Rockies, as well as for Keystone. Last year, we began communicating more with you about what we are doing to promote coexistence with wildlife. We hope that you have enjoyed our revised newsletter, website, and Facebook page, and we thank you for all of your generous contributions to our work.

Our wolf and bear programs are expanding as we continue to tailor our conflict prevention work to a new context in the field. In addition to our bear attractant reduction activities, we are working to form partnerships with Greater Yellowstone retailers to make bear spray more accessible to backcountry users with a rental and buy-back program. The importance of this effort is underscored by the unprecedented number of human-bear conflicts last year, including two Yellowstone fatalities, a score of hunter injuries, and too many dead bears.

We also continue to face challenges in fostering the acceptance or valuing of wolves by community members. Although hunted in Idaho and Montana for the second time in the delisting era, the Northern Rockies wolf population grew. In Montana, the hunt quota went unmet and some are calling for the use of bounties in certain areas to reduce the number of wolves. In other areas, baiting, trapping, and snaring are under consideration.

These developments are a stark reminder of the volatile social and political climate we face here in the Northern Rockies and they highlight the importance of conflict prevention and coexistence work. Once a species loses federal protections, management of that species is vulnerable to backlash and pressure from groups viewing it as a threat. More must be done to diffuse the hostility and reduce perceived problems that are, unfortunately, attendant to preserving threatened and endangered species as human populations continue to expand throughout the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem.

On behalf of the Keystone Conservation board and staff, thank you for supporting our work to address these challenges and help people and predators coexist!

Brett Sommermeyer
President, Board of Directors



Photo by Adventures Outfitting



Photo by Dan & Cindy Hartman

2011 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Bear Coexistence

Keystone worked with partners to bring an automated (truck-emptied) bear-proof garbage canister to southwest Montana for testing by our local Allied Waste disposal company. We continued outreach and education in Yellowstone gateway communities Gardiner and Big Sky to minimize attractants and contribute bear-proof canisters to residents. We gave backcountry bear conflict prevention talks at the Bozeman REI store and began work on a bear spray rental program that we plan to launch this summer.

Wolf Coexistence

Keystone continued its monitoring program to determine whether patterns and predictors of wolf-livestock conflict can be gleaned from livestock management, wolf management, and the presence of Range Riders. We contributed to a rider at a ranch with the presence of bears, wolves, and mountain lions over the last couple years. Evidence suggests that deterrence efforts and tools can be helpful in combination with certain livestock management practices. Where livestock is broadly distributed (as is often the case particularly on public lands), a number of variables make it difficult to find patterns in depredation and wolf control actions. Last fall, Keystone began work to support and partner with operations wishing to use best husbandry practices that have the potential to take advantage of conflict deterrence tools.

Cougar Coexistence

Keystone began work on educational materials for residents and recreationists in Greater Yellowstone on how to avoid conflicts with mountain lions that will be produced this year.

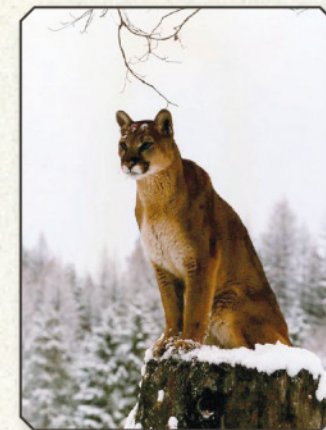


Photo by Mike Flaherty

Keystone Classroom

Keystone Classroom presented its predator ecology games and "Wolves For Families" at a variety of events and venues in southwest Montana. The program began outreach to Gallatin Valley schools to bring ecology presentations into classrooms and after-school programs this year. Keystone Classroom also launched a new internship program for students in high school and college.



Photo by Bruce Andree

2011 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS *Continued*

Predator Friendly®

In 2011, Keystone transferred the Predator Friendly® program to the Wildlife Friendly Enterprise Network (WFEN). Keystone is a founding member of WFEN, a global organization specializing in market-based conservation solutions. In recognition of the potential Predator Friendly® would have if housed within WFEN, Keystone transferred the program to WFEN. We wish the best for the Predator Friendly program in its new home!



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- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
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| Kate Hallowell, Program Director | Ethel Murphy, Patagonia Intern |
| Elisa Prescott, Communications Coordinator | Alexis Wainwright, Intern |

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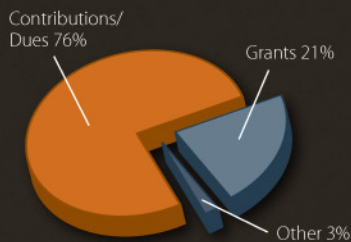
Thank you to Vicki Markus, Carolyn Weinberger, and Jacqueline Rieder Hud for their dedicated service on the Board of Directors.

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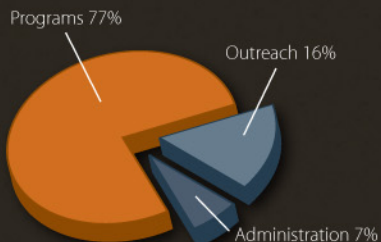
FINANCIAL SUMMARY *Fiscal Year 2011*

Keystone completed the 2011 fiscal year on an upward trend, with a nearly 50% increase in revenue from FY10. We are grateful for the ongoing support of our members and foundation partners as well as the bittersweet legacy contribution from devoted member William Taylor.

2011 Revenue: \$202,540



2011 Expenses: \$167,041



We are grateful to all our members, and foundation and business partners. Your contributions are essential to implementing practical solutions for wildlife conservation. Thank you all!

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Bear photo by Mike Flaherty

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Our sincere appreciation to all the contributors who make our work possible!
 If we failed to recognize you and/or your gift, please notify us.

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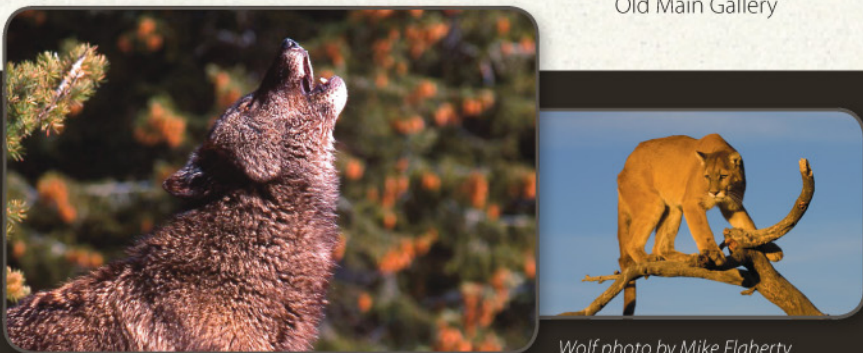
ITEMS

Zion National Park's "Great White Throne" print
 Kokopelli split necklace
 Patagonia t-shirts
 Bronze antique clock
 Handcrafted bear quilt
 Case of mixed organic wine
 Matted 9"x15" giclee print
 Handcrafted wolf quilt
 Set of framed 8"x10" photos
 Set of framed 8"x10" photos
 Men's Insulator & Women's Guide jackets
 Men's R4* & Women's R2* jackets
 Half-Dome 2 tent
 "The Gathering" framed print

WINNERS

Carol Hamman, UT
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Many thanks to our drawing donors and all who entered!



Wolf photo by Mike Flaherty

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www.keystoneconservation.us

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