Panthera is an international nonprofit whose sole mission is the conservation of the world’s 36 species of wild cats. Bringing together the knowledge and expertise of the world’s top cat biologists, and working in partnership with local and international NGOs, scientific institutions, universities and government agencies, Panthera develops and implements range-wide species conservation strategies for the world’s most imperiled wild cats.

While much of Panthera’s work is conducted on a global scale, we also focus on cats here in the US, specifically on mountain lions in California and Wyoming. Working in close partnership with Craighead Beringia South, Panthera co-directs the Teton Cougar Project, a project that has been running for nearly eight years in the southern Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem of Wyoming. Set in a landscape of both parks and human-dominated areas, the team tracks radio-collared cougars to gather critical data on cougar population dynamics, dispersal patterns, and the effects of cougar hunting, legal in all Western states except California.

Last month, Panthera’s Executive Director, Dr. Luke Hunter (second from right), joined Dr. Howard Quigley (far right), Panthera’s Jaguar...
and Cougar Program Director, who led a team through the snowy hills of Wyoming to re-collar a male cougar. This gorgeous and healthy four year old male (pictured above) has been a part of this study since he was just a cub, so the team knows him well (and vice versa!). The team conducted a smooth and successful recollaring of the cougar. Dr. Quigley has been collaring and tracking cougars as part of this, and other, important long-term studies for years, leading to greater awareness of what it takes for these animals to survive in the complex ecosystem of Yellowstone's Teton territory.

To watch a short clip from Assignment Earth featuring Dr. Howard Quigley and the Teton Cougar Project study site, please click here.

To learn more about the Teton Cougar Project, please click here.

Did you know that each telemetry collar can cost $3,500? Your donation of any amount will help Panthera continue this incredible program. Click here to support Panthera's work.
Dr. Alan Rabinowitz Wins Prestigious Conservation Award

In March, Panthera's President and CEO, Dr. Alan Rabinowitz, was the keynote speaker at a sold out event commemorating the 18th Annual Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden's Barrows Conservation Lecture Series, and was presented with one of the most prestigious awards in conservation: the Cincinnati Zoo Wildlife Conservation Award. This honor places Alan in rather impressive company in the realm of conservation: past recipients include Jane Goodall, Ted Turner, Robert Kennedy, Jr., and Panthera's very own Vice President and world-renowned conservationist, George Schaller. To read more about the award, please [click here](#).

To learn about upcoming Panthera events, please [click here](#).

Protecting Parks to Protect Jaguars

Over the past several months, Panthera's Honduras Jaguar Coordinator, Franklin Castañeda, has employed scientific surveys to gather information on the northwestern part of the country to determine its potential as a jaguar corridor. Results from these surveys revealed that Jeanette Kawas National Park (JKNP), one of the largest protected areas in the region, is an area with a high level of recent jaguar sightings - and unfortunately recent killings of jaguars
by local cattle ranchers. Franklin has been working with park authorities to determine how the park is being monitored, and what kind of resources they will need to improve protection of the local jaguar population. Last month, in partnership with the National Institute of Forest Conservation and Development, Protected Areas and Wildlife (ICF) and PROLANSATE (the NGO in charge of the park), Panthera launched the first patrol of the park in several years. The group of 10, which included representatives from Tela's Municipality Environmental Unit and the Honduran Army, took on a four-day patrol to key areas in the park. Most of the park can only be accessed by boat, leading to expensive patrolling costs, and due to the lack of funding, PROLANSATE was forced to let go of rangers years ago. As a result, some areas within the park have been badly deforested or cleared for human settlement, and evidence of hunting is widespread. Panthera hopes to continue working with local partners to improve monitoring and increase patrols of the park, and enhance the refuge for resident or dispersing jaguars. This initial trip was a great opportunity for the group to come together, survey damage to the park, engage with cattle ranchers and hunters, and design a plan to establish a much greater level of protection for this important site.

For more information on Panthera’s jaguar corridor project, please click here.

A donation of $50 can help Panthera provide food for a team of park guards during a four day patrol. Click here to support Panthera.

### Challenges Naturally Occur in Conservation Science

Last month, Panthera's Rafael Hoogesteijn and Fernando Tortato found themselves in deep water while conducting line transects to establish wildlife presence and abundance in the Brazilian Pantanal. The Pantanal is the world's largest and wildest wetland, and can flood as much as eight meters during the rainy season. It's also home to the jaguar (and many other wildlife). Panthera is on the ground in the Pantanal studying jaguars, mitigating human-jaguar conflict, and creating a model ranch to showcase how jaguars and cattle production
can co-exist in the Pantanal. Panthera's team crossed the Joao Lemme river in neck-high water and were unable to continue due to the height of the water and the discomfort of prevalent spiny plants. Scientists and brocket deer alike (pictured below) were hampered by the seasonally flooded river, but conservation in this landscape occurs all year round, despite the naturally occurring challenges.

NY Times: Fretting About the Last of the World's Biggest Cats

A recent New York Times article highlighting the importance of tiger conservation in the Year of the Tiger, considers the opinion of Panthera President and CEO Alan Rabinowitz in "Fretting About the Last of the World's Biggest Cats".

READ: A Naturalist and Other Beasts: Tales from a Life in the Field

Since the 1960s, George Schaller's name has been synonymous with wildlife field biology. For nearly five decades, George Schaller, now Vice President of Panthera, has conducted landmark studies of animals such as the lion, tiger, and panda, and documented them in award-winning books and lively articles. This anthology - the first he has ever compiled - gathers nineteen of his best short pieces. Most focus on a single creature; others describe his journeys on broader conservation missions. Schaller provides a prefatory note to each piece and a general introduction that looks back on his remarkable career. Illustrated with Dr. Schaller's own photographs, A Naturalist and Other Beasts is now in paperback for the first time.
"This is brilliant stuff—patient observation and lucid writing full of the wonder of living among wild animals." (Orion magazine)

*A Naturalist and Other Beasts* is available from your favorite bookseller or these online retailers:

Amazon.com  
Powell's Books

For more books written by Panthera staff, please click here.

**LISTEN: Alan Rabinowitz on The Animal House**

In case you missed it, click here to hear Alan Rabinowitz recount stories of his first encounters with one of the most iconic species of the Americas - the jaguar - and discuss Panthera's groundbreaking approach to jaguar conservation on WAMU's *The Animal House*.

**Glenn Close Shares the Spotlight with Panthera**

Did you know that two-time Emmy award winning actress, Glenn Close, is a founding member of Panthera's Conservation Council? This advisory committee is composed of a few select individuals who promote Panthera's mission, projects and position as the go-to global big cat conservation organization. Read this article to learn about Close's hit show, *Damages*, and her enduring love of animals.

**TreeHugger: Ultra-Rare Photos of Endangered Snow Leopards in the Wild**

Last week, TreeHugger published a photo essay containing truly captivating images of rarely-seen Mongolian snow leopards. Using GPS collars, Panthera's Snow Leopard Program Director, Dr. Tom McCarthy, and field staff from the Snow Leopard Trust are tracking...
these mysterious cats to learn more about their behaviors, numbers and interactions with human populations. Check out exceptional photos of these "mountain ghosts" on Treehugger's website.

Films from the Field are in Panthera's Future

Last month, Panthera applied for the Flip Video Spotlight Program. This matching purchase initiative provides qualifying nonprofit organizations with one free camcorder for every Flip Video Ultra camcorder sold. Just days ago, Panthera was accepted as a Flip Video Spotlight partner! Using this grant, we have already placed an order for 16 Flip Ultra Standard Definition camcorders, and Flip Video is matching them for a total of 32. Shown here, these pocket-sized camcorders record up to 120 minutes of television quality footage, include a USB arm for easy uploads, and are operated using a single button.

From Mongolia to Nigeria to Colombia, Panthera's field staff will now be able to easily record their day-to-day activities, including tracking and collaring of big cats and conversations with wildlife park guards, cattle herders, and other local community members. We hope that these Flip Video camcorders will help us tell the stories of conserving big cats and the individuals, communities, local conservation organizations and governments working to ensure the future of these magnificent animals. Flip camcorders will be distributed to field staff in the next two months so be on the lookout for new on-the-ground footage on Panthera's nonprofit YouTube channel -- www.youtube.com/pantheracats and on our website.

Thank you Flip Video for your generous donation and for helping Panthera share the stories of conserving big cats with the world!

Panthera is on Facebook!

On Facebook? Become a Panthera fan! Visit our fan page to find out about our latest adventures and conservation activities. While you're at it, join our Facebook group as well!

Huffington Post: A Night in the Wild

Last October, Panthera gathered stories from our scientists, researchers, and partners to document their favorite encounters with big cats in the wild. This month, read world-renowned conservationist
and Panthera Vice President George Schaller's tale of a night spent under falling snow waiting to capture the rare sight of a female snow leopard in the wild.

To read this Cat Tale, please click here.

To learn more about Panthera and how you can help save the world's wild cats, visit: www.panthera.org

To see more 'Panthera in the News', please visit: http://www.panthera.org/news_and_events.html