

Elk Migration

Here is an update from biologist Patti Happe on the status of the Roosevelt Elk conservation program at Olympic National Park. Wirta Hospitality Worldwide has been a sponsor of this program to collar the elk with transmitters so as to better understand their migratory patterns. If you like to learn more how to help conserve elk, marmot or fisher populations in Olympic National Park go to www.wnppf.org

As of today we have heard from 17/18 newly collared elk - the 17th just called in today and we got 12 days worth of data, so I'm pretty confident that we will hear from the 18th soon

here is where they all sit - the capture locations are the large icons, and the locations are the smaller dots- all color coded of course - yellow= east side, brown upper elwha, etc. we actually have 5 elk in the cat creek- high divide- upper boge area...they were collared in 3 different places but have all come together for now - we'll see where they all end up.

this is the widest distribution of radioed elk that we have ever had, and coupled with the 15 still on the air from the prior captures, we should, over the next 4 years, get some pretty phenomenal information on elk movements and habitat use in the par, and be able to greatly refine our survey methodology.

FYI - the elk send data through the Iridium Satellite - you know how sat phones work - not everyone can call home every day - so I have different amounts of data for each animal - but each are programmed to get a location 4 times a day at 6 hour intervals. this is the # of data points since the capture operation started - 21 September.

Patti

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