

CRAIGHEAD ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

*Pioneering ecological research with a commitment to wildlife and
habitat conservation*



Dear Friends of CERI,

Welcome to our April e-newsletter, a monthly update from the Craighead Environmental Research Institute. We have several exciting things to report in this issue including our upcoming "Conservation Scrapbook" event on May 6th in Bozeman, an online auction through eBay Giving Works, a new website and an update about our Sea-bird project in B.C.!

If you would like to make a donation, you can now do so easily and securely through our newly designed website www.craigheadresearch.org. As always, we appreciate your continued support of our innovative and important work. We hope you can join us on May 6th in Bozeman!

Cheers,

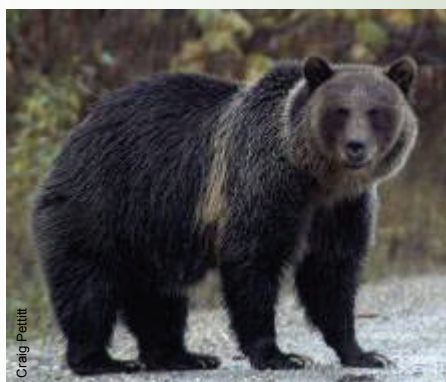
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lance Craighead".

Lance Craighead
Executive Director
Craighead Environmental Research Institute

Please join us next week!

A Conservation Scrapbook...

*Share a glimpse of the history of conservation in the Greater
Yellowstone Ecosystem and some perspectives on the future.*



Wednesday, May 6, 7:00pm

Emerson Cultural Center Ballroom

From falconry to grizzly bears to wild and scenic river preservation, Charlie and Lance Craighead will present slides and stories from the early careers of wildlife advocates Frank and John Craighead.

With special guest Doug Peacock

Bid on silent auction items from:

- Banovich Art
- Patagonia
- Montana Whitewater

Tickets: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door

includes a dinner catered by the

Emerson Grill, cash bar

To purchase tickets: (406) 585-8705 or
info@craigheadresearch.org.

- Montana Troutfitters
- Summit Bike & Ski
- and more!*

Proceeds benefit the Craighead Environmental Research Institute

Online Auction to support CERI May 7 - 16!



This beautiful canvas could be yours!

“Big Ivory”

by John Banovich

Giclée Canvas

Framed Size: 41” x 48”

Framed Value: \$2,000

Bid on this beautiful canvas and support the Craighead Environmental Research Institute! CERI will be holding an online auction through eBay Giving Works for this framed piece. eBay Giving Works allows nonprofits to benefit from the sale of items on eBay. 100% of the final sale price will be donated to CERI.

Go to www.ebaygivingworks.com. Under “Browse listings by Category”, click on “Art”. Under “Find”, type in “Banovich” or “Big Ivory”. Click on listing and start bidding!

Bidding begins May 7 and ends May 16, 2009.

Don't miss this opportunity to buy this beautiful framed art piece and support wildlife and habitat conservation at the same time! For more information, contact Karen Erbe at (406) 585-8705 or info@craigheadresearch.org.

John Banovich is among the most renowned international wildlife artists, specializing in large oil paintings of animals from around the world.

CERI has a new look online! Please visit us at
www.craigheadresearch.org.

Marine birds and Wind Power Development in B.C.

Wind power is the fastest growing source of energy in the world. The wind power industry creates new jobs, offsets emissions from fossil fuel-

have developed a data framework which is replicable, expandable or relocatable, and can be used at different scales. This approach can be easily modified to meet the needs of different jurisdictions.

fired power plants, and enhances the security of electricity supplies. It also generates billions of dollars in revenue every year. Canada's wind power potential is one of the greatest in the world, and research has shown that British Columbia has the second windiest coastline on the planet.

In response to the Kyoto Protocol, the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bali, and the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the British Columbia government has set a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by the year 2020. This will require a major emphasis on the development of renewable sources of energy, particularly wind energy. British Columbia is facing great pressure for development and it is therefore imperative that all renewable energy projects be planned with great care because there is a tremendous potential for negative environmental impacts, particularly cumulative impacts.

As a demonstration project, to show how a comprehensive assessment of potential ecological impacts can guide energy development planning, CERI partnered with the David Suzuki Foundation (DSF) and the Raincoast Conservation Society (RCS) of Canada to examine areas where potential impacts to marine birds may occur as a result of wind farm developments along the British Columbia coast. This is a pilot study to develop and complete an analysis framework for a sensitive group of species that can then be systematically applied to assess other forms of renewable energy development such as tidal, geothermal, and solar power in the future.

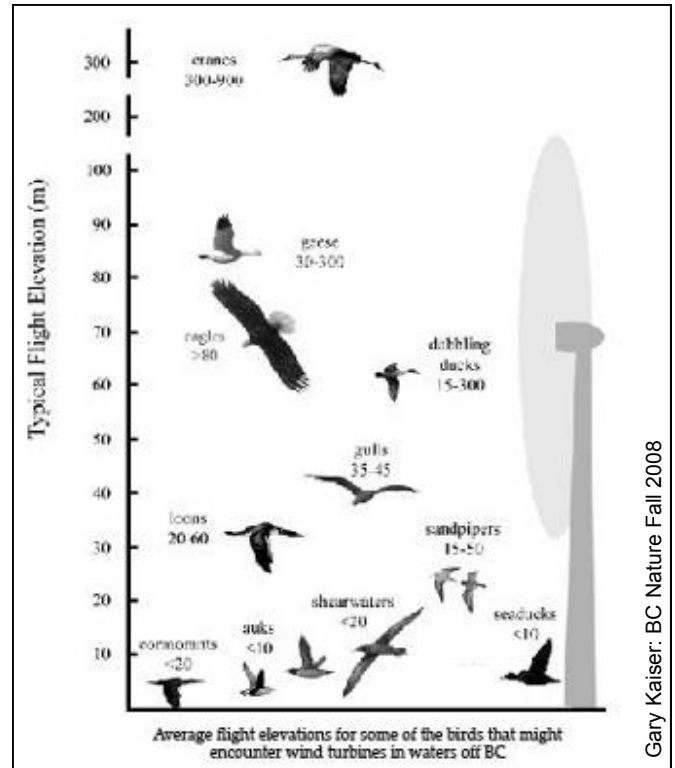
DSF supports wind power as a major source of renewable energy, and views this pilot project as a first step in the practicable mapping that needs to be done in the eastern Pacific. Funding for this project has been provided by DSF and the Rockefeller Brothers Foundation (RBF). RBF has expressed great interest in supporting an expanded strategic development plan for the BC coast that incorporates a reserve network of undeveloped areas that can maintain coastal biodiversity.

CERI has been working with Dr. Marc Kramer at the University of California – Santa Cruz and NASA to apply fluid dynamics wind models to the BC coast to determine areas of highest potential for wind power development. CERI and other collaborators



Coast of Haida Gwaii, British Columbia

can be used in the future to address impacts of renewable energy development throughout British Columbia. We have analyzed data from 4 years of seabird transects that were completed by the RCS, Canadian Wildlife Service seabird colony data, Important Bird Area data, and Marbelled Murrelet habitat models developed by the Coast Information Team.



Gary Kaiser: BC Nature Fall 2008

We then compared the marine bird data with wind energy models developed by the Canadian government and by Marc Kramer with NASA to identify areas where there is a high likelihood of conflict between wind farms and seabirds.

This report will be released by the David Suzuki Foundation and CERI in the spring of 2009 to bring public attention to the environmental problems associated with even green energy development and to point the way to possible solutions using scientific techniques. Both the U.S. and Canada are proceeding rapidly towards green energy development and there is a very real danger that environmental safeguards may be tossed aside in the rush for energy and jobs.

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 Questions or comments? E-mail us at info@craigheadresearch.org or call (406) 585-8705
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