WILDLIFE CONSERVATION INITIATIVE SPOTLIGHT

HUMBOLDT MARTEN PREDATORS

Who's eating Humboldt martens? This WCI project in southern Oregon is working to discover just that. Why? Because the population of Humboldt martens is small and isolated in the United States. In fact, the species is listed as federally threatened and endangered in California. By identifying the exact diet of the Humboldt marten's natural predators, researchers and forest managers will be able to improve species conservation and restoration opportunities.

KEY COLLABORATORS

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO)
- The National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, Inc. (NCASI)
- Green Diamond Resource
- Oregon State University
- Rogue Detection Dog Teams
- University of Oregon
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Forest Service

PROJECT TIMELINE

SUMMER 2019: PROJECT START — **ONGOING**

HUMBOLDT MARTEN FAST FACTS

The Humboldt marten is only found in Northern California and Oregon.

The species is a cat-sized carnivore in the weasel family.

Humboldt martens primarily eat small mammals such as voles and squirrels, but will also eat berries, birds, eggs, fish, carrion, and insects.

Humboldt martens are so rare that the species was once thought extinct.

Wildfires, habitat loss, and loss of genetic diversity have been the primary threats to the Humboldt marten.

PREDATORS AND COMPETITORS OF THE HUMBOLDT MARTEN

Fisher

Bobcat

Cougar

Ringtail Cat

Coyote

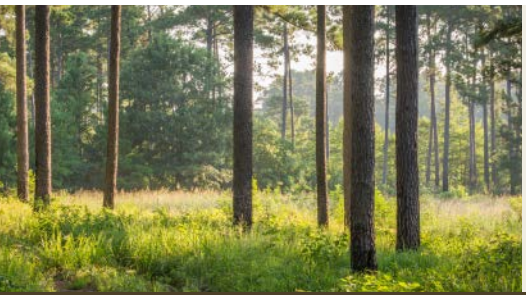
Wolf

PRELIMINARY RESEARCH

Between 2019 and 2021, the research team collected, identified, and analyzed scat in southern Oregon from the predators and competitors highlighted above to learn what they had eaten and quantify their risk to Humboldt martens. Since then, the scientists have been summarizing diet data.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The researchers will share early results when they become available while they continue to write multiple species-based natural history papers for publication.



CONSERVATION SUCCESS STARTS WITH KEEPING FORESTS INTACT

We all have a hand in ensuring conservation of wildlife. When we purchase wood and forest products, we support the sustainable cycle of growing, harvesting and replanting that keeps our forests as forests. Thousands of species call working forests home, and many species thrive in actively managed working forests.

This project is made possible by the Wildlife Conservation Initiative (WCI), a collaborative partnership between NAFO, the USFWS, NCASI, and other stakeholders to conserve fish and wildlife species in private working forests. The WCI was founded on the recognition that private working forests are an important conservation tool. NAFO members own and manage more than *43* million acres of private working forests in *32* states — the scale needed to achieve meaningful conservation success. Through the WCI, the proactive and voluntary conservation efforts of government and private working forest owners are delivering positive outcomes for wildlife across the United States.

WildlifeConservationInitiative.org

NAFO National Alliance of Forest Owners