

Bio-logging collar reveals unprecedented detail about California mountain lions

August 19 2014, by Miles O'brien

How do you get to know a free-roaming California mountain lion? Very carefully!

Actually, you may never be able to spend time on the trail with a [wild cat](#), but if the cat is wearing the new high tech collar designed by University of California, Santa Cruz, researchers, you'll find out a lot more about what you're missing. With support from the National Science Foundation (NSF), wildlife ecologist Chris Wilmers and his team developed the collar to help them learn more about the behavior, metabolism and [habitat preferences](#) of [mountain lions](#).

It's a GPS tracker, and so much more! In addition to its location, the collar records the animal's behavior and physiology in unprecedented detail. For example, the researchers try to determine in [real time](#) whether the animal being tracked is walking, running, stalking or pouncing. The researchers are learning more about how the cats respond to different stimuli, such as climate, and interactions with other animals, and changes in the landscape created by development.

Provided by National Science Foundation

Citation: Bio-logging collar reveals unprecedented detail about California mountain lions (2014, August 19) retrieved 19 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-08-bio-logging-collar-reveals-unprecedented-california.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.