New 3D Scanning Campaign Will Reveal 20,000 Animals in Stunning Detail

In April, Kevin Conway, described a new species of clingfish based on a scan that revealed about 2000 tiny teeth resembling toothbrush bristles. Conway is one of four researchers leading the Open Exploration of Vertebrate Diversity in 3D (oVert) project with $2.5 million in National Science Foundation funding. Read more at http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/08/new-3d-scanning-campaign-will-reveal-20000-animals-stunning-detail.

Periodic Charts Bring New Meaning to Texas A&M Wildlife Researcher

Kirk Winemiller and doctoral students, Dan Fitzgerald and Luke Bower, published a paper two years ago in the journal, Ecology Letters, proposing a rationale for periodic tables of niches and offered ways to create them. Winemiller said the value of developing periodic tables of niches stems from the tool having great potential for ecological applications, ranging from restoration ecology to forecasting biological responses to climate change. Read more at https://today.agrilife.org/2017/09/14/periodic-charts-bring-new-meaning-texas-wildlife-researcher-others.

2016 Regional Recovery Champions

The Texas A&M University Key Deer Team, led by Dr. Nova J. Silvy, Regents Professor, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University and Dr. Roel R. Lopez, Director, Natural Resources Institute, Texas A&M University, is recognized both for its extraordinary efforts towards recovery of the endangered Key deer, and also its participation in the protective management of the Key deer during the New World screwworm incident.

The team contributed to recovery of the Key deer population by providing a greater understanding of the species abundance, population dynamics, and viability. It also was largely responsible for translocation effort that re-established populations on Cudjoe and Sugarloaf Keys. This led to an expansion of the overall population that now includes most of the historical range of the Key deer, adding redundancy and increasing representation throughout the population.

Most recently the Texas A&M University team proved invaluable to the Fish and Wildlife Service during the screwworm incident. The team made it their top priority to provide the Service with the necessary information and guidance needed to respond to the NWS incident. Their dedication and almost 70 years of combined experience have helped bring the Key deer population to its current improved status.