

National Geographic
Research, Conservation and Exploration Division
(Remote Imaging Group)

The Remote Imaging Group focuses on animal bourn imaging research projects. Primarily over the years we have been developing imaging and sensing technologies for marine wildlife. The purpose of our research is to support behavioral science and promote conservation and education.

For marine animals the data and video is recorded within the device. However the department does work with terrestrial animals such as bears, lions and hyenas occasionally. I these cases we develop video and data transmission equipment. The video and telemetry is transmitted to a mobile receiver base station from the animal.

When the animals are located in dense forests the higher frequencies prove inadequate as line of sight is constantly disrupted by foliage. In these cases we have designed and hope to continue to design systems that transmit video in the 480mhz band while transmitting data in the 430mhz band. These systems are typically attached to collar and worn around the neck of an animal such as a bear. The powers of these transmitters have been less than 1 watt. Our research takes place primarily in remote unpopulated regions of the United States and abroad.

We previously had an experimental license for our research activities (file number 0138-ex-pl-2001, call sign KA2XXD) . We accidentally let the renewal date of this license slip past. We would like to renew or re-apply for the license to continue our research.

Thank you for you time,
C. Mike Shepard