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## Altruism in Mountain Lions

Mark Elbroch

*Panthera Teton Cougar Project*

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**University of Wyoming – National Park Service  
2015 Harlow Summer Seminars at the AMK Ranch**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup> 2015, 5:30pm**

***“Altruism in Mountain Lions”***

**Dr. Mark Elbroch, Science Director  
Panthera’s Teton Cougar Project  
Kelly, Wyoming**

Altruism is selfless behavior that benefits others. In biology, we go one step further and define altruism as behaviors that benefit the recipient while exacting a cost on the provider. Perhaps it’s this stricter definition, but for whatever reason, scientists believe altruism in the animal kingdom is a myth. For example, when an animal appears to be acting altruistically, it may in fact be aiding a close relative, and thus in an obscure way, benefiting itself. Join Dr. Mark Elbroch as he explores altruism in mountain lions. Mountain lions are solitary carnivores that interact rarely for courtship or over territorial disputes—or are they? Mark’s visual presentation will reveal that mountain lions interact with a frequency that challenges old assumptions, as well as share research findings from Panthera’s Teton Cougar Project on a study of food-sharing among mountain lions in Jackson Hole and surrounding mountains. Mark’s presentation promises to be filled with distinctive video clips of wild mountain lions and recent revelations that might surprise you.



***Barbecue at 5:30 with hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, chips, salads and dessert for a \$5 donation. The talk starts at 6:30 in the historic Berol Lodge at the AMK Ranch. Turn right when entering Leek’s Marina parking lot in Grand Teton National Park. Reservations not required.***