

# Tracker News

MICROWAVE TELEMETRY, INC.



## Data Protection & Species Protection

*Dear Customers and Friends,*

*With the passing May 25th 2018 deadline for compliance with the European Union's (EU's) General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the world took note of the importance of protecting stored personally identifiable information. While this monumental legislation only protects people in the EU and European Economic Area, new privacy laws for other countries are certain to follow. We are reminded of a time (not long ago) when birds and marine animals moved about in near secrecy, their whereabouts only revealed during point observations. Technology has enabled us to connect these points in near-real time — doing so is as easy as opening an email. Interestingly, at a time when privacy is regarded as an inherent human right, the scientific community increasingly moves towards a climate supportive of transparency in reporting and open-accessibility of data. As recent events have made clear, data ownership is a powerful tool to be used responsibly. Since no policy exists to protect animals' privacy rights, let's agree to put the information we acquire to good use. Humans owe them that, at least.*

*In this issue, Autumn-Lynn Harrison, Pete Marra, Amy Scarpignato, Katrina Phillips, Kelly Nesvacil, Don Lyons, and Susan Oehlers graciously share their data with us. Thank you to these impressive biologists who demonstrate their deep appreciation of scientific responsibility.*

*Sincerely,  
Lucy and the Team at MTI*



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