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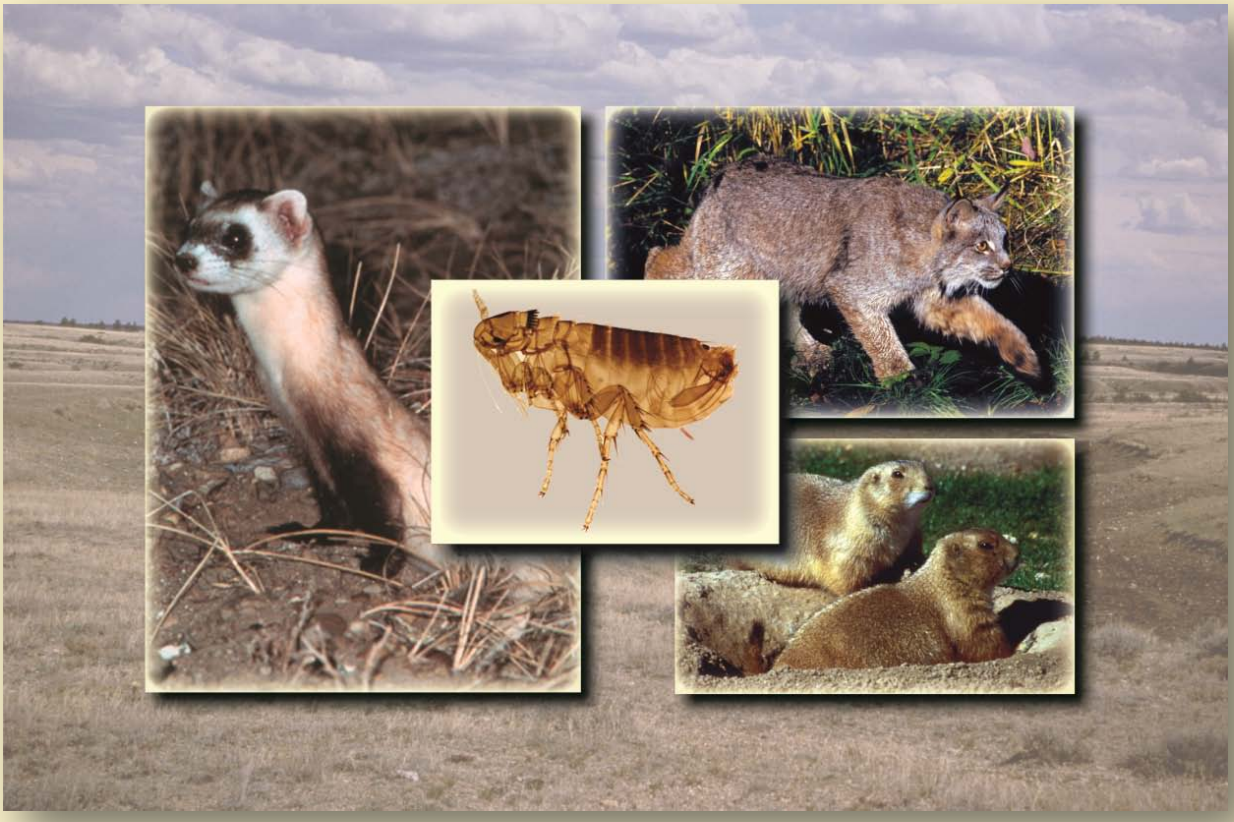
Bibliography of Literature Pertaining to Plague (*Yersinia pestis*)

By Laura E. Ellison and Megan K. Eberhardt Frank



Open-File Report 2011–1293

U.S. Department of the Interior
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A Bibliography of Literature Pertaining to Plague (*Yersinia pestis*)

By Laura E. Ellison and Megan K. Eberhardt-Frank

Introduction

Plague is an acute and often fatal zoonotic disease caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis*. *Y. pestis* mainly cycles between small mammals and their fleas; however, it has the potential to infect humans and frequently causes fatalities if left untreated. It is often considered a disease of the past; however, since the late 1800s, plague's geographic range has expanded greatly, posing new threats in previously unaffected regions of the world, including the Western United States.

As part of an interagency agreement between the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the National Park Service (NPS), the Biological Resource Management Division of the NPS requested assistance with a detailed literature search on plague. We conducted this literature search using Internet resources and databases. The keywords chosen for the searches included plague, *Yersinia pestis*, management, control, wildlife, prairie dogs, fleas, NPS, North America, and mammals. Keywords were used alone or in combination with the other terms. Although this search pertains mostly to North America, we include citations from the international research community, as well. Databases and search engines used included Google (*http://www.google.com*), Google Scholar (*http://scholar.google.com*), SciVerse Scopus (*http://www.scopus.com*), ISI Web of Knowledge (*http://apps.isiknowledge.com*), and the USGS Library's Digital Desktop (*http://library.usgs.gov*). The literature-cited sections of manuscripts obtained from keyword searches were cross-referenced to identify additional citations or gray literature that were missed by the Internet search engines.

This Open-File Report is intended to be an Internet-accessible bibliography, and we hope to periodically update it with new citations or older references that we may have missed during this compilation. Hence, the authors would be grateful to receive notice of any new or old papers that the audience (users) think need to be included.

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