



[Far Western and ICF Identify Emigrant Grave](#)

As part of the NV Energy Assets surveys and site evaluations on the Tahoe National Forest in 2011, Far Western recorded a possible historic grave site on the Overland Emigrant Trail near Truckee. On June 6, 2017, three ICF dogs and their handlers met with [Sharon Waechter](#) and [Vickie Clay](#) to “sniff out” the possible emigrant grave.

To read the full story click on the link below:

<http://farwestern.com/news/>



Our Team Arrived Home and Safe from our Expedition looking for Amelia on the Island of Nikumaroro. We hope to share some photos and stories soon.



Forensic dog Kayle sits on a spot where she detects the lingering scent of human bones that may have decomposed long ago.

PHOTOGRAPH BY RACHEL SHEA, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Forensic Dogs Locate Spot Where Amelia Earhart May Have Died

Bone-sniffing canines have been searching a remote Pacific island for any signs of the famous, ill-fated pilot. Here's what they found.

By Rachel Hartigan Shea

PUBLISHED JULY 7, 2017

NIKUMARORO ISLAND, KIRIBATI - Four bone-sniffing dogs that were brought to this remote Pacific island to search for traces of Amelia Earhart have identified a spot where the pioneering aviator may have died 80 years ago.

The dogs—four border collies named Marcy, Piper, Kayle, and Berkeley—arrived on the island on June 30 as part of an expedition sponsored by The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery (TIGHAR) and the National Geographic Society.

Read full article at this link.

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/07/forensic-dogs-amelia-earhart-spot-where-died/>

- Barbara



Archaeologist Dawn Johnson and physician Kim Zimmerman collect soil samples for analysis at a DNA lab.

PHOTOGRAPH BY RACHEL SHEA, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Dog Equipment

The handlers reported that the most useful piece of equipment they used for the hot conditions looking for Amelia was their Chillybuddy.

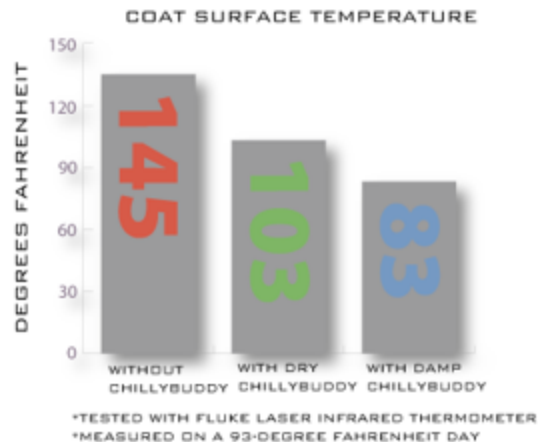
We first used the Chillybuddy reflective jacket several years ago when we were working the deserts in California. They actually make a big difference in keeping the dogs cooler. On the island of Niku the handlers will be blasted by the bright sun as well as the reflected sun off the white coral. It's important to keep the dogs as cool as possible as they hike to the search areas as well as when they are searching.

This is from Chillybuddy.com web page

Chillybuddy Cooling Jacket (Patent Pending) is a light-weight mesh cooling jacket designed specifically to help keep a dog comfortable in hot weather and reduce the effect of exposure to the sun. The jacket's outer layer is made of woven synthetic with an aluminized finish. The twisted strands of the fabric function like thousands of tiny mirrors, reflecting all wavelengths of light away from the surface. The jacket is lined with a cotton mesh. Both layers allow air to pass freely through. The cotton mesh liner can be wetted to provide substantial

evaporative cooling. Unlike other wet jackets, the evaporation occurs in the shade of the outer layer, creating an unusually cool environment on the hottest days.

-Adela



Muttluks

We occasionally use boots on our dogs. Some places we search have very nasty thorns on the ground called goat heads. They can ever puncture a bicycle tire. Other thorns, hot ground temperatures, loose granite or other kinds of rocks and injuries to the foot or pads are some of the other reasons we use boots for the dogs. Nikumaroro is an atoll made of coral, some ground fine like sand all the up to baseball sized rocks and larger. The corral is extremely abrasive and will continue to wear the pads off the dogs feet.

Lynne E. contacted Muttluks and told them about our possible expedition to Niku to look for Amelia and the abrasive conditions the dogs would be working in.

They were thrilled to help and sent enough boots for each dog going on the expedition to have 2 sets (4 each) of boots, one mud monster that has a tough rubber bottom like hiking boots and one set of softer leather bottom ones. They also sent additional ones for other team members.

We can't thank Muttluks enough for their generous donation for the Amelia project. We have sent them some pictures of the dogs in their shoes and will send some from Niku in real conditions.

-Adela



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(650) 503-HHRD (-4473)

www.HHRDD.org

We are happy to talk to you about your project and how our dogs might help locate human remains or burials. Email or call us.

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