

 Roundtable on
the **Crown**
of the **Continent**



**Summary Report: 5th Annual Conference
Roundtable on the Crown of the Conference**

*Living in the Crown:
A Balancing Act for Community, Culture and Conservation
September 10-12, 2014
Waterton Park, Alberta*

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Executive Summary

Over 160 people gathered in Waterton Lakes National Park on September 10-12, 2014, for the 5th Annual Conference of the Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent – *Living in the Crown: A Balancing Act for Community, Culture and Conservation*. Key features of the 5th Annual Conference included:

A Focus on the Northeast Quadrant of the Crown. Presentations shared a deeper understanding of the issues and successes characterizing the landscape in and around our setting. Individuals actively involved in the NE quadrant of the Crown served on the local conference planning committee and provided local knowledge and resources to shape the agenda in a relevant and meaningful way. Topics included scientific assessments of environmental, economic and cultural changes in Alberta, land stewardship projects, and activities of the Blackfoot Confederacy.

Pre-Conference Tribal Gathering. For the first time, organizers offered a forum for tribal representatives from throughout the Crown to lead their own discussions about inter- and intra-tribal natural resource issues. The session was open to all and was led by tribal facilitators. Topics included fractionated lands, flooding, water rights and fracking. This 4-hour session resulted in new understanding of common problems, identification of ways to improve inter-tribal communications, and plans for a similar session next year.

Keynotes That Set Context, Make Us Think, and Explore the Past and the Future. Keynote presentations focused on *setting context* (Superintendents Mow and Thomas, and Ian Dyson), *stimulating response* to landscape changes (Brad Stelfox), and *sharing inspirations for moving forward* (Carole Stark, Patrick Bixler, Fran Leggett, Doug Chadwick and the Retrospective Session).

“Action Topic” Workshop Sessions. In direct response to conference feedback from prior years, five Action Topic Workshop Sessions addressed topics of great interest to conference attendees (invasives, forest practices, watershed management, geotourism, and Tribal/First Nation relations). The workshops featured content experts who could deliver an up-to-date review of the topics. Each of the five, two-hour sessions included thoughtful presentations, provocative discussions, and a chance to build relationships to support current and emerging initiatives.

Poster Session. A poster session featured 14 Adaptive Management Initiative (AMI) research projects. The AMI projects, funded through the Roundtable, explore ways to build resilience in ecosystems that face threat from changes in climate, land practices, and the economy. Scientists, businesses, tribes, and community representatives lead these projects. Many have asked for another poster session at next year’s conference on research activity in the Crown.

Evaluation. Participant evaluations were very favorable, but also asked for broader representation from several perspectives, including: industry/business, landowners, agency heads, and young leaders. Respondents also requested more focused responses to the topics raised by the keynote addresses. Finally, attendees asked for continuation of the new features initiated this year: mini workshops, a poster session, and the tribal gathering.

Conference Summary

I. Introduction

The Crown of the Continent is one of the last places in North America that still hosts all of its native large predators—a sign of a landscape that remains remarkably intact. The Crown is home to the headwaters of three critical continental watersheds – the Columbia, Missouri and Saskatchewan – that sustain millions of people in communities thousands of miles from the source. Across this vast landscape, indigenous cultures have thrived for thousands of years. At the core of the region are Waterton Lakes and Glacier National Parks, designated by the U.S. Congress and Canadian Parliament in 1932 as the world’s first international peace park. More than 21 federal, Tribal, First Nations, state, and provincial agencies strive to cooperatively manage the Crown’s wildlands, wildlife, timber, minerals, oil and gas, recreation, and other resources. Diverse communities offer economic opportunities linked to these natural resources and unparalleled quality of life.

All of this makes the Crown a rare and special place, a vibrant home to approximately 194,000 people, and a destination for millions of visitors from around the globe. It is an extraordinary landscape worthy of long-term stewardship for present and future generations.

The Crown is a dynamic landscape. Both casual observation and scientific investigation tell us that some current trends present challenges for the future: loss and fragmentation of wildlife habitat; increased demands for water, land, and energy resources; and social turbulence, as economies diversify from a base of natural resource use to knowledge-industry and amenity-oriented growth.

The annual Roundtable¹ on the Crown of the Continent conference brings together people who live in the Crown to:

- Exchange new information and ideas, connect people working on similar issues, and foster a sense of regional identity;
- Celebrate the links among the culture, community, and conservation values of the Crown of the Continent and explore how people are working to enhance these values; and
- Examine some of the most compelling issues facing the Crown of the Continent and build our collective capacity to address them at a local and regional scale.

Quotes from Participants

“I learned a considerable amount about the challenges, both management and political, being faced by our colleagues north of the border.”

“Conservation and relationships are key.”

“The climate change talk was excellent and the general discussion was very useful in providing context, as was the poster session where it was great to really chat with people.”

“Smaller groups focused on specific topics were more meaningful to me. And of course the great networking and learning about work by colleagues.”

“Thank you for a wonderful job! I will definitely look forward to next year’s conference!”

During the past four years, the conference has moved around the region to feature the people, landscapes, and efforts of the different quadrants. This year, the conference was held in Waterton Park, Alberta (in the Northeast quadrant of the Crown) on September 10-12, 2014, and the organizing theme was “Living in the Crown: A Balancing Act for Culture, Community and Conservation.” It explored how our businesses, cultures, and communities are taking forward-

¹ The Roundtable is forum of people who care about the Crown of the Continent. They represent over 100 government agencies, Tribes and First Nations, non-government organizations, and community-based partnerships. Through workshops, forums, policy dialogues, and conferences, the Roundtable: (1) embraces the 18 million acre region; (2) includes all perspectives and communities; (3) focuses on connecting people, facilitating communication, and catalyzing action; (4) supplements other activities; and (5) promotes sustainable communities and landscapes. The Roundtable is not any particular group of people, a government commission, or a new organization.

looking actions to balance values in the face of changing economic and climatic conditions. The conference included:

- keynote addresses from the Superintendents of Glacier and Waterton Lakes National Parks;
- a pre-conference networking session for Tribes and First Nations;
- a focus on the Northeast quadrant of the Crown;
- many presentations and panels from key scientists and stakeholders;
- in-depth facilitated workshops on invasives, geotourism, watershed management, forest practices and Tribal relations, and time to build collective capacity to address these issues; and
- a poster session on Adaptive Management research projects.

Over 160 representatives from nonprofit organizations, agencies, governments, businesses, Tribes, First Nations, local communities, and universities traveled to Waterton Park to celebrate the landscape, exchange ideas, and foster a regional identity. This report highlights key discussion topics to carry solutions forward in the coming year.

II. Conference Highlights

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

Pre-Conference Tribal/First Nations Gathering: Perspectives and Initiatives

A pre-conference Tribal/First Nations gathering was held on September 10th at the Community Center in Waterton Park, Alberta. More than 30 representatives from the Salish Kootenai, Blood Nation, Blackfoot Tribe, North Piikani, and Siksika Nation participated in the meeting. Blackfoot Tribal Councilman and Elder, Chief Earl Old Person, opened the meeting, and Terry Tatsey of Blackfoot Community College facilitated the discussion. Lea Whitford of the Blackfoot Tribe served as the Tribal Liaison to conference planning.



The Tribal/First Nations Gathering

Tribal and First Nation leaders shared the challenges they face managing Tribal lands and natural resources in the Crown of the Continent. Some of the concerns expressed by them included:

- fractionated lands due to past allotment practices,
- flooding due to climate change,

- flooding of farm fields and the need for more crop rotation,
- the impacts of the Old Man River Dam on the ecosystem,
- Tribal water rights,
- intergovernmental relations, including the consultation process,
- border crossing and recognizing treaty rights,
- health issues such high rates of diabetes and cancer, and
- fracking practices.

They also shared some of their successes, including:

- the Iinii Initiative, which is focused on exploring and re-energizing the relationship between the Tribes and the buffalo,
- encouraging healthy eating choices like buffalo meat and community/family gardens, and developing policies for creating organic lands and regulating pesticides/fertilizers used in farming practices,
- using alternative energy sources such as wind turbines to generate power rather than allowing drilling for oil on tribal reserve lands, and
- getting the youth on the land by holding camps to teach survival skills and reconnecting with the landscape.

Welcome and Overview

Roundtable Coordinator Mary Sexton welcomed all attendees, reviewed the many groups of stakeholders participating, and summarized meeting goals. Morris Little Wolf of the Piikani Nation offered an opening prayer.



Opening Remarks

Keynotes: International Response to Changing Times

Jeff Mow, who has served as the Superintendent of Glacier National Park for the past year, discussed short-term and longer-term changes in vegetation, water processes, and other natural resource regimes in Glacier. He reviewed the impacts of climate change (severe glacial melt and the need for new road design) he has observed during his tenure as Superintendent of both Kenai Fiords

National Park and Glacier National Park, and highlighted the need for analysis and adaptive management in dealing with future changes.

Ifan Thomas, Superintendent of Waterton Lakes National Park, spoke about the significant demographic shift impacting parks in Canada. Younger people are not seeking the same experiences as their parents, and recreational opportunities are in demand. Additionally, people from other cultures, including new immigrants from Asia, seek different experiences – picnicking and family activities are popular, for example. Parks Canada is involved with outreach to youth and newly arrived Canadians to make parks more relevant.



Superintendent Jeff Mow



Superintendent Ifan Thomas

Balancing Issues and Opportunities: Regional Innovations

Panelists from academia, First Nations, business, and land management offered varying perspectives on changes and opportunities in the Crown.

- **Responding to Invasives, Shifts Climate and Seasonal Runoff**

David Sauchyn, Research Professor, Prairie Adaptation Research Collaborative, University of Regina, suggested that changes in water regimes are impacting agriculture and natural resource management, leading to increased need for adaptive management. His deep body of research stresses the importance of understanding causes and consequences of climatic variability to then better support adaptation of energy and renewable resource industries to climate change.

- **Traditional Ecological Knowledge: The Inii Initiative**

Leroy Little Bear, Director, Harvard University Native American Program (ret.) spoke passionately about the *Inii Initiative*, a collaborative effort among Blackfoot Confederacy and other regional tribes and First Nations, to not only bring back the buffalo but also to emphasize the spiritual and nutritional importance of the animal. A treaty among Tribal nations will be signed on September 23, 2014, underscoring the collective interest in buffalo.

- **New Technologies and Economic Opportunities in Our Communities**

Jen Frandsen, Chief Operations Officer, Oldtown Creative Communications, LLC, emphasized opportunities for high technology and creative businesses in the Crown as well as the importance of capitalizing on recreation and tourism needs. Her company uses travel apps and other software solutions to assist travelers and to develop stories of place.

- **Shifts in Land Ownership and Legacy**

Dana Blouin, Manager of Science and Conservation Support, Nature Conservancy of Canada, and *Grant Kier*, Executive Director, Five Valleys Lands Trust, talked about changes they are seeing in their work with landowners. Blouin described a cooperative effort among governments and non-profit groups to preserve and manage a ranch northeast of Waterton Park. Kier

described the Nature Conservancy and Trust for Public Lands Legacy Project that transferred over 300,000 acres of Plum Creek Timber lands to public and other private ownership in the Swan, Seeley, Blackfoot areas of Montana. He also discussed the role the region's seven community land trusts play in sustaining regional community, cultural, and conservation values.

The Power of Applied Research to Guide Our Actions and Poster Session

Melly Reuling, Roundtable Adaptive Management Initiative Coordinator, Center for Large Landscape Conservation, reviewed the work of the Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent's Adaptive Management Initiative, which promotes climate adaptation strategies to improve ecological integrity and community vitality through local action. Over the past year, the AMI has evolved successfully into a collaborative program of on-the-ground projects funded by the Initiative. Most of these 16 projects were featured in the poster session immediately following Reuling's presentation. Poster session presentations are listed in Appendix 4. Summaries of all projects funded in the 2014 cycle can be viewed at the Crown Roundtable website (crownroundtable.org).

Dinner Presentation and Film

Dana Blouin, Manager of Science and Conservation Support, Nature Conservancy Canada welcomed participants. *Fran Leggett*, Past President of the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Association, offered an historic review and film of the lasting relationships built across the US-Canadian border to develop the International Peace Park. *Bev Thornton*, Executive Director, Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance introduced her.

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Keynote: The Crown of the Continent Ecosystem: A Dynamic Journey from Pleistocene to Anthropocene

Brad Stelfox, Landscape Ecologist, ALCES Landscape and Land Use, Ltd., made a compelling presentation about the impacts of human development and land use activities in southwest Alberta. He documented the consequences for biodiversity, water quality, and water quantity. His model suggests that the application of a number of 'best practices' associated with agricultural operations, forestry, energy development, and municipal planning could result in improved outcomes for biodiversity and water quality. A link to his presentation can be accessed at: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/6pw5ncmnhzfw4m/Final%20ALCES%20Pres%20to%20COTC.pps?dl=0>.

Balancing Community, Conservation and Culture: A Panel Response

Moderator: *Wendy Francis*, Program Director, *Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative*

- Business and Tourism Perspective: *Bev Thornton*, Executive Director, Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance
- Conservation Perspective: *Sarah Lundstrum*, Glacier Field Representative, National Parks Conservation Association
- Native and Cultural Perspective: *Paulette Fox*, Engagement and Relations Advisor, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource
- Community Perspective: *Mark Bostrum*, representing Montana Watershed Coordination Council
- Industry Perspective: *Brooke Kuhl*, Attorney, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation

These community members responded to Dr. Stelfox's presentation, highlighting their own work to preserve biodiversity, practice low impact activities, and mitigate potential risks to the Crown's communities and landscapes. Each of these individuals and their organizations are undertaking

projects that increase sustainability and reduce impacts of development activities. During the question and answer session, audience members raised concerns about the pace and extent of development in certain parts of the Crown, especially Alberta. Alberta's South Saskatchewan Regional Land Use Plan was highlighted as a vehicle for implementing recommended best practices.

Profile of a Place: Lifestyles and Land Use in Alberta's South West

Ian Dyson, Senior Manager, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, provided an expansive review of the distinctive cultural, economic and land use features of the NE quadrant of the Crown – Alberta's Southern Eastern Slopes and flanking foothills prairie. His presentation identified some of the opportunities that provide for Crown-wide collaboration in this extraordinary landscape. The four Crown quadrants face many common natural resource, economic and community challenges, but not necessarily common identities. His message: *If the Roundtable 'network of networks' is ever to realize its full potential, we need to better collectively understand our distinctive stories and contexts in all of the places of the Crown. With that foundation, we can tailor our collective efforts in ways that link similar interests and opportunities and build toward a new, evolved and enhanced sense of identity and place.* Dyson's presentation will soon be posted at www.crownroundtable.org.

Workshop Introduction and Capacity Building

Carole Stark, Roundtable Capacity Building Coordinator, Water Matters; *Patrick Bixler*, Research Fellow, Pinchot Institute

In a short session prior to the in-depth action topic workshops, Stark reviewed her work to interview stakeholders in the Crown to achieve a better understanding of tools and communication networks needed to build capacity and move joint efforts forward. Bixler reviewed his research on the nature of the network building in the Crown and the collaborative power those networks can have.

What's New and What's Next?: Action Topics in the Crown

The breakout sessions gave participants a chance to "go deep" on a topic to build collaborative next steps in the Crown. Their charge was to build opportunities for partnership and change. Researchers of the 2014 Adaptive Management Initiative projects also took a moment to describe their on-the-ground efforts.

1. Solutions for Weeds and Invasives Management

Presenters: *Kelly Cooley*, Southern Alberta Weed Coordinator, CoolPro Solutions Environmental Consulting; and *Dawn LaFleur*, Park Restoration Biologist, Glacier National Park, and *Adaptive Management Initiative researchers*

Facilitator: *Carole Stark*, Roundtable Capacity Building Coordinator, Water Matters

Key takeaways:

Cooley discussed a vibrant cooperative effort in Southern Alberta to engage and educate landowners about weeds. He explained varying management techniques, mapping, and funding mechanisms. La Fleur gave a holistic view of invasive species management in Glacier National Park. She talked about use of weed team volunteers, role of invasive and native species, and changes in species' vigor in the park. Participants in the session discussed long-term use of chemicals, spread of weeds, opportunities to work together, and mapping across boundaries. Carole Starke, facilitator, also discussed her project to develop a comprehensive list of all contacts of programs throughout the Crown to increase networking opportunities for invasives management.

1. Watershed Monitoring and Management.

Presenters: *Shannon Frank*, Executive Director, Oldman Watershed Council; *Heather Leschied*, Water Program Manager, Wildsight; *Mark Bostrom*, Water Quality Planning Bureau, Montana Department of Environmental Quality, and *Adaptive Management Initiative researchers*
Facilitator: *Ann Schwend*, Senior Water Planner, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Key takeaways:

Across watersheds, there is a challenge of varying measurement protocols. For instance, the Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network (CABN) does not use the same protocols as those employed in Montana. Therefore, a more integrated approach to data management is needed where data can be collated and easily accessed, and where protocols are similar enough to allow comparisons across the Crown. Information management is critical, as is the funding of large-scale projects to build regional databases. Sharing and celebrating local stories of success helps others throughout region. As important, is helping local watershed groups understand the implications and assistance coming from larger landscape-scale initiatives. Some called for establishment of a “watershed oversight group.” In Alberta, an authority to deal with land use is needed, perhaps something similar to a Municipal Planning Commission so decisions can be made effectively at a local level. Overall, there are lots of opportunities for collaboration across the Crown but time and ability to participate is a limiting factor.

3. Opportunities for Working with Tribes and First Nations

Presenters: *Paulette Fox*, Engagement and Relations Advisor, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource; *Terry Tatsey*, Director of Development, Blackfeet Community College; *Mike Durglo*, Environmental Protection Division Manager, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; and *Adaptive Management Initiative researchers*.
Facilitator: *Lea Whitford*, Roundtable Tribal/First Nations Liaison, Browning

Key takeaways:

Representatives of the Blackfoot Nation, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Kainai (Blood) Nation, North Piikani and the Siksika Nation participated. Getting leadership from multiple tribes to the table to discuss shared resource management issues is important; tribes are so tied-up with social service challenges that the natural world falls further down on the priority list. This venue provided the setting for that discussion. Dialogue helps the tribes understand common challenges throughout the landscape, and can lead to tribal advocacy for policy change internally and at national levels. In addition, Tribal leaders are comfortable in a setting where they set the agenda instead of being part of conversations that do not appreciate or understand tribal challenges. That said, Tribal leaders also recognize other partners besides Tribes that have concerns of the natural world. Some topics of concern for Tribes are fractionated land, flooding, Old Man River Dam and resulting changes, Tribal water rights and the consultation process, health issues, and reconnecting to the landscape.

4. Geotourism and Sustainable Business Development

Presenters: *Sheena Pate*, Project Coordinator, Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council, *Bob Dyrda*, Communications Coordinator, Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance; *Bev Thornton*, Executive Director, Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance, and *Adaptive Management Initiative researchers*.
Facilitator: *Laura McGowan*, Tourism Development Officer, Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation

Key takeaways:

These members of the Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council (www.crownofthecontinent.net) highlighted key activities of this transboundary partnership. The term "geotourism" was coined by National Geographic and denotes the concept of tourism that respects and celebrates the special character of place. Communities and organizations from Alberta, British Columbia and Montana, in partnership with National Geographic, developed a geotourism mapguide and website, highlighting the history and cultural attractions within our transboundary region. The Geotourism Council continues to engage businesses and communities in the region to create awareness of the value of sustainable business practices. Research indicates that the beauty of open spaces is not only attractive to visitors, but also draws certain entrepreneurs who understand the opportunities and lifestyle choices.

5. Forest Management Practices

Presenters: *Kari Stuart-Smith*, Forest Scientist, Canadian Forest Products, Ltd; *John Bergenske*, Executive Director of Wildsight, and *Adaptive Management Initiative researchers*, including *Erin Sexton*, Research Scientist, University of Montana Institute on Ecosystem.

Facilitator: *Ken Greenway*, Section Head of Forest Policy Division, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development

Key takeaways:

People recognize the shortfalls of present legislation and the need to engage directly with industry on issues of concern. Certification is an important tool as regulation in most jurisdictions fails to protect biodiversity values – the High Conservation Value Forest² process is critical. Overall, NGO and community engagement is essential if the bar on practices is to be raised in a meaningful manner. Industry will often make use of constructive criticism of practices, and people can make a difference. Some felt that forestry will be unsustainable until cut levels are brought in line with necessary biodiversity protection and measures.

Boat Tour on Waterton Lake Aboard the MV International

Even snowstorms did not deter 30 participants from partaking in a stunning historic tour of Waterton Lake and surrounding landscape via a ride on the MV International. Others engaged in hikes, discussions, or a Roundtable Leadership Team during this session.

20 Years of Progress and Possibility

Wendy Francis of the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative opened this dinner session with a review of the accomplishments of the Initiative, then introduced *Doug Chadwick*, author and wildlife biologist. Chadwick presented photographs from Steven Gnam, co-author of the new publication "*Crown of the Continent: The Wildest Rockies*," and shared a presentation on animal tracking and habitat protection in another large landscape: *The Gobi Desert*.

Friday, September 12, 2014

Review Highlights from Wednesday and Thursday

Reviewer: *Shawn Johnson*, Roundtable Facilitator, Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy, provided reflections on the previous day's sessions, highlighting both the challenges facing

² High Conservation Value Forest is a Forest Stewardship Council forest management practice designation.

the region and the diversity of people and activities that are already proving successful at meeting those challenges. He then facilitated a discussion with the facilitators of the thematic breakout sessions, focusing on big themes and key take-aways.

Crown Café: What’s Hot and What’s Not in the Crown and What Are You Doing About It?

Carole Stark, Roundtable Capacity Building Coordinator, Water Matters, introduced this session – a highly valued opportunity for participants to stand up and share their latest innovations and ideas with other participants in short 2-3 minute sound bites.

A Retrospective on the Crown of the Continent Community

Shawn Johnson, Roundtable Facilitator, Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy, led participants through a retrospective look on the last 5 years of connecting people to sustain and enhance culture, community, and conservation in the region. The session included a film screening of “Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent;” reflections on the history of the Crown of the Continent from *Rick Graetz*, Director of Crown of the Continent Initiative, University of Montana³; and personal accounts of the value of sustaining a regional forum for thoughtful deliberation about the Crown’s past, present, and future by *Anne Carlson*, Climate Associate, The Wilderness Society; *Gary Tabor*, Director, Center for Large Landscape Conservation; *Ian Dyson*, Senior Manager, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development Building; *John Shannon*, Acting Director, Public and Governmental Relations, USFS Northern Region; *Wendy Francis*, Program Director, Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative; *Mary Sexton*, Coordinator, Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent; and others.

Final Words, Evaluation and Conference Close

Barney Reeves, Waterton Park mayor, provided some inspirational closing words, with a reminder that public engagement cannot occur without young leaders, willing and informed politicians, all stakeholders, and evolving contemporary information on changes to the landscape.

III. Evaluation

The post-meeting evaluation provided valuable feedback. Overall, feedback was in the “very good” category with high marks for many of the keynote sessions as well as for networking opportunities. The new poster session was well received as a way to share latest research and innovations, and most asked for a repeat of the pre-conference tribal network gathering. Constructive feedback included the need to include more business interests, young leaders, community representatives, the resource extraction industries, and landowners. Others asked for assurances of longer, more in-depth focus on single topics of concern.

³ See Graetz’s Crown of the Continent Time Line at /ez/files/home/1413314347_CROWN_TIMELINE.docx

APPENDIX 1. CO-SPONSORS and ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent is indebted to many co-sponsors who supported the 5th Annual Conference. Their generosity and commitment to the Roundtable make the annual conference possible.

Supporters (\$5,000 – 10,000)

Kresge Foundation
The University of Montana
Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
U.S. Forest Service – Region 1
Teck Resources Limited

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Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation
Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative
Cinnabar Foundation
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Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Montana Wilderness Association
Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Association
The Wilderness Society
Glacier National Park Conservancy
Five Valleys Lands Trust
Missoula County
Vital Ground Foundation
Center For Large Landscape Conservation
Headwaters Montana
Montana Watershed Coordination Council
Swan Ecosystem Center
The Trust for Public Land

II. Acknowledgments

Development of an agenda that embraced local success stories and highlighted emerging issues is credited to a diverse and insightful *Local Planning Team*. This team included:

- Bob Dyrda, Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance
- Ian Dyson, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
- Shannon Frank, Oldman Watershed Council, whose organization also donated printing of all meeting materials
- Heather Leschied, Wildsight
- Holly Fausett, Waterton Park Community
- Barney Reeves, Waterton Park Mayor

- Sheena Pate, Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council
- Bev Thornton, Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance
- Beth Russell Towe, Bear Mountain Motel

The *Leadership Team of the Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent* guides the Roundtable and the development of the annual conference. Gratitude goes to these 2014 members:

- Jean Curtiss, Missoula County
- Ian Dyson, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
- Dorothy First-Rider, Kainai/Blood Tribe
- Shannon Frank, Oldman Watershed Council
- Stephen Legault, Crown of the Continent Initiative
- Heather Leschied, Wildsight
- Maria Mantis, Swan Ecosystem Center
- Clayton Matt, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Matthew McKinney, Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy
- Patrick O’Herren, Missoula County
- Sheena Pate, Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council
- Alan Rollo, Teton and Sun River Watershed Groups
- Erin Sexton, U of Montana Flathead Lake Biological Station
- John Shannon, US Forest Service Regions 1 and 4
- Jim Stone, Blackfoot Challenge
- Gary Tabor, Center for Large Landscape Conservation
- Paul Travis, Flathead Land Trust
- Melissa Weatherwax, Blackfeet Community College

A core *Roundtable Support Team* guided the overall management of the conference. Members of this team include:

- Mary Sexton, Team Coordinator
- Susan Higgins, Communications
- Shawn Johnson, Policy
- Melly Reuling, Adaptive Management Initiative
- Carole Stark, Capacity Building
- Lea Whitford, Tribal Liaison

Recognition and thanks are also extended to the individuals listed below. They served as recorders and invaluable assistants throughout the conference and its breakout sessions.

- Rosemary Burton, Center for Large Landscape Conservation
- Carolan Coughlin, Montana Conservation Corps
- Kathy Wiebe, Municipal District of Ranchland
- Sarah Velk, Graduate, University of Montana
- 11 students from Dr. Len Broberg’s study groups at the University of Montana
- Staff members of the Bayshore Inn and the Waterton Community Center

APPENDIX 2. TRIBAL GATHERING AGENDA

Crown Tribes/First Nations Gathering **Exploring and Sharing Perspectives and Initiatives** Sept 9-10th, 2014, Waterton Park Community Center AGENDA

September 9th, Tuesday

6:00 PM Waterton Park Community Center

- Registration and Welcome – Lea Whitford and Mary Sexton
- Prayer and Song – Chief Earl Old Person, Blackfoot Tribe
- Video – “The Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent,” a film capturing the landscape and people of the Crown of the continent

7:00 PM Dinner Zum’s in Waterton

- A social dinner for registered tribal gathering participants. (Dinner provided for participants by the Roundtable)

September 10th, Wednesday

8:00 AM Waterton Park Community Center:

- Continental Breakfast for Tribal Gathering Participants

8:30 Welcome and Overview – Lea Whitford and Mary Sexton

- Piikani Elder Prayer

9:00 Introduction to Roundtable Functions and Activities – Mary Sexton

9:15 Funding Opportunities in the Crown – Melly Reuling

9:30 Coffee Break

9:45 Roundtable Discussion on Natural Resource Challenges of Tribes and First Nations – Terry Tatsey, Facilitator

- Lea presents native plant research
- Tribal/First Nation representatives present (10 min. each)
- Roundtable discussions and questions

11:00 Specific Tribal Projects/Initiatives

- Innii Initiative – Blackfoot Confederacy
- Climate Change Adaptation Plan – CSKT
- Others

11:45 Closing thoughts and boxed lunches with further conversation

Thank You for Joining Us!

APPENDIX 3. CONFERENCE AGENDA

Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent
Living in the Crown:
A Balancing Act for Community, Culture and Conservation
September 10-12, 2014, Waterton Park, Alberta

AGENDA

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

- 8 am-
11:45 am **Pre-Conference Tribal/First Nations Gathering: Perspectives and Initiatives.** Coordinated by *Lea Whitford*, Blackfoot Nation, and Roundtable Tribal/First Nations Liaison. By invitation, although observers are welcome.
- 9:00 am-
noon **Optional Field Trip: Landscape Processes and Human Activities at Points of Interest in Waterton Lakes National Park.** Site visits with resource specialists. *Bus will meet in front of the Bayshore Inn, 9 am depart.*
- 12:00 **Registration,** Bayshore Inn Convention Center
(Lunch on your own)
- 1:00 pm **Conference Convenes: Welcome and Overview,** Convention Center
Meeting Goals, *Mary Sexton*, Roundtable Coordinator
Recognition of Attendees: Who's in the Room?
Welcome from *Morris Little Wolf*, Piikani Nation
- 1:30 pm **Keynotes: International Response to Changing Times**
Jeff Mow, Superintendent of Glacier National Park
Ifan Thomas, Superintendent of Waterton Lakes National Park
- 2:30 pm **Balancing Issues and Opportunities: Regional Innovations**
Moderator, *Mary Sexton*, Roundtable Coordinator
- Responding to Invasives, Shifts Climate and Seasonal Runoff
David Sauchyn, Research Professor, Prairie Adaptation Research Collaborative
University of Regina
 - Traditional Ecological Knowledge: The Iinii Initiative
Leroy Little Bear, Director, Harvard University Native American Program, ret.
 - New Technologies and Economic Opportunities in Our Communities
Jen Frandsen, Chief Operations Officer, Oldtown Creative Communications
- 3:30 pm **Break**
- 3:45 pm **Panel, continued**
- Shifts in Land Ownership and Legacy, *Dana Blouin*, Manager of Science and Conservation Support, Nature Conservancy of Canada; and *Grant Kier*, Executive Director, Five Valleys Lands Trust
 - Facilitated Discussion with all keynote presenters and panelists

- 4:45 pm **The Power of Applied Research to Guide Our Actions**
 An Introduction to the Adaptive Management Initiative
Melly Reuling, Roundtable Adaptive Management Initiative Coordinator, Center for Large Landscape Conservation
- 5:00 pm **Adjourn**
- 5:30 pm **Adaptive Management Initiative Poster Session and No-Host Bar**, Waterton Community Center
- 6:45 pm **Begin Dinner Buffet**, Waterton Community Center
- 7:00 pm **A Welcome** from *Dana Blouin*, Manager of Science and Conservation Support, Nature Conservancy Canada
Dinner Program:
- **Presentation and Film:** Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Association. *Fran Leggett*, Past President; Introduced by *Bev Thornton*, Executive Director, Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance

Thursday, September 11, 2014

- 7:00 am **Continental Breakfast**, Bayshore Inn Convention Center
- 8:30 am **Keynote: The Crown of the Continent Ecosystem: A Dynamic Journey from Pleistocene to Anthropocene**
Brad Stelfox, Landscape Ecologist, ALCES Landscape and Land Use, Ltd.
- 9:30 am **Balancing Community, Conservation and Culture: A Panel Response**
 Moderator: *Wendy Francis*, Program Director, *Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative*
- Business and Tourism Perspective: *Bev Thornton*, Executive Director, Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance
 - Conservation Perspective: *Sarah Lundstrum*, Glacier Field Representative, National Parks Conservation Association
 - Native and Cultural Perspective: *Paulette Fox*, Engagement and Relations Advisor, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource
 - Community Perspective: *A representative from Blackfoot Challenge*
 - Industry Perspective: *Brooke Kuhl*, Attorney, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation
- 10:45 am **Break**
- 11:15 am **Profile of a Place: Lifestyles and Land Use in Alberta's South West**
Ian Dyson, Senior Manager, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
- Noon **Lunch**, Chop House, Bayshore Inn

1:15 pm **Workshop Introduction and Capacity Building**, Bayshore Convention Center
Carole Stark, Roundtable Capacity Building Coordinator, Water Matters
Patrick Bixler, Research Fellow, Pinchot Institute

1:45 pm **What's New and What's Next?: Action Topics in the Crown**
Each 2-hour session includes presentations by experts, followed by a facilitated group discussion on ideas for active next steps.

2. Solutions for Weeds and Invasives Management, Bayshore Convention Center
Presenters: *Kelly Cooley*, Southern Alberta Weed Coordinator, CoolPro Solutions Environmental Consulting; and *Dawn LaFleur*, Park Restoration Biologist, Glacier National Park, and *Adaptive Management Initiative researchers*
Facilitator: *Carole Stark*, Roundtable Capacity Building Coordinator, Water Matters

3. Watershed Monitoring and Management, Waterton Community Center classroom
Presenters: *Shannon Frank*, Executive Director, Oldman Watershed Council; *Heather Leschied*, Water Program Manager, Wildsight; *Mark Bostrom*, Water Quality Planning Bureau, Montana Department of Environmental Quality on "Transition Agriculturalist", and *Adaptive Management Initiative researchers*
Facilitator: *Ann Schwend*, Senior Water Planner, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

3. Opportunities for Working with Tribes and First Nations, Bayshore Convention Center
Presenters: *Paulette Fox*, Engagement and Relations Advisor, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource; *Terry Tatsey*, Director of Development, Blackfeet Community College; *Mike Durglo*, Environmental Protection Division Manager, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; and *Adaptive Management Initiative researchers*
Facilitator: *Lea Whitford*, Roundtable Tribal/First Nations Liaison, Browning

4. Geotourism and Sustainable Business Development, Community Center Gym
Presenters: *Sheena Pate*, Project Coordinator, Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council, *Bob Dyrda*, Communications Coordinator, Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance; *Bev Thornton*, Executive Director, Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance, and *Adaptive Management Initiative researchers*
Facilitator: *Laura McGowan*, Tourism Development Officer, Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation

5. Forest Management Practices, Community Center Classroom
Presenters: *Kari Stuart-Smith*, Forest Scientist, Canadian Forest Products, Ltd; *John Bergenske*, Executive Director of Wildsight, and *Adaptive Management Initiative researchers*, including *Erin Sexton*, Research Scientist, University of Montana Institute on Ecosystems.

Facilitator: *Ken Greenway*, Section Head of Forest Policy Division, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development

- 4:00 pm **Boat Tour on Waterton Lake Aboard the MV International**
(Or self-guided hikes, afternoon tea, continued discussions, Roundtable Leadership Team meeting; see meeting packet for local options)
- 6:00 pm **Social Time**, Bayshore Convention Center
- 6:30 pm **Seating for Dinner: 20 Years of Progress and Possibility**, *Wendy Francis*,
Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative
- 7:15 pm **Presentation** by *Doug Chadwick*, Wildlife Biologist and Author,
on the new publication, “*Crown of the Continent: The Wildest Rockies*,” and on
a view into another large landscape: *The Gobi Desert*.
- 8:00 pm **Networking and Explore Downtown Waterton Park**

Friday, September 12, 2014

- 7:00 am **Continental Breakfast**, Bayshore Inn Convention Center
- 8:00 am **Review Highlights from Wednesday and Thursday**
Reviewer: *Shawn Johnson*, Roundtable Facilitator, Center for Natural
Resources and Environmental Policy
- 8:15 am **Crown Café: What’s Hot and What’s Not in the Crown and What Are You
Doing About It?**
Introduced by *Carole Stark*, Roundtable Capacity Building Coordinator, Water
Matters
- 9:15 am **A Retrospective on the Crown of the Continent Community:**
A look back on the last 5 years of connecting people to sustain and enhance culture,
community, and conservation.
- Film screening:** “Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent”
Introduction by *Shawn Johnson*, Roundtable Facilitator, Center for Natural
Resources and Environmental Policy
- Reflections from *Rick Graetz*, Director of Crown of the Continent Initiative,
University of Montana; *Anne Carlson*, Climate Associate, The Wilderness Society;
and *others* including *Gary Tabor*, *Ian Dyson*, and *Wendy Francis*.
- 11:00 am **Final Words, Evaluation and Conference Close**
Barney Reeves, Waterton Park

APPENDIX 4. POSTER SESSION SUBMITTALS
Adaptive Management Initiative Poster Session
Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent, 5th Annual Conference
Waterton Park Community Center, Alberta
September 10, 2014

1. Adams, Ian, J. Hobbs, and E. Vincer. *Rocky Mountain tailed frog distribution in Canada: A new record from the east side of Flathead River drainage.*
 2. Caplins, L. and K. Paul. (2014 August). *Cross cultural capacity building: Landscape conservation and climate change adaptation with the Blackfeet Nation.*
 3. Carlson, A., E. Sexton, I. Dyson, and S. Legault. (2014 August). *Taking action of climate change adaptation: Developing shared strategies for a shared landscape.*
 4. Caton, E., B. Rieman, and C. Davis. (2014). *Engaging communities in ecosystem monitoring: Aquatic monitoring and climate change effects.*
 5. Davis, C., T. Belote, M. Williamson, and Caton, E. (2014). *Engaging communities in ecosystem monitoring: A rapid forest assessment method.*
 6. Fairbank, E. (2014, August). *Rocky Mountain Front weed roundtable collaboration on a landscape scale.*
 7. Francis, W., T. Lee, A. Clevenger, R. Ament, and D. Paton. (2014 August). *Moving with change: advancing adaptive management by helping wildlife cross Canada's Highway 3.*
 8. Frank, S. and C. Simmons. *Headwaters action plan for the Oldman Watershed- Alberta, Canada.*
 9. Larsen, T. *Southeast British Columbia invasive species management.*
 10. Means, Whisper, K. Paul, M. Huijser, and R. Ament. *Outreach matters! Highway wildlife mitigation outreach activities on the Flathead Indian Reservation and surrounding areas, Montana*
 11. Pate, S. and M. Flowers. (2014). *Crown of the Continent sustainable business leadership training program.*
 12. Reuling, M. and G. Tabor. (2013). *Ecosystem scale participatory climate adaptation in the Crown of the Continent ecosystem.*
 13. Reuling, M. and G. Tabor. (2014). *Collaborative climate adaptation in the Crown of the Continent ecosystem.*
 14. Sawchuk, C., C. Miske, I. Dyson, and B. Dolan. (2014, August). *Targeting AIS: Working together on a common cause in the trans-boundary CCE.*
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APPENDIX 5. SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Patrick Bixler

Patrick Bixler is a research fellow at the Pinchot Institute for Conservation in Washington DC. Patrick worked with different collaborative groups in the Crown of the Continent since 2007, completing his dissertation from Colorado State in May of 2014 based on research in the Crown. He is interested in the ways that networks and relationships facilitate conservation efforts and link local actions to landscape-level outcomes.

Dana Blouin

Dana Blouin, professional biologist, is Alberta's Manager of Science and Conservation Support for the Nature Conservancy of Canada. She is responsible for the coordination of conservation planning for the Alberta region and setting the actions for achieving priorities. Dana is a transplanted Albertan, having grown up and lived in rural Manitoba for most of her life. She attended the University of Manitoba to take the Environmental Science co-op program specializing in Applied Ecology, graduating in 1998. Dana has done a little bit of everything in her career including watching sharp-tailed grouse dance at dawn, wading through ponds to inventory invertebrates, being a weather technician in the Canadian arctic, building relationships with Alberta's ranchers, to set the groundwork for effective conservation. She lives in Lethbridge with her husband and two children.

Mark Bostrom

Mark Bostrom is Bureau Chief for Water Quality Planning at Montana DEQ. He also serves as a voluntary member of the Board of Directors at the Montana Watershed Coordination Council and Blackfoot Challenge. Mark was raised in Steamboat Springs, Colorado and graduated from Western State College with a BA in Business Administration in 1987.

Anne Carlson

Anne Carlson is the Climate Associate for the Bozeman, Montana office of The Wilderness Society. She works on issues related to climate change in the Northern Rockies through a combination of collaborative, landscape-scale adaptation projects and collaborative scientific and educational outreach work with conservation partners, regional scientists, tribal communities, agency staff, undergraduate and graduate students, and the general public. Prior to joining The Wilderness Society in 2009, Anne spent a decade developing research and conservation projects on mammal species across Africa and Southeast Asia with her colleagues at Cambridge University and the San Diego Zoo, before coordinating a West-wide conservation campaign on gray wolves upon her return to the United States. She received a B.S. (Zoology) from Connecticut College; and Master's and Ph.D. degrees (Zoology) from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Doug Chadwick

Douglas H. Chadwick is a wildlife biologist who studied mountain goat ecology and social behavior atop the Crown of the Continent for seven years. He has since worked as a natural history journalist, producing 13 popular books and hundreds of magazine articles on subjects from snow leopards to great whales. Chadwick is a founding Board member of the Vital Ground Foundation, a conservation land trust, and serves on the Board of the Liz Claiborne Art Ortenberg Foundation, which supports wildlife research and community conservation programs throughout the world.

Kelly Cooley

Kelly is owner of CoolPro Solutions Environmental Consulting of Pincher Creek, established September 2010. He grew up on the family farm east of Pincher Creek, in southwest Alberta, Canada. Kelly helped fund his post-secondary training in part by working on the weed control crew with the Municipal District of Pincher Creek, becoming an Alberta Certified Pesticide Applicator (1989) while studying at the University of Lethbridge (Biological Sciences) and Lethbridge College (Business Administration). Kelly served as Agricultural Fieldman for the MD of Pincher Creek (1993 - 2010). During this time, he earned his Certified Agricultural Fieldman designation from the Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen (AAAF)/Olds College, Pesticide Applicator Trainer Certification through Alberta Environment, and qualified as a Certified Manager of Invasive Plants through the North American Invasive Species Management Association. He serves in a leadership role on several councils that tackle invasives. Kelly and his wife enjoy the joys and challenges of raising four children and keeping their hands involved in the practical side of agriculture by farming 80 acres south of Pincher Creek.

Mike Durglo

Mike received his BS in Environmental Science from Salish Kootenai College in 2002. He is currently the Environmental Protection Division Manager for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and is the Climate Change Planning Coordinator. Mike has worked for the Tribes for over 30 years in different capacities including Wildlife Conservation Officer, Tribal Councilman, Wetland Conservation Coordinator, and Regulatory Specialist. He serves as the Chairman on the Region 8 Tribal Operations Committee and is the Region 8 representative on the National Tribal Science Council where he is the Co-Chair.

Bob Dyrda

Bob shares a broad range of experience in tourism and business. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce Degree in Entrepreneurial Management from Royal Roads University. He has a passion for small business ownership and development and the outdoors. His tourism experience includes 10 years of Destination Management, Resort Management, and Marketing Management split between Kimberley BC and Grand Cayman. Bob founded and operated an eco-kayak tour company on Grand Cayman called Cayman Kayaks for two years. The company is best known for introducing kayak tours at night to a bay highly concentrated with bioluminescence algae. Currently he is employed with Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance as Communications Coordinator and enjoys working on various projects there, including the Crown of the Continent Geotourism initiative.

Ian Dyson

Ian is a geographer and planner (B.A. London, M.Sc. Calgary, RPP, MCIP). He is currently Senior Manager, Provincial Planning Integration with Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development. For over 30 years Ian has worked with integrated resource planning projects, broad-based partnerships and environmental cumulative effects management and has been involved with trans-boundary initiatives since the late 1980s. His passion is motivating collective institutional capacity to be relevant to the environmental challenges of our time and he believes the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem is worthy of our best efforts. Ian is an Englishman and a Canadian, and has lived with his wife Mavis in Lethbridge since the mid 1980's where they raised two sons and enjoy walking, hiking, camping and biking.

Paulette M. Fox

Paulette Fox is also known as, "Holy Walking Woman" or *Natowaawakoh'kaaki*, in her native Blackfoot language. She comes from the Blood People or *Apai'tsitapiiks* who are part of the

Blackfoot Confederacy and collectively refer to themselves as the *Niitsitapi* or more generally as, *Siksikaitsitapiiks*. Ms. Fox attained her Environmental Science degrees from the University of Lethbridge and the University of Calgary gaining specializations in Chemistry and Geographic Information Systems. She attended the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CEIR) and gained a certificate that has provided a foundation for working with Traditional Environmental Knowledge. Paulette applied her learnings and combined teachings from her elders to design several programs for her tribe including the establishment of the Blood Tribe Environmental Protection Division and development of a Traditional Land Use Certificate Program for Red Crow Community College (RCCC) that formed a basis for consultation with the tribe both on and off reserve. She continues to develop and teach university level science curricula based on her thesis: “Using GIS to Link Blackfoot Environmental Knowledge with Ecological Databases (2005).” Currently, Ms. Fox serves as an advisor for Aboriginal Engagement and Planning with the Stewardship Branch of AESRD, and is an associate with Harmony Walkers Inc., a Blackfoot based environmental consulting company that offers on-reserve environmental assessments and international indigenous policy development in tourism and education for ethnic minorities in China. Paulette and her husband Duane, *Ai'ai'stahkommi*, are current owners of a Beaver Bundle and members of the sacred Horns Society among the Blood People; carrying the *Kitfox Bundle*, a former society known as the *Sinopaiks* among the *Piikani* or Blackfeet in Montana. Duane and Paulette reside on the Blood Reserve in Alberta with their children, Austin (*Kiisom*), Jaklyn (*Niokska Siipistaaki*), and Dallis (*A'kainskii*).

Wendy Francis

Wendy Francis has spent most of her career advocating for wilderness and wildlife. Her love of nature was nurtured during her childhood in Ontario, where all weekends and summer holidays were spent outside in neighbourhood woods or at the family cottage near Algonquin Provincial Park. She cut her teeth as a volunteer with the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) in Calgary, participating in successful public campaigns to oppose development in Banff National Park. In 1991, then-Premier Ralph Klein appointed Wendy to a review panel that strengthened the province's environmental protection legislation. In 1996, she decided to make her career in conservation, going on to help protect southern Alberta's Whaleback region, create Bow Valley Wildland Provincial Park, and secure provincial park protection for Kananaskis Country. She later helped to create a new *Endangered Species Act* for Ontario and was a key member of the project that launched the Canadian Boreal Initiative and led to Ontario's commitment to protect 50% of its northern boreal forest. Educated in biology and environmental law, Wendy was the founding Conservation Director for CPAWS in Calgary, Director of Conservation Science for Ontario Nature in Toronto, and is currently Program Director for the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative. In 2012 she received both a Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal and Wilburforce Foundation's Conservation Leadership Award for her efforts. Wendy spends as much time as possible in the natural world, hiking, backpacking, and cross-country skiing. She lives in Banff, Alberta.

Jen Frandsen

Jen Frandsen is a Co-Founder & COO of Old Town in Whitefish, Montana, where she directs product strategy, project planning, design and personnel. Old Town specializes in providing online software solutions and creative expertise that is unique to the world of outdoor recreation and active travel—providing tools that make it easy for people to manage location information. They help businesses and organizations tell the story of their place and provide the tools they need to connect active people with great experiences. Since 2007, Old Town has provided digital solutions for

organizations that include Whitefish Convention and Visitors Bureau, Splash (a clean water organization), Maine Office of Tourism, and National Geographic Society. Jen is currently serving a four-year term as a Whitefish City Councilor. She has been in that position since January 2014. She is also serving on the Montana West Economic Development Board, the Whitefish Arts Council Board, and is a co-organizer of the Whitefish Farmers Market. She is an advocate for increasing technology and engineering education in schools, creating a local technology incubator and technology co-share work spaces, and growing technology networks in her community.

Shannon Frank

Shannon grew up in the forest of Northern Ontario, about one hour northwest of Thunder Bay where black bears were a common companion. Seeking new opportunities and hearing about the 'land of milk and honey' to the west, Shannon journeyed to the University of Lethbridge to study Environmental Science. After completing her degree she worked for MULTISAR (multiple species at risk) as the Extension Coordinator and learned a great deal, especially from ranchers who are often true stewards of the land. She also worked for the City of Lethbridge off and on over the years where she learned about urban environmental challenges and was inspired by the passion many urbanites have for wilderness, water and wildlife. As a long-time volunteer with the Oldman Watershed Council's Urban and Rural Teams, Shannon feels fortunate to now be the Executive Director of such an important organization. Shannon lives in Lethbridge with her fiancé and dog where they spend free time building their house.

Rick Graetz

Rick or "Professor Rick" as his students call him is a Geography professor at The University of Montana and teaches numerous courses including High Asia, Global Mountain Environments, Montana, Crown of the Continent, Yellowstone and North America. Rick also serves as a Visiting Scholar in UM's International and Central/Southwest Asia programs. He is Co-director of The University of Montana Press and The University of Montana Crown of the Continent and Greater Yellowstone Initiative. Rick Graetz entered academia at UM in 2004 but before that established a long background as a publisher, author and photographer. He is founder of Montana Magazine and American Geographic Publishing. He sold the company to Lee Enterprises in the late 1990's. With his wife Susie he has penned articles for numerous national publications and wrote the long running syndicated newspaper column This Is Montana. As a team they have written more than 500 magazine and newspaper articles, and authoring more than 30 books for many areas of Montana, Southeast Asia, the Himalaya and West Indies. They are also part of a UM that has written a new textbook "A Geography and History of Central Asia" as well as a title on Tajikistan.

Ken Greenway

Ken received both a BScF and PhD from the University of Alberta (1990/1995 respectively). From 1994-2002 Ken was employed as a Research Silviculturist with the Alberta Research Council where he researched harvest and regeneration issues. Later Mr. Greenway joined Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Forest Management Branch, Operations Section (based in Edmonton) as the Team Lead, Reforestation. His role was in developing reforestation policy and incorporating science into forest management policy. In 2007 he became the Senior Manager of the Reforestation Section, Forest Management Branch. Reforestation section played roles in policy development in tree gene conservation and breeding, Forest Management Plan reviews, forestry herbicide use, and regeneration standards. The Section also had management responsibilities of a central database of all harvesting and reforestation activities use for provincial and federal reporting. As a sideline he helped with reclamation standards development for traditional oil and gas disturbances (i.e. well

sites) as well as peripherally involved with the oil sands reclamation standards development. In September 2013 Ken became Senior Manager, Forestry Policy section, Policy Division, ESRD. The Section's role is to manage and support the policy portfolio (operational to legislative) for the Forestry and Emergency Response Division.

Shawn Johnson

Shawn is a Senior Associate at the Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy at the University of Montana. For the past eight years, he has helped advance a joint effort between the Center and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy on regional collaboration and large landscape conservation. The effort explores questions of policy, leadership, and governance at regional or landscape scales, where there is often a mismatch between the scale of an existing challenge or opportunity and that of existing organizations and jurisdictions. In May 2011, Shawn helped convene a group of large landscape conservation practitioners that led to a new network of practitioners in North America working to improve community and conservation outcomes at the large landscape scale -- the *Practitioners' Network for Large Landscape Conservation*. Shawn is co-author, with Matthew McKinney of *Working Across Boundaries: People, Nature, and Regions* (Lincoln Institute, 2009). He also contributed to *Large Landscape Conservation, A Strategic Framework for Policy and Action* (Lincoln Institute, 2010) and *Remarkable Beyond Borders: People and Landscapes in the Crown of the Continent* (Sonoran Institute, 2010). Prior to his work at the Center, Shawn earned a Master's degree in Public Affairs from Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School and spent three years as a legislative aide to U.S. Senator Max Baucus.

Grant Kier

Grant became Executive Director of Five Valleys at the close of 2007, after serving for two productive and successful years as Executive Director of the growing Bitter Root Land Trust in Hamilton, Montana. During his tenure at the Bitter Root Land Trust, Grant was instrumental in advancing the organization's conservation work and establishing partnerships that led to the passage of a \$10 million Open Space Bond in Ravalli County. Grant is a graduate of the University of Colorado, and holds an MS degree in geology. He has parlayed that degree and a lifelong devotion to the outdoors and the natural world into a career in research, scientific consulting, outdoor education, and, of course, plenty of hell-bent-for-leather outdoor recreation. Whether you are out on the river or biking, hiking, or skiing on some of our wonderful open lands around Missoula, don't be surprised if you run into Grant, his wife Bex, their daughter Fiona, and their two Siberian huskies, Kenai and Kanchi.

Brooke Kuhl

Brooke Kuhl is an attorney in BNSF Railway Company's Environmental Department. Kuhl graduated *Magna Cum Laude* from Gonzaga University School of Law. Following law school she served as a law clerk for Justice John Warner of the Montana Supreme Court and then entered private practice at what is now known as K&L Gates, LLP in Spokane, Washington. Born and raised in Western Montana, Kuhl returned to Montana and then joined BNSF Railway Company in 2012. Kuhl is based in Missoula and provides legal support to BNSF operating employees throughout the Pacific Northwest. .

Dawn LaFleur

Dawn LaFleur is the Restoration/IPM Biologist for Glacier National Park, managing the park's Native Plant Restoration, Forest Health and Invasive Plant Programs. She has a Master's degree in land resources focusing on restoration ecology.

Fran Leggett

Fran Leggett was born in Lacombe Alberta and lived on the Lacombe Research Station until she was 5. The family then moved to Regina and nine years later to Ottawa. Fran completed her undergraduate BSc (Honours) degree at Trent University in 1972. In 1976 she enrolled in a masters program at University of Alberta. This degree was later switched to a PhD and she graduated in 1982. Following graduation she became a Scientist with The Veterinary Reference Branch of Alberta Agriculture. In 1986, she moved to Vancouver and began work for Agriculture Canada in the Electron Microscopy facility. In 1992, Fran transferred to the Lethbridge Research facility and has lived here since then. She has been a member of the University of Lethbridge Senate, and Executive Secretary in 1992 of the Microscopical Society of Canada. Fran has been a member of the Polio Plus committee, treasurer and a member of the Lethbridge East Board and President of the Rotary Club of Lethbridge East. She is a Past President of the Waterton Glacier Peace Park Association. Fran was District Governor of Rotary District 5360 in the 2012-2103 year. She is Vice President Prairies for CFUW, a National Women's organization founded in 1919. Fran was awarded the Queens Jubilee medal in 2012.

Heather Leschied

Heather is the Water Program Manager for Wildsight, a grassroots environmental organization based in the Kootenay Region of British Columbia. Heather has been involved in stewardship efforts in the Canadian Columbia Basin for nearly 10 years. She works with individuals and groups to increase capacity and knowledge to better protect our watersheds. Under this guidance, Wildsight's water programs have won awards by foundations and industry, and been recognized by the federal government as a best practices example in community based monitoring. Heather is actively involved in the East Kootenay Integrated Lake Management Partnership, Columbia Basin Watershed Network, Friends of Kootenay Lake, and Lake Windermere Ambassadors. She is Program Manager for Living Lakes Canada. She holds Environmental Studies and Geography degree, is a certified Streamkeepers Instructor and field lead for the Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network.

Leroy Little Bear

Leroy Little Bear is a member of the Small Robes Band of the Blood Indian Tribe of the Blackfoot Confederacy; born and raised on the Blood Indian Reserve; attended and graduated from St. Mary's School on the Blood Indian Reserve; attended and graduated from the University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta with a B.A. Degree in 1971; attended and graduated from the College of Law, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah with a Juris Doctor Degree in 1975. From 1975 to the end of 1996, Mr. Little Bear was a professor in the Native American Studies Dept. at the University of Lethbridge. In January of 1997, Mr. Little Bear retired from the University of Lethbridge. From January 1998 to June 1999, Mr. Little Bear was the Director of the Harvard University Native American Program. Mr. Little Bear has served in a legal and consulting capacity to many Indian Tribes, and organizations including the Blood Tribe, Indian Association of Alberta, and the Assembly of First Nations of Canada. He has served on many different committees, commissions, and boards including the Task Force on the Criminal Justice and Its Impact on the Indian and Metis Peoples of Alberta in 1990-91. Mr. Little Bear has authored many articles including "A Concept of Native Title" which has been cited in a Canadian Supreme Court decision. He has co-authored books including "Pathways to Self-Determination", "Quest For Justice", and "Governments in Conflict" with Dr. Menno Boldt and Dr. Anthony Long. In 2003, Mr. Little Bear was the recipient of a Canadian National Aboriginal Achievement Award in Education. In June of 2004, he received an honorary doctorate degree in Arts and Science from the University of Lethbridge.

Sarah Lundstrum

Sarah Lundstrum joined NPCA in 2012 as the Glacier Field Rep in Whitefish, Montana. Her work is focused in and around Glacier National Park with an emphasis on community organizing throughout the Crown of the Continent. Sarah came to NPCA from the Montana Wilderness Association where she worked to protect quiet trails and wild places throughout Northwest Montana. Sarah has lived and worked in the Flathead Valley for 7 years and brings local knowledge of the people and the land to her work at NPCA. Prior to living in Montana, Sarah spent time in the desert southwest; graduating with her B.S. from Utah State University in 2003 and then working for the Sierra Club as a community organizer in Albuquerque NM. In her 7 years in the Flathead Valley, Sarah has become involved in the community serving on the board of the local dog park, organizing ultimate Frisbee, playing hockey at the Stumptown Ice Den and serving on the Ice Rink Advisory Committee. Sarah enjoys all forms of outdoor activity, cooking delicious food and hanging out with her dogs.

Laura McGowan

Laura has been with Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation for the past 5.5 years. She has been involved in provincial-wide initiatives such as the Alberta Culinary Tourism Alliance and Open Farm Days and regional initiatives such as projects in the Crown of the Continent. Currently, she is responsible for the culinary, aboriginal and workforce portfolios. Laura holds a BA Leisure, Tourism and Society specializing in sustainable tourism from the University of Calgary and an in MSc Responsible Tourism Management from the University of Greenwich, UK.

Jeff Mow

Jeff has been the Glacier National Park superintendent since August of last year. Jeff first came to Montana in 1979 and over the next four summers worked for the USGS doing geologic mapping in the Flint Creek, Anaconda Pintler, and Sapphire Ranges of Montana. Subsequent visits occurred in 1988 during the Red Bench Fire in the North Fork and again in 2010 where he helped facilitate a scenario-planning workshop for the Crown Manager's Partnership in Whitefish. Most of Jeff's 26-year career with the NPS has been in Alaska. He has had eight duty stations with the NPS over the course of 22 years, most recently he had assignments as the superintendent of Kenai Fjords National Park and the acting superintendent of Denali National Park and Preserve. In addition, Jeff has served on the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, with the NPS Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs, as the 1) Dept. of Interior Incident Commander on the Gulf of Mexico Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, a tort investigator on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill in Alaska, and as the Policy Adviser to the fledgling NPS Climate Change Response Program. Jeff lives in Whitefish Montana with his wife, 16-year-old son, and a 16-year-old exchange student from Bosnia. They are all passionate about winter sports including all types of skiing and skating. In the "off-season" they enjoy biking, hiking, camping, and paddling.

Sheena Pate

Sheena Pate is the Project Coordinator of the Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council, a network of communities, tourism bureaus, conservation and business groups, and others working together to encourage responsible tourism within the trans-boundary Crown. Her passion for bringing people together to work towards sustaining and enhancing the character of geographical places led her to earn a degree in Watershed Science from Colorado State University and a degree in Environmental Studies from University of Montana. She was drawn to the Crown of the Continent 10 years ago, because of its distinct communities and access to unspoiled landscapes. It is

her belief that geotourism can effectively sustain regional businesses, preserve community character, and promote conservation. She has enjoyed working as a community liaison, program and project coordinator, conservation educator and field technician to various entities, in Colorado and Montana. Based in Columbia Falls, Montana, she can be found exploring waters with her fly fishing guide husband and two dogs or blazing trails by foot or on skis.

Barney Reeves

Barney Reeves is a 3rd generation Watertonian. His family took up residence and a commercial lease in 1912 in Waterton. Barney has degrees in Philosophy, Geology and Archaeology. He is a professor Emeritus (Archaeology) for the University of Calgary. Barney established Alberta's First Archaeological Consulting Co. in 1973. Lifeways of Canada then later sold it in 2008. As a Senior Alberta Archaeologist, Barney is still consulting and researching. He is a member of the Regional Board Nature Conservancy of Canada (2005-) and Chair of NCC Stewardship and Science Committee (2007-), a member of Council (1993-) and Chairman (1999-) for Improvement District No.4 (Waterton Lakes National Park). He has been the Vice Chairman for Alberta Southwest Regional Economic Alliance since 2008 where he is dedicated to recreate Waterton as a Sustainable Year-Round Mountain Park Community.

Melly Reuling

Melly Reuling, a senior conservation advisor at the Center for Large Landscape Conservation (CLLC) has worked on a wide variety of conservation and natural resource projects in both East Africa and the North America. Her work in large landscapes started in Tanzania and Kenya where she conducted research on elephant corridors and migration routes around and between Kenya and Tanzania. Her research led to the initiation of community conservation projects adjacent to national parks to find solutions to human-wildlife conflict. After living in East Africa for more than 20 years she relocated to Bozeman, Montana with her family. In Montana she has worked on white bark pine and climate change issues, as well as wildlife corridor and migration projects. Melly comes from a ranching and farming family and combines an understanding of the landscape and the people who rely on it with a love of wildlife and wild places. At CLLC she works protecting the natural values of large landscapes by addressing threats such as climate change and habitat fragmentation

Dr. Dave Sauchyn

Dave Sauchyn is Research Professor at the Prairie Adaptation Research Collaborative (PARC) at the University of Regina. His research expertise is the climate and hydrology of the past millennium in Canada's western interior and how knowledge of the past can inform scenarios of future climate and water supplies. Dr. Sauchyn is senior editor and co-author of the book "The New Normal: The Canadian Plains in a Changing Climate". Dave is currently co-directing a five-year study of vulnerability to climate extremes in Chile, Argentina, Colombia, Brazil and the Canadian Prairies. In the past 10 years, Dave has been asked to give almost 300 talks on climate change.

Ann Schwend

Ann is the Upper Missouri Basin Senior Water Planner for Montana's Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. She also serves as the Montana Watershed Coordination's Council's committee chair for the Big Sky Watershed AmeriCorps Program. Former watershed coordinator for the Ruby Watershed Council, Anne is dedicated to bringing people and ideas together to collaboratively solve natural resource challenges. She holds a master's degree in Land Rehabilitation from Montana State University.

Erin Sexton

Erin K Sexton is a Research Scientist and Regulatory Affairs Manager with the Institute on Ecosystems, at the University of Montana. Erin's research focus encompasses the international landscape known as the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem, with an emphasis on aquatic ecology and conservation biology, including water quality, in our shared trans-boundary watersheds, between British Columbia, Alberta and Montana. Erin has been working in the Crown of the Continent since 2000, when she initiated her master's work as a Kendall Foundation Fellow, focused on the terrestrial, and aquatic impacts of coalbed methane development in the Trans-boundary Flathead and Elk/Kootenai Rivers. Erin is involved in several collaborations focused on, or encompass the Crown of the Continent, with a focus on coordinating trans-boundary science and the application of defensible science to coordinated management actions and conservation policy across the ecosystem.

Mary Sexton

Mary lives in Choteau along the Rocky Mountain Front. She recently spent eight years as Director of the Montana Department of Natural Resources for Governor Brian Schweitzer. She has served as a Teton County Commissioner. Mary also worked for The Nature Conservancy at Pine Butte Swamp Preserve, and taught high school in Hamilton, Montana. She rides, hikes and skis the backcountry along the Front as much as she can!

Carole Stark

Carole's 30-year conservation career has focused on working collaboratively to integrate ecological and cultural considerations in land use and community planning, and resource management. For the past decade, she has worked at the forefront of community-based and collaborative conservation in Alberta. She is a highly skilled and well-respected facilitator, adult educator and public/stakeholder engagement specialist, having worked with a wide range of audiences and organizations. A key strength is her ability to build partnerships and work collaboratively across sectors and interests to achieve successful outcomes. Since 2010, Carole has served as Executive Director for Water Matters, a watershed protection organization in Alberta. Prior, she worked with the Chinook Institute for Community Stewardship, Banff Centre for Continuing Education and Alberta Forest Service. Carole holds a B.A. in Recreation Administration, and M.Ed. in Adult, Community and Higher Education.

Brad Stelfox

Dr. Brad Stelfox is an adjunct professor at the Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta and the Department of Environmental Design, University of Calgary. He and his family live in Calgary. In 1995, Dr. Stelfox established the ALCES Group, focusing on the interface between human land uses and regional landscapes. The major development stream has been the ALCES[®] (A Landscape Cumulative Effects Simulator) toolkit, a collection of simulation programs gaining acceptance by governments, industry, the scientific community, and NGO's to explore issues between landscapes, land uses, and ecological and economic integrity.

Dr. Stelfox received the William Rowan Award (The Wildlife Society; Alberta Chapter) in 2011, the Outstanding Leadership Award of the Canadian Boreal Initiative (2009), the Alberta Emerald Foundation Award (2004), and the Alberta Science and Technology Award (2003) for contributions with the ALCES model to advance understanding of land use sustainability issues and to seek solutions that balance economic, social, and ecological indicators.

Kari Stuart-Smith

Kari is a wildlife ecologist who has worked in the East Kootenay region of British Columbia since 1997. As Forest Scientist for Canadian Forest Products Ltd., she works with professional foresters on a daily basis to apply the results of ecological research to forest policy, planning and practices across British Columbia. She is heavily involved with Forest Stewardship Council certification, and played an integral role in achieving the first industrial forest FSC certificate in BC. She received her PhD from Oregon State University in 2002, based on her research into songbirds, wildfire, and variable retention in the Rocky Mountains north of Cranbrook. In addition to her work on songbirds, Kari has studied wildlife–forestry interactions associated with northern goshawks, moose, mountain goats, and badgers, and used the results to develop best management practices and ungulate winter range policy for forestry in the East Kootenay. Kari now lives near Cranbrook with her husband and 2 children, and likes to hike and ski around home, and bird-watch and dive in the tropics.

Gary Tabor

Trained as a wildlife veterinarian and ecologist (B.Sc. Cornell, V.M.D. UPenn, M.E.S. Yale), Gary Tabor is a conservation catalyst. His career spans 28 years of conservation work throughout the world. Gary's notable conservation achievements include helping to establish Kibale National Park in Uganda; establishing the World Bank's Mountain Gorilla Conservation Trust; championing the creation of the Yellowstone-to-Yukon Conservation Initiative; founding the Consortium for Conservation Medicine with EcoHealth Alliance, Harvard Medical School, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine; instigating the creation of the Australia Environmental Grantmakers Association; establishing Wilburforce Foundation's conservation science program and Y2Y field office; catalyzing the Western Governors Association wildlife corridor initiative; and co-founding Patagonia Company's Freedom-to-Roam campaign to advance wildlife corridor conservation. Dr. Tabor has also served as the Environment Program Director for the Geraldine Rockefeller Dodge Foundation, the Associate Director of the Henry P. Kendall Foundation, and Y2Y Program Director for the Wilburforce Foundation. For the past two decades, Gary has been very active in developing the conservation capacity in the Greater Yellowstone and Crown of the Continent ecosystems. In 2007, Gary established the Center for Large Landscape Conservation to provide strategic planning services that advance ecological connectivity conservation and climate adaptation efforts for wildlife.

Terry Tatsey

Terry was born and raised on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in North-Central Montana with strong traditional Blackfeet values of the Natural World and is a member of the Blackfeet Tribe in Montana. In 1993, Mr. Tatsey worked with a team to develop and implement an Associate of Applied Science degree in Natural Resource Management at Blackfeet Community College (BCC). The team Designed a curriculum that incorporated Blackfeet traditions and Western science perspectives related to natural resources. Terry currently serves as the Director of Institutional Development at BCC where he worked with the Facilities Committee to secure funding for the first LEED Platinum Building on Tribal Lands in the United States. Terry served as the first President of the First Americans Land-grant Consortium (FALCON) for 5 years 2005-2010, which is chartered by the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) in Washington DC. He was selected by the AIHEC Board to serve as Representative for Tribal Colleges and Universities chartered under AIHEC on the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) Policy Board. He served on the interim Board that established the Blackfeet Tribal Natural Resource Conservation District in 1996 and still serves on that Board. In 2000 he worked with a group that

formed a National 501c3 Organization the Indian Nations Conservation Alliance (INCA) where he serves as the Vice-President. In 2013 Terry became a member of the Blackfeet Indian Land Trust Board and organization established by the late Eloise Cobell and the Nature Conservancy.

Ifan Thomas

Ifan Thomas is the Superintendent for Waterton Lakes National Park and Bar U Ranch National Historic Site. Previous to moving to Waterton, Mr. Thomas was the Field Unit Superintendent for Ivvavik, Aulavik and Tuktut Nogait national parks, Saoyú-ʔehdacho National Historic Site and Pingo Canadian Landmark in Yukon and the Northwest Territories. Mr. Thomas began working for Parks Canada as a labourer in Jasper National Park. He has worked for Parks Canada for 28 years. Mr. Thomas holds a Master of Arts in Political Science.

Bev Thornton

Bev Thornton is the Executive Director of Alberta SouthWest (AlbertaSW) Regional Alliance, an economic development partnership of 15 rural communities. She has been working with this group since its inception in 2003. Effective collaboration and strong community commitment has resulted in a number of award-winning projects, such as the "SouthWest Connect" Regional Wi-Fi network and GPS-guided driving tours of the region. AlbertaSW was awarded the 2012 EDAC Cup, recognition from Economic Developers Association of Canada. In 2013, AlbertaSW received the prestigious Alex Metcalf project award from Economic Developers Alberta and Bev was named "Economic Developer of the Year" for leadership in regional collaboration. In 2007 National Geographic identified the "Crown of the Continent" as a significant geotourism region, and Bev has been active in supporting this partnership between Alberta, British Columbia and Montana, currently serving as Chair of the Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council.

Lea Whitford

Lea is currently working for the Blackfeet Planning and Development Department for the Blackfeet Tribe and is a Montana State Legislator. She has been involved in helping preserve our Rocky Mountain Front with her participation with Badger Two Medicine Committee and with cultural studies for the preservation of the Front. She has been working with the Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent leadership team as the Tribal liaison.