

Completion Report: Write information pamphlets on current research efforts in Glacier National Park that inform management decisions

Cooperators: Montana State University, Lisa Graumlich and graduate students; Glacier National Park, Crown of the Continent Research Learning Center, Leigh Welling

Project Type: Education

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The Crown of the Continent Research Learning Center (CCRLC) in Glacier National Park cooperated with Montana State University to mentor a student to develop two-sided pamphlets to inform park seasonal staff about current research topics that inform management decisions. The Glacier NP Research Learning Center provided office space and housing for the summer 2004 and provided a list of pertinent research topics as well as some background information. The student worked on several technical topics using the park library, the internet, and the materials provided and provided draft copies for review.

Resource Bulletins for Park Interpreters - FY 04 Project Summary:

In order to provide seasonal and year-round interpreters with up-to-date information on park research, the CCRLC produced a series of Resource Bulletins on a range of topics. Aimed primarily at the park's interpretive staff, these one-page descriptions of current scientific knowledge about park resources will provide seasonal employees with a reference library to support their interactions with the 2 million visitors who visit the park annually. The effort began in summer 2004 with Kristy Segal, an ecology student from Montana State University, who completed a two-month internship at the park to explore topics and develop a template for the bulletins. Kristy completed 11 drafts of 1-page bulletins that describe, in plain language, current research topics under investigation in the park that are of key importance to park managers. Topics include climate change forcing and impacts to park resources, biodiversity, threatened and endangered species, fire frequency and ecology, invasive plants, and the relationship between fire and invasives. Included in each bulletin are references for further reading and park contacts for more information. Bulletins will be updated annually by CCRLC staff and new ones will be created each year.

Among current resource bulletins are the attached:

- 1) Wildland Fire
- 2) Whitebark Pine
- 3) Global Climate Change and Melting Glaciers