

# **Project Completion Report Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)**

**Project Title:** Summer 2012 Restoration Intern at Glacier National Park

**Project Code:** P11AT10735 / SKC-14

**Type of Project :** Technical Assistance and Education

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

**Partner University:** Salish Kootenai College

**NPS Agreement Technical Representative:** Dawn LaFleur, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT 59936, 406-888-7864, dawn\_lafleur@nps.gov

**Investigator:** Bill Swaney, Salish-Kootenai College (SKC), Department of Natural Sciences, Piel Q'Law'qwn 128, Post Office Box 70, Pablo, MT 59855, 406-275-4896, william\_swaney@skc.edu

**Start Date of Project:** 8/1/2011

**End Date of Project:** 12/31/2013

**Funding Amount:** \$9,641

## **Project Summary,**

### **Summer 2012 Internship in Glacier National Park's Native Plant Nursery, Carrie Fahlgren-Prewett**

My second season in Glacier National Parks Native Plant Nursery was again a once in a lifetime experience. I had the opportunity go out with the Revegetation Crew a couple of times; working on rehabilitating areas, and delineating heavily used trails. Volunteer Day on Tuesday was again a big success. This season, the Nursery set up plant taxonomy lessons for the volunteers and nursery crew members. The lessons gave both the volunteers and crew members an opportunity to investigate similarities and differences between species in the nursery and in the field. Seed collecting was again a lot of fun, and I feel like we got a lot accomplished for the upcoming reseeding along the Going to the Sun Road.

**Number of students participating in this project: undergraduates, graduate students, degrees conferred.** One SKC student intern worked in GLAC for the second year in summer 2012

**Lessons Learned from this project:** The Restoration/Native Plant Nursery internship with SKC and Glacier NP has been successful. In summer 2013 we recruited an intern to work with the cultural resources program at Glacier, as a change of pace. Unfortunately, the funding from NPS-IMR for this internship is no longer available. To get participation with tribal schools, internships are an excellent vehicle. But the Federal agencies will need to commit to providing those funds.

There is also a need for the SKC faculty sponsor to be more actively engaged in the student intern's work and reporting.

**Other RM-CESU agencies or research partners who participated in this project: NA**