

**Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** Research and Analysis of Socioeconomic Impacts of Alternative Fish and Aquatic Management and Restoration Actions in Glacier National Park

**Discipline:** Social science

**Type of Project:** Research

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

**Other Partners/Cooperators:** University of Montana

**Student Involvement:** yes

**Effective Dates:** 6/15/2016 - 12/31/2019

**Funding Amount:** \$16,564

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** Glacier National Park is preparing a park wide Fisheries Management, Aquatics Restoration and Climate Change Response Plan and EIS. The purpose of the plan is to develop an integrated and adaptive approach to the restoration and conservation of native aquatic species and their habitats across the park and to provide guidance for future management actions given threats to the park's fisheries. A portion of the plan and EIS require a discussion of the existing socioeconomic environment in and surrounding the park and a socioeconomic impact evaluation of each alternative.

This project has a clear public purpose and benefit. By establishing an understanding of the socioeconomic environment associated with anglers in the park and native and non- native fisheries and climate change resilience, the socioeconomic impacts of protecting native species and the native aquatic communities can be clearly understood and assigned an economic value. The project also supports an understanding of the socioeconomic value of attracting the non-angling public to the park and surrounding area and biological research activities currently underway and anticipated. The project also supports methodological and analytical skill development at the University of Montana.

**Keywords:** socioeconomics, fisheries management, aquatic restoration, climate change response plan, EIS, Glacier National Park, University of Montana