

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Developing a metadata framework for Flathead River in British Columbia
Discipline: Natural
Type of Project: Education
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Calgary
Effective Dates: 6/1/2007- 12/15/2008
Funding Amount: \$12,680
Investigators and Agency Representative:
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Project Abstract: The North Fork of the Flathead River begins in British Columbia, crosses the international border, and forms the western boundary of Glacier National Park. Proposed development of coal and coal bed methane in the B.C. portion of the drainage underscores the need for agencies to quickly access existing resource information for the drainage. Glacier and Waterton Lakes National Parks will work with the Miistakis Institute at the University of Calgary to develop a metadata framework for the British Columbia portion of the drainage. Information hosted on the framework would include bibliographic records including grey literature, links to external web based information, and metadata for spatial layers created by research. Development of this metadata framework is a part of the work plan of the Crown Managers Partnership - a group of 20 land managing agencies in the transboundary region of Montana, British Columbia and Alberta, with project objectives including:

- (1) identification of and improved access to resource data for British Columbia's Flathead River drainage immediately to the north of Glacier National Park. This is an area that has been proposed for extensive industrialization associated with coal and coal-bed methane development.
- (2) development of a metadata framework prototype for the Crown of the Continent ecosystem. Such a framework is a part of the work plan developed by the Crown Managers Partnership - a group of 20 land managing agencies that include and border Waterton and Glacier National Parks.

An interagency steering committee has developed a work plan to address these issues and is being assisted by the Miistakis Institute for the Rockies, at the University of Calgary. The first phase of this project will focus on the Flathead River Drainage of British Columbia because of the broad international interest in the resources of this drainage and because the drainage is currently facing a future of intensive industrialization.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: Due by December 2007: creation of portal interface; building metadata framework for Crown of the Continent ecosystem; populate framework with metadata with initial emphasis on data for BC's Flathead drainage

Keywords: Crown Managers Partnership, Glacier NP, Waterton Lakes NP, website, North Fork of the Flathead River, University of Calgary