

COCEEC

Crown of the Continent Ecosystem Education Consortium
Ecosystem Education Mini-Grant **FALL** 2008

Application Form

Application form must be completed and submitted by November 10, 2008 for consideration. Submit forms by email to **Ashley Mason** at ctn80173@centurytel.net or by mail to PO BOX902, Kalispell, MT 59903. For eligibility information, please see the COCEEC Mini-Grant **FALL** 2006 *Call for Applications* letter accompanying this application.

Name of Group (and the sponsoring COCEEC Participant Group if different):

Flathead Audubon Society

Contact Information:

Flathead Audubon Society
Nancy Zapotocki, Conservation Educator
P.O. Box 9173
Kalispell, MT 59901
(406) 756-9363

If needed, please contact Teresa Wenum at Flathead National Forest at (406) 758-5218 from November 17 to December 5.

Amount Requested (cannot exceed \$750): **\$750**

Would you be able to accept partial funding? No. The project would need all components and funding to be completed successfully.

Please answer the following questions briefly and clearly.

1. Describe the program or project for which this funding would be used and how it promotes understanding and/or conservation within the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem:

Flathead Audubon proposes the development of an Indian Education for All (IEFA) Young Adult Book Club Education Trunk, in partnership with Flathead National Forest and Northwest Montana Education Cooperative. The Education trunk would correlate sections the Crown of the Continent Profile of a Treasured Landscape (Profile) with an Indian Education book for upper elementary to middle school. The goal of the Education Trunk is to aid teachers in implementing (IEFA) and assist teachers and their students in learning about the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem. IEFA and its meaningful implementation is an important curriculum component in Flathead County and all of Montana. The Education Trunk would include 1) a class set of the Indian Education Young Adult books (20 copies), 2) an update and adaptation of relevant portions of the Profile for upper elementary to middle school, correlated to the Indian Education Young Adult book, 3) alignment of the Education Trunk materials with Montana Content Standards, and 3) a binder with syllabi for how to use the trunk materials in the classroom and handouts that are relevant and usable.

The adaptation of portions of the Crown of the Continent Profile of a Treasured Landscape (Profile) to an upper elementary and middle school level and correlation to an Indian Education Young Adult book would help in meeting IEFA for upper elementary and middle school. It would also assist youth in understanding the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem, while meeting Montana Content Standards. The youth adapted portions of the Profile for this project would be a class set, approximately twenty pages, three chapters, printed in a of folder-style binder. It was noted at the Fall COCEEC meeting that work with the Profile could help in meeting COCEEC participant' in-kind requirement. This project could later be built on by other COCCEEC participants completing additional chapters, until there is a complete upper elementary to middle school version of the Crown of the Continent Profile of a Treasured Landscape.

At the 2008 Flathead CORE Trunk Workshop for Educators, it was noted in the evaluation that a class set of books to loan on a topic would be beneficial. This project creates an opportunity for individual schools to check out a set of books to use for a class study group on the local Crown of the Continent ecosystem. The Northwest Montana Educational Cooperative would support infusion into the classroom through its twenty-one member education districts and storing and loaning the Education Trunk at their office.

2. What is the timeline for this project?

December/February 08/09 Research and purchase Indian Education Young Adult book. Coordinate with local Tribal contacts as needed. Purchase plastic trunk.

January to September 09 Develop Educators binder for using the Education Trunk (on-going with project until completion in September 09)

February to July 09 Adapt, update and print relevant portions of the Crown of the Continent Profile of a Treasured Landscape, approximately twenty pages, three chapters, in folder-style binder.

July to August 09 Align trunk contents with Montana Content Standards

September 09 Complete and deliver Education Trunk and develop sign-out procedures with Northwest Montana Educational Cooperative.

3. Describe how other COCEEC participant groups and individuals would benefit from helping to fund this request:

The IEFA Young Adult Book Club Education Trunk would be accessible for use by the Flathead Community of Resource Educators (CORE) which includes twenty-three other resource education organizations in the Flathead Valley, nine of which are also participants in COCEEC.

Flathead Audubon and the Flathead National Forest are active participants of COCEEC, as well as the Flathead CORE. As active participants, we would be able to share and promote this IEFA Education Trunk along with the other resource education opportunities at the COCEEC biannual meeting and at the CORE quarterly meeting and annual Trunk Workshop for Educators. This project and materials deal with common goals of both CORE and COCEEC which include natural and cultural resource conservation education. This project would also allow us to adapt and update applicable portions of the Crown of the Continent Profile of a Treasured Landscape for the upper elementary and middle school audience. This could later be built on by other COCCEEC participants completing additional chapter, while also helping COCEEC participants to meet the in-kind participation requirements.

4. To the degree applicable, describe how this project involves or encourages collaboration between different groups and/or individuals (agencies, schools, teachers, scientists?):

Flathead Audubon has an active partnership with Northwest Montana Educational Cooperative educating local teachers and students on conservation education. We currently store our Education Trunks at the Northwest Montana Educational Cooperative office and they assist in loaning the trunks and getting the word out to teachers, as well as helping to ensure that our conservation education trunks and materials meet the Office of Public Instruction's Montana Content Standards. The Northwest Montana Educational Cooperative would support use of the Education Trunk in the classroom through their twenty-one member education districts. They have already implemented adult book studies as a method to develop teacher's background knowledge and model research-based instructional strategies. They have agreed to also house this trunk at their office and assist with check-out.

We would also work with the Salish, Kootenai and/or Blackfoot Tribes to ensure that we include the most appropriate Young Adult book for the trunk. We are partnering with Flathead National Forest, also a participant of CORE and COCEEC, in development and assistance in production of the trunk materials.

Flathead CORE currently has twenty-four organizations listed on their website and contact with fifty-seven individuals through our mailing list. We would include this trunk on the list of education trunks in the region and post on the website. This helps to promote the concept of Flathead CORE as a clearinghouse for educators to find out about a diverse array of resource education opportunities available in the Flathead Region of the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem. This information can link to the COCEEC website. At the 2008 Flathead CORE Trunk Workshop for Educators, it was noted in the evaluation that a class set of books to loan on a topic would be beneficial. This project creates an opportunity for individual schools to check out a set of books for a class to utilize as a class study group on the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem.

5. If applicable, please describe any other sources and amounts of funding for this project:

Project Matching Funds:

\$200 in-kind Flathead Audubon for adapting and updating applicable portions of the Crown of the Continent Profile of a Treasured Landscape

\$200 in-kind Flathead National Forest for adapting and updating applicable portions of the Crown of the Continent Profile of a Treasured Landscape

In-kind storage space and check out to teachers from the Northwest Montana Educational Cooperative and use of background materials from IEFA adult-oriented book club

\$65 Flathead National Forest printing applicable chapters of the Crown of the Continent Profile of a Treasured Landscape for student booklets

\$750 COCEEC grant funds would be used for:

\$300 purchase twenty copies of Indian Education Young Adult books for the class set

\$100 Education Trunk and materials, including plastic trunk, binder, folders, hand-outs

\$200 FAS hours to coordinate research and develop education trunk

\$150 NW MT Educational Co-op to align with Montana Content Standards and review

Submit by: November 10, 2008 by mail to: COCEEC PO Box 902, Kalispell, MT 59903 or email to

ctn80173@centurytel.net