

Name of Group (and the sponsoring COCEEC Participant group if different):
Flathead Community of Resource Educators (CORE) sponsored by Glacier National Park, Flathead Audubon, Lone Pine State Park and Flathead National Forest.

Contact Information:

Laura Law, Glacier National Park, 888-5837

Laura_law@nps.gov

Amount Requested: \$750.00

\$600 = Table Top Exhibit with Header (We have quotes at this price from 2 different companies).

\$150 = Design and printing of Flathead CORE brochure.

Would you be able to receive partial funding? Yes

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.

Glacier National Park, in conjunction with 23 other resource education organizations in the Flathead Valley (9 of which are also participants in COCEEC) is an active participant in the Flathead Community of Resource Educators (CORE). This group works toward the same communication networking goals as COCEEC, but on a smaller scale – the Flathead Region. Participants in the group meet quarterly to share and promote resource education opportunities and materials that deal with common goals (air quality, water quality, cultural resource protection, etc.).

The group also presents workshops and other educational activities. For example, each October for the past six years Flathead CORE has coordinated an educational trunk workshop for teachers. This workshop has always received excellent reviews from the educators who've attended. Through grants and in-kind contributions, the group has launched a website, www.flatheadcore.org and is now in need of a way to publicize the website and to get the word out about the clearinghouse role Flathead CORE provides for natural and cultural resource education opportunities/materials in this part of the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem.

We are requesting \$750 in project funding to purchase a table-top exhibit to be used at community events, educator workshops, and conferences to showcase the individuals and organizations who participate in Flathead CORE, as well as the events and materials sponsored by CORE.

The funding will also be used to develop a brochure that highlights the resource education information and materials available through Flathead CORE. The project will promote understanding and conservation within the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem because all of the resource providers who participate in Flathead CORE have missions

and goals that focus on natural and cultural resources within the Crown of the Continent. (See list of participants attached or go to <http://www.flatheadcore.org/organizations.asp>)

The Flathead CORE strives to:

- Serve as a communication network between resource educators and the community.
- Provide practical tools, training and materials for educators in the Flathead Region.
- Be open to all resource educators and professionals to promote the diversity of ideas and cooperation.
- Promote knowing more about the place we live.

2. Timeline

November 2007 – Vendors contacted and quotes assembled.

December 2007 – Exhibit purchased, CORE brochure draft design circulated among participants.

January 2008 – Exhibit delivered, header & banner manufactured. Comments on draft brochure compiled and final brochure finished.

February 2008 – Photos, mission statement, participant brochures collected, event photos assembled for exhibit. CORE brochure printed.

March 2008 – Exhibit to be used at Montana Environmental Educator's Conference in Helena.

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

Many active participants in the Flathead CORE group are also members of C.O.C.E.E.C.:

- Flathead Audubon
- Glacier National Park
- Crown of the Continent Research Learning Center
- Flathead National Forest
- Montana Fish, Wildlife, & Parks
- Citizens for a Better Flathead
- Glacier Institute
- Ravenwood Natural Science Center
- Sustainability Fund
- Swan Ecosystem Center

Each of these groups will be listed on the new brochure describing Flathead CORE's role as a communication network between resource educators and the community. The brochure will be made available to the Realtor's Association for contacting new valley residents and distributed at resource education community events, teacher workshops, etc. The table-top display will include the Flathead CORE mission/goals, its participants, and showcase pictures/materials from these groups as well as other resources they have available. Each group will be able to include materials that travel with the display about their organization and upcoming resource education events.

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

This project, in conjunction with the Flathead CORE website, will help to promote the concept of Flathead CORE as a clearinghouse for educators, residents, and visitors to find out about a diverse array of resource education opportunities available in the Flathead Region of the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem. Along with the 10 organizations listed above, Flathead CORE currently has 14 other resource education providers in the Flathead Region (24 total organizations and growing) listed on our website. We contact 57 individuals through our mailing list of teachers, private citizens, and other interested parties.

These 24 organizations represent a diverse array of groups: private businesses, clubs, water conservation organizations, wildlife agencies, non-profit environmental groups, habitat focused groups, scientists at the Flathead Lake Biological Station and Flathead National Forest, as well as conservation –oriented agencies/organizations.

In the past year, communication between all of these organizations and individuals has improved because of the development (through grants and in-kind donation of participants' time) of the Flathead CORE website and email listserv.

The group is working to extend communication about the connections between each of their organizations/agencies through common goals of: protecting air and water quality, resource conservation, and promoting positive natural and cultural resource education experiences. To do this, we feel the need to increase our outreach efforts by joining forces at community events, workshops, and conferences. Together, we can share the cost in time and materials to be at these events by using the Flathead CORE brochure and display along with in-kind contributions of various participants' shared time to help to staff the exhibit.

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

In-kind contribution from participating CORE organizations:

\$150 – Materials and time of different CORE organizations to fabricate photos, color copies, laminating, and Velcro for the items that they will put on the display.

\$150 - Montana Fish, Wildlife, & Parks for use of computer and desktop publishing software to develop CORE brochure.

\$150 – Glacier District Interpreter, Flathead NF Education Coordinator, Conservation Educator for Flathead Audubon, Lone Pine State Park Ranger, and Flathead Conservation District Education Specialist time to review this grant and the exhibit display company's products.

\$100 – Glacier National Park Education Specialist to write the grant, review display company options, assimilate comments and notify CORE participants of progress, and follow-through on purchasing display.

RESOURCES

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Organization Name

Big Sky Astronomy Club [MORE](#)

Creston National Fish Hatchery [MORE](#)

Earthlore [MORE](#)

F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Co. [MORE](#)

Federated & Montana Women In Timber [MORE](#)

Flathead Audubon [MORE](#)

Flathead Chapter of the Montana Native Plant Society [MORE](#)

Flathead Conservation District [MORE](#)

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Glacier National Park [MORE](#)

Great Bear Foundation [MORE](#)

Hockaday Museum of Art

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Kalispell City Parks & Recreation

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Kootenai River Network

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[TOP OF PAGE](#)