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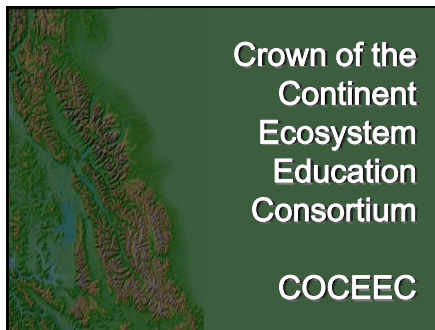
COCEEC Logo

Slide 2



Dr. Lex Blood and Marilyn Blair

Slide 3



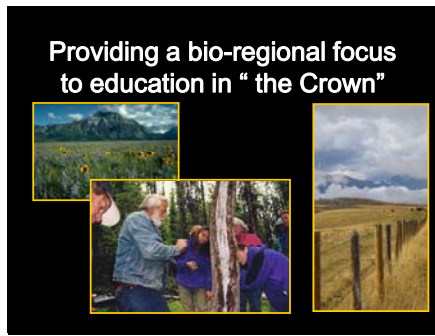
**The What, How, Where,
and Why of COCEEC**

Slide 4



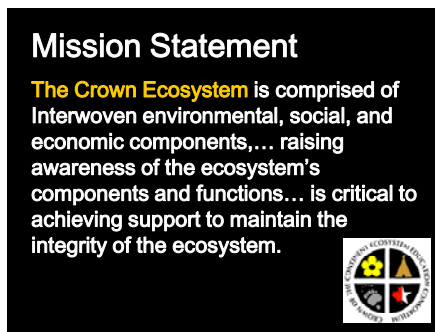
Fifteen years of cross border educational collaboration

Slide 5



What – our purpose in a nutshell

Slide 6




The core of our mission statement

Slide 7

COCEEC strives to:

- **Encourage and support** coordination and cooperation among organizations whose purpose is to educate and inform people... about the human and natural resources of the Crown...


The logo for COCEEC (Canadian Organization of Community Ecosystem Management Educators) is a circular emblem divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant features a yellow flower, the top-right a green tree, the bottom-left a globe, and the bottom-right a red hand holding a green leaf. The text 'CANADIAN ORGANIZATION OF COMMUNITY ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT EDUCATORS' is written around the perimeter of the circle.

How we will accomplish our mission

Slide 8

COCEEC strives to:

- **Promote** a sense of community... centered on personal and community stewardship of the environment.


The logo for COCEEC is a circular emblem divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant features a yellow flower, the top-right a green tree, the bottom-left a globe, and the bottom-right a red hand holding a green leaf. The text 'CANADIAN ORGANIZATION OF COMMUNITY ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT EDUCATORS' is written around the perimeter of the circle.

Promote

Slide 9

COCEEC strives to:

- **Provide** balanced educational leadership on emerging concepts of ecosystem management and biodiversity conservation.


The logo for COCEEC is a circular emblem divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant features a yellow flower, the top-right a green tree, the bottom-left a globe, and the bottom-right a red hand holding a green leaf. The text 'CANADIAN ORGANIZATION OF COMMUNITY ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT EDUCATORS' is written around the perimeter of the circle.

Provide

Slide 10

COCEEC strives to:

- Encourage the development and dissemination of information and educational materials on the Crown

The logo for COCEEC (Crown of the Crown Ecosystem Education Center) is a circular emblem divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant contains a yellow flower, the top-right a green tree, the bottom-left a red arrow, and the bottom-right a black silhouette of a person. The text 'CROWN OF THE CROWN ECOSYSTEM EDUCATION CENTER' is written around the perimeter of the circle.

Slide 11

Education Statement

GOALS

A topographic map of a mountainous region, likely the Crown of the Crown, showing green and brown terrain with a river valley.

Participant programs are built around three essential concepts.

Slide 12

Build learner

AWARENESS

A photograph showing a group of people, including children and adults, standing outdoors near a body of water, possibly a lake or river, under a clear blue sky.

Goal 1: Build learners AWARENESS of ecological principles related to their specific region of the ecosystem and its management.

Slide 13



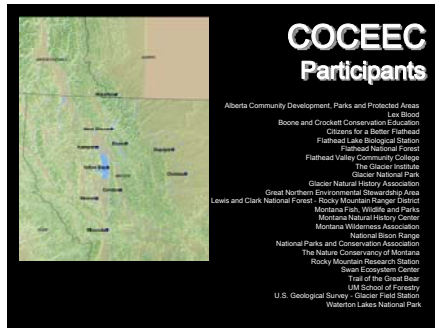
Goal 2: Assist learners in building their level of CONCERN for the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem, by developing a sense of appreciation for the rich variety of interconnected life and the processes connecting the physical and biological components of the ecosystem.

Slide 14



Goal 3: Utilizing knowledge and awareness of the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem, learners will strive to take voluntary ACTION in their communities for the benefit of the cultural and natural values of the ecosystem.

Slide 15



More than twenty public and private organizations around the Crown participate in COCEEC.

Slide 16

Participant Partnership Statement

Participant Responsibilities


- Designate representative
- Attend semi-annual meetings
- Represent COCEEC to their organization
- Participate on committees, working groups or special projects
- Make annual cash/in-kind contributions



Participants voluntarily collaborate in the partnership.

Slide 17

COCEEC semi-annual meetings




- Missoula
- Moise
- Yellow Bay
- Kalispell
- Condon
- West Glacier
- Essex
- Dupuyer
- Choteau
- Waterton Lakes

Participant meetings move around the ecosystem.

Slide 18

COCEEC is:

- Ecosystem-wide
- Voluntary
- Diverse
- Non-advocacy
- Dedicated solely to education
- Non-incorporated association
- Low maintenance




The basics of COCEEC.

Slide 19

COCEEC Challenges

- Large size of area
- Diversity of Jurisdictions
- "Turf" Issues
- Individualism
- Limitation on funding & time
- Personnel turn-over
- Need for part-time paid coordinator




With any work there are always challenges.

Slide 20

Why link up with COCEEC?

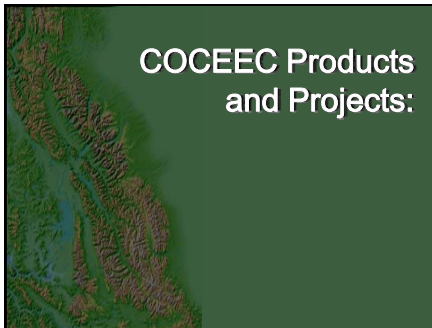
- Networking with regional educators
- Semi-annual meetings for education program exchange
- Pre/Post meeting field trips
- Development of collaborative programs
- Professional exchange
- COCEEC website membership directory
- Mini Grants



Advantages to participating

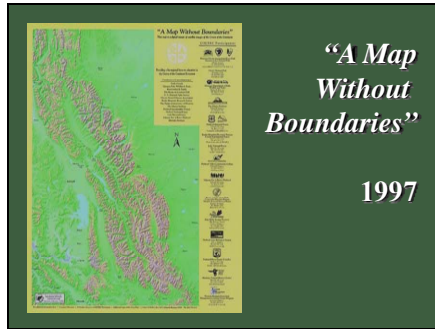
Slide 21

COCEEC Products and Projects:



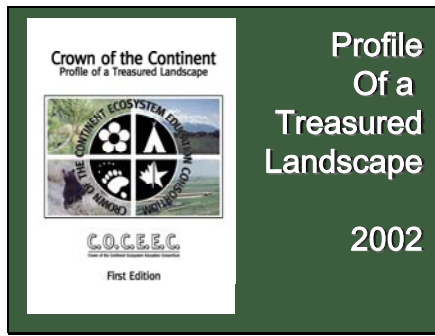
COCEEC Products and Projects:

Slide 22



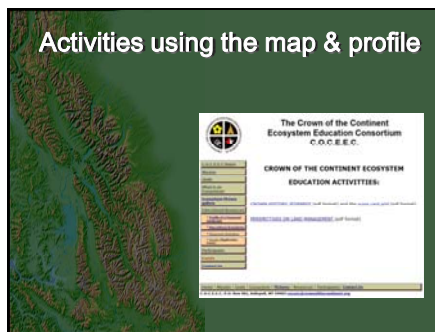
The Crown Map – a picture is worth a thousand words

Slide 23



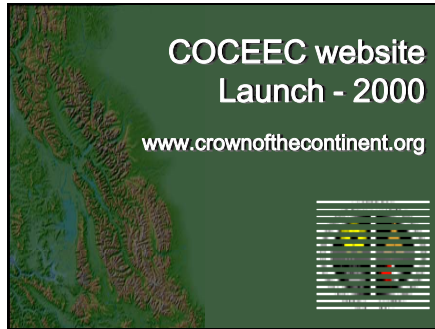
Putting words to the picture

Slide 24



Making educational tools of the Map and Profile

Slide 25



And everyone needs a website

Slide 26



Participant contributions support the Mini-Grant program.

Slide 27



Slide 28

Participant Grants

June 2007
> ?

December 2007
> Flathead Core
> The Glacier Institute

Slide 29

**Fall 2002
Kalispell Central School Museum**



Spring and Fall meetings bring us together to share and plan.

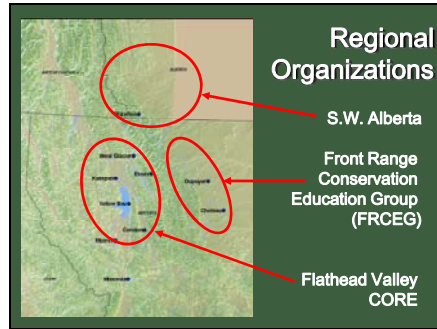
Slide 30



Spring meeting at Essex.

Spring and Fall meetings bring us together to share and plan.

Slide 31



Sub-groupings of organizations work at the local level

Slide 32



Just a few of many participant programs

Slide 33



To increase humanities' awareness and understanding of wildlife conservation and associated natural and cultural resources of ecosystems we all share and influence.

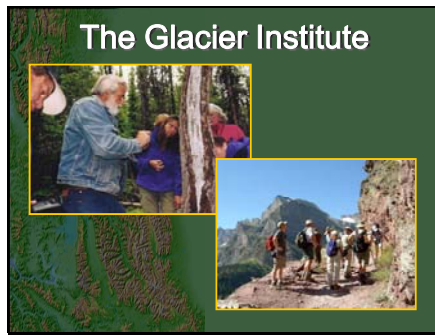
Slide 34



The Flathead National Forest Conservation Education Program provides opportunities for our visitors, youth and local communities to explore, discover and learn about:

- the cultural and natural resources found in forest and aquatic ecosystems;
- the inter-relationships in natural systems and between people and the land.

Slide 35



The Glacier Institute serves adults and children as an educational leader in the Crown of the Continent ecosystem with Glacier National Park and Flathead National Forest at its center. Emphasizing field based learning experiences, the Institute provides an objective and science-based understanding of the area's ecology and its interaction with people. Through this non-advocacy approach to outdoor education, participants can be better prepared to make informed and constructive decisions which impact this and other ecosystems.

Slide 36



Provide education and interpretive services to national and international visitors and communities adjacent to the park in order to enhance understanding of the natural and cultural heritage preserved within Glacier National Park and the National Parks system.

Slide 37



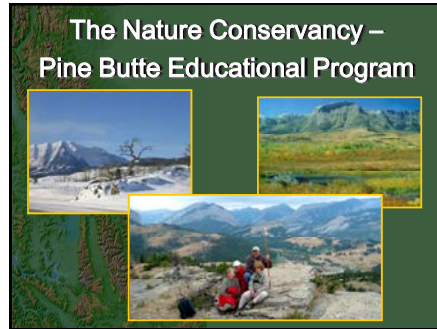
Link management decisions more closely with scientific research results and build integrated knowledge sharing relationships with educational institutions and the public.

Slide 38



We, citizens of the Upper Swan Valley, have a self-imposed sense of responsibility to maintain a strong, vital community, one involved in setting its own destiny through partnerships that encourage sustainable use and care of public and private lands.

Slide 39



The Pine Butte Education Program provides and facilitates experiential field explorations focusing on natural history, ecology, and human-landscape relationships. Stationed west of Choteau, MT, our program enjoys the rich and wild lands of the Rocky Mountain Front as its outdoor classroom.

Slide 40




Waterton Lakes National Park protects for all time an extraordinarily diverse assemblage of physical, biological and cultural resources. The park, a representative portion of the Southern Rocky Mountains Natural Region, where the mountains abruptly meet the prairie, is dedicated to present and future generations of Canadians and other visitors for their understanding, appreciation and enjoyment. Education programs and services include guided hikes and theatre programs, educational materials for teachers, field studies, the Waterton Resource Guide, and a web site. We work collaboratively with many partners to further protection and understanding of mountain and prairie ecosystems.

Slide 41

Future Activities & Projects


- Encourage ecosystem-based education in the Crown
- Expand Participant Group
- Update Profile
- Update and expand website
- Establish linkage to National Geographic Geotourism MapGuide
- Participate in Crown of the Continent Stewardship Council
- Develop association with Crown Managers Partnership



And looking to the future

Slide 42

Providing a bio-regional focus to education in "the Crown"



Could you ask for a better classroom?
From the peaks to the prairie

Slide 43



Check our website:
crownofthecontinent.org