



Fall 2009 Crown of the Continent Research Learning Center Program Update

Director: Tara Carolin; ***Research Education Coordinator:*** Paul Ollig

Citizen Science

- Common Loons 2009: Preliminary results are: 41 adults (16 pairs) + 10 chicks.
- Glacier's High Country 2009: 88 participants. Volunteers completed 272 mountain goat surveys, 58 pika surveys, and 22 observations of one or more Clark's Nutcrackers. Informational presentations were provided to more than 200 people in addition to the trained participants.
- Backcountry Invasive Plant Mapping 2009: 25 participants. End of year summaries for volunteers, hours and observations for all 3 programs are incomplete.

Crown of the Continent Invasive Plant Field Guide

- 10,000 copies of field guide were printed last spring. The majority have been distributed to program managers and field technicians from over 30 local, state, provincial, tribal, and federal agencies that supported this publication.

Waterton-Glacier Science and History Day

- 6th annual Waterton-Glacier Science and History Day was held on August 6, 2009. More than 150 attendees learned the results of 13 different research projects. Additionally, more than 17 Brown Bag Seminars have been offered to date in 2009.

Interpretive Products

- A series of two-page resource bulletins on current research issues are ready to finalize. A bulletin on insect and disease is near completion and we are beginning the next on aquatic invasive species. A Threatened and Endangered species notebook is also in the works. We developed text for three wayside exhibits to communicate climate change impacts to mountain glaciers, streams, and ecosystems; and a site bulletin on climate change is available at park Visitor Centers.

Position Papers

- Grizzly bear population monitoring in the Northern Continental Divide ecosystem brochure is enroute to the printer.

Web Page

- The CCRLC web page was newly updated in 2009. Some features include a Science in the Crown Blog, information on Citizen Science, upcoming brown bags, available services, and a NASA Earth to Sky sponsored "Climate Cast". See: http://www.nps.gov/glac/parknews/blogs_ollig_0609.htm We are beginning to use social networking tools, such as Twitter and Facebook, to reach a broader public audience, and in a short time have acquired more than 600 and 6,000 fans respectively.

Jerry O'Neal NPS Student Fellowship Program

- Two fellowships were awarded for student research on amphibians and social science research on the GTSR shuttle in summer 2009. We also facilitated a Clark's Nutcracker habitat research project and provided housing and assistance to numerous researchers.

George C. Ruhle Library

- CCRLC took on supervision of Glacier National Park library and hired a new librarian now providing excellent customer service to both park staff and visiting public.