

**September 13, 2013**

Meeting:

Kathy Martin (Audubon); Mary Jo Gardner , Patti Mason (Flathead Conservation District), Laura Law (Glacier NP), Melissa Sladek (Crown of the Continent Research Learning Center); Diann Ericson (SEC); Jill Jolly , Laurie LaPan (teacher at Deer Park), Kathy Martin (Hockaday), Kari Musgrovi (Flathead Conservation District)

1. Wilderness Investigations Workshop at Glacier Institute Field Camp in Glacier National Park. This was a really well-received workshop and Laura will contact MWA Flathead NF to see if they want to host another one for 2014. Speaking of Wilderness, the USFS has been planning events for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. Teresa Wenum provided a handout listing the activities/events for local Wilderness Celebration events for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014. Perhaps the teacher Wilderness Workshop could be fit in with those other events? Laura will look into applying again for a COCEEC minigrant and see if the Glacier Institute has space at Field Camp. The national 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary website is <http://wilderness50th.org/>
2. The Flathead CORE trunk workshop possible re-schedule date could be January. Discussion was that it would be too hard to get it together by then. Dates in the summer include "Summer Institute" dates as part of the NW MT Educ. Cooperative training. MEEA next year, 2014, is in Missoula, so we decided we will try to have the trunk workshop during that August (21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>?). Amy Grout said Lone Pine can be available for a place to have it. Kathy Martin will contact Eliza to see if we can get on the Summer Institute schedule and get it on PIRnet. It's 6 OPI credits and is usually 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. We will use the same agenda and have the same presenters.
3. Jane Kapler Smith is available to reschedule the FireWorks Workshop but not until next summer. It is also another possibility (we think) for during the Summer Institute with the NW MT Education Cooperative.
4. The Fire Speaks the Land dance performances are all full. There are 3 of them, March 26-27, 2014 with 1,261 students from 11 different schools. There are some open seats available at each performance for resource professionals to sit in if interested. Teresa will keep people posted about this opportunity.
5. Winter Trails Day, Jan. 11, 2014. Teresa Wenum will coordinate and let her know if others are interested in participating. Lone Pine, Audubon (Blacktail Trails), Glacier, Flathead NF-Swan Lake RD (and perhaps Whitefish Legacy Partnership?) are all interested.
6. CORE hosting fee- Amy said that Lone Pine will be able to help with that this year. Amy will work with Laura to do this at the next CORE meeting. Flathead CORE website hosting fee is due March 18, 2014. It is \$71.88.
7. GO (Get Outside) Passport –nothing new.
8. PLT Survey – nothing new.
9. Project Learning Tree –The Foy's to Blacktail Project is looking for a teacher volunteer who might be interested in working on the progress being made with the trails at Herron Park. There was a great article about the vision they have for teachers using the area in the [PLT newsletter](#). Laura will try to get the newsletter uploaded to the CORE website "Resources" page.

10. Mary Jo said that she would help Laura update the resource educators list from the website and mailchimp but not until later in the year. Ashley said she was willing to be a resource for us on this.
11. The Watershed Sourcebook project to develop middle school curriculum materials to complement the Sourcebook is still on-going. Michael Brody, from MSU Education Department is willing to work with Flathead CORE on this. The Sustainability Fund and the Flathead Conservation District have put in some seed money to get the project going. The committee is working with Michael on doing a Delphi Survey to find out what are the key issues we really want to teach (Phase 1). It will be starting in January as they are working on the list of educators to contact for the survey right now. Then phase 2 will be developing those materials. Phase 3 is piloting the materials with workshops. Phase 4 is to produce the final product.
12. [The Montana Environmental Education Association \(MEEA\)](#) is hosting a get together for teachers next Thursday, Nov. 14, 4:15 p.m. – 5:45 at the Flathead National Forest Supervisor's Office, 650 Wolfpack Way. There will be refreshments and information about getting students outdoors, tips and tricks, contacts, and ideas about how MEEA can help support teachers. There will also be information about grants available. A short questionnaire for MEEA will be distributed to get feedback about teacher needs for getting students outside. Laura has this on CORE website and Mary Jo had a handout for people to post. Ashley suggested we can all be there together to provide information and respond to the MEEA questionnaire. Laura will find out if she can get the questionnaire from Diann and send it out to people and maybe even post it on the CORE website. By the way, the MEEA Conference is in Butte next year, March 20-21, 2014. There are mini-grants available from MEEA and we got hard copies. The website has a link for the mini-grants and even though it has last year's dates on it, teachers can use those forms.
13. Oral history workshop at Lone Pine State Park, sponsored by DNRC and MT Women in Agriculture was October 5, 2013. This workshop is part of a statewide project. They had an OPI representative talk about Common Core Standards and how important place-based education will be in the new standards.
14. Flathead NF is looking for high school students to be part of the Forest Plan Revision Collaborative Group – upcoming meeting first week of December. Perhaps a student looking for volunteer and service learning credit and being a part of a community working group. Let Teresa Wenum (twenum@fs.fed.us) know if you have some students who might be interested.
15. Round Robin:
  - a. Audubon has a new owl education trunk available for loan. They also are hosting "Audubon Families" program this year to promote multi-generational activities. Especially with the turnout for Raptor Day. So there would be a combination of outdoor and classroom stuff. Dates and activities TBA. The Audubon website is under a transition but information will be forthcoming.
  - b. Kari (Flathead Conservation District) – she has been getting info. out to teachers about their grants program. West Valley used this for their native plant garden. Teachers can apply for conservation related project funding and there is open enrollment. Go to [www.flatheadcd.org](http://www.flatheadcd.org). Kari is working on getting settled into her new position.

- c. Kathy Martin- the Hockaday art show "Members Salon" is coming up next Thursday, Nov. 14. There will be some community days coming up that are open to the public for free admission. She is still doing "Traveling Medicine Shows" and youth programs. Next year the theme for the children's art show will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wilderness Act and is "Wild about MT". Entry forms will be available in January 2014.
- d. Laurie will be working on a community/native garden at Deer Park and Ashley has some contacts that she can share. Mary Jo has some grow lights that she would donate to the project too. One of the FCD grants could help to support this effort as well.
- e. It appears that the County Science Fair will not be at Deer Park but at Canyon Elementary in 2014. More info. will be forthcoming as this is not for sure, so stay posted.
- f. Americorps is done at Lone Pine next Friday. Amy is working on hiring a park ranger and is doing interviews but the position will most likely not start until January. They will probably stay with similar programs as they did last year. She will have 2 new Americorps people full time. One will do education and the other will work on exhibits.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2014 also at the Flathead Conservation District Office.