

## Flathead CORE, May 20, 2014

Mary Jo Gardner (teacher) , Kari Musgrove(Flathead Conservation District), Laura Law(Glacier NP), Melissa Sladek (Crown of the Continent Research Learning Center); Jill Jolley (SEC), Laurie LaPan (teacher at Deer Park), Kathy Martin (Hockaday), Sheena Pate (Center for Native Plants); Heidi Sedivy (Flathead Lakers); Amy Grout (Lone Pine State Park); Tom Bansak (Flathead Biological Station)

1. Website – Amy Grout can help with worksite updates to table. Table alignment is fixed and just need to make sure updates are done. Website hosting is caught up through February 2016. Mary Jo said that she would help Laura update the resource educators list from the website and mail chimp but not until later in the year. Ashley said she was willing to be a resource for us on this.
2. October 16, 2014 is date for trunk workshop. Location at USFS conference room is available and Lone Pine is reserved just in case. Teresa will talk with Kathy to see if she has already booked something. Kari said she could check with the realty association and see if that building is available.
3. 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). The on-line survey has been completed . Phase 2 will be to develop those materials. Phase 3 is piloting the materials with workshops. Phase 4 is to produce the final product. Teresa will send the write-up of the phases to put on the CORE website. They put in for a Honda Foundation grant and will hear about that by July 1, 2015. There is enough funding right now to get through Phase II.
4. Past events – Forestry Expo. Went well and family day was busy (500 participants). Parents who came in 5<sup>th</sup> grade are now bringing their students back.
5. Next COCEEC meeting is Oct. 7, 2014 at the Izaak Walton Inn.
6. The Fire Speaks the Land dance performances are all full. There were 3 performance but the 3<sup>rd</sup> one had a power outage and students had to go back to their schools. Over 1,000 students and teachers did get to see the performance. The goal for 2015 is to come back and do some more performances and get the schools that didn't see it to go. Cost was about \$700-\$800 to do the three performances (the theater cost was free). The Flathead Conservation District provided some transportation money as well. Karen is working on getting the performances into the national parks next summer.
7. Earth Day – Mary Jo found out that FVCC had planned some events for April 19 but nothing really came together for us to help with. Lone Pine also had an event but there wasn't a very good turnout. We can try to correspond again for next year. Mary Jo said she will try again.
8. Upcoming events:
  - National Get Outdoors Day – 3<sup>rd</sup> year at Lone Pine State Park, June 14, 2014 – 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.; USFS- table with self-guided kids activities; other informational booths;

Backcountry horseman with packing, flathead archery will have bows and shooting; Snappy, Sportsman's, RMO and Cabela's; a gardening activity; and Hockaday will have an art event. Other groups can still join to have a table but cannot sell items; contact Amy Grout.

9. Flathead Biological Station is hosting school groups with Flathead Lakers. The facility can be used for any groups who have an educational activity. There is a facility fee. August 5<sup>th</sup> is Biological Station Open House, 1-5p.m., Tuesday.
10. "Becoming watershed citizens" field trip, need VIPS this Thursday at the Biological Station. Each station is 35 minutes long with 5 minutes to rotate and there are 6 stations. They do two nature walks and a scavenger hunt. The retired and senior volunteer program might be able to provide volunteers. There is a Kalispell office and a Polson office. The day is 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Often times some of the watershed consulting firms in the area may require their staff to do community service. Perhaps for next year, one of the high schools would have their students help?
11. 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 Wilderness Celebrations for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014. Perhaps the teacher Wilderness Workshop could be fit in with those other events.
12. Flathead Laker and Flathead Basin Commission is partnering with Working Dogs for Conservation to sniff out aquatic invasive species at Riverside Park in Polson, June 15.
13. MEEA -
14. Round Robin:
  - a. Arbor Day – FCD coordinated with SKC Tribal Nursery from Ronan who donated the trees and Lone Pine planted them with Peterson students. Rails to Trails is trying to decide about planting more but are undecided. Lone Pine also had 30 children at "Kids to Parks" day that was a statewide park day. They did the state park Jr. Ranger book and got their badges. There will be a wildlife safety program on Saturday, May 31, 1-2 p.m. National Trails Day on June 7 will be working on re-routing a trail at Lone Pine. There is a pdf handout on the state parks page now.
  - b. SEC – doing water quality monitoring at Elk Creek with students. Corey Davis from UM is helping with some Citizen Science monitoring this fall. There is an AIS workshop for adults in June. Also a GPS workshop for this summer and adventure camps July 21-22. It's getting harder and harder to find resource people to help with these programs. The programs are all listed on the SEC website. In August there is a bat campfire program. Jill is looking for a presenter to do an amphibian program. All of the programs are at Holland Lake campground.
  - c. Hungry Horse Dam VC will be open from 8:30 – 5p.m., 7 days per week per Laurie for seeing it in the newspaper.
  - d. Mary Jo – she will help with MEEA talk at 6 p.m
  - e. Laura – ed programs wrapping up next week. Climate Change workshop is full and happening at end of June. Melissa and Laura have been asked to do a national

presentation about how they do the workshop. Laura will be working doing a youth assessment for the park this summer; wilderness workshop is almost full for Sept. 13-14.

- f. CCRLC- brown bags are going on and there is a mailing list if you want to know more about them; [www.crownsience.org](http://www.crownsience.org) is taking up a lot of her time and she will be pushing out more information about it this fall; the Citizen Science program is still going strong and they've added some new species to monitor. Melissa is doing climate change presentations in the park if you have people who are interested.
- g. Kari -FCD – Flood Awareness Day was in April went well. In Flathead Living magazine there's an oral history article out. She gave a handout about it, June 5, 2014 at FVCC. She has 2 sets of 1964 flood signs that could be displayed there. Hungry Horse Dam would be a good place to put them.
- h. Sheena – Center for Native Plants – they are having some people who will be doing lunch presentations. Right now they are just trying to get nursery open this June (261-8407). No updates for Road Scholar – Stephanie Paidas had knee surgery and she has to go back in for surgery, she is also working for the Crown of the Continent Geo-Tourism Project Coordinator (NPCA, Whitefish Visitor Bureau, Alberta and BC, and MT Tourism).
- i. Teresa – Frog Day, July 2, handout, June 14 nature center opening with everything else at resort. Lots of Wilderness Events going on this summer – Aug. 2 picnic at Spotted Bear, big community event on Sept. 20. Also, August 13-17 is Flathead County Fair week.

Next meeting is scheduled September 24, 2014 also at the Flathead National Forest Supervisor's Office.