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PROTECTING THE WATER, WILDLIFE AND OUTDOOR HERITAGE OF THE CROWN OF THE CONTINENT.



Completing the Waterton/Glacier Peace Park
 A Scientific Approach to understanding the importance of a contiguous ecosystem
 Grouse Mountain Lodge, Whitefish, Montana
 Monday, March 12 | 7-9pm

Completing Waterton-Glacier Peace Park
 Headwaters Montana recently hosted a science forum in Whitefish, on March 12, at the Grouse Mountain Lodge to explore the unique and significant ecology of this transboundary region.



Dr. Michael Proctor with a Typical 'Patient'
 Dr. Proctor talked about the [genetic diversity](#) of griz across the northwest North America, with a focus on transboundary bears and how to preserve the linkage zones and movement corridors vital to their long-term survival.

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Transboundary Flathead a Key Wildlife Corridor, Scientists Report

Three Leading Researchers Report on Griz, Critters with Claws and Hooves, and the Water World

March 19, 2012

Dear [member_name_first]:

Science provides some interesting tools to help understand our world. The Waterton-Glacier Peace Park and the [Crown of the Continent](#) defines a large part of your world. Fortunately science has revealed some fascinating information about this amazing place.

Headwaters Montana hosted a [science forum](#) on March 12, in Whitefish, titled "Completing Waterton-Glacier Peace Park: a scientific approach to understanding the importance of contiguous ecosystems."

Drs. Richard Hauer, John Weaver, and Michael Proctor each took as different aspect of Crown science, and revealed the complexity, diversity, and vulnerability of one of the most biologically important regions in North America.

Water and Floodplains



*Why Are YOU Involved in Conservation?
Maybe for the next generation, or the one
after that, or maybe for posterity.
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Transboundary Flathead!*



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Thank you!*

species - **grizzlies, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, wolverine, bull trout and west slope cutthroat trout** - and ranks roadless lands for their conservation value in the face of Climate Change.

“The transboundary Flathead supports the most diverse, intact community of carnivores in North America,” he said. “It is truly a rich and diverse assemblage.”

Keeping Griz On the Land, In the Land

Dr. Michael Proctor helped pioneer the science of hair snag genetic sampling of grizzly bears that has provided such incredibly important insight into grizzly bear numbers and population dynamics in recent years.

His recent [Wildlife Monograph](#) paper assesses the hidden genetic content of over 3,134 grizzly bears from research samples taken over the last 14 years. Truly the treasure trove of treasure troves in grizzly research.

The DNA samples show how populations of grizzlies are alike or "fragmented" or separated. Populations that are fragmented typically are separated by large distances, or more importantly, by human obstacles such as roads and communities.

“In these fragmented populations over highways, we’ve basically found that bears are having no sex,” he said. “And then we’ve found places that are like a university campus. There’s a lot of activity.”

A key purpose of Proctor's research is to reveal those barriers and find ways to overcome them, so bear

populations can re-mingle their genes more freely and

[Association](#) (NPCA), [Wildsight](#), [Sierra Club BC](#), and the [Canadian Parks and Wilderness Association](#) (CPAWS) as a part of [Flathead Wild](#).

In future editions of this newsletter we'll expand on the *Headwaters Montana* conservation strategy to protect the water, wildlife and incredible natural diversity of our home.

~ We Thought You'd Like to Know! ~

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