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West Glacier Resident Wins 2016 Jack Potter GNP Stewardship Award

Restoring Quiet Skies Over Glacier a Priority

Dear Greetings!:

Headwaters Montana announced today the 2016 recipient of the [*Jack Potter Glacier National Park Stewardship Award*](#) established to help promote stewardship of Glacier Park's spectacular natural resources.

West Glacier resident **Mary T. McClelland** will receive the award from Headwaters Montana this month. The award consists of a hand-blown glass sculptured trophy of a American Dipper (or water ouzel) donated by Bigfork glass artist [Lee Proctor](#) and a cash award of \$200.

Mary T. McClelland has watched the quiet of Glacier Park erode over years as visitor numbers have increased. In particular, the overflight of scenic tour helicopters has increased dramatically in recent years. Mary T. has worked tirelessly to address this issue, one of the most common complaints of visitors to Glacier.



Mary T. McClelland will receive the Jack Potter Glacier National Park Stewardship Award for 2016 for her courageous defense of Glacier's quiet skies.

Mary T. has spearheaded the effort to restore natural quiet to Glacier Park, working cooperatively with the Park to promote public awareness of the issues. She is quick to point out that many others have attempted to address this issue for years.

She formed a coalition of 29 local and national stakeholders under the name "Friends for a Quiet! Glacier" and started an [educational website](#) and an [online petition](#). The petition has garnered more than

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TOM SAUER, Missoulian
 Many Glacier Hotel, built on the shores of Swiftcurrent Lake on the east side of Glacier National Park by railroad tycoon Louis W. Hill in 1912, has had the share of natural preservation and events. Recent restoration and renovation has helped restore the hotel to its original design, which Hill oversees to every detail.

The Quiet! Glacier campaign garnered immediate attention in 2016 when it was formed. The noise and sound pollution from scenic helicopter overflights is one of the most common complaints of Glacier Park visitors who come to the park to experience the sights and sounds of nature.

Quiet! Glacier maintains that, "in Glacier National Park, according to 2015 visitor numbers, less than 1% of visitors take recreational helicopter air tours, destroying 100% of the natural sounds and causing adverse impact for 99% of park visitors."

In a survey of the American public, "95 percent of participants felt that experiencing natural peace and the sounds of nature were important reasons to preserve national parks."

Quiet! Glacier proposes to "restore quiet to Glacier for the benefit of present and future generations and its magnificent wildlife," by eliminating scenic overflights.

Petitioning U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary of Interior
Quiet! Glacier National Park - Restore the Natural Soundscape
 Friends for a Quiet! Glacier Coalition

Sign this petition
 3,213 supporters 3,357 needed to reach 30,000

Dave Hadden
 Bigfork, MT

I'm signing because... (optional)

Share with Facebook friends

Sign

Keep me updated on this campaign and others from Friends for a Quiet! Glacier Coalition

Display my name and comment on this petition

Glacier National Park needs our Help!

Extremely noisy helicopter scenic over-flights are destroying the peace and tranquility of Glacier National Park, Montana. These helicopters serve a very few, and create incessant noise pollution that all other visitors and wildlife must endure. Noise pollution from helicopter over-flights must stop.

Sign the Petition! If you haven't done so already, please sign the Quiet! Glacier petition. Click [here](#) to sign. ~ Thank you!

Readers interested in learning more about the Stewardship Award or who wish to nominate an individual or organization can visit the Headwaters Montana website at www.headwatersmontana.org. The nomination period remains open until **October 31, 2017**.

Cheers!



Dave Hadden
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31,000 signatures and 3,200 comments supporting a Quiet! Glacier from all 50 states and 40 countries. (To learn more click here > ["Quiet! Glacier"](#).)



The Quiet! Glacier website provides a audible sample of helicopter noise over Lake McDonald. You can toggle the sound "off" and "on" to experience the difference between a quiet and noisy landscape. As Mary T. noted in the Missoulian article, "It makes you want to turn it off, doesn't it? That's sort of the point, because when you're there, you can't turn it off."

It takes real guts, dedication and a lot of hard work to take on an issue like this as a citizen-advocate. Glacier Park helps drive the local economy, and as a crown jewel in our national park system, we need to protect its natural features - like natural quiet - that make it special in the first place.

Headwaters Montana established the award in 2011.

The award is really about taking a courageous stand for stewardship of Glacier's natural resources. Each recipient of the award has demonstrated that they acted above and beyond the call of duty. As a citizen volunteer, Mary T. McClelland surely meets this tough criterion.