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Glacier Park Ranger Wins 2014 Jack Potter Award

Ranger exemplifies public service and dedication to Glacier Park's natural resources

January 23, 2015

Dear Dave:

It gives me great pleasure to announce the recipient of the 2014 recipient of the [Jack Potter Glacier National Park Stewardship Award](#) established to help promote stewardship of Glacier Park's spectacular natural resources.

This year, *Headwaters Montana* selected **Park Ranger Brad Blickhan**. The award consists of a hand-blown glass sculpture trophy of a water ouzel donated by [Bigfork glass artist Lee Proctor](#) and a cash award of \$200.

Ranger Brad Blickhan is one of those Glacier Park employees that almost everyone in Glacier recognizes for his outstanding contribution to protecting the park's natural resources. The nomination form listed 25 colleagues in support of Brad. We think that's a pretty powerful statement of support!



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Traditional Flathead

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~ Thank You!



In making the nomination, Blickhan's colleagues cited a long list of accomplishments and actions that added up to a significant contribution to Glacier Park. They wrote:

"For more than 20 years, Brad Blickhan has made resource stewardship a fundamental priority of his law enforcement career at Glacier National Park. He exemplifies the traits of the traditional park ranger, working vigorously to balance the challenges of protecting the "natural and historic objects and the wild life therein" while providing for the enjoyment of the same for this and future generations. Brad's efforts to (1) protect the watersheds of the North Fork and Middle Fork of the Flathead River and (2) define and protect critical winter range habitat for ungulate populations serve as two specific examples of his resource-based approach to rangering. Just as it was with Jack Potter, it

Glacier Park Ranger Brad Blickhan was selected as the 2014 recipient of the Jack Potter Glacier National Park Stewardship Award for acting beyond the call of duty to protect the natural resources of Glacier National Park. The award is made on an annual basis to individuals nominated by the public at large.

is truly inspiring to work alongside the enthusiasm and passion that clearly guide Brad's efforts."

Headwaters Montana makes the award annually based upon nominations from the public. This year we received three nominations.

It's sometimes difficult to decide which nominee should get the award, because Glacier Park is blessed to have so many dedicated public employees, volunteers, and friends.



Headwaters Montana established the award in 2011 after the retirement of Jack Potter, a 40-year veteran of Glacier Park. Potter retired from the position as Chief of Science and Resources. He was known for his vigorous defense and advocacy of the Park's natural resources, sometimes in opposition to forces looking to be expedient rather than custodial.

Winners of the Jack Potter Award receive a hand-blown glass sculpture of a water ouzel donated by [Bigfork glass artist Lee Proctor](#), and a cash award.

The award is really about taking a courageous stand for stewardship of Glacier's natural resources. Each recipient of the award must demonstrate that they acted above and beyond the call of duty. Ranger Blickhan surely meets this tough criterion.

Readers interested in reading more about Ranger Blickhan's accomplishments can visit the *Headwaters Montana* website at www.headwatersmontana.org.

Congratulations, Ranger Blickhan!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Hadden" with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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