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NEWS RELEASE

Nov. 2, 2005

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FORUM EXPLORES 'CROWN OF THE CONTINENT' ECOSYSTEM

MISSOULA-

"Thinking Across Borders: A Transboundary Forum" will be held on Sunday and Monday, Nov. 6 and 7, at The University of Montana.

The forum brings together researchers from the United States and Canada to present information on cultural and environmental topics relevant to the Crown of the Continent, an international ecosystem that spans Montana, British Columbia and Alberta.

The event is presented as part of the Transboundary Planning, Policy and Management Initiative of UM and the University of Calgary, which is funded by the Henry P. Kendall Foundation. All presentations are free and open to the public.

Gloria Flora will give the forum's keynote address, "Ecosystems Without Borders," at 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 6, in Urey Lecture Hall.

Flora is a former U.S. Forest Service supervisor who now directs the nonprofit Sustainable Obtainable Solutions. She was instrumental in a landmark decision to prohibit natural gas wells along the Rocky Mountain Front near the Bob Marshall Wilderness. Her experience as a public land manager has lead to a unique understanding of the challenges and opportunities for ecosystem management across political and administrative boundaries.

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On Monday, Nov. 7, all forum events will be held in the University Center, Rooms 330-331.

Events begin at 9:30 a.m. with a welcoming address by Len Broberg, director of UM's Environmental Studies Program.

Morning forum presentations are:

10 a.m. – "Population demography of the Yellowstone National park bison herds." Julie Fuller, Montana State University.

10:30 a.m. – "Chief Mountain: Oral Documentation of Cultural Use by the Blackfoot People." Betty Mathews, Blackfeet Planning Office.

11:15 a.m. – "Grizzly bear connectivity." Chris Servheen, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's grizzly bear recovery coordinator.

From 1 to 4 p.m., the Miistakis Institute for the Rockies, a nonprofit corporation affiliated with the University of Calgary, will present the following symposium events:

- 1:15 p.m. "Miistakis: Who are we and what do we do?" Danah Duke, executive coordinator.
- 1:30 p.m. "Road Watch in the Pass: Using citizen science to identify wildlife crossing locations along Highway 3 in the Crowsnest Pass of southwestern Alberta." Michael Quinn, associate professor, University of Calgary.
- 2:15 p.m. "Using remote cameras to monitor people and wildlife on trails: spatial and temporal analysis from a multiple use area in the Rocky Mountains." Michael Quinn.
- **2:45 p.m.** "Web-based information portal for decision support and environmental assessment." Danah Duke.
- **3:30 p.m.** "Development and evaluation of non-invasive genetic sampling methods for sampling cougar populations." Michael Sawaya, Montana State University.

For more information, call Broberg at (406) 243-5209, or e-mail him at len.broberg@umontana.edu.

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