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### Expert to address condition of America's rivers

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Nov. 3, 2006

**Contact:** Richard Drake, history professor and lecture series organizer, 243-2981, richard.drake@umontana.edu.

### **EXPERT TO ADDRESS CONDITION OF AMERICA'S RIVERS**

#### **MISSOULA—**

The ecological condition of America's river system with an emphasis on the importance of the smallest streams in the network is the topic of the next installment of the President's Lecture Series at The University of Montana.

Judith Meyer, international expert on terrestrial-aquatic ecosystem interactions, will present "Birthplace of Rivers: The Diversity, Destruction and Restoration of Headwater Streams," at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14, in the University Theatre.

The lecture is presented in collaboration with UM's Division of Biological Sciences.

On Wednesday, Nov. 15, Meyer will present a seminar titled "Forest-stream Linkages in an Urbanizing Landscape" from 4:10 to 5 p.m. in the North Underground Lecture Hall. The event is presented in conjunction with the President's Lecture Series and is the P.L. Wright Lecture in Conservation Biology in UM's Ecology Seminar Series.

Both the Tuesday evening lecture and the seminar on Wednesday are free and open to the public.

Meyer is Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus in the Institute of Ecology at the University of Georgia in Athens, where she has been a faculty member since 1977. She received

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her doctoral degree from Cornell University in 1978.

She serves as chair of the Science and Technical Advisory Committee of American Rivers, a national river conservation organization. In 2002, Clean Water Network recognized her as one of 30 national Clean Water Heroes for her scientific support for the Clean Water Act.

Meyer has published more than 150 papers on her research, which has focused on ecological processes that maintain water quality, river and stream food webs, stream restoration practices, and the impact of watershed disturbance, urban development and riparian zone management on river and stream ecosystems.

Her recent research is on urban streams, nitrogen cycling in streams, woody debris in stream ecosystems, impacts of changes in riparian buffer widths on trout streams, the role of headwater streams in river networks and the effectiveness of stream restoration practices.

A complete schedule of the President's Lecture Series is available online at <http://www.umt.edu/president/pls>.

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