

# REMARKABLE BEYOND BORDERS: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF THE CROWN OF THE CONTINENT

First Annual Conference  
Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent

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September 23-24, 2010  
Bayshore Inn  
Waterton Lakes National Park  
Alberta, Canada

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## Co-Sponsors

Boone and Crockett Club	Montana Association of Land Trusts
Brainerd Foundation	Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Castle-Crown Wilderness Coalition	National Parks Conservation Association
Castle Special Place Working Group	National Forest Foundation
Center for Large Landscape Conservation	Nature Conservancy of Canada, Alberta Region
Cinnabar Foundation	Plum Creek Timber Company
Clark Fork Coalition	Trail of the Great Bear
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes	Trust for Public Land
Crown of the Continent Ecosystem Education Consortium	University of Montana, Crown of the Continent Initiative
Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council	University of Montana, Flathead Lake Biological Station
Crown of the Continent Research Learning Center, Glacier National Park	University of Montana/University of Calgary, Joint Transboundary Initiative
Crowsnest Conservation Society	U.S. Forest Service, Region 1
East Kootenay Conservation Program	The Vital Ground Foundation
Freedom to Roam	The Wilburforce Foundation
Friends of the Rocky Mountain Front	The Wilderness Society
Headwaters Montana	Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative
Miistakis Institute	
Missoula County Rural Initiatives	

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

This conference examines the past, present and future of the Crown of the Continent. It begins with reflections on the history, culture, and heritage of the region, continues with an examination of the people and places that characterize the Crown today, and concludes by looking forward and examining options to address the key issues facing the Crown.

### DAY 1

**(Breakfast on your own)**

**8:00 AM Registration**

**8:30 Introduction to the Conference**

Matthew McKinney, Center for Natural Resources & Environmental Policy

**Welcoming Remarks**

- Evan Berger, MLA, Livingstone-Macleod
- Dave McDonough, Waterton Lakes National Park
- Armando Carbonell, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

**9:15 Keynote Address: The Natural and Cultural History of the Crown**

***Jack Nisbet, teacher, naturalist and author***

Introduction by Ted Smith, formerly with the Kendall Foundation (Boston)

The keynote address will review and celebrate the Crown of the Continent's unique and remarkable history – an ecological crossroads and a place where culture and community are deeply embedded in nature.

**10:00 Break**

**10:30 Panel: Chiefly Speaking**

A panel of leaders from the Ktunaxa Nation, Piikani Nation, and Blood Tribe will share their perspectives on the natural and cultural history of the region.

**12:00 PM Lunch – Provided on site**

**1:00 Keynote Address: Local Communities in a Global Context**

***Jonathan Tourtellot, Center for Sustainable Destinations; National Geographic Traveler***

Introduction by Dylan Boyle, Crown Geotourism Council

This keynote address will place the Crown of the Continent in a global context. It will reflect on the ways in which the Crown is recognized internationally, and the importance of sustaining both the natural and cultural values of the region while building resilient communities and vibrant economies.

1:45

**Panel: The Nature of Our Communities**

Community leaders from the four sub-regions of the Crown will respond to the keynote address and reflect on the ways in which their communities are successfully integrating economic development, community heritage, and landscape conservation.

Moderator: Mary Sexton, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Panelists:

- Pam Carbonari, Kalispell Business Improvement District
- Brian Reeves, Independent District No. 4 (Waterton)
- Dan Clark, Montana Local Government Center
- Casey Brennan, Fernie, BC Rotary and Wildsight

2:45

**Break**

3:15

**Keynote Address: Discovering a Sense of Place**

***Darrell Kipp, Piegan Institute***

Introduction by Lisa B. Flowers, Ph.D., Boone and Crockett Club; Crown of the Continent Ecosystem Education Consortium

This keynote address will examine how people with diverse interests build community around a common sense of place. It will reflect on the role of personal values, cultural traditions and languages, education, and the landscape in bringing people together to solve problems.

4:00

**Panel: Unusual Allies and Uncommon Stewards**

This panel will highlight one place-based partnership in each of the four sub-regions of the Crown – southwest Alberta, southeast British Columbia, Montana’s west side, and Montana’s east side. Speakers will describe who is doing what to sustain the natural and cultural resources of these particular places; highlight what is/is not working with respect to engaging people with diverse interests; and offer lessons learned on place-based collaboration.

Moderator: Nina Chambers, Sonoran Institute

Place-based Partnerships:

- Waterton Park Front Project  
*Kimberly Pearson, The Nature Conservancy of Canada*
- East Kootenay Conservation Program  
*Wayne Stetski, East Kootenay Conservation Program*
- Montana Legacy Project  
*Jerry Sorensen, Plum Creek Timber Company*
- Coalition to Protect the Rocky Mountain Front  
*Jennifer Ferenstein, The Wilderness Society*

- 5:30 Conclude Sessions For The Day**
- 6:00 No-host Cocktail Hour**
- 7:00 Dinner on site at the Bayshore Inn**

Entertainment by:  
Jack Gladstone, Native Poet/Singer from the Blackfeet Nation

## Day 2

**(Breakfast on your own)**

- 8:30 AM Opening Remarks and Synthesis of Day 1**  
Len Broberg, The University of Montana

- 9:00 Keynote Address: Options for the Future**

***Sarah Bates, Center for Natural Resources & Environment Policy***  
***Tim Stevens, National Parks Conservation Association***

While the Crown is blessed with the vision, passion, and commitment of many individuals and communities, it is challenging to link these together to achieve large-landscape conservation objectives. This session will highlight opportunities and policy options for the Crown of the Continent.

- 9:45 Break**

- 10:15 Panel: Building on Existing Regional Initiatives**

This panel will examine selected Crown-wide and larger regional initiatives to build regional identity and capacity. It will discuss the challenges of thinking regionally and knitting together local and sub-regional efforts into a coherent Crown-wide strategy, and offer lessons learned and strategies for the future.

Moderator: Carole Stark, Water Matters

Existing Crown-wide and Larger Regional Initiatives:

- Crown of the Continent Ecosystem Education Consortium  
*Lisa B. Flowers, Ph.D.*  
*Boone and Crockett Club*  
*Crown of the Continent Ecosystem Education Consortium*
- Crown Managers Partnership  
*Bill Dolan, Alberta Tourism, Parks, and Recreation*

- Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council  
*Rhonda Fitzgerald*  
*The Garden Wall Inn*  
*Montana Tourism Advisory Council*
- Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative  
*Charles C. Chester, Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative*
- Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative  
*Yvette Converse, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

**12:00 Lunch – Provided on site**

**1:00 Panel: Linking Regional and National Efforts**

This session looks to the future of the Crown of the Continent and explores how various national programs and initiatives might support homegrown, place-based collaboration in the Crown.

Moderator: Gary Tabor, Center for Large Landscape Conservation

Panelists:

- Bill Fisher, Director General, Western and Northern Canada, Parks Canada
- Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief, US Forest Service
- Tanya Shenk, Landscape Ecologist, Biological Resources Management Division, National Park Service

**2:30 Break**

**2:45 Keynote Address: Synthesizing Lessons and Opportunities**

***Lynn Scarlett, Resources for the Future and former U.S. Deputy Secretary of the Interior***

Introduction by Matthew McKinney, Center for Natural Resources & Environmental Policy

The final keynote address will synthesize the major themes that emerged during the conference, highlight the major barriers to large landscape conservation in the Crown, and offer options on how to move forward (reflecting in part on lessons learned from other regions).

**3:30 Concluding Remarks**

**4:00 Conference Ends**