Welcome to the International Peace Park

This is a land of high mountains and deep valleys, of alpine meadows, dense forests, and prairie grasslands; a combination that provides habitats for an array of plants and animals. Much of this wildlife travels between Glacier and Waterton Lakes National Parks, regardless of the international boundary. An elk herd summers in Glacier and migrates downslope to winter on the prairies of Waterton. Wind and water disperse seeds from one country to another. For years Glacier had no wolves until a few from Canada travelled south and established a pack. An eagle chick hatched in Glacier was tracked to Calgary through use of radio telemetry. Since wildlife is not restricted by political boundaries, it makes sense that we have come to recognize the need to look beyond borders.

In 1932, both parks were designated by the Canadian Parliament and the United States Congress as Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, the first of its kind in the world. While each country retains sovereignty over its portion of the peace park, staff from both parks regularly work on joint projects relating to research, resource management, visitor services, and education. The International Peace Park is a real example of what cooperation can achieve.

We have also come to understand the need to look beyond not just the international border, but also our other national park boundaries. Working closely with our neighbours - including ranchers, local governments, native people, and businesses - benefits us all.

Both Glacier and Waterton Lakes are members of a worldwide collection of biosphere reserves. Glacier was listed in 1976 and Waterton Lakes in 1979. The objective of these reserves is to better understand the relationships between humans and their natural environment by integrating knowledge and experience from the natural and social sciences. Research findings and education can provide direction to improve land management and conservation, both within and outside the national parks.

As you travel through our distinctive mountain and prairie landscapes, and enjoy the exceptional variety of wildlife and habitats, you won't be surprised they are also treasured worldwide. This was recognized when the International Peace Park was designated a World Heritage Site in 1995 - not only for its scenic values and significant climate, landforms and ecology but also because of its cultural importance as two parks, joined across boundaries, in the name of shared stewardship and peace.

International Peace Park Hike

Experience the International Peace Park in a unique way! Join a free, full day hike from Waterton Park at 10 a.m. Bring a lunch, water, raingear, jacket, hat, and wear sturdy footwear. The trail is not difficult, but you will be hiking most of the day (14 km/8.5 mi). Dogs are not permitted. We'll be back to Waterton about 6 p.m. Hikers must purchase a one-way boat cruise ticket for the return trip [adults - $11; youth 13 to 17 - $7; children 4 to 12 - $5 (Canadian)].

What's Inside

Information

Plan stop by one of Glacier National Park's visitor centers, or the Visitor Reception Centre in Waterton, to start your trip in the parks. Staff can answer questions and assist with trip planning needs. Hours and locations are listed on pages 2 and 10.

Park Map

Page 12 contains a map of the parks to aid in trip planning. More detailed maps are available at visitor centers and bookstores throughout the parks.

 Lodging

Several lodges, motels, and inns are located throughout Glacier and Waterton Lakes National Parks. Information on how to contact them or to make reservations can be found on pages 10 and 11.

Camping

Waterton Lakes National Park has three campgrounds with just over 400 campsites and Glacier National Park's thirteen campgrounds provide almost 1000 more. Turn to pages 2 and 10 for further details.

Services & Activities

A listing of services and activities in the parks is listed on pages 10 and 11.

Backcountry Permits

Glacier National Park has changed the way it offers backcountry permits. New fees and a reservation system are in place. See page 2 for details. Fees are also charged for permits in Waterton Lakes National Park. See page 10.

Wildlife

Both parks have diverse habitats that allow a number of species to survive. Special articles on park wildlife, as well as research activities in the parks can be found in the center section of this paper on pages 6 and 7.

Bears

Waterton-Glacier is bear country! Be sure to read the information on page 8 for suggestions for how to react when you meet a bear, as well as recommendations on visiting bear country safely.

Border Crossing

See page 12 for further information on hours, restrictions, and special regulations.

Water-ton-Glacier Online

Glacier National Park
http://www.nps.gov/glac

Waterton Lakes National Park
http://www.worldweb.com/ParksCanada-Waterton/
**National parks have experienced an increase in crime in recent years. Car burglaries and theft of personal property are not uncommon. When you leave your vehicle or campsite, secure all valuables out of plain view. If you observe suspicious activity, contact a ranger as soon as possible. Descriptions of individuals, vehicles, or license numbers are extremely helpful.**

**Hiking**

Over 700 miles of trail provide many outstanding opportunities for both short hikes and extended backpacking trips. Hikers need to assume individual responsibility for planning their hikes and hiking safely. Before setting out on your hike, read all the warnings and recommendations in this newspaper. You will increase your odds of a safe hike, decrease your disturbance to wildlife, and lessen damage to resources.

Trail maps, and a complete list of trail guides, topographic maps and field guides are available at park visitor centers. Publications are also available by mail. Pick up a catalog at any visitor center or ranger station in the park.

Brochures and signs guide visitors on Glacier's four well-groomed trails. The Trail of the Cedars, Hidden Lake, Sun Point, and Swiftcurrent motor trails encourage hikers to experience Glacier at their own pace. The Trail of the Cedars is wheelchair accessible.

For those who wish to learn a little more about the park, visitors may join a park ranger for an easy stroll, a short half-day hike, or a vigorous all-day hike. The Nature with a Naturalist publication lists ranger-led activities offered throughout the park. Free copies are available at visitor centers and entrance stations.

**Backcountry Camping**

Visitors planning to camp overnight in the backcountry must obtain a backcountry permit. Major permit issuing stations are located in the Apgar Backcountry Permit Center*, St. Mary Visitor Center, and the Many Glacier Ranger Station. Permits are issued daily until 4:30 p.m. Permits are also available at Polebridge and Two Medicine Ranger Stations, however dates and hours of operation may vary. Visitors entering Glacier from the north may get a backcountry permit at the Waterton Visitor Reception Center.

Permits are issued no more than 24 hours in advance of your trip, and there is a $4.00 per person per night charge. Advanced reservations (more than 24 hours in advance) are only available at the Apgar Backcountry Permit Center, St. Mary Visitor Center, or by mail. Write to: Backcountry Permits, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT 59936 for information and to obtain reservation forms. There is a $30.00 reservation charge.

**Leave No Trace**

Leave No Trace Outdoor Skills and Ethics is a national program that promotes and inspires responsible outdoor recreation and stewardship of America's public lands. The National Park Service is a cooperating partner in this program, along with other federal land management agencies. Leave No Trace depends more on attitude and awareness than on rules and regulations. The time you spend in Glacier can be safer and more rewarding if you strive to "Leave No Trace" of your visit on the resources, or on the experiences of other visitors.

Please practice the following six principles of Leave No Trace:

- Pack It In-Pack It Out
- Properly Dispose of What You Pack Out
- Leave What You Find
- Minimize Use and Impacts of Fire

**Pet's & Parks**

Pets are permitted in campgrounds, overlooks, and parking areas. They must be on a leash of 6 feet or less, caged, or in a vehicle at all times. Pets may not be left unattended and are not permitted on trails, along lake shores, or in the backcountry. Pets are not allowed in restaurants, stores, or visitor centers. Pet owners are required to pick up after their pets and dispose of waste properly.
Critical to the development of this plan. Since 1995, six newsletters were distributed to the public, a summary of public comment on preliminary draft alternatives and two series of public meetings were held to involve the public in planning for Glacier's future. (Visitor Use on the Going-to-the-Sun Road, Preservation of the Going-to-the-Sun Road, Preservation of His­toric Hotels and Visitor Services, Scenic Air Tours, Winter Use, Personal Watercraft, Divide Creek Flood Hazard and West Side Discovery Center and Museum). Public input has been accomplished in the summer months. All construction activities in the park are under­taken with care to insure that visitors are impacted as little as possible.

Visiting Logan Pass

Frequently, in July and August, the parking lot at the Logan Pass Visitor Center fills beyond capacity and visitors are forced to stop on the side of the road. To avoid the crowds, public meetings beginning with open houses early on in the 90 day comment period, visiting Logan Pass early in the day or late in the afternoon. Guided tours also stop at Logan Pass and help to limit the number of vehicles.

Take Time To Enjoy the Views.

If more than four vehicles stack up behind you, please use a pullout to let them pass safely. Be aware of wildlife along the roads, especially at dusk or at night. Animals often dart out in front of vehicles. Please watch for and give the right of way to children and pedestrians. Obey the posted speed limit at all times.

Road Construction

Due to the long snowy winters and late spring thaw, road construction can only be accomplished in the summer months. All construction activities in the park are under­taken with care to insure that visitors are impacted as little as possible.

During the summer of 1998 road construction activity will take place on the Camas Road and in the Avalanche area. Expect delays.

Bicycling

In Glacier, bicycles are restricted to roadways, bike routes, or parking areas and are not allowed on trails. Waterton Lakes National Park allows some bicycling on trails.

Cyclists must observe all traffic regulations. Keep well to the right side of the road and ride in single file only. Pull off the road if four or more vehicles stack up behind you. In fog or after dark a white light in front and a red reflector on the rear of your bicycle are required. Be visible! Attach a bright flag on a pole and wear light-colored clothing. Watch for falling rocks, drainage grates, and ice on road.

Hiker-Biker Campsites

A few sites at Apgar, Fish Creek, Spagat Creek, Avalanche, Many Glacier, Rising Sun, Two Medicine, and St. Mary campgrounds are held until 9:00 p.m. for bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorcyclists. Sites are shared and have a capacity of 8 people; larger groups must split up. The fee is $3.00 per person (plus $3.00 reservation fee at Fish Creek and St. Mary). If hiker-biker sites are full, campers must use regular unoccupied campsites.

For safety and to ease congestion, bicycle restrictions are in effect on sections of the Going-to-the-Sun Road, from June 15 through Labor Day:

- From Apgar Campground to Spagat Creek Campground bicycles are prohibited, both directions, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- From Logan Creek to Logan Pass east-bound (uphill) bicycle traffic is prohibited between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Start early! It takes about 45 minutes to ride from Sprague Creek to Logan Creek and about three hours from Logan Creek to Logan Pass.

Planning for Glacier's Future

Glacier National Park has been developing a general management plan and accompanying environmental impact statement. The general management plan will be used to guide manage­ment of the park for the next 20 years or more. Within the draft general management plan, a management strategy is described that will guide future decisions. Funding for the Fee Demonstration Program allows a significant portion of fees collected in parks to be spent directly for that area. In Glacier these fees are being used to provide universal access to Oberlin Bends, Running Eagle Falls, Park Headquarters, and wayside exhibits along Lake McDonald. Additionally, new vault toilets along the Going-to-the-Sun Road, trail maintenance, wildlife monitoring, revegetation efforts, and campground improvements are all benefits of this new fee program.

Your Fees Improve Glacier

Managing public lands is a major financial investment. While most of that investment is from the general tax base, recreational users derive a greater benefit from, and place a greater burden on resources than the public at large. In 1996, Congress directed the U. S. Department of the Interior to implement the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program to help address park needs. Users of park areas now pay an increased share of costs.

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The future of America's public lands rests with all Americans. The actions we take today reflect the price we are willing to pay to pass these lands on to future generations, protected and in better health.

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Helping Native Fish

Recent changes to Parks Canada's fishing regulations will help native fish stocks thrive, while still allowing visitors to enjoy fishing in the park's lakes, rivers and streams.

Daily possession limits on native fish species have been lowered from 5 to 2 fish. Montana lakes and streams are cold and unproductive, so they produce a limited number of fish. Anglers don't need to remove many fish before populations begin to suffer. In the past, easily-cought native fish like bull trout, cutthroat and northern pike bore the brunt of angler harvest because of their aggressive feeding behavior. Now, bull trout, cutthroat and northern pike bore the brunt of angler harvest because of their aggressive feeding behavior.

The park will also begin research on private property that ensure it stays associated with the park's ecosystem. The Nature Conservancy of Canada has been instrumental in these efforts. They have taken over the role of native bison in cropping native grasses and forbs. Because ranchers control access, animals that are sensitive to disturbance are often more secure on ranchland than in the more heavily-used national park on the other side of the fence.

Ranching on the Border

A pair of sandhill cranes step daintily through the sedges lining a small wetland. Nearby, on a muskrat lodge, a trumpeter swan incubates her eggs. Emerging from nearby willows, a grizzly stops to grab some blue camas lily bulbs out of the wet soil. An elk and her newborn calf watch the bear nervously, then turn and pick their way back into the aspen forest.

As the next millennium draws near, this sort of scene has become too rare. Most North Americans look to their national parks to preserve these vulnerable species and the habitats they depend upon.

For information on how you can help:

The Nature Conservancy of Canada
3400 - PetroCanada Centre
150 - 6th Avenue
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3Y7

Southern Alberta Land Trust Society
Box 327
Pincher Creek, Alberta T0K 1V0
**Water**

Rivers and Lakes

Use extreme caution near water. Swift, cold glacial streams and rivers, moss-covered rocks, and slippery logs all present dangers. Children, photographers, boaters, rafters, swimmers, and fishermen have fallen victim to these rapid, frigid streams and deep glacial lakes.

Avoid wading in or fording swift streams. Never walk, play, or climb on slippery rocks and logs, especially around waterfalls.

When boating, don’t stand up or lean over the side, and always wear a lifejacket.

Drowning

Sudden immersion in cold water (below 80° F, 27° C) may trigger the “mammalian diving reflex.” This reflex restricts blood from outlying areas of the body and routes it to vital organs like the heart, lungs, and brain. The colder the water, the younger the victim, and the quicker the rescue, the better the chance for survival. Some cold-water drowning victims have survived with no brain damage after being submerged for over 30 minutes.

**Revival Procedure:**

- Retrieve victim from water without endangering yourself.
- Prevent further body heat loss, but do not rewarm.
- Near-drowning victims may look dead. Don’t let this stop you from trying to revive them! If there is no pulse, start CPR regardless of the duration of submersion.
- Delayed symptoms may occur within 24 hours. Victims must be evaluated by a physician.

**Giardia**

Giardiasis can be caused by a parasite (Giardia lamblia) found in park lakes and streams. Persistent, severe diarrhea, abdominal cramps, and nausea are the main symptoms of this disease. If you experience any symptoms, contact a physician.

When hiking, carry water from one of the park’s treated water systems. If you plan to use an approved filter.

**Hypothermia**

Hypothermia, the "progressive physical collapse and reduced mental capacity resulting from the chilling of the inner core of the human body," can occur even at temperatures above freezing. Temperatures can drop rapidly. Sudden mountain storms can change a warm and pleasant hike into a drenching, bitterly cold and life-threatening experience. People in poor physical shape or who are exhausted are particularly at risk.

**Prevention**

- Prevent hypothermia by using water resistant clothing before you become wet.
- Wear clothing that wicks moisture away.
- Minimize wind exposure and if your clothes become wet, replace them.
- Avoid sweating by dressing in layers, rather than in a single bulky garment.
- Pack a sweater, warm hat, and raingear for any hike.

**Warning Signs**

- Uncontrolled shivering, slow or slurred speech, memory lapses and incoherence, lack of coordination such as immobile or fumbling hands, stumbling, a lurching gait, drowsiness, and exhaustion.

**Immediate Treatment**

- Seek shelter from weather and get the victim into dry clothes.
- Give warm non-alcoholic drinks.
- Build a fire and keep victim awake.
- Strip victim and yourself, and get into sleeping bag making skin-to-skin contact.
- If victim is semi-conscious or worse, get professional help immediately.

**Mountain Lions**

A glimpse of one of these magnificent cats would be a vacation highlight, but you need to take precautions to protect you and your children from an accidental encounter. Don’t hike alone. Make noise to avoid surprising a lion and keep children close to you at all times. If you do encounter a lion, do not run. Talk calmly, avert your gaze, stand tall, and back away. Unlike with bears, if attack seems imminent, act aggressively. Do not crouch and do not turn away. Lions may be scared away by being struck with rocks or sticks, or by being kicked or hit.

Lions are primarily nocturnal, but they have attacked in broad daylight. They rarely prey on humans, but such behavior occasionally does occur. Children and small adults are particularly vulnerable. Do not let children hike alone or get ahead of you on a trail. Report all mountain lion encounters immediately!

**Ticks**

Ticks are most active in spring and early summer. Most bites don’t result in illness, but several serious diseases, like Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, can be transmitted. Completely remove attached ticks and disinfect the site. If rash or lesions form around the bite, or if unexplained symptoms occur, consult a physician.

**Rodents and Hantavirus**

Deer mice and other rodents (including ground squirrels) are possible carriers of an acute respiratory disease. It affects the lungs and is caused by a virus of the Hantavirus family. The most likely source of infection is from rodent urine and droppings inhaled as aerosols or dust. Avoid areas where rodents may congregate such as burrows or nests, old uncleaned cabins, or other rodent infested structures. Try to camp away from possible rodent burrows or shelters (garbage dumps and woodpiles), and keep food in rodent-proof containers. To prevent the spread of dust in the air, spray affected areas with a disinfectant before cleaning.

Initial symptoms are almost identical to the onset of flu. If you have potentially been exposed and exhibit flu-like symptoms, you should seek medical care immediately.

**Medical Services**

If you are injured or suddenly become ill while visiting the parks, please contact a warden or ranger for information and assistance. To ensure adequate staffing on your arrival at a hospital, call before setting out.

**Montana Hospitals**

- Glacier County Medical Center
  892-2nd St. E., Cut Bank, MT
  406-873-2251
- Kalispell Regional Hospital
  310 Sunny View Lane, Kalispell, MT
  406-752-5111
- North Valley Hospital
  310 Sunny View Lane, Kalispell, MT
  406-752-5111
- Teton Medical Center
  215 4 NW, Choteau, MT
  406-895-3763

**Alberta Hospitals**

- Cardston Municipal Hospital
  Cardston, Alberta
  403-653-4411
- Pincher Creek Municipal Hospital
  Pincher Creek, Alberta
  403-627-3333
Wildlife

Keeping the "Wild" in Wildlife

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park is a place like few remaining in the world. Natural forces such as fires, floods, and avalanches continue to create many diverse habitats, providing niches for a spectacular array of wildlife. Park visitors enjoy wildlife in their natural environment. As a visitor to their home, learn and respect the ways of wildlife.

One of the greatest needs of animals in the wild is undisturbed space. Although some may spend part of their year close to roadways and developed areas where they are easy to observe, enjoy them at a distance.

While wild animals may appear to tolerate humans, approaching at close range can cause them stress. They may be disturbed from their rest, forced away from natural feeding areas, or have travel routes blocked by unaware or thoughtless humans. A human presence can keep birds away from their nests long enough for eggs or young to become fatally chilled. Birds can lose their eggs or young to predators attracted to a nest by human scent. Especially in winter and early spring, animals often experience low energy reserves. To avoid the approach of humans, animals may expend precious energy, leaving them in a weakened state or forced out of shelter.

When enticed into close contact with humans, animals can easily become habituated to people. They lose their special wild and free quality, yet retain their dangerous ability to wound. Animals catch on quickly and begin unacceptable and dangerous behavior. Each year people are injured by the antlers, horns, teeth, hooves, and claws of wild animals. If you entice or feed an animal, you may share responsibility for its death! Animals may be hit by cars after becoming accustomed to obtaining food near roads. Every cookie tossed out is another step in the habituation process. Habituated animals often have to be removed or killed.

How can you help?

Educate yourself. Check out special exhibits and roadside signs which explain the problem. Ask park staff; then act! Stop approaching, enticing or feeding wildlife in the parks. Let others know about the problem. Is the loss of that animal you just photographed worth the picture? Think again and remember that laws regarding feeding wildlife are strictly enforced.

Harlequin Ducks

Waterton-Glacier's rumbling streams are home to one of the rarest and most beautiful birds in North America, the harlequin duck. About 40 harlequin pairs return each spring to several park streams to breed and raise their chicks.

Harlequins mate for life, and live along rocky points on the Pacific coast between Oregon and British Columbia during winter. In early Spring, females born here return to lay and incubate their eggs. In June their mates migrate back to the coast to moult their colorful feathers and grow a new set. Later in the summer, females also migrate back to the coast. Pairs reunite in fall and spend the winter together on the coast before migrating back to their breeding streams.

Harlequins are shy and secretive while breeding and raising their young, and are often unintentionally disturbed by park visitors. To reduce disturbance to nesting harlequin ducks, a seasonal boating restriction is in place on a section of upper McDonald Creek, in Glacier National Park.

Mountain Goats

The slopes around Logan Pass and, in early summer, the Goat Lick on Highway 2, offer good views of these shy beasts. In Waterton, goats are occasionally seen in the Goat and Rowe Lakes areas.

Look for large, very white animals, often with a rugged appearance from shedding their coats. Powerful shoulder muscles allow climbing of nearly vertical slopes and give goats a humped appearance. They feed on grasses, sedges, mosses, lichen, and even fir and pine needles. Both billies and nanny have raptor-sharp, black horns.

Males and females come together mainly during the November-December rutting season, but travel in separate bands the rest of the year. A six-month gestation period results in one or occasionally two kids.

Bighorn Sheep

Dramatic head-crashing clashes between rams highlight the mating season in November and early December. Visitors to Waterton are more likely to see sheep than mountain goats. Good places to look are the townsite or the Red Rock Canyon area. In Glacier, scan the slopes in the Many Glacier valley. Ewes and lambs group together so they are usually easier to spot.

Although often confused with mountain goats, bighorn have tan coats and beige horns. Since the horns are never shed, big horns can be aged by their horn size. Only mature rams have the huge, curving horns that give the species its name.

Bighorns prefer grass and are often found on moderately sloped meadows near cliffs. Excellent climbing skills help them to evade predators.

Wolves

Wolf identification is tricky. Wolves are usually gray, but can be white or black. Coyotes, which are much more frequently seen, look very similar and are often mistaken for wolves, but wolves are much larger. While coyotes weigh about 25 lbs (11 kg) and are up to 2 ft (61 cm) tall, adult wolves may weigh 90 lbs (41 kg) or more and stand up to 3 ft (1 m) in height. Wolves have a larger muzzle and shorter, rounder ears than coyotes. Their long legs and deep narrow chest make for efficient long distance travel. Wolves have been known to travel 20 miles (32 km) or more per day.

It is more likely you will see a track or hear wolves in the distance, rather than sighting the animals themselves. An adult wolf's track is normally 3 to 4 inches (8 to 10 cm) wide and up to 5 inches (14 cm) long - about the size of an adult human handprint. The wolf's long and low pitched howl is a spine-tingling reminder of the wilderness.

We hope you have the opportunity to see these large carnivores while in this area. You can help in monitoring and recovery efforts by reporting all observations and signs to any park warden, ranger, or information station. With all reported sightings, please include track measurements, sighting locations, date, and time.

Commercial Photography

In Glacier special regulations govern commercial photography and filming. A commercial photography permit is required if photography is for advertising a product or service; uses models, sets, or props; creates a potential disruption to visitors; may damage park resources. Obtain permits and further information on commercial photography by calling 406-888-7800.

In Waterton Lakes National Park, commercial photographers need to contact the Superintendent's Office for information.

Always photograph wildlife with a telephoto lens (400mm or longer). Maintain a safe distance for yourself and the animal at all times. You know you are too close if the animal detects your presence and moves, or if it appears disturbed.
Wildlife

New Light On Grizzlies

Waterston visitors were thrilled to watch a four-hour confrontation between two coyotes and a large young grizzly this March. The bear, born three years ago near Montana's Cuthbrook Creek, had wandered into Canada during the fall of 1997.

As people watched from the roadside, the bear played with an old deer leg as the two coyotes circled him. The larger coyote darted in and nipped at the grizzly every now and then. The bear seemed to treat the whole thing as a game, sitting on his haunches and rolling over backwards to idly cuff at his tormentors. When, at length, he wandered off into the aspen woods, the coyotes trotted away with him.

Two weeks later the grizzly was dead, shot by a hunter on the second day of Alberta's spring grizzly bear season.

Grizzly hunting, prohibited in Montana, is legal in Alberta and British Columbia. The Canadian provinces are extremely conservative about issuing licenses - only two tags were given out this year north of Waterton - but even so, critics of the hunt worry that there may be too few bears.

Unfortunately, nobody agrees on how many bears there are. Until recently, it's been easier to count dead bears than live ones. The problem is that Waterston's grizzlies are part of a shared population that ranges into other jurisdictions - British Columbia, Alberta, Montana, and Glacier National Park. In the past, each management agency had its own set of numbers and its own management priorities.

That has changed. The past two years have seen a remarkable increase in collaborative research and cooperative management among the various agencies that manage grizzly bears. Most significant is the newly-formed Rocky Mountains Grizzly Bear Planning Committee (RMGBPC), which includes representatives of every agency involved in grizzly management in the Rockies. Meeting at least three times a year, the committee has already mapped critical grizzly habitat, compiled statistics on grizzly mortalities over the whole region, and planned new no-hunting zones in Canada.

Partly because of the networks established through the RMGBPC, Alberta Environmental Protection developed a new and bigger slaughter program already operating in Montana, the plan involves moving roadkilled deer and elk into grizzly habitat each spring so that hungry grizzlies can find carrion without being exposed to live cattle, which some bears might later prey upon. At the same time, wildlife officers installed electric fences around some livestock feed storages where bears have previously gotten into trouble. The idea is to keep problems from developing, rather than reacting after the fact.

Late in April, at one carcass drop-off site in Waterton Lakes National Park, wardens watched two three-year-old grizzlies for a week. Eager to replace the fat they had lost in hibernation, the bears filled up on the kind of food their ancestors used to eat back when carrion from winter-killed big sonic, deer, and elk was abundant. They spent the critical early spring period far from the nearest live cow. By the time they left the drop-off site, the valleys were green with new vegetation for them to feed on.

Meanwhile, Alberta and Parks Canada officials have completed an in-depth population study of the area's grizzly bears, to get a more accurate estimate of bear numbers. Researchers set out scent stations, surrounded with simple barbed wire "hair traps," in a grid pattern across the southern Alberta Rockies. Each grizzly that investigated a scent station left a tuft of hair on the barbed wire. Researchers used the DNA "fingerprint" in each hair sample to identify individual bears. Statistical modeling will give managers a more accurate population estimate for grizzlies, especially after Glacier National Park conducts a similar study this year.

High grizzly bear losses in 1996 and 1997 - a total of at least 24 in Alberta alone, mostly due to relocations to protect livestock - were a wake up call to everyone. But the darkest hour is just before dawn, and things may now be looking up for one of North America's most important, and vulnerable, grizzly populations. Cooperation in grizzly bear country is proof, again, of the importance of good neighbors.

Grizzly Bear Compensation Fund

Defenders of Wildlife, a national wildlife conservation organization, in 1997 initiated a program to compensate ranchers at market value for all verified livestock losses caused by grizzly bears. This program is critical for maintaining landowner support and tolerance for bears.

Grizzlies have large ranges and move in and out of Glacier National Park. In the past, each management agency had its own set of numbers and its own management priorities.

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Virtual Peace Park

Anyone with access to the Internet can visit the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park's living landscape without even leaving home. Sponsored by the non-profit Mistakis Institute to the Rockies, the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem Data Atlas is a free service which lets you look up scientific and technical references about wildlife and ecosystems, and also offers links to computerized resource and land use maps.

The atlas is a continuing initiative that puts information in the hands of people who live in, use, or care about one of North America's biological hotspots. Project staff, as well as sponsoring agencies like Waterton Lakes and Glacier National Parks, believe that if enough people have ready access to high-quality information about the environment, better and more sustainable decisions are almost certain to result.

Check in on the atlas at http://www.rockies.ca/
Bears

Hiking in Bear Country

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park provides a wonderful opportunity to view animals in their natural setting. Along with this opportunity comes a special obligation for the visitor. With just a little planning and forethought, hikers can also help ensure the survival of a protected threatened species and make their visit more safe.

Don't Surprise Bears!

Bears will usually move out of the way if they believe people approaching, so make noise. Most bells are not loud enough. Calling out or clapping hands loudly at regular intervals are better ways to make your presence known. Hiking quietly, endanger you, the bear, and other hikers.

When bears charge hikers, the trail may be temporarily closed for public safety. While the trail remains closed, other visitors miss the opportunity to enjoy it. A bear constantly surprised by people may become habituated to close human contact and less likely to avoid people. This sets up a dangerous situation for both visitors and bears.

Don't Make Assumptions!

You can't predict when and where bears might be encountered along a trail. People often assume they don't have to make noise while hiking on a well-used trail. Some of the most frequently used trails in the park are surrounded by excellent bear habitat. People have been charged and injured by bears fleeing from silent hikers who unwittingly surprised bears along the trail. Even if other hikers haven't seen bears along a trail section recently, don't assume there are no bears present.

Don't assume a bear's hearing is any better than your own. Some trail conditions make it hard for bears to see, hear, or smell approaching hikers. Be particularly careful by streams, against the wind, or in dense vegetation. A blind corner or a rise in the trail also requires special attention.

Keep children close by. If possible, hike in groups and avoid hiking early in the morning, late in the day, or after dark.

Inform Yourself About Bears

Park staff can help you identify signs of bear activity like tracks, tom-up logs, trampled vegetation, droppings, and overturned rocks. Bears spend a lot of time eating, so avoid hiking in obvious feeding areas like berry patches, cow pansson thickets, or fields of glacier lilies.

Don't Approach Bears!

Never intentionally get close to a bear. Individual bears have their own personal space requirements which vary depending on their mood. Each will react differently and their behavior can't be predicted. All bears are dangerous and should be respected equally.

A fed bear is a dead bear! Bears are intelligent and learn very quickly how to obtain human food once they have tasted it. Bears that obtain human food may have to be destroyed. Leaving food, packs, or garbage unattended, even for a few moments, sets up a potentially dangerous situation.

If You Encounter a Bear!

A commonly asked question is "What do I do if I run into a bear?" There is no easy answer. Like people, bears react differently to each situation. The best thing you can do is to make sure you have read all the suggestions for hiking and camping in bear country and follow them. Avoid encounters by being alert and making noise.

Bears may appear tolerant of people and then attack without warning. A bear's body language can help determine its mood. In general, bears show agitation by swaying their heads, huffing, and clacking their teeth. Lowered head and laid-back ears also indicate aggression. Bears may stand on their hind legs or approach to get a better view, but these actions are not necessarily signs of aggression. The bear may not have identified you as a person and is unable to smell or hear you from a distance.

Bear Attacks

Almost 2 million people visit Waterton-Glacier yearly, and records show that one or two bear attacks occur each year. The vast majority of these occur because people have surprised the bear. In this type of situation the bear may attack as a defensive maneuver.

If you surprise a bear, here are a few guidelines to follow that may help:
• Talk quietly or not at all; the time to make loud noise is before you encounter a bear. Try to detour around the bear if possible.
• Do not run! Back away slowly, but stop if it seems to agitate the bear.
• Assume a nonthreatening posture. Turn sideways, or bend at the knees to appear smaller.
• Use peripheral vision. Bears appear to interpret direct eye contact as threatening.
• Drop something (not food) to distract the bear. Keep your pack on for protection in case of an attack.
• If a bear attacks and you have pepper spray use it!
• If the bear makes contact, protect your chest and abdomen by falling to the ground on one side. Leave your vehicle endangers your life. Do not stop in the middle of the road or close to a hill or curve where other drivers may not see you in time to avoid a collision. Exercising some common sense during the excitement of seeing a bear is important to you, the bear, and other visitors.

What Kind of Bear Is That?

Part of the park's appeal is the presence of rare species such as the grizzly bear. Because of the grizzly's low rate of reproduction and small numbers, the ecosystem can't afford to lose even one animal needlessly!

Roadside Bears

It's exciting to see bears up close but we must act responsibly to keep them wild and alive. Do not approach bears for pictures or entice them to come closer. Never feed bears! Bears that receive human food may have to be destroyed.

If you see a bear from your car, stay inside. Leave your vehicle endangers your safety and the bear's, and exposes you to traffic hazards. If traffic is heavy, keep your eyes on the road and don't stop. Accept the fact that, while your passengers may get a quick look, you may not. If traffic is light, slow down and pull over when it's safe to do so. Don't stop in the middle of the road, or close to a hill or curve where other drivers may not see you in time to avoid a collision. Exercising some common sense during the excitement of sighting a bear is important to you, the bear and other visitors.

Pepper Spray

This aerosol pepper derivative, when sprayed directly into a bears face and nose, triggers temporary incapacitating discomfort in bears. It is a nontoxic and nonlethal means of deterring bears.

There have been cases where pepper spray apparently repelled aggressive or attacking bears, and accounts where it has not worked as well as expected.

Factors influencing effectiveness include distance, wind, rainy weather, temperature extremes, and product shelf life.

If you decide to carry spray, use it only in situations where aggressive bear behavior justifies its use. Under no circumstances should pepper spray create a false sense of security or serve as a substitute for standard safety precautions in bear country.

Do not use pepper spray around camp or on humans as you would insect repellent.

Be aware that you may not be able to cross the U.S./Canada border with pepper spray; check before attempting.
The Glacier Institute
Dedicated to the belief that education is the chief means of preserving respect for the past and shaping a vision for the future, The Glacier Institute presents seminars, workshops, college-credit courses, school programs, and youth camps in Glacier National Park and the surrounding spectacular northern Rockies ecosystems. The Institute provides high-quality, well-balanced educational experiences for children and adults, emphasizing a hands-on, field-oriented approach to learning.

Summer Field Seminars provide in-depth educational experiences in fields as diverse as grizzly bear ecology, wildflower identification, watercolor painting, photography, and Backlight culture. For upcoming course information check the current edition of Nature with a Naturalist.

Glacier Institute, P.O. Box 7457, Kalispell, MT 59904 Phone 406-755-1211 http://www.digisys.net/glacinst

Exploring this Area's Cultural Heritage
This area holds special appeal for visitors interested in the culture of indigenous peoples. Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park lies just west of the Blood Reserve in Canada and borders the Blackfeet Reservation in the United States. People of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, southwest of the park, also have a close association with the park and its resources. While visiting the park, take the time to learn about our neighbors.

• Nearby in Browning, Montana, the Museum of the Plains Indian features fascinating exhibits and Native American handicrafts as sales items. The museum is open seven days a week, from June through September. Also in Browning, North American Indian Days, the second weekend in July, is a large celebration of Native American culture that includes a parade, traditional dress, and dancing. Visitors are always welcome.

• Northeast of Waterton Lakes National Park, early plains culture is dramatically displayed at the Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump World Heritage Site. Summer hours, May through early September, are 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., seven days/week. Phone 403-553-2731 for further information.

• The People's Center and Native Ed-Ventures, for the preservation of Kootenai and Salish Culture, are located near Pablo, Montana. The Center provides educational opportunities, full day and half day interpretive tours of the Flathead Indian Reservation, a museum collection, and gift shop. Summer hours through September 7 are 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Call 1-406-883-5344 for further information.

The Quiet Neighbor
Visitors may not be aware of the Peace Park's neighbor to the northwest, the Akamina-Kishinena Provincial Park. The park is located in British Columbia on Waterton's western border and Glacier's eastern boundary. It's a 100 square mile area of dramatic beauty, including some of the most picturesque cliffs and waterfalls in the park.

The area's attractions are its lakes, geology, and winter backcountry skiing. Hiking varies from short excursions for plant and wildlife viewing to rugged ridge treks. Camping is available at either the Akamina Creek or Well Lake campgrounds for $4/person. Horse users are reminded to obtain written authority from B.C. Parks prior to entering the park. Anglers require a B.C. fishing license, available from the Waterton Visitor Reception Centre.

Doming cooperative relations between Waterton-Glacier and the Akamina-Kishinena include bear, fire, and backcountry management. Because we are all part of the Crown of the Continent ecosystem, we expect further joint initiatives will develop.

For more information about the Akamina-Kishinena Provincial Park, please contact B.C. Parks, Box 118, Wasa, B.C. V0B 2K0 phone 250-422-4200, fax 250-422-3326.
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Waterton to Goat Haunt, within Glacier National Park in Montana
Waterton is a classic high-altitude wetland, limestone caves, and ancient canyon lands.
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Shuttle, Tours & Trips
Van and Bus Tours
Sun Tours offers interpretive tours in Glacier National Park from mid-June to September 30. Tours highlight Blackfoot culture and history relating to Glacier National Park’s natural features. Tours begin from East Glacier, St. Mary, Rising Sun, and a Common Kitchen. Guests must provide their own sleeping bags, water, food, and cooking utensils. Optional linen service is available. Reservations are required. For information or reservations call 406-387-5555 or 800-521-RAFT.

Backpacking and Hiking Guide Service
Glacier Wilderness Guides offers guided day hikes and backpacking trips into Glacier's backcountry for one to seven days. Custom trips available. Camping equipment is available for rent at their West Glacier office. For information call 406-387-5555 or 800-521-RAFT.

Park Lodging
For reservations at the Apgar Village Lodge call 406-888-5632.

Scenic Launch Tours & Boat Rental
Rising Sun Motor Inn
June 15 to Sept. 20
Camper services - groceries, fishing and camping supplies, firewood, and gifts.

Food and Beverage
Two Dog flats Mountain Grill
Page 15 to June 20
Serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner

Lodging
Rising Sun Motor Inn
June 15 to Sept. 7
Monte and cabins - See reservations number listed at bottom of page.

Gift Shop
Motel and cabins - See reservations number listed at bottom of page.

Services of Worship
Interdenominational Services
Conducted by a Christian Ministry in the National Parks on the following Sundays.

Headquarters Community Building
May 30 to Sept. 6
9:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m.

Apgar Amphitheater
May 30 to Sept. 6
8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m.

Fish Creek Amphitheater
June 7 to Sept. 6
8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m.

Lake McDonald Lodge
June 7 to Sept. 6
8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m.

Swiftcurrent Campstore
June 10 to Sept. 22
8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m.

Many Glacier Hotel
June 7 to Sept. 6
8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m.

Swiftcurrent Motor Inn
June 10 to Sept. 7
8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Babb
Saturdays
11:00 a.m.

United Methodist Church, Babb
Saturdays
9:00 a.m.

Chief Mountain Baptist Church, Babb
Saturdays
11:00 a.m.
Border Crossing

Travelers should have identification and proof of age for all passengers in the vehicle. A birth certificate may be needed for children. Citizens of countries other than the United States or Canada may need a passport or visa.

Special restrictions exist on crossing the border with pets, firearms, defensive sprays, alcohol, firewood, and purchases. For specific requirements on crossing the border from the United States into Canada call 800-320-0063. For information on crossing from Canada into the United States call 206-553-4676.

There are four border crossing stations immediately adjacent to the park:
- Roosevelt (open 24 hours)
- Chief Mountain (7 a.m. to 11 p.m.)
- Logan Pass (8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.)
- Many Glacier (9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.)

At the time of printing no decision had been made as to the status of Trail Creek Customs, north of Polebridge.

Accessibility

A listing of facilities and programs accessible to visitors with special needs is available at visitor centers and entrance stations. The Apgar and St. Mary Visitor Centers, the Trail of the Cedars, the International Peace Park Pavilion, the Linnet Lake Trail near Waterton townsite, the Waterton Townsite trail, and the Cameron Lake Day Use area are all accessible by wheelchair.

Elevations

- Apgar: 3175 ft.
- Goat Haunt: 4200 ft.
- Lake McDonald: 3150 ft.
- Logan Pass: 6640 ft.
- Many Glacier: 4900 ft.
- Polebridge: 3600 ft.
- Rising Sun: 4550 ft.
- St. Mary: 4500 ft.
- St. Mary Visitor Center: 3150 ft.
- Two Medicine: 5150 ft.
- Walton: 3900 ft.
- Waterton: 4200 ft.

Mountain Goat