



Waterton – Glacier International Peace Park

July 23, 2007
For Immediate Release
Melissa Wilson 406-888-7895
Janice Smith 403-859-5127

Parks, Peace and Partnerships Conference to be Held September 9-12, 2007

WATERTON-GLACIER INTERNATIONAL PEACE PARK – In honor of the 75th Anniversary of the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, a special four day international conference to discuss trends, experiences, and best practices for peace parks and transboundary protected areas is being held September 9-12, 2007 in Waterton Lakes National Park. Over 200 peace park and transboundary management professionals from Canada, the United States, and approximately 20 other countries are expected to participate in the conference. The conference is being organised by the Universities of Calgary, Lethbridge and Montana in partnership with the Miistakis Institute for the Rockies, Rotary Clubs in both Alberta and Montana, Parks Canada, and the U.S. National Park Service.

Waterton Lakes National Park Superintendent Rod Blair noted, “This conference will provide an outstanding forum in which to share knowledge, experiences and initiatives relating to Peace Parks and transboundary protected areas and will advance the theory and practice of transboundary management globally. Numerous international experts will be speaking at the event. We are proud that the Peace Park continues to play an international role in promoting transboundary protected areas.”

“The peace, friendship and cooperation that inspired local Rotary clubs 75 years ago to press for the creation of the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park continue today. These themes are reflected in collaborative efforts that include ecosystem monitoring, research and management, and joint interpretive programs between our two parks. Of equal importance is that the Peace Park has helped inspire similar initiatives across the globe. There are now hundreds of international agreements which protect transboundary protected areas,” added Glacier National Park Superintendent Mick Holm.

Over 20 sessions will be held during the conference. Some of the topics to be discussed include:

- Global status and trends in transboundary protected areas
- Peace parks and conflict resolution
- Peace parks as vehicles for international cooperation
- Education in transboundary protected areas
- Influence and role of peace parks and other transboundary reserves on regional economies
- Legal mechanisms and arrangements for transboundary conservation
- Engagement of local communities and other stakeholders in transboundary protected areas
- Role of indigenous peoples in transboundary protected area management
- Collaborative initiatives (managerial, scientific, public/private, intergovernmental and educational) and mechanisms for transboundary management.

For more information, including a list of speakers, images, and a media kit, visit the conference’s Web site at:
www.peaceparks2007.org.

Parks, Peace and Partnerships Conference

*Celebrating 75 years of tradition and international cooperation. September 9-12, 2007. Waterton Lakes National Park, Alberta, Canada.
c/o Miistakis Institute, Faculty of Environmental Design, 2500 University Dr NW, Calgary AB, Canada, T2N 1N4.*