PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Monica Jungster, Montana House (406) 888-5393 or <u>1960mthouse@qwestoffice.net</u> <u>www.montanahouse.info</u>

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"Citizen Science in Glacier National Park: Boots on the Ground to Help Monitor Glacier's Wildlife and Plants"

The Montana House and Glacier National Park Conservancy are co-hosting a Look Listen and Learn presentation by Jami Belt, Coordinator of Glacier National Park's Citizen Science program. The event will be at 5 PM Saturday May 24th at the Montana House in Apgar Village.

Jami will illustrate the importance of the Citizen Science Program in collecting scientific information about animals and plants inside Glacier National Park. She will explain how park managers and researchers benefit from the baseline data provided by citizen scientists and also, just as importantly, how citizen scientists benefit from being involved in the program. Come learn about the biology, identification, and management concerns related to common loons, pikas, mountain goats, bighorn sheep and invasive plants. Learn how you can get involved to help monitor these and other species in Glacier. The program is coordinated by the Crown of the Continent Research Learning Center (CCRLC) and supported by the Glacier National Park Conservancy.

Jami has coordinated the Citizen Science Program since 2006. She earned her master's degree in wildlife biology from the University of Montana with a thesis on estimating mountain goat populations using citizen science. She loves engaging the public in research and giving people a reason to slow down and observe Glacier's wildlife and plants.

The program will begin at 5 PM with time for questions and a reception to follow. The event is open to the public without charge, but seating is limited, so reservations are needed. Phone (406) 888-5393 or email: <u>1960mthouse@qwestoffice.net</u>

Hans and Toni Jungster established the Montana House Regional Craft Shop in 1960 in Apgar Village, just inside Glacier National Park. Their daughter Monica and staff continue to carry on their mission: to celebrate and promote the creativity of Montana and Native American artists and craftsmen for our mutual benefit.

The Glacier National Park Conservancy (GNPC) is the non-profit partner for Glacier National Park. GNPC assures the Glacier National Park experience by providing support for preservation, education, and research through philanthropy and outreach. For further information call (406) 892-3250 or go to www.glaciernationalparkconservancy.org