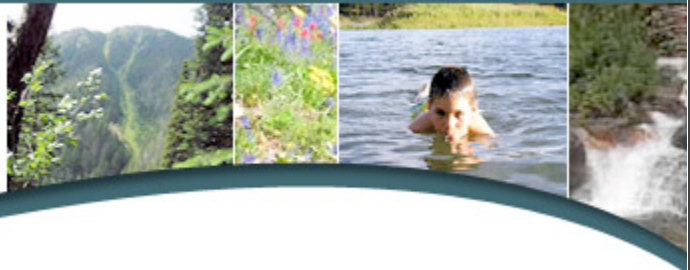
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PROTECTING THE WATER, WILDLIFE AND OUTDOOR HERITAGE OF THE CROWN OF THE CONTINENT.



*The World Heritage Site designation for Waterton - Glacier International Peace Park provides an important extra level of international attention and protection. The UNESCO mission begins on September 21, and end September 28.*



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~ Thank You!*



*The B.C. government rather foolishly allowed Maxx Resources, Ltd., to explore for gold in a tributary of the Flathead just before the*

September 21, 2009

Dear [member\_name\_first]:

**World Heritage Commission Visits Waterton-Glacier!**

Starting today, UNESCO begins its investigative mission to Waterton-Glacier World Heritage Site to determine whether proposed industrial activity in the British Columbia Flathead threaten the site's ecological integrity.

This visit came about as a result of environmental groups - including *Headwaters Montana* - petitioning the committee at its annual meeting in Seville, Spain, to examine the threats.

The British Columbia government has actively promoted a coal strip mine, a coal bed methane (CBM) project, and phosphate and gold exploration in the Canadian Flathead. While no project has yet been approved, the scale and number of proposals would clearly destroy water quality and wildlife habitat in the watershed and severely effect the Waterton-Glacier World Heritage Site.

**The Importance of This UNESCO Mission**

The UNESCO mission to Waterton-Glacier is co-headed by representatives of the World Heritage Commission and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

These representative meet in Glacier Park the first half of

*UNESCO mission.*

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Wild Wildlife



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this week, and then move to Fernie for the second half. They will assess the state of the ecosystem, the seriousness of the threats, and the potential of the threats to adversely effect the World Heritage Site.

The mission team will complete a preliminary report in the two month after their visit. Canada and the U.S. are then required to submit a joint report on the "State of Conservation" of Waterton-Glacier by February 2010.

The report could find that British Columbia's management 'plan' for upper Flathead threatens the parks, in which case the B.C. and Canadian governments would feel more pressure to resolve the development issues with Montana and the U.S.

### **Public Not Invited**

Regretfully, Canada does not have an 'Open Meeting Law' and the meeting agenda has squeezed public and NGO participation to a minimum. We will provide a summary of the mission at its conclusion.

~ *We Thought You'd Like to Know!*

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