

# Harlequin Duck Science Film Project Description

## Project Description

The Crown of the Continent Research Learning Center (CCRLC) is part of a network of research learning centers that the National Park Service established to promote research and science in our national parks. The CCRLC works with four national parks within the northern Rockies, but is based out of Glacier National Park. Our mission is to promote and facilitate research, to promote science literacy and resource stewardship, and to communicate science and research currently taking place within Glacier and the other parks we represent. Recently, other research learning centers across the country have turned to video to communicate some of the exciting research happening within our national parks. The CCRLC realizes the importance of this medium and is eager to begin creating video podcasts highlighting some of our parks' creative and innovative research projects.

The focus of this project is to create a short, three to five minute, film documenting the current harlequin duck research project taking place in Glacier National Park. The goal of the piece is to provide our viewers, which consist of both the public and park staff, with a virtual field experience of the research. The end product should include a combination of interviews, researchers in action, and close-ups of the ducks in their natural environment. The film will be available to the public via the park's website and will be promoted through media releases and social media.

## Goals and Objectives

**Goals:** By producing this film, we hope to generate enthusiasm, interest, and support for harlequin conservation as well as to educate the public on the value and benefits of researching species of concern in the park. Giving the public an opportunity to view this unique bird in its natural habitat and to discover the dedication and passion it takes to conduct research projects like this, provides an opportunity for a deeper connection with the harlequin itself and hopefully inspires greater support for research projects like this one in Glacier National Park and other public lands across the country.

### **Objectives:**

- 1) To understand the specific habitat needs and requirements needed for harlequin duck survival.
- 2) To learn about factors affecting harlequin duck chick survival and recruitment in Glacier National Park.
- 3) To understand the reason the research is being conducted and the factors being investigated.
- 4) To discover the scientific process and learn how it is applied to this particular research study.

## Project Timeframe

CCRLC staff and other park staff will create a storyboard (rough outline) for this science film to share with the selected student by April 15, 2013. Filming can be completed throughout the spring and summer of 2013, with a final product delivered no later than March 1, 2014. A rough timeline for this project is as follows:

**Timeline: March 2013 – February 2014**

March/April 2013: Identify film student for the project

April 15: Share storyboard with student

Early May: Filming of male and female harlequins and researchers banding adults (3-4 days)

July: Filming chicks and nest locations (3-4 days)

Late August: Filming chick banding (3-4 days if time and money allow)

Fall: Project production

January: Video draft sent to CCRLC staff

February: Second draft reviewed and finalized

March 1, 2014: Product delivered

Note: Bunk housing available at park headquarters in West Glacier for \$10.00 a night. Must be scheduled in advance to ensure availability.

Deliverables

1) Final, 3 to 5 minute, Science Minute Movie – high quality format (e.g. Quicktime, .AVI)

2) Final, 3 to 5 minute, Science Minute Movie – web version format (e.g. MP4, .FLV)

Budget

\$5,000 total (paid by the Glacier National Park Conservancy, our park partner)\*

*\*Includes travel expenses, per diem, supplies, and time.*