

Ranger-led Programs and Activities June 22 through July 12, 2008

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



The Glacier Explorer

The official interpretive schedule of
Glacier National Park

Issue no. 2



Lake McDonald

Photo by Bill Hayden

Join Us!

The schedule inside lists a variety of ranger-led programs, from easy walks and evening talks, to all-day hikes and boat tours. Special Native American events, outdoor education programs, and interpretive boat tours are also presented by our park neighbors and partners.



Are You Prepared for a Hike?



Sandals may be fine for walking around the campground, but they can be brutal on your feet if you hike a long distance in them. The National Park Service advises to always wear the appropriate foot gear while hiking. Good hiking boots with strong ankle support will make a big difference as you travel on some of the steeper and rockier trails in Glacier National Park.

Also, BRING WATER on all hikes! It can be quite hot in the summer and many small creeks and streams, where people have traditionally filtered water in the past, may have dried up. Don't count on finding water along the trails. If you do obtain water from creeks and streams, always be sure to filter it first. Parasites may be present in surface water throughout the park.

Native American Interpretation Programs

Native America Speaks

Apgar Campground..... 8:00pm June 23, 30, & July 5
Lake McDonald Lodge 8:30pm July 4
Many Glacier Campground..... 8:00pm Tuesdays
Two Medicine Campground 8:00pm Wed. & Sat.
Rising Sun Campground..... 8:00pm Thursdays

Blackfeet, Salish, and Kootenai tribal members share their knowledge of the history and culture of Native America, through these 45-minute programs. All park visitors are invited to attend these free programs.

Two Medicine Lake Dancers and Singers

St. Mary Visitor Center 7:30pm July 2 & 9

Join the Two Medicine Lake Dancers and Singers with leaders Joe McKay and Ray Croff as they provide insight into contemporary and traditional Blackfeet history and culture through narration and fancy, jingle, traditional, and grass dance demonstrations. Proceeds from this program support the Native America Speaks interpretive initiative.

- Tickets for this program go on sale the morning of the performance and are only available at the St. Mary Visitor Center. Prices are \$5.00 for adults and free for children 12 and under. Seating is limited.



Jack Gladstone

Photo by Mark Wagner

Blackfeet Legends of Glacier

Lake McDonald Lodge..... 8:30pm June 27 & July 11
Many Glacier Hotel 8:00pm June 22, 29 & July 6

Award-winning performing artist and Blackfeet tribal member, Jack Gladstone, presents a musical/visual narrative of the major cultural contributions of Indians to American culture. Traditional stories, animal legends, and personality portraits guide the audience to a better understanding of our truly American heritage. Prices are \$5.00 for adults and free for children 12 and under. Proceeds from this program support the Native America Speaks interpretive initiative. Seating is limited.

- For programs at the Many Glacier Hotel, tickets go on sale at the Lucerne Room of the Many Glacier Hotel 45 minutes before the performance.
- For programs at Lake McDonald Lodge, tickets go on sale the morning of the show and are available at the Apgar Visitor Center and Lake McDonald Lodge.

Concession Operated Interpretive Hikes



Josephine Lake

Photo by Deepu Sasidharan

Glacier Park Boat Co. Naturalist Hikes

Glacier Park Boat Co. naturalists lead guided walks in conjunction with boat cruises in the Two Medicine and Many Glacier valleys.

Two Medicine Cruise and Hike - Daily - 1:00pm & 3:00pm

This 2 ¼ hour activity includes a scenic boat cruise on Two Medicine Lake and easy 1.8 mile round-trip hike to beautiful Twin Falls. Meet at the Two Medicine Boat Dock.

Grinnell Valley Cruise and Hike - Daily - 2:00pm

Meet at the Many Glacier Hotel Boat Dock for a relaxing cruise on Swiftcurrent and Josephine Lakes and easy 2 mile, round-trip walk to spectacular Grinnell Lake.

"Learning Gone Wild!"

The Glacier Institute

The Glacier Institute provides innovative outdoor education programs within and around Glacier National Park. For more information on times, locations, and prices of these courses, contact:

The Glacier Institute, P.O. Box 1887, Kalispell, MT 59903
www.glacierinstitute.org - 406-755-1211

Some popular summer programs include:

- June 28 Nature's Healers: Wild Medicinal Identification
- June 29 Making Wild Herbal Medicines
- July 6 Middle Fork Ecology by Raft
- July 9 Railroad History & Folklore of GNP
- July 11 McDonald Creek by Snorkel: Ecology of an Underwater World

Lake McDonald

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Avalanche Lake Hike	9:00am	9:00am	9:00am	9:00am	9:00am	9:00am	9:00am
Nurturing Native Plants			10:00am				
Lake McDonald Boat Tours	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm
Fire in Glacier Walk		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm	
Oxbow Stroll	2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm
Discovery Cabin	3:30pm to 5:30pm	3:30pm to 5:30pm	3:30pm to 5:30pm	3:30pm to 5:30pm	3:30pm to 5:30pm	3:30pm to 5:30pm	3:30pm to 5:30pm
Apgar Family Program	7:00pm	7:00pm	7:00pm	7:00pm	7:00pm	7:00pm	7:00pm
Apgar Campground Ranger Talk		8:00pm	8:00pm		8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm
Avalanche Campground Ranger Talk	8:00pm			8:00pm			
Fish Creek Campground Evening Program	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm
Lake McDonald Lodge Evening Program	8:30pm	8:30pm	8:30pm	8:30pm	8:30pm	8:30pm	8:30pm

Avalanche Lake Hike

Discover how the power of water and geologic forces have shaped this unique environment on the way to glimmering Avalanche Lake. This hike gains 500 feet over 2 miles. Participants should wear hiking shoes and bring water and a snack or lunch to eat at the lake. Meet at the roadside parking lot, across from Avalanche Campground.

4 miles (6.4km) - 3½ hours

Nurturing Native Plants

Join us for a close-up look at how plants are grown in our Native Plant Nursery to be used in revegetation projects around the park. Meet on the front steps of park headquarters just outside the West Entrance. **1½ hours**

Lake McDonald Boat Tours

Cruise the dancing waters of Lake McDonald and enjoy a sampling of Glacier's stories while aboard the historic DeSmet. Meet at the dock behind Lake McDonald Lodge. Arrive 15 minutes early to pay the fee charged for the boat trip. **1 hour**

Oxbow Stroll

Enjoy a casual stroll through the forest along lower McDonald Creek and discover why Glacier National Park is world famous for its biological diversity. Meet in front of the Apgar Visitor Center.

1.5 miles (2.4km) - 1½ - 2 hours

Fire in Glacier Walk

Explore the Robert Fire of 2003 and discover the vital role wildland fire plays in the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem on this moderate hike. Meet at the Rocky Point trailhead 0.2 miles north of the Fish Creek Campground on the Inside North Fork Road. **2 miles (3.2km) - 2 hours**

Discovery Cabin

Touch a grizzly bear's claws, feel a wolf's amazing coat, and wear an elk's antler! Rangers will help the whole family learn about the fascinating adaptations that Glacier's predators and prey have to survive in their habitats. Stop at the Apgar Visitor Center for directions, then follow the "wolf tracks" to the cabin.

Apgar Family Program

Small and tall, child and young-at-heart - everyone is invited to join us for this activity-based exploration of the wonderful world of Glacier. Meet at the Apgar Campground Amphitheater for a fun-filled experience. **45 minutes**

Apgar Campground Ranger Talk

Join us at the Apgar Campground Amphitheater for an exploration of Glacier's natural and cultural history. Bring the family and your questions for an interesting look at this incredible place. **45 minutes**

Avalanche Campground Ranger Talk

Lions & lake trout & bears... and the occasional moose! Meet at the Avalanche Campground Amphitheater for a traditional ranger talk on topics of interest to park visitors. **45 minutes**

Fish Creek Campground Evening Program

Sit back, relax and discover the diversity of Glacier through these illustrated slide programs. Park Rangers cover topics ranging from bears to birds, history to seasonal changes and much more. Meet at the Fish Creek Campground Amphitheater. **45 minutes**

Lake McDonald Lodge Evening Program

Meet in the Lake McDonald Lodge Auditorium for these evening slide programs on the many wonders of Glacier National Park. All park visitors are invited. **45 minutes**

Logan Pass

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Goodbye to the Glaciers <i>The start date of programs is dependant on the opening of the Going-to-the-Sun Road, typically in early to mid-June.</i>	11:00am	11:00am	11:00am	11:00am	11:00am	11:00am	11:00am
	12:00pm	12:00pm	12:00pm	12:00pm	12:00pm	12:00pm	12:00pm
	1:00pm	1:00pm	1:00pm	1:00pm	1:00pm	1:00pm	1:00pm
	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm
	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm
	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm



Mt. Reynolds

Photo by Bill Hayden

Goodbye to the Glaciers

The glaciers of Glacier National Park are quickly disappearing due to the effects of global climate change. Join us for an update on where the glaciers are headed and what their leaving will mean for the park. **15 minutes**

Visiting Logan Pass

No phone or food services available at Logan Pass.

Special Notes

Frequently, the parking lot at Logan Pass fills beyond capacity, forcing visitors to drive on without stopping. Expect parking difficulties between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm. Plan on visiting Logan Pass early in the day or late in the afternoon to avoid crowds. The Going-to-the-Sun Road shuttle and guided tour options stop at Logan Pass. They provide a valuable service to those with oversized vehicles and help reduce traffic on the road.

Transportation Options

Tours can be arranged by contacting:

Sun Tours - (406)226-9220
Glacier Park Inc. - (406)226-5777



Glacier lilies

Photo by Bill Hayden

St. Mary

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
St. Mary Lake Boat Trip and Hike	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am
St. Mary Lake Boat Trip	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm
Montana Jones and the Secrets of the Red Eagle Valley	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm
Sunset Cruise	6:30pm	6:30pm	6:30pm	6:30pm	6:30pm	6:30pm	6:30pm
Evening Program	7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm
Rising Sun Campground Program	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm

St. Mary Lake Boat Trip & Hike

Enjoy rugged mountain scenery and spectacular views as you cruise on St. Mary Lake. Join a Park Ranger to take a closer look at evidence of the power of ice and water. Take the optional 3-mile roundtrip hike to St. Mary Falls and catch a later boat back. Purchase tickets at the Rising Sun Boat Dock, 6 miles west of St. Mary on the Going-to-the-Sun Road. **3 miles (5km) - 3.5 hours**

Starting date may change if the docks are not installed by the scheduled date. Phone (406)732-4430 Rising Sun Boat Dock

St. Mary Lake Boat Trip

Enjoy rugged mountain scenery and spectacular views as you cruise on St. Mary Lake. Join a Park Ranger to take a closer look at evidence of the power of ice and water. Short walk to Baring Falls included. Purchase tickets at the Rising Sun Boat Dock, 6 miles west of St. Mary on the Going-to-the-Sun Road. **1.5 hours**

Starting date may change if the docks are not installed by the scheduled date. Phone (406)732-4430 Rising Sun Boat Dock

Sunset Cruise

The evening light on St. Mary Lake and the surrounding mountains can be truly breathtaking. Relax and reflect on your day as you join the ranger on board for an enlightening cruise on the lake. **1 hour**

Evening Program

Join us at the St. Mary Visitor Center Auditorium for a visual journey through Glacier's natural and cultural heritage. July 2 & 9 – Two Medicine Lake Singers and Dancers (tickets required and available on show days).

45 minutes

Rising Sun Campground Program

Join a Park Ranger for inspiration and entertainment in a traditional campfire setting. Thursday evenings offer special presenters from the Native America Speaks program.

45 minutes



St. Mary Lake

Photo by David Restivo



Montana Jones and the Secrets of the Red Eagle Valley

The park is filled with treasures if you just know where to look. Join Montana Jones for an exciting GPS adventure in search of the many secrets of the Red Eagle Valley. Use park provided GPS units to find clues and piece together the story of this spectacular Glacier landscape. Families are encouraged to participate in this activity.

3 miles (4.8km) - 3 hours

Two Medicine

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dawson Pass Hike					9:00am		
No Name Lake	9:00am						
Scenic Point				9:00am			9:00am
Upper Two Medicine Lake Hike and Boat Trip		10:30pm					
Aster Park Falls and Overlook					12:00pm		
Firebrand Pass	12:00pm						
Rockwell Falls Hike			12:00pm				
Twin Falls Hike and Boat Trip				1:00pm & 3:00pm		1:00pm & 3:00pm	
Evening Campfire Program	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm

Dawson Pass Hike

This steep and strenuous hike climbs 2500 feet through windswept alpine country to Dawson Pass. Meet at the Two Medicine Boat Dock. A fee is charged for the express boat cruise. **10.4 miles (16.5km) - 5 hours**

No Name Lake

No Name Lake. This moderately strenuous hike will take you up 850 feet in two miles to No Name Lake under the sheer wall of Pumpelly Pillar. Meet at the Two Medicine Boat Dock. A fee is charged for the boat ride. Return by a later boat. **4 mi (6.5 km) round-trip - 5 hours**

Scenic Point

Glaciated valleys and spectacular vista highlight this rugged, steadily climbing hike. You will gain 2,350 feet over three miles with an alpine tundra reward at the top. Meet at the Scenic Point trail head. **6.2 miles (9.9km) - 5 hours**

Upper Two Medicine Lake Hike and Boat Trip

Cruise scenic Two Medicine Lake and join a ranger for a gentle hike to Upper Two Medicine Lake, gaining 350 feet in elevation over 2.2 miles. Pause at beautiful Twin Falls and traverse flower filled meadows on your way to the lake. Meet at the Two Medicine Boat dock. A fee is charged for the boat ride. Return by a later boat. **4.4. miles (7km) - 5 hours**

Aster Park Falls and Overlook

Expect high rewards from this two-part hike. It's an easy stroll to Aster Falls, fed from the snowmelt off Never Laughs Mountain. The hike then continues upward for 670 feet to Aster Park Overlook where you are rewarded with panoramic views of the Two Medicine valley. Meet at the Two Medicine Campstore. **3.8 miles (6 km) 4 hours**

Firebrand Pass Hike

Come join a ranger to explore the southeast corner of the Park, and climb 1800 feet through 4 different live zones to rocky and rugged Firebrand Pass. Learn about fire ecology during this five mile hike. Meet at pullout on north side of mile marker 203 on Highway 2 going west; six miles out of East Glacier. **9 miles (14.5km) - 5 hours**

Rockwell Falls Hike

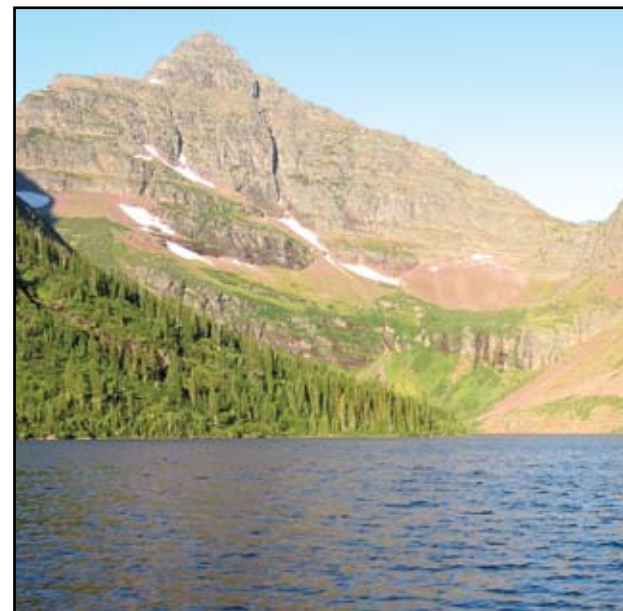
This moderately paced half-day hike passes Aster Falls, then gently ascend the valley beneath Sinopah Mountain to Rockwell Falls. Meet at the Two Medicine Campstore. **7.0 miles (11.2km) - 5 hours**

Twin Falls Hike and Boat Trip

Come join an interpreter for a short boat ride and easy hike to Twin Falls and explore Glacier's history, wildflowers and wildlife. Meet at the Two Medicine Boat Dock. A fee is charged for the boat. **1.8 miles (2.9 km). 2¼ hours**

Evening Campground Program

Come join a ranger at the Two Medicine Amphitheater (Loop B, site 40) for this traditional evening program. A different program each night. Native America Speaks presenter on Wednesdays and Saturdays. **45 minutes**



Upper Two Medicine Lake

Photo by David Restivo

Many Glacier

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Early Morning Bird Walk	7:00am						
Heart of Glacier Hike	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am
Grinnell Valley Boat Trip and Hike	9:00am	9:00am	9:00am	9:00am	9:00am	9:00am	9:00am
Wildflower Walk	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm
Family Wildlife Safari	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm
Historic Hotel Tour	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm
Scope it Out!	5:30pm to 7:15pm	5:30pm to 7:15pm	5:30pm to 7:15pm	5:30pm to 7:15pm	5:30pm to 7:15pm	5:30pm to 7:15pm	5:30pm to 7:15pm
Lucerne Room Evening Program	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm
Many Glacier Campground Program	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm

Early Morning Bird Walk

Early morning is the best time to see and hear the song-birds of the valley. Meet at the boat dock behind the Many Glacier Hotel. Bring binoculars and a field guide.

1 mile - 2 hours

Heart of Glacier Hike

Discover the treasures of Glacier's interior on a moderately strenuous hike to Iceberg Lake or one of the other unique areas in the core of Glacier. Check at the Many Glacier Ranger Station or Many Glacier evening programs the day before to find out our destination. Meet the ranger at the Swiftcurrent Motor Inn porch.

Approximately 10 miles (16km) – about 6-7 hours

Grinnell Valley Boat Trip and Hike

Meet at the Many Glacier Hotel boat dock for a cruise on Swiftcurrent and Josephine Lakes and an optional easy hike to Grinnell Lake. A fee is charged for the boat. Please purchase boat tickets early if possible.

2.5 miles (4km) – 3 ½ hours

Wildflower Walk

Enjoy the changing display of wildflowers & explore their diverse habitats. Meet at the Swiftcurrent Motor Inn porch. Bring your favorite flower book.

1 mile (1.6 km) – 1 hour

Family Wildlife Safari

What animals use this area? Children are invited to bring their parents along and join a ranger to learn about the variety of animals living in Glacier and how to spot the clues they leave behind. Meet at the Many Glacier Picnic Area.

1 hour

Historic Hotel Tour

Join a ranger for a tour of the historic Many Glacier Hotel and learn about its history and restoration. Meet in the hotel lobby. There will be some walking and stairs.

1 hour

Scope it Out!

Drop by to use our spotting scopes to scan the slopes for wildlife as a park ranger answers questions about Glacier National Park's animals. We're set up in the parking lot of the Swiftcurrent Motor Inn from 5:30 to 7:15 nightly.

Many Glacier Campground Program

Join a park ranger at the campground amphitheater to learn more about what makes Glacier a special place. Tuesday evenings offer special presenters from the Native America Speaks program.

Lucerne Room Evening Program

Meet downstairs in the Lucerne Room of the Many Glacier Hotel for an evening slide program on the wonders of Glacier National Park. All park visitors are welcome.

45 minutes

On Sundays, Blackfeet performing artist Jack Gladstone will present "Blackfeet Legends of Glacier National Park." A fee is charged for this special presentation.

Watchable Wildlife

Be on the lookout for our Watchable Wildlife van in the Many Glacier Valley.



Stop by and take a look through the ranger's spotting scopes or learn about Glacier National Park's wildlife as you study our collection of skins, skulls, tracks, and scat.

Goat Haunt

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
International Peace Park Hike <i>starts June 28</i>				10:00am			10:00am
Goat Haunt Overlook Hike						11:30am	
Lake Janet Hike	11:30am		11:30am		11:30am		
Rainbow Falls Hike	11:30am	11:30am		11:30am			11:30am
Kootenai Lakes Hike	2:15pm	2:15pm		2:15pm			2:15pm
Waterton Evening Program						8:00pm	

International Peace Park Hike

Hike with both US National Park Service and Parks Canada Staff on this exploration of the world's first International Peace Park. Hike across the international boundary from Waterton to Goat Haunt and return to Waterton via boat. Meet at the Bertha Lake Trailhead in Waterton Townsite at 10:00. Although this is a moderate hike, there is some elevation gain and loss. There is a charge for the return boat trip and you should make reservations before starting the hike. Bring proper identification for the border crossing. Each hike is limited to 35 people, so you must pre-register at either the St. Mary Visitor Center in Glacier (406-732-7750) or the Waterton Lakes Visitor Information Centre in Waterton (403-859-5133). Reservations are only accepted for the next scheduled hike (open on Wednesday for Saturday hikes; open on Saturday for Wednesday hikes).

8.5 miles (13.6km) - 7 hours

Goat Haunt Overlook Hike

Incredible views of the glacially-carved Waterton valley, while passing through early summer wildflowers, highlight this short, steep hike. Take the 10:00am cruise from Waterton and return on the 2:30pm boat. Meet at the Goat Haunt Ranger Station.

2 miles (3.2km) - 2 hours

Lake Janet

Take a backcountry climb with a Ranger to Lake Janet, following spectacular Porcupine Ridge. Stop at the natural landslide that changed Lake Janet forever. We will gain 800 feet over 3.5 miles. Take the 10:00 cruise from Waterton, and make arrangements with the boat company to return on the 5:30pm boat. Meet at the Goat Haunt Ranger Station.

7.0 miles (11.2km) - 3+ hours

Rainbow Falls Hike

Discover the wonder of water along the powerful Waterton River as you join a Ranger for an easy walk to Rainbow Falls, followed by an exciting suspension bridge traverse. Take the 10:00 cruise from Waterton and return on the 2:30 boat. Meet at the Goat Haunt Ranger Station.

2 miles (3.2km) - 2 hours

Kootenai Lakes

Join the Ranger-guided hike through excellent moose habitat to Kootenai Lakes. These lakes lie beneath looming Citadel Peak. There is little elevation gain as we stroll through mature forest and meadows. Take the 1:00 cruise from Waterton, and return on the 5:30pm boat. Meet at the Goat Haunt Ranger Station.

6 miles (9.6km) - 3 hours

Waterton Falls Theatre Program

Join a U.S. National Park Service Ranger for an exploration of the wild and windy weather often experienced in Waterton-Glacier in *The Wicked Wind of the West*. This program is offered on Friday evenings at 8:00 pm in the Falls Theatre in Waterton Townsite, located on Evergreen Ave.

45 minutes

Note: American citizens, legal residents of the United States and Canadian citizens with proper documentation ONLY, on all hikes leaving from Goat Haunt.



Moose cow and calf at Kootenai Lakes

Photo by David Restivo