

**Heart of the Continent Partnership  
Voyageurs National Park  
International Falls, Minnesota  
August 18-19, 2011**

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Doug Franchot, HOCP Steering Committee Chair, led introductions and gave an overview of the Heart of the Continent Partnership (HOCP) organization.

Robin Reilly – Quetico Provincial Park\*; Doug Franchot – Voyageurs National Park Association; Kathleen Przybylski – Voyageurs National Park; Lynda Horman – Kakabeka Falls Provincial Park; Shaun Hamilton – Trust for Public Land; Darryl McLeod – Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Fort Frances District\*; Ann Schwaller – Superior National Forest; Mary Somnis – Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board; Lisa Radosevich-Craig – Superior National Forest; Paul Danicic – Friends of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness; Ian Kimmer – Friends of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness; Holly Larson – NPS/Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance; Lisa Solomon – Quetico Provincial Park\*; Lawson Gerdes – Minnesota Department of Natural Resources; Jenn Lukacic – Quetico Provincial Park\*; Cam Trembath – Voyageurs National Park\*; Mary Graves – Voyageurs National Park\*

\* attended on August 19 only

**Thursday, August 18, 2011**

***Ernest Oberholtzer Island visit*** – Mary Holmes of the Oberholtzer Foundation led an island tour for the HOCP. Those in attendance learned about Oberholtzer's life and toured the buildings he built on the island. Suggested reading for those interested in learning more about Ernest Oberholtzer – *Keeper of the Wild: The Life of Ernest Oberholtzer* by Joe Paddock

***Voyageurs National Park's Ethnobotanical garden tour*** – Park Ranger Lisa Maass led the HOCP group on a tour through the ethnobotanical garden being built near the park's Rainy Lake Visitor Center. Lisa explained the layout of the garden and how it will be used as a visitor destination as well as an educational site.

***Voyageurs National Park Boat Tour*** – HOCP participants toured the park aboard the *Voyageur* during an evening cruise. Those on board viewed wildlife and learned about the park's natural and cultural resources.

**Friday, August 19, 2011**

***Update on Moose Projects in Northeastern Minnesota and Quetico Provincial Park by Ron Moen*** – Dr. Ron Moen from the University of Minnesota Duluth's Natural Resources Research Institute gave an interesting presentation about moose research he's conducting. He presented information about the habitats moose use and their movements in these habitats as well as threats to moose populations.

## **Science Committee**

**Research Database** - Cam Trembath led a discussion about the research database and how researchers can collaborate to move it forward. Participants discussed what should be included in the database relative to current research and archival information. Go to <http://www.heartofthecontinent.org/science-committee/> to see the accomplishments of the Science Committee.

**Science Learning Center** - Lisa Solomon provided a summary about a meeting held at Voyageurs National Park about the potential to establish a science learning center or collaborative science program between Rainy River Community College (RRCC), Federation College, Itasca Community College, and public land agencies.

## **International Community Congress (ICC) Update**

Lisa Radosevich-Craig and Paul Danicic provided an update about planning and the teams approved to participate in the ICC. Thirteen teams applied for and were accepted to participate in the ICC. More information can be found at <http://www.heartofthecontinent.org/communitycongress/>.

## **Next Meeting**

Those present talked about the location and tentative dates for the next HOCP meeting. It is tentatively scheduled for March 7-8 or March 8-9. Watch for information via email or on the HOCP website.

## **Voyageurs National Park Headquarters Building Tour**

The meeting concluded with a tour of the new headquarters building.