

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2004 JOINT MAYFLY AND STONEFLY MEETINGS

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Dear Colleagues:

The faculty and staff of Flathead Lake Biological Station will be pleased to host the 2004 Mayfly-Stonefly conference. FLBS is located on the east shore of Flathead Lake and has facilities to house and feed up to 100 people. We have 40 very nice lakeshore cabins with built-in heating. We also have new college dormitory with 10 rooms and 4 apartments. A number of nice to fancy hotels and dude ranches are located near the station for those that want more ritzy tidings, but you will have to hire a car. We will reserve rooms in some of those hotels for station overflow.

We envision a weeklong event for both the mayfly and stonefly meetings, probably the last week in August. We will generally follow the logistics of previous meetings (e.g., Argentina). We estimate a meeting registration of about \$250US per person and a room and board charge of about \$450US per person for the entire meeting, including a banquet. All meals will be in our commissary at the station, a very nice facility with a deck over-looking the main lake.

We will have a mid-congress tour to our floodplain research site on the Middle Fork of the Flathead River. Tour cost is included in registration estimate. We have recently been awarded a \$2.6M NSF grant to work on biogeochemical cycling and biodiversity relationships on this big gravel-bed flood plain and by 2004 we will be ready to showcase the project. The tour will go also to beautiful sites in Glacier National Park, including the magnificent trail of the cedars and several mountain vistas. Collecting opportunities will be frequent and in a wide variety of habitats.

FLBS is located about a 50 minute drive from the Glacier Park International Airport (Kalispell, MT). This airport is served by 3 major airlines (Northwest, Delta and Alaska) from all directions. The main connecting hubs are Seattle, Salt Lake City and Minneapolis. Our area is growing very fast and we may have even better service by meeting time. We will shuttle participants staying at the Station so you will not need a hire car unless you stay off-Station. Hire cars are available at the airport from all of the major vendors (Avis, Hertz, Budget, etc) but these will have to be booked a year in advance owing to heavy tourism in August.

The Station grounds are spacious (ponderosa pine - grand fir forest) and collecting may be done on the lakeshore and in several local streams. The Station has modern labs and facilities. See our web site for many pictures of the Station and area.

We can have two concurrent sessions for presentation of papers (if needed) and we can have a poster area. Our lecture halls accommodate 100 people and we will facilitate electronic presentations as well as the usual slides. We will plan to publish a peer-reviewed proceeding of both meetings, preferably as a journal issue rather than a book.

Please come to Montata!

Jack Stanford

**ANNOUNCEMENT of 2003
North American Plecoptera
Society Meeting
7th North American Plecoptera Symposium
6-8 June 2003
Western State College, Gunnison, Colorado USA
General Information**

Tentative Schedule:

Thursday night (June 5) – registration, preconference greetings and program on the geology, natural history and culture of the Gunnison country.

There will be information at registration on a spouses and/or accompanying persons program.

Friday (June 6) – symposium papers and posters.

Saturday (June 7) – symposium papers and evening at Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory.

Sunday (June 8) – Area field trip.-- and possible evening BB

Monday (June 9) – departure and goodbyes.

Location: Western State College, at 7,703', is the highest elevation, four-year college in the United States. Nestled in the Gunnison Valley, the College is within minutes of vast stretches of high country wilderness, sage-brush steppe and a variety of streams. The Sawatch and West Elk ranges of the Rockies shelter Gunnison on the east and west while the Elk and San Juan ranges border it to the north and south. The area provides vast recreational, research and exploration opportunities. In fact, a Western Professor of geology has called the Gunnison Country "one of the world's great natural laboratories."

The beginning of June is a beautiful time of year in the valley with high temperatures typically in the low 70's F (22° C) and the lows in the 30's F (1° C). The days are typically clear and sunny but an occasional rain or show shower is possible.

Nearby activities include a visit to the Black Canyon National Park or the historic mining and ski town of Crested Butte. Trout fishing is available on the world famous Gunnison and Taylor Rivers or at a variety of high elevation streams. Arrangements can be made for guided fly-fishing trips through a local stonefly enthusiast who works as a fishing guide.

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