

550 East 1st Street #103
Whitefish, MT 59937

Voice: 406.862.4327
Fax: 406.862.0686

www.whitefishlake.org
info@whitefishlake.org

**WHITEFISH LAKE INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES 2019 MONTANA LAKES CONFERENCE:
Registration open until March 1, 2019**

WHITEFISH, MT, February 7, 2019 – The Whitefish Lake Institute (WLI) is pleased to host the inaugural Montana Lakes Conference March 13-15, 2019. The Conference will gather diverse resource professionals to exchange information, scientific advancements, and management strategies that promote clean and healthy lake and reservoir ecosystems. Participants from academic, nonprofit, government, business organizations, and the public will gather to learn about improving the health of Montana's lakes through science and monitoring advances, watershed restoration practices, policy innovation, and collaborative stakeholder involvement.

The conference will be held at The Lodge at Whitefish Lake in northwestern Montana and will feature 30 talks in two concurrent sessions offering knowledge in areas such as Research & Management, Lake Associations & Citizen Science, Watershed Protection, Aquatic Invasive Species, Fisheries Management, Education & Outreach, Floodplain Management & Contaminants, and Policy & Commissions. The conference workshop—*Lake Ecology 101: How biology, chemistry and physics interact to shape how lakes function* will be taught by Shawn Devlin of the Flathead Lake Biological Station from 1:00 to 4:00 PM on Wednesday 3/13, and is free and open to the public.

Conference attendees will have a rare opportunity to hear global climate strategist, Dr. Edward Cameron put our changing climate in perspective during his conference keynote: *A just and sustainable world: Building low-carbon, climate resilient and inclusive economies*. We are thrilled to host three additional keynotes –Dr. Geoffrey Schladow, Director of the Tahoe Environmental Research Center, *The meaning of lake restoration in the face of climate change: The case of Lake Tahoe*; Dr. Jim Elser, Director of the Flathead Lake Biological Station, *The state of (some) Montana lakes*; and Jeff Mow, Glacier National Park Superintendent, *Glacier National Park: Challenges and opportunities during uncertain times*.

-more-

On Wednesday March 13 at 7:00 PM at the Whitefish Performing Arts Center, a free community presentation, *A glimpse of fading glaciers: Impacts on life in mountain regions*, will be jointly presented by Erich Pietzsch, Physical scientist from the USGS Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center and Dr. Jim Elser, Director of the Flathead Lake Biological Station. WLI will also be presenting its annual *Stewardship Award* and the *Chris Ruffatto Excellence in Education Award* at our Conference Banquet on the evening of March 14th.

We hope you will join WLI for this inaugural conference at one of Montana's premier conference and lodging facilities—the award-winning Lodge at Whitefish Lake—for a forum that will strengthen Montana's lake resource management

More information: www.whitefishlake.org, 406.862.4327

About Whitefish Lake Institute

Founded in 2005, the Whitefish Lake Institute is a 501 (3)(c) non-profit organization committed to acquiring scientific research, and to educating and engaging the local citizenry to protect the Whitefish area water resources of today, while providing a collective community vision for tomorrow.



Media Contact:

Lori Curtis
Science & Education Director
lori@whitefishlake.org
Whitefish Lake Institute
550 E. 1st Street, #103, Whitefish, MT 59937
Phone: 406.862.4327 ▪ Fax: 406.862.0686

###