

Decision 34 COM 7B.20

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having Examined Document WHC-10/34.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision 33 COM 7B.22, adopted at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009),*
3. *Acknowledges the results and recommendations of the September 2009 joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property;*
4. *Congratulates the State Parties, and in particular the Province of British Columbia (Canada) and the State of Montana (United States of America) and first nations representatives, on signing the new Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Flathead River Basin, including the property, which promises significant progress in the transboundary management of the property, in the context of its wider setting, and encourages the States Parties to ensure its effective, ongoing implementation through the development of specific joint programmes and projects;*
5. *Welcomes the commitments made by the Province of British Columbia to remove mining threats from the Flathead River Basin, and the initiatives in the United States of America regarding extinction of mining licenses, which address significant concerns regarding potential impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;*
6. *Takes note of the ongoing threats to the property from possible impacts on wildlife connectivity arising from issues outside the property, including residential, industrial and infrastructure development, and forestry practices, in both Canada and the United States of America, and requests the State Parties to jointly ensure that connectivity is considered as a key factor in planning and environmental assessment of such developments, in order to ensure the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;*
7. *Encourages the States Parties to share their experiences in the development of climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies with other World Heritage properties;*
8. *Also requests the States Parties to give particular attention to the above issues, and the responses to the recommendations of the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission, in their reports on the property during the second cycle of the Periodic Report for Europe and North America.*
9. *Also requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed regarding significant developments with respect to the above issues, considering the requirements of paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, and to give particular attention to these issues in their contribution to the periodic reporting process.*