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**(Neb.)-Hudson Meng Activity At Fort Robinson Tonight**



By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 09/13/2013 09:10 AM

(Crawford)-The Hudson-Meng Education and Research Center will provide a Special Friday Night Talk at Fort Robinson State Park this evening, beginning at 7 PM. Passport in Time (PIT) volunteer, Kate Kourbatova, will present a talk on the environmental history of the Great Plains, focusing on the prairies of northwest Nebraska.

This program will explore the history of the prehistoric Great Plains environment and climate. Over thousands of years to the present, humans have survived and adapted through drastic changes in climate that have altered the plants and animals that live in northwestern Nebraska. This special Friday night program will paint a picture of the present prairie as compared to the ancient North American Prairielands.

As we head into the future and face the possibility of climate change on the prairie, the solution might be to understand how ancient people have adapted to and affected their homes on the prairie. By using this knowledge, we can better understand our place in this changing environment that we call the Great Plains.

Kate Kourbatova describes the talk as "a celebration of the resourcefulness people have shown over thousands of years living on this vibrant and continually changing landscape."

Hudson-Meng Ranger Luke Hittner says, "We can see in the archaeological and historical records that the people who have understood their environment have the best chances of success in the future."

The "Once and Future Prairie -- Environmental History and Ecological Restoration" program will be free of charge. It will begin at 7:00 pm outside the Fort Robinson Activity Center.

(Story courtesy Nebraska National Forests & Grasslands)