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**Students Get a First Hand Look at Science and Exploration on Mt. Everest Through
ASC's Expedition to the Classroom**

Bozeman, MT May 15th, 2012 - Tuesday morning students from Paul Andersen's AP science class at Bozeman High School had the opportunity to converse with adventurers on Mt. Everest right from their classroom. During a special session of *Expedition to the Classroom*, a program created by *Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation* (ASC) that streams live media from science-based expeditions directly into classrooms, the explorer team of Willie and Damian Benegas spoke with students from Everest Basecamp about their expedition and the scientific data they are collecting while climbing the world's highest peak. ASC's founder, Gregg Treinish, explains the importance of such a unique science experience, "This provides a direct opportunity to make science 'cool.' If children can see tangible ways they can interact with the outdoors and simultaneously learn, contribute, and challenge themselves, there is no doubt that the impact will be lasting and profound."

The video chat with the Everest team lasted about forty-five minutes, and the students were able to ask questions about life on the mountain, hear how the adventurers plan to look for samples of plant life during the ascent, and understand what it was like to discover the highest known plant sample in the world last year at 22,000ft. By exposing the teens to the exciting side of science, Expedition to the Classroom has been monumental in cultivating a love of science and the outdoors. "I try to instill a deep understanding of science in my classroom. Unfortunately many students will never get to experience the excitement of discovery found in a science career. Programs like Expedition to the Classroom allow us to bring this exciting world into the classroom. The students can interact with scientists and adventurers rather than just reading about them in a book or a magazine," says Paul Andersen.

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This will be ASC's second installation of Expedition to the Classroom; last year Andersen's class and a 6th grade class from Asheville, North Carolina spoke with adventurers collecting data on the Antarctic Peninsula for an ASC scientist studying penguin colonies. ASC's student programs will extend beyond classroom video streams this summer to include a Grizzly tracking expedition for at-risk youth in Missoula and another tracking expedition in the

Sierras with under-served youth from W. Oakland, CA. These youth programs are an incredible opportunity for students to not only see first hand such a unique and remote landscape, but also to be inspired by such a vivid interaction with groundbreaking science and exploration. For More information on Expedition to the Classroom and ASC please visit <http://www.adventureandscience.org/expedition-to-the-classroom.html>.

About Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation

Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation was founded in January of 2011 with the understanding that many people traveling in the outdoors genuinely want to do more for the places they visit but often struggle with how to help. ASC exists to bridge this gap by pairing adventure athletes already traveling to some of the earth's most difficult-to-reach places with the scientists who need information from these areas. ASC also has the goal of creating unique and innovative learning experiences about science. while also saving the scientific and conservation communities millions of dollars in data collection costs. For more information visit www.adventureandscience.org

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