Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan (SK PCAP) - submitted by Michelle Yaskowich (Manager) and Ray McDougald (Chair) -

As the Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan (SK PCAP) is half way into its second year of the 2009-2013 Framework, we continue to make significant progress towards our goal of diverse organizations working together for native prairie conservation. The Partnership currently consists of 31 producer and industry groups, federal and provincial government, environmental non-government organizations, research agencies and educational institutions. With Year One under our belts, the status of the five focus group deliverables outlined in the 2009 Annual Workplan, relating to PCAP's five priority areas of focus including education, sustainable land use & development, managing invasive alien plant species, ecological goods & services, and grazing management, are summarized in the 2009 PCAP Update available for viewing on our website at www.pcap-sk.org under "Communications."

Examples of some PCAP deliverables accomplished to date through the 2009-2013 PCAP Framework, (which includes a new Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles, three goals and five priority areas of focus for the Partnership and is the foundation upon which Annual Workplans are developed, delivered and reported on by focus groups consisting of PCAP partners and other stakeholders) include:

- Assisted in the delivery of the 2009 Society for Range Management's *Discovering the Missouri Coteau* Workshop & Tour in Moose Jaw during Native Prairie Appreciation Week 2009, engaging 75 producers and technical delivery staff; "*Ranching From the Ground Up*" is the theme for 2010 and includes a more producer focus with topics including native prairie grazing, fire ecology, extensive/intensive grazing systems, water monitoring projects, impacts of oil & gas development on native prairie, producers' rights and reclamation through presentations and tours showcasing local producer operations in the Ponteix/Cadillac/Hazlet areas;
- Engaged 3,073 Grades 1-6 students at 52 elementary and Hutterite colony schools through "Eco-Extravaganza (Eco-X)" and the "Owls & Cows Tour" in the Grasslands National Park/Val Marie and Moosomin/Yorkton/Kamsack areas, respectively; delivery partners include AAFC-AESB, DUC, NS, PC-GNP, SME, SBOIC, SWA and funding was provided by the Government of Canada Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk, SaskEnergy, and the Carl Block Memorial Stewardship Education Fund;
- Re-launched the PCAP website in May 2009 as a one-stop-shop for native prairie conservation information, contacts and resources; there have been 3,536 hits on the wesbite from 30 countries to date;
- Began distributing a monthly newsletter in September 2009 to 31 partners, seven national & international affiliates and 90 other stakeholders to increase communication and showcase native prairie conservation activities and initiatives within and outside of our province;
- Piloted a Native Prairie Speaker Series from September 2009 to March 2010 aimed at
 providing up to date native prairie and Species At Risk research/activities with 161
 individuals attending in person, 36 viewing the live web cast and 326 hits to the speaker
 series page on the website; plans for the 2010-2011 series include two speakers a month:
 a lunch presentation geared towards technical delivery staff and an evening presentation
 geared towards urban residents;

- Began the process of developing a standardized database for range and riparian health assessment data to enable partners to compare data collected; the database should be completed and ready for use by partners by the end of 2010;
- Began to compile an inventory of the top three activities of each PCAP partner that affects native prairie to distribute amongst the Partnership annually to increase awareness of partner programs, best management practices, planning processes, policies, and requirements; annual distribution to the Partnership will begin in late 2010.

Additional information on the history and progress of PCAP including viewing the 2009-2013 Framework, 2010 Annual Workplan and 2009 PCAP Update, can be obtained by going to the PCAP website at www.pcap-sk.org. PCAP gratefully acknowledges financial and in-kind support from the following: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) through Agri-Environment Services Branch (AESB) and Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre (SPARC), the Carl Block Memorial Stewardship Education Fund (CBMSEF), Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund (CMDF), Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC), EnCana Corporation, Environment Canada (EC) through the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Government of Canada Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk (HSP), Horned Cattle Purchases Fund (HCPF), Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), Nature Saskatchewan (NS), Parks Canada - Grasslands National Park of Canada (PC-GNP), Penn West Energy Trust, Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), Saskatchewan Burrowing Owl Interpretive Centre (SBOIC), Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture (SMA), Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment (SME), Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment – Fish and Wildlife Development Fund (FWDF), Saskatchewan Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport – Royal Saskatchewan Museum (RSM), Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA), Saskatchewan Watershed Authority (SWA), SaskEnergy, SaskPower, TransCanada Corporation, University of Regina (UofR) and University of Saskatchewan – College of Agriculture and Bioresources (UofS).