



Saskatchewan

**Prairie Conservation
Action Plan**

2011 Update

Introduction

The Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan Partnership brings together agencies and organizations representing producers, industry, provincial and federal governments, environmental non-government organizations and research and educational institutions. Together, the Partners establish a five year Framework for collective action which acts as the context for annual work planning.

The 2009-2013 Framework is built on the Partnership's Vision and three Goals:

Our Vision: Healthy native prairie ecosystems as vital parts of our vibrant and strong communities.

Our Ecosystem Goal: Native prairie ecosystem health and biodiversity are conserved and restored as part of a functioning landscape.

Our Economic Goal: Sustainable uses of native prairie improve the livelihoods of Saskatchewan people.

Our Cultural Goal: Native prairie is a valued part of our culture and identity as Saskatchewan people.

In the 2009-2013 Framework*, the Partnership also identifies five areas of strategic action to meet these Goals and work towards the Vision. These are:

- **At Home on the Prairie:** Connecting to Native Prairie
- **Prospering with Prairie:** Sustainable Land Use and Development
- **Caring for Prairie:** Managing Invasive Alien Plant Species
- **Accounting for Prairie:** Valuing Ecological Goods and Services
- **A Working Prairie:** Grazing Management in Prairie Ecosystems

This 2011 SK PCAP Update reports on the status of each of the focus group deliverables to be achieved within the given year as outlined in the 2011 SK PCAP Annual Workplan. Each deliverable indicates the status of the deliverable as **not started**, **in progress**, or **completed** and provides an explanation.

* Please refer to the SK PCAP website at www.pcap-sk.org under *Action Plans* for a copy of the 2009-2013 Framework.

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At Home on the Prairie

Connecting to Native Prairie

Objective 2009-2013

More people are aware of and appreciate native prairie ecosystems and support and are engaged in sustainable, prairie related activities.

Measuring success 2009-2013

- Comparison of knowledge, attitudes and behaviours in people who have participated in prairie education programs vs. those who have not
- Target-group appreciation of prairie and support for prairie conservation
- Educational partnerships formed by promoting prairie-related activities
- Visitors to prairie sites promoted by the PCAP

Strategies

I. Continue to educate Saskatchewan youth and teachers about prairie ecosystems and prairie species at risk.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
a. Develop a new action-orientated environmental education program, <i>Taking Action For Prairie</i> and pilot 2 weeks of programming in October-November 2011 at 10-20 urban and rural schools in Regina, SK, targeting Grades 6-8 students and their teachers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of schools visited ➤ Number of students & teachers engaged through program ➤ Teacher / student evaluation/feedback ➤ Web Portal on PCAP website for action project updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PCAP staff (lead) - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Nature Saskatchewan - Prairie Learning Centre - Royal Saskatchewan Museum - Saskatchewan Environmental Society - Saskatchewan Ministry of Education - Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

Status: In Progress

Explanation: An education consultant was hired to develop programming, teacher resources, web portal and evaluations but due to a lack of funding, we were unable to pilot programming in 2011. The plan for 2012 is to acquire funding to engage Regina Grade 6-8 students and teachers in the Fall 2012/Winter 2013 through 1) a pre-delivery teacher information luncheon session, and 2) program delivery to students.

II. Target communication about and promotion of native prairie to an urban audience.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
b. Develop a communications plan to link prairie issues to an urban audience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identification of target audiences ➤ Key messages ➤ Identification of Partners and existing programs with similar mandate to explore possibility of collaboration ➤ Implementation strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PCAP (lead) - Nature Saskatchewan - Parks Canada - Grasslands National Park - Prairie Learning Centre - Royal Saskatchewan Museum - Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

Status: Completed

Explanation: The focus group feels that a communications plan has been informally developed throughout the work plan and therefore, this deliverable will be removed in 2012.

c. Coordinate a week-long celebration of native prairie through workshops and events hosted by PCAP partners that are targeted towards urban & rural residents, students & teachers, naturalists, technical and industry agency staff and producers, during Native Prairie Appreciation Week 2011.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identification of partners and level of involvement ➤ Identification of sponsors ➤ Festival agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PCAP staff (lead) - Meewasin Valley Authority - Nature Saskatchewan - Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan - Parks Canada - Grasslands National Park - Royal Saskatchewan Museum - Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Society for Range Management – Prairie Parkland Chapter
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Status: Completed

Explanation: Native Prairie Appreciation Week 2011 was promoted/celebrated through the following events:

- Proclamation of NPAW 2011 provincially by the SK Ministries of Agriculture & Environment and municipally by the Cities of Moose Jaw, Regina, Saskatoon, Swift Current and Weyburn, SK;
- NPAW 2011 Poster promoting "Step Into the World of Native Prairie" distributed to partners, city/town offices, museums, provincial/regional parks, tourist/visitor centers, and public libraries;
- A list of 20 ways for SK families to enjoy/appreciated native prairie during NPAW 2011 was sent with the poster and made available for download on the SK PCAP website;
- Poster Contest for youth ages 9-17 using the NPAW 2011 theme with contest flyer distributed to Scouts, Girl Guides, 4-H, schools, partners, museums, provincial parks,

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> visitor centers, public libraries, and local environmental youth groups; Promotion of SK PCAP partner/associate events (including Meewasin Valley Authority, Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan and Parks Canada - Grasslands National Park) held in conjunction with NPAW 2011 on the SK PCAP and Tourism SK websites; Articles about NPAW 2011 and poster contest were printed in the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture's <i>AgriView</i>, Tourism Saskatchewan's <i>SaskSecrets</i>, and Saskatchewan Forage Council's <i>Hay & Pasture Report</i>; SK PCAP Manager appeared on CTV News at Noon and Access 7; A press conference was held on Monday, June 20, 2011 with Environment Minister Dustin Duncan to officially kick-off NPAW 2011 on behalf of both Ministries, and unveiled the three winning NPAW 2011 posters; SK PCAP Booth at National Aboriginal Day (June 21) and Regina Farmers' Market (June 22) to hand out youth educational materials and native seed packets with a list of 7 local ways for Regina residents to get out and enjoy native prairie, respectively; handed out over 400 native grass/flower seed with NPAW 2011 promotion and 7 ways to enjoy native prairie in Regina and 200 seed packets of stiff/velvety golden rod, and a News Release was sent out on June 8, 2011 by the Government of Saskatchewan proclaiming NPAW 2011, and daily News Releases were sent out by SK PCAP during the week on the status of native prairie in Saskatchewan, NPAW 2011 Poster Contest Winners, SRM Workshop & Tour 2011, TESA Award and 2011 recipient and Ecological Goods & Services. <p>Plans for 2012 will be to increase promotion of the week to urban residents and students through distribution of a promotional poster and list of activities and booths at Farmer's Markets, National Aboriginal Day and garden centers. Planning for NPAW 2013 will also occur as 2013 will mark 15 years of NPAW.</p>		

III. Promote and provide opportunities to participate in prairie-related activities.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
d. Continue to update the PCAP website with current information for use by partners, technical delivery staff, urban/rural residents, teachers, students, consultants, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of new items/activities posted on website Number of hits per month on the new website 	- PCAP staff (lead)

Status: Completed

Explanation: In 2011, there were 7,640 visits by 3,944 visitors from 73 countries, an increase of 106% from 2010; of the 7,640 visits, 36% were direct traffic, 42% through search engines and 22% by a referring site. The main pages visited in order of priority include Home Page, Upcoming Events & Workshops, Native Prairie Restoration/Reclamation Workshop and Resources & Literature.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
e. Develop and distribute a monthly PCAP electronic newsletter to promote communication among Partners, affiliates, and other stakeholders/ organizations/individuals including partner and affiliate updates, research, upcoming events and prairie-related initiatives. Each issue to be posted on the PCAP website.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of newsletters distributed ➤ Distribution list 	- PCAP staff (lead)

Status: Completed

Explanation: Distributed 12 issues of the newsletter to over 400 contacts including SK PCAP partners, affiliates, associate organizations/individuals, producers, students and urban/rural residents.

f. Deliver 1-2 speaker series each month from September 2011 to March 2012 including one luncheon presentation with a technical focus (i.e. technical delivery staff) and an evening presentation with a general awareness focus (i.e. urban residents)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of people in attendance at each speaker series ➤ Number of people viewing the presentations via the live web cast each speaker series ➤ Number of people viewing the presentations on-line at a later date 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PCAP staff (lead) - Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) – Agri-Environment Services Branch - Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service - Nature Saskatchewan - Parks Canada – Grasslands National Park - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture - Saskatchewan Parks Service - Swift Current Creek Watershed Stewards - Royal Saskatchewan Museum - University of Saskatchewan – College of Agriculture & Bioresources - Wascana Centre Authority - Western Development Museum
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Status: Completed

Explanation: Delivered 14 presentations (7 technical and 7 public) from January to March and September to December, engaging 179 individuals in person, 72 watching the live webcast and 679 views of the archived presentations.

In 2012, the format will change to hosting 6 technical presentations alternating between Saskatoon, Regina (restaurant setting) and Swift Current, and 6 public presentations held in conjunction with partner and associate events including Friends of Wascana Marsh's (FOWM) *Wings Over Wascana*, Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA) AGM, Nature Saskatchewan (NS) Fall Meet, Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation (SWF) AGM, Heritage Saskatchewan AGM, and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) Science Fair.

Prospering with Prairie

Sustainable Land Use and Development

Objective 2009-2013

PCAP Partners identify, adopt, implement, and promote best management practices, planning processes, policies and/or regulatory requirements, important for the conservation and sustainable use of native prairie in Saskatchewan.

Measuring success 2009-2013

Native prairie – its extent, functions, and biodiversity – is conserved or restored as part of land use and development activities in Saskatchewan.

Strategies

I. Increase awareness of how Partners currently conserve and restore native prairie, and document progress in this area.

action 2011	deliverables	involved partners
a. Annually prepare and distribute a dynamic inventory of Partner programs, best management practices, planning processes, policies, and regulatory requirements that affect or influence the conservation and sustainable use of native prairie.	➤ 2011 inventory to PCAP Partners and interested stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AAFC – Agri-Environment Services Branch - Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service - Nature Conservancy of Canada - Nature Saskatchewan - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture - Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources - Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment - SaskPower - Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

Status: In Progress

Explanation: Currently, 17 of the 31 SK PCAP partners have completed the survey to collect information for the creation of a dynamic inventory of the top 3 activities of each partner group; only 1 partner within the focus group has yet to complete the survey. This will be an annual action as yearly updates will be required to maintain information currency.

II. Exchange ideas and new knowledge with Partners and other stakeholders about ways to successfully conserve and restore native prairie at each stage of a land use or development activity.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
b. Co-deliver with the Caring For Prairie Focus Group a Native Prairie Restoration/Reclamation workshop targeted towards oil/gas & power/right of way representatives, technical delivery staff, consultants and government officials from the three Prairie Provinces with a focus on how to manage restored/reclaimed native prairie.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of people in attendance at workshop ➤ Number of materials distributed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PCAP staff (lead) - AAFC – Agri-Environment Services Branch - Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service - Nature Saskatchewan - Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan - Parks Canada – Grasslands National Park - Redberry Lake Biosphere Reserve Association Inc. - Trans Gas/SaskEnergy

Status: Completed

Explanation: 220 participants (230 officially registered) from across the three Prairie Provinces attended a two-day workshop held February 8 & 9, 2012 in Saskatoon, SK; this was a 14% increase in attendance from 2011. Of the 230 participants registered, 59 were from Alberta, 155 from Saskatchewan, 12 from Manitoba, one from Ontario and three from the United States.

Eight different sectors were represented by the 230 participants including (listed from highest to lowest):

- Consultants (36%)
- Government (provincial & federal) (24%)
- Environmental Non-government Organizations (16%)
- Industry/Oil & Gas (10%)
- Other (5%)
- Companies/Producers/University & Research (each 3%)

The workshop focused on bridging the gap between native seed providers and users, and various methods for managing restored/reclaimed native prairie. New this year was a trade show, poster session and hands-on workshops in the afternoon on the second day. This was also the first year that sponsors were approached; 13 sponsors provided a total of \$19,550 in support (this does not include program funding that was already secured).

The Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan launched a Restoration/Reclamation page on their website prior to the workshop that will serve as a repository for information and resources on the subject.

93 of 220 evaluations were received and will be taken into consideration for the planning of the next workshop. Plans are to hold the workshop as **2 years on** (1st year – Regina, 2nd year – Saskatoon); **1 year off** as to not conflict with the Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference (held every three years between the three Prairie Provinces) and give participants/speakers a chance to implement what they have learned and follow up with contacts made during the workshop. Possible topics for the 2014 workshop include native prairie restoration/reclamation regulations, and cultivars vs. ecovars.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
c. Meet to discuss and identify strengths and weaknesses of programs, best management practices, planning processes, policies, and regulatory requirements that affect or influence the conservation and sustainable use of native prairie.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Minimum of two Prospering with Prairie Focus Group (PPFG) meetings ➤ A summary of 2011 discussions and suggested improvements (prepared by PPFG) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AAFC – Agri-Environment Services Branch - Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service - Nature Conservancy of Canada - Nature Saskatchewan - Redberry Lake Biosphere Reserve Association - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture - Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources - Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment - SaskPower - Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

Status: In Progress

Explanation: Met in April and November to discuss table indicated in Action A to define where there is a loss of prairie and what can be done to conserve it based on the partner information that has been received to date. Discussion will continue into 2012 as more information is collected and updated.

d. Disseminate information regarding new and innovative technologies, best management practices, planning process, policies and regulatory requirements to partner organizations through partner representatives and newsletters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Prepare articles for inclusion in PCAP newsletter (1-4 articles) ➤ Feedback to Partner organizations ➤ Partners incorporate learning and new information into their activities on or with native prairie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AAFC – Agri-Environment Services Branch - Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service - Nature Conservancy of Canada - Nature Saskatchewan - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture - Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources - Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment - SaskPower - Saskatchewan Watershed Authority
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Status: In Progress

Explanation: DUC and NCC spoke with Credit Union (CU), Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) and Farm Credit Corporation (FCC) to see if land with a conservation easement can be used as collateral for a loan. There was some success with CU, no success with RBC, and no problem with FCC. Will contact FCC in 2012 to put together an article on what they look for, what they accept, etc. as a seller's perception is not necessarily the same as a bank's.

III. Assist Partnership with monitoring and communicating trends in native prairie conservation.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
<p>e. Work with other Focus Groups, and possibly other stakeholders, to conduct and assess a literature review to estimate the amount of native prairie remaining in Saskatchewan including, if possible, the distribution of remaining native prairie, how it is being used and all native prairies altered or broken during the year, related to Partner activities. Discuss how to proceed once assessment of literature review is complete.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conduct literature review to estimate amount of native prairie in Saskatchewan ➤ Inclusion of applicable information gathered through PPFG's 2010 inventory (a) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PCAP staff (lead) - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service - Nature Conservancy of Canada - Nature Saskatchewan - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture - Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources - Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment - Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - University of Saskatchewan – College of Agriculture & Bioresources

Status: Completed

Explanation: A literature review about the quantity of native prairie remaining in Saskatchewan was conducted and included seven key recommendations for discussion and next steps. The document is available on the SK PCAP website at www.pcap-sk.org under *Resources & Literature > Literature*.

Caring for Prairie

Managing Invasive Alien Plant Species

Objective 2009-2013

Prairie land managers understand the importance of managing alien plant species on the prairie landscape and Saskatchewan has a coordinated approach to invasive alien plant species management.

Measuring success 2009-2013

- Target-audience knowledge of invasive alien plant issues
- Collaborative invasive alien plant management initiatives

Strategies

I. Educate public and private land managers about the threats of invasive alien plants to native prairie.

action 2011	deliverables	involved partners
a. Develop and promote educational activities and materials about invasive alien plants for use within existing PCAP education and information programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of activities developed and delivered ➤ Number of people reached 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nature Conservancy of Canada - Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture - The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities
<p>Status: In Progress</p> <p>Explanation: A number of organizations have developed and promoted educational activities and materials regarding invasive plants. The Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan gave invasive plant presentations to SIAS in Prince Albert, NAWMA in Winnipeg and the Early Grey Garden Club.</p>		
b. Co-deliver with the Prospering with Prairie Focus Group, a Native Prairie Restoration/Reclamation workshop targeted towards oil/gas & power/right of way representatives, technical delivery staff, consultants and government officials from the three Prairie Provinces with a focus on how to manage restored/reclaimed native prairie.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of people in attendance at workshop ➤ Number of materials distributed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PCAP staff (lead) - AAFC – Agri-Environment Services Branch - Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service - Nature Saskatchewan - Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan - Parks Canada – Grasslands

- National Park
- Redberry Lake Biosphere Reserve Association Inc.
- TransGas/SaskEnergy

Status: Completed

Explanation: 220 participants (230 officially registered) from across the three Prairie Provinces attended a two-day workshop held February 8 & 9, 2012 in Saskatoon, SK; this was an 14% increase in attendance from 2011. Of the 230 participants registered, 59 were from Alberta, 155 from Saskatchewan, 12 from Manitoba, one from Ontario and three from the United States.

Eight different sectors were represented by the 230 participants including (listed from highest to lowest):

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- Environmental Non-government Organizations (16%)
- Industry/Oil & Gas (10%)
- Other (5%)
- Companies/Producers/University & Research (each 3%)

The workshop focused on bridging the gap between native seed providers and users, and various methods for managing restored/reclaimed native prairie. New this year was a trade show, poster session and hands-on workshops in the afternoon on the second day. This was also the first year that sponsors were approached; 13 sponsors provided a total of \$19,550 in support (this did not include program funding that was already secured).

The Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan launched a Restoration/Reclamation page on their website prior to the workshop that will serve as a repository for information and resources on the subject.

93 of 220 evaluations were received and will be taken into consideration for the planning of the next workshop. Plans are to hold the workshop as **2 years on** (1st year – Regina, 2nd year – Saskatoon); **1 year off** as to not conflict with the Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference (held every three years between the three Prairie Provinces) and give participants/speakers a chance to implement what they have learned and follow up with contacts made during the workshop. Possible topics for the 2014 workshop include native prairie restoration/reclamation regulations, and cultivars vs. ecovars.

II. Implement collaborative Invasive Alien Plant Species prevention and control measures.

action 2011	deliverables	involved partners
c. Support the Saskatchewan Invasive Species Council by providing technical advice and technical support.	➤ Number of Partners involved in the Council	- AAFC – Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre - Nature Conservancy of Canada - Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan - Prairie Adaptation Research

action 2011	deliverables	involved partners
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- Collaborative (UofR)
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture
- Saskatchewan Research Council

Status: In Progress

Explanation: Partner organizations involved with the Saskatchewan Invasive Species Council submitted a proposal to IASPP to tackle multiple invasive species using mapping removal, awareness & education, and other techniques. The project is provincial in scope with a strong early detection, rapid response component.

d. Participate in Saskatchewan Invasive Species Council planning and priority setting exercises.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of PCAP Partners and other stakeholders participating ➤ Number of exercises underway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AAFC – Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre - Nature Conservancy of Canada - Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture - Saskatchewan Research Council
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Status: In Progress

Explanation: Refer to action c.

III. Monitor the occurrence of alien invasive plants in the Prairie Ecoregion.

action 2011	deliverables	involved partners
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e. Begin development of a coordinated weed monitoring standard, procedure and program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of organizations participating in process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan - Nature Conservancy of Canada - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture - The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities
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Status: In Progress

Explanation: All partner organizations involved have contributed to the monitoring invasive species or finding better ways to monitor the species. The PRIPS database continues to be streamlined based on the advice by this focus group, with many of our partners contributing data. Many of these same partners are also evaluating EDDMaps, a database developed in the U. S., being adapted for Canada. Also, some advice has been given to the Saskatchewan Conservation Data Centre regarding their development of an invasive species database.

Accounting for Prairie

Valuing Ecological Goods and Services

Objective 2009-2013

More people are aware of the ecological goods and services provided by native prairie ecosystems and begin to account for them in decision making.

Measuring success 2009-2013

- Target-group awareness of native prairie ecological goods and services [EGS] and threats to them
- EGS-based programs that support prairie conservation
- Acres of prairie influenced by EGS-based programs

Strategies

I. Communicate to target groups about the ecological goods and services provided by native prairie.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
a. Identify examples of people valuing EGS in Saskatchewan for use in marketing and educational materials.	➤ Distribution of marketing and educational materials	- Ducks Unlimited Canada - Prairie Trust - Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation

Status: In Progress

Explanation: Identified and promoted several examples of Ecological Goods & Services (EGS) in Saskatchewan and joined the multi-stakeholder Saskatchewan EGS Working group. An EGS fact sheet/brochure was developed and distributed within the Partnership and was made available on the SK PCAP website (www.pcap-sk.org) under *Resources & Literature > Resources*. An EGS News Release was also developed and distributed in conjunction with Native Prairie Appreciation Week 2011.

b. Produce an annual report on the state of Saskatchewan's natural capital and the threats to it, including habitats important to Species at Risk (SAR). This will be based in part on the findings of the Prospering with Prairie Focus Group.	➤ Distribution of report	- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Saskatchewan Forage Council - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture
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actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
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Status: In Progress

Explanation: A literature review was completed but this deliverable is now on hold due to pending results from Prospering with Prairie Focus Group assessment survey of remaining habitats, which this focus group assisted with.

<p>c. Create and distribute educational material and programs about EGS targeted to each of the following: school children; educational institutions; government; industry; special interest groups; urban; rural; RM's/SARM/SUMA; planners. Materials will also highlight EGS in SAR habitats. These efforts will utilize existing Partner marketing and education programs where feasible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Distribution of materials to target groups ➤ Produce at least one article in the PCAP newsletter annually ➤ Develop a fact sheet for the PCAP website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Prairie Trust
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Status: In Progress

Explanation: Conducted initial discussions with At Home on the Prairie Focus Group to include EGS materials in potential new education program, *Taking Action For Prairie*. An EGS fact sheet/brochure was developed and distributed as well as EGS materials within the Partnership and made available on the SK PCAP website at www.pcap-sk.org under *Resources & Literature > Resources*. An article about the EGS fact sheet/brochure was included in the SK PCAP April 2011 newsletter.

<p>d. Conduct baseline survey of awareness and practices, evaluate results, and adjust strategies where needed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Completion of survey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Prairie Trust
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Status: Not Started

Explanation: This deliverable is on hold until education and marketing materials are more broadly distributed.

II. Identify and communicate to Partners the program and policy options that support the consideration and maintenance of ecological goods and services.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
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<p>e. Develop a method to annually survey / measure / track landowners, industry, planners, and government's inclusion of EGS in their decision making processes and land use planning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Implementation of tracking system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Redberry Lake Biosphere Reserve Association Inc.
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Status: Not Started

Explanation: This deliverable is on hold until education and marketing materials are more broadly distributed.

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| f. Collaborate with Prospering with Prairie Focus Group to review programs, policies and legislation to identify those that place natural capital and ecological goods and services at risk. | ➤ Completion of reviews | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society- Ducks Unlimited Canada- Nature Conservancy of Canada- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture- Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation |
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Status: In Progress

Explanation: Attended April and November Prospering with Prairie Focus Group Meetings to discuss how best to review programs, policies, and legislation.

A Working Prairie

Grazing Management in Prairie Ecosystems

Objective 2009-2013

Increased land manager knowledge and adoption of grazing management practices that benefit both prairie ecosystems and economic returns, improved understanding of current range health and range health trends in Saskatchewan, and improved scientific understanding of the role of grazing management in prairie ecosystem health and biodiversity.

Measuring success 2009-2013

- Public and private land manager knowledge of best grazing management practices and their benefits
- Coverage and frequency of range health monitoring
- New knowledge of relationship between grazing management and prairie ecosystems

Strategies

I. Communicate with public and private grazing land managers about grazing management practices and their benefits.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
a. Assist in planning the Society for Range Management Workshop & Tour held in conjunction with Native Prairie Appreciation Week Tour 2011 in the Moosomin, SK area.	➤ Workshop attendance	- Society for Range Management (lead) - AAFC - Agri-Environment Services Branch - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Nature Saskatchewan - PCAP - Provincial Council of ADD Boards - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture - Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
Status: Completed		
Explanation: A one day workshop was held out of Maryfield, SK with 79 participants in attendance representing producers (26 or 33%), producer/environmental non-government organizations (23 or 29%), government (provincial & federal) (18 or 23%), consultants (5 or 6%), naturalists/other (5 or 6%) and research agencies (2 or 3%). The workshop focused on native prairie projects and ranch tours discussing a range of topics including Species At Risk, wetland restoration, basic/advanced plant ID, stocking rates, forage production, brush control and rotational grazing. The evening included a presentation by a local producer entitled <i>Oil & Gas Development on Native Prairie: A Landowner's Perspective</i> . Beneficial Management Practices (BMP) fact sheets for the Burrowing Owl, Loggerhead Shrike, Piping Plover, Sprague's Pipit and Ferruginous Hawk were included in the participant package. The workshop in 2012 will be held out of Saskatoon, SK.		

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| <p>d. Explore options to reprint popular, out-of-print, producer-friendly publications. Seek funding from outside sources to reprint.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Prioritized list of out-of-print publications ➤ Selected publications reprinted or made available on PCAP website | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saskatchewan Watershed Authority (lead) - AAFC – Agri-Environment Services Branch - AAFC - Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre - Saskatchewan Forage Council - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture - Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association |
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Status: In Progress		
Explanation: 650 copies of all three of the Range & Riparian Health Assessment Booklets (Native & Forest (red); Lakes, Sloughs and Wetlands (blue); Stream & Small Rivers (green)) were updated and re-printed. To date, 592, 470 and 615, respectively, were distributed to over 60 organizations and individuals. The booklets are also available on the SK PCAP website at www.pcap-sk.org under <i>Resources & Literature > Resources</i> .		

II. Facilitate integrated approaches to program and policy development related to grazing management.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
<p>e. Review existing educational material available to determine if there is a need to create a new learning experience.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Working group established among Partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ducks Unlimited Canada (lead) - Saskatchewan Forage Council (lead) - AAFC – Agri-Environment Services Branch - Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment - Society of Range Management - Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities

Status: Not Started

Explanation: Did not start due to time restraints.

III. Improve range health aggregated data storage and sharing.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
f. Develop a standardized database for health assessment data.	➤ Database completed and being used among partners	- Saskatchewan Watershed Authority (lead) - AAFC – Agri-Environment Services Branch - Ducks Unlimited Canada - Nature Conservancy of Canada - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture - Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment - Saskatchewan Research Council

Status: Completed

Explanation: Database is complete. Two workshops were held to train partners and other associates on how to use the database; 21 participants attended the workshops.

IV. Coordinate comprehensive and standardized range health data collection.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
g. Promote buy-in from all Partners to use a standardized system for native rangeland assessment, supported by the managers and field staff from each Partner agency.	➤ Letters to each Partner to promote this action	- PCAP staff (lead)

Status: Not Started

Explanation: Did not start deliverable as focus group is waiting until the database is complete before sending out the letter. The plan is to promote partner buy-in before the 2012 field season.

V. Improve our knowledge of relationships between grazing management and wildlife populations.

actions 2011	deliverables	involved partners
i. Hold a forum for Partners and other agencies to discuss biodiversity issues, focusing on species at risk, and exchange information between research scientists and grazing managers.	➤ Attendance at workshop/ forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AAFC – Agri-Environment Services Branch (lead) - Parks Canada - Grasslands National Park (lead) - Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture - Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities

Status: Not Started

Explanation: Did not start deliverable due to time restraints.

Appendix 1: 2011-2012 Core & Program Support

Core Support

Beef Industry Development Fund

Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture

Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment

Partner Support

- Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada – Agri-Environment Services Branch**
- Ducks Unlimited Canada***
- Nature Saskatchewan***
- Parks Canada – Grasslands National Park*
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture***
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment – Fish and Wildlife Development Fund*
- Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association**
- Saskatchewan Watershed Authority***
- SaskPower*
- Society for Range Management – Prairie Parkland Chapter**
- University of Regina*
- University of Saskatchewan – College of Agriculture and Bioresources***
- Western Development Museum (Saskatoon)**

* cash); ** in-kind; *** cash & in-kind

Program Support

- Bedrock Environmental Services Ltd.+
- Beef Industry Development Fund*
- Brett Young (Turf & Reclamation Division)+
- Cenovus Energy+
- Crescent Point Energy+
- Government of Canada*##+
- Enbridge Pipelines Inc.+
- Friends of the Royal Saskatchewan Museum*(including in-kind)+
- Horned Cattle Purchases Fund*
- Husky Energy+
- SaskEnergy##+
- SaskPower+
- SaskTel+
- Sherritt Coal+
- TERA Environmental Consultants+
- Viterra+

* SK PCAP deliverables and/or administration; # Taking Action For Prairie; + 2012 NPPRW Sponsor
