



Saskatchewan

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**Prairie Conservation  
Action Plan**

**2013 Update**

# Introduction

The Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan (SK PCAP) Partnership brings together agencies and organizations representing producers, industry, provincial and federal governments, 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 identified five areas of strategic action to meet these Goals and work towards the Vision. They were:

- **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

The final 2013 SK PCAP Update reports on the status of each of the focus group deliverables that were achieved within the time frame as outlined in the 2013 SK PCAP Annual Workplan. Each deliverable status is indicated as **not started**, **in progress** (for projects that had a one year timeline), **ongoing** (for projects that span multiple years) or **completed** and provides an explanation.

\* Please refer to the SK PCAP website at [www.pcap-sk.org](http://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.

Deliverables 2013	Performance measures	Involved partners
<p>a. Finalize programming for the new action-orientated education program, <i>Taking Action For Prairie</i> and pilot 2 weeks of programming in the fall to 300-350 Grade 6-8 students and their teachers at 10-20 urban and rural schools in Regina, SK.</p> <p>Web Portal on SK PCAP website for action project updates</p> <p>Provide a pre-delivery teacher information session through a luncheon where teacher resources will be handed out and reviewed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Number of schools visited</li><li>➤ Number of students &amp; teachers engaged through program</li><li>➤ Evaluation outcome (teacher/student satisfaction)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- PCAP staff (lead)</li><li>- Nature Saskatchewan</li><li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Education</li></ul>

#### Status: Ongoing

**Details:** Programming was edited and teacher guides were distributed to pilot schools. Teachers indicated they preferred to learn about programs via phone calls and email communication, waiving the information lunch sessions, as their schedules did not permit time. Extensive communication with interested schools led SK PCAP to review the schedule for Taking Action for Prairie (TAFP), adapting the program from a rigid, half-day program for three grades simultaneously to a flexible grade-by-grade program. Curriculum-supported prairie conservation introductory videos TAFP have been produced and one school will pilot the program prior to March 31, with two additional schools piloting in April, 2014.

Deliverables 2013	Performance measures	Involved partners
<p>In March, 2014, the Education Coordinator created opportunities for TAFP program delivery with schools across the province for the upcoming 2014/15 school year by sending program materials to 454 schools that includes Grades 6-8 within the prairie ecoregion of Saskatchewan. To date, 25 schools have responded indicating their interest to participate for the 2014-15 school year.</p> <p>The education coordinator participated in a Secondary Science Forum hosted by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, creating opportunities to share information, garner ideas from similar conservation-based education programs, and build a network of PCAP education contacts.</p> <p>All activity resources for three grades have been sourced, built or developed.</p> <p>The web portal was explored and a price quote was prepared. At this point, there is insufficient budget allocated in existing Taking Action for Prairie funds to support the creation of a web-portal.</p> <p>9 funding applications have been submitted; however, we have only been successful in obtaining funds from 3 organizations.</p> <p>A presentation outlining the program to 15 Southern SK Teachers organized through Inside Education was conducted.</p>		
<p>b. Hire an education consultant to develop programming for the new education program, <i>Adopt a Rancher</i> and complete the teacher, student and rancher guides.</p> <p>Hire a project coordinator to contact local ranchers and schools to determine who is interested in participating as a mentor.</p> <p>Pilot the program to one school and rancher in the Fall 2014.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of students &amp; teachers engaged through program</li> <li>➤ Evaluation outcome (teacher / student / rancher satisfaction)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PCAP staff (lead)</li> <li>- Nature Conservancy of Canada</li> <li>- Nature Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Education</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association</li> <li>- Water Security Agency of Saskatchewan</li> </ul>
<p><b>Status:</b> On-going</p> <p><b>Details:</b> Curriculum-supported programming was edited and printed, including the teacher, student and rancher guides. A project coordinator has been hired and has located a school and cooperating rancher interested in piloting the program. The pilot will occur in Ponteix, SK during Semester 2 of the 2013/14 school year.</p> <p>In March, 2014, the Education Coordinator created opportunities for AAR program delivery with schools across the province for the upcoming 2014/15 school year by sending program materials to each school that includes Grades 6-8 within the prairie ecoregion of Saskatchewan. To date, 6 schools have responded indicating their interest to participate for the 2014/15 school year.</p> <p>The education coordinator participated in a Secondary Science Forum hosted by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, creating opportunities to share information, garner ideas from similar conservation-based education programs, and build a network of PCAP education contacts.</p> <p>2 funding applications have been submitted; both of which were successful. The program is currently funded through the SK Ministry of Agriculture Ag Awareness Initiative as well as the Commission for Environmental Cooperation NAPECA grant.</p> <p>A presentation outlining the program to 15 Southern SK Teachers organized through Inside Education was conducted.</p>		

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

Deliverables 2013	Performance measures	Involved partners
<p>b. Coordinate Native Prairie Appreciation Week (NPAW) 2013, the third week in June dedicated to increasing awareness and appreciation of native prairie, in Saskatchewan residents. This year marks the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NPAW.</p> <p>The SK PCAP office will focus on increasing awareness of NPAW, targeting urban residents and students, through News Releases, a promotional poster, and booths at local Farmer's Markets, garden centres and during National Aboriginal Day. Partner workshops and events will also be held in conjunction with NPAW.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of News Releases distributed to media</li> <li>➤ Number of promotional posters distributed</li> <li>➤ Number of events attended with promotional booths</li> <li>➤ Number of SK PCAP and partner materials distributed</li> <li>➤ Identification of partners workshops and events held in conjunction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PCAP staff (lead)</li> <li>- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</li> <li>- Ducks Unlimited Canada</li> <li>- Friends of Wascana Marsh</li> <li>- Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Nature Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Parks Canada – Grasslands National Park</li> <li>- Royal Saskatchewan Museum</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Forage Council</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- Society for Range Management – Prairie Parkland Chapter</li> <li>- University of Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Water Security Agency of Saskatchewan</li> </ul>

### Status: Completed

**Details:** Native Prairie Appreciation Week 2013 was promoted/celebrated through the following events: (1) Proclamation of NPAW 2012 provincially by the SK Ministries of Agriculture & Environment and municipally by the Cities of Regina, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Weyburn & Swift Current; (2) NPAW 2013 Poster promoting "Rediscover Your Roots in the Prairies" distributed to 33 partners; (3) A kick-off event occurred at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum on Monday evening; with approximately 10 people attending; (4) 366 native seed packets were distributed during National Aboriginal Day in addition to Regina & Saskatoon Farmer's Markets; and (5) the SRM Workshop & Tour was held in the Weyburn/Big Muddy Badlands region with 50 producers, technical staff, etc attending; (5) 91 entries were received in the Poster Contest offered to ages 5-16 and (6) a Passport Contest outlining 22 ways to enjoy Saskatchewan's unique native prairie ecosystem was initiated with 450 passports distributed; however, only 1 entry was received.

Following October's renewal meeting, PCAP identified several strengths as well as some gaps that need to be addressed regarding prairie conservation awareness and other issues for the Saskatchewan public. A funding opportunity came up through the Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program (CAAP) for short-term projects that are completed before year-end. AS such, PCAP contracted Insightrix Research Inc. to conduct a public survey panel to gain insight and develop a baseline of public awareness of prairie conservation in Saskatchewan. Also, given the context of the funding requirements and the discussion surrounding EG&S, as well as a lack of information on Saskatchewan-based consumer support for EGS programs, EGS questions were also included.

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

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
<p>c. Continue to update the SK PCAP website with current information for use by partners, technical delivery staff, urban/rural residents, teachers, students, consultants, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of visitors and hits to website</li> <li>➤ Number of countries visiting the website</li> <li>➤ Identification of traffic source</li> <li>➤ Identification of the top five pages visited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PCAP staff (lead)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Status: Completed</b></p> <p><b>Details:</b> As of March 24, 2014 there were 7,979 visits by 4,939 visitors from 73 countries, compared with 8,110 visits by 4,578 visitors from 78 different countries in the 2012-13 program year. Of these site visits, 59.4% were new visitors to the site. 3,766 hits were acquired via search engine (ie. Google, Bing); 2,839 were direct site visits; and the balance of site visits were through referrals from other sites, such as wildaboutsaskatoon.org, sia.sk.ca, clra.ca, and Facebook.) The main pages visited in order of priority include Home Page, Native Prairie Restoration Workshop Details, Upcoming Events &amp; Workshops, Resources &amp; Literature, Prairie Speaker Series, and Job Opportunities.</p> <p>Sask PCAP Facebook page is also a way that interested participants can connect and follow our activities. Currently, PCAP has 177 people who “like” our page and sharing information from this forum on other pages garners between 40 and 240 additional views per share of our content.</p> <p>Note: A twitter account was also created in September; to date there are 250 followers and SK PCAP has a total of 480 tweets. Plans for 2014 include a week dedicated to each of the following Species at Risk: the Burrowing Owl, Greater Sage-grouse, Piping Plover and Sprague's Pipit, another week aimed at general SAR and native prairie information and finally a week creating awareness about native prairie habitat fragmentation. Existing hashtags used include #Prairie, #PrairieProud, #NPRRW14, and #NPAW14.</p>		
<p>d. 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 SK PCAP website.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of newsletters distributed</li> <li>➤ Number of contacts receiving the newsletter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PCAP staff (lead)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Status: Completed</b></p> <p><b>Details:</b> Distributed 12 issues of the newsletter to 551 contacts including SK PCAP partners, affiliates, associate organizations/individuals, producers, students and urban/rural residents.</p>		
<p>e. Deliver 6 luncheon presentations targeted towards technical delivery staff from January-March &amp; October-December 2013, alternating between Saskatoon, Regina and Swift Current, SK.</p> <p>Deliver 6 presentations targeted towards urban/rural residents, producers, naturalists,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of individuals in attendance</li> <li>➤ Number of individuals viewing live webcast</li> <li>➤ Number of individuals viewing archived presentations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PCAP staff (lead)</li> <li>- First Nations University of Canada</li> <li>- Friends of Wascana Marsh</li> <li>- Heritage Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Nature City Festival</li> <li>- Nature Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Friends of the Royal</li> </ul>

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
<p>hunters and First Nations youth held in conjunction with partner/associate events.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saskatchewan Museum</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation</li> <li>- University of Saskatchewan – College of Agriculture &amp; Bioresources</li> </ul>
<p><b>Status: Completed</b></p>		
<p><b>Details:</b> Delivered 14 presentations (6 technical and 8 public) from January to March and September to December, engaging 950 individuals in person, and 75 viewers via webcast or archived presentations.</p>		
<p>f. Provide an article for each issue (five) of the <i>Beef Business</i> magazine targeting livestock producers managing native prairie.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of articles published</li> <li>➤ Circulation of magazine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PCAP staff (lead)</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association</li> </ul>
<p><b>Status: Completed</b></p>		
<p><b>Details:</b> Provided six articles to the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association for five issues of the publication. All six were published. The magazine has a circulation of approximately 10,000 producers.</p>		



# 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.

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	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.	➤ Number of copies of 2013 inventory distributed to SK PCAP Partners and interested stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) – Agri-Environment Services Branch</li> <li>- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society</li> <li>- Ducks Unlimited Canada</li> <li>- Environment Canada (EC) – Canadian Wildlife Service</li> <li>- Nature Conservancy of Canada</li> <li>- Nature Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of the Economy</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment</li> <li>- SaskPower</li> <li>- Water Security Agency of Saskatchewan</li> </ul>

**Status:** Complete

**Details:** The inventory table was sent out to partners early in the year; two groups updated their information and there have been no new additions since. As this activity requires cooperation between PCAP and its partners, an alternative means of collecting or reporting program information may be developed for the future.

## 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.

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
<p>b. 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.</p> <p>Complete a summary of 2013 discussions and suggested improvements (prepared by PPFG)</p>	<p>➤ Minimum of two Prospering with Prairie Focus Group (PPFG) meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AAFC – Science &amp; Technology Branch</li> <li>- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society</li> <li>- Ducks Unlimited Canada</li> <li>- EC – Canadian Wildlife Service</li> <li>- Nature Conservancy of Canada</li> <li>- Nature Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Redberry Lake Biosphere Reserve Association</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of the Economy</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment</li> <li>- SaskPower</li> <li>- Water Security Agency of Saskatchewan</li> </ul>
<p><b>Status: Incomplete</b></p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> There were no Prospering with Prairie meetings held in 2013. The intention was for two meetings to be held to discuss the workplan as the priority moving forward was on review of the table in Action A so comment on programs and practices that affect conservation and sustainable use of native prairie could be made.</p>		
<p>c. Disseminate information regarding new and innovative technologies, best management practices, planning process, policies and regulatory requirements to partner organizations through partner representatives and newsletters.</p>	<p>➤ Number of articles included in SK PCAP newsletter (1-4 articles)</p> <p>➤ Feedback to Partner organizations</p> <p>➤ Number of partners who incorporate learning and new information into their activities on or with native prairie</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AAFC – Science &amp; Technology Branch</li> <li>- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society</li> <li>- Ducks Unlimited Canada</li> <li>- EC – Canadian Wildlife Service</li> <li>- Nature Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of the Economy</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment</li> <li>- SaskPower</li> <li>- Water Security Agency of Saskatchewan</li> </ul>
<p><b>Status: Complete</b></p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> Spring and fall articles (2) were provided for dissemination to partner organizations through the PCAP newsletter.</p>		
<p>d. Disseminate information regarding new and innovative technologies, best management</p>	<p>➤ Number of participants at</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AAFC – Science &amp; Technology Branch</li> </ul>

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
<p>practices, planning process, policies and regulatory requirements to relevant restoration stakeholders and organizations through the Native Prairie Restoration and Reclamation Workshop.</p>	<p>workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of tradeshow booths at workshop</li> <li>➤ Amount of sponsorship support from restoration sectors for this event</li> <li>➤ Feedback to SK PCAP</li> <li>➤ Number of partners involved in planning committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EC – Canadian Wildlife Service</li> <li>- Nature Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Nature Conservancy</li> <li>- Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan</li> <li>-</li> <li>- Parks Canada – Grasslands National Park</li> <li>-</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of the Economy</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment</li> <li>- SaskPower</li> <li>- Society for Range Management - PPC</li> <li>- Water Security Agency of Saskatchewan</li> </ul>

**Status:** Complete

**Explanation:** Spring and fall articles (2) were provided for dissemination to partner organizations through the PCAP newsletter.

# 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.

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	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"> <li>➤ Number of activities developed and delivered</li> <li>➤ Number of people reached</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nature Conservancy of Canada</li> <li>- Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Forage Council</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities</li> </ul>

**Status:** Complete

**Explanation:** The deliverables will be hard to measure as the focus group hasn't received any information on numbers from any of the groups, and they may not have collected any data like that. All of the partners listed for this strategy were involved.

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

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
b. Support the Saskatchewan Invasive Species Council by providing technical advice and technical support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of Partners involved in the Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nature Conservancy of Canada</li> <li>- Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Research Council</li> </ul>

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
<b>Status: Complete</b>		
<b>Explanation:</b> Four partners are involved in the council; unfortunately, AAFC dropped their representation on the Saskatchewan Invasive Species Council (SISC) a year ago due to the staff turnover and cutbacks.		

c. Participate in Saskatchewan Invasive Species Council planning and priority setting exercises.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of SK PCAP Partners and other stakeholders participating</li> <li>➤ Number of exercises underway</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nature Conservancy of Canada</li> <li>- Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Research Council</li> </ul>
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<b>Status: Complete</b>		
<b>Explanation:</b> Four partners are involved in the council; unfortunately, AAFC dropped their representation on the Saskatchewan Invasive Species Council (SISC) a year ago due to the staff turnover and cutbacks.		

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

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
c. Begin development of a coordinated weed monitoring standard, procedure and program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of organizations participating in process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Nature Conservancy of Canada</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities</li> </ul>
<b>Status: Complete</b>		
<b>Explanation:</b> In the first years of the action plan, this focus group had been contributing data to the PRIPS database, but this has since been disused and has had its data transferred to the more widely used EDDMaps database. Caring for Prairie focus group was also consulted on the iMapInvasives database which has now been implemented by the Ministry of Environment and which the focus group now also contributes data to. All partners who initially contributed their support have followed through.		

# 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.

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
a. Identify examples of people valuing EGS in Saskatchewan for use in marketing and educational materials.	➤ Distribution of marketing and educational materials	- To be determined
<p><b>Status: Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> Meetings of the multi-stakeholder Saskatchewan EGS Working Group continue. An EGS Fact Sheet/Brochure was available for distribution, and an article about the Focus Area was prepared for the PCAP Newsletter.</p>		
b. Produce and distribute an annual report on the state of Saskatchewan's natural capital and the threats to it, including habitats important to Species at Risk. This will be based in part on the findings of the Prospering with Prairie Focus Group.	➤ Number of reports distributed	- To be determined
<p><b>Status: On Hold</b></p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> Work is ongoing but on hold pending review/discussion of Prospering with Prairie's assessment of remaining habitats.</p>		

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
c. Develop and distribute educational materials/programs about EGS targeted towards students, educational institutions, government, industry, special interest groups, urban/rural residents, RM's/SARM/SUMA, and planners. Materials will also highlight EGS in relation to Species at Risk habitats. These efforts will utilize existing Partner marketing and education programs where feasible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of materials distributed to target groups</li> <li>➤ Produce at least one article in the SK PCAP newsletter annually</li> <li>➤ Develop a fact sheet for the SK PCAP website</li> </ul>	- To be determined

**Status: Ongoing**

**Explanation:** An EGS Fact Sheet is available for distribution and an article about the Focus Area was produced for the PCAP Newsletter. EGS materials were also circulated internally within PCAP's membership.

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

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
d. 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Completion of reviews</li> </ul>	- To be determined

**Status: On Hold**

**Explanation:** No Prospering with Prairie Focus Group meetings have been held to determine the best method of facilitating discussions revolving around programs, policies and legislation.

Additional work in this Focus Area took place as an opportunity for funding arose to complete a general survey of the Saskatchewan public about their opinions and attitudes related to Ecological Goods and Services. A full report of that survey can be found at: [http://www.pcap-sk.org/rsu\\_docs/documents/CAAP\\_SK\\_PCAP\\_2013\\_Consumer\\_Survey\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.pcap-sk.org/rsu_docs/documents/CAAP_SK_PCAP_2013_Consumer_Survey_FINAL.pdf)

# 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.

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
a. Assist in planning the 2013 Society for Range Management – Prairie Parkland Chapter’s Workshop & Tour held in the Big Muddy area, in conjunction with Native Prairie Appreciation Week 2013.	➤ Workshop attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Society for Range Management – Prairie Parkland Chapter (lead)</li> <li>- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</li> <li>- Ducks Unlimited Canada</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Forage Council</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- University of Saskatchewan</li> <li>- Water Security Agency of Saskatchewan</li> </ul>

**Status:** Completed

**Explanation:** A two day event was hosted on June 18-19, 2013 at Weyburn/Big Muddy area with 50 people registered. The tour joined forces with the Saskatchewan Pasture School for 2013.



Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
<p>b. Assist with Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre Field Day in Swift Current to showcase grazing and forage research from use of native and tame forage perspectives.</p> <p>Development of technology transfer articles/handouts for the field day/tour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Workshop Attendance</li> <li>➤ Number of technology transfer articles/handouts developed for the field day/tour</li> <li>➤ Produce at least one article in the PCAP newsletter and beneficial native species for grazing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AAFC – Science &amp; Technology Branch</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Forage Council</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- Southwest Forage Association</li> </ul>
<p><b>Status: Not Started</b></p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> Partner reorganizations and restructuring led to cancellation of this event.</p>		
<p>c. Provide information on identification of native species for restoration/forage production, the impact climate has on native species and their communities, identifying key components for reseeding efforts and the impact management systems have on restructuring plant communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Newsletter Article</li> <li>➤ Factsheets developed</li> <li>➤ Conduct a Technical Speaker Series Presentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AAFC – Science &amp; Technology Branch</li> </ul>
<p><b>Status: In Progress</b></p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> Posters on “Benefits of Warm Season Grasses” and “Benefits of Diverse Plant Communities”</p> <p>Article on “Diversification of Forage Stands: Improving Yields by Adding 2 Legumes”</p> <p>Presentation on “World Interest in Diverse Native Plant Stands”</p>		
<p>d. Distribution of information on grazing management and plant ID guides</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of publications distributed</li> <li>➤ Number of people reached</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Saskatchewan Forage Council (lead)</li> </ul>

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> Plant ID Guides – 1212</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Weed Guides – 1062</li> <li>- Weed factsheets – 105</li> </ul> <p>Plus an additional 100 forage management publications and tools distributed</p>		

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

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
e. Develop newsletter articles and fact sheets on native species and biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of newsletter articles produced</li> <li>➤ Number of factsheets distributed</li> </ul>	- AAFC – Science & Technology Branch
<p><b>Status:</b> Not Completed</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b></p>		

## III. Improve range health aggregated data storage and sharing.

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
f. Train agency staff and encourage use of the standardized database for health assessment data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 1 training workshop on how to use the database</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Saskatchewan Research Council (lead)</li> <li>- Water Security Agency of Saskatchewan (lead)</li> <li>- AAFC – Science &amp; Technology Branch</li> <li>- Ducks Unlimited Canada</li> <li>- Nature Conservancy of Canada</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment</li> </ul>
<p><b>Status:</b> Complete</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> Workshop held May 7, 2013 in Regina with 5 people in attendance.</p>		

## IV. Coordinate comprehensive and standardized range health data collection.

Deliverables 2013	Performance Measures	Involved Partners
g. Continue to promote buy-in from all Partners to use a standardized system for rangeland assessment and data storing, supported by the managers and field staff from each SK PCAP Partner agency.	➤ Letters and/or phone calls to each Partner to promote this action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AAFC – Science &amp; Technology Branch</li> <li>- Ducks Unlimited Canada</li> <li>- Nature Conservancy of Canada</li> <li>- Saskatchewan Research Council</li> <li>- University of Saskatchewan – College of Agriculture &amp; Bioresources</li> <li>- Water Security Agency of Saskatchewan</li> </ul>

**Status:** On Hold

**Explanation:** Staff turnover has resulted in this deliverable being put on hold.

# Appendix 1: 2013-2014 Financial & In-Kind Support

## Partner Support

- Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada – Science and Technology Branch\*\*
- Ducks Unlimited Canada\*\*\*
- Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service \*\*
- Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan Inc.\*\*
- Nature Conservancy of Canada\*\*
- Nature Saskatchewan\*\*\*
- Parks Canada – Grasslands National Park\*\*\*
- Prairie Learning Centre\*\*
- Saskatchewan Environmental Society\*\*
- Saskatchewan Forage Council\*\*
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture\*\*\*
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment – Fish and Wildlife Development Fund\*\*\*
- Saskatchewan Ministry of the Economy\*\*
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Parks, Culture & Sport\*\*
- Saskatchewan Research Council \*\*
- Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association\*\*
- Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation\*\*
- SaskPower\*\*\*
- Society for Range Management – Prairie Parkland Chapter\*\*
- University of Regina \*\*
- University of Saskatchewan – College of Agriculture and Bioresources\*\*\*
- Water Security Agency of Saskatchewan\*\*\*

\* cash; \*\* in-kind; \*\*\* cash & in-kind

## Program Support

- Saskatchewan Beef Industry Development Fund\*

- First Nations University of Canada\*\*
- Friends of the Royal Saskatchewan Museum\*\*
- Friends of Wascana Marsh\*\*
- Government of Canada\*
- Heritage Saskatchewan\*\*
- Horned Cattle Purchases Fund\*
- NatureCity Festival\*\*
- Regina Public Library\*\*
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Education\*\*

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\* cash; \*\* in-kind; \*\*\* cash & in-kind