



Saskatchewan
Prairie Conservation
Action Plan



ANNUAL REPORT



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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 (the Partners).

The PCAP Partnership works to:

Develop and foster common vision and goals, identify priority issues and develop and implement actions to address conservation and sustainable management of native prairie;

Identify and fill gaps in native prairie research and activities among the partners, reducing duplication;

Improve public understanding and valuing of native prairie through initiatives such as the Native Prairie Appreciation Week;

Share ideas and find common ground where possible while respecting different perspectives.

Together, the Partners establish a five-year Strategic Plan for collective action which provides the context for annual work planning.

The 2024-2028 Strategic Plan is built on the Partnership's Vision and Mission:

SK Prairie Conservation Action Plan Vision

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

Our Mission

Our shared mission is to facilitate the conservation, enhancement, and restoration of Saskatchewan native prairie ecosystems for all living things, including the people who derive cultural and socio-economic value from these lands, through our core strategies of:

- Collaborating for and promoting the maintenance and enhancement of native prairie;
- Enabling the current and next generation through education, knowledge transfer and innovation, and;
- Supporting land users to continue beneficial land practices.

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Core Strategy A: Collaborating for and promoting the maintenance and enhancement of native prairie.

1. Promote, collaborate and participate in International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) 2026.

- **Communicate the IYRP story to PCAP Partners and other interested parties**
 - Engagement sessions led by A. Muller (UofS/SRM-PPC)
- **Promote and participate in activities and events in 2026.**
 - A Trello Board was created for the IYRP that includes events, resources, etc (<https://trello.com/b/EKfGmpt0/2026-international-year-of-rangelands-and-pastoralists-canadian-resources>)
 - IYRP Kick-off Events
 - Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference in Saskatoon in May 2026
 - A Quarterly Book Club
 - Native Prairie Appreciation Week Tour and other activities in June 2026
 - Working with libraries in the province to focus programming and messaging around IYRP

2. Continue to build capacity for prairie conservation through in-person collaboration with all users of the landscapes.

- **Continue to deliver Native Prairie Restoration and Reclamation Workshop (NPRRW).**

In February 2025, we delivered the 11th Native Prairie Restoration/Reclamation Workshop (NPRRW) in Regina, SK to over 230 people from western Canada and the northern United States. They heard 3 Plenary Presentations, an Expert Panel Discussion, 11 “Speed Dating” case studies, one hands-on case study, 27 break-out presentations, and viewed 12 posters and 16 trade show booths. 110 participants attended the Prairie Fire Summit that has held on the Tuesday, planned by the Canadian Prairies Prescribed Fire Exchange. A total of 250 individuals attending at some point during the 3 days.

a) Silent auction: Thank you to the generous donors, dozens of packages were available and made almost \$3,000 for the education programs and the Native Prairie Speaker Series

b) Highlights include networking, the learning opportunities and the information shared. Participants want to continue in-person NPRRW on same schedule, where NPRRW occurs every 2 out of 3 years and participants appreciated the joint event with the Prairie Fire Summit to cut down on travel.

c) NPRR Grant: 6 applications were received and the winner was One School One Farm Shelterbelt Project.

➤ **Continue to deliver Native Prairie Appreciation Week (NPAW) events and tour.**

Native Prairie Appreciation Week (June 16-22, 2024) was declared or proclaimed Moose Jaw, Regina, Swift Current, and Saskatoon, as well as the Ministries of Environment and Agriculture.

Regular NPAW activities included Youth Poster Contest, a Social Media Photo Contest, delivered a social media campaign aimed at the general public about native prairies and wildlife, stewardship resources, etc. We also attended Farmer's Markets in Regina, Moose Jaw and Swift Current to give away wildflowers seed packets, NPAW bookmarks and information. We also hosted two webinars during the week, that were well received. We also co-hosted a NPAW Tour with the Society for Range Management- Prairie Parkland Chapter in the Avonlea Badlands that was attended by **26** individuals.



➤ **Continue to deliver Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference (PCESC) (2026)**

We started planning the 14th Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference in Saskatoon, SK, May 5-7, 2026.

➤ **Continue to deliver Species at Risk (SAR) workshops.**

We co-hosted **two** Species at Risk Workshops with partners (Nature Saskatchewan, Stock Growers Foundation, and South of the Divide Conservation Action program Inc) in Fir Mountain and Consul in February 2025). There were 15 attendees at each workshop.



➤ **Continue to deliver and expand School programs (Adopt a Rancher).**

Adopt a Rancher was delivered to **four** Grade 10 classrooms that included a field trip to a ranch with native prairie.

- **Continue to deliver and expand School programs (Taking action for Prairie).**
Taking Action for Prairie was delivered to **21** classrooms of grades 6-8 students.
- **Continue to deliver In-person speaker series.**
Five in-person presentation sin the South of the Divide area.

Core Strategy B: Enabling the current and next generation through education, knowledge transfer and innovation

- 1. By March 2029, collaborate to promote alignment of the K-12 curriculum with PCAP's mission.**

Started working on identifying ways PCAP's mission fits into the K-12 curriculum and existing gaps.

Continue to search for funding to expand Taking Action for Prairie and Adopt a Rancher.

- 2. Maintain and improve PCAP's hub of relevant and up-to-date information on native prairie values, economics, management and conservation.**

Rather than updating the existing website, we have decided to create a new user-friendly website with search functions to better access the information available on the PCAP website.

- 3. By 2028 develop a mechanism for collaboration to facilitate more effective data sharing by PCAP partners and land users to support future analytics.**

In the process of identifying existing data sets on grassland ecosystems, led by E. Lamb (U of S).

- 4. By March 2029, increase intergenerational engagement and connection to native prairie.**

No new activities to report at this time but the NPAW Youth poster contest, the NPAW Photo Contest and the Native Prairie Speaker Series does have a component of intergenerational engagement when parents participate with their kids.

Core Strategy C: Supporting land users to continue beneficial land practices.

1. **Maintain and enhance PCAP's land users' section of the website to include relevant programming.**

Rather than updating the existing website, we have decided to create a new user-friendly website with search functions to better access the information available on the PCAP website. Relevant programming will be included when the website is launched.

2. **By 2028, PCAP will promote and support knowledge transfer and mentorship amongst land users.**

No new activities this year.

2024-25 Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan Partnership

- Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) - Science and Technology Branch
- Birds Canada
- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS)
- Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC)
- Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) - Canadian Wildlife Service
- Meewasin Valley Authority
- Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan Inc. (NPSS)
- Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC)
- Nature Saskatchewan (NS)
- Parks Canada – Grasslands National Park of Canada (PC-GNP)
- Redberry Lake Biosphere Region (RLBR)
- Salthaven West Wildlife Rehabilitation & Education Centre
- Saskatchewan Aboriginal Land Technicians (SALT)
- Saskatchewan Bison Association (SBA)
- Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association (SCA)
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport
- Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM)
- Saskatchewan Burrowing Owl Interpretative Centre (SBOIC)
- Saskatchewan Environmental Society (SES)
- Saskatchewan Forage Council (SFC)
- Saskatchewan Outdoor and Environmental Education Association (SaskOutdoors)
- Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA)

- Saskatchewan Stock Growers Foundation (SSGF)
- Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation (SWF)
- Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds (SAW)
- SaskEnergy
- SaskPower
- Society for Range Management (SRM) - Prairie Parkland Chapter
- South of the Divide Conservation Action program Inc. (SODCAP Inc.)
- University of Regina
- University of Saskatchewan – College of Agriculture and Bioresources, College of Arts and Science and Department of Plant Sciences
- Water Security Agency (WSA)

2024-25 Financial & In-Kind Support

SK PCAP gratefully acknowledges financial support in 2024-2025 from:

Canadian Forage and Grassland Association, Ducks Unlimited Canada, K+S youth+us, North American Helium, Nutrien, Parks Canada – Grasslands National Park, Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association, Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment - Fish and Wildlife Development Fund, SaskEnergy, SaskTel, SaskWater, TC Energy, University of Regina – Faculty of Science, University of Saskatchewan - College of Agriculture and Bioresources, College of Arts and Science and Department of Plant Sciences, Water Security Agency, Wildlife Habitat Canada, and the Government of Canada through the federal Department of the Environment (Environment and Climate Change Canada-Priority Places).

SK PCAP gratefully acknowledges in-kind support in 2024-25 from:

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - Science and Technology Branch, Birds Canada, Blazing Star Wildflower Seed Company, Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society, Canadian Western Agribition, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada- Canadian Wildlife Service, Meewasin Valley Authority, Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan, Nature Conservancy of Canada, Nature Saskatchewan, Parks Canada – Grasslands National Park, Redberry Lake Biosphere Region, Saskatchewan Aboriginal Land Technicians, Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, Saskatchewan Bison Association, Saskatchewan Burrowing Owl Interpretive Centre, Saskatchewan Environmental Society, Saskatchewan Forage Council, Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment, Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources, Saskatchewan Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association, Saskatchewan Stock Growers Foundation, Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation, SaskEnergy, SaskOutdoors, SaskPower, Society for Range Management - Prairie Parkland Chapter, South of the Divide Conservation Action Program Inc., University of Regina, University of Saskatchewan – College of Agriculture and Bioresources, College of Arts and Science and Department of Plant Sciences, Water Security Agency and the many speakers for the Native Prairie Speaker Series and the Native Prairie Restoration/Reclamation Workshop.