

**Saskatchewan  
2003-2008 Prairie Conservation Action Plan (PCAP)**

**Partner Update Number Five (#5)**

June 1, 2003 to March 31, 2005



*“The native prairie is to be sustained in a healthy state in which natural and human values are respected”*

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## Introduction to the PCAP Partner Update #5

This Partner Update is the second in a series of annual Updates that correspond to the 2003-2008 Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan (PCAP). Partner Updates # 1, 2 and 3 documented progress on our 1998-2003 Action Plan. Partner Update #4 provided an inventory of Partner activities, relative to the 78 Actions contained in our 2003-2008 Action Plan for the period June 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004. This Partner Update #5 includes activities from Partner Update #4 and highlights activities that occurred between April 1, 2004 and March 31, 2005 as well as activities that have not been reported on previously. Representatives from 20 Partner groups participated in our March 2005 Plan Evaluation Meeting and achieved consensus on ranking progress on our 78 Actions on a scale of 1 to 5 as follows:

1	2	3	4	5
No Progress	Some Progress	Good Progress	Excellent Progress	Complete

This varies somewhat from the ranking system of Poor, Fair or Good that we used when evaluating progress on Actions in Partner Update #4.

This Update provides an opportunity for all Partners to communicate their prairie conservation activities, and facilitates the identification of progress and shortfalls in Plan implementation. Documenting progress is essential to keeping members of our Partnership and other interest groups current, involved and motivated on priorities and for communicating our accomplishments to funding agencies. In addition, these Updates facilitate an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the various Partner groups active in the Prairie Ecozone and result in increased efficiencies through stimulating multi-Partner approaches on Actions of mutual concern. It is hoped that the information presented within this Update will stimulate continued discussion, participation, and a sense of involvement and urgency in meeting prairie conservation goals in Saskatchewan. PCAP needs to be foremost in the minds of people making decisions that affect the integrity of prairie ecosystems.

## PCAP Operations

The PCAP Partnership has been chaired by the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA) since 1998. A full-time Manager, based out of the SSGA Office in Regina, is in place to guide Plan implementation. Meetings of the Partnership are held at least three times annually to exchange information, discuss issues, evaluate progress and develop strategies related to Plan implementation. The PCAP uses a consensus-based approach to decision making. Goal Working Groups, which were established during Plan renewal process, remain active and continue to facilitate work related to identifying progress and shortfalls related to each of our five Goals. The following Committees were established in November 2003:

**Executive Committee:** The Executive Committee is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the 2003-2008 PCAP. The PCAP Chair, Manager, Science Committee Chair and Prairie Provinces Liaison are ex-officio positions. Members include: Michael Burgess (SSGA- PCAP Chair), Greg Riemer (SE), Dr. David Gauthier (UofR-CPRC), Pat Fargey (PC-GNP), Steve Davis (EC-CWS – Science Committee Chair), Dean Nernberg (EC-CWS – AB-SK-MB Liaison) and Karyn Scalise (PCAP - Manager).

**Proposal Review Committee:** The Proposal Review Committee reviews proposals submitted to the PCAP Office for purposes of securing approval or letters of support. Members include Karyn Scalise (PCAP), Shelley Heidinger (SP), Ann Gerry (SE), Michael Burgess (SSGA) and other Partner representatives, as determined by their expertise.

**Science Committee:** This Committee is responsible for science-based components related to each of PCAPs five Goals. The Science Committee Chair is Dr. Stephen Davis (EC-CWS) and members include: Greg Riemer and Ann Gerry (SE), Tom Harrison (SWA), Pat Fargey (GNP), Alan Iwaasa (AAFC-SPARC), Bill Bristol (AAFC-PFRA) Tara Schmidt (DFO) and Dr. David Gauthier (UofR-CPRC).

**Policy Committee:** This Committee is responsible for addressing policy issues related to the following Objectives and Actions: I2b, II4a&b, II4c&d, II6, II7, II8a, and III4c. The Policy Committee Chair is Greg Riemer (SE) and members include Lyle Saigeon (DUC), Garth Wruck (NPSS), Mary Brick and Don Fontaine (SAF), Lesley Hall (SWA), Orin Balas (SSGA) and a representative from SWF that has yet to be identified.

**Prairie Conservation Award Committee:** The Prairie Conservation Award is awarded every three years in conjunction with the Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species (PCAES) Conference. The Committee is made up of previous award recipients. Dr. David Gauthier (UofR-CPRC) received the Award in 2004 and will join Greg Riemer - SE (2001), Miles Anderson – SSGA (1998), Dale Hjertaas – SWA (1995), Dr. Stuart Houston – retired (1989) on the 2007 Committee. This corresponds to Objective & Actions I3a & b.

**2007 Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species (PCAES) Conference Planning Committee:** This conference is held every 3 years and rotates between cities in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. The 2007 PCAES will be held in Regina and the Saskatchewan PCAP has assumed the challenge of organizing this major conference that is anticipated to attract over 500 delegates from several jurisdictions in the North American Great Plains. Committee members include: Chris Nykoluk and Laura Poppy (AAFC-PFRA), Alan Iwaasa (AAFC-SPARC), Michael Champion (DUC), Dr. Stephen Davis (EC-CWS), Kim Dohms, Tara Sample, Robert Warnock, and Michele Yaskowich (NS), Jordan Ignatiuk (NCC), Pat Fargey and Robert Sissons (PC-GNP), Karyn Scalise (PCAP), Glenn Sutter (RSM), Dale Weisbrot (SAF) Greg Riemer and Ann Gerry (SE), Allen Patkau (SSGA), Dale Hjertaas and Glenn McMaster (SWA), Dr. David Gauthier (UofR-CPRC) and Dr. Yuguang Bai and Dr. Joe Schmutz (UofS). Additional Partners are expected to participate on sub-committees that are in the process of being established. Three PCAES Conference planning meetings were held between April 1, 2004 and March 31, 2005. This supports Goal V, Objective 3, Action b.

## PCAP Progress – Executive Summary

This Partner Update reports on the activities of PCAP Partner Groups. Representatives from 20 Partner Groups participated in our March 2005 Plan Evaluation Meeting and reached consensus on ranking progress on our 78 Actions. In addition to tracking progress and shortfalls, this annual review serves to keep Partners informed and motivated and provides an invaluable forum for discussing issues affecting native prairie and strategies to address them.

### PCAP Progress in addition to Activities listed in Table 1 and Highlights

The following is a list of accomplishments since April 1, 2004.

- Proclamation of Native Prairie Appreciation Week 2004 (June 20-26) by the Minister of SAF, Mark Wartman. Joint press release with quotes from SAF and SE Ministers. SAF Minister Wartman announced NPAW and introduced a delegation of PCAP representatives in the Legislature.
- 3 meetings of the PCAP Partnership have been held.
- 3 meetings of the PCAES Planning Committee have been held and 11 subcommittees have been struck.
- Secured funding from 10 Partners and 4 granting agencies in addition to significant in-kind support from several Partner groups.
- Completed PCAP Partner Update Number Five, herein, which provides an inventory of Partner activities relative to our 78 Actions, and ranks progress on them.

**Table 1: Ranking of progress on PCAPs 78 Actions in the 2003-2008 Action Plan**

Action	Goal/Objective/Action	Ranking
	<b>GOAL 1: TO SUSTAIN A HEALTHY NATIVE PRAIRIE GRAZING RESOURCE</b>	
	<b>Objective 1 - Promote grazing management programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles</b>	
I 1 a	Continue extension programming with landowners	4
I 1 b	Host workshops, field days, range schools and other extension events	4
I 1 c	Produce and distribute extension materials for land managers	4
I 1 d	Provide ongoing training and resources for extension staff	3
I 1 e	Update and publish the "Range Plan Development Guide"	3
	<b>Objective 2 - Explore the economics of maintaining a healthy range resource for grazing</b>	
I 2 a	Encourage development of conservation cover programs that contribute to the ecological and socio-economic sustainability of rangelands	3
I 2 b	Develop an incentive-based lease rate structure program to encourage enhanced management on Crown leases	1
	<b>Objective 3 - Recognize and support the efforts of private and public land managers and industry that conserve native prairie</b>	
I 3 a	Increase support, awareness and publicity for both the SSGA/Royal Bank TESAward and the SRM Outstanding Achievement Award	2
I 3 b	Acknowledge the efforts of Award winners through development of a comprehensive communication plan (print media, advertising, presentations etc.)	2
	<b>Objective 4 - Increase the inventory of range resources on public and private lands to promote guidance on grazing management plans</b>	

I 4 a	Complete range assessments and management plans for remaining pastures plus assessments on Crown leases	3
I 4 b	Promote range health assessment and management plan development on private lands (e.g. range schools)	2
I 4 c	Promote range health assessment and management plan development on lands owned and managed by each respective agency or organization	2
I 4 d	Compile a “state of the resource” report, compiling all available public and private inventory data and analysis	1
	<b>GOAL 2: TO CONSERVE THE REMAINING PRAIRIE RESOURCE</b>	
	<b>Objective 1 - Complete and maintain an inventory of native prairie</b>	
II 1 a	Acquire and interpret the most recent land cover and soils maps for southern Saskatchewan (update 2001 NPSS/UofS-CPRC publication)	2
II 1 b	Identify areas of high risk for drainage or destruction	2
II 1 c	Coordinate the development of land information databases as tools for landowner negotiation, extension and technology transfer	2
	<b>Objective 2 - Continue to develop a system of managed conservation areas</b>	
II 2 a	Work towards completion of the RAN in the Prairie Ecozone	3
II 2 b	Identify and ensure that areas that are a priority for conservation receive protection	3
	<b>Objective 3 - Encourage voluntary stewardship to conserve native prairie</b>	
II 3 a	Support private stewardship programs that involve landowner extension work	3
II 3 b	Develop a landowner stewardship program directory	3
	<b>Objective 4 - Ensure that the remaining native prairie is protected from cultivation and development</b>	
II 4 a	Maintain the Crown’s commitment to conserving native prairie under its control; excluding prior commitments and promises made	3
II 4 b	Review all Crown land proposed sales involving native prairie and register CE’s where appropriate	3
II 4 c	In all circumstances, if WHPA land is sold a CE should be placed on the property to ensure that the natural values of the land receive the same level of protection as provided under WHPA	1
II 4 d	Acknowledge that under certain conditions there are options to make a CE agreement for a designated length of time rather than in perpetuity	5
	<b>Objective 5 - Improve the use of Conservation Easements (CEs) and other tools to conserve native prairie that accommodate and respect agricultural interests</b>	
II 5 a	Promote the use of CE’s to maintain native prairie on private lands	3
II 5 b	Do a gap analysis for non-purchase securement tools	1
II 5 c	Determine the types and levels of incentives required for native prairie conservation	2
II 5 d	Improve and simplify the process, agreements and valuation procedures for CE’s	1
II 5 e	Develop protocols, monitor and police CE’s	3
II 5 f	Determine the effect of CE’s on land values	3
II 5 g	Develop a forum for landowners to discuss pros and cons of CE's and other conservation tools	1
	<b>Objective 6 - Ensure that property taxation and assessment policies are favorable to native prairie conservation</b>	
II 6 a	Determine the impact of existing tax assessment policies and land use ratings on conservation of native prairie. Change policies that encourage “development” of land or place an unrealistic value on native prairie	2



II 6 b	Develop “conservation land” category with SAMA which better recognizes the public values provided	1
	<b>Objective 7 - Adopt and improve regulations, policies, programs, and economic instruments that reward rather than penalize stewardship and conservation of native prairie ecosystems</b>	
II 7 a	Identify and prioritize those regulations, policies, programs and economic instruments that are most significant	2
II 7 b	Promote adherence to federal and provincial wetland policies	2
II 7 c	Work to change regulations that are in conflict with stated government policies	2
II 7 d	Develop watershed conservation and/or restoration plans and improve watershed management	3
	<b>Objective 8 - Encourage government and industry to improve regulations, monitoring and technology to minimize negative impacts upon native prairie</b>	
II 8 a	Encourage industry to adopt the least invasive technologies when working on native prairie	3
II 8 b	Develop and deliver industry-specific conservation and stewardship education programs	2
II 8 c	Encourage government and industry to develop cumulative impacts guidelines	1
	<b>GOAL 3: TO MAINTAIN NATIVE PRAIRIE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY</b>	
	<b>Objective 1 – Improve our understanding of native prairie biological diversity</b>	
III 1 a	Encourage studies and research on native prairie ecosystems with emphasis on the effects of different land management practices on key components of native biodiversity	3
III 1 b	Develop prairie ecosystem management decision support computer model that includes representative components of native biodiversity as one of the model outputs	3
	<b>Objective 2 - Promote management of native prairie to maintain biological diversity</b>	
III 2 a	Develop and incorporate biodiversity best management practice recommendations in range extension communication products	3
III 2 b	Encourage information exchange between range managers, biologists and others	4
	<b>Objective 3 - Control the threat and impact of introduced invasive species to native prairie</b>	
III 3 a	Identify and promote awareness of the negative impacts of introduced and invasive species to native prairie	2
III 3 b	Investigate and promote methods to manage and control invasive species	2
III 3 c	Discourage the introduction of additional non-native species that threaten native prairie biodiversity (e.g. development of protective buffer areas around significant native prairie areas by seeding non-invasive pasture species)	3
	<b>Objective 4 - Promote restoration and recovery of native prairie ecosystems</b>	
III 4 a	Promote practical research to refine and increase use of restoration technology including the evaluation of the agricultural potential of using native species in forage production and grazing systems	4
III 4 b	Encourage the development and use of native seed mixes in permanent cover, reclamation programs and projects	3
III 4 c	Promote communication of Species at Risk legislation to stakeholders and actively encourage that implementation of the legislation be guided by the principal of	3

	working cooperatively with land managers	
III 4 d	Identify restoration and recovery targets of high conservation value, assess the feasibility of restoration and recovery of those targets, and develop restoration strategies for suitable target sites	3
	<b>GOAL 4: TO PROMOTE COMPLEMENTARY SUSTAINABLE USES OF NATIVE PRAIRIE</b>	
	<b>Objective 1 – Promote community based business opportunities associated with native prairie</b>	
IV 1 a	Provide the tourism industry and community organizations with information and technical experience to support hunting, fishing, eco- and agri-tourism and other recreational activities	2
IV 1 b	Liaise with rural revitalization groups to develop guidelines to ensure sustainable use of native prairie	2
	<b>Objective 2 – Encourage the development of a native plant production industry</b>	
IV 2 a	Develop a native plant materials centre for research and development	2
IV 2 b	Develop educational materials and guidelines to promote the use and production of non-invasive native plant materials for re-vegetation in and adjacent to native areas	3
IV 2 c	Encourage the establishment of new, mandatory testing and certification programs for native, forage, and horticultural species, varieties, cultivars and ecological varieties at the Federal and Provincial levels	2
IV 2 d	Promote the development of local native seed growers, processors, suppliers and testing facilities	2
	<b>Objective 3 – Advance the exploration of native prairie towards the sustainable development of other bio-based products</b>	
IV 3 a	Develop exploration and research and development tax credits or other incentives for companies exploring and developing new bio-based products	1
IV 3 b	Develop guidelines, management plans, and licensing for the harvest of native prairie species	2
	<b>Objective 4 – Recognize and quantify the socio-economic contribution of native prairie and perennial grasslands</b>	
IV 4 a	Survey the literature and conduct gap analysis regarding ecological services including grazing, and communicate the findings	2
IV 4 b	Encourage organizations to quantify and report on the economic and social benefits associated with their particular use of the native prairie resources economic and social benefits	2
	<b>GOAL 5: TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF NATIVE PRAIRIE AND ITS VALUES</b>	
	<b>Objective 1 – Promote awareness of the PCAP Vision, Goals, Objectives and Actions</b>	
V 1 a	Increase co-ordination and communication between agencies conducting research on native prairie ecosystems and feature a presentation relating to a particular Goal at each PCAP meeting	2
V 1 b	Maintain and regularly update the PCAP website	2
V 1 c	Link PCAP Partners to (and from) PCAP Website	3
V 1 d	Recruit new PCAP Partners	3
V 1 e	Promote the PCAP through the media	3
V 1 f	Compile and distribute annual Partner Updates	3

V 1 g	Promote the PCAP at trade-shows, conferences etc	2
V 1 h	Encourage Partners to regularly update staff and members	2
V 1 i	Provide newsletter articles to PCAP Partners and post them on websites	3
	<b>Objective 2 - Evaluate public awareness, appreciation and understanding of native prairie</b>	
V 2 a	Conduct and report on a questionnaire survey assessing public awareness, understanding and appreciation of native prairie	2
	<b>Objective 3 - Coordinate PCAP communication and education activities with other native prairie conservation initiatives</b>	
V 3 a	Contribute to the development of the CEC North American Grassland Conservation Strategy	3
V 3 b	Exchange information on a regular basis with other Prairie Conservation groups	3
	<b>Objective 4 - Educate the general public about native prairie ecosystems</b>	
V 4 a	Develop and deliver youth education programs	4
V 4 b	Develop and distribute educational materials	3
V 4 c	Organize NPAW and other special events	4
V 4 d	Develop and deliver regional native prairie education workshops and other programs	3
	<b>Objective 5 – Increase public appreciation of the beneficial role played by the livestock industry and other stewards in the management of native prairie</b>	
V 5 a	Promote the role of the livestock industry and other native prairie stewards through the media, presentations and publications	3

## **GOAL I: TO SUSTAIN A HEALTHY NATIVE PRAIRIE GRAZING RESOURCE**

### **Goal I Progress Summary** Submitted by Chris Nykoluk (AAFC-PFRA)

#### **Objective 1: Promote grazing management programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles**

There was good progress in many objectives contained in Goal One over the last year including increased activities in extension programming with landowners (moved up from good to excellent). Part of this is the increased funding made available to all of the Partners, through the federal Greencover Canada Technical Assistance component. Many older extension materials will be updated through this fund, including the Range Plan Development Guide (1991) and Managing Saskatchewan Rangelands (1994), the two cornerstone publications for range and pasture management in Saskatchewan.

Additions for ongoing training for professional staff include Range Health protocol development and training, plus the Engaging Rural Clients workshops which were initiated this year by the PCAP Partners. The Saskatchewan Forage Council will be providing forage diagnostic training in summer 2006. All three of these initiatives are relatively new and innovative.

#### **Objective 2: Explore the economics of maintaining a healthy range resource for grazing**

No progress has been made on developing an incentive-based lease structure program to encourage enhanced management on Crown Leases.

#### **Objective 3: Recognize and support the efforts of private and public land managers who conserve native prairie**

The Environmental Stewardship Award (TESA) for livestock producers has been awarded each year since 1995. However, continuing efforts are needed to ensure that TESA is promoted adequately. The Society for Range Management Outstanding Achievement Award continues to be awarded as well. It is important to continue to recognize the efforts of range management professionals who diligently work to support the conservation of native prairie.

#### **Objective 4: Increase the inventory of range resources on public and private lands to promote guidance on grazing management plans**

Good progress has been made in completing range assessments and management plans for both AAFC-PFRA and SAF Community Pastures, with new additions made on a continual basis. This was upgraded from fair-good to good. However, it is unclear as to the level that non-traditional grazing agencies are monitoring and implementing management strategies on their lands.

There will be increased focus on working with livestock producers on range health assessment techniques that producers can use to monitor the health of their own grazing resources.

Little progress has been made on compiling a “state of the resource” report, compiling all available public and private industry inventory data and analysis. This is chiefly because of the enormity of the task (especially on private lands), and lack of a specific partner with a mandate to accomplish this.

## Goal I Inventory of PCAP Partner Activities

Objective	Actions (Rankings) (LEAD AND SUPPORTING PARTNERS as in 2003- 2008 PCAP)	Timetable	Partner Update and contact information	
1. Promote grazing management programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles.  See also <b>Goal 2, Objective 3</b> (Encourage voluntary stewardship to conserve native prairie) and <b>Goal 3, Objective 2</b> (Promote management of native prairie to maintain biological diversity) and <b>Goal 5, Objective 4, Action b</b> (Develop and deliver regional native prairie education workshops and other programs) for related activities.	a) Continue extension programming with landowners.  <b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 4	January 2004	AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF, SFC, SSGA and the U of S partnered with WBDC to deliver 2-day cow-calf management schools at Lloydminster, Moose Jaw and Kenosee Lake (total 150 producers) and 1-day schools at Kindersley, Eastend, Kisbey, Kelvington and Prince Albert (total 135 producers); topics included financial and production performance, creating grazing plans, herd health management and developing marketing strategies (contact Bart Lardner - WBDC).	
	(AAFC-PRFA, DUC, SAF, SFC, SWA)	Since 2002	DUC promotes sound range management through its rangeland stewardship initiative, which provides capital investment for producers as well as providing a venue for grazing clubs and tours/workshops. To date DUC has worked with over 1,000 producers and has influenced over 500,000 acres (contact Michael Champion).	
		Since 1993	DUC works to develop sound range management practices with interested landowners. To date DUC has worked with over 1,000 producers and has influenced over 500,000 acres (contact Michael Champion).	
		Annually in February from 2001- 2004	PCAP and Partners including AAFC-PFRA, DUC, EC-CWS, DFO, NCC, NS, SAF, SSGA, and SWA delivered Town Hall Meetings on Landowner Stewardship Programs featuring presentations and displays to acquaint landowners with local stewardship programs. Target areas have included: Swift Current & area (2004); Great Sand Hills & Frenchman River Watershed (2003); Missouri Coteau (2001 & 2002) (contact Karyn Scalise).	
		<b>2004</b> (Since May 1997)	<b>SWA recruited 29 new stewards, conserving 17400 acres of native prairie, 13 miles of stream bank, and 596 acres of wetlands in 2004 for a total of 1236 landowners that conserve over 527,000 acres of native prairie, 257 miles of streams, and over 15,300 acres of wetlands since 1997.</b> These voluntary stewards have received on-farm visits, the quarterly 'Prairie Update' newsletter and participate in field days and workshops on native prairie and riparian management throughout SK (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).	
	b) Host workshops, field days, range schools and other extension events.		<b>August 2004</b>	<b>AAFC-PFRA held range days for pasture managers at Excel-Key West (25 staff), Cote San Clara (30 staff), Hazel Dell (15 staff) and McRaney Community Pasture (27 staff) (contact Chris Nykoluk).</b>
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 4		July 2003	AAFC-PFRA and SRC held a range management and plant identification workshop (including rare plants) for 40 pasture staff at Dundurn pasture. AAFC-PFRA also held a range day for 40 pasture staff at Val Marie pasture. Topics included range plant identification, range condition assessment and species at risk (contact Chris Nykoluk-AAFC-PFRA or Bob Godwin-SRC).
	(AAFC-PFRA, AAFC-SPARC, DUC, SAF, SFC, SWA)		<b>May 2005</b> July 2003	<b>AAFC-PFRA and SAF held a range day/safety schools for pasture managers and riders; topics included stocking rates and poisonous plants.</b> 68 pasture staff attended in 2003 (contact Chris Nykoluk - AAFC-PFRA or Don Fontaine - SAF).
			May 2003 June 2004	AAFC-PFRA, WBDC, SAF, SFC and others cooperated to deliver the Saskatchewan Pasture School to 60 producers in 2003 and 25 producers in 2004; This event is focused on various forage production issues. The SK Pasture School will not be delivered in 2005 (contact Bart Lardner-WBDC or Chris Nykoluk-AAFC-PFRA).
			2002 - 2004	AAFC-PRFA, DUC, SAF, and SWA jointly hosted 8 extension events with landowners (contact Chris Nykoluk-AAFC-PFRA, Michael Champion-DUC, Trevor Lennox -SAF or Jennifer Lohmeier- SWA).
		<b>Summer 2005</b> & in 2004 &	<b>AAFC-SPARC, SAF and the Southwest Forage Association hosted range field days at the Swift Current Research Station on past and ongoing forage</b>	

## PCAP Partner Update # 5

Goal 1, Objective 1, Action b

2002	<b>and grazing research (contact Alan Iwaasa-AAFC-SPARC and Trevor Lennox - SAF).</b>
<b>Fall 2004 &amp; in 2002 &amp; 2000</b>	<b>AAFC-SPARC hosted a grazing management and forage tour of ongoing forage (native and tame) and grazing research for the U. of S. 301 Animal Science class (contact Alan Iwaasa – AAFC-SPARC).</b>
<b>Summer 2004 &amp; in 2003</b>	<b>AAFC-SPARC hosted a grazing management and forage tour of ongoing forage (native ecovar and tame) and native and tame grazing research for native seed suppliers (Proven Seed and Prairieland Seeds) (contact Alan Iwaasa – AAFC-SPARC).</b>
<b>2004</b>	<b>DUC and SWA hosted 2 field tours in the Missouri Coteau (contact Michael Champion, DUC or Ross MacDonald, SWA).</b>
<b>2004</b>	<b>DUC, SWA, SAF and local ADD Boards hosted 4 field tours in the Yorkton area (contact Trevor Plews, DUC, or Tom Harrison, SWA).</b>
<b>2004</b>	<b>DUC participated in 2 seminars for producers in the Yorkton area (contact Trevor Plews, DUC).</b>
<b>Summer 2004</b>	<b>NPSS, SWA, SE, DUC, and AAFC-PFRA delivered the ‘Great Sandhills Tour’ in Sceptre (contact Garth Wruck or Krista Connick).</b>
February 2003	NPSS delivered a grass identification workshop at its 2003 AGM and Workshop (contact Garth Wruck).
<b>December 14-15, 2004</b>	<b>SAF, SWA, AAFC-PFRA, AAFC-SPARC, DUC and SFC hosted the 2-day “Foraging into the Future III” conference in Swift Current for 114 participants (contact Trevor Lennox or Krista Connick).</b>
January 2002	SAF hosted the 2-day Range and Forage Conference “Foraging into the Future II” in Swift Current (contact Trevor Lennox).
January 2004	SFC hosted the Western Canadian Forage and Turf Seed Conference in Saskatoon (contact Michel Tremblay).
Winter 2004	SFC held 2 regional extension meetings on forages in Swift Current and Kindersley (contact Michel Tremblay).
<b>June 22-23, 2005</b>	<b>SRM, PCAP, AAFC-PFRA, SAF, SE, SSGA, SWA and local ranchers are planning the ‘Discovering the Great Sand Hills’ Workshop and Field Tour in conjunction with NPAW 2005 (contact Michel Tremblay or Trevor Lennox).</b>
<b>June 24-25, 2004</b>	<b>SRM, PCAP, AAFC-PFRA, DUC, NPSS, SAF, SSGA, SWA and local residents participated in the development and delivery of ‘Discovering the Moose Mountains’ Workshop and Field Tour for 110 participants in conjunction with NPAW 2004 (contact Michel Tremblay or Trevor Lennox).</b>
June 2003	SRM, PCAP, AAFC-PFRA, NPSS, SAF, SE, SSGA & SWA participated in the development and delivery of the ‘Discovering the Big Muddy Badlands’ Workshop and Field Tour for 120 participants in conjunction with NPAW 2003. Sponsors included SP, SaskTel, and NS (contact Trevor Lennox).
<b>December 7-9, 2005</b> December 3-5, 2003	<b>SSGA, SAF, SWA, AAFC-PFRA, PCAB and UofS (College of Agriculture), Elanco Animal Health, Dow AgroSciences Canada Inc., Merial (Ivomec), and WBDC are on the planning committee for the Western Canadian Forage and Grazing Conference in Saskatoon. Planning is in progress for 2005. In 2003, over 200 delegates attended (contact Sheila Fishley – SSGA).</b>
<b>March 2005</b>	<b>SWA, SAFRR, and SIEF delivered a ‘First Nations Pasture School’”” North Battleford and Debden (contact Jeremy Brown).</b>
<b>January to March 2005</b>	<b>SWA delivered ‘Pasture Planning Workshops’ in Eastend, Rostern, Senlac, and Strasburg (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</b>
<b>Winter 2004</b>	<b>SWA, DUC, and the Weyburn Ag Society hosted the ‘Weyburn Livestock Update’ workshop in Weyburn (contact Ross Macdonald).</b>
<b>Winter 2004</b>	<b>SWA hosted winter field days for stock water systems in Earl Grey and Leader (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</b>

Goal 1, Objective 1, Action b

	<p>Winter 2004</p> <p>SWA delivered winter workshops on grazing economics and cropland management in Yorkton and Redvers (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
	<p>Summer 2004</p> <p>SWA delivered a grazing management program to a 4H camp in Swift Current (contact Ross Macdonald).</p>
	<p>Summer 2004</p> <p>SWA delivered a ‘Well Decommissioning Field Day’ in Yorkton (contact Jason Puckett).</p>
	<p>Summer 2004</p> <p>SWA, AESA, District 35 ADD boards, and the Counties of Minburn and Vermillion River delivered a ‘Grazing on the Border’ workshop and Field Tour in Lloydminster (contact Jeremy Brown).</p>
	<p>Summer 2004</p> <p>SWA delivered several summer field days for livestock producers in Alida, Beaverdale, Calder, Esterhazy, Gainsborough, Mitchelton, Moosomin, Ogema, Radville, Stockholm, and Yorkton (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
	<p>July-August 2003</p> <p>SWA delivered a grazing management program to 4H camps at Swift Current, and Kenosee Lake (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
	<p>July 2003</p> <p>SWA, DUC and UofR conducted 2 riparian health workshops (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
	<p>June 2003</p> <p>SWA delivered a ‘Forage and Grazing Field Day’ in Redvers, ‘Forage Tour’ in Kindersley, ‘Livestock Forage and Water Quality Field Day’ in Churchbridge, and ‘Meacham Hills Forage Club Tour’ in Meacham (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
	<p>June 2003</p> <p>SWA delivered ‘Pasture Field Days’ in Landis and Rosthern, and a ‘Range and Pasture School’ in Broadview (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
	<p>December 2003</p> <p>SWA, SAF, NS, AAFC-PFRA, and AIMS hosted a landowner workshop in the Manitou Sandhills area, with topics including marketing cattle, grass production, and species at risk (contact Krista Connick).</p>
	<p>Since 2002</p> <p>AAFC-PFRA has distributed &gt; 150 Burrowing Owl prints by Fred Lahrman to land managers and policy makers (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p>
<p>c) Produce and distribute extension materials for land managers.</p> <p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 4</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF, SSGA, SWA)</p>	<p>Bi-annually since Oct. 2002</p> <p>AAFC-PFRA, AAFC-CARDS, DUC, SAF, SFC, SSGA, SWA &amp; WBDC produce and distribute the Livestock and Forage Gazette. Several PCAP Partners contribute articles. This newsletter is produced biannually, focuses on livestock and forage production issues, and is circulated to ~ 9,000 livestock producers. Available in PDF format on PCAP, SFC, SSGA, SWA, and WBDC websites (contact Janice Bruynooghe).</p>
	<p>March 2005 Since 2003</p> <p>PCAP, SAF, SE, SIR, GRAA, SWA and DFO finalized the 2<sup>nd</sup> update of the fact sheet ‘Oil and Gas Development and Activity on SK Crown Lands’ and are seeking funding to cover printing and distribution costs (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>
	<p>Sep 2004 – Mar 2005</p> <p>RSM published and distributed two newsletters for the Frenchman River Biodiversity Project (contact Glenn Sutter).</p>
	<p>Spring 2005 - 2009</p> <p>SAF – ADF Advisory Committee approved funding for 2 projects relating to improved forage production systems which will help take the pressure off native stands by increasing the grazing season:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ‘Economics of forage based production systems for SK’ – to determine the production potential and quality of new vs. established forage varieties under grazing conditions, relate this to animal gains on pasture and calculate economic returns to forage and beef production, including net return to equity per acre. The results will form extension recommendations regarding grazing and economic potential for these forage varieties. Project is funded over 4 years.</li> <li>2. ‘Low cost winter feeding systems for cow-calf producers’ – compares winter feeding management systems with bales vs chaff swath grazing. The research includes cost comparisons and integrates management of systems with production and economics as the study is aimed at newer producers. Project is funded over 3 years (contact Bob Drysdale).</li> </ol>



## PCAP Partner Update # 5

Goal 1, Objective 1, Action c

Fall 2003 – Spring 2007	SAF-ADF Advisory Committee approved funding for a 3-year project to complete a comparative study of annual forage systems. It will compare yields, nutritive quality and economics of cool season cereals vs. warm season millets for greenfeed/silage, swath grazing and grazing estimates, plus spring seeded winter annuals/annual ryegrass for grazing estimates. The purpose is to provide scientific evidence on which to base forage production, management, and economic extension packages for producers wishing to increase forage production to allow increased livestock numbers or relieve pressure on native rangeland (contact Bob Drysdale).
<b>Since 2003</b>	<b>SAF and AAFC-PFRA have worked with producer groups to initiate SKs Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) program which is delivered by the ‘Provincial Council of Agriculture Development and Diversification Boards for SK Inc.’ (PCAB). An EFP involves a self-assessment and planning process that producers can use to increase their awareness of environmental issues, to examine their current production practices to identify potential risks and to develop a plan to manage those risks. Participation is voluntary and action plans are confidential. PCAB has developed and printed the EFP workbook, hired workshop facilitators and delivered pilot workshops across the province. PCAB is also establishing a peer review process for producers who wish to have their action plans reviewed prior to implementation. Once plans are peer reviewed and endorsed by PCAB, producers will be eligible for federal cost-shared funding to implement BMPs on their operations. It is expected that producers will be able to access BMP funding starting April 1, 2005 from the ‘Canada-Saskatchewan Farm Stewardship Program’ (contact Wayne Gosselin).</b>
<b>2004-2005</b>	SAF led the development of 4 BMPs dealing with Riparian Area Assessment, Riparian Area Management, Grazing Management, and Wintering Site Management for the SK EFP program (contact Michel Tremblay).
Since 2003	SAF is incorporating a pasture management worksheet to the EFP process to communicate information on tame and native range management to conserve native grasslands (contact Michel Tremblay).
2003	SAF reprinted the following range-related publications: Rejuvenation of Tame Forages – Parkland; Rejuvenation of Tame Forages – Southern SK; Fertilizing Tame Pastures; Swath Grazing Fact Sheet; Grazing Mixed Wood Forests in SK; Field Guide – ID of Common Seeded Forage Plants of SK; Field Guide – ID of Range Plants of Southern SK; Grazing Management for Sheep Production; SK Forage Crop Production Guide (contact Trevor Lennox).
<b>2004-2005</b>	<b>SE participated in the development and review of BMPs in support of Environmental Farm Planning (contact Ann Gerry or Greg Riemer).</b>
<b>2005-2007</b>	<b>SFC secured Greencover TAC funding to revise the following publications: Field Guides for identification of common range plants of southern and northern SK, riparian areas, and seeded forage plants, <i>Managing SK Rangelands</i>. An additional 3 years of funding was secured to continue production of the <i>Livestock and Forage Gazette</i>, <i>The SK Hay Report</i>, and to develop a new forage plant seedling identification guide (contact Michel Tremblay).</b>
2003	SFC published 3 SK Hay Reports (contact Michel Tremblay).
<b>March 2005</b>	<b>SWA, DUC, SAF, AAFC-PFRA, SSCA, and Western Applied Research Corporation (WARC) produced the North West Grazing News newsletter for distribution in the NW part of SK to highlight activities and goals of the North West Environmental Stewardship Program (contact Jeremy Brown).</b>
October 2003	SWA & SAF published ‘Stewardship and Economics of Cattle Wintering Sites’ (contact Etienne Soulodre).
Quarterly since 1997	SWA produces the ‘Prairie Update’. This newsletter discusses prairie and riparian management and is distributed to over 1500 landowners. Available in PDF format on SWA website (contact Tracy Harrison).
Since 1997	SWA produces and distributes the following range/riparian related publications: Stewardship and Economics of Cattle Wintering Sites, Health of Riparian Areas in Southern Saskatchewan; Economics of Riparian Grazing Management, ‘Streambank Stewardship – Directory of producer experiences along streams and creeks’, Classification and Management of Riparian and Wetland Sites of

## PCAP Partner Update # 5

Goal 1, Objective 1, Action c

		the Saskatchewan Prairie Ecozone and Parts of Adjacent Subregions by William Thompson and Paul Hansen, 2001; Farm Management Facts - Making Sense of Salinity; Farm Management Facts - Paying the Freight on Marginal Land Production; Farm Management Facts - The Economics of Converting Wetlands to Croplands; Managing Crested Wheatgrass in Native Grassland; Control of Knapweeds in Native Grasslands; Managing Smooth Brome in Native Grasslands; Management of Downy Brome in Native Grasslands; Managing Leafy Spurge on Native Grasslands; Managing Nodding and Canada Thistle on Native Grasslands; Controlling Scentless Chamomile in Native Grasslands; Managing Western Snowberry and Trembling Aspen on Native Grasslands; Managing Saskatchewan Wetlands - A Landowner's Guide; Managing Your Native Prairie Parcels; Native Prairie Stewardship Fact Sheets (Your Wildlife Neighbours, A Question of Value, Protecting an Ecosystem, Plants with a Sense of Community, Harvesting and Marketing Native Seeds, Managing Prairie Wetlands, A Cultural Landscape, Conservation Easements); Protecting Our Water - A Watershed and Aquifer Planning Model for Saskatchewan; Streambank Stewardship - A Saskatchewan Riparian Project; Streambank Stewardship Fact Sheets (What makes a Healthy Riparian Area?, Farming Along the Stream, Ranching Along the Stream, Living on the Edge: Wildlife Along the Stream, Beaver: Creator or Destroyer?); A Land Manager's Guide to Grasslands Birds of Saskatchewan (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).
d) Provide ongoing training and resources for extension staff.	<b>April 2004</b> 2003-2008	AAFC-PFRA Greencover Canada Program contains a Technical Assistance Component that is providing 2M funding for gap areas for range, pasture, riparian and shelterbelt related extension activities. The goal is to increase uptake of Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) by producers and complement existing programs and services provided by other Partners. This committee is co-chaired by AAFC-PFRA and SAF with participation from SWA (contact Terry Kowalchuk, AAFC-PFRA or Michel Tremblay, SAF). <b>Contact Chris Nykoluk, AAFC-PFRA or Michel Tremblay, SAF, to obtain a full listing of approved projects.</b>
<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3  (SAF, All)		
	Summer 2003	AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SCIC, SAF and SWC forage extension agrologists received Forage Technical Assistance Toolkits at 2 technical workshops in Medicine Hat (35 participants) and Lloydminster (60 participants) (contact Chris Nukoluk).
	Since 1991	AAFC-PFRA delivers a comprehensive range management extension program for Community Pasture staff. Topics include plant identification, grazing systems, prescribed burning, riparian management, species at risk, and native grassland reclamation (contact Chris Nykoluk).
	<b>2004-2008</b>	<b>PCAP, AAFC-PFRA, CLC, DUC, NCC, SAF, SE, SRC, SWA, UofS, with funding from Greencover Canada TAC, are developing and delivering workshops and resource materials on assessments for riparian, forest/bush, native prairie, and tame pastures to train agriculture and conservation resource and extension staff in the new Ecological Health Assessment methodology intended to complement and expand on classic range assessment approaches. In 2004 the following workshops were delivered: (contact Karyn Scalise or Tom Harrison).</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 day workshop at Moose Mountain for 10 staff from 7 agencies</li> <li>• 1 day riparian workshops to 3 UofR Engineering classes (97 students) and 2 UofS Conservation Biology classes (49 students)</li> <li>• 1 day native prairie workshop to UofS Range Management class (29 students)</li> <li>• 1 day native prairie, riparian and forest workshop to SIAST 2<sup>nd</sup> year IRM class (17 students)</li> </ul>
	<b>March 16 &amp; 17, 2005</b>	<b>PCAP, CLC, AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF, SWA hosted 'Engaging Rural Clients: Building capacity and skills to work effectively with producers' Workshops in Saskatoon (60 participants) and Regina (60 participants) with support from the AAFC-PFRA Greencover Canada Program. Plans are to offer workshops in 2006, 2007 and 2008 (contact Karyn Scalise or Chris Nykoluk).</b>
	<b>February 15, 16 2004</b>	<b>SAF resource agrologist made a presentation on range planning at the Saskatchewan Aboriginal Land Technicians and Managers Conference (contact Dave Shortt).</b>
	1999 to present	SWA has hosted riparian assessment and range assessment training workshops for extension staff from SWA and other agencies (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).

Goal 1, Objective 1, Action d		2005 - 2006	<b>SFC will be offering training for agrologists in the areas of tame forage management (contact Michel Tremblay).</b>
		2005	<b>UofS College of Agriculture is designing a certificate-level course in Aboriginal Land Management for Aboriginal Land Managers from all Canadian Ecozones (contact Joe Schmutz).</b>
	<p>e) Update and publish the "Range Plan Development Guide".  <b>Ranking:</b>  Partner Update # 4: FAIR  Partner Update # 5: 3</p> <p><b>(AAFC-PFRA, SAF, SRC, SFC, SWA)</b></p>	April 2004	<b>PCAP, SWA, AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF, SE, UofS, SRC, and the Conservation Learning Centre (CLC) in Prince Albert received AAFC-Greencover Canada Program funding to update and publish this resource by the summer of 2006 (contact Tom Harrison).</b>
2. Explore the economics of maintaining a healthy range resource for grazing.	a) Encourage development of conservation cover programs that contribute to the ecological and socio-economic sustainability of rangelands.	Since Summer 2003	AAFC-PRFA announced the Greencover Canada Program consisting of 4 components: Conversion of Environmentally Sensitive Croplands, Shelterbelts, Technical Assistance, and Critical Areas Management. <b>As of March 10<sup>th</sup>, a total of 1,868 projects have been approved, with a total of 181,427 acres of tame grass acres, a total of 6,984 native grass acres and 94 acres of trees have been approved for conversion in SK; SAF and AAFC-PFRA forages specialists provided technical expertise to clients (contact Bill Houston or Trevor Lennox).</b>
	<p><b>Ranking:</b>  Partner Update # 4: GOOD  Partner Update # 5: 3</p> <p><b>(AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SARR, SWA)</b></p>	January 2002	AAFC-PFRA, through the U of S Department of Agricultural Economics, released a research report on 'Estimation of Cost Recovery Levels on Federal Community Pastures Under Joint Private and Public Benefits'; examination showed that the private and public benefits are about equal (contact Chris Nykoluk).
		2003	DUC initiated a feasibility study to determine the cost/benefits of developing a community pasture in the Allan Hills (contact Richard McBride).
		Since 2003	DUC has been studying the value of ecological goods and services as part of a process to develop a land conversion program to complement native rangeland (contact Richard McBride).
		Since 1998	DUC continues to operate a forage conversion program to promote the conversion of cropland to perennial forage. Since inception, DUC has successfully converted over 200,000 acres of cultivated land to forage (contact Michael Champion or Richard McBride).
		Since 2004	<b>SAF Lands Branch is working on policy in its approval stage that deals with conversion of marginal cultivated land to forage, and associated rental rate reduction (contact Don Fontaine).</b>
		March 2001 – March 2004	SAF delivered the Conservation Cover Program to promote the conversion of cropland to perennial forage and reduce grazing pressures on native rangeland. Approximately 1 Million acres of cropland were converted to forage under this program (contact Mark Folk).
		July 2004	SFC is developing a forage seed check-off (contact Michel Tremblay).
		Since 2002	SWA actively participates on the Greencover Canada Program committees and workshops (contact Tom Harrison).
	b) Develop an incentive-based lease rate structure program to encourage enhanced management on Crown leases.		
	<p><b>Ranking:</b>  Partner Update # 4: POOR  Partner Update # 5: 1</p> <p><b>(DUC, SAF, SSGA)</b></p>		

<p>3. Recognize and support the efforts of private and public land managers who conserve native prairie.</p>	<p>a) Increase support, awareness and publicity for the SSGA/Royal Bank TESAward, the SRM Outstanding Achievement Award and other prairie conservation related awards.</p>	<p>Annually since 1995</p>	<p>SSGA, DUC, RBC Financial Group, Merial (Ivomec), AAFC-PFRA, and SWA participate on the TESA committee. Information on TESA and recipients is available on the SSGA website/ <b>The deadline for nominations is January 31<sup>st</sup></b> (contact Sheila Fishley – SSGA).</p>
<p>See also: <b>Goal 5, Objective 5</b> (Increase public appreciation of the beneficial role played by the livestock industry and other stewards in the management of native prairie) for related activities.</p>	<p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2  (AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF, SSGA, SRM, SWA)</p>	<p>Awarded in February 2004 (Awarded every 3 years since 1989)</p>	<p>Dr. David Gauthier (UofR-CPRC) received the Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Award in 2004 and will join previous recipients on the 2007 Committee. Previous recipients included Greg Riemer – SE (2001), Miles Anderson – SSGA (1998), Dale Hjertaas – SWA (1995), Donald Hooper (1992) (deceased) and Dr. Stuart Houston (1989) (retired). The award honours individuals with a lifetime dedication to prairie conservation (contact Greg Riemer – SE).</p>
		<p>February 2004</p>	<p>PCAP received the Countryside Canada Award in recognition of accomplishments related to the 1998-2003 Action Plan at the 7<sup>th</sup> PCAES Conference. The Award is administered by Wildlife Habitat Canada in partnership with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>
		<p>January 2004</p>	<p>Tom Harrison (SWA) received the SRM Outstanding Achievement Award, presented by SRMs Northern Great Plains Section that includes SK, MB, ND and eastern MT. Previous recipients include Phil Curry (DUC) and Chris Nykoluk (AAFC-PFRA). This Award acknowledges accomplishments in the art and science of range management (contact Michel Tremblay).</p>
		<p>Since 2000</p>	<p>SRM has a Certified Professional Range Manager (CPRM) program, which provides recognition for individuals that complete an exam and obtain continuing education credits, in order to maintain high levels of technical expertise in land management (contact Michel Tremblay).</p>
<p>Goal 1, Objective 3, Action b</p>	<p>b) Acknowledge the efforts of Award winners through the development of a comprehensive communication plan (print media, advertising, presentations, etc.)</p>	<p><b>2005</b></p>	<p><b>DUC printed an article on the TESA winner in their publication <i>Conservator</i> (contact Michael Champion).</b></p>
		<p>Since 1995</p>	<p>PCAP acknowledges TESA recipients in the 2003-2008 PCAP and through other communication tools (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>
		<p>Since 2003</p>	<p>SSGA acknowledges TESA recipients through its website, magazine, display and presentations (contact Sheila Fishley).</p>
	<p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2</p>	<p>Summer 2003</p>	<p>SRM, SWA, SSGA and PCAP assisted the Western Producer in developing an article on the 2003 TESA winner (contact Ross Macdonald – SRM/SWA).</p>
	<p><b>(SRM, SSGA)</b></p>	<p>Winter 2001</p>	<p>SWA published an article on the 2003 TESA winner in the ‘Prairie Update’ (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
		<p>Since 2003</p>	<p>The TESA recipient is featured annually in the fall-winter issue of the Livestock &amp; Forage Gazette (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p>
		<p>March 2004</p>	<p>PCAP distributed a media release on the Countryside Canada Award it received for accomplishments associated with the 1998-2003 Plan (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>
		<p>2004</p>	<p>SWA published an article on Tom Harrison’s SRM Outstanding Achievement Award in the ‘Prairie Update’ (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
		<p>2004</p>	<p>SSGA published an article on Tom Harrison’s SRM Outstanding Achievement Award in the ‘Stockgrower’ (contact Sheila Fishley).</p>
<p>4. Increase the inventory of range resources on public and private lands to promote guidance on grazing management.</p>	<p>a) Complete range assessments and management plans for remaining community pastures (<b>0 of 60</b> AAFC-PFRA and <b>28 of 54</b> SAF pastures have yet to be completed), plus assessments on 100 Crown leases.</p>	<p>1985-2004</p>	<p><b>AAFC-PFRA has completed range condition assessments for each of its 61 community pastures using currently accepted range condition assessment methodology. The database is shared with other agencies working on research related studies including the Grassland Ecological Communities and Stocking Rate Guide update that will result from the PCAP Greencover Project (contact Bill Houston).</b></p>
		<p><b>2004-2005</b> Since 1999</p>	<p><b>SAF completed 7 range plans on provincial community pastures (Rosthern-St. Julien, Blue Bell, Insinger, Whitebeech, Arena, Pipestone, and Midale). SWA assisted with the Pipestone and Midale pasture range plans. In 2003-2004, 7 range plans were also completed (St. Walburg, Cabana, Meyronne, Strawberry Lake, Old Wives, Marean Lake and Paddockwood community pastures). Continued priority will be placed on completing range plans on the remaining 28 SAF pastures (contact Rick Ashton).</b></p>
	<p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR- GOOD</p>		

## PCAP Partner Update # 5

Goal 1, Objective 4, Action a	Partner Update # 5: 3  (AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF)	<b>2004</b>	<b>SAF, Lands Branch created a Resource Management Unit with a focus on range planning and environmental stewardship, thus increasing the Branch's capacity and priority to manage Crown agricultural land (contact Rick Ashton).</b>	
		<b>2004</b> (Annually since 1999)	<b>SAF Lands Branch monitored 10,880 acres which, due to the short, wet season, was about half of the acres examined in 2003. The 'at risk' category recorded the highest numbers with 40% of the total acres (4352 ac). The 'healthy' category came in a close second at 34% (3699 ac). Finally, the 'degraded' category falls last at 26% of the total acres (2829 ac). This is an improvement over last year as 34% of the lands fall into the 'healthy' category compared to 19% in 2003. The higher precipitation levels throughout the province during 2004 had a positive influence on forage growth and this is reflected in the findings. The 'degraded' acres are also down from 2003 - 37% in 2003 as compared to 26% in 2004 which suggests an overall improvement. Again the results do not favour the NE region when the current evaluation method is used. Of note, in the South region is the Leafy Spurge infestation on some of the monitored lands. All parcels assessed the 'degraded' rating are invaded by exotics, or have too much bare soil as a result of severe grazing pressure (contact Don Fontaine).</b>	
		2003 (Annually since 1999)	SAF Lands Branch monitored 21,405 acres of Crown Land to determine ecological health and ensure proper use. Regionally, this total breaks down as follows: the NE region, 10,336 ac; the NW region 8,669 ac with the remaining 2,400 ac in the SW. Ninety (90) percent of the lands inspected in the NE were at risk or degraded due to the presence of exotics, not from soil degradation. In the NW region, fifty (50) percent of the land fell in these two categories, again for similar reasons. In contrast, the South region, recorded ninety-three (93) percent of inspected land in a "healthy" status. Lands Branch will continue to work with lessees in improving the at-risk sites (contact Don Fontaine).	
		2003	SAF Lands Branch improved the community pasture grazing report form to enable improved tracking of stocking rates by SAF pasture managers (contact Don Fontaine).	
		2002	SAF Lands Branch and SRC working to determine whether foliage height can be used as a measure of plant vigour (contact Don Fontaine – SAF or Jeff Thorpe – SRC).	
		1998-2000	SE completed rapid ecological assessments of 19 AAFC-PFRA pastures and 2 SAF pastures as part of the RAN initiative (contact Dave Arneson).	
		b) Promote range health assessment and management plan development on private lands (e.g., range schools)	Since 1993  Since 2002	DUC works with producers to develop management plans on privately owned pastures (contact Michael Champion).  DUC works with grazing cooperatives to develop range management plans on cooperative lands (contact Michael Champion).
		<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2  (AAFC-PFRA, DFO, DUC, NPSS, SAF, SRM, SSGA, SWA)	<b>2004</b> (Since July 1995)	<b>SWA completed 303 ecological health assessments in 2004.</b> Between 1995 and 2003 SWA has completed range health assessments on over 203,000 acres of privately owned native range. SWA has assisted private landowners in producing Grazing Management Plans for their individual operation (contact Tom Harrison).
			Since 2003	<b>SWA developed a database of all ecological health assessments it completed (contact Etienne Souldre).</b>
			Since 2002	SWA held several range schools for landowners (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).

<p>Goal 1, Objective 4, Action c</p> <p>c) Promote range health assessment and management plan development on lands owned and managed by each respective agency or organization.</p> <p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DFO, DUC, EC-CWS, PC-GNP, NCC, SAF, SE, SWA, SWF)</p>	Since 2001	DUC inventories its land annually as part of its management strategy (contact Andrew Hak or Richard McBride).
	Since 1995	EC-CWS and AAFC-PFRA are cooperating to manage native prairie on Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area and to develop management plans and assess range health (contact Kerry Hecker -EC-CWS or Chris Nykoluk - AAFC-PFRA); <b>In 2005, AAFC-PFRA acquired the SAF Nokomis Community Pasture, making this management unit considerably larger (contact Chris Nykoluk).</b>
	Since 2000	NCC performs range assessments on newly acquired properties and implements management plans to achieve and maintain good range condition (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).
	2005	<b>SAF, Lands Branch is developing a Co-operative Grazing Strategy for 118 grazing co-operatives, 96% of which are situated on native Crown land. The strategy will focus on land management in order to maintain the ecological integrity of the land and to ensure sustainability of a healthy native prairie grazing resource (contact Rick Ashton).</b>
	July 28, 2004	<b>SAF, Lands Branch eliminated the size restriction that disqualified individuals and farm corporations with farm sizes greater than 200 per cent of the average farm size in their RM. from obtaining a Crown agricultural lease during a non-family assignment. In many cases, large tracts of native prairie under a single lease can be better managed than small tracts of land, and also makes it easier to maintain the health and ecological integrity of the ecosystem (contact Mary Brick).</b>
	February 15, 2005	<b>SAF and SE developed guidelines for Forest Resource Management on Agricultural Crown Lands based on the no net loss definition which means that the current size, extent and diversity of forest ecosystems are to be conserved. It provides for grazing at established carrying capacities while ensuring sustainable levels of forest production and wildlife resources. The no net loss principle does not apply to the Saskatchewan Pastures Program (WHPA excepted) as the primary use of these lands is grazing management (contact Mary Brick).</b>
	September 2004	<b>SAF agrologists completed a study on several pastures comparing carrying capacity on tame forage and relating it to the amount of plant carry over (contact John Hauer).</b>
	2004	<b>SAF resource agrologist represents the Department on any range resource issues in the Manitou Sandhills (Dave Shortt).</b>
	2004-2005	SAF and SWA collaborated on a project at Pipestone Community Pasture to achieve better forage management through additional fencing and water development. A range management plan / inventory will also be completed and patron tours will be initiated to highlight some BMPs (contact Donald Fontaine or Etienne Soulodre).
	2002-2003	SAF Lands Branch installed ~ 200 km of shallow water pipelines in community pastures. This is part of a multi-year project to provide supplemental water sources and lessen the reliance on surface water. This results in improved distribution of cattle and more fully utilizes the available forage resources, while helping to drought-proof pastures. Work will continue on other SAF pastures (contact Rick Ashton)
	2003	SE completed rapid ecological assessments on 72 parcels (2900 ha) of FWDF land in the Grasslands EcoRegion and 30 parcels (1200 ha) of FWDF land in the Parkland EcoRegion as part of the RAN initiative (contact Dave Arneson).
	2004	<b>SWA developed management plans for its lands at Rafferty/Alameda, Carrot River, the Quill Lakes, and Fairy Hill Marsh. Plans take into consideration proper ecological functioning of these areas, and include grazing, mowing, and the use of fire (contact Ross Macdonald, Jodie Oliver, or Jason Puckett).</b>
	2003	SWA performed assessments on its lands to guide the development of management plans for implementation in the future (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).

Goal 1, Objective 4, Action d

d) Compile a “state of the resource” report, compiling all available public and private inventory data and analysis. **2004**

**SWA and SE are compiling a ‘State of the Resource’ report, describing indicators and providing examples that will also be used to develop a State of the Watershed Report (contact Glen McMaster).**

**Ranking:**

Partner Update # 4: POOR

Partner Update # 5: 1

(AAFC-PFRA, DUC, PC-GNP, RSM, SAF, SE, SWA, **UofR-CPRC**)

## GOAL II: TO CONSERVE THE REMAINING PRAIRIE RESOURCE

### Goal II Progress Summary

Submitted by Greg Riemer (SE)

#### **Objective 1: Complete and maintain an inventory of native prairie**

This Objective was rated as poor. No new data sets have been available until recently. AAFC-PFRA has begun acquiring the most recent high-resolution satellite imagery. It will take 2 to 5 years to acquire all the data that will be made available to Partners.

#### **Objective 2: Continue to develop a system of managed conservation areas**

Good progress was made in expanding the RAN and using partnerships with the FWDF to purchase land and acquire conservation easements. Fair progress has been made identifying areas that should be a priority for protection.

#### **Objective 3: Encourage voluntary stewardship to conserve native prairie**

Good progress has been made using voluntary stewardship, SWA, NS and the RSM have all been delivering on this Objective and uptake by stewards has been very good.

#### **Objective 4: Ensure that the remaining native prairie is protected from cultivation and development**

The protection of the remaining native prairie has been good through the actions of SAF to ensure that no significant parcels of native prairie are sold without CEs in place and by holding CEs on 51 parcels. SAF is in the final stages of developing a policy for placing CEs on Crown land.

#### **Objective 5: Improve the use of Conservation Easements and other tools to conserve native prairie that accommodate and respect agricultural interests**

The actions regarding use of CEs had the most variable results. The private sector partners had good success using CEs to conserve native prairie. A gap analysis for non purchase securement has not been done. While progress has been made simplifying the use of CEs, only fair results have been obtained developing the protocols to monitor and police CEs, and on determining the effect of CEs on land values.

#### **Objective 6: Ensure that property taxation and assessment policies are favourable to native prairie conservation**

Major changes have been made in the way that SAMA assesses land. Land assessment is again now based on productivity of the land not just sale values. The actions of PCAP partners in past may have had something to do with this but we cannot be certain. Progress on Objective 6 was only rated as poor in 2005.



**Objective 7: Adopt and improve regulations, policies, programs and economic instruments that reward rather than penalize stewardship and conservation of native prairie ecosystems**

Only fair progress was made identifying and prioritizing regulations and policies through the work of AAFC-PFRA on a policy framework for ecological gifts and services, and by SSGA in developing a proposal for revision of SAF's compensation policy regarding oil and gas activity. Good progress has been made developing watershed conservations and restoration plans.

**Objective 8: Encourage government and industry to improve regulations, monitoring and technology to minimize negative impacts on native prairie**

AAFC-PFRA has made fair to good progress adopting least invasive technologies in their pasture systems. However, poor progress has been made developing and delivering industry-specific conservation and stewardship education programs, and cumulative impacts guidelines.

## Goal II Inventory of PCAP Partner Activities

Objective	Actions (Rankings) (LEAD AND SUPPORTING PARTNERS as in 2003- 2008 PCAP)	Timetable	Partner Update and contact information
1. Complete and maintain an inventory of native prairie.	a) Acquire and interpret the most recent land cover and soils maps for southern Saskatchewan (update 2001 NPSS/CPRC publication).	Spring 2005	<b>AAFC-PFRA National Land &amp; Water Information System is coordinating the bulk purchase of high resolution satellite imagery which will cover all of the agriculture land in Canada. Prairies will be the first set acquired. Agreement should be in place before end of March 2005. Acquisition will take 2-5 years to complete. Partners are AAFC-PFRA, EC, DFO, PC, Natural Resources Canada, and Canadian Space Agency. Agreement to allow fairly free access (contact Ophelia Degenais).</b>
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 2	Since 1998	DUC has been monitoring habitat transects to determine loss of native prairie, bush and wetlands. It is important to note that each year habitat loss is occurring (contact Richard McBride).
	(AAFC-PFRA, EC-CWS, NPSS, <b>SE</b> , SWA, <b>UofR-CPRC</b> )	2001-2004	EC-CWS is updating its habitat monitoring transect network across SK and the Prairies. Land cover and land use are being monitored for both upland and wetland habitat. The baseline data was collected in 1985 and a subset of it was updated in 1999. The remaining transects are being monitored to identify habitat change and land use trends in the Prairie Habitat Joint Venture (PHJV) area. These updates will provide estimates of wetland and upland habitat losses as well as land use trends across the sampled landscapes (contact Ron Bennett).
	b) Identify areas of high risk for drainage or destruction.	February 2002	EC-CWS produced a report entitled 'PHJV Habitat Monitoring Program Phase I: Recent Habitat Trends' outlining the results of the first phase of an ongoing evaluation of habitat trends within PHJV target areas, and establishing a foundation for a long-term habitat monitoring program (contact Diana Ghikas).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2	2004-2005	<b>AAFC-PFRA, EC-CWS, DUC, SAF, SE and other groups worked to produce a biodiversity scan for the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF). This scan determined the areas of SK most at risk for the loss of biodiversity. This scan included both riparian risk and wetland risk assessment (contact Greg Riemer-SE, Ophelia Dagnais- AAFC-PFRA and Lyle Boychuk DUC).</b>
	(DFO, DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, SE, SWA)	2004	SWA is summarizing existing drainage and complaint data to determine the contribution this data may make in identifying where wetland drainage has occurred and is ongoing. <b>SWA has developed drainage plans for some Conservation &amp; Development areas</b> (contact Glen McMaster).
c) Coordinate the development of land information data bases as tools for landowner negotiation, extension and technology transfer.	Since 2000	EC-CWS provides funding through the HSP to various PCAP Partners for the development of land information and assessment databases, such as those for piping plovers and burrowing owls, to guide landowner stewardship activities (contact Diana Ghikas).	
<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 2	(AAFC-PFRA, EC-CWS, NCC, NPSS, PC-GNP, SE, SWA, <b>UofR-CPRC</b> )		

## PCAP Partner Update # 5

2. Continue to develop a system of managed conservation areas.

a) Work towards completion of the RAN in the Prairie Ecozone.

Since 1997

SE has incorporated > 5.8 Million hectares of ecologically important lands into the RAN in partnership with the following: AAFC-PFRA, DND, DUC, EC-CWS, PCS, SE-FWDF, SWA and SWF. The RAN includes AAFC and SAF pastures, federal and provincial parks, FWDF lands and land included under the *Ecological Reserves Act* and the *Wildlife Habitat Protection Act* (contact Conrad Olson).

**Ranking:**

Partner Update # 4:  
GOOD  
Partner Update # 5: 3

SE, All

Lands designated or recognized as part of the Representative Areas Network (RAN) in the Prairie Ecozone (see table below).

Type	New 2004-05 Hectares; (Acres)	Total (Since 1997) Hectares; (Acres)
<b>Provincial Administration</b>		
SAFRR		
Provincial Community Pastures	-5,544 (-13,700)	227,023 (560,974)
WHPA Lands ***	36,585 (90,400)	905,697 (2,237,979)
<b>SE</b>		
Ecological Reserves ***	36,585 (90,400)	37,433 (92,508)
FWDF Lands	130 (321)	51,000 (126,000)
Park Lands		
Protected Areas		1,167 (2,884)
Provincial Parks		85,494 (211,256)
Recreation Sites		1,672 (4,132)
Wildlife Refuges*		3,652 (9,024)
SWCC (SWA)		910 (2,249)
<b>Federal Administration</b>		
CFB Dundurn		23,209 (57,349)
Migratory Bird Sanctuary		50,841 (125,628)
National Parks		91,370 (225,775)
National Wildlife Area		18,941 (46,803)
PFRA Community Pastures	5,544 (13,700)	650,527 (1,607,488)
<b>Corporate</b>		
Potash Corp. of SK (Rocanville)		1,552 (3,835)
<b>NGO (purchased)</b>		
DUC		174,015 (430,000)
NCC		7,710 (19,053)
<b>Private Land</b>		
Conservation Easements	8,773 (21,678)	34,000 (84,015)
NCC**	4,215 (10,417)	18,177 (44,914)
<b>Total RAN Lands</b>	<b>8,903 (21,999)</b>	<b>2,366,177 (5,846,952)</b>
Total SE designated lands	130 (321)	181,328 (448,060)
* Some wildlife refuges are on private land.		
** NCC Conservation Easements are included in (CEs) total.		
*** Represents Great Sand Hills Ecological Reserve, formerly WHPA land		

Goal 2, Objective 2, Action a

b) Identify and ensure that areas which are a priority for conservation receive protection.

Since 1995

DUC has prioritized conservation actions for waterfowl based on waterfowl populations of 1975 and projects were implemented in high priority areas including the Allan Hills, the Missouri Coteau, and the southeast and east central portions of SK (contact Michael Champion).

**Ranking:**

Partner Update # 4: FAIR  
Partner Update # 5: 3

Since 1995

EC-CWS assists, through the HSP and the EGP, in the acquisition and conservation of native prairie habitat areas important for species-at-risk and overall biodiversity conservation (contact Diana Ghikas).

(DFO, DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, SE, SWF)

Since 2002

NCC uses ecoregional planning and site conservation planning in identifying priority areas for conservation when possible. **The Aspen Parkland/Moist Mixed Grassland Ecoregional Plan is nearly complete and an update of the Northern Mixed Grassland Ecoregional Plan will be undertaken in 2005-06** (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).

Goal 2, Objective 2, Action b	<b>2005</b>	<b>SE has begun to develop a framework to target habitat acquisitions as part of the conservation lands strategy being developed by government and ENGOs (contact Greg Riemer SE).</b>
	Since 2003	SE and EC-CWS work within the Environmental Farm Planning process to conduct a Risk to Biodiversity Scan to rank landscapes with the highest risks to biodiversity (contact Greg Riemer-SE or Diana Ghikas – EC-CWS).
	Since 2002	SWA has prioritized conservation actions for grassland birds in each ecodistrict based on delineation of Grassland Bird Conservation Areas. Projects were implemented in high priority areas (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).
3. Encourage voluntary stewardship to conserve native prairie.	a) Support private stewardship programs that involve landowner extension work.	Since November 2003
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3	Since 1995
	(AAFC-PFRA, DFO, DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, NS, PCAP, SAF, SBOIC, SE, SWA, SWF)	<b>2004 - 2005</b>
	See also: <b>Goal 1, Objective 1</b> (Promote grazing programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles) and <b>Goal 3, Objective 2</b> (Promote management of native prairie to maintain biological diversity) for related activities.	<b>2004-2005</b> Since 2000
		Since 1987
		<b>Since 2003</b>
		2002-2004
		Since 2002
		Since 1998
		DFO's Stewardship in Action Program is being developed to support prairie community initiatives that promote an ethic of ownership and responsibility to protect, maintain and restore freshwater fish and fish habitat on a watershed level. Funding was awarded to some groups, including PCAP, for 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 projects (contact Rick West).
		EC-CWS continues to provide funding, direction and leadership support for private stewardship initiatives through programs such as the HSP, EGP, EcoAction Community Funding Program and Canada's Stewardship Agenda (contact Diana Ghikas).
		<b>NS published a study (Environmental Management: 2004; Blue Jay - summary: 2005) that determined grasslands most at risk of cultivation in the Regina Plain area and targets these sites (good soils and smaller parcels) along with others in its Stewards of Saskatchewan voluntary stewardship programs (contact Margaret Skeel).</b>
		<b>NS Operation Burrowing Owls program and SWA completed 8 enhancement projects totalling 1,330 acres with 7.5 miles of fencing for a total of 51 projects with 7,703 acres have been sown back to perennial cover, 26.25 miles of fence have been installed and 4 remote solar watering sites developed.</b> NS and SWA jointly deliver this habitat enhancement program, involving perennial cover seeding, fencing and alternate water development, to enlarge pastures for Burrowing Owls and other species (contact Kim Dohms – NS or Jennifer Lohmeyer - SWA).
		NS's Operation Burrowing Owl (OBO) program works with nearly 450 landowners who voluntarily conserve 62,000 ha (150,000 acres) of pastureland throughout southern SK for burrowing owl habitat. Approximately 250 of these participants are conserving native prairie pastures. Of the 62,000 hectares, 22,000 are on private lands and nearly 40,000 hectares are on public lands. OBO encourages voluntary stewardship through a handshake agreement and recognition for landowners (contact Kim Dohms).
		<b>NS's Shrubs for Shrikes program works with 13 landowners who voluntarily conserve 258 ha (636 acres) of pastureland and shrubs throughout southern SK for loggerhead shrikes. One project was completed in 2003 that included seeding 160 acres back to perennial cover, 2 miles of fence and 2 remote solar watering sites.</b> It also offers enhancement support, including shrub planting, perennial cover seeding, fencing and alternative water development (contact Michelle Yaskowich).
		NS's Wood River Riparian Project, part of the Important Bird Areas program, supported seeding land adjacent to the River to perennial cover. 16 landowners were involved and 1,780 acres seeded, in addition to 4 miles of fencing and 2 remote solar water sites installed (contact Margaret Skeel).
		NS's Rare Plant Rescue, a voluntary stewardship program, encourages landowners to conserve native prairie containing (or with potential to contain) rare and/or endangered plant species. <b>There are 57 landowners currently participating and are conserving 15,520 ha (6,208 acres)</b> (contact Tara Sample).
		NS's Living by Water Project offers support to shoreline residents of rivers, streams, lakes, and reservoirs, including workshops and educational materials (contact Margaret Skeel).

Goal 2, Objective 3, Action a

		Since 2003	<b>RSM has set the stage for a private stewardship group in the Frenchman watershed by fostering local coordination of the Frenchman River Biodiversity Project and emphasizing the links between native prairie conservation and water quality (contact Glenn Sutter).</b>
		2004-2005 (Since 1997)	<b>SWA manages the Prairie Stewardship Program that provides extension to over 1,200 landowners who have made voluntary stewardship agreements to conserve over 527,000 acres of native prairie, 257 miles of streams, and over 15,300 acres of wetlands. In 2004-2005, 100 landowners who conserve over 82,000 acres of native prairie, 85 miles of streams and 3,300 acres of wetlands joined the Program (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</b>
		2002-2003	SWA, with funding support from DFO, managed the Prairie Watercare Program, an educational, hands-on program for volunteers interested in learning about water quality issues in their local watershed (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).
		2003 (Since 1976)	SWF, with SE-FWDF, EcoAction and BP Canada, rejuvenated its Wildlife Tomorrow program (formerly Acres for Wildlife) and recruited 120 voluntary landowner stewards that conserve over 2,600 acres of habitat. A total of 2,098 participants who conserve over 200,000 acres of habitat are enrolled in the program. Participants agree not to spray, clear, drain, or cultivate for a period of 5 years (contact Jim Kroshus).
		Since 1978	SWFs Habitat Trust fund holds title to over 55,000 acres of land in SK. SWF works with groups including DUC, NS, RMEF, and Pheasants Forever to secure habitat through fee title purchase or fee title donation. Since 1980 SWFs Habitat Trust Hide Collection Program, operated by 127 SWF Branches has raised over \$1M (contact Jim Kroshus).
	b) Develop a landowner stewardship program directory.	April 2003	SWA, DFO, SWF, PCAP, with partial funding support from EC-HSP, completed the “Conservation Program Directory” which can be downloaded from <a href="http://www.snows.sk.ca/conservationprograms.pdf">www.snows.sk.ca/conservationprograms.pdf</a> (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3  (DFO, EC-CWS, PCAP, SSGA, SWA, SWF)	Spring 2004	<b>SWF developed a Conservation Directory to help the 127 SWF Branches educate landowners in their communities about conservation programs offered by various groups (contact Jim Kroshus).</b>
4. Ensure that the remaining native prairie is protected from cultivation and development.	a) Maintain the Crown’s commitment to conserving native prairie under its control, excluding prior commitments and promises made.	March 2005	<b>AAFC-PFRA compiled a database for Species At Risk on Community Pastures, which is digitized as a GIS layer. It is being used as a management tool to assess development proposals on AAFC-PFRA Community Pastures (contact Bill Bristol).</b>
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3  (DUC, SAF, SE, SSGA)	Since 2001	DUC encourages the Provincial and Federal governments to keep Crown lands in the Crown whenever possible, and to protect valuable habitat through perpetual CE’s whenever Crown land is to be divested. This initiative has focused on partnership with SAF, SE, and other stakeholders of Crown lands. Through persistent influence, SAF Lands Branch is now placing more CEs on their divested properties (contact Michael Champion).
		2004	<b>SAF added 75 sections of native prairie into the Mankota pasture as part of a transfer and land purchase by GNP from a Crown land lease holder. This created one contiguous parcel of land which enhances the value and improves the integrity of the parcels (contact Rick Ashton).</b>
		Fall 2001	SAF Lands Branch added a clause to Crown Land lease agreements that prohibits, unless approved by the Minister, the cultivation of any naturally vegetated area including native prairie, riparian areas, and dry lake beds (contact Mary Brick).

Goal 2, Objective 4, Action b	<p>b) Review all Crown land proposed sales involving native prairie and register CEs where appropriate.</p>	<b>2005</b>	<p><b>SAF and other agencies that hold CEs are reviewing the criteria for placing CEs on Crown land prior to sale to ensure that land with important attributes worthy of protection are not missed (contact Mary Brick).</b></p>
	<p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3</p>	<p><b>2004-2005</b> (Since 1999)</p>	<p><b>SAF holds 40 CEs on 51 quarters of land (number of quarters that contain a CE, not the actual area of land covered by CEs). In 2004-2005, 6 parcels of land were sold with a CE.</b> SAF Lands Branch uses CEs as a method of protecting native prairie prior to Crown Land tender sales (contact Mary Brick).</p>
	(DUC, <b>SAF</b> , SE, SSGA)	Since 2002	<p>SAF Lands Branch continues to develop a CE policy to help guide the CE process on Crown Land. <b>Finalization of the policy awaits a review of criteria used for placing CEs on Crown Land</b> (contact Mary Brick).</p>
		Since 2001	<p>SAF Lands Branch &amp; SE co-chair a Committee that formulates criteria for placing CEs on Crown land. The Committee is also examining the potential for including other uses on WHPA land that will not jeopardize the conservation of native prairie biodiversity (contact Mary Brick – SAF or Conrad Olson – SE).</p>
		Since 1999	<p>SAF Lands Branch and SE biologists work on the pre-identification of Crown Lands worthy of a CE designation according to the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <u>Attributes:</u> native grassland; native aspen; endangered species areas; edge effect areas; buffer zones; wetlands; special breeding habitat (e.g. leks, nesting sites, calving grounds)</li> <li>2) <u>Size of Parcels:</u> parcels <math>\geq</math> 40 acres in the Aspen Parkland Eco-Region; parcels <math>\geq</math> 80 acres within all other Eco-Regions; any parcel, regardless of size, in any region containing attributes worthy of protecting (contact Mary Brick).</li> </ol>
	<p>c) In all circumstances, if WHPA land is sold, a CE should be placed on the property to ensure that the natural values of the land receive the same level of protection as provided under WHPA.</p>		<p>SE is interested in placing CEs on any land that is removed from WHPA protection, unless precluded by previous commitments to the contrary. However, the terms of the relevant inter-governmental agreement prevents this tool from being utilized for WHPA lands removed for Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) purposes (contact Conrad Olson).</p>
	<p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 1</p>		
	(SAF, <b>SE</b> , SSGA)		
	<p>d) Acknowledge that under certain conditions there are options to make a CE agreement for a designated length of time rather than in perpetuity.</p>	Since 1997	<p>SE is responsible for CE legislation. The <u>CE Act</u> enables whatever CE term is negotiated. Most conservation groups that hold CEs prefer to negotiate and invest in perpetuity CEs, however, there may be some circumstances where designated terms would be acceptable (contact Conrad Olson).</p>
	<p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 5</p>		
	(SAF, <b>SE</b> , SSGA)		
5. Improve the use of Conservation Easements (CEs) and other tools to conservative prairie that accommodate and respect agricultural interests.	<p>a) Promote the use of CEs to maintain native prairie on private lands.</p>	<b>Since 2002</b>	<p><b>DUC worked with 55 landowners, securing over 13,000 acres of natural habitat with a CE in 2005 for a total of approximately 19,000 acres since 2002 (contact Andrew Hak).</b></p>
	<p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3</p>	Since 2002	<p>DUC encourages the Provincial and Federal governments to keep Crown lands in the Crown whenever possible, and to protect valuable habitat through perpetual CE's whenever Crown land is to be divested. This initiative has focused on partnership with SAF, SE, and other stakeholders of Crown lands. Through persistent influence, SAF Lands Branch is now placing more CEs on their divested properties (contact Michael Champion).</p>
	(All)		

## PCAP Partner Update # 5

Goal 2, Objective 5, Action a

Since 1997	DUC continues to pursue CEs on native and naturalized private lands (including wetlands) in areas of high waterfowl productivity. SP provided funding from 1997-2004 (contact Andrew Hak – DUC or Shelley Heidinger - SP). DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, SAF and SE contracted PLEA (Public Legal Education
February 2004	Association of Saskatchewan) to develop a series of 5 ‘ <i>A Look at the Law</i> ’ information articles on CEs to be published in over 50 rural and northern newspapers with a combined circulation of almost 250,000 households. These articles will provide accurate, straightforward and plain language information on CE legislation and explain the various clauses found in a typical CE agreement. The objective is to increase the capacity of landowners to make more informed decisions about CEs on their land (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).
February 2003	EC-CWS produced ‘The Canadian Ecological Gifts Program Handbook 2003’ a publication that guides donors and recipients through the EGP requirements and assists them with CE and land donations (contact Diana Ghikas).
Since 2000	EC-CWS continues to fund the securement of CEs on native prairie that contain habitat crucial for species-at-risk through the HSP (contact Diana Ghikas).
<b>April 2004 – March 2005</b>	<b>NCC completed 12CE’s totalling 11,577 acres for a total of 72 CE’s covering 45,813 acres since 1997 (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).</b>
<b>Winter 2005</b>	<b>NCC ran an advertisement in selected newspapers in the Missouri Coteau to promote CEs and delivered a presentation to 71 landowners in Ogema at their request (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).</b>
Fall 2002	NCC produced ‘Investing in Our Natural Heritage – A Conservation Toolchest for SK Landowners’ which outlines various NCC programs (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).
Since 1997	NS distributes information, including brochures, detailing CE options to members of their Operation Burrowing Owl, Shrubs for Shrikes and Rare Plant Rescue stewardship programs. NS holds CEs, but refers negotiation of CE’s to other agencies. NS has signed CEs with 6 landowners, involving 8 properties (contact Margaret Skeel).
Since 2003	PCAP, DUC, NCC, SE, SSGA are developing a fact sheet on CEs, including a section on pro’s and con’s (contact Karyn Scalise).
<b>Since 2004 - 2005</b>	<b>SE information and resources posted on the web - <a href="http://www.se.gov.sk.ca/ecosystem/conservationeasements.htm">www.se.gov.sk.ca/ecosystem/conservationeasements.htm</a> <a href="http://www.se.gov.sk.ca/ecosystem/FAQs.pdf">www.se.gov.sk.ca/ecosystem/FAQs.pdf</a> (contact Conrad Olson).</b>
<b>2005</b>	<b>SWF and SE-FWDF will begin acquiring CEs and educate SWFs 125 Habitat Chairpersons to assist in delivering the CE program (contact Jim Kroshus).</b>
b) Do a gap analysis for non-purchase securement tools.	Since 1998 SE reports that most conservation agencies utilize numerous tools to protect native prairie and other important habitat. Analysis of conservation tools is ongoing.
<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 1  (DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, SE, SWF, SSGA)	<b>2004-2005</b> <b>ENGOS and government have reviewed mechanisms to protect important habitat. CEs, extension and stewardship are all being used in increasing amounts. Acquisition by purchase remains a tool valuable to all conservation organisations and to government. In the last two years foreign controlled ENGOS have been unable to purchase land as the Farm Land Security Board which operates under the Saskatchewan Farm Security Act has not been approving these purchases. Government, rural lobby groups and ENGOS have been working for a year to try and resolve the impasse. To date no solution has been found (contact Greg Riemer).</b>
<b>2001</b>	<b>DUC implemented a study to determine the value of a CE on private land in the Lake Alma and Wadena area. DUC used the results to begin its CE program (contact Andrew Hak).</b>
c) Determine the types and levels of incentives required for native prairie conservation.	Since 1999 DUC worked with 55 landowners to secure approximately 13,000 acres of natural habitat with a CE in 2005. DUC has secured 6 donated CE (317 acres) and approximately 19,000 acres since 1999. CEs will only be secured in areas that have high waterfowl nesting densities (contact Andrew Hak).
<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2	Since 1997 NCC has secured 11 donated CEs (1,893 acres) and 61 paid CE’s (43,920 acres). Since NCC began offering paid CEs in 2001, the only donated CEs to complete were those already in progress (if the land falls outside NCC focus areas, only donated CEs are offered). NCCs paid CE policy was set at a maximum of 25% of

Goal 2, Objective 5, Action d	(DUC, NCC, NS, SAF, SE, SWA, SWF)	December 2002	the fair market value. This was determined based on the data available from comparable sales with CEs registered on title (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).
	d) Improve and simplify the process, agreements and valuation procedures for donated CEs.		EC-CWS and other organizations have been working to improve donation options under the EGP. As a result, Canada Customs and Revenue Agency issued proposed guidelines on “split-receipting” in relation to gifts under the <i>Income Tax Act</i> allowing donors to receive partial monetary compensation and a tax receipt for the remainder of the land or CE value for donations to a charitable organization under the EGP (contact Diana Ghikas).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 1	November 2002	EC-CWS hosted an EGP workshop (Appraising Ecological Gifts – Conservation Easements: A Workshop with Representatives of the Appraisal Review Panel) in Regina for appraisers and recipients involved in the EGP. The purpose of the workshop was to train appraisers on the methodologies for analyzing and reporting on CE valuation assignments, and to assist recipients in engaging appraisers to work on appraisals destined for the EGP (contact Diana Ghikas).
	(DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, SE, SWF)	July 2002	EC-CWS revised the ‘Guidelines for Appraisals’ document to reflect new requirements and improvements to the EGP and the appraisal review procedures (contact Diana Ghikas).
	e) Develop protocols, monitor and police CEs.	<b>2004-2005</b> Since 2001	<b>SE and other agencies holding CE’s in SK have developed draft monitoring guidelines/policy – annual landowner contact and review will be conducted on all CE’s.</b> SE works with various agencies on developing monitoring policies for CEs (contact Conrad Olson).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 3		
	(SE, All Partners with CEs)		
	f) Determine the effect of CEs on land values.	Since 2000	EC-CWS continued implementation of the EGP Appraisal Review Process to ensure that appraisals coming through the program continue to meet all necessary valuation standards and that they provide correct estimates of value (contact Diana Ghikas).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 3		All holders of CE's should report known sales of land encumbered by a CE to appraisers to assist in the determination of the effect of CE's on land values (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).
	(DUC, NCC, EC-CWS, SAF, SE, SWA, SWF)	<b>Fall 2004</b> (Since 2003)	<b>SAF tender sales resulted in 6 parcels of land being sold with CE’s. Of the 6 parcels, 4 sold above the estimated market value, and 2 sold below.</b> Of the 17 parcels sold in 03-04, 9 were sold above the estimated market value, 1 for the same price, and 7 sold for below market value. In the future, SAF plans to conduct a more detailed study of the effects CE's have on land sales (contact Mary Brick).
	g) Develop a forum for landowners to discuss pros and cons of CEs and other conservation tools.	February 2003	NPSS held a panel discussion at their AGM & Workshop on the value of native prairie and the importance of conservation. Tools such as CEs were discussed (contact Garth Wruck).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 1		
	(DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, NPSS, PCAP, SE, SWA, SWF)		
6. Ensure that property taxation and assessment policies are favourable to native prairie conservation.	a) Determine the impact of existing tax assessment policies and land use ratings on conservation of native prairie. Change policies that encourage “development” of land or place an unrealistic value on native prairie.	2002-2005       <b>2005</b>	DUC and SARM have initiated a 3-year land tax credit program in the RM’s of Emerald and Morse. As part of this voluntary program, DUC pays the landowner’s portion of the land taxes on every acre of native or naturalized prairie (including wetlands) in return for continued conservation of these lands (contact Bob Neufeld).  <b>SSGA determined that the effects of reassessment and tax breaks for native prairie for 2005 will result in an increase in education tax per acre. SSGA will continue to lobby for a system of collecting education tax which does not unfairly tax native prairie (contact Orin Balas).</b>



Goal 2, Objective 6, Action a	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2	2003-2004	SAF, SE, GRAA, and SAMA are developing a working paper analyzing farmland property taxes, including the impact of reducing the assessment value of 'wasteland' – conservation land (contact Gary Coghill).
	(DUC, SAF, SE, SSGA, SWF)	<b>2005</b>	<b>SE reports that the SAMA Handbook is due to be rewritten next year. The 2002 handbook is 'updated' every year. The previous system that is based on market value has been removed and replaced in the 2005 tax year by a system similar to the previous one in which land was assessed based on its productive value. The Local Market Index has been removed so the "Alberta Effect and Large City Effect" on land values in the west and around the cities has been removed. Producers on the east side of the province may see higher evaluations. PCAP Partners will have to diligent to ensure that the redraft of the handbook does not penalize the ranching industry (contact Greg Riemer).</b>
	b) Develop "Conservation land" category with SAMA that better recognizes the public values provided by native prairie.	January 2004	SE held preliminary discussions with GRAA. An evaluation of the comparative costs of an acreage payment in lieu of taxes vs. a zero assessment on habitat lands has been completed. <b>Given the concerns in the rural community about conservation land purchases and the fear that conservation agencies may lobby to have the taxes reduced on 'conservation lands' this is not likely ever going to happen and should be dropped as an action from the next Plan (contact Greg Riemer).</b>
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 1		
	(DUC, SE, SSGA)		
7. Adopt and improve regulations, policies, programs, and economic instruments that reward rather than penalize stewardship and conservation of native prairie ecosystems.	a) Identify and prioritize those regulations, policies, programs and economic instruments that are most significant.	<b>Since 2004</b>	<b>AAFC-PFRA is prioritizing the establishment of a policy framework for Ecological Gifts &amp; Services (EG&amp;S) and is exploring key concepts, policy principles, issues and options associated with them. AAFC-PFRA will work through the National Agri-Environmental Coordinating Committee (Environment Chapter fo the APF) to advance broader communication and develop a sound basis for EG&amp;S policy (contact Dean Smith).</b>
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2	2003-2005	SE works on analyzing the effects of regulations, policies, programs and economic instruments on native prairie conservation. SE met with SAMA in March 2004 regarding changes to the SAMA Handbook (contact Greg Riemer).
	(DFO, DUC, SAF, SE, SSGA, SWF)	<b>March 2005</b>	<b>SSGA is developing a proposal for SAF Lands Branch requesting an amendment to the current compensation policy for oil and gas activity on Crown land. SSGA advocates allowing lessees to negotiate with oil and gas companies for the nuisance and adverse effects of expanded activities on Crown land to provide added incentives to ensure better monitoring (contact Orin Balas).</b>
	b) Promote adherence to federal and provincial wetland policies.	Since 1991	EC-CWS continues to require adherence to The Federal Policy on Wetland Conservation for all federal environmental assessment reviews (contact Diana Ghikas).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2	2006	SWA has initiated the development of a drainage and wetland retention policy (contact Lesley Hall).
	(DFO, EC-CWS, SE, SWA)		
	c) Work to change regulations that are in conflict with stated government policies.	2003-2005	SE, others are working to change regulations that conflict with policies. SE has met with agriculture agencies regarding development of conservation lands strategies and an MOU has been developed to help move the process forward (contact Greg Riemer).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2	<b>2004-2005</b>	<b>SE, SAF, SRD, SK Justice, SWF, DUC, NCC, NS have been working with SSGA, APAS and SARM to develop a Conservation Lands Strategy. After one year of negotiations the parties failed to reach an agreement. Government is now working to resolve issues around targeting important lands for acquisition through an interdepartmental working group (contact Greg Riemer).</b>
	(DFO, DUC, SAF, SE, SSGA, SWF)		

Goal 2, Objective 7, Action d	d) Develop watershed conservation and restoration plans and improve watershed management.	<b>2004-2008</b>	<b>DUC in partnership with AAFC-PFRA has received Greencover funding to undertake watershed evaluations of BMPs; monitoring of net effect of BMPs on water quality (contact Bill Bristol).</b>
		Since 2001	DUC has undertaken a policy analysis of the legislation, regulations and policies that affect wetland conservation in SK; policy alternatives are developed to address identified shortcomings (contact Richard McBride).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3	2002-2004	NS's Wood River Riparian Project, part of the IBA program, is supporting landowners to seed land adjacent to the Wood River to perennial cover (contact Margaret Skeel).
	(AAFC-PFRA, DUC, DFO, EC-CWS, NS, SE, SWA)	Since 1999	NS's Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program developed Community Conservation Plans for 13 IBA sites. The IBA program is part of an international initiative where critically and nationally or globally significant bird areas are so designated, based on established bird abundance criteria. The community conservation planning process examined the elements of the ecosystem under stress and, in conjunction with conservation opportunities provided by many stakeholders, charted a sustainable course for sites into the future (contact Margaret Skeel or Joe Schmutz).
		Since 1998	NS's Living by Water Project provides tools and programs to shoreline residents to conserve riparian health (contact Margaret Skeel).
		Since November 2003	SWA's Watershed and Aquifer Planning Division is developing watershed management plans for the following Rivers: North Saskatchewan River, South Saskatchewan River, Upper Qu'Appelle River, Moose Jaw River, Upper Assiniboine River, Lower Souris River and the Yorkton Aquifer Recharge Area (contact Robin Todd).
8. Encourage government and industry to improve regulations, monitoring and technology to minimize negative impacts upon native prairie.	a) Encourage industry to adopt the least invasive technologies when working on native prairie.	<b>2004-2005</b>	<b>AAFC-PFRA undertook a review of Community Pasture permit and licence protocols for SARA compliance by proponents. Important recommendations include a requirement that pre-site environmental impact assessments be conducted at an appropriate time of year and that an "as built" report also be submitted after development. Permits and licences have been standardized and have a stronger emphasis on SAR reporting. In-house technical review of reports now also includes environmental assessor (contact Bill Bristol).</b>
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3	<b>2003-2006</b>	<b>AAFC - EFP funding under APF: National list of BMPs released in August 2004; relevant BMP categories include riparian area management (10 BMPs), alien species control (20) enhancing wildlife habitat and biodiversity (21), Species at Risk (22), Grazing Management Planning (26) and Biodiversity Enhancement (28) (contact Bill Bristol).</b>
	(AAFC-PFRA, DFO, NPSS, SAF, SIR, SP, SE, SSGA)	May 2002	AAFC-PFRA held a reclamation workshop for about 40 staff in Kindersley (contact Chris Nykoluk).
		Since 1992	AAFC-PFRA screens all oil , gas and other projects for potential impact on native prairie; measures are included for avoidance, timing, and reclamation before approvals are issued. Pasture managers with oil and gas activity are provided ongoing extension regarding technical issues (contact Chris Nykoluk).
		Since 1994	EC-CWS reduces the impact of industrial developments on native prairie through environmental impact assessment reviews and screenings under the regulations of the <i>Canadian Environmental Assessment Act</i> . Advice to proponents includes routing around significant tracts of native prairie, reclaiming with native species, avoiding aggressive introduced species, narrowing of right-of-ways, cleaning of equipment to reduce weed introduction, and avoiding construction during inclement weather. Often the comments become conditions on permits issued by the National Energy Board. Protection of native prairie also is afforded when measures, such as restrictions and mitigations, to protect COSEWIC species at risk are implemented (contact Ron Bennett).
		August 2002	SAF, SE, GRAA, SIR, 4 R.M.s (Piapot, Clinworth, Pittville and Fox Valley), and the Great Sand Hills District Planning Commission participate in the Great Sand Hills Land Use Strategy Review. This Committee is reviewing the 1991 Great Sand Hills Land Use Strategy and related land use issues. The public review draft was released on April 12, 2004 with the request that comments be made back to the Review committee by early May 2004. Public Meetings were held on April 27, 28 and 29, 2004 in Saskatoon, Regina and Swift Current respectively. Subsequent recommendations will be considered prior to the Review Committee submitting its final report to government (contact Rick Ashton).

Goal 2, Objective 8, Action a	Since 1997	SE reviews all Project Proposals and EPPs relating to oil and gas development on Crown land to determine potential impact on native prairie, with measures for avoidance, mitigation and/or reclamation being outlined within any approvals that are issued (contact Rick Stilling).
	Since 2000	SE screens all oil and/or natural gas development projects on private land for potential impact on native prairie where any significant impact on native vegetation is anticipated (over 4 wells per ¼ section, or installation of any pipeline/flowline that is greater than 168.3 mm in diameter). At a minimum, companies are required to provide SE with a mitigation/ reclamation plan prior to proceeding (contact Rick Stilling).
	Since 2000	SE reports that The Private Land Checklist used by the oil and gas industry in screening potential projects, highlights the importance of native prairie conservation in the province and includes suggestions on ways to minimize impact (contact Rick Stilling).
	Since 1995	SP undertakes an extensive screening process in order to identify critical issues necessary to minimize land use impact and develop management plans (contact Shelley Heidinger).
b) Develop and deliver industry-specific conservation and stewardship education programs.	2003	NPSS submitted a proposal to SE, SGI & SHI to develop a publication on using native plants to re-vegetate highway rights-of-way (contact Garth Wruck).
	February 2003	NPSS AGM & Workshop featured topics on native prairie reclamation and restoration by various industries (contact Garth Wruck).
<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 2	<b>March 2005</b> Since 2003	<b>PCAP, SAF, SE, SIR, GRAA, SWA and DFO finalized the 2<sup>nd</sup> update of the fact sheet ‘Oil and Gas Development and Activity on Saskatchewan Crown Lands’ and are seeking funding to cover printing and distribution costs (contact Karyn Scalise).</b>
(DFO, DUC, NPSS, NS, RSM, <b>SP</b> , SE, SWA)	2004	<b>SP delivers training to its employees on Species at Risk and how it relates to their work (contact Shelley Heidinger).</b>
c) Encourage government and industry to develop cumulative impacts guidelines.	Since 2002	SAF Lands Branch and the oil and gas industry co-chair the Trails Reclamation Study Proposal, a study that is determining the effects of trail development and reclamation on the Great Sand Hills Ecosystem. Trails are developed primarily by oil and gas companies and ranchers and are used by all parties (contact Rick Ashton).
<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 3		
(DFO, DUC, SAF, <b>SE</b> , SSGA, SWF)		

## GOAL III: TO MAINTAIN NATIVE PRAIRIE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

### Goal III Progress Summary

Submitted by Karyn Scalise (PCAP) and Dr. Stephen Davis (EC-CWS)

#### Objective 1: Improve our understanding of native prairie biological diversity

Good progress has been made on this Objective. Many Partners are conducting studies and research on how land management practices effect biodiversity. Three Partners are developing decision support computer models that include representative components of native biodiversity as one of the model outputs. In addition, the provincial Biodiversity Action Plan and the inclusion of biodiversity under the Agriculture Policy Framework have resulted in significant progress towards raising the awareness of biodiversity issues in Saskatchewan.

#### Objective 2: Promote management of native prairie to maintain biological diversity

Good progress has been made on incorporating biodiversity best management practice recommendations in range extension communication products and outstanding progress was made on encouraging information exchange between range managers, biologists and others.

#### Objective 3: Control the threat and impact of introduced invasive species to native prairie

Some progress has been made on this Objective. However, a greater proactive effort is required regarding inventory, monitoring, outreach, and control of invasive species before the threats imposed by exotic invasive species become unmanageable. Good progress was reported on discouraging the introduction of additional non-native species through programs that promote cropland conversion.

#### Objective 4: Promote restoration and recovery of native prairie ecosystems

Excellent progress was made on promoting practical research to refine and increase use of restoration technology including the evaluation of the agricultural potential of using native species in forage production and grazing systems. Good progress was reported on encouraging the development and use of native seed mixes, and identifying restoration and recovery targets of high conservation value, assessing feasibility developing concomitant restoration strategies. Good progress was also made in promoting the *Species At Risk Act* to stakeholders and encouraging a stewardship approach to species recovery.

## Goal III Inventory of PCAP Partner Activities

Objective	Actions (Rankings) (LEAD AND SUPPORTING PARTNERS as in 2003- 2008 PCAP)	Timetable	Partner Update and contact information
<p>1. Improve our understanding of native prairie biological diversity.</p> <p>See also: <b>Goal 1, Objective 1</b> (Promote grazing programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles) for related activities.</p>	<p>a) Encourage studies and research on native prairie ecosystems with emphasis on the effects of different land management practices on key components of native biodiversity.</p> <p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DUC, EC-CWS, PC-GNP, NPSS, NS, RSM, SAF, SE, SSGA, SWA, Universities)</p>	2004	AAFC-PFRA, through an EC-IRF grant, contracted SRC to survey Elbow Community Pasture (spiderwort, slender mouse-eared cress), Coteau (spiderwort, slender mouse-ear cress), Lomond #1 (Buffalo grass) and Coalfields (Buffalo grass); other species of interest were noted as well (contact Chris Nykoluk, AAFC-PFRA or Bob Godwin, SRC).
		2004	AAFC-PFRA allows access to community pastures for wildlife research through Right-of-Entry permits. In 2004 the following research was undertaken by various proponents: Western Loggerhead Shrike survey (EC-CWS), Piping Plover surveys (EC-CWS), Burrowing Owl habitat assessment (SWA), Grasshopper and Baird's Sparrow survey (University of Missouri-Columbia), rare plant surveys (COSEWIC), Burrowing Owl survey (U of A), Sprague's Pipit survey (EC-CWS). AAFC-PFRA completed studies for leafy spurge inventory and management (contact Bill Bristol).
		2003	AAFC-PFRA contracted SRC to conduct a survey of COSEWIC listed vascular plants to determine presence, population levels and potential management practices and threats for 2 known species, western spiderwort and hairy prairie clover, at Elbow, Rudy-Rosedale and Dundurn community pastures (contact Bill Bristol – AAFC-PFRA or Bob Godwin – SRC).
		2005-2008	AAFC-SPARC, with funding support from AAFC-MII, DUC, DUC-NPS, Nexen Canada Inc., Proven Seed, and SWFA are collaborating in a 4 year research study on 'Effect of different grazing systems on forage and beef production and their contribution to soil and air quality' on newly re-established mixed native grasslands. Native pasture types are either simple or diverse native specie mixtures, grazing systems are either continuous or deferred-rotation, and other environmental factors (carbon sequestration, biodiversity etc.) are being evaluated (contact Alan Iwaasa).
		2002-2005	AAFC-SPARC, with funding support from IRF and collaboration from AAFC-LRC, PC-GNP and AAFRR for a 3 year research study on 'Assessment of grassland management and restoration practices on the availability and quality of insects as food for grassland species at risk.' Project utilized a newly re-established mixed native grassland (contact Alan Iwaasa or Dan Johnson)
		Since 2002	DUC is investigating duck nest success in low, moderate and high perennial cover over a 10 year period (contact Richard McBride).
		Since 2002	DUC is identifying deforested sites in the Boreal Transition Zone with emphasis on wetland areas to determine extent of deforestation and impact on wetlands and wetland types (contact Richard McBride).
		2005-2007	EC-CWS is working with DUC, UofS, UofM, and others) to quantify carbon fluxes in small prairie wetlands. Wetland restoration may provide significant environmental benefits by locking up carbon, but little is known about emissions of greenhouse gases from natural basins. Wetlands are often burned and plowed during dry periods, possibly releasing carbon to the atmosphere and depleting soil carbon stocks. Information about these processes will assist the development of wetland conservation strategies (contact Bob Clark).
		2005	EC-CWS will conduct research to compare pesticide concentrations, growth and biomarkers of stress in wood frogs in farm ponds with those living in the boreal forest (contact Doug Forsyth).

Goal 3, Objective 1, Action a

- 2000-2003 **EC-CWS found that only about 3% of wood frogs (*Rana sylvatica*) in 475 ponds in SK and MB were malformed, regardless of whether they lived on cropland or in the boreal forest. Logistic regression analysis of habitat features associated with farm ponds predicted that wood frogs should be present in half of all wetlands surveyed if woodlands are located within 120m, if pH of the water is between 7.0 and 7.8, and if conductivity is 1mS/cm or less (contact Doug Forsyth).**
- 2001-2011 EC-CWS is comparing winter-grazed and summer-grazed native pastures at the Onefour Agricultural Research Station in southeast AB to determine economic and biological benefits of replacing hay and grain with pasture in winter. There are many environmental reasons for pursuing alternatives to hay and grain since they involve inputs of chemicals and carbon fuels and both result in hostile habitats for birds. Initial results indicate that the bird communities are the same thus eliminating the need for replacement with hay or crop cover (contact Brenda Dale).
- 1999-2009 EC-CWS is collecting information annually on grazing patterns and bird distribution at CFB Suffield to examine response of birds to grazing under a variety of moisture conditions. Despite being in excellent range condition, during drought conditions, the area was not able to support those species that require moderate cover. **With improved moisture conditions most species have returned to pre-drought levels with two notable exceptions. Sprague's Pipit has not fully recovered and the short cover specialist McCown's Longspur is still more common than it was pre-drought. This indicates that the prairie has not fully recovered from the drought at this location. We are exploring if other factors such as increased gas exploration might be related to the population changes (contact Brenda Dale).** AAFC-PFRA has a long term agreement to graze livestock at CFB Suffield Pasture and collects grazing utilization data every two years and range condition assessment data every ten years as part of their commitment to the partnership (contact Bill Bristol).
- October 2003 EC-CWS provided a plenary lecture on current trends in agriculture and their implications on prairie bird conservation in Canada (contact Steve Davis).
- 2003-2004 EC-CWS has undertaken a rapid bio-assessment of macro-invertebrates of wetlands at Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area with funding support from the EC-Science Horizon's Program and NS. The information will be baseline data for healthy, unimpacted wetlands and lakes for the moist-mixed grassland and aspen parkland regions of SK. Approximately 100 macro-invertebrates were collected from each sample for a total of 7200 invertebrates that were identified to the family level. Data analysis and associated metrics are currently underway to determine their suitability as reference sites for future bio-monitoring. **Sites were ranked in order of their suitability as reference sites for future bio-monitoring. Initiated May 2003, report completed 2004 (contact Kerry Hecker).**
- 1998-2005 EC-CWS is correlating habitat and geographic information with select sites along Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) routes to associate habitat characteristics with the distribution of priority bird species. This work has been completed and the data set is being explored further. Key grassland areas for the maintenance of priority grassland birds have been identified (contact Brenda Dale).
- 1997 to 2000 EC-CWS has submitted 4 papers that deal with 1) breeding biology of grassland birds, 2) nest-site selection of grassland birds, 3) effects of habitat fragmentation on grassland bird nest success and productivity, and 4) area-sensitivity of grassland birds. The research was undertaken in southern SK from Estevan to Ogema and north to Pilot Butte and Moose Jaw (contact Steve Davis).
- Since 1996 EC-CWS has been intensifying the collection of Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) information in areas with more grassland cover to improve monitoring of grassland birds. Comparing trends in bird distribution between areas with more cultivation and areas with more grass cover can explain some of the perceived declines in bird populations. **For many priority species, the trends are more positive where grass is common which tends to confirm that habitat may be the major issue for these species. For several other species the trends are just as poor or even worse in core grassland areas which points to issues of habitat quality or more likely to major problems during migration or wintering (contact Brenda Dale).**

Goal 3, Objective 1, Action a

Since 1995	<p>EC-CWS, AAFC, and WHC participated in a collaborative study of the effects of farming practices in SK on the diversity of vegetation, invertebrates, aquatic organisms and birds. The habitat and cropland associated with wetlands on 12 clusters of sites, each cluster consisting of a conventional farm, a minimum tillage farm, an organic farm and a natural area (reference site), were surveyed. In general, the surveys showed that diversity was similar in wetland margins among the four types of habitat, but that some species of birds, insects and plants were found only on the natural areas. There was a positive association between vegetative complexity of wetland margins and diversity of terrestrial birds (contact Bob Clark – EC-CWS).</p> <p>EC-CWS, through an effort led by the Ecological Research Division in coordination with the Aquatic Ecology Impacts Branch of the National Water Research Institute, is continuing to compile long-term data sets on wetland water levels. Prairie wetlands have been identified as particularly sensitive to changes in land use and climate. These long-term data sets, along with information on climate, land use, drainage, stream-flow, and waterfowl numbers, have been used to develop hydrologic models. Efforts are underway to link these hydrologic models with ecological models such as a carbon model for prairie wetlands (contact Malcolm Conly).</p>
Since 1965	<p>EC-CWS has undertaken grazing management, and in some circumstances, prescribed burning for the conservation of native prairie at numerous National Wildlife Areas. In some areas, chemical control of noxious weeds and exotic species is employed. Research continues on the effects of these management practices (contact Ron Bennett).</p>
<b>2002-2004</b>	<p><b>NPSS implemented a research project with BP Canada Energy Co. at the Steelman Gas Plant near Estevan, investigating abandoned tame forage stand diversification, including investigation on controlling invasive plant species (contact Garth Wruck).</b></p>
Study completed in 2000	<p>NS demonstrated that their voluntary stewardship program, Operation Burrowing Owl, effectively conserved grassland habitat: grassland retention was significantly higher at OBO sites (66%) than at random sites (49%) between 1986 and 1993. This suggests that voluntary stewardship programs are effective in conserving habitat. <b>The study was published in 2004 in Environmental Management and a summary in 2005 in Blue Jay</b> (contact Margaret Skeel).</p>
Since 1998	<p>NS studies biodiversity in its 6 nature sanctuaries; inventories of macroinvertebrates, lichens, birds and plants have been conducted and reports are available (contact Margaret Skeel).</p>
2004-2005	<p>PC-GNP, SRC and SWA are comparing vegetation around active and recently abandoned greater sage grouse leks (contact Pat Fargey).</p>
2003 - Completed	<p>PC-GNP and SRC conducted a comparison of grazed and ungrazed land on sage grouse habitat (contact Pat Fargey for a copy of the report).</p>
2003-2006	<p>RSM in partnership with the Canadian Museum of Nature, UofA, St. Peter's College, UofS, UofR, AAFC-PFRA, DFO, PCAP, SAF, SE, SWA and local residents initiated the Frenchman River Biodiversity Project (FRBP). Its mission is to assess the health of the Frenchman River watershed and the sustainability of local activities through community driven research (contact Dr. Glenn Sutter). The following activities have been accomplished:</p>
<b>August 2004</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>RSM and UofA studied aquatic invertebrates and water quality in and near GNP (contact Glenn Sutter).</b></li> </ul>
<b>May-September 2004</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>RSM, Uof A, UofR and local residents conducted a survey of aquatic invertebrates along the course of the Frenchman River (contact Glenn Sutter).</b></li> </ul>
<b>September 2003</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>RSM fostered research on the value of action-based environmental education involving high-school students (contact Glenn Sutter).</b></li> </ul>
<b>June1-2, 2004</b>	<p><b>SAF completed a rare plant survey in Millie Pasture as part of underground water line development (contact Don Fontaine).</b></p>
<b>Summer 2004</b>	<p><b>SAF completed a rare plant survey on 4 sites in the Manitou Sandhills prime conservation area to help guide petroleum and gas companies in restoring sites with plant species that existed prior to disturbance. Sites were located in 2 upland areas and 2 treed areas (contact Don Fontaine).</b></p>

Goal 3, Objective 1, Action a

- 2004 SAF, AARC-PFRA and other agencies completed a preliminary SK Agri-Environmental Scan, the results of which will continue to be updated and refined. The scan provides an assessment of agri-environmental issues for soil, water, air and biodiversity. It can be accessed through SAF or the website [http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca/docs/about\\_us/apf/environment.asp](http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca/docs/about_us/apf/environment.asp) (contact Wayne Gosselin).
- 2004 SE initiated multi-year Regional Environmental Study for the Great Sand Hills (contact Randy Seguin).
- 2002 SE completed a study on the status of exotic plant invasion in the Great Sand Hills and conducted surveys for several species at risk (contact Ann Gerry).
- 2004 SRC, through the Meewasin Valley Authority examined the effect of past fire treatment on the control of Kentucky blue grass in a native mixed prairie reserve (contact Bob Godwin).
- 2003 SRC, for the Meewasin Valley Authority, conducted a survey of the Saskatoon Natural Grassland to examine changes in exotic plant populations since management practices were implemented 10 years ago (contact Bob Godwin).
- Summer 2004 SWA completed a range assessment study completed on its lands around the Quill Lakes in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the current management plan (contact Jody Oliver).
- 2001-2004 SWA is comparing grassland bird nest abundance and success in native prairie with that in tame pasture and hayland (contact Glen McMaster).
- UofS College of Agriculture is conducting the following research studies (contact Joe Schmutz)
- Burning of fescue prairie and how it influences biodiversity, heterogeneity and biomass. This UofS scholarship funded project is slated for completion in 2005 and is part of a long-term study (contact Jim Romo).
  - Potential effects of timing of defoliation and landscape elements such as slope on plant re-growth after grazing. This ADF funded project is slated for completion in 2005 (contact Jim Romo).
  - Using thermal-time and hydrothermal-time models to predict seedling emergence and to study the related physiological mechanisms in germination among forage and native species. This is a 2 part project funded by NSERC and ADF and is slated for completion in 2005 (contact Yuguang Bai).
  - Nutrient retention, pasture response, cattle condition and economics of in-field feeding and overwintering cows on pasture versus traditional in-yard feeding and overwintering. It was developed and is directed in partnership with WBDC with funding support from CMDF (contact Bart Lardner)
  - The effects of fertilizing grass-dominated pastures with liquid nitrogen and phosphorus on yield, forage quality, soil nutrient cycling and organic matter at 3 sites in SK. It is conducted in partnership with SSCA with funding from Greencover Canada (contact Jeff Schoenau – Dep’t of Soil Science).
  - Greenhouse gas emissions in relation to species composition and landscape features (e.g., slope, aspect). This is funded by Canada Agricultural Research and is slated for completion in 2005 (contact Yuguang Bai).
  - Effects of grazing and shrub cover on carbon levels in soil and root carbon in grasslands in relation to climate change. This is funded by ADF and a UofS scholarship (contact Yuguang Bai).



Goal 3, Objective 1, Action b	b) Develop a prairie ecosystem management decision support computer model that includes representative components of native biodiversity as one of the model outputs.	Late 2003 to 2004	EC-CWS is developing a Decision Support System model for land birds across the PHJV area. Using GIS and statistics, bird occurrence and habitat data are being combined to detect significant relationships between them. This information will be used to map priority habitat areas for species of special conservation concern, particularly land birds, throughout the PHJV region at a broad, landscape level (contact Steve Davis).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 (AAFC-PFRA, EC-CWS, PC-GNP, SE, SWA, Universities)	2004-2007	PC-GNP is developing a Grazing Ecosystem Management Support (GEMS) computer simulation model to guide the reintroduction of grazing into the Park that will include submodels for native biodiversity components. Conducted initial workshop to develop model with SRC, EC-CWS, and University participation (contact Pat Fargey).
		2004-2005	<b>SE is exploring the data requirements and feasibility of using of a decision support model to assist in land use and conservation planning and SAR recovery for SK, including the Prairie Ecozone (contact Ann Gerry).</b>
2. Promote management of native prairie to maintain biological diversity.	a) Develop and incorporate biodiversity best management practice recommendations in range extension communication products.	2003-2006	<b>AAFC - EFP funding under APF: National list of BMPs released in August 2004; relevant BMP categories include riparian area management (10 BMPs), alien species control (20) enhancing wildlife habitat and biodiversity (21), Species at Risk (22), Grazing Management Planning (26) and Biodiversity Enhancement (28) (contact Bill Bristol).</b>
See also <b>Goal 1, Objective 1</b> (Promote grazing programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles) and <b>Goal 2, Objective 3</b> (Encourage voluntary stewardship to conserve native prairie) for related activities.	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 3	Since 1992	AAFC-PFRA's goal for range condition on PFRA community pastures is the mid Good Range Condition Class, or higher, which research indicates generally supports the best level of plant biodiversity. Since 2002, riparian health assessments have been incorporated into pasture condition assessments where riparian areas occur on pastures. Range management plans are then drawn up with pasture staff using this assessment data. Community pastures are essentially managed in an extensive (not intensive) manner and this promotes a variety of patch cover types across the landscape, providing habitat for a wide variety of wildlife species (contact Chris Nykoluk).
	(AAFC-PFRA, DFO, DUC, EC-CWS, PC-GNP, NCC, NPSS, NS, SAF, SE, SRM, SSGA, SWA)	Since 2002	DUC submits articles to print media/radio on range management practices and conservation of waterfowl and wildlife habitat (contact Michael Champion).
		2003	NPSS published 'Prairie Roots: A Handbook for Native Prairie Restoration' and the 'Native Plants, Water and Us!' booklet and poster (contact Garth Wruck).
		2004-2005	<b>NS in cooperation with DUC, EC, NCC, PCAP, PFRA, SAF, SBOIC, SE, SRM, SWA, and UofS is developing fact sheets to help producers understand and incorporate biodiversity best management practices (contact Margaret Skeel).</b>
		2004-2005	<b>SAF led the development of 4 BMPs dealing with Riparian Area Assessment, Riparian Area Management, Grazing Management, and Wintering Site Management for the SK EFP program (contact Michel Tremblay).</b>
		2004-2005	<b>SE participated in the development and review of BMPs in support of Environmental Farm Planning (contact Ann Gerry or Greg Riemer).</b>
		Winter 2004	<b>SWA, DUC, SARFF, PFRA, SSCA, and WARC produced the North West Grazing News newsletter, which highlights BMPs being utilized in nw SK (contact Jeremy Brown).</b>
		1999, 2002	SWA published 'A Land Manager's Guide to Grassland Birds of Saskatchewan' (2002) and 'Beyond Borders' (1999) to provide information on the habitat requirements of specific bird species (contact Sharon Metz).
		Since May 1997	SWA promotes BMPs during on-farm visits and by producing landowner profiles for publication in weekly newspapers, partner publications, and trade magazines (contact Ryan Lorge).
		Quarterly, Since 1997	SWA produces the "Prairie Update" newsletter, which highlights BMPs being implemented in Saskatchewan (contact Jennifer Lohmyer).

## PCAP Partner Update # 5

<p>b) Encourage information exchange between range managers, biologists and others.</p> <p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 4</p> <p>(All)</p>	<p><b>2003</b></p> <p>Since 1996</p>	<p><b>AAFC-PFRA and DUC signed a 15-year partnership to improve waterfowl habitat on Key West and Excell pastures (contact Daryl Nazar, DUC or Mark Niemegeers, PFRA).</b></p> <p>EC-CWS is Chairing the Alberta Prairie Ecology Research Committee (PERC) that includes representatives from a broad range of organizations and institutions with research interests. PERC encourages research leading to a better understanding of prairie ecology, improved management of resources, habitats, and species and to facilitate the exchange of information. PERC is developing a website to hold a bibliographic database, to list research gaps, to post information on active research projects, and to list other important websites and information databases (contact Ron Bennett).</p>
	<p><b>February 2005</b></p>	<p><b>NPSS held its 2005 AGM and Workshop Feb. 3-5 in Saskatoon (65 participants). Sessions dealt with the history of Saskatchewan flora, human impacts, sociological perspectives on conservation and trends in the native seed industry (contact Garth Wruck).</b></p>
	<p>February 2004</p>	<p>NPSS held its 2004 AGM and Workshop Feb. 5-7 in Swift Current (77 participants). Theme focussed on the importance of native plants in relation to other species including: insects, microbes, other plants and humans (contact Garth Wruck).</p>
<p>Goal 3, Objective 2, Action b</p>	<p>2003-04</p>	<p>NS developed a questionnaire for rural landowners to provide their thoughts on the proposed APF, and solicited input through Town Hall meetings, and meetings with groups in 2 agricultural communities (contact Margaret Skeel).</p>
	<p><b>Since 2003</b></p>	<p><b>NS holds Stewards of Saskatchewan landowner appreciation days in July-August. It 2003, 2 social BBQs were held (Weyburn and Assiniboia) to meet and visit with landowners, and, in 2004, 1 event was held that included a field workshop and social BBQ (Bengough) (contact Margaret Skeel).</b></p>
	<p>July 5-10, 2004</p>	<p>PCAP, AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SSGA, SWA, partnered with Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) on the development and delivery of the Grasslands Grandeur Tour for 25 teachers (contact Karyn Scalise – PCAP, Barb Hanbidge/Daryl Nazar - DUC), Michael Burgess – SSGA, Ross Macdonald – SWA).</p>
	<p><b>2004</b></p>	<p><b>PC-GNP provided tours of fields being restored back to native species in the park; to 25 teachers (AITC, above), university groups (Lakeland College) and the Bureau of Land Management from Montana (contact Adrian Sturch).</b></p>
	<p>May 2003</p>	<p>RSM and UofR organized and hosted the Plain As The Eye Can See conference on ‘Managing Changing Prairie Landscapes’ (contact Dr. Glenn Sutter).</p>
	<p>May 2003</p>	<p>RSM gave a presentation on the development of the Frenchman River Biodiversity Project as part of the Plain As The Eye Can See conference (contact Dr. Glenn Sutter).</p>
	<p><b>March 2005</b></p>	<p><b>RSM held community meetings in Val Marie and Eastend to report on biological and social research associated with the Frenchman River Biodiversity Project (contact Glenn Sutter).</b></p>
	<p>2003</p>	<p>SAF Lands Branch and DUC signed two 25-year partnerships to improve Pintail and other waterfowl habitat on Old Wives and Val Jean pastures. Approximately 800 acres of DUC tame forage lands were incorporated in SAF pasture grazing rotations to defer grazing on native range to improve waterfowl productivity (contact Rick Ashton – SAF or Daryl Nazar – DUC).</p>
	<p>2002 - 2003</p>	<p>SAF Lands Branch and DUC completed a joint evaluation of the Ponass Lake area and met with local producers to advise them of management tools and practices to improve land health (contact Gordon Bue – SAF or Chuck Deschamps – DUC).</p>
	<p><b>2004</b></p>	<p><b>SE participated in ‘Discovering the Moose Mountains Workshop and Field Tour during NPAW, delivery of Greencover Canada workshops in support of Environmental Farm Planning (EFP), information workshops with transportation industry and RMs, and presentations to environmental engineering students (contact Ann Gerry or Diane Livingstone).</b></p>

Goal 3, Objective 3, Action a	3. Control the threat and impact of introduced invasive species to native prairies.	a) Identify and promote awareness of the negative impacts of introduced and invasive species to native prairie.	Since 1991	AAFC-PFRA incorporates site-specific conservation elements into Right-Of-Way permits for oil and gas, and other developments on Community Pastures (Contact Chris Nykoluk).
			Since 2000	DUC sits on several advisory committees dealing with invasive plants (contact Michael Champion).
		<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2	Since 1998	DUC, EC-CWS, NS, SE and SWF support the Saskatchewan Purple Loosestrife & Invasive Species Project (SPLISP). In 2005, six fact-sheets were created for the following: common buckthorn, flowering rush, caragana, common burdock, perennial pepperweed, and aquatic species. The fact-sheets will be provided to 40 rural municipalities that have become partners with SPLISP under its 'signed agreement' program. A brochure, titled 'What you should know about invasive species', was produced in 2003. The brochure discusses many invasive species that threaten native prairie, such as baby's breath, dame's rocket, caragana, and smooth brome. The brochure and fact-sheets are available for distribution. Throughout 2004, an invasive species display was set up at 5 events in SK (anyone interested in borrowing the display should contact SPLISP). Also in the same year, a number of radio interviews were given and some newspaper articles produced. An article on invasive species was sent to towns, cities, RM's, partners, board members, various organizations, and magazines. A purple loosestrife cleanup in collaboration with EcoKids was conducted at Lakeview Lake in Saskatoon (for photos of the cleanup, visit our website). SPLISP maintains a website on invasive species <a href="http://www.sfn.saskatoon.sk.ca/science/splep/">http://www.sfn.saskatoon.sk.ca/science/splep/</a> (contact Ron Bennett).
		<b>(SE, All)</b>		
			Since 1995	NPSS has representatives on many advisory committees that cover invasive plant issues (contact Garth Wruck).
			Since 2002	NS's Rare Plant Rescue program distributes information to participants on native prairie and the negative impacts that invasive species pose to its integrity (contact Tara Sample).
			Since 1998	NS's provides information on invasive species through its newsletter, <i>Nature Views</i> , and through materials of The Living by Water Project and has promoted information from the SPLISP (contact Margaret Skeel).
			2003	PCAP, SAF, SE, and SWA reprinted "Invasive Plants of Native Rangeland" posters (contact Karyn Scalise)
			<b>2001</b>	<b>PC-GNP in conjunction with SAF, Universities, Local Stakeholders and Rural Municipalities delivered weed seminars to increase awareness of noxious weed issues in and around the Park (contact Adrian Sturch).</b>
			<b>2004-2005</b>	<b>SE is developing a comprehensive invasive exotic plant list, complementary to the provincial Noxious Weeds list, for use in Ecological Health Assessment and future invasive species management initiatives (contact Ann Gerry).</b>
	<b>2004</b>	<b>SE released the Saskatchewan Biodiversity Action Plan which states that SE and SAF will carry out a number of actions over the next two years that are intended to address the threat of invasive exotic species throughout the province.</b>		
	<b>Summer 2004</b>	<b>SWA completed invasive species assessments along the Moose Jaw Creek (contact Tom Harrison).</b>		
	Since 1998	SWA provides information on invasive species through its 'Prairie Update' newsletter (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).		
	b) Investigate and promote methods to manage and control invasive species.	Since 1991	AAFC-PFRA and SSDB are utilizing sheep at Elbow Community Pasture to control leafy spurge. Stem counts of leafy spurge are made annually All pastures are continually scrutinized for presence of problem plants (contact Chris Nykoluk).	
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 2	Since 1996	EC-CWS and AAFC-PFRA cooperatively manage native prairie and control introduced species, particularly smooth brome and Kentucky bluegrass, on Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area, using livestock from PFRA Wreford Community Pasture (contact Ron Bennett - EC-CWS or Chris Nykoluk – AAFC-PFRA).	
	(AAFC-PFRA, AARC-SPARC, DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, NS, PC-GNP, RSM,	Since 1993	EC-CWS uses grazing, prescribed burning, and chemical herbicides to control	

Goal 3, Objective 3, Action b

SAF, SP, SE, SSDB, SSGA, SWA, SWF, Universities

the growth and spread of problematic invasive exotic plant species, including toadflax (since 1996) and smooth brome (since 1998) on the Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area (contact Ron Bennett).

2002-2007	<b>PC-GNP is involved in the following initiatives:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>inventorying and rating the significance of non-native species within the Park (contact Robert Sissons or Adrian Sturch).</b></li> <li>• <b>conducting research on managing crested wheat grass (i.e. grazing, prescribed fire, mowing and herbicide etc.) and facilitating native species (i.e. native seed additions) in collaboration with academic researchers (contact Adrian Sturch).</b></li> <li>• cooperating on a UofR graduate student research project on 'Predicting Invasion of Crested Wheat Grass in Native Prairie' (contact Malin Hansen – UofR).</li> </ul>
2002	SAF uses a combination of beetle releases and intensive sheep grazing management to control leafy spurge. In 2003, 580,000 beetles were collected and disbursed at 4 sites, including Meyronne pasture where 300,000 beetles were released. Since 2002 approximately 700-800 sheep were grazed between June 1 to September 1 and the sheep are generally rotated on a twice over grazing system. <b>Beetle populations are also being monitored in the Manitou Sand Hills</b> (contact Don Fontaine or Blake Kohls).
<b>Since 2002</b>	
2004	SAF Lands Branch developed a Biosecurity Protocol to guide staff in following proper precautions when conducting field visits and inspections (contact Rick Ashton).
2001-2003	<b>SP uses best practices, as identified by SE, to manage invasive species such as leafy spurge on property that it owns. As part of this management of invasive species, SP is experimenting with the use of beetles to combat leafy spurge as well as herbicide options (contact Shelley Heidinger).</b>
2003	SWA initiated a leafy spurge control demonstration project continued with SE and 7 landowners around Last Mountain Lake. Sheep grazed, and beetles were released on over 300 acres of spurge infested native prairie (contact Tom Harrison).
	SWA produced the following fact sheets on invasive species: Managing Crested Wheatgrass in Native Grassland; Control of Knapweeds in Native Grasslands; Managing Smooth Brome in Native Grasslands; Management of Downy Brome in Native Grasslands; Managing Leafy Spurge on Native Grasslands; Managing Nodding and Canada Thistle on Native Grasslands; Controlling Scentless Chamomile in Native Grasslands; Managing Western Snowberry and Trembling Aspen on Native Grasslands (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).
July 2003	AAFC-PFRA Greencover Canada Program applicants are encouraged not to seed invasive agronomic species such as crested wheatgrass or smooth brome within 0.5 miles of existing native rangelands, as per the Greencover Canada 'Forage Selection Guide' (contact Chris Nykoluk).
Since 1998	DUC promotes the use of native seed mixes for permanent cover on private land (contact Michael Champion).
2002-2004	EC-CWS and SE participate in the National Invasive Alien Working Group on the development of a National Plan to address the threat of invasive species. Provincial and National efforts will be complimentary (contact Ron Bennett – EC-CWS or Ann Gerry – SE).
Since 1994	EC-CWS, through the regulation of the <i>Canadian Environmental Assessment Act</i> , regularly provides advice to development proponents on the problems that can be caused by some introduced species (contact Ron Bennett).
<b>2005-2012</b>	<b>NCC and PC-GNP are developing strategies to encourage the establishment of non-invasive perennial forage on privately owned cultivated land next to GNP (contact Pat Fargey or Adrian Sturch).</b>
Since 2002	NCC includes a restriction in CE's when tame forage is part of the easement area, which excludes the use of smooth brome grass, crested wheat grass and sweet clover during periodic restoration of these lands (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).

c) Discourage the introduction of additional non-native species that threaten native prairie biodiversity (e.g. development of protective buffer areas around significant native prairie areas by seeding non-invasive pasture species).

**Ranking:**  
Partner Update # 4: FAIR  
Partner Update # 5: 3

(SE, All)

<p>Goal 3, Objective 3, Action c</p>		<p>May 2003 NPSS released a special edition of the Native Plant News that contained an article identifying the issues surrounding green wheatgrass <i>Elymus hoffmannii</i> (contact Garth Wruck).</p>
	<p>January 2003</p>	<p>NPSS provided its Position Statements on Invasive Species to the federal Greencover Canada Program for consideration in program development (contact Garth Wruck or Kerry Hecker).</p>
	<p>Since 2001</p>	<p>NS and SWA restrict eligible seed mixes to those that exclude smooth brome and crested wheatgrass, as well as limit amounts of other non-native species on all NS's habitat enhancement programs, including Operation Burrowing Owl and Shrubs For Shrikes, which provide funding to landowners for perennial cover seeding (contact Kim Dohms – NS or Jennifer Lohmeyer – SWA).</p>
	<p><b>2005</b></p>	<p><b>SE and NPSS have initiated a Saskatchewan Ecologically Sensitive Seed Initiative to examine the feasibility of establishing a native seed certification system for SK that will include strict criteria for invasive weed-free status (contact Greg Riemer).</b></p>
	<p>2004-2006</p>	<p>SE is developing a Provincial Invasive Exotic Species Strategy to address the prevention and management of invasive species (contact Ann Gerry).</p>
	<p>Completed in 2004-2005</p>	<p>SFC is evaluating annual and perennial forage cultivar evaluation and minor use registration work (contact Michel Tremblay).</p>
	<p><b>2004</b></p>	<p><b>SP Shand Greenhouse is removing Russian Olive (<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>) from production due to increased invasiveness of, or the possibility of, this species in SW Saskatchewan (contact Shelley Heidinger).</b></p>
	<p>2001-2005</p>	<p>AAFC-SPARC, with funding support from AAFC-MII and SAF-ADF, and in partnership with DUC, SaskPower, DUC-NPS, PC-GNP, SERM, Nexen Canada Inc. and Monsanto Canada Inc. are conducting a 5 year research study on the re-establishment of a mixed native grassland in southwest SK (80 acres of land that had been annually cropped since the 1920s and has been reseeded back into two types of native pastures (simple and diverse native seed mixtures). The study will assess animal grazing performance, native stand establishment characteristics and environmental benefits of different types of seeded mixed native grasslands. <b>Final reports on the forage and grazing performances, carbon sequestration and microbial changes, specie richness and biodiversity changes with and without grazing, seeding date and other agronomic factors affecting native establishment characteristics and economic cost/benefit assessment are planned to come out by December 2005 (contact Alan Iwaasa).</b></p>
	<p><b>2005-2008</b></p>	<p><b>AAFC-SPARC, with funding support from AAFC-MII, DUC, DUC-NPS, Nexen Canada Inc., Proven Seed, and SWFA are collaborating in a 3 year research study on "Seeding of different tame and native legumes with native grasses." Different pasture treatments consisting of native grasses (NGS) NGS+tame legume, and NGS+native legume mixture. Soil microbial and fertility will be evaluated, as well as, forage and future grazing performance (contact Alan Iwaasa or Chantal Hamel).</b></p>
	<p><b>2005-2007</b></p>	<p><b>AAFC-SPARC, SAF and SWFA with funding support from the Greencover Canada Technical Assistance Proposal Based Program are collaborating in a 3 year demonstration study on "Management techniques required for establishing native grass stands in combination with various tame and native legumes." Different pasture treatments will be considered (contact Alan Iwaasa - AAFR-SPARC or Trevor Lennox - SAF).</b></p>
<p>Since 2003</p>	<p>DUC is funding work at the Western Beef Development Center to quantify the benefits of converting land to perennial forage (contact Richard McBride)</p>	
<p>Since 2001</p>	<p>DUC and AAFC-SPARC have an ongoing study focussing on the feasibility of grazing seeded native forages (contact Michael Champion – DUC or Alan Iwaasa – AAFC-SPARC).</p>	
<p>Since 1993</p>	<p>EC-CWS, by supporting the Native Prairie Conservation Program, continues to undertake research on native prairie restoration and management techniques. Native wild-type seed is collected and used on federal protected areas. The use of native seed is encouraged for research and conservation plantings (contact Ron Bennett).</p>	

4. Promote restoration and recovery of native prairie ecosystems.

a) Promote practical research to refine and increase use of restoration technology including the evaluation of the agricultural potential of using native species in forage production and grazing systems.

**Ranking:**  
Partner Update # 4: FAIR  
Partner Update # 5: 4

(AAFC-SPARC, DUC, EC-CWS, PC-GNP, NPSS, SWA)

Goal 3, Objective 4, Action a

b) Encourage the development and use of native seed mixes in permanent cover, reclamation programs and projects.

**Ranking:**

Partner Update # 4: GOOD  
Partner Update # 5: 3

(SAF, All)

2003-2005	NPSS partnered with NCC on a native prairie restoration project on cultivated land within the Old Man On His Back Heritage and Conservation Area near Eastend. The goal was to restore 300 acres with seed from locally wild-harvested sources. The project has been discontinued after the seeding of 100 acres due to a change in the land-use plan for the restoration site (Garth Wruck – NPSS).
1997-2012	PC-GNP has been using wild harvested native seed to revegetate 50-100ac of cultivated land/year (contact Pat Fargey or Adrian Sturch).
2003-2008	AAFC-PRFA Greencover Canada Program has a native forages component. As of October 2003, ~ 53,285 tame grass acres and 2,242 native grass acres of privately owned environmentally sensitive lands have been approved for conversion. <b>As of March 10<sup>th</sup>, a total of 1,868 projects have been approved, with a total of 181,427 acres of tame grass acres, a total of 6,984 native grass acres and 94 acres of trees have been approved for conversion in SK; SAF is a partner in program delivery (contact Bill Houston).</b>
Since 1992	AAFC-PFRA works with industry to ensure that any development activities on native prairie on PFRA Community Pastures are reclaimed with native species (contact Chris Nykoluk)
Since 2003	AAFC-SPARC provided presentations at a number of provincial and international meetings on the potential use and re-establishment of native species for permanent cover, grazing and forage potential and reducing native prairie fragmentation (contact Mike Schellenberg or Alan Iwaasa):
2004-2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>7<sup>th</sup> Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conf. (The potential grassland in southwest Saskatchewan)</b></li> <li>- <b>Prairie Forum 2005 (Re-evaluation of native plant species for seeding and grazing by livestock on the semiarid prairie of western Canada)</b></li> <li>- <b>Society of Range Management annual general meeting. Fort Worth, TX. (Improved grazing production between two seeded native pastures in Saskatchewan due to species richness differences)</b></li> <li>- <b>NPSS Annual General Meeting and Workshop (Reducing prairie fragmentation through the re-establishment of different native pasture mixtures on cultivated cropped land)</b></li> </ul>
2003-2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Native Plant Summit VII: Planning Native Landscapes – Urban and Rural. Fargo, ND. (Forage and grazing potential of a newly re-established mixed grassland in southwest Saskatchewan)</li> <li>- Native Grassland Restoration Workshop. Eastend SK (Re-establishment of native grassland species: within a livestock production system)</li> <li>- Workshop and Annual General Meeting of the Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan. (Interactions to consider when seeding a mix of species)</li> </ul>
Since 1995	DUC has been using native seed mixtures on lands owned by DUC whenever possible. DUC encourages landowners to use native seed mixes if possible on privately owned lands (contact Michael Champion).
2003	EC-CWS, through the regulation of the <i>Canadian Environmental Assessment Act</i> , regularly requests the use of native seed mixes during reviews or screenings of development projects (contact Ron Bennett).
Since 1994	EC-CWS encourages or requires the use of native plant material for plantings through EC programs such as Eco-Action and the Government of Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk and other federal government programs, such as AAFC's Greencover Canada Program (contact – Ron Bennett).
January 2004	NPSS delivered a presentation at a SAF meeting in North Battleford on the use of native species in cropland conversion for 20 participants (contact Garth Wruck).
2003	NPSS's Native Plant News: Seed and Restoration Special Edition newsletter featured articles on the native seed and restoration industries (contact Garth Wruck).
Since 2002	NS's Operation Burrowing Owl and Shrubs for Shrikes habitat enhancement activities promote the usage of native seed mixes for the establishment of perennial cover (contact Kim Dohms or Michelle Yaskowich).

Goal 3, Objective 4, Action b

	Revised 1999	SAF's document entitled <i>Restoration of Saskatchewan's Agricultural Crown Rangelands</i> outlines guidelines and procedures for the development and restoration of land affected by seismic operations, oil and gas activity, sand and gravel pits, and road development. This document is also available on the SAF website at <a href="http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca">www.agr.gov.sk.ca</a> (contact Don Fontaine).
	<b>2005</b>	<b>SP is working with PC-GNP to produce native plants for use in increasing diversity on previously cultivated lands being returned to native prairie (contact Shelley Heidinger).</b>
	Since 1996	SP Shand Greenhouse has grown small amounts of native forbs and grasses for use by several agencies to develop seed nurseries to meet their own seed needs. Production information gathered during this process is available upon request to interested groups or individuals (contact Shelley Heidinger).
	Since 1997	<b>SWA and NPSS'</b> Regina Plain Native Plant Nursery produces plant materials for small-scale community-based restoration projects such as schoolyards (contact Jennifer Lohmeier or Garth Wruck). Accomplishments include the following:
	<b>2004-2008</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SP is funding nursery maintenance and production of plant materials (contact Garth Wruck or Shelley Heidinger)</b></li> </ul>
	<b>2005</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>EcoAction is funding a restoration coordinator position to facilitate restoration projects (contact Garth Wruck or Jennifer Lohmeyer)</b></li> </ul>
	<b>2005</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SWA plans to make a guidebook for small prairie restorations available for download on the SWA website (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</b></li> </ul>

c) Promote communication of Species at Risk legislation to stakeholders and actively encourage that implementation be guided by the principle of working cooperatively with land managers.

**Ranking:**  
Partner Update # 4: GOOD  
Partner Update # 5: 3

(EC-CWS, All)

	Since 2002	AAFC-PFRA obtained Interdepartmental Recovery Funds for SAR extension with AAFC-PFRA community pasture managers and livestock producer groups (contact Bill Bristol).
	November 2003	EC-CWS and AAFC-PFRA distributed the fact sheet 'Canada's Species at Risk Program: Questions and Answers on the new Species At Risk Act' and booklet 'Species at Risk: A Guide to Canada's Species at Risk in the Prairies' to PCAP Partners and others for distribution to prairie land managers and landowners (contact Genevieve Goggin – EC-CWS and Bill Bristol – AAFC-PFRA).
	Since 2000	EC-CWS manages an on-line SARA public registry with information on SARA <a href="http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/default_e.cfm">http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/default_e.cfm</a> (contact Ron Bennett).
	Since 2000	EC-CWS chairs or leads most of the national recovery teams for species at risk and is involved, directly or indirectly through financial support, in much of the research and activities for these species and their recovery (contact Ron Bennett). AAFC-PFRA is a member of the National Recovery Team for Plants at Risk in the Prairie Provinces (contact Chris Nykoluk).
	Since 2000	NS provides information on species at risk legislation through its 'Stewards of Saskatchewan' (Operation Burrowing Owl, Shrubs For Shrikes, and Rare Plant Rescue) and 'Piping Plover Post' newsletters to landowners and other stakeholders, including support to landowners that is being provided as a result of SARA. <b>NS's Rare Plant Rescue (RPR) provides specific information on rare plants and their habitat needs to landowners with, or with potential for, rare species, and also partners with NPSS to develop and deliver workshops to train and encourage naturalists to conduct rare plant surveys (contact Margaret Skeel).</b>
	Since 1990's	<b>SE continues to communicate its ecosystem approach to conserving species at risk and its recognition that stakeholder and public stewardship is the best mechanism for achieving effective conservation (contact Ann Gerry).</b>

Goal 3, Objective 4, Action c

	2001-present	SWA, through their 'Prairie Update' newsletter, has provided information on SARA and SWAs cooperative approach to working with land managers to improve habitat for SAR.
	Since 2004	<b>NPSS, with funding from SE and EC-HSP and in partnership with NS's Rare Plant Rescue Program, AAFC-SPARC, UofS and Uof R, develops and delivers rare plant identification and survey methodology workshops. Data collected by participants will be provided to SE-SKCDC, EC and the W.P. Fraser Herbarium. In 2004, 30 rare plant survey submissions were provided by 72 workshop participants (contact Garth Wruck) .</b>

Goal 3, Objective 4, Action d	d) Identify restoration and recovery targets of high conservation value, assess the feasibility of restoration and recovery of those targets, and develop restoration strategies for suitable target sites.	Since 2002	AAFC-PFRA accessed funding from the Interdepartmental Recovery Fund (IRF) to undertake the following 3 activities: i) stewardship activities to benefit Piping Plovers at Coteau and Excel Community pastures ii) pilot surveys for identification of 2 rare plant species (western spiderwort and hairy prairie clover) at 3 community pastures (Elbow, Dundurn, and Rudy-Rosedale) iii) research on grazing impacts on silver sagebrush and sage grouse populations (contact Bill Bristol).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3	Since 2002	<b>DUC has implemented a study focussing on spatial and temporal variability in waterfowl production across the Prairie Ecoregion with focus on the prairie and parkland biomes. DUC uses these results to enhance its program delivery (contact Michael Champion).</b>
	(EC-CWS, PC-GNP, NCC, RSM, SE)	2003	DUC has developed a Pintail Initiative that will target funding to areas with high pintail nesting densities. Pintails frequently prefer native grasslands for nesting so protection and buffering of grasslands will be a funding priority (contact Richard McBride).
		2002-2005	<b>NCC (with data and assistance from partners across the planning area) has identified and mapped conservation targets in order to assess the biodiversity of the Aspen Parkland and Moist Mixed Grassland ecoregions (spanning prairie Canada, ND, and MT). A report and digital data outputs will be available later in 2005. This assessment is being expanded in 2005 to include the Mixed Grassland and Cypress Upland ecoregions (contact Lowell Strauss).</b>
		2003-2004	NCC, SWA PC-GNP, AAFC-PFRA, WWF, SAF, SE, EC-CWS, and DUC (plus many AB and MT partners) are involved in collaborative conservation planning for NCC portfolio sites along the MT, AB, and SK boundaries. The initiative is called the Northern Mixed Grass Trans-boundary Planning Initiative (contact Pat Fargey).
		Since 1996	<b>NCC, SE-FWDF, and SAF Lands Branch are co-owners of the 13,100 acre (5,300 hectare) Old Man on His Back (OMB) Prairie &amp; Heritage Conservation Area. OMB is a working ranch with cattle and a conservation herd of Plains Bison that were released in 2004. The guiding principle is to ensure that the ecological values of the property are conserved over the long term. SaskPower and other corporate and conservation partners, foundations and individuals made the legacy of OMB possible (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).</b>
		Since 2000	PCAP and EC- CWS co-ordinate the Missouri Coteau Initiative in cooperation with SWA, NCC, NS, and DUC with significant funding support from the Government of Canada’s Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk. Partners work cooperatively to ensure the smooth delivery of habitat stewardship and education programs to assist landowners to maintain productive grasslands for livestock and wildlife (contact Karyn Scalise - PCAP or Ron Bennett – EC-CWS).
		2003-2004	PC-GNP, AAFC-PFRA, SE and NCC are mapping the abundance and distribution of silver sage in southwest SK (contact Pat Fargey).
		Since 2002	SWA has prioritized conservation actions, such as cropland conversion, for grassland birds in each ecodistrict by identification of Grassland Bird Conservation Areas. Implementation of conservation actions has begun (Jennifer Lohmeyer).



## **GOAL IV: TO PROMOTE COMPLEMENTARY SUSTAINABLE USES OF NATIVE PRAIRIE**

### **Goal IV Progress Summary**

**Submitted by Ann Gerry (SE)**

#### **Objective 1: Promote community-based business opportunities associated with native prairie**

Progress on this Objective is poor to fair. The intent of this Objective is to liaise with rural revitalization and community groups to provide information and develop sustainable use guidelines in support of environmental tourism and recreation. To date, these activities have been, largely opportunistic and ad-hoc. Further progress will require a more coordinated approach, perhaps through an existing tourism organization, that combines business planning with environmental and recreational expertise.

#### **Objective 2: Encourage the development of a native plant production industry**

Progress on this Objective is poor to fair. A number of agencies are conducting research to examine the potential use of some native grasses and forbs as beneficial and adaptable forage, wildlife and restoration species. This recent research on native forage species has been compiled and is available for reference. Tours and workshops have also been offered to illustrate the findings of this research as well as to demonstrate techniques for harvesting wild species, but there is not yet a commitment to develop a dedicated native plant materials research centre.

Some sector specific guidelines have been developed that ensure proponents use native species to re-vegetate next to native habitats. Although seed certificates are often requested for commercial work and funded planting initiatives, there is, as yet, no mandatory testing or seed standards that are appropriate for native species. An initiative is under way to examine the feasibility of having a provincial native seed standard for seed used on ecologically sensitive lands.

#### **Objective 3: Advance the exploration of native prairie towards the sustainable development of other bio-based products**

Progress on this Objective is poor to fair. Participating agencies do not feel they are able to develop the incentives necessary for encouraging the use of prairie resources for bio-based products. Perhaps other agencies would be willing to partner to achieve this. This Action must also be preceded by the native plant harvest guidelines and licensing to ensure the ability to monitor sustainable use. The need for harvest guidelines or regulations is slated to be examined in 2005.

#### **Objective 4: Recognize and quantify the socio-economic contribution of native prairie and perennial grasslands**

Progress on this Objective is fair. Information is being developed and presented around the value of native forage and environmentally sustainable beef production, but little research is occurring around the other goods and services provided by native grasslands.

## Goal IV Inventory of PCAP Partner Activities

Objective	Actions (RANKING) (LEAD AND SUPPORTING PARTNERS as in 2003- 2008 PCAP)	Timetable	Partner Update and contact information
1. Promote community-based business opportunities associated with native prairie.	<p>a) Provide the tourism industry and community organizations with information and technical experience to support hunting, fishing, eco- and agritourism and other recreational activities.</p> <p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2</p> <p>(NS, PC-GNP, SAF, <b>SE</b>, SSGA, SWA)</p>	Since 2003	DUC has been working with interested partners on the reclamation of uplands on a portion of Wascana Creek (contact Michael Champion).
		Since 2002	DUC has been working with several First Nations to identify optimal land uses, including the potential for ecotourism, hunting and fishing opportunities (contact Richard McBride).
		Since 1949	NS's Spring and Fall meets have provided community organizations with information and opportunities for nature recreational activities (contact Margaret Skeel).
		Since 2002	NS's Lake Diefenbaker Piping Plover Guardian Program provides community programming (schools, youth groups, provincial parks) on the Piping Plover and its habitat. An educational poster on the Piping Plover has been provided to the Chaplin, Wynyard, and Douglas Provincial Park Nature Centres (contact Margaret Skeel).
		2000-2004	NS' Bird Quest and Plant Quest programs provide community workshops to enhance people's skills and recreational enjoyment of nature. In 2004, the program was changed into a Nature Quest program where naturalists deliver natural history presentations in schools and communities (contact Margaret Skeel).
		<b>Since 2004</b>	<b>NS's PlantWatch program, the SK part of a national PlantWatch program, encourages individuals and schools to participate in documenting blooming dates of target plant species. The information helps with understanding climate change; personal reduction of greenhouse gases is encouraged (contact Tara Sample).</b>
		January 9, 2003	SAF organized an Agritourism Workshop in Assiniboia in which PCAP, SE, and SRM delivered presentations (contact Karyn Scalise).
		2003-2004	SRC is assisting the Cowessess First Nation with technical information on developing an ecotourism operation on their lands (contact Bob Godwin).
		<b>April 2004 – March 2005</b> Since 1996	<b>SBOIC reported a total of 3,165 visitors to the Centre</b> for a total of 19,765 visitations since 1996 (contact Claire Sanders).
		1998	SWA is a founding member in the development of the Saskatchewan Birding Trail, and works closely with communities in the Chaplin and Quill lakes areas to develop their ecotourism sites. A 'Community Planning Guide and Framework Strategy' for developing ecotourism sites, as well as a Birding Trail map (2002) are available from SWA's website (contact Sharon Metz).
	<p>b) Liaise with rural revitalization groups to develop guidelines to ensure sustainable use of native prairies.</p> <p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 2</p> <p>(NPSS, NS, PC-GNP, SAF, <b>SE</b>, SSGA, SWA, SWF)</p>	1999-2002	NS's Important Bird Areas (IBA) program has developed Community Conservation Plans with community stakeholders for 13 IBA sites. These include promoting community opportunities (contact Margaret Skeel).
		<b>2003-2004</b>	<b>SWA's Watershed and Aquifer Planning Division has set up Watershed Advisory Committees for the North SK River, the South SK River, Upper Qu'Appelle River, Moose Jaw River, Upper Assiniboine River, Lower Souris River, and the Yorkton Recharge Area. These Advisory committees are made up of local producers, RM representatives and stakeholders (contact Robin Todd).</b>

2. Encourage the development of a native plant production industry.	a) Develop a native plant materials centre for research and development.	Since 1994	AAFC-SPARC, DUC and various seed industry representatives are developing and evaluating several native ecovars®. Ongoing research studies are planned in 2004-2005 with Canadian milk-vetch, sidecoats grama and prairie sandreed (contact Grant McLeod or Alan Iwaasa).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 2	<b>Since 2005</b>	AAFC-SPARC research initiated to examine nutritional optimization of more diverse mixes of native species (contact Mike Schellenberg).
	(AAFC-SPARC, DUC, EC-CWS, NPSS, PC-GNP, SE)	<b>Since 2004</b>	<b>AAFC-SPARC have initiated a closer research collaboration with PMC in North Dakota (Bismarck), BLM Great Basin Native Plant Selection and Increase Project and Utah State in evaluating new potential native grasses, and forbs that are adapted and potentially grazing benefit to our ecoregion (contact Alan Iwaasa).</b>
		<b>Since 2003</b>	<b>AAFC-SPARC, DUC and Proven Seed have initiated a number of research collaboration, tours and workshops to better facilitate the understanding and proper utilization of native ecovars for grazing and re-establishment (contact Alan Iwaasa).</b>
	b) Develop educational materials and guidelines to promote the use and production of non-invasive native plant materials for re-vegetation in and adjacent to native areas.	January 2004	AAFC-PFRA Greencover Canada Program – native component in the ‘Forage Selection Guide’ outlines guidelines for native forage seedings; includes advantages, risks, and chart of long-lived native species for each soil zone (contact Bill Houston).
		July 2003	AAFC-PFRA Greencover Canada Program requires that applicants provide a forage seed ‘Certificate of Analysis’ as part of their seeding contract, outlining pure live seed and weeds present, in an effort to improve the overall quality of native and tame forage seedings undertaken in the program. <b>Applicants for the native component must also take the time to visit with a SAF or AAFC-PFRA approved native forage specialist</b> (contact Chris Nykoluk).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 3	Since 1994	AAFC-SPARC develops and evaluates recommendations for the use of different native grasses, forbs and shrubs for revegetation for agricultural benefit (contact Grant McLeod and Alan Iwaasa).
	(AAFC-SPARC, DUC, EC-CWS, NPSS, SE, SWA)	Since 1995	EC-CWS develops and refines guidelines on the use of native plant material and seed mixtures for restoration or revegetation projects (contact Ron Bennett).
		<b>August 2004</b> August 2003	<b>NPSS delivered native seed wild-harvest workshops at Old Man On His Back Prairie Heritage and Conservation Area near Eastend. Participants: 11 in 2004; 17 in 2003) (contact Garth Wruck – NPSS).</b>
		Since 1999	NPSS has developed the brochure ‘Guidelines for the Collection and Use of Native Plants and the publication ‘Native Seed Harvesting and Marketing’ (contact Garth Wruck)
	Goal 4, Objective 2, Action b	2003	NPSS produced the following publications: ‘Prairie Roots: A Handbook for Native Prairie Restoration’, and “Native Plant News: Seed and Restoration Special Edition newsletter on native seed and restoration industries (contact Garth Wruck).
		Revised 1999	SAF’s document entitled <i>Restoration of Saskatchewan’s Agricultural Crown Rangelands</i> outlines guidelines and procedures for the development and restoration of land affected by seismic operations, oil and gas activity, sand and gravel pits, and road development. This document is also available on the SAF website at <a href="http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca">www.agr.gov.sk.ca</a> (contact Don Fontaine).
		<b>2004</b>	<b>SE developed guidelines, Environmental Considerations in Road Construction, indicating the possible requirement to use native species for revegetation, particularly where sites support native vegetation (contact Diane Livingstone).</b>
	<b>2005</b>	<b>UofR-CPRC published a collection of papers called Managing Changing Prairie Landscapes, including an overview of recent research on native forage production (contact Dr. David Gauthier).</b>	

Goal 4, Objective 2, Action c	c) Encourage the establishment of new, mandatory testing and certification programs for native, forage, and horticultural species, varieties, cultivars and ecological varieties at federal and provincial levels.	Since 1994	AAFC-SPARC is conducting ongoing research on the evaluation and testing of a number of native ecovars® (contact Grant McLeod or Mike Schellenberg).	
		January 2004	NPSS provided information to the Canada Food Inspection Agency on requirements for native seed variety testing. Problems with current list of noxious weeds under the <i>Canada Seeds Act</i> and the sale of new forage varieties (not currently registered) that could be potential invasive species were also discussed (contact Garth Wruck).	
		<b>March 2005</b>	<b>NPSS developed position statements on native plant species currently listed within the Weeds Order of the Canada Seeds Act and invasive alien species that should be include. (contact Garth Wruck)</b>	
		<b>March 2005- June 2005</b>	<b>NPSS and SE will conduct a feasibility study in consultation with the native plant seed industry to identify the capacity for the development of provincial criteria and standards of native plant seed for use on ecologically sensitive/important lands (contact Garth Wruck – NPSS Greg Riemer – SE).</b>	
		Since 1970's	SAF, AAFC-SPARC, EC-CWS, NPSS and others involved in forages or rangeland, including testing and evaluation of new tame forages and native species, serve on the SK Advisory Council on Forage Crops (contact Michel Tremblay).	
	d) Promote the development of local native seed growers, processors, suppliers and testing facilities.	<b>2005</b>	<b>SE has initiated a Saskatchewan Ecologically Sensitive Seed Initiative to examine the feasibility of establishing a native seed certification system for SK. Certification would be mandatory for native seed used on SE administered lands (contact Greg Riemer).</b>	
		July 2003	AAFC-PFRA Greencover Canada Program includes a native forages component that will help stimulate demand for locally grown native forage seed, as did the requirement to reclaim any developments on AAFC-PFRA community pastures with native species - a requirement since 1992 (contact Chris Nykoluk).	
		<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 2	Since 1994	AAFC-SPARC conducts research on evaluating and developing processes to aid native seed growers and seed suppliers (contact Grant McLeod and Mike Schellenberg).
		(AAFC-PFRA, AAFC-SPARC, DUC, NPSS, SAF, SE, SP, SSGA, SWA)	2003	NPSS delivered 4 presentations promoting the use of native plants for horticultural and landscaping purposes and 3 CBC radio interviews on the native seed industry (contact Garth Wruck).
			Since 1999	NPSS continues to provide the native plant materials suppliers and producers listing service on their website (contact Garth Wruck).
	<b>2005</b>	<b>SE's Saskatchewan Ecologically Sensitive Seed Initiative, if deemed feasible, should lead to a larger, more stable market for quality native seed and increase the need for local testing and processing facilities (contact Greg Riemer)</b>		
	Since 1991	SP uses and recommends local native seed source whenever possible in remediation activities along its transmission and distribution line construction projects (contact Shelley Heidinger).		
	2003-present	SWA recommends and purchases seed from local growers for restoration projects whenever possible (Jennifer Lohmeyer).		

<p>3. Advance the exploration of native prairie towards the sustainable development of other bio-based products.</p>	<p>a) Develop exploration and research and development tax credits and other incentives for companies exploring and development new bio-based products.</p>		
	<p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 1  (AAFC-SPARC, AAFC-PFRA, SAF, SE, UofS – C.Ag)</p>		
	<p>b) Develop guidelines, management plans, and licensing for the harvest of native prairie species.</p>	<p>Since 1998  Since 1994</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA has a policy for harvesting native seed on Community Pastures; policy incorporates SKCDC rare plant status (contact Chris Nykoluk).  EC-CWS has developed, and continually improves upon, guidelines for the wild-harvesting of native plant material (contact Ron Bennett).</p>
	<p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2  (AAFC-PFRA, EC-CWS, NPSS, SE, SAF, SSGA)</p>	<p><b>2004</b></p>	<p><b>SE released the Saskatchewan Biodiversity Action Plan which states that it will, by 2005, examine the need for policy or legislation to address the harvest of wild plants (contact Ann Gerry).</b></p>
<p>4. Recognize and quantify the socio-economic contribution of native prairie and perennial grasslands.</p>	<p>a) Survey the literature and conduct gap analyses regarding ecological services including grazing and carbon sequestration, and communicate the findings.</p>	<p>Since 2000  <b>2005</b></p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA and SaskPower are conducting preliminary research to examine relationships between range condition (grassland management) and Greenhouse Gas carbon sequestration at 2 AAFC-PFRA Community Pastures. Two years of data have been collected and results are forthcoming (contact Brant Kirychuk).  <b>AAFC-SPARC invited presentations and publications in the Prairie Forum 2005 titled “Re-evaluation of native plant species for seeding and grazing by livestock on the semiarid prairie of western Canada”. This paper provides new insight on the benefits of using native species for agricultural and non-agricultural benefits (contact Alan Iwaasa or Mike Schellenberg).</b></p>
	<p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2  (UofR-CPRC, AAFC-SPARC, All)</p>	<p>Since 2001</p>	<p>AAFC-SPARC conducts research to evaluate and determine the potential environmental benefits of different native prairies on improving soil organic quality microbial population, insect biodiversity and carbon sequestration potential compared to annual cropping systems. Several field days and oral presentations have been delivered demonstrating the potential environmental and sustainability that native pastures can provide, including at the 7<sup>th</sup> PCAES Conference (contact Alan Iwaasa).</p>
	<p>b) Encourage organizations to quantify and report on the economic and social benefits associated with their particular use of the native prairie resources.</p>	<p>June 2002  2003</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA, through the U of S Department of Agricultural Economics, funded the ‘Public and Private Benefits and Costs on Federal Community Pastures’ study. This is a complex incomplete science but initial investigation indicated that the private and public benefit were practically equal (contact Chris Nykoluk).  SWA published the book ‘Stewardship and Economics of Cattle Wintering Sites’ and fact sheet ‘Economics of Riparian Grazing Management (contact Etienne Soulodre).</p>
	<p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2  (All)</p>	<p><b>2005</b></p>	<p><b>UofS Department of Animal and Poultry Science is recruiting a specialist in Environmentally Sustainable Beef Production for teaching and research (contact Joe Schmutz).</b></p>

## **GOAL V: TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF NATIVE PRAIRIE AND ITS VALUES**

### **Goal V Progress Summary**

**Submitted by Karyn Scalise (PCAP) and Dr. David Gauthier (UofR - CPRC)**

#### **Objective 1: Promote awareness of the PCAP Vision, Goals, Objectives and Actions**

Relatively good progress was made overall on this Objective. In the future, PCAP meetings will feature profiles of 2 or 3 Partners to increase awareness of their work and how it relates to PCAP Actions. Good progress was made in promoting the PCAP at Partner events and it was recommended that the PCAP seek opportunities to profile itself at more non-traditional audiences.

#### **Objective 2: Evaluate public awareness, appreciation, and understanding of native prairie**

Some progress has been made on this Objective. SWA has conducted surveys of prairie landowners, including voluntary stewards, to assess the importance of the grassland resource to them. UofR-CPRC has secured funding for a survey that will contribute towards this Objective.

#### **Objective 3: Co-ordinate PCAP communication and education activities with other native prairie conservation initiatives at local, national and international levels.**

Good progress was made on this Objective and a recommendation was made to develop a mailing list of native prairie networks to further enhance communication. Participation at several international events illustrates that the SK PCAP is regarded as a model for grasslands conservation.

#### **Objective 4: Educate the general public about native prairie ecosystems**

Outstanding progress was made on this Objective, largely due to the strong contributions made by Partners on PCAP stewardship education programs for youth audiences, including the Owls & Cows Tour and the Eco-X. Several Partners are also making great progress individually on program delivery to youth audiences. Outstanding progress was also noted on organizing Native Prairie Appreciation Week.

#### **Objective 5: Increase public appreciation of the beneficial role played by the livestock industry and other stewards in the management of native prairie.**

Good progress was made on this Objective and it was thought that activities were largely under-reported by Partners.

## Goal V Inventory of PCAP Partner Activities

Objective	Actions (RANKING)	Timetable	LEAD AND SUPPORTING AGENCIES, Continuing Activities & Update
1. Promote awareness of the PCAP Vision, Goals, Objectives and Actions.	a) Increase co-ordination and communication between agencies conducting research on native prairie ecosystems. To facilitate this, each PCAP meeting will feature presentations on important activities featuring a particular Goal.	Since June 2003	Many examples of co-ordination and communication among PCAP Partners can be found in: <b>Goal 1, Objective 1</b> (Promote grazing programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles) and <b>Goal 3, Objective 2</b> (Promote management of native prairie to maintain biological diversity) for related activities.
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2		
	(All)		
	b) Maintain and regularly update the PCAP website.	Since 1998	PCAP maintains and updates its website. Partners are encouraged to submit events for posting on the website (contact Karyn Scalise).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 2		
	(PCAP Office, All)		
	c) Link PCAP Partners to (and from) PCAP website.	Since 1998	PCAP Partners and other relevant groups are linked to the PCAP website (contact Karyn Scalise).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3		
	(PCAP Office, All)		
d) Recruit new PCAP Partners.	Since 1998	PCAP Partnership began with 16 Partners in 1998 and has consisted of 25 Partners since 2003 (contact Karyn Scalise).	
<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3			
(PCAP Office, All)			
e) Promote the PCAP through the media.	June 2003	PCAP issued a press release on the launch of the 2003-2008 PCAP (contact Karyn Scalise).	
<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3	March 2003	PCAP issued a press release on receiving the Countryside Canada Award (contact Karyn Scalise).	
(PCAP Office, All)	Annually in June	PCAP issues a press release on Native Prairie Appreciation Week	
f) Compile and distribute annual Partner Updates.	Nov 2003	PCAP Office compiled and distributed Partner Update #4 (contact Karyn Scalise).	
<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3	<b>June 2005</b>	<b>PCAP Office compiled and distributed Partner Update #5, herein (contact Karyn Scalise).</b>	
(PCAP Office, All)			

## PCAP Partner Update # 5

<p>g) Promote the PCAP at trade-shows, conferences, etc.</p> <p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 2</p> <p>(PCAP Office, All)</p>	<p>Since 1998</p> <p><b>January 21, 2005</b></p> <p><b>May 30 - June 1, 2004</b></p> <p><b>May 2004</b></p> <p>February 2004</p> <p>February 2004</p> <p>February 2004</p> <p>January 2004</p> <p>December 2003</p> <p>June 1-3, 2003</p> <p>May 2003</p> <p>Since 1998</p> <p>Since 1999</p>	<p>PCAP participated in the following events:</p> <p><b>SSGA Semi-Annual Meeting- Saskatoon (~ 60 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise).</b></p> <p><b>91<sup>st</sup> Annual SSGA Convention – Assiniboia (~200 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise).</b></p> <p><b>SK Network of Watershed Stewards (SNOWS) Conference – Saskatoon (200 delegates): PCAP display and materials provided (contact Karyn Scalise).</b></p> <p>NPSS AGM and Workshop – Swift Current (77 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise or Garth Wruck).</p> <p>Expert Committee on Forage Crops - Saskatoon (~35 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Tom Harrison).</p> <p>SSGA Meeting Zones 3 &amp; 12 – Minton (~ 80 delegates): Presentation on the PCAP (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>SSGA Meeting Zone 1 – Alameda (~ 80 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>Western Canadian Forage and Grazing Conference – Saskatoon (~230 delegates): PCAP display and materials provided (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>90<sup>th</sup> Annual SSGA Convention - Yorkton; SSGA – June 1-3 (~200 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>Plain as the Eye Can See - Regina; UofR, RSM, SE (100 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>PCAP encourages Partners to update their staff and members and to involve them in reporting activities to Partner Updates (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>AAFC-PFRA sends a copy of the Plan and the Updates to each Community Pasture Manager, all Land Managers and other District Staff. Regular presentations are made at staff meetings (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p>
<p>h) Encourage Partners to regularly update staff and members.</p> <p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 2</p> <p>(All)</p>	<p>September 11, 2003</p> <p>December 2003</p> <p>Since 1998</p> <p>Since 2004</p> <p><b>Spring 2005</b></p> <p><b>2004</b> Since 1998</p>	<p>DUC Office (Regina): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>NPSS included PCAP update article to its members in winter issue of the Native Plant News - 250 distributed (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p>NS has distributed and made available copies of PCAP 2003-2008 to its Board, members and NS program staff and participants. PCAP articles regularly appear in NS's newsletter, <i>Nature Views</i> (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>SE regularly distributes minutes of the PCAP meetings to senior managers (contact Ann Gerry).</p> <p><b>SE will make the importance of native prairie and Native Prairie Appreciation Week the subject of its early spring 2005 <i>Newsline</i> newsletter (contact Ann Gerry).</b></p> <p><b>SSGA provided information on the PCAP at 5 Zone meetings and Town Hall Meetings held in conjunction with CFIA on BSE testing (contact Sheila Fishley).</b></p>
<p>i) Provide newsletter articles to PCAP Partners and post them on websites.</p> <p><b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3</p> <p>(PCAP Office)</p>	<p>Since 1998</p>	<p>PCAP regularly provides articles to the following newsletters: NS – Nature Views, Stewards of SK; SSGA Stockgrower; SWA Native Prairie Update; Livestock &amp; Forage Gazette. In 2003 PCAP articles also appeared in the International NCC and SRM newsletters. PCAP articles are posted on the PCAP website every 2 months and e-mailed to Partners for inclusion in their newsletters (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>



2. Evaluate public awareness, appreciation and understanding of native prairies.	a) Conduct and report on a questionnaire survey assessing public awareness, understanding, and appreciation of native prairie.	2000	SWA conducted a phone survey of Voluntary Stewards with remnant areas of Prairie regarding their attitudes towards their native prairie, their management practices and their conservation of native prairie (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 2	2004-2005	SWA conducted a phone survey of landowners with remnant areas of Prairie regarding their attitudes towards their native prairie, their management practices and their conservation of native prairie. This survey was compared to the survey of voluntary stewards that was conducted in 2000 to determine if the Prairie Stewardship Program was having a positive effect on these attributes (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).
	(UofR-CPRC)	2004-2005	SWA conducted a phone survey of Voluntary Stewards and landowners with large parcels of Native Prairie in Southern SK regarding their attitudes towards their native prairie, their management practices, and their conservation of native prairie. The two groups were compared to determine if the Prairie Stewardship Program was having a positive effect on these attributes (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).
3. Coordinate PCAP communication and education activities with other native prairie conservation initiatives at local, national and international levels.	a) Contribute to the development of the CEC North American Grassland Conservation Strategy.	2003	UofR-CPRC and the CEC published 'Grasslands: Toward a North American Conservation Strategy' (contact Dr. David Gauthier).
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3		
	(UofR-CPRC, All)		
	b) Exchange information on a regular basis with other prairie conservation groups.	Since June 2003	PCAP delivered presentations and/or attended the following meetings (contact Karyn Scalise):
	<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3	February 6-10, 2005	PCAP delivered a presentation at Coordinated Resource Management Workshop held with the 58 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management (SRM) and was featured as a success story (contact Karyn Scalise or Allen Patkau).
	(All)	May 20, 2004	PCAP Executive Committee members participated in the Plenary Session of the IX Trilateral Committee Meeting in Calgary (contact Dr. David Gauthier, Pat Fargey, Allen Patkau or Karyn Scalise).
		February 26-29, 2004	Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference (PCAES) – Calgary AB (~400 delegates). PCAP presentation and poster on Stewardship Education Programs (contact Karyn Scalise).
		February 26, 2004	Northern Plains Conservation Network meeting – Calgary. ~ 40 delegates (contact Allen Patkau)
		October 21-23, 2003	Northern Mixed Grass Multi-Site Conservation Planning Initiative (Series One – Grasslands/Badlands) Efrogmson Fellowship Program 2003 – Workshop 3 – Fort Benton MT; Hosted by NCC and TNC. ~35 U.S. & Canadian delegates (contact Karyn Scalise).
		September 17, 2003	International Grasslands Symposium – Fort Collins, CO. ~100 U.S., Mex. & Can, delegates (contact Karyn Scalise).
	May 31, 2003	Sierra Club – Val Marie; hosted by PC-GNP. ~ 50 Can. & U.S. delegates (contact Karyn Scalise).	
	2005	UofR-CPRC published “Managing Changing Prairie Landscapes”, a book edited by T. Radenbaugh and G. Sutter (contact Dr. David Gauthier).	
	Fall 2004	UofR-CPRC published “Cultural Crisis in (Agri)Culture”, a special issue of the scholarly journal, Prairie Forum (contact Dr. David Gauthier).	
	2003	UofR-CPRC published ‘The Swift Fox: Ecology and Conservation of Swift Foxes in a Changing World’ (contact Dr. David Gauthier).	

## PCAP Partner Update # 5

Goal 5, Objective 3, Action b

2003

UofR-CPRC and Wildlife Habitat Canada published 'Monitoring the Conservation of Grassland Habitats, Prairie Ecozone, Canada' in Journal of Ecological Monitoring and Assessment 88: 343-364 (contact Dr. David Gauthier).

2003

UofR-CPRC and Wildlife Habitat Canada co-authored 'Chapter 29 – Conservation of Biodiversity: in Protected Areas and the Regional Planning Imperative in North America' (contact Dr. David Gauthier).

4. Educate the general public about native prairie ecosystems.

a) Develop and deliver youth education programs.

**April 2004 – March 2005**

**DUC with sponsorship from SPs Diamond Legacy program for their Wetland Education Program has reached 6,500 children and 600 adults at 112 schools through 240 field trips for a total of over 40,000 students since 2000-2001 (contact Barbara Hanbidge DUC or Shelley Heidinger, SP).**

**Ranking:**

Partner Update # 4: GOOD  
Partner Update # 5: 4

**November 2004**

**PCAP, SBOIC and SWA delivered the Cows, Fish, Cattle Dogs and Kids Game Show during Saskatoon Fall Fair and Regina Agribition to ~ 1,350 students, primarily in Grades 4-6, for a total of 9,850 students since 1998.** Volunteer assistance provided by AAFC-PFRA, DFO, EC-CWS, NS, SSGA and Wanuskewin. Funding support provided by DFO - Stewardship in Action Program (contact Karyn Scalise).

(AAFC-PFRA, **PCAP**, EC-CWS, NPSS, NS, PC-GNP, RSM, SBOIC, SRM, SWA, SWF)

(Since November 1998)

Year	Agri-Ed: Fall Fair + Agribition	Owls & Cows Tour # Schools (#Students)	Eco-X # Schools (#Students)	Total
04-05	1,350	0	21 (1,310)	2,650
03-04	1,100	70 (6,500)	10 (1,425)	9,025
02-03	1,200	160 (7,300)	16 (1,075)	9,575
<b>TOTAL: 03 -05</b>	<b>3,650</b>	<b>230 (13,800)</b>	<b>47 (3,810)</b>	<b>21,250</b>
TOTAL: 98-03	6,200 incl. some non- Agri- Ed events	65 (4,300)	39 (3,100)	13,600
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,850</b>	<b>295 (18,100)</b>	<b>86 (6,910)</b>	<b>34,850</b>

Spring 2001 –  
March 2004

PCAP, SBOIC, and SWA delivered the Owls & Cows Tour to 229 schools (17,400 Grade 3-6 students) since Spring 2001. **Delivery is being planned for 2005-2006 and will include some information on Loggerhead Shrikes. Proposed target areas are southeast SK.** Funding support provided by EC-HSP and DFO - Stewardship in Action Program. Teacher evaluations are available (contact Karyn Scalise).

**December 2004**

**PCAP, DUC, NS, SBOIC and SWA, and delivered the Eco-X to 5 Manitou Sandhills area elementary schools (435 students) and,**

Goal 5, Objective 4, Action a

**February 2005**  
(Since February 2000)

**PCAP, DUC, NS, PC-GNP, SBOIC and SWA delivered the Eco-X to 16 Grasslands National Park area elementary schools (875 students) for a total of 86 schools (6,900 grade K-6 students) since February 2000.** Partners that participated in previous years include NCC (2001), EC-CWS (2002-2003) and AAFC-PFRA (2003) Funding support provided by EC-HSP and DFO - Stewardship in Action Program. Teacher evaluations are available and the table below illustrates annual progress (contact Karyn Scalise).

Year (s)	Target Area	# Schools (Students)	Year of Revisit(s)
Feb. 2000	Grasslands Park Area	10 (800)	2010
Feb. 2005		16 (875)	
Feb. 2001	S. Missouri Coteau	14 (1,200)	Feb 2006
Feb. 2002	N. Missouri Coteau	15 (1,100)	Feb. 2007
Feb. 2003	Frenchman/Great Sandhills	16 (1075)	Feb. 2008
Feb. 2004	Swift Current	10 (1,425)	Feb 2009
Dec. 2004	Manitou Sandhills	5 (435)	TBA
<b>Totals</b>		<b>86 (6,910)</b>	

Goal 5, Objective 4, Action a

July 5-9, 2004	<b>PCAP, SWA, DUC, SSGA, AAFC-PFRA, Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC), the Saskatchewan Science Teachers Society (SSTS), and SaskLearning delivered the 5-day Grasslands Grandeur Tour for 25 teachers. A corresponding curriculum-linked publication for educators is in progress (contact Karyn Scalise).</b>
June – October 2004	<b>NPSS with funding from DFO and SaskEnergy developed a riparian vegetation ecology workshop for highschool science classes. The program included the involvement of landowners and managers of rural and urban riparian areas. Due to restrictions in timelines no schools booked the program (contact Garth Wruck).</b>
May 2002 – Oct 2004	NPSS, with the support of SaskEnergy, developed and delivered a plant ecology program for the Saskatoon Public School Division Brightwater Science Environmental Program during the spring and fall of 2002 and 2003 to approximately 960 students in grades 6, 7 and 8 (contact Garth Wruck).
2003 - 2004	<b>NS developed a manual for rural youth groups: The importance of Biodiversity and sustainable agricultural practices – A guide for youth in rural communities in Saskatchewan (contact Margaret Skeel).</b>
Since 2002	NS's Nature Quest (formerly Bird Quest and Plant Quest), and Lake Diefenbaker Piping Plover Guardian Program deliver programs to youth (contact Margaret Skeel).
2001 - 2003	NS's Living by Water Project delivered a youth program at SK Landing, Buffalo Pound and Echo Valley Provincial Parks (contact Margaret Skeel).
Since 2001	<b>RSM provides educational material about prairie ecosystems to the general public (annual attendance ~120,000) and school groups (~20,000 students per year) through its Life Sciences Gallery and associated programming (contact Glenn Sutter).</b>
July-September 2004	<b>RSM and UoF initiated school-based invertebrate monitoring programs through the Frenchman River Biodiversity Project (contact Glenn Sutter).</b>
September – October 2004	<b>RSM organized SKs second Youth Forum on Sustainability for urban and rural high schools in Region 3, which includes Regina, Moose Jaw and Davidson. Naturalizations and other projects initiated through this process are expected to finish in the fall of 2005 (contact Glenn Sutter).</b>
February – October 2004	RSM organized SKs first high-school Youth Forum on Sustainability, fostering student-led projects, including schoolyard naturalizations, in the Regina area (contact Glenn Sutter).
September 2003	SAF held a plant identification day at Cranberry Flats (8 km south of Saskatoon off Highway 219) for 60 Grade 7 students from Lakeview School in Saskatoon as part of their outdoor education and science curriculum (contact Don Fontaine).
April 2004 – March 2005 Since 1996	<b>SBOIC delivered the Owls On Tour Program to 6,225 individuals and reported 3,165 in-house visits. Since 1996 over 42,000 contacts were made through SBOIC Programs (a total of 23,075 Owls On Tour contacts and 19,765 visitations to the Centre) (contact Claire Sanders).</b>
1993-2004	<b>SP and SP Shand Greenhouse have been involved with numerous youth activities such as Trees &amp; Kids and Energy and Our Environment. Grades 4-6 are highlighted in on-site and outreach presentations about the environment and our role in it (contact Shelley Heidinger).</b>
October 2004	<b>SWA dedicated the fall issue of the Prairie Update to youth and adult education initiatives for promoting environmental stewardship (contact Sharon Metz).</b>
November 2004	<b>SWA delivered Project WET activities to approx 615 participants and Don Waite's EarthSongs water education concerts to over 1760 participants at Agribition in Regina in association with Sask Energy (contact Lizabeth Nicholls).</b>

Goal 5, Objective 4, Action a

	2004-2005	SWA increased Project WET and Project WILD delivery to students enrolled in the Faculty of Education at the U of R, U of S, SUNTEP Regina, Saskatoon and PA and NORTEP in La Ronge during Academic 2004 – 2005 (contact Lizabeth Nicholls).
	December 2004	SWA held a writing workshop to develop a draft for a web-based Native Prairie Activity Guide for grades 1-6 teachers, linked to Saskatchewan Learning's Core Science Curriculum. The edited materials will be available on the SWA website for the beginning of the 2005-2006 academic year and work will begin on middle years and high school modules (contact Lizabeth Nicholls).
	May 2005	SWA hosted a two day Earth Day 2005 Professional Leadership Development Conference in partnership with the Royal Saskatchewan Museum, the Canadian Wildlife Federation (Project WILD) and the Canadian Water Resources Association – Saskatchewan Branch (Project WET.). Over 82 educators attended with 25 students from George Lee Elementary School performing Don Waite's musical play, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Slough (contact Lizabeth Nicholls).
	Since 1974	SWF operates a week long Outdoor Conservation School in Prince Albert that has had over 1,000 participants since it began (contact Jim Kroshus).
b) Develop and distribute educational materials.	2005-2006	AITC, PCAP, SWA, DUC, SSGA, AAFC-PFRA, SSTS, and SaskLearning will develop a curriculum-linked resource guide based on the Grasslands Grandeur Tour for provincial distribution to SK educators (contact Karyn Scalise).
<b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3	Since 2004	AAFC-PFRA Eco-Detective flash animation is a computer game targeted to prairie landowners, wildlife enthusiasts, farmers and youth. The game uses humour and a character-based storyline to promote the message that "Agriculture and Species at Risk can co-exist". Players learn the distinguishing features of habitats for each Species at Risk in the southern Saskatchewan region, the reasons why animals are disappearing from prairie grasslands and farmlands, and some of the land management practices that are beneficial for these species. The Eco-Detective game is available at <a href="http://www.agr.gc.ca/pfra/hawk">www.agr.gc.ca/pfra/hawk</a> (contact Laura Poppy).
(All)	Since 1998	PCAP and Partners distribute resource kits for teachers in conjunction with the Cows, Fish, Cattle Dogs and Kids Game Show, the Owls and Cows Tour, and the Eco-X (contact Karyn Scalise).
	March 2005	NPSS has partnered with the Uof S College of Education to have educational resources such as lesson plans developed and added to the NPSS website (contact Garth Wruck).
	September 2004	NPSS provided printed education materials to the Conservation Learning Centre (contact Garth Wruck)
	August 2004	NPSS publication <i>Native Plants, Water and Us</i> was added to the curriculum resources list by Sask Learning and 1900 copies were distributed to every school in SK. An additional 15 class sets were distributed (contact Garth Wruck).
	March 2004	NPSS received funding from DFO to reprint 'Native Plants, Water and Us' for distribution through education programs delivered by NS, PCAP, Wanuskewin Heritage Park and Brightwater (contact Garth Wruck).
	Since 1987	NS's Rare Plant Rescue distributes educational materials regarding rare and endangered plant species, as well as management techniques designed to support them. Our other stewardship programs (Operation Burrowing Owl, Shrubs for Shrikes) and educational programs (The Living by Water Project, Piping Plover Guardian Program, and Nature Quest) develop and distribute information such as brochures, presentations and newsletters (contact Margaret Skeel).
	Since 1993	SaskPower and SaskPower Shand Greenhouse have been involved with numerous youth activities such as Trees & Kids and Energy and Our Environment. Grades 4-6 are highlighted in on-site and outreach presentations about the environment and our role in it (contact Shelley Heidinger).

## PCAP Partner Update # 5

Goal 5, Objective 4, Action b

<p>2004 – 2006</p>	<p><b>SWA has developed a draft for a web-based Native Prairie Activity Guide for K-8 teachers. Curriculum linking for Grades 1-6 has been completed. The first module will be launched at an Earth Day Conference for ProjectWet and ProjectWild facilitators in April 2005 (contact Sharon Metz).</b></p>
<p>Since 1998</p>	<p>SWA has developed and distributed a wide variety of educational materials such as guidebooks, fact sheets, newsletters, weekly newspaper inserts, etc (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
<p>January 2005</p>	<p><b>UofR-CPRC published <i>Managing Changing Prairie Landscapes</i>, a collection of papers presented at the Plain As The Eye Can See forum in 2003 and co-edited by Todd Radenbaugh (CPRC) and Glenn Sutter (RSM). The book touches on several aspects of prairie conservation, including the potential of grazing cooperatives and recent studies of native forage production (contact Dr. David Gauthier).</b></p>
<p>2003</p>	<p>UofR-CPRC published 'Water and Wetland Plants of the Prairie Provinces – A Field Guide for AB, SK, and MB (contact Dr. David Gauthier).</p>
<p>c) Organize NPAW and other special events. <b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 4  (PCAP, All)</p>	<p><b>June 21-23, 2005</b> <b>SRM, PCAP, SE, AAFC-PFRA, SWA, SAF are planning for 'Discovering the Great Sandhills' Workshop and Field Tour that will be held in conjunction with NPAW 2005, which runs from June 19-25 (contact Karyn Scalise or Michel Tremblay).</b></p> <p><b>June 24-25, 2004</b> <b>SRM, PCAP, SAF, SWA, SE and AAFC-PFRA delivered the 'Discovering the Moose Mountains' Workshop and Field Tour that will be held in conjunction with NPAW 2004, which runs from June 20-26. Evaluations are available (contact Karyn Scalise or Michel Tremblay).</b></p>
<p>Since 1999</p>	<p>PCAP organized NPAW 2003 that was proclaimed from June 15-21 by the SAF Minister. In 2003 NPAW featured a Signing Ceremony at the RSM that served as the official launch of NPAW 2003 and the 2003-2008 PCAP. NPAW 2003 also featured SRMs 'Discovering the Big Muddy Badlands' Workshop and Field Tour (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>
<p>d) Develop and deliver regional native prairie education workshops and other programs.  <b>Ranking:</b> Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3  (DUC, NPSS, NS, PCAP, RSM, SWA)</p>	<p><b>Summer 2004</b> <b>NPSS held 2 field tours – one at the Matador grassland, and the other in the Great Sand Hills (contact Garth Wruck).</b></p> <p>2003 NPSS held 2 field tours - one at the Matador grassland, and the other in the Bear Hills (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p><b>August 2004</b> <b>NPSS and NCC held seed wild-harvest workshops at Old Man On His Back Prairie Heritage and Conservation Area near Eastend for 11 participants in 2004 and 17 participants in 2003 (contact Garth Wruck – NPSS).</b></p> <p><b>Since 2003</b> <b>NS holds Stewards of Saskatchewan landowner appreciation days in July-August. It 2003, 2 social BBQs were held (Weyburn and Assiniboia) to meet and visit with landowners, and, in 2004, 1 event was held that included a field workshop and social BBQ (Bengough) (contact Kim Dohms).</b></p>
<p>See also: <b>Goal 1, Objective 1</b> (Promote grazing programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles) for related activities.</p>	<p>Gallery since 2001; FRBP since 2004; TRC since 2003</p> <p>RSM develops and delivers information on native prairie through the Royal SK Museum, the Frenchman River Biodiversity Project and the T. Rex Centre in Eastend (contact Glenn Sutter).</p> <p>July 2003 SAF led an AITC tour and plant identification day for teachers at Regina Beach Community Pasture (contact Don Fontaine).</p> <p><b>November 2004 to April 2005</b> <b>SSGA held 5 Zone Meetings for SSGA Zone members (contact Sheila Fishley).</b></p> <p>November 2003 to February 2004 SSGA Zone Meetings held for SSGA Zone members (contact Sheila Fishley).</p> <p>1999-present SWA holds several workshops, fields days, range schools, and other extension events at various locations throughout the year (Jennifer Lohmeyer)</p>

<p>5. Increase public appreciation of the beneficial role played by the livestock industry and other stewards in the management of native prairie.</p> <p>See also:  <b>Goal 1, Objective 3</b>          (Recognize and support the efforts of private and public land managers who conserve native prairie) for related activities.</p> <p>Goal 5, Objective 5, Action a</p>	<p>a) Promote the role of the livestock industry and other native prairie stewards through the media, presentations and publications.</p> <p><b>Ranking:</b>          Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD          Partner Update # 5: 3          (All)</p>	Nov 2003	DUC and SSGA will participate in the Support Canadian Beef and Habitat Conservation campaign during Grey Cup week (contact Michael Champion).
		Summer 2003	DUC attended a Beef Rally in Moose Jaw (contact Michael Champion).
		Since 1995	NPSS promotes the importance of the livestock industry for native prairie at every AGM, presentation and in its publications (contact Garth Wruck)
		Since 1998	NS Operation Burrowing Owl newsletter has promoted landowner stewardship. The newsletter is now called 'Stewards of Saskatchewan' and is for our OBO, Rare Plant Rescue and Shrubs For Shrikes programs (contact Kim Dohms).
		<b>Since 2003</b>	<b>SWA develops feature articles for weekly newspapers profiling landowners and watershed organizations implementing BMPs. and posts them on its website under 'Publications (contact Sharon Metz).</b>
		Since 2000	PCAP and Stewardship Education Partners promote the role of the livestock industry and other native prairie stewards through the Owls & Cows Tour and the Eco-Extravaganza (contact Karyn Scalise)
		2004	PCAP Chair participated in CBC Noon Edition radio interview on ranching and conservation and the potential impact of BSE on range management (contact Michael Burgess).
		July 31 2003	PCAP Chair participated in CBC Noon Edition radio interview on ranching and conservation and the potential impact of BSE on range management (contact Allen Patkau).
		August 7, 2003	PCAP Chair submitted a "letter to the editor" through SWNA regarding the importance of the beef industry in native prairie conservation (contact Allen Patkau).
		<b>Spring 2005</b>	<b>SE's spring 2005 <i>Newsline</i> newsletter promotes the importance of native prairie and the stewards that have conserved it (contact Ann Gerry).</b>

## STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTING THE SASKATCHEWAN PRAIRIE CONSERVATION ACTION PLAN 2003-2008

Objective	Actions	Timetable	<b>LEAD AND SUPPORTING AGENCIES, Continuing Activities &amp; Update</b>
1. Seek formal endorsement of the 2003-2008 PCAP.	a) Confirm Partners.	May 2003	25 Partners Confirmed – see contact list on page iv of 2003-2008 SK PCAP (contact Karyn Scalise).
	b) Coordinate signing ceremony during NPAW 2003.	June 17, 2003	Signing Ceremony held at RSM. Representatives from 23 Partner Groups participated in the Ceremony and ~ 130 invited guests attended. Remarks provided by SE Minister (Buckley Belanger), SAFRR DM (Gord Nystuen), PCAP Chair (Allen Patkau), SE –PCAP Executive Committee Member (Greg Riemer), and MC was UofR-CPRC Executive Committee Member (Dr. David Gauthier). The Ceremony was followed by Gallery Tours and a Beef-On-A-Bun lunch. Press release issued – available on homepage of PCAP website (contact Karyn Scalise).
2. Establish PCAP Partnership and Executive Committees.	a) Review and ratify the process for establishment of Committees.	November 6, 2003	PCAP meeting focused on operational items, including establishment of committees. <b>The following committees were established: Executive, Proposal Review, Prairie Conservation Award, Policy and Science (contact Karyn Scalise).</b>
		<b>March 2004</b>	<b>A Committee was established to develop the 8<sup>th</sup> Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species (PCAES) Conference and Workshop to be held in Regina on March 1-3, 2007</b>
3. Secure financial and in-kind support from Partners and other sponsors.	a) Confirm Partner commitments, develop proposals for granting agencies, and seek support from other sponsors.	March 31, 2004	Funding received by 13 PCAP Partners, 1 Sponsor (Nexen), 1 Bequest (Fred Lahrman); EC-HSP and DFO Stewardship in Action Contribution Agreements completed for 03-04 (contact Karyn Scalise).
	b) Administer PCAP funds.		SSGA continues to administer PCAP funds and maintain accounts (contact Sheila Fishley – SSGA or Karyn Scalise - PCAP).
4. Maintain a home office in the SSGA office, a full-time manager, and part-time support staff.	a) Funding and in-kind support, above, is essential to maintaining the office and staff.	Ongoing	PCAP Office continues to be maintained at the SSGA Office. Funding secured for full-time manager, part-time assistant and casual contract work (contact Karyn Scalise).
5. Develop an annual work plan.	a) The PCAP Manager and Executive Committee develop an annual work plan for approval by the Partnership which addresses the following components: annual operational policy, communication strategy, budget and funding strategy, stewardship education program strategy.	November 2003	PCAP Office developed draft work plan for 2003-2004 (contact Karyn Scalise).
		November 2004 <b>March 2005</b>	PCAP Office developed draft work plan for 2004-2005 (contact Karyn Scalise). <b>PCAP Office is developing a draft work plan for 2005-2006 (contact Karyn Scalise).</b>
6. Evaluate and report on progress annually.	a) Compile, publish and distribute annual Partner Updates.	December 2004	Partner Update #4 finalized and posted on the website. Limited number of hard copies distributed to Partners.
		July 2005	Partner Update #5 finalized and posted on the website. Limited number of hard copies distributed to Partners.
7. Facilitate recruitment of new Partners.	a) Seek and recruit potential Partners that influence the Prairie Ecozone.	March 31, 2004	No new Partners identified for recruitment to PCAP Partnership (contact Karyn Scalise).
		March 31, 2005	Potential new Partners identified. PCAP Office to follow up.

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

### PCAP PARTNERS (& SUPPORTERS)

<b>AAFC</b>	<b>Agriculture &amp; Agri-Food Canada</b>
<b>AAFC-PFRA</b>	<b>AAFC - Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration</b>
<b>AAFC-SPARC</b>	<b>AAFC - Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre</b>
<b>AAFC-GCP</b>	<b>AAFC - Greencover Canada Program</b>
<b>AAFC-CARDS</b>	<b>AAFC - Canadian Adaptation and Rural Development in SK</b>
<b>CMDF</b>	<b>Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund</b>
<b>CPAWS</b>	<b>Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society</b>
<b>DUC</b>	<b>Ducks Unlimited Canada</b>
<b>EC-CWS</b>	<b>Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service</b>
<b>EC-HSP</b>	<b>Government of Canada - Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk</b>
<b>DFO</b>	<b>Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada</b>
<b>NCC</b>	<b>Nature Conservancy of Canada</b>
<b>NPSS</b>	<b>Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan Inc.</b>
<b>NS</b>	<b>Nature Saskatchewan</b>
<b>Nexen</b>	<b>Nexen Canada Inc.</b>
<b>PC-GNP</b>	<b>Parks Canada, Grasslands National Park of Canada</b>
<b>SAF</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food</b>
<b>SASKENERGY</b>	<b>SaskEnergy</b>
<b>SBOIC</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Burrowing Owl Interpretive Centre</b>
<b>SIR</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Industry and Resources</b>
<b>SP</b>	<b>SaskPower</b>
<b>SE</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Environment</b>
<b>SE–FWDF</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Environment – Fish and Wildlife Development Fund</b>
<b>SFC</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Forage Council</b>
<b>SRC</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Research Council</b>
<b>SRM</b>	<b>Society for Range Management, Northern Great Plains Section – Prairie Parkland Chapter</b>
<b>SSDB</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board</b>
<b>SSGA</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association</b>
<b>SWA</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Watershed Authority</b>
<b>SWF</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation</b>
<b>U of R-CPRC</b>	<b>University of Regina, Canadian Plains Research Center</b>
<b>U of S</b>	<b>University of Saskatchewan</b>

### OTHER ACRONYMS

<b>AAFC - MII</b>	<b>AAFC-Matching Investment Initiative</b>
<b>AAFC - LRC</b>	<b>AAFC - Lethbridge Research Centre</b>
<b>AAFRD</b>	<b>Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development</b>
<b>AB-PCF</b>	<b>Alberta – Prairie Conservation Forum</b>



<b>ADD Boards</b>	<b>Agriculture Development and Diversification Boards</b>
<b>ADF</b>	<b>Agriculture Development Fund</b>
<b>AESA</b>	<b>Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture program</b>
<b>AFLW</b>	<b>Alberta Forestry, Lands and Wildlife</b>
<b>AIMS</b>	<b>Agriculture Institute of Management in Saskatchewan</b>
<b>AITC</b>	<b>Agriculture In The Classroom</b>
<b>APAS</b>	<b>Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan</b>
<b>APF</b>	<b>Agriculture Policy Framework</b>
<b>BLM</b>	<b>Bureau of Land Management</b>
<b>BMP</b>	<b>Best Management Practice</b>
<b>CE</b>	<b>Conservation Easement</b>
<b>CEC</b>	<b>Commission for Environmental Cooperation</b>
<b>CFB</b>	<b>Canadian Forces Base</b>
<b>CLC</b>	<b>(Saskatchewan) Conservation Learning Centre</b>
<b>COSEWIC</b>	<b>Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada</b>
<b>CSGA</b>	<b>Canadian Seed Growers Association</b>
<b>DND</b>	<b>Department of Northern Defence</b>
<b>DUC-NPS</b>	<b>DUC - Native Plant Solutions</b>
<b>ECO-X</b>	<b>Eco-Extravaganza</b>
<b>EFP</b>	<b>Environmental Farm Plan</b>
<b>EGP</b>	<b>Ecological Gifts Program</b>
<b>EG&amp;S</b>	<b>Ecological Gifts and Services</b>
<b>ENGO</b>	<b>Environmental Non-Government Organization</b>
<b>EPP</b>	<b>Environmental Protection Plan</b>
<b>GRAA</b>	<b>Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs</b>
<b>IRF</b>	<b>Interdepartmental Recovery Fund</b>
<b>IUCN</b>	<b>International Union for the Conservation of Nature</b>
<b>NABCI</b>	<b>North American Bird Conservation Initiative</b>
<b>NAFTA</b>	<b>North American Free Trade Agreement</b>
<b>NAWMP</b>	<b>North American Waterfowl Management Plan</b>
<b>NPAW</b>	<b>Native Prairie Appreciation Week</b>
<b>PCAB</b>	<b>Provincial Council of ADD Boards</b>
<b>PCAES</b>	<b>Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species (Conference)</b>
<b>PCP</b>	<b>Permanent Cover Program</b>
<b>PERC</b>	<b>Prairie Ecology Research Committee</b>
<b>PHJV</b>	<b>Prairie Habitat Joint Venture</b>
<b>PMC</b>	<b>Plant Materials Centre</b>
<b>RAN</b>	<b>Representative Areas Network</b>
<b>SAMA</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency</b>
<b>SAR</b>	<b>Species at Risk</b>
<b>SARA</b>	<b>Species at Risk Act</b>
<b>SIAS</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences</b>
	<b>Technology</b>
<b>SARM</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities</b>
<b>SGI</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Government Insurance</b>
<b>SHI</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Highways</b>
<b>SIEF</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Indian Equity Foundation</b>
<b>SKCDC</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Conservation Data Centre</b>

<b>SNOWS</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Network of Watershed Stewards</b>
<b>SPIGEC</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Petroleum Industry and Government Environmental Committee</b>
<b>SPLISP</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Purple Loosestrife &amp; Invasive Species Project</b>
<b>SSCA</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Soil Conservation Association</b>
<b>SWFA</b>	<b>Southwest Forage Association</b>
<b>TAC</b>	<b>(Greencover Canada) Technical Assistance Component</b>
<b>TLE</b>	<b>Treaty Land Entitlement</b>
<b>TNC</b>	<b>The Nature Conservancy</b>
<b>WBDC</b>	<b>Western Beef Development Centre</b>
<b>WHPA</b>	<b>Wildlife Habitat Protection Act</b>
<b>TESA</b>	<b>The Environmental Stewardship Award</b>
<b>U of R</b>	<b>University of Regina</b>
<b>WARC</b>	<b>Western Applied Research Corporation</b>
<b>WHC</b>	<b>Wildlife Habitat Canada</b>
<b>WRI</b>	<b>World Resources Institute</b>
<b>WWFC</b>	<b>World Wildlife Fund Canada</b>