

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

Partner Update Number Six (#6)

June 1, 2003 to March 31, 2006



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

This PCAP Partner Update was compiled by
Karyn Scalise, Manager
and The PCAP Partnership
Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan (PCAP)
Phone: (306) 352-0472, Fax: (306) 569-8799,
E-mail: pcap@sasktel.net; Web site: www.pcap-sk.org

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Prairie Parkland Chapter
University of Regina - Canadian Plains Research Centre (UofR-CPRC)
University of Saskatchewan – College of Agriculture (UofS – C. Ag.)

The Saskatchewan PCAP 2003-2008 Partnership

Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (AAFC-PFRA) www.agr.ca/pfra 408-1800 Hamilton St. Regina SK S4P 4L2; Fax 780-8229
Chris Nykoluk Ph. 780-5066 Email nykolukc@agr.gc.ca
Bill Bristol Ph. 780-8155 Email bristolb@agr.gc.ca
Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre (AAFC-SPARC) res2.agr.gc.ca/swiftcurrent/ Box 1030 Swift Current SK S9H 3X2; Fax 773-9123
Dr. Alan Iwaasa Ph. 778-7251 Email iwaasa@agr.gc.ca
Dr. Michael Schellenberg Ph. 778-7247 Email schellenberg@agr.gc.ca
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) www.cpaws-sask.org **Alan Appleby** 3079 Athol St. Regina SK S4S 1Y6 Ph. 586-3863 Fax 586-3863 E-mail aappleby@accesscomm.ca
Environment Canada - Canadian Wildlife Service (EC-CWS) www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/ 300-2365 Albert St., Regina SK S4P 4K1 Fax 780-7614
Dr. Stephen Davis Ph. 780-5342 Fax 780-7614 Email stephen.davis@ec.gc.ca
Diana Ghikas Ph. 780-5322 Email Diana.ghikas@ec.gc.ca
Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) www.ducks.ca
Ron Bennett 200-4999-98th Ave. Edmonton AB T6B 2X3 Ph. 780-951-8673 Fax 780-495-2615 Email ron.bennett@ec.gc.ca
Michael Champion Box 4465 Regina SK S4P 3W7 Ph. 569-0424 Fax 565-3699 Email m_champion@ducks.ca
Chuck Deschamps Box 670 Wadena SK S0A 4J0 Ph. 338-3677 Fax 338-2199 Email c_deschamps@ducks.ca
First Nations Agricultural Council of Saskatchewan Inc. (FNACS) www.fnacs.ca 134-335 Packham Ave. Saskatoon SK S7N 4S1 Ph. 978-8872 Fax 229-1915 **Jessica Clay** Email jessica@fnacs.ca
Keith LePoudre Email keith@fnacs.ca
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/habitat/
Ann Basso 125 32nd St. W., Prince Albert SK S6V 7H7 Ph. 953-8786 Fax 953-8792 Email bassoa@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan Inc. (NPSS) www.npss.sk.ca
Garth Wruck Box 21099, Saskatoon SK S7H 5N9 Ph. 668-3940 Fax 258-2244 Email info@npss.sk.ca
Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) www.natureconservancy.ca
Jordan Ignatiuk, #301-1777 Victoria Ave. Regina SK S4P 4K5 Ph. 347-0447 or 1-866-662-7275 Fax 347-2345 Email jordan.ignatiuk@natureconservancy.ca
Nature Saskatchewan (NS) www.naturesask.ca
Margaret Skeel 206-1860 Lorne St., Regina SK S4P 2L7 Ph. 780-9273 Fax 780-9263 Email mskeel@naturesask.ca
Parks Canada-Grasslands National Park of Canada (PC-GNP) www.parkscanada.gc.ca/pn-np/sk/grasslands/
Pat Fargey Box 150 Val Marie SK S0N 2T0 Ph. 298-2166 Fax 298-4505 Email pat_fargey@pc.gc.ca
Prairie Learning Centre (PLC) www.prairielearningcentre.ca
Karin Smith-Fargey Box 68 Val Marie SK S0N 2T0 Ph. 298-4495 Fax 298-2196 Email Karin.smith-fargey@pc.gc.ca
Royal Saskatchewan Museum (RSM) 2340 Albert Street Regina SK S4P 2V7 www.royalsaskmuseum.ca
Dr. Glenn Sutter Ph. 787-2859 Fax 787-2645 E-mail gsutter@royalsaskmuseum.ca
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food (SAF) www.agr.gov.sk.ca 3085 Albert St. Regina SK S4S 0B1
Mary Brick Ph. 787-2070 Fax 787-5180 Email mbrick@agr.gov.sk.ca

Don Fontaine 3830 Thatcher Ave. Saskatoon SK S7K 2H6 Ph. 933-5682 Fax 933-5715 E-mail dfontaine@agr.gov.sk.ca
Saskatchewan Burrowing Owl Interpretive Centre (SBOIC) www.sboic.ca 250 Thatcher Drive E. Moose Jaw, SK S6J 1L7
Claire Sanders Ph. 692-8710 Fax 692-2762 Email sboic@sasktel.net
Saskatchewan Environment (SE) www.se.gov.sk.ca 3211 Albert St. Regina SK S4S 5W6 Fax 787-9544
Greg Riemer Ph. 787-0783 Email GRiemer@serm.gov.sk.ca
Ann Riemer Ph. 787-1835 Email ARiemer@serm.gov.sk.ca
Saskatchewan Industry and Resources (SIR) www.ir.gov.sk.ca 2101 Scarth St. Regina SK S4P 3V7
Representative to be announced
Saskatchewan Forage Council (SFC) www.saskforage.ca 129-72 Campus Dr. Saskatoon SK S7N 5B5 Ph. 966-2148 Fax 966-2147 c/o **Michel Tremblay**, 3085 Albert St. Regina, SK S4S 0B1 Ph. 787-7712 Fax 787-0428 Email mtremblay@agr.gov.sk.ca
Saskatchewan Research Council (SRC) www.src.sk.ca
Bob Godwin 15 Innovation Blvd. Saskatoon, SK S7N 2X8 Ph. 933-8190 Fax 933-7817 Email godwin@SRC.sk.ca
Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board (SSDB) www.sksheep.com **Colleen Sawyer** 2213C Hanselman Court, Saskatoon SK S7L 6A8 Ph. 933-5201 Fax 933-7182 colleensheepdb@sasktel.net
Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA) www.saskatchewanstockgrowers.com
Michael Burgess, PCAP Chair, Box 70 Big Beaver SK S0H 0G0 Ph. 267-4987 Fax 267-1237 E-mail burgess.ranch@sasktel.net
Karyn Scalise, PCAP Manager, Box 4752, Regina SK S4P 3Y4 Ph. 352-0472 Fax 569-8799 Email pcap@sasktel.net
Lauren Burton, PCAP Assistant, Email pcapadmin@sasktel.net
Orin Balas, Box 538 Ponteix SK S0N 1Z0 Ph. 625-3794 Fax 625-3731 Email barav@sasktel.net
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority (SWA) www.swa.ca 420-2365 Albert St., Regina SK S4P 4K1; Fax 787-0780
Tom Harrison Ph. 731-4404 Email tom.harrison@swa.ca
Lesley Hall Ph. 787-0782 Email lesley.hall@swa.ca
Krista Connick Ph. 778-8280 Fax 778-8271 Email krista.connick@swa.ca
Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation (SWF) www.swf.sk.ca 9 Lancaster Road, Moose Jaw SK S6J 1M8 Ph. 692-8812 Fax 692-4370 **Darrell Crabbe**, dcrabbe.swf@sasktel.net **Jim Kroshus**, jkroshus@swf.sk.ca
SaskPower www.saskpower.com
Shelley Heidinger, Box 280, Estevan SK S4A 2A3 Ph. 634-9771 Fax 634-6682 Email sheidinger@saskpower.com
Hélène Careau, 6SE, 2025 Victoria Ave., Regina S4P 0S1 Ph. 566-2885 Fax 566-3428 Email hcareau@saskpower.com
Society for Range Management (SRM) - Prairie Parkland Chapter www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/ngpsrm
Michel Tremblay 3085 Albert St. Regina, SK S4S 0B1 Ph. 787-7712 Fax 787-0428 Email mtremblay@agr.gov.sk.ca
Trevor Lennox 350 Cheadle St. W. Box 5000, Swift Current, SK S9H 4G3 Ph. 778-8294 Fax 778-8604 Email tlennox@agr.gov.sk.ca
University of Regina (U of R) www.uregina.ca 3737 Wascana Parkway, Regina SK S4S 0A2 **Dr. David Gauthier**, Ph. 337-3130 Fax 585-4893 Email david.gauthier@uregina.ca
University of Saskatchewan (U of S) www.usask.ca
Dr. Kenric Walburger, 51 Campus Dr. Saskatoon SK S7N 5A8 Ph. 966-4219 Fax 966-4151 Email ken.walburger@usask.ca

Introduction to the PCAP Partner Update #6

This Partner Update provides an opportunity for PCAP Partner groups to communicate their prairie conservation activities, and facilitates the identification of progress and shortfalls in the implementation of the 2003-2008 Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan (PCAP). 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.

This Partner Update is the third and last in a series of annual Updates that correspond to the 78 Actions contained in our 2003-2008 (SK PCAP). Partner Updates # 1, 2 and 3 documented progress on our 1998-2003 Action Plan. Partner Updates #4 and #5 provided an inventory of Partner activities from the launch of the 2003-2008 PCAP, to March 31, 2004 and March 31, 2005, respectively. Each series of Updates is cumulative, so this Update #6 includes and updates information that was presented in Updates #4 and #5 and highlights activities that occurred between April 1, 2005 and March 31, 2006 as well as activities that have not been reported on previously. A total of 25 of our 27 Partner groups contributed reports to this Update and representatives from 22 groups participated in the evaluation and ranking process. Two new Partners joined our Partnership in March 2006 and also included information on some of their activities.

Goal Working Groups met prior to the Partner Update Meeting that was held on March 30, 2006 to discuss, evaluate and rank progress on the Actions contained within their Goals. Goal Groups used the same ranking system that was used in Partner Update #5, as illustrated below:

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.

The Goal Inventory Tables list activities that were delivered by PCAP Partners, relative to each Action. Reports are listed in alphabetical order by Partner acronym. In cases where Partners are involved, we tried to list the lead Partner first. For ease, rankings assigned in Partner Updates # 4, 5 and 6 are presented alongside each Action. Acronyms of lead and support Partners are also listed alongside each Action. These are carried forward from the implementation tables in the 2003-2008 PCAP and illustrate the lead (in bold) and support Partners that originally committed to work on the Action. Partners that joined the Partnership in March 2006 also signed on to Actions they intended to contribute to and these acronyms are shown in italics. New and updated Partner reports appear in bold.

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. The position of a part-time assistant was expanded to full time in January 2006. 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 on identifying progress and shortfalls related to each of our five Goals. The following Committees were established in November 2003 and updated in March 2006:

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the 2003-2008 PCAP. The PCAP Chair and Manager are ex-officio positions. Members include: Michael Burgess (SSGA- PCAP Chair), Karyn Scalise (PCAP - Manager), Chris Nykoluk (AAFC-PFRA), Mary Brick (SAF), Greg Riemer (SE), and Tom Harrison (SWA).

Proposal Review Committee: The Proposal Review Committee reviews proposals submitted to the PCAP Office for purposes of securing approval or letters of support. Proposals must be submitted two weeks before the support letter is required. Members include Karyn Scalise (PCAP), Shelley Heidinger (SP), Ann Riemer (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 Riemer (SE), Tom Harrison (SWA), Pat Fargey (PC-GNP), Dr. 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 Chuck Dechamps (DUC) and members include Garth Wruck (NPSS), Mary Brick and Don Fontaine (SAF), Greg Riemer (SE), Lesley Hall (SWA), Orin Balas (SSGA) and Lorne Scott (SWF).

2007 Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference (PCECSC) Committee: This Conference is held every 3 years and rotates between cities in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. The 2007 PCECSC will be held in Regina and the PCAP is organizing this major conference that is anticipated to attract over 500 delegates from several jurisdictions in the North American Great Plains. Co-Chairs are Allen Patkau (SSGA) and Dr. David Gauthier (UofR). Committee members include: Chris Nykoluk (AAFC-PFRA); Dr. Alan Iwaasa (AAFC-SPARC); Michael Champion (DUC); Dr. Stephen Davis (EC-CWS); Kim Dohms, Robert Warnock, and Michelle Yaskowich (NS); Jordan Ignatiuk and Kylie McRae (NCC); Pat Fargey and Robert Sissons (PC-GNP); Karyn Scalise and Lauren Burton (PCAP); Dr. Glenn Sutter (RSM); Ann Riemer (SE); Allen Patkau (SSGA); Sharon Metz, Jennifer Lohmeyer, and Tom Harrison (SWA); and Dr. Joe Schmutz (UofS). A total of 6 PCECSC planning meetings were held between April 1, 2005 and March 31, 2006. 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 2006 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, 2005.

- Proclamation of Native Prairie Appreciation Week 2005 (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.
- 6 meetings of the PCESC Planning Committee have been held.
- Secured funding from 11 Partners, and 3 granting agencies in addition to receiving significant in-kind support from several Partner groups.
- Completed PCAP Partner Update Number Six, herein, which provides an inventory of Partner activities relative to our 78 Actions, and ranks progress on them.
- Recruited 2 new PCAP Partners; First Nations Agricultural Council of Saskatchewan (FNACS) and Prairie Learning Centre (PLC).

Ranking Key:

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

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

Action	Goal/Objective/Action	Rank
	GOAL 1: TO SUSTAIN A HEALTHY NATIVE PRAIRIE GRAZING RESOURCE	
	Objective 1 - Promote grazing management programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles	
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	3
I 1 d	Provide ongoing training and resources for extension staff	4
I 1 e	Update and publish the "Range Plan Development Guide"	3
	Objective 2 - Explore the economics of maintaining a healthy range resource for grazing	
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
	Objective 3 - Recognize and support the efforts of private and public land managers and industry that conserve native prairie	
I 3 a	Increase support, awareness and publicity for both the SSGA/Royal Bank TESAward and the SRM Outstanding Achievement Award	4
I 3 b	Acknowledge the efforts of Award winners through development of a comprehensive communication plan (print media, advertising, presentations etc.)	3
	Objective 4 - Increase the inventory of range resources on public and private lands to promote guidance on grazing management plans	
I 4 a	Complete range assessments and management plans for remaining pastures plus assessments on Crown leases	4
I 4 b	Promote range health assessment and management plan development on private lands (e.g. range schools)	3

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I 4 c	Promote range health assessment and management plan development on lands owned and managed by each respective agency or organization	3
I 4 d	Compile a “state of the resource” report, compiling all available public and private inventory data and analysis	1
	GOAL 2: TO CONSERVE THE REMAINING PRAIRIE RESOURCE	
	Objective 1 - Complete and maintain an inventory of native prairie	
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	3
	Objective 2 - Continue to develop a system of managed conservation areas	
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
	Objective 3 - Encourage voluntary stewardship to conserve native prairie	
II 3 a	Support private stewardship programs that involve landowner extension work	3
II 3 b	Develop a landowner stewardship program directory	5
	Objective 4 - Ensure that the remaining native prairie is protected from cultivation and development	
II 4 a	Maintain the Crown’s commitment to conserving native prairie under its control; excluding prior commitments and promises made	4
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
	Objective 5 - Improve the use of Conservation Easements (CEs) and other tools to conserve native prairie that accommodate and respect agricultural interests	
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	2
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
	Objective 6 - Ensure that property taxation and assessment policies are favorable to native prairie conservation	
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	3
II 6 b	Develop “conservation land” category with SAMA which better recognizes the public values provided	1
	Objective 7 - Adopt and improve regulations, policies, programs, and economic instruments that reward rather than penalize stewardship and conservation of native prairie ecosystems	
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	3
II 7 d	Develop watershed conservation and/or restoration plans and improve watershed management	3
	Objective 8 - Encourage government and industry to improve regulations, monitoring and technology to minimize negative impacts upon native prairie	
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	3
II 8 c	Encourage government and industry to develop cumulative impacts guidelines	3
	GOAL 3: TO MAINTAIN NATIVE PRAIRIE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	
	Objective 1 – Improve our understanding of native prairie biological diversity	
III 1 a	Encourage studies and research on native prairie ecosystems with emphasis on the effects of different land	3

	management practices on key components of native biodiversity	
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
	Objective 2 - Promote management of native prairie to maintain biological diversity	
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
	Objective 3 - Control the threat and impact of introduced invasive species to native prairie	
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)	2
	Objective 4 - Promote restoration and recovery of native prairie ecosystems	
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 working cooperatively with land managers	3
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
	GOAL 4: TO PROMOTE COMPLEMENTARY SUSTAINABLE USES OF NATIVE PRAIRIE	
	Objective 1 – Promote community based business opportunities associated with native prairie	
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	1
	Objective 2 – Encourage the development of a native plant production industry	
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
	Objective 3 – Advance the exploration of native prairie towards the sustainable development of other bio-based products	
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	1
	Objective 4 – Recognize and quantify the socio-economic contribution of native prairie and perennial grasslands	
IV 4 a	Survey the literature and conduct gap analysis regarding ecological services including grazing, and communicate the findings	3
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
	GOAL 5: TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF NATIVE PRAIRIE AND ITS VALUES	
	Objective 1 – Promote awareness of the PCAP Vision, Goals, Objectives and Actions	
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	3
V 1 b	Maintain and regularly update the PCAP website	3
V 1 c	Link PCAP Partners to (and from) PCAP Website	3
V 1 d	Recruit new PCAP Partners	4
V 1 e	Promote the PCAP through the media	3

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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	2
	Objective 2 - Evaluate public awareness, appreciation and understanding of native prairie	
V 2 a	Conduct and report on a questionnaire survey assessing public awareness, understanding and appreciation of native prairie	1
	Objective 3 - Coordinate PCAP communication and education activities with other native prairie conservation initiatives	
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
	Objective 4 - Educate the general public about native prairie ecosystems	
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
	Objective 5 – Increase public appreciation of the beneficial role played by the livestock industry and other stewards in the management of native prairie	
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

Progress Summary - submitted by Chris Nykoluk (AAFC-PFRA)

GOAL GROUP I MEMBERS: Michael Champion (DUC), Jessica Clay (FNACS), Michel Tremblay (SAF), Michael Burgess (SSGA), Michel Tremblay (SAF), 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 as well as professional workshops to technical and extension staff. A notable addition since the last Update is the formation of FNACS – this organization will focus on tech transfer of rangeland, pasture and riparian information with First Nations. A considerable amount of ongoing and new tech transfer activities continue to be delivered by Partners, many of them funded by the Greencover Canada Tech Technical Assistance component. This programming will be available until March 2007, so this activity is expected to be maintained until then at least. Of note is the number of Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) workshops that have occurred in Saskatchewan since the last Update (over 500); General awareness of the value of native prairie should be increased as a result.

Many older extension materials will be updated through this fund, including the Range Plan Development Guide (1991) and Managing Saskatchewan Rangeland (1994), the two cornerstone publications for range and pasture management in Saskatchewan. By spring 2007 these documents (or one similar to these) will be available. Many other new materials will be made available to technical and extension staff and producers as a result of Greencover Canada funding.

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

There have been more than 1.5 M acres of cropland seeded to forages as a result of the SAF (2001-2004), Greencover Canada (2003-2006), and Ducks Unlimited Canada (since 1998) seeding programs alone. There are now approximately 7.5 M acres of tame forage in the province; thus, about 20% of the tame grass acres have been supported by some type of cropland conversion program. Tame forages help to reduce grazing pressure on native prairie.

Over 9,000 acres of native forages were seeded by producers under the Greencover Canada Conversion Component. This is more than double the original program estimates originally forecasted for the program (Rating stays at “Progress on Target” for the actions stated above).

No progress has been made on developing an incentive based lease structure program to encourage enhanced management on Crown leases as the infrastructure to support such a program is not in place.

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 annually in Saskatchewan since 1995. Saskatchewan recipients went on to win at the National level in both 2005 and 2006. This attests to the Partner's efforts at promoting Saskatchewan livestock producers who are doing a great job of stewardship of native prairie.

The Society for Range Management Outstanding Achievement Award continues to be awarded, and efforts and publicizing the recipient's accomplishments have increased during the last year. Recipients of several other relevant awards are also included in the Update.

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 annually. There was increased reporting of activities by conservation groups that are monitoring and implementing grazing 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.

No 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. Problematic issues include ensuring accurate assessments over a whole set of data, the many players that would need to contribute, and the temporal issues that would exist with the data. For these reasons, the Goal One Group unanimously recommends that this Action not be carried forward into future Action Plans.

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

Objective	Actions (Rankings) (LEAD AND SUPPORTING PARTNERS as in 2003-2008 PCAP)	Timetable	Partner Update and contact information
<p>1. Promote grazing management programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles.</p> <p>See also Goal 2, Objective 3 (Encourage voluntary stewardship to conserve native prairie) and Goal 3, Objective 2 (Promote management of native prairie to maintain biological diversity) and Goal 5, Objective 4, Action b (Develop and deliver regional native prairie education workshops and other programs) for related activities.</p>	<p>a) Continue extension programming with landowners.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 4 Partner Update #6: 4</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DUC, FNACS, SAF, SFC, SWA)</p>	<p>Since 2002</p> <p>Since April 2005</p> <p>2005 (Since 1987)</p> <p>Annually in February from 2001- 2004</p> <p>2005-2006 (Since May 1997)</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>FNACS is offering a variety of programs for First Nations including EFP workshops, range, riparian and pasture management workshops and schools, as requested by First Nations; includes farm business planning, and youth training (contact Jessica Clay).</p> <p>NS recruited 28 new stewards into its Stewards of Saskatchewan programs (9 through Operation Burrowing Owl, 6 through Rare Plant Rescue, and 13 through Shrubs For Shrikes), conserving 2,118 ha (4,624 acres) of prairie (~1,760 acres native) in 2005 for a total of 524 private landowners that conserve over 28,000 ha (over 69,000 acres) of prairie . In addition, 27 public landowners are enrolled, conserving over 96,000 acres. These voluntary stewards receive on-site visits, the annual 'Stewards of Saskatchewan' newsletter, educational toolkits and participate in Steward Appreciation Days with a workshop on biodiversity benefits (contact Tara Sample).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SWA recruited 104 new stewards, conserving over 63,700 acres of native prairie, over 163 miles of stream bank, and over 3070 acres of wetlands in 2005 for a total of 1361 landowners that conserve over 647,000 acres of native prairie, 477 miles of streams, and over 23,100 acres of wetlands since 1997. 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 - SWA).</p>
	<p>b) Host workshops, field days, range schools and other extension events.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 4 Partner Update #6: 4</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, AAFC-SPARC, DUC, FNACS, SAF, SFC, SWA.),</p>	<p>2006 June 2004 May 2003</p> <p>January 2004</p> <p>2002 - 2004</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA, WBDC, SAF, SFC and others cooperated to deliver the SK Pasture School to 60 producers in 2003 and 25 producers in 2004; This event is focused on various forage production issues. The school was not delivered in 2005 but it will be offered again in June, 2006 (contact Janice Bruynooghe, SFC or Chris Nykoluk-AAFC-PFRA).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF, and SWA jointly hosted 8 extension events with landowners (contact Chris Nykoluk-AAFC-PFRA, Michael Champion-DUC, Trevor Lennox -SAF or Jennifer Lohmeyer- SWA).</p>

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<p>Goal 1, Obj 1, Action b</p>		<p>Summer 2005; Past tours in 2005, 2004 & 2002</p> <p>Fall 2005; Past tours in 2004, 2002 & 2000</p> <p>Summer 2005</p> <p>Spring & Fall 2005</p> <p>Summer 2004 & in 2003</p> <p>2005</p> <p>2005</p> <p>2004</p> <p>2004</p> <p>2004</p> <p>March 2006</p> <p>July 2006</p> <p>Summer 2004</p> <p>February 2003</p> <p>December 2005</p> <p>Winter 2005-2006</p> <p>December 14-15, 2004 January 2002</p> <p>January 2004</p> <p>Winter 2004</p>	<p>AAFC-SPARC, SAF and the Southwest Forage Association hosted range field days at SPARC on past and ongoing forage and grazing research by Drs. P.G. Jefferson, G. McLeod, A.Iwaasa, and M.P. Schellenberg (contact Alan Iwaasa-AAFC-SPARC and Trevor Lennox - SAF).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>AAFC-SPARC, DUC & SWA hosted a native establishment tour of ongoing native establishment site throughout southern SK. Funding support provided by GHGMP (contact Ross Macdonald - SWA or Alan Iwaasa – AAFC-SPARC).</p> <p>AAFC-SPARC, SAF & SWFA hosted a native establishment seeding demonstration and stand evaluation at AAFC-SPARC. Funding support provided by AAFC’s Greencover TAC program (contact Trevor Lennox – SAF or Alan Iwaasa – AAFC-SPARC).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>DUC and SWA hosted 14 field tours across SK and reached over 350 producers (contact Michael Champion - DUC or Ross Macdonald - SWA)</p> <p>DUC participated with the U of S Agriculture College and held a field day with Dr. Romo’s class in the Beechy area (contact Michael Champion).</p> <p>DUC and SWA hosted 2 field tours in the Missouri Coteau (contact Michael Champion, DUC or Ross MacDonald, SWA).</p> <p>DUC, SWA, SAF and local ADD Boards hosted 4 field tours in the Yorkton area (contact Trevor Plews, DUC, or Tom Harrison, SWA).</p> <p>DUC participated in 2 seminars for producers in the Yorkton area (contact Trevor Plews, DUC).</p> <p>FNACS hosted a cow calf management and production workshop at the Little Pine First Nation reserve (contact Jessica Clay).</p> <p>FNACS plans to host a one day pasture school on Kawacatoose First Nation (contact Jessica Clay).</p> <p>NPSS, SWA, SE, DUC, and AAFC-PFRA delivered the ‘Great Sandhills Tour’ in Sceptre (contact Garth Wruck or Krista Connick).</p> <p>NPSS delivered a grass identification workshop at its 2003 AGM and Workshop (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p>SAF, SWA, AAFC-PFRA, and DUC, with funding support from Greencover Canada, hosted Winter Feeding workshops in Hazlet, Eastend, Glentworth, and Cadillac (contact Trevor Lennox - SAF or Krista Connick - SWA).</p> <p>SAF and WBDC delivered 4 cow/calf management schools in Tisdale, Lloydminster, Swift Current and Weyburn (contact Trevor Lennox – SAF or Katy Lang – WBDC).</p> <p>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 in 2004. ‘Foraging into the Future II’ was held in Swift Current in 2002 (contact Trevor Lennox or Krista Connick).</p> <p>SFC hosted the Western Canadian Forage and Turf Seed Conference in Saskatoon (contact Michel Tremblay).</p> <p>SFC held 2 regional extension meetings on forages in Swift Current and Kindersley (contact Michel Tremblay).</p>
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<p>Goal 1, Obj 1, Action b</p>		<p>June 21-22, 2006</p> <p>June 22-23, 2005</p> <p>June 24-25, 2004</p> <p>June 2003</p> <p>December 2007 December 7-9, 2005 December 3-5, 2003</p> <p>March 2006</p> <p>July 2005</p> <p>July 2005</p> <p>November 2005</p> <p>Summer 2004</p> <p>2005 - 2006</p> <p>March 2005</p> <p>January to March 2005</p> <p>Winter 2004</p> <p>Winter 2004</p> <p>Winter 2004</p> <p>Summer 2004</p> <p>July-August 2003</p> <p>Summer 2004</p>	<p>SRM, PCAP, AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF, SSGA & SWA are planning the ‘Discovering the Matador Grasslands Area’ Workshop and Field Tour in conjunction with NPAW 2006. The tour will be based out of Beechy (contact Michel Tremblay - SAF or Lauren Burton - PCAP).</p> <p>SRM, PCAP, AAFC-PFRA, SAF, SE, SSGA, SWA and local ranchers are delivered the ‘Discovering the Great Sand Hills’ Workshop and Field Tour in conjunction with NPAW 2005. Approximately 150 delegates attended all or part of the event – evaluations are available (contact Michel Tremblay or Trevor Lennox).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SSGA, SAF, SWA, AAFC-PFRA, PCAB and U of S (College of Agriculture), Elanco Animal Health, Dow AgroSciences Canada Inc., Merial (Ivomec), and WBDC hosted the Western Canadian Forage and Grazing Conference in Saskatoon. Planning is in progress for 2007. In 2005, ~150 delegates attended and in 2003, over 200 delegates attended (contact Sheila Fishley – SSGA).</p> <p>SWA hosted “Regulations for Cattle on Creeks” information sessions in Abbey and Val Marie (contact Bob Springer or Krista Connick).</p> <p>SWA, DUC and NPSS hosted a “Discovering the Cypress Hills Uplands” tour at Maple Creek (contact Krista Connick - SWA or Michael Champion - DUC).</p> <p>SWA hosted a Forage and Grazing Tour in Biggar (contact Jeremy Brown).</p> <p>SWA delivered several “Well Decommissioning Field Days” across SK (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p> <p>SWA delivered a ‘Well Decommissioning Field Day’ in Yorkton (contact Jason Puckett).</p> <p>SWA hosted or jointly hosted 41 workshops/field tours (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer - SWA).</p> <p>SWA, SAFRR, and SIEF delivered a ‘First Nations Pasture School’ North Battleford and Debden (contact Jeremy Brown).</p> <p>SWA delivered ‘Pasture Planning Workshops’ in Eastend, Rostern, Senlac, and Strasburg (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p> <p>SWA, DUC, and the Weyburn Ag Society hosted the ‘Weyburn Livestock Update’ workshop in Weyburn (contact Ross Macdonald).</p> <p>SWA hosted winter field days for stock water systems in Earl Grey and Leader (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p> <p>SWA delivered winter workshops on grazing economics and cropland management in Yorkton and Redvers (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer)/</p> <p>SWA delivered a grazing management program to a 4H camp in Swift Current (contact Ross Macdonald).</p> <p>SWA delivered a grazing management program to 4H camps at Swift Current, and Kenosee Lake (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</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>
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<p>Goal 1, Obj 1, Action b</p> <p>c) Produce and distribute extension materials for land managers.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 4 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DUC, FNACS, SAF, SSGA, SWA)</p>		Summer 2004	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).
		July 2003	SWA, DUC and UofR conducted 2 riparian health workshops (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).
		June 2003	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).
		June 2003	SWA delivered 'Pasture Field Days' in Landis and Rosthern, and a 'Range and Pasture School' in Broadview (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).
		December 2003	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).
		Since 2002	AAFC-PFRA has distributed > 150 Burrowing Owl prints by Fred Lahrman to land managers and policy makers (contact Chris Nykoluk).
		Bi-annually since Oct. 2002	AAFC-PFRA, AAFC-CARDS, DUC, SAF, SFC, SSGA, SWA & WBDC produce and distribute the Livestock and Forage Gazette. This newsletter focuses on livestock and forage production issues, and is circulated to ~ 9,000 livestock producers. Greencover funding is in place until December 2007. Available in PDF format on PCAP, SFC, SSGA, SWA, and WBDC websites (contact Janice Bruynooghe - SFC).
		March 2005 Since 2003	PCAP, SAF, SE, SIR, GRAA, SWA and DFO finalized and distributed the update of the fact sheet 'Oil and Gas Development and Activity on SK Crown Lands' (contact Karyn Scalise).
		Since 2004	PCAP, along with AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF, SWA, through Greencover TAC funding, is currently revising the Managing Saskatchewan Rangelands manual, and the Native Range, Riparian and Forested Health Assessment Publications, all documents have a target publication date of 2008 (contact Karyn Scalise).
		September 2004 – March 2005	RSM published and distributed two newsletters for the Frenchman River Biodiversity Project (contact Glenn Sutter).
2005-2006	SAF developed a spreadsheet to calculate pasture costs in each SK soil zone (contact Wally Vanin).		
2005 -2006 (Approved in)	<p>SAF – ADF Advisory Committee approved funding for the following projects that will run from Spring 2005 – 2009 (contact Tammy Bast):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluating how seeding spring and winter triticale or perennial rye cereals in place of Russian wild rye could improve pasture yields, distribution, animal performance and extend the grazing season. It also evaluated how grazing and haying influence forage production and economic returns. Project is completed; • Re-establishment of mixed native grassland in sw SK. The project is evaluating the impact cattle grazing, non-grazing enclosures and seed mixtures have on native stand establishment and long term plant community stability, plants/species biological diversity, forage production, microbial and biochemical properties of the soil, and increasing carbon sequestration. • Examination of how landscape-based management reduces greenhouse gas emissions in rangelands. Project is completed; • Determining what effect grazing management has on increasing the potential of carbon sequestration; • Economics of forage based production systems for SK; • Pasture renovation with Kura Clover; • Adaptation, yield and quality of annual forage crop cultivars; • Strategies for improving soil fertility in alfalfa stands; • Development of a rhyzobial inoculant for sainfoin; • Economics of forage based production systems for SK 		

<p>Goal 1, Obj 1, Action c</p>		<p>2004-2005 (Approved in)</p>	<p>SAF-ADF approved 2 projects relating to improved forage production systems to help take the pressure off native stands by increasing the grazing season (contact Tammy Bast):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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 Tammy Bast).
		<p>2003-2004 (Approved in)</p>	<p>SAF-ADF Advisory Committee approved funding for a 3-year project (Fall 2003-Spring 2007) 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 Tammy Bast).</p>
		<p>Since 2003</p>	<p>SAF and AAFC-PFRA initiated SK's Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) program in 2005. The EFP program is being delivered by the <i>Provincial Council of Agriculture Development and Diversification Boards for SK Inc.</i> (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. Peer Review Committees have been established to anonymously review the completed environmental action plans. Once plans are peer reviewed and endorsed by PCAB, producers are eligible for federal cost-shared funding to implement BMPs on their operations. NOTE: This information is also contained within Goal 1, Objective 1, Action c. Accomplishments and milestones include:</p>
		<p>2005 - 2006</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2005-2006, PCAB updated and reprinted the EFP workbook, hired 18 workshop facilitators and delivered more than 700 workshops across SK involving almost 6,000 farm units. Since April 1, 2005, more than 3,100 farm plans have been endorsed and many producers have accessed BMP funding from the Canada-Saskatchewan Farm Stewardship Program (contact Wayne Gosselin).
		<p>2005-2006</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAFC-PFRA approved DUCs wetland restoration guidelines as a BMP within the APF for EFPs (contact Chuck Deschamps).
		<p>2004-2005</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAFC-PFRA, EC and SWA developed national biodiversity template for APF Equivalent Area Farm Planning that included native and tame grassland assessment (contact Rolfe Antonowitsch).
		<p>2004-2005</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC – CWS led a multiagency (SE, SWA, DUC, SAF) development and review of five biodiversity BMPs (enhancing wildlife habitat, preventing wildlife damage, species at risk, and invasive species, and biodiversity enhancement planning) in support of Canada-SK EPF (contact Michele Williamson).
		<p>2004-2005</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC revised APF EPF AB, SK and MB workbook and other fact sheets to enhance native prairie and other environmental issues for biodiversity, air, water, and soil risk assessment by producers

<p>Goal 1, Obj 1, Action c</p>		<p>2004-2005</p> <p>Since 2004</p> <p>2004</p> <p>2003</p> <p>2005 - 2006</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2003</p> <p>2005-2007</p> <p>Since 2003</p> <p>January 2006</p> <p>March 2006</p>	<p>(contact Michele Williamson).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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). EC-CWS, AAFC-PFRA, DFO, AB F & W, SWA, MB Conservation, and MHCC initiated the Prairie Species at Risk and Agricultural Practices project. Scientific review and expert opinion will be incorporated to identify and regionally target BMPs and potentially negative agricultural practices for Prairie Species at Risk. Technological transfer products will be developed and distributed through existing extension and communication programs (contact Michele Williamson, Mark Wonneck). AAFC - EFP funding under APF: National list of BMPs released in August 2004; 6 BMP categories include riparian area management (10 BMPs), alien invasive species control (20) enhancing wildlife habitat and biodiversity (21), Species at Risk (22), Grazing Management Planning (26) and Biodiversity Enhancement (28) (contact Bill Bristol). 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). <p>SAF printed the following fact sheets: Fertilizing Forages with Manure; Relative Feed Value -a Tool for Determining Alfalfa Quality; Fencing Costs. These Fact Sheets are on the SAF website at www.agr.gov.sk.ca (contact Trevor Lennox).</p> <p>SAF is involved (either financially, or through staff resources) with several of the projects going on at Western Beef Development Centre (WBDC) at Lanigan. The WBDC's website is: www.wbdc.sk.ca, and a few of the recent publications are titled: Winter Feeding Beef Cows - Feed Waste and Feed Site Forage Production; Winter Feeding Systems on Beef Cows – Managing Manure Nutrients; Winter Feeding Systems on Beef Cow Performance; Effect of Controlled Release Fertilizer (contact Trevor Lennox).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SFC publishes 3 SK Hay Reports annually (contact Michel Tremblay).</p> <p>SWA, DUC, SAF, and AAFC-PFRA produced the Missouri Coteau Messenger newsletter for distribution throughout the Missouri Coteau. The newsletter highlighted ongoing stewardship activities and potential future activities that are part of the Missouri Coteau Range and Riparian Stewardship Program (contact Tara Mulhern Davidson – AAFC-PFRA)</p> <p>SWA, DUC, SAF, AAFC-PFRA, SCA, and Western Applied Research</p>
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<p>Goal 1, Obj 1, Action c</p>		<p>March 2005</p> <p>2005</p> <p>2005</p> <p>2005 Since 1997</p> <p>October 2003</p> <p>Quarterly since 1997</p> <p>Since 1997</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>SWA, DUC, and SAF produced the Upper Qu'Appelle Stewardship News (contact Morgan Leigh – SWA).</p> <p>SWA produces the East Central Update (contact Jason Puckett).</p> <p>SWA produces and submits articles on pasture management and BMP's to Saskatchewan Newspapers. In 2005, 27 articles were published, in a total of 54 weekly newspapers. All articles are posted in pdf format at www.swa.ca (contact Sharon Metz – SWA)</p> <p>SWA & SAF published 'Stewardship and Economics of Cattle Wintering Sites' (contact Etienne Soulodre).</p> <p>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 Ryan Lorge).</p> <p>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 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 Scentsless 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).</p>
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<p>Goal 1, Obj 1, Action d</p>	<p>d) Provide ongoing training and resources for extension staff.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 4</p> <p>(SAF, All)</p>	<p>Fall 2006 August 2005</p> <p>May 2005 August 2004</p> <p>July 2003 July 2003</p> <p>January 2006 2003-2008</p> <p>Summer 2003</p> <p>Fall 2006 Since 1991</p> <p>2005</p> <p>December 2005</p> <p>May 31-June 1, 2006</p> <p>2004-2008</p> <p>2005-2006</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA held the following range related events for community pasture managers/riders. Topics have included plant ID, plant and wildlife SAR, poisonous plants, stocking rates, range condition assessment and range management (contact Chris Nykoluk):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 day Rider Range Course for pasture riders • Range days at Auvergne-Wise Creek (20 staff), Mantario (22 staff), and Elbow-Willner Community Pasture (22 staff). • Range day/safety school – pasture staff • Range days at Excel-Key West (25 staff), Cote San Clara (30 staff), Hazel Dell (15 staff) and McRaney Community Pasture (27 staff). • Workshop at Dundurn pasture (40 staff); Range day at Val Marie pasture (40 staff) – with SRC (contact Bob Godwin) • Range day/safety school (68 staff) with SAF (contact Don Fontaine) <p>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). As of January 2006, a total of 47 projects have been approved (contact Chris Nykoluk - AAFC-PFRA or Michel Tremblay - SAF).</p> <p>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). 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. A 5 day Rider Range Management Course is being planned for fall 2006 (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p> <p>AAFC-SPARC reports that approval was received from NRC Press to proceed with updating of Budd’s Flora for future publication. Dr. W. Willms will be the lead scientist for this multi-year project (contact Mike Schellenberg).</p> <p>AAFC – SPARC research with native species highlighted in presentations to SK Advisory Council for Forages, and Mongolian delegation (contact Mike Schellenberg).</p> <p>PCAP, AAFC-PFRA, SAF and others, with funding support from Greencover Canada program will hold a ‘Soil Indicators of Range Health Workshop at SPARC for technical and extension staff (contact Lauren Burton – PCAP or Bill Houston – AAFC-PFRA).</p> <p>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 technical and extension staff in the new Ecological Health Assessment methodology intended to complement and expand on classic range assessment approaches (contact Lauren Burton or Tom Harrison).</p> <p>In summer-fall 2005 the following workshops were delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-day Native, Riparian and Forest Workshop in the Missouri Coteau for 4 NCC staff. • 2-day Lentic Riparian and Native Prairie workshop in Moose Jaw for 17 staff from 7 agencies • 2-day Forest Grazing workshop in Prince Albert for 33 staff from 5 agencies • 1-day Range Day workshop in Swift Current for 20 AAFC-PFRA Community Pasture Staff • 1-day Range Health workshop at Mantario Pasture for 22 AAFC-PFRA Pasture Staff • 1-day Riparian Assessment workshop in Lumsden for 22 staff from 9 agencies • 1-day Riparian Assessment workshop in Regina on September 17
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<p>Goal 1, Obj 1, Action d</p>	<p>e) Update and publish the "Range Plan Development Guide". Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3 (AAFC-PFRA, SAF, SRC, SFC, SWA)</p>	<p>2004-2005</p> <p>Feb. 28 – March 5, 2006</p> <p>March 16 & 17, 2005</p> <p>February 15, 16 2004</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>2005 Since 1999</p> <p>2005 - 2006</p> <p>2005</p> <p>Since April 2004</p>	<p>for 10 U of R Plant Taxonomy students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-day Native Range Assessment workshop in Saskatoon for 13 U of S Range Management students <p>In 2004 the following workshops were delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 day workshop at Moose Mountain for 10 staff from 7 agencies • 1 day riparian workshops to 3 UofR Engineering classes (97 students) and 2 UofS Conservation Biology classes (49 students) • 1 day native prairie workshop to UofS Range Management class (29 students) • 1 day native prairie, riparian and forest workshop to SIAST 2nd year IRM class (17 students) <p>PCAP, CLC, AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF, SWA hosted ‘Engaging Rural Clients II: Building capacity and skills to work effectively with producers’ Workshops in Saskatoon (40 participants) and Regina (60 participants) with support from the AAFC-PFRA Greencover Canada Program. Plans are to offer workshops in 2007 and 2008. In 2005, the Regina and Saskatoon workshops were each attended by 60 participants (contact Karyn Scalise or Chris Nykoluk).</p> <p>SAF resource agrologist made a presentation on range planning at the SK Aboriginal Land Technicians and Managers Conference (contact Dave Shortt).</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>SWA has hosted riparian assessment and range assessment training workshops for extension staff from SWA and other agencies. In 2005, SWA provided Ecological Health assessment (Prairie, Lentic, and Lotic) training in Swift Current to summer students (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p> <p>SFC delivered four two day training sessions for ~ 95 agrologists on tame forage management along with a two day alfalfa workshop for 40 agrologists. Four more workshops will be delivered in June, 2006 (contact Michel Tremblay).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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. An extension to 2008 has been approved by Greencover Canada (contact Karyn Scalise – PCAP or Tom Harrison - SWA).</p>
<p>2. Explore the economics of maintaining a healthy range resource for grazing.</p>	<p>a) Encourage development of conservation cover programs that contribute to the ecological and socio-economic sustainability of rangelands. Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3 (AAFC-PFRA, DUC, FNACS, SAF, SWA)</p>	<p>2006 Since Summer 2003</p> <p>January 2002</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA announced the Greencover Canada Program consisting of 4 components: Conversion of Environmentally Sensitive Croplands, Shelterbelts, Technical Assistance, and Critical Areas Management. As of March 1st, 2006, a total of 2,326 projects have been approved, with a total of 227,964 acres of tame grass acres, a total of 9,365 native grass acres and 91 acres of trees have been approved for conversion in SK; SAF, SWA and AAFC-PFRA forages specialists provided technical expertise to clients. SAF has witnessed continued interest from producers in seeding native forages on annual cropland. The deadline for the Greencover program was January 31, 2006 (contact Bill Houston or Trevor Lennox).</p> <p>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).</p>

<p>Goal 1, Obj 2, Action a</p>		<p>2003</p> <p>Since 1998</p> <p>Since 2004</p> <p>March 2001 – March 2004</p> <p>June 31, 2005</p>	<p>DUC initiated a feasibility study to determine the cost/benefits of developing a community pasture in the Allan Hills (contact Richard McBride).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SFC completed the development of a forage seed check-off. The administering body is called the Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission (contact Michel Tremblay).</p>
	<p>b) Develop an incentive-based lease rate structure program to encourage enhanced management on Crown leases.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 1 Partner Update # 6: 1</p> <p>(DUC, SAF, SSGA)</p>		
<p>3. Recognize and support the efforts of private and public land managers who conserve native prairie.</p> <p>See also:</p> <p>Goal 5, Objective 5 (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>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>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 4</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF, SSGA, SRM, SWA)</p>	<p>Annually since 1995</p> <p>Since 1967</p> <p>February 2006 February 2006 2004 2000</p> <p>Since 1989</p> <p>February 2004 February 2001 February 1998</p>	<p>THE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD (TESA) - Partners include SSGA, DUC, RBC Financial Group, Merial (Ivomec) and, AAFC-PFRA. TESA recognizes excellence and innovation in environmental stewardship in the ranching industry. The deadline for nominations is March 31st (contact Sheila Fishley – SSGA). See 1998-2003 PCAP for recipients. 2004 to present recipients include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2005 –EMILE & SANDRA CARLES – MERIT CATTLE CO. Radville, (went on to win CCA National TESA later that year) • 2004 –TED & OLIVE PERRIN – CASTLELAND RANCH Beechy, (went on to win CCA National TESA later that year) <p>SRM OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (SRM-OAA) Presented by SRMs Northern Great Plains Section that includes SK, MB, ND and eastern MT. This Award acknowledges accomplishments in the art and science of range management (contact Trevor Lennox). Recipients include: Michel Tremblay (SAF, SRM, SFC) Ted and Olive Perrin of Castleland Ranch, Beechy (SSGA) Tom Harrison – SWA Chris Nykoluk - AAFC-PFRA & Phil Curry –DUC</p> <p>PCESC PRAIRIE CONSERVATION AWARD Administered by the host province of PCESC; PCESC rotates every 3 years through AB, SK & MB. The award honours individuals with a lifetime dedication to prairie conservation. SK Committee is comprised of previous recipients (contact Dave Gauthier or Greg Riemer): Dr. David Gauthier - UofR Greg Riemer – SE Miles Anderson – SSGA</p>

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<p>Goal 1, Obj 3, Action a</p>	<p>February 1995 February 1992 February 1989</p> <p>Since 2004 Annually</p> <p>2005 2004</p> <p>Since 1953</p> <p>2005</p> <p>2005</p> <p>February 2004</p> <p>February 2002</p> <p>August 2005</p>	<p>Dale Hjertaas – SWA Donald Hooper - deceased Dr. Stuart Houston - retired</p> <p>DUC's LT. GOVERNOR'S GREENWING CONSERVATION AWARD This award recognizes people and groups who demonstrate leadership in wetland and native prairie conservation in SK (contact Lee Moats, DUC). Winners include: Dick Henders - Estevan Clem Miller – Chaplin</p> <p>DUC's DUKE OF EDINBURGH HABITAT CONSERVATION AWARD This award recognized people for their lifetime commitment to conserving the land (contact Lee Moats, DUC). Winners include: Ted and Olive Perrin (Beechy, SK) Don and Bev Campbell (Meadow Lake, SK) Fred, Maurice, and Richard Porter (Kinistino, SK)</p> <p>NATURE SASKATCHEWAN CONSERVATION AWARD This award recognizes an individual(s) within or beyond NS who has done meritorious work in the interests of conservation in SK. Dale Hjertaas and Elaine Hughes received the award in 2005 (contact Paul Wilson).</p> <p>COUNTRYSIDE CANADA AWARD Awarded by Wildlife Habitat Canada in partnership with Canadian Federation of Agriculture SK PCAP - for accomplishments related to the 1998-2003 Action Plan at the 7th PCESC (contact Karyn Scalise). NS for Operation Burrowing Owl, stating “As a result of this program, the burrowing owl has become a symbol for wildlife conservation and voluntary stewardship” (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>SASKATCHEWAN CENTENNIAL AWARD Karyn Scalise received this award for contributions to conservation in SK (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p>	
	<p>b) Acknowledge the efforts of Award winners through the development of a comprehensive communication plan (print media, advertising, presentations, etc.)</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 3 (FNACS , SRM, SSGA)</p>	<p>2005</p> <p>Since 1995</p> <p>Since 2003</p> <p>Summer 2003</p> <p>Winter 2001</p> <p>Since 2003</p> <p>Since 1953</p> <p>2002</p> <p>March 2004</p> <p>2005</p>	<p>DUC printed an article on the TESA winner in their publication <i>Conservator</i> (contact Michael Champion).</p> <p>PCAP acknowledges TESA recipients in the 2003-2008 PCAP and through other communication tools (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>SSGA acknowledges TESA recipients though its website, magazine, display and presentations (contact Sheila Fishley).</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>SWA published an article on the 2003 TESA winner in the 'Prairie Update' (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p> <p>The TESA recipient is featured annually in the fall-winter issue of the Livestock & Forage Gazette (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p> <p>NS publishes an article on their Conservation Award winner in Blue Jay journal and Nature Views newsletter (contact Paul Wilson).</p> <p>NS published an article on the Countryside Canada Award it received for Operation Burrowing Owl in Nature Views and Stewards of Saskatchewan newsletters (contact Margaret Skeel).</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>SRM has promoted this years Outstanding Achievement Awards and the 2005 TESA winner in the Western Producer along with the SSGA Stockgrower magazine as well as numerous workshops (contact Chris</p>

<p>Goal 1, Obj 3, Action b</p>		<p>2005-2006</p> <p>2004</p> <p>March 2006 2004</p>	<p>Nykoluk, SRM)</p> <p>SWA published an article on landowners in the Prairie Stewardship Program that received awards for improving habitat for Species at Risk in the 'Prairie Update' (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer - SWA).</p> <p>SWA published an article on Tom Harrison's SRM Outstanding Achievement Award in the 'Prairie Update' (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p> <p>SSGA published an article in the 'Stockgrower' on the SRM Outstanding Achievement Award that was awarded to Ted and Olive Perrin (Castleland Ranch) and Michel Tremblay. In 2004, SSGA published an article in the 'Stockgrower' on Tom Harrison's SRM Outstanding Achievement Award (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 (0 of 60 AAFC-PFRA and 28 of 54 SAF pastures have yet to be completed), plus assessments on 100 Crown leases.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 4</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF)</p>	<p>1985-2004</p> <p>Since 1992</p> <p>2005-2006 Since 1999</p> <p>2004-2005</p> <p>2003-2004</p> <p>2004</p> <p>2005 (Annually since 1999)</p> <p>2004 (Annually since 1999)</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>AAFC-PFRA's goal for range condition on its 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. NOTE: This information is also contained within Goal 3, Objective 2, Action a (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p> <p>SAF completed range inventory field work on 10 Community Pastures in 2005-2006. Continued priority will be placed on completing range plans on the remaining 18 SAF pastures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2004-2005, 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) (contact Don Fontaine). <p>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).</p> <p>SAF Lands Branch monitored ~ 10,000 acres, consisting of 38 different sites were inspected for the ecological monitoring program. Of the total inspections 50% were rated as the 'At Risk' category, 34% as 'Healthy' category, and 16% as 'Degraded' category. Of the total sites 18 sites were considered grassland and 20 sites were considered forest sites. When one reviews the grassland sites 56 % are rated as 'Healthy', 28% are 'At Risk' and 17% are rated as 'Degraded' (due to rounding of the above figures we get a total of 101%). In reviewing the forest sites 15% are 'Healthy' 70% are 'At Risk' and 15 % are 'Degraded'. Of the 14 sites which are rated as 'At Risk', 12 sites had high range condition but due to exotic invasion the ratings on these sites were dropped to 'At Risk'. In most cases the common exotics were Kentucky Bluegrass and Smooth Brome which were often occurring in low but constant numbers in the stands. SAF Lands Branch also monitors land when leases are renewed and producers can also enter into range improvement agreements where required (contact Don Fontaine).</p> <p>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'</p>

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<p>Goal 1, Obj 4, Action a</p>		<p>2003 (Annually since 1999)</p> <p>2003</p> <p>2002-2005</p> <p>1998-2000</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SAF Lands Branch improved the community pasture grazing report form to enable improved tracking of stocking rates by SAF pasture managers (contact Don Fontaine).</p> <p>SAF Lands Branch and SRC worked to determine whether foliage height can be used as a measure of plant vigour (contact Don Fontaine – SAF or Jeff Thorpe – SRC).</p> <p>SE completed rapid ecological assessments of 19 AAFC-PFRA pastures and 2 SAF pastures as part of the RAN initiative (contact Dave Arneson).</p>
	<p>b) Promote range health assessment and management plan development on private lands (e.g., range schools)</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DFO, DUC, FNACS, NPSS, SAF, SRM, SSGA, SWA)</p>	<p>2005</p> <p>Since 1993</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>2005 (Since July 1995)</p> <p>Since 2003</p> <p>Since 2002</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA staff are working to assist/form Grazing Clubs in Tompkins (5 members), Cadillac (20 members) and Glentworth (10 members) (contact Kerry Laforge).</p> <p>DUC works with producers to develop management plans on privately owned pastures (contact Michael Champion).</p> <p>DUC works with grazing cooperatives to develop range management plans on cooperative lands (contact Michael Champion).</p> <p>SWA completed 285 ecological health assessments in 2005. SWA completed 303 ecological health assessments in 2004. 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).</p> <p>SWA developed a database of all ecological health assessments it completed (contact Etienne Soulodre).</p> <p>SWA held several range schools for landowners (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
	<p>c) Promote range health assessment and management plan development on lands owned and managed by each respective agency or organization.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DFO, DUC, EC-CWS, PC-</p>	<p>Since 2001</p> <p>Since 1995</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>2005-2006</p>	<p>DUC inventories its land annually as part of its management strategy (contact Andrew Hak or Richard McBride).</p> <p>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); In 2005, AAFC-PFRA acquired the SAF Nokomis Community Pasture, making this management unit considerably larger (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p> <p>NCC performs range assessments on newly acquired properties and implements management plans to achieve and maintain good range condition (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).</p> <p>SAF Lands Branch conducted an inventory and review of Signal Valley Coop and East Quill Grazing Coops. Preliminary field work on an</p>

<p>Goal 1, Obj 4, Action c</p>	<p>GNP, NCC, SAF, SE, SWA, SWF)</p>	<p>2004-2005</p> <p>July 28, 2004</p> <p>February 15, 2005</p> <p>September 2004</p> <p>2004-2005</p> <p>2002-2003</p> <p>2003</p> <p>2004</p> <p>2003</p>	<p>inventory/range plan has begun in Armland Coop; enclosure cages have been installed to measure productivity. Bench mark cages have been set up in Yonker grazing Coop (contact Don Fontaine).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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)</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SWA performed assessments on its lands to guide the development of management plans for implementation in the future (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
	<p>d) Compile a "state of the resource" report, compiling all available public and private inventory data and analysis.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 1 Partner Update # 6: 1</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DUC, PC-GNP, RSM, SAF, SE, SWA, UofR)</p>	<p>2004</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>GOAL GROUP 1 RECOMMENDS THAT THIS ACTION NOT BE CARRIED FORWARD INTO FUTURE ACTION PLANS. 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. Problematic issues include ensuring accurate assessments over a whole set of data, the many players that would need to contribute, and the temporal issues that would exist with the data.</p>

GOAL II: TO CONSERVE THE REMAINING PRAIRIE RESOURCE**Progress Summary - submitted by Greg Riemer (SE)****GOAL GROUP II MEMBERS: Chuck Deschamps (DUC), Jordan Ignatiuk (NCC), Mary Brick (SAF), Greg Riemer (SE), Lesley Hall (SWA); Orin Balas (SSGA), and Lorne Scott (SWF/NS)****Objective 1: Complete and maintain an inventory of native prairie**

Steady progress has been made on this objective. New high resolution satellite imagery is available and is being purchased. This acquisition is being coordinated by AAFC/PFRA and will be completed within 5 years. SE has created a new Geomatics Unit to coordinate GIS and LandSat data. SAF is working on a GPS/GIS Initiative that integrates GPS data collection by staff with GIS databases.

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

SE has had difficulty meeting its RAN objectives in areas of the province that are largely cultivated. SE reports that Saskatchewan has ratified the Southern Conservation Land Policy, which will target land acquisition by ENGOs into areas of the province where less than 12% of the landscape unit is protected by the RAN. It provides a definitive science based approach to determining whether or not lands have conservation value. While no lands have yet been purchased, the framework is in place to allow progress to be made.

Objective 3: Encourage voluntary stewardship to conserve native prairie

This objective continues to receive a great deal of ongoing attention by PCAP partners. Work by DFO, SWA, NS and EC continue to advance the stewardship agenda. The work to develop a Conservation Directory has been completed.

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

Excellent progress has been made on this objective. One of the four actions is considered complete. Work is ongoing in the review of all Crown land proposed sales involving native prairie. Conservation Easements (CEs) are filed on lands sold by tender, but not yet on lands sold to lessees. Note that Action 4a refers to land remaining under Crown control, while Actions 4b and 4c specifically address protection of Crown lands that are being sold.

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

CEs have become a major tool for protecting native prairie. In 2005-6 NCC protected 21,413 acres, DUC protected 12,172 acres and SWF protected 2,024 acres. To improve the ease of their use and reduce costs, CE's will receive an exemption from review under The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act if they meet the terms of the Southern Conservation Lands Policy. That said, four of the seven Actions under this objective are ranked as a 1 or a 2, indication that the Partners should focus on improving progress here.

Objective 6: Ensure that property taxation and assessment policies are favorable to native prairie conservation

Several initiatives have moved the taxation issue forward. DUC and SARM have completed a 3-year tax credit program in the RM's of Emerald and Morse. This was a voluntary program that placed benefits on native or naturalized prairie, demonstrating that tax incentives are well received by landowners. Progress has been made towards the development of a "conservations lands" category with the ratification of the Southern Conservation Lands Policy and the development of Conservation Lands Section within the "Provincial Interests Statement" for the revised *Planning and Development Act, 1983*.

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

Results for this objective were mixed. While there is a government wide legislative and regulatory review underway which is mandated with reforming outdated and conflicting laws and regulations, the partnership felt that little progress had been made promoting adherence to the wetland policies. The development of the Southern Conservation Lands Policy streamlines the government's objectives regarding the RAN, the Biodiversity Action Plan and the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and conflicts with legislation and regulation regarding the ownership of land. Additionally, watershed management and planning are making good progress. Note that Action 7a is somewhat redundant with other Actions under this Objective.

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

Good progress has been made by SAF with the petroleum industry on leases on native prairie. SAF has also developed an Environmental Liability Check List that is to be used when it acquires or disposes of land. SP has modified its Environmental Screening Tool and processes in order to identify critical issues necessary to minimize the impacts of land use and rare and endangered species, and to develop management plans. Additionally, SP has developed new environmental training for delivery to its employees. NS has developed a value of biodiversity information sheet for each of the ranching and farming industries.

**IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY:
GOAL II: TO CONSERVE THE REMAINING PRAIRIE RESOURCE**

Objective	Actions (Rankings) (LEAD AND SUPPORTING PARTNERS as in 2003- 2008 PCAP)	Timetable	Partner Update and contact information
<p>1. Complete and maintain an inventory of native prairie.</p>	<p>a) Acquire and interpret the most recent land cover and soils maps for southern Saskatchewan (update 2001 NPSS/CPRC publication).</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update #6: 2</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, EC-CWS, NPSS, SE, SWA, UofR-CPRC)</p> <p>b) Identify areas of high risk for drainage or destruction.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update #6: 2</p> <p>(DFO, DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, SE, SWA)</p>	<p>2005 - 2010</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2005</p> <p>1998 - 2003</p> <p>2001-2004</p> <p>February 2002</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA National Land & 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. Acquisition will take 2-5 years to complete. Updated land cover classification for SK and AB should be available March 2007; Contract for acquisition of high resolution panchromatic satellite imagery for SK will hopefully be in place by end of March 2006; new aerial photo acquisition planned for SK, dependant on securing long term funding from Partners for this 5 year project. Partners are AAFC-PFRA, EC, DFO, PC, Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN), and Canadian Space Agency. Agreement to allow fairly free access. NRCAN leads the partnership in purchasing medium resolution imagery for the entire landmass of Canada; to be completed by 2010; this product will be released to the public 90 days after acquisition (contact Ophelia Degenais).</p> <p>SAF, Lands Branch is working on a GPS/GIS Initiative that aims to integrate global positioning systems (GPS) data collection by Lands Branch field staff with geographic information systems (GIS) capabilities in SAF and other departments and corporations in Regina. Part of this study examines how the spatial and pictorial files can be tied to the Crown Land Management System (CLMS) (contact Bob Drysdale).</p> <p>DUC evaluated the efficiency of existing landcover/biophysical inventories to deliver an acreage based conservation program. Though their work they determined that feature sizes, currency, and thematic accuracy of existing land cover data did not meet program technical requirements. DUC decided to build its own inventory to meet program specifications utilizing the relatively new SPOT 5 MSS platform combined with object based classification techniques; DUC classified the natural lands necessary for program delivery. The resulting inventory met program functional requirements and as such facilitated the successful delivery of the Tax Credit Pilot. The technical experience with object based classification combined with a better understanding of the SPOT 5 spectral characteristics in a prairie environment has broader implications for future land cover program development (contact DUC- Lyle Boychuk).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p>

<p>Goal 2, Obj 1, Action b</p>		<p>2004-2005</p> <p>2005 Since 2004</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>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. SWA has developed drainage plans for some Conservation & Development areas. In 2005 SWA is collecting expert knowledge and opinion from SWA field staff about the location and intensity of wetland drainage activities (contact Glen McMaster).</p>
	<p>c) Coordinate the development of land information data bases as tools for landowner negotiation, extension and technology transfer.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update #6: 3</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, EC-CWS, FNACS, NCC, NPSS, PC-GNP, SE, SWA, UofR-CPRC)</p>	<p>Since 2000</p> <p>2005-2008</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>SE has created a Geomatics Services Unit to coordinate GIS and landsat data. Plans are to make information available to partners by 2008 (contact Kevin Murphy).</p>
<p>2. Continue to develop a system of managed conservation areas.</p>	<p>a) Work towards completion of the RAN in the Prairie Ecozone.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update #6: 3</p> <p>SE, All</p>	<p>Since 1997</p> <p>2005</p> <p>March 2006</p> <p>2005</p>	<p>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 <i>Ecological Reserves Act</i> and the <i>Wildlife Habitat Protection Act</i> (contact Conrad Olson).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SE, thru the FWDF, has partnered in 1,699 acres of titled habitat lands and 25,346 acres of CEs in southern SK at a cost to the FWDF of \$947,181. <p>SE reports that Saskatchewan has just ratified the Southern Conservation Lands Policy which is developed around existing government policy to protect and to restore habitat in Southern SK. It targets areas of the province where 12% of any landscape unit are not protected by the RAN. This policy provides the basis for an exemption under the Saskatchewan Farm Security Act for Conservation organisations to purchase land and CEs (contact Greg Riemer).</p> <p>SE established an ecological reserve in the Great Sand Hills, covering 141 square miles (contact Ann Riemer).</p>
	<p>b) Identify and ensure that areas which are a priority for conservation receive protection.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update #6: 3??</p> <p>(DFO, DUC, EC-CWS, FNACS, NCC, SE, SWF)</p>	<p>Since 1995</p> <p>Since 1995</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>2005</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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 was undertaken in 2005-06 (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).</p> <p>SE has begun to develop a framework to target habitat acquisitions as part of the</p>

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<p>Goal 2, Obj 2, Action b</p>		<p>Since 2003</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>March 2006</p>	<p>conservation lands strategy being developed by government and ENGOs (contact Greg Riemer SE).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>In March 2006, SE reported that the Southern Conservation Lands policy (see 2,2a – above) had been ratified. The policy provides for native species re-vegetation in areas of the province with little remaining native habitat (contact Greg Riemer).</p>
<p>3. Encourage voluntary stewardship to conserve native prairie.</p>	<p>a) Support private stewardship programs that involve landowner extension work.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update #6: 3</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DFO, DUC, EC-CWS, FNACS, NCC, NS, PCAP, SAF, SBOIC, SE, SWA, SWF)</p> <p>See also: Goal 1, Objective 1 (Promote grazing programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles) and Goal 3, Objective 2 (Promote management of native prairie to maintain biological diversity) for related activities.</p>	<p>Since November 2003</p> <p>Since 1995</p> <p>2004 - 2005</p> <p>2005-2006 Since 2000</p> <p>Since 1987</p> <p>2005 Since 2003</p> <p>2005 Since 2002</p> <p>2005 Since 1998</p>	<p>DFO's Stewardship in Action Initiative is in its fourth year in providing funding 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 numerous groups throughout the prairies area (AB, SK, MB), including PCAP, for 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 projects (contact Rick West).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>NS published a study (Environmental Management: 2004; Blue Jay - summary: 2005) that determined grasslands enrolled in a voluntary stewardship program (Operation Burrowing Owl) retained significantly more habitat as grassland (66%) than parcels not participating in the program (49%) (grassland not retained was cultivated). Grassland types most at risk of cultivation in the Regina Plain were identified (good soils and smaller parcels) and are targeted along with others in its Stewards of Saskatchewan stewardship programs (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>NS's Stewards of Saskatchewan (Operation Burrowing Owl & Shrubs for Shrikes) program and SWA jointly deliver a habitat enhancement program, involving perennial cover seeding, fencing, alternate water development, and shrub planting for shrikes, to enlarge and improve pastures for wildlife species. In 2005, 14 enhancement projects (13 for owls and 1 for shrikes & owls) were completed, totalling 1,825 acres with 3.75 miles of fencing in 2005, for a year-to-date total of 71 projects with 10,248 acres sown back to perennial cover, 36 miles of fence installed and 5 remote solar watering sites developed since 2000 (contact Margaret Skeel – NS or Jennifer Lohmeyer - SWA).</p> <p>NS's Operation Burrowing Owl (OBO) program works with over 450 landowners who voluntarily conserve approximately 63,000 ha (152,000 acres) of pastureland throughout southern SK for burrowing owl habitat. Approximately 250 of these participants are conserving native prairie pastures. Of the 63,000 hectares, 23,000 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 Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>NS's Shrubs For Shrikes (SFS) program, modelled on OBO, works with landowners who voluntarily conserve pastureland and shrubs throughout southern SK for loggerhead shrikes. In 2005 13 landowners that conserve 1464 acres (592 ha) joined the program for a total of 26 landowners that conserve 2,100 acres (850 ha) of shrike habitat (contact Michelle Yaskowich).</p> <p>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. In 2005, 6 landowners that conserve 960 acres (384 ha) joined the program for a total of 63 landowners that are conserving 16,480 acres (6,592 ha) of native prairie (contact Tara Sample).</p> <p>NS's Living by Water Project offers support to shoreline residents of rivers, streams, lakes, and reservoirs, including workshops and educational materials. In 2005, 5 workshops (in Saskatoon, and at Christopher & Emma, Big Shell,</p>

<p>Goal 2, Obj 3, Action a</p>		<p>2002-2004</p> <p>Since 2003</p> <p>Since 1998</p> <p>2005-2006 (Since 1997)</p> <p>2002-2003</p> <p>2005-2006 2003 (Since 1976)</p> <p>Since 1978</p>	<p>Last Mountain and Turtle Lakes), and 4 presentations (in Shellbrook, Redberry Lake, Turtleford and Cut Knife) were delivered for a total of 73 workshops and presentations in SK (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SE continues to support stewardship programs like the Prairie Stewardship program of SWA and the Souris River and Farm Protection Program of HELP International (contact Conrad Olson).</p> <p>SWA manages the Prairie Stewardship Program that provides extension to over 1,361 landowners who have made voluntary stewardship agreements to conserve over 647,000 acres of native prairie, 477 miles of streams, and over 23,100 acres of wetlands. In 2005-2006, 104 landowners who conserve over 63,700 acres of native prairie, 163 miles of streams and 3,070 acres of wetlands joined the Program (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer - SWA).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SWF, with SE-FWDF, EcoAction and BP Canada, rejuvenated its Wildlife Tomorrow program (formerly Acres for Wildlife) in 2003. In 2004-2005, SWF recruited 415 voluntary landowner stewards that conserve 35,690 acres of habitat. A total of 2,228 participants who conserve over 197,515 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).</p> <p>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).</p>
	<p>b) Develop a landowner stewardship program directory.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update #6: 5 COMPLETE</p> <p>(DFO, EC-CWS, PCAP, SSGA, SWA, SWF)</p>	<p>April 2003</p> <p>Spring 2004</p>	<p>SWA, DFO, SWF, PCAP, with partial funding support from EC-HSP, completed the "Conservation Program Directory" which can be downloaded from www.snows.sk.ca/conservationprograms.pdf (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p> <p>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).</p>
<p>4. Ensure that the remaining native prairie is protected from cultivation and development.</p>	<p>a) Maintain the Crown's commitment to conserving native prairie under its control, excluding prior commitments and promises made.</p> <p>Ranking:</p>	<p>March 2005</p> <p>Since 2001</p>	<p>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).</p> <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 (contact Chuck Deschamps).</p>

<p>Goal 2, Obj 4, Action a</p>	<p>Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update #6: 4 (DUC, SAF, SE, SSGA)</p>	<p>2006-2007 (proposed completion) 2004 Fall 2001 March 2006 2005-2006</p>	<p>SAF is working on the Grand Cheviot Land Use Plan. The area consists of a large block of Crown land comprised of native prairie, parkland, range land, oil and gas sites and historical areas (contact Don Fontaine).</p> <p>SAF added 7.5 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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SE reports that the Southern Conservation Lands Policy is based upon the vast amount of Crown land protected to date and spells out clearly that conservation lands have a place in the rural landscape (contact Greg Riemer).</p> <p>SAF Lands Branch continues to develop policy to help guide their actions. Further policy development is on hold pending an overall Crown Land Strategy (contact Mary Brick).</p>
	<p>b) Review all Crown land proposed sales involving native prairie and register CEs where appropriate.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update #6: 3 (DUC, SAF, SE, SSGA)</p>	<p>2005 2005-2006 (Since 1999) Since 2002 Since 2001 Since 1999</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>SAF holds 66 CEs on approximately 7,268 acres of private land In 2005, 7 of 29 crown parcels sold with a CE. SAF modified their CE policy for tender sales to require a CE on all parcels with >40 acres of native habitat (contiguous or non-contiguous). SE and DUC review parcels less than 40 acres and use provincial initiatives as a guide for CE recommendations (i.e RAN, NAWMP). In 2004-2005, 6 parcels of land were sold with a CE. In 2003-2004, 17 parcels of land were sold with a CE. SAF Lands Branch uses CEs as a method of protecting native prairie prior to Crown Land tender sales (contact Mary Brick).</p> <p>SAF Lands Branch continues to develop a CE policy to help guide the CE process on Crown Land. Finalization of the policy awaits a review of criteria used for placing CEs on Crown Land. The CE policy is on hold pending a overall Crown Land Strategy (contact Mary Brick).</p> <p>SAF Lands Branch & 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> <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: 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) 2) <u>Size of Parcels:</u> parcels ≥ 40 acres in the Aspen Parkland Eco-Region; parcels ≥ 80 acres within all other Eco-Regions; any parcel, regardless of size, in any region containing attributes worthy of protecting (contact Mary Brick).</p>
	<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>Ranking:</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>Goal 2, Obj 4, Action c</p>	<p>Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 1 Partner Update #6: 1</p> <p>(SAF, SE, SSGA)</p>		
	<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> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 5 <u>COMPLETE</u></p> <p>(SAF, SE, SSGA)</p>	<p>Since 1997</p>	<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>5. Improve the use of Conservation Easements (CEs) and other tools to conserve prairie that accommodate and respect agricultural interests.</p>	<p>a) Promote the use of CEs to maintain native prairie on private lands.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update #6: 3</p> <p>(All)</p>	<p>2005-2006 Since 2002</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>1997 - 2004</p> <p>February 2004</p> <p>February 2003</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>April 2005 – March 2006</p> <p>Winter 2006</p> <p>Winter 2005</p>	<p><i>DUC continues to pursue CEs on native and naturalized private lands (including wetlands) in areas of high waterfowl productivity. In 2005-2006 DUC secured 10,500 acres of habitat with a CE for a total of 30,417 acres since 2002 (contact Andrew Hak)</i></p> <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. (contact Chuck Deschamps).</p> <p><i>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).</i></p> <p>DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, SAF and SE contracted PLEA (Public Legal Education Association of Saskatchewan) to develop a series of 5 'A Look at the Law' 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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>NCC completed 29 paid CEs and 1 donated CE totalling 21,413 acres for a total of 102 CE's covering 67,226 acres since 1997 (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).</p> <p>NCC ran an advertisement in selected newspapers in the Missouri Coteau to promote CEs (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).</p> <p>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</p>

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<p>Goal 2, Obj 5, Action a</p>		<p>Fall 2002</p> <p>Since 1997</p> <p>Since 2003</p> <p>Since 2004 - 2005</p> <p>2006</p> <p>2005-2006 Since 2005</p>	<p>request (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).</p> <p>NCC produced 'Investing in Our Natural Heritage – A Conservation Toolchest for SK Landowners' which outlines various NCC programs (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).</p> <p>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 and negotiates CEs, and also refers negotiation of CE's to other agencies (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>PCAP, DUC, NCC, SE, SSGA are developing a fact sheet on CEs, including a section on pro's and con's (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>SE information and resources posted on the web - www.se.gov.sk.ca/ecosystem/conservationeasements.htm www.se.gov.sk.ca/ecosystem/FAQs.pdf (contact Conrad Olson).</p> <p>SE reports that a regulation under the Saskatchewan Farm Security Act will be passed in 2006 providing an exemption with no acreage limits on CE's purchased by conservation organizations. CEs meeting the terms of the Southern Conservation Lands Policy will be exempted from review under the Saskatchewan Farm Security Act (contact Greg Riemer).</p> <p>SWF completed 14 CEs totalling 2,024 acres. In 2005, SWF and SE-FWDF began acquiring CEs and educating SWFs 125 Habitat Chairpersons to assist in delivering the CE program (contact Jim Kroshus).</p>
	<p>b) Do a gap analysis for non-purchase securement tools.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 1 Partner Update #6: 2</p> <p>(DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, SE, SWF, SSGA)</p>	<p>Since 1998 2004-2005</p> <p>2001</p> <p>Since 1998</p>	<p>SE reports that most conservation agencies utilize numerous tools to protect native prairie and other important habitat. Analysis of conservation tools is ongoing. SE reports that 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 <i>Saskatchewan Farm Security Act</i> 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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>DUC continually evaluates all its programs based on costs, uptake, potential benefit to agriculture and to waterfowl and wildlife. This continues to result in increased targeting and changes in program (contact Chuck Deschamps).</p>
	<p>c) Determine the types and levels of incentives required for native prairie conservation.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update #6: 2</p> <p>(DUC, NCC, NS, SAF, SE, SWA, SWF)</p>	<p>Since 1999</p> <p>Since 1997</p> <p>2005 Since 1997</p> <p>2003-2005</p>	<p>DUC has secured 30,417 acres of natural habitat with a CE. CEs will only be secured in areas that have high waterfowl nesting densities (contact Andrew Hak).</p> <p>NCC has secured 12 donated CEs (3,713 acres) and 90 paid CE's (63,513 acres). NCC's paid CE policy was set at a maximum of 25% of the fair market value. This was determined based on the data available from comparable sales with CEs registered on title (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).</p> <p>NS secured 1 donated easement (~1,000 acres), totalling 9 donated CEs (2,235 acres) involving 7 landowners. Previous CEs were donated in 1998-2003. There has been little recent response to our promotions of donated easements. (contact Margaret Skeel)</p> <p>DUC and SARM developed and evaluated a property tax credit pilot in the RM's of Morris #165 and Emerald #277 that is revenue neutral for municipalities and results in broad acceptance by landowners. On average 33% of producers enrolled 40% of eligible lands. A total of \$236,086 was paid over 3 years to producers to conserve 19,173 acres annually (contact Chuck Deschamps)</p>

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<p>Goal 2, Obj 5, Action d</p>	<p>d) Improve and simplify the process, agreements and valuation procedures for donated CEs.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 1 Partner Update #6: 1</p> <p>(DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, SE, SWF)</p>	<p>December 2002</p> <p>November 2002</p> <p>July 2002</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p>
	<p>e) Develop protocols, monitor and police CEs.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update #6: 3</p> <p>(SE, All Partners with CEs)</p>	<p>2004-2005 Since 2001</p>	<p>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. SE works with various agencies on developing monitoring policies for CEs (contact Conrad Olson).</p>
	<p>f) Determine the effect of CEs on land values.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update #6: 3</p> <p>(DUC, NCC, EC-CWS, SAF, SE, SWA, SWF)</p>	<p>Since 2000</p> <p>Fall 2005 (Since 2003)</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SAF tender sale in 2005 resulted in 7 of 29 parcels being sold with CE's. Of the 7 parcels that sold, 5 sold above the estimated market value. In 2004, 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. 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 CEs have on land sales (contact Mary Brick).</p>
	<p>g) Develop a forum for landowners to discuss pros and cons of CEs and other conservation tools.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 1 Partner Update #6: 1</p> <p>(DUC, EC-CWS, NCC, NPSS, PCAP, SE, SWA, SWF)</p>	<p>February 2003</p>	<p>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).</p>

<p>6. Ensure that property taxation and assessment policies are favourable to native prairie conservation.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update #6: 3</p> <p>(DUC, SAF, SE, SSGA, SWF)</p>	<p>Completed 2002-2005</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2005</p> <p>2003-2004</p> <p>2005</p>	<p><i>DUC and SARM have completed 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. DUC determined that accuracy of existing land cover assessment data could not meet conservation program technical requirements. A new inventory was developed to program specifications (contact Bob Neufeld).</i></p> <p>SSGA sits on the Agricultural Land Review Committee of SAMA which is investigating ways to improve the assessment manual for the 2009 year (contact Orin Balas).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p>
	<p>b) Develop “Conservation land” category with SAMA that better recognizes the public values provided by native prairie.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 1 Partner Update #6: 1</p> <p>(DUC, SE, SSGA)</p>	<p>January 2004</p> <p>March 2006</p>	<p>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. 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).</p> <p>SE reports that the Southern Conservation Lands Policy clearly defines that conservation lands have a place in the rural landscape of SK. The upcoming revisions to The Planning and Development Act will contain a “Provincial Interests Statement” which will be provided to municipal governments to delineate areas of provincial interest. A section on Conservation Lands has been added to this statement (contact Greg Riemer).</p>
<p>7. Adopt and improve regulations, policies, programs, and economic instruments that reward rather than penalize stewardship and conservation of native prairie ecosystems.</p>	<p>a) Identify and prioritize those regulations, policies, programs and economic instruments that are most significant.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update #6: 2</p> <p>(DFO, DUC, SAF, SE, SSGA, SWF)</p>	<p>2003-2005</p> <p>March 2006</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>SE reports that a Government wide initiative to streamline legislation and regulation is being led by SIR. SE is conducting a Legislative Reform initiative as part of the development of a Green Strategy for government. An intra departmental committee has been created to lead this process and harmonize it with the SIR led review (contact Greg Riemer).</p>

<p>Goal 2, Obj 7, Action b</p>	<p>b) Promote adherence to federal and provincial wetland policies.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update #6: 2</p> <p>(DFO, EC-CWS, SE, SWA)</p>	<p>Since 1991</p> <p>2006</p> <p>2005-2006</p>	<p>EC-CWS continues to require adherence to The Federal Policy on Wetland Conservation for all federal environmental assessment reviews (contact Diana Ghikas).</p> <p>SWA has initiated development of its drainage and wetland conservation policy. SE and SAF are collaborating with SWA to develop the policy in consultation with a broad range of interested and affected agencies and groups (contact Lesley Hall).</p> <p>DUC is completing its <i>Wetlands in Agricultural Landscapes</i> project that brought together stakeholders representing government, agriculture, urban centres, and the environment to discuss future wetland policy in each of three provinces being proposed as case studies, including Saskatchewan. A Discussion Document has been completed and will be submitted to the federal and provincial government agencies with the intent of informing future policy regarding wetland retention and restoration. Funding was provided by AAFC's 'Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food Program (contact Cynthia Edwards).</p>
	<p>c) Work to change regulations that are in conflict with stated government policies.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update #6: 3</p> <p>(DFO, DUC, SAF, SE, SSGA, SWF)</p>	<p>2003-2005</p> <p>2004-2006</p> <p>March 2006</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>SE, SAF, SRD, SK Justice, SWF, DUC, NCC, NS worked with SSGA, APAS and SARM to develop a Conservation Lands Strategy. After one year of negotiations the parties failed to reach an agreement. An interdepartmental working group continued to address the fact that conservation organisations were unable to purchase land to achieve their conservation objectives in SK without an exemption for the <u>Saskatchewan Farm Security Act</u>.</p> <p>SE reports that SK has just ratified the Southern Conservation Lands Policy, which is developed around existing government policy, to protect and to restore habitat in Southern SK (see 2,2,a/b). A regulation under the Saskatchewan Farm Security Act will be posted in 2006 providing an exemption with no acreage limits for CEs purchased by conservation organizations. CEs meeting the terms of the Southern Conservation Lands Policy will be exempted from review under the Saskatchewan Farm Security Act. Land purchases will be exempted from the terms of the Saskatchewan Farm Security Act with conditions (contact Greg Riemer).</p>
	<p>d) Develop watershed conservation and restoration plans and improve watershed management.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update #6: 3</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DUC, DFO, EC-CWS, NS, SE, SWA)</p>	<p>2004-2008</p> <p>Since 2001</p> <p>December 2005</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>2003 Since 1999</p> <p>2005 Since 1998</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>NS, through its IBA program, and Red Coat REDA delivered a workshop entitled 'Water Supplies and Management in the Wood River Watershed' for 21 participants. Support was provided by AAFC-CARDS, DFO and the U of S (contact Joe Schmutz). From 2002-2004, NS's Wood River Riparian Project, part of the IBA program, supported landowners to seed land adjacent to the Wood River to perennial cover (contact Joe Schmutz or Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>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. In 2003, a summary of the IBAs of SK was published in NS's <i>Blue Jay</i> journal (contact Joe Schmutz or Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>NS's Living by Water Project provides tools and programs to shoreline residents to conserve riparian health. To assist community groups with delivering workshops, 4 shoreline modules and one sub-module were developed, each comprised of a Powerpoint presentation and detailed Speaker's Notes.</p>

<p>Goal 2, Obj 7, Action d</p>		<p>2005-2006</p> <p>2006 Since November 2003</p> <p>2005</p>	<p>Modules are available on CD and include: Learning About Your Shoreline, Shoreline Landscaping and Erosion, Shoreline Construction, Septic Systems and Wells, and the sub-module Agriculture, Our Cottage and Us: How We Can Make A Difference (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>SAF, PFRA-AAFC initiated Agri-Environmental Group Planning (AEGP) under the APF. AEGP enables groups of producers to strategically identify a priority agri-environmental issue in their region or for their sector. Upon approval of their Group Plan, producers are eligible for funding for adoption of BMPs to address the issue. To March 31, 2006, nine AEGP watershed-based projects and three sectoral projects have been initiated (contact Wayne Gosselin).</p> <p>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. The Lower Souris River plan is complete and three others are in draft form for consultation (Moose Jaw River, Assiniboine River, and Yorkton Aquifer), The others are in various stages of completion. A variety of documents, including the plans and draft plans, are available on the SWA website (contact Robin Tod).</p> <p>SWA is assisting with Group Environmental Farm Planning in the Swift Current Creek, Gull Lake, Wood River, and South Saskatchewan Basin areas (contact Tom Harrison).</p>
<p>8. Encourage government and industry to improve regulations, monitoring and technology to minimize negative impacts upon native prairie.</p>	<p>a) Encourage industry to adopt the least invasive technologies when working on native prairie.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update #6: 3</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DFO, FNACS, NPSS, SAF, SIR, SP, SE, SSGA)</p>	<p>2004-2005</p> <p>2003-2006</p> <p>May 2002</p> <p>Since 1992</p> <p>Since 1994</p> <p>2006</p>	<p>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 is undertaken by an environmental assessment specialist; permit and licence protocols continue to be updated in response to legislated requirements (such as species listings and critical habitat definitions) and best practices (contact Bill Bristol).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>AAFC-PFRA held a reclamation workshop for about 40 staff in Kindersley (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SAF is on the Manitou Sand Hill Committee which will be completing an internal audit to determine the effectiveness of implementing the Manitou Sand Hills Integrated Resource Land Use Plan over the last 10 years (contact Jim Schmidt).</p>

<p>Goal 2, Obj 8, Action a</p>		<p>2005</p> <p>February 2006</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>August 2002</p> <p>Since 1997</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>2005</p> <p>Since 1995</p> <p>March 2005</p>	<p>SAF completed a survey of Manitou Ecological sites in the Prime Conservation Area of the Manitou Sand Hills in order to track changes in representative areas. Two open grassland sites and two treed sites were surveyed. The results will act as a guide for petroleum and gas companies in site restoration (contact Don Fontaine).</p> <p>SAF has developed an Environmental Liability Check List that is to be used when SAF acquires or disposes land (contact Mary Brick).</p> <p>SAF received a total of 355 new oil and gas surface leases, a majority of them on native prairie. Lands Branch reviews all environmental proposals for these sites with a goal of minimal disturbance Multi-pad sites are used when possible (contact Lorne Veitch).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SP modified its Environmental Screening Tool and process in 2005 in order to identify critical issues necessary to minimize land use and rare and endangered species impact and to develop management plans. The new tool will be ready for roll out in 2006. SP also evaluated its thermal facilities for species at risk interactions in 2005 (contact Hélène Careau).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p>
	<p>b) Develop and deliver industry-specific conservation and stewardship education programs.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update #6: 3</p>	<p>2003</p> <p>February 2003</p> <p>January 2006</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>NPSS AGM & Workshop featured topics on native prairie reclamation and restoration by various industries (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p>NS developed an information sheet for each of the ranching and farming industries: The Value of Biodiversity to Ranching/Farming on the Prairies (contact Tara Sample or Margaret Skeel).</p>

PCAP Partner Update # 6

Goal 2, Obj 8, Action b	(DFO, DUC, NPSS, NS, RSM, SP , SE, SWA)	March 2005 Since 2003 2005	PCAP, SAF, SE, SIR, GRAA, SWA and DFO finalized the 2 nd 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). SP developed new environmental training for delivery to its employees in early 2006 on various environmental issues, including Species at Risk and how it relates to their work and their use of SP's new Environmental Screening Tool. Employees that have to deal with environmental issues and the new tool will be required to receive this training (contact Hélène Careau).
	c) Encourage government and industry to develop cumulative impacts guidelines. Ranking: Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update #6: 3 (DFO, DUC, SAF, SE , SSGA, SWF)	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).

GOAL III: TO MAINTAIN NATIVE PRAIRIE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**Progress Summary - submitted Dr. Stephen Davis (EC-CWS)**

GOAL GROUP III MEMBERS: Dr. Alan Iwaasa (AAFC-SPARC), Robert Sissons (PC-GNP), Dr. Glenn Sutter (RSM), Bob Godwin (SRC), Dr. Joe Schmutz (UofS), Dr. Stephen Davis (EC-CWS)

Objective 1: Improve our understanding of native prairie biological diversity

PCAP partners have been very active conducting studies and surveys on a variety of plant and animal species in Saskatchewan. Much of the data collected pertains to species occurrence and habitat requirements and is prerequisite to further research focused on how land management practices affect populations. Furthermore, emphasis has been placed on species research (especially birds) with a few studies examining communities or ecosystems. Much progress has also been made in developing planning tools and models to help guide management decisions and action. PCAP partners are clearly taking advantage of new technologies and becoming more strategic in their conservation planning efforts. All of this has definitely increased our understanding of native prairie biological diversity. The key is to translate this information into action.

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

PCAP partners continue to develop and maintain important and diverse partnerships for identifying and communicating best management practices that benefit native prairie biological diversity. In fact, partnerships have become such a routine way of doing business such that many PCAP partners likely under-report the amount of information exchange that occurs among the partnership and beyond. National programs such as the Agriculture Policy Framework, particularly on-farm planning and will continue to contribute to this objective in the future.

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

Invasive species have been identified as one of the greatest threats to native biological diversity. Although many partners have been conducting individual projects in attempts to identify ways to manage and control invasive species, the threat continues to outweigh these control efforts.

Much headway has been made in making landowners and producers aware of the negative impacts on native species. PCAP Partners continue to discourage or disallow the use of exotic species in their programs, but the use of exotic species is still permitted in some federal agriculture programs. However, AAFC's Greencover Canada program encourages the use of native species and we have seen a substantial number of acres seeded to native species compared to previous years. A coordinated approach is required to identify areas currently impacted by exotic species and to determine those areas most at risk. Furthermore strong policy and legislation is required regarding exotic species and ways to control and eliminate them. The National Invasive Alien Working Group and Provincial Invasive Exotic Species Strategy have potential, but more institutional support is required for these initiatives to help contribute to this PCAP objective.

Objective 4: Promote restoration and recovery of native prairie ecosystems

PCAP partners have been very active promoting native prairie restoration and recovery. AAFC-SPARC has clearly taken the lead in promoting and conducting applied research concerning prairie restoration. AAFC's Greencover Canada program has seen a marked increase in the demand for native seeds to the extent that the supply may not be able keep up with the demand for some species. PCAP Partners continue to be involved in recovery planning for species at risk and informing producers about SARA legislation. More effort may be needed once issues regarding critical habitat are identified.

**IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY:
GOAL III: TO MAINTAIN NATIVE PRAIRIE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

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: Goal 1, Objective 1 (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>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DUC, EC-CWS, FNACS, PC-GNP, NPSS, NS, RSM, SAF, SE, SSGA, SWA, Universities)</p>	<p>Since 2003</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2004-2005</p> <p>2003-2004</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2004-2005</p> <p>2006-2008</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA, through an EC-IRF grant, contracted SRC to conduct surveys of COSEWIC listed vascular plants to determine presence, population levels and potential management practices and threats (contact Chris Nykoluk, AAFC-PFRA or Bob Godwin, SRC).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2005-2006, SRC examined western spiderwort population changes, determined key habitat variables for the species, and investigated the impact that sheep grazing for control of leafy spurge may have on spiderwort populations. Surveys for hairy prairie-clover at Dundurn pasture were conducted. BMPs that will assist in maintaining hairy prairie-clover and western spiderwort populations and habitat were drawn up for the respective pastures where these species occur. SRC surveyed 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. SRC conducted surveys of western spiderwort and hairy prairie clover, at Elbow, Rudy-Rosedale and Dundurn community pastures. <p>AAFC-PFRA allows access to community pastures for wildlife research through Right-of-Entry permits (contact Bill Bristol):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2005 -2006, the following research was undertaken on various AAFC-PFRA Community pastures by various proponents: genetic analysis of western spiderwort (U of S), habitat analysis and ground truthing at Govenlock pasture (EC-CWS), special and temporal variation in nesting success of prairie ducks (DUC), northern pintail nest habitat and nest survival (DUC), piping plover research , Sprague’s pipit inventory, loggerhead shrike survey and habitat analysis, waterfowl banding (all EC-CWS), burrowing owl survey in Weyburn District pastures, maintenance of 7 artificial burrowing owl nests on 2 community pastures, and radio telemetric study of burrowing owl foraging habitat (EC – CWS, through IRF, burrowing animal study and badland erosion processes (U of R), ferruginous hawk research (Northern Enviroscan), Climate change impacts on aspen forest (Canadian Forest Service), potential nutrient limitations for sage grouse (U of S, CSALE), riparian bird communities (DUC), burrowing owl habitat assessment (SWA), Great Sandhills Regional Environmental Study (SE), Aspen encroachment monitoring (U of M) . 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). <p>AAFC-SPARC in collaboration with NCC-Old Man on His Back (OMB) and with funding from NCC will examine soil carbon sequestration, and above ground biomass differences found within recently seeded land at OMB and SPARC. All seeding will be grazed during the study (contact Mike Schellenberg AAFC-SPARC or Cheri Sykes NCC).</p>

<p>Goal 3, Obj 1, Action a</p>		<p>2005-2008</p> <p>2002-2005</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>2004-2008</p> <p>2002-2005</p> <p>2003-2005</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2005</p> <p>Since 2004</p> <p>2005-2007</p> <p>2005</p>	<p>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 or Mike Schellenberg).</p> <p>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)</p> <p>DUC is investigating duck nest success in low, moderate and high perennial cover over a 10 year period (contact Richard McBride).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>EC is developing science-based, voluntary and non-regulatory national agricultural performance standards that are regionally sensitive for biodiversity, water, air, and pesticides as part of the APF National Agri-environmental Standards Initiative (NAESI). This \$25 million program will determine the desired state that is needed to maintain ecosystem health (Ideal Performance Standards); and will specify the level of environmental quality that can realistically be achieved using currently available and recommended Beneficial Management Practices (Achievable Performance Standards) (contact Michele Williamson).</p> <p>EC-CWS is conducting Western Loggerhead Shrike and Sprague's Pipit assessments of habitat and abundance in native grasslands in AAFC-PFRA pastures, PC-GNP, and CFB-Dundurn through the SAR -IRF (contact Andrew Didiuk for shrikes and Stephen Davis for pipits).</p> <p>EC-CWS conducted Western Loggerhead Shrike assessments of habitat and abundance in farmland habitat in AB and SK (contact Andrew Didiuk).</p> <p>U of S Biology Dept., with funding from Delta Waterfowl Foundation, examined survival and space-use by prairie-colonizing raccoons and its implications for prairie-nesting waterfowl (contact Justin Pitt or François Messier).</p> <p>EC-CWS initiated first year of a study examining how local and landscape factors influence use of non-native habitat by grassland birds. Study area includes private, provincial and federal land at the north end of Last Mountain Lake, Allen Hills. Study will be expanded to se AB in 2006 (contact Stephen Davis).</p> <p>EC-CWS is conducting a study examining the natural history and demography of Sprague's Pipit in native and non-native habitats at the north end of Last Mountain Lake (contact Stephen Davis).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p>
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<p>Goal 3, Obj 1, Action a</p>		<p>2000-2003</p> <p>2001-2011</p> <p>1999-2009</p> <p>October 2003</p> <p>2003-2004</p> <p>1998-2005</p> <p>1997 to 2000</p> <p>Since 1996</p>	<p>EC-CWS found that only about 3% of wood frogs (<i>Rana sylvatica</i>) 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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>EC-CWS provided a plenary lecture on current trends in agriculture and their implications on prairie bird conservation in Canada (contact Steve Davis).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p>
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<p>Goal 3, Obj 1, Action a</p>		<p>Since 1995</p> <p>???</p> <p>Since 1965</p> <p>2002-2004</p> <p>Study completed in 2000</p> <p>2002</p> <p>2005 Since 1998</p> <p>2006-2018</p> <p>2006-2008</p> <p>October 2005 – February 2006</p>	<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> <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> <p>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).</p> <p>NS conducted a study that identified that habitat features important to Burrowing Owl breeding success include abundant ground squirrel/ badger holes, presence of wetlands, and lack of trees. This was published in 2002 in <i>Blue Jay</i> journal (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <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. The study was published in 2004 in Environmental Management and a summary in 2005 in Blue Jay (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>NS studies biodiversity in its 6 nature sanctuaries; inventories of macroinvertebrates, lichens, birds and plants have been conducted and reports are available. An inventory of amphibians and reptiles was completed in 2005 (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>PC-GNP consulted with AAFC, EC, NCC, PCAP, SWA, SE, SAF, UofA, UofM, UofR, UofS, USFWS, and WWF on the development of a long-term grazing experiment. The primary objective is to determine how grazing intensity alters spatial and temporal heterogeneity in the multi-scale structure and function of mixed-grass prairie communities (contact Pat Fargey).</p> <p>PC-GNP, The University of Montana and the Bureau of Land Management are implementing a MSc. research project on population parameters, local scale habitat relationships, and movements of greater sage-grouse in silver sage brush communities of sw SK and ne MT (contact Pat Fargey).</p> <p>PC-GNP, AAFC-PFRA, SE, AB Fish and Wildlife, Calgary Zoo, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and several other agencies conducted the 3rd swift fox census in SK, AB and Montana. Results should be available in the fall of 2006 (Contact Pat Fargey –PC-GNP or Bill Bristol – AARC-PFRA).</p>
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<p>Goal 3, Obj 1, Action a</p>		<p>2004-2005</p>	<p>PC-GNP, SE, SRC, and SWA completed a study of sage grouse habitat around active and abandoned leks in southwest SK. The proportion of land covered in sagebrush community types was higher in around active leks than non active leks. A model based on soil map units was created to predict sites suitable as sagebrush habitat and areas of potential sagebrush sties were mapped from digital soil coverage within the SK sage grouse range (contact Pat Fargey – PC-GNP or Bob Godwin – SRC).</p>
	<p>2003 - Completed</p>		<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>
	<p>2003-2006</p>		<p>RSM in partnership with the Canadian Museum of Nature, UofA, St. Peter’s College, Centre for Rural Studies and Enrichment (CRSE), UofS, UofR, AAFC-PFRA, DFO, PCAP, PC-GNP, 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>
	<p>September 2005</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSM, UofS, CRSE and local residents collected water quality and stream morphology data along course of the Frenchman River in SK (contact Glenn Sutter).
	<p>August 2004</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSM and UofA studied aquatic invertebrates and water quality in and near GNP (contact Glenn Sutter).
	<p>May-September 2004</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSM, Uof A, UofR, PC-GNP and local residents conducted a survey of aquatic invertebrates along the course of the Frenchman River (contact Glenn Sutter).
	<p>September 2003 - 2005</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSM and UofS fostered research on the value of action-based environmental education involving high-school students (contact Glenn Sutter).
	<p>June1-2, 2004</p>		<p>SAF completed a rare plant survey in Millie Pasture as part of underground water line development (contact Don Fontaine).</p>
	<p>Summer 2004</p>		<p>SAF completed a 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).</p>
	<p>2004 - 2005</p>		<p>SAF, AARC-PFRA and other agencies completed and updated Saskatchewan’s Agri-Environmental Scan, The scan provides an assessment of agri-environmental issues for soil, water, air and biodiversity. A preliminary summary can be accessed through SAF’s website http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca/docs/about_us/apf/environment.asp (contact Terry Kowalchuk).</p>
	<p>2005-2006 Since 1994</p>		<p>PC-GNP, SE, AAFC-PFRA & SAF participated in the annual Sage Grouse survey (contact Pat Fargey or Sue McAdam).</p>
	<p>2005-2007 Since 2004</p>		<p>SE initiated multi-year Regional Environmental Study for the Great Sand Hills SE established an independent Scientific Advisory Committee to undertake a 2 year Regional Environmental Study of the Great Sand Hills (2005-2007). The Committee has undertaken to present to government sustainability options for the management of the sand hills area that will conserve their ecological integrity while allowing for appropriate development. The study, in phase 1, will gather baseline assessments related to the economic, social and natural capital of the area, in phase 2, examine stresses and conduct a risk and vulnerability analysis, and in phase 3, develop sustainability scenarios and make recommendations. See www.se.gov.sk.ca/GSH (contact Randy Seguin or Fred Beek).</p>
	<p>2004</p>		<p>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 Riemer).</p>
	<p>2002</p>		<p>SRC, through the Meewasin Valley Authority examined the effect of past fire</p>

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<p>Goal 3, Obj 1, Action a</p>		<p>2004</p> <p>2003</p> <p>Summer 2004</p> <p>2005-2007</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2002-2006</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2001-2004</p>	<p>treatment on the control of Kentucky blue grass in a native mixed prairie reserve (contact Bob Godwin).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SWA completed a range assessment study on its lands around the Quill Lakes to evaluate the effectiveness of the current management plan (contact Jody Oliver).</p> <p>SWA is comparing grassland bird nest abundance and success in native prairie with that in tame pasture and hayland (contact Glen McMaster).</p> <p>U of S Plant Sciences, funded by Parks Canada Innovation Fund, studied the genetic diversity of plains rough fescue (contact Yuguang Bai).</p> <p>U of S Soil Science, PC-GNP, SE and NS, funded by the SE-FWDF, studied possible nutrient depletion in rangelands and its implications for greater sage grouse (contact Tom King or Joe Schmutz).</p> <p>U of S study examined annual survival and accidental agro-chemical poisoning in Argentina as a contributing factor in a prairie-wide decline among Swainson’s hawks (contact Phil McLoughlin or Joe Schmutz).</p> <p>U of S -W.P. Fraser Herbarium manuscript and literature review explained the ecosystem context of <i>Ruppia</i> ball formation in a prairie lake and was highlighted in the internationally distributed NewScientist (contact Randy Olson or Joe Schmutz).</p> <p>U of S Geography Dept. received funding from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council for a project that investigates the role of property regimes and understanding of biodiversity for conservation in and around Grasslands National Park (contact Maureen Reed).</p> <p>U of S ‘Sustainable Beef Cattle Systems Research Group’ was launched including faculty from the College of Agriculture, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, College of Engineering and the WBDC. Research covers breeding/genetics, reproduction, health, feeding/nutrition, and behaviour toward fostering environmentally and economically sustainable beef production (contact Sheila Schmutz).</p> <p>UofS College of Agriculture is conducting the following research studies (contact Joe Schmutz)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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).
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Goal 3, Obj 1, Action a			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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).
	<p>b) Develop a prairie ecosystem management decision support computer model that includes representative components of native biodiversity as one of the model outputs.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, EC-CWS, PC-GNP, SE, SWA, Universities)</p>	<p>2005-2006</p> <p>2004-2008</p> <p>Late 2003 to 2004</p> <p>2004-2007</p> <p>2004-2005</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA, with funding from IRF, has developed a GIS based Species at Risk habitat analysis tool /model for predicting where SAR habitat exists on community pastures. Pilot species is burrowing owls at Caledonia-Elmsthorpe pasture. Model to be completed by March 2006 with field testing planned for summer 2006 (contact Bill Bristol).</p> <p>EC-CWS is developing habitat supply model for Mixed Grassland Ecoregion to develop ideal and achievable performance biodiversity standard for APF (contact Michele Williamson).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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 John Wilmshurst).</p> <p>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 Riemer).</p>
<p>2. Promote management of native prairie to maintain biological diversity.</p> <p>See also Goal 1, Objective 1 (Promote grazing programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles) and Goal 2, Objective 3 (Encourage voluntary stewardship to conserve native prairie) for related activities.</p>	<p>a) Develop and incorporate biodiversity best management practice recommendations in range extension communication products.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, DFO, DUC, EC-CWS, FNACS, PC-GNP, NCC, NPSS, NS, SAF, SE, SRM, SSGA, SWA)</p>	<p>Since 2003</p> <p>2005 - 2006</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2004-2005</p> <p>2004-2005</p> <p>2004-2005</p>	<p>SAF and AAFC-PFRA initiated SK's Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) program in 2005. The EFP program is being delivered by the <i>Provincial Council of Agriculture Development and Diversification Boards for SK Inc.</i> (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. Peer Review Committees have been established to anonymously review the completed environmental action plans. Once plans are peer reviewed and endorsed by PCAB, producers are eligible for federal cost-shared funding to implement BMPs on their operations. NOTE: This information is also contained within Goal 1, Objective 1, Action c. Accomplishments and milestones include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCAB updated and reprinted the EFP workbook, hired 18 workshop facilitators and delivered more than 700 workshops across SK involving almost 6,000 farm units. Since April 1, 2005, more than 3,100 farm plans have been endorsed and many producers have accessed BMP funding from the Canada-SK Farm Stewardship Program (contact Wayne Gosselin). AAFC-PFRA approved DUCs wetland restoration guidelines as a BMP within the APF for EFPs (contact Chuck Deschamps). AAFC-PFRA, EC and SWA developed national biodiversity template for APF Equivalent Area Farm Planning that included native and tame grassland assessment (contact Rolfe Antonowitsch). EC- CWS led a multiagency (SE, SWA, DUC, SAF) development and review of five biodiversity BMPs (enhancing wildlife habitat, preventing wildlife damage, species at risk, and invasive species, and biodiversity enhancement planning) in support of Canada-SK EPF (contact Michele Williamson). EC revised APF EPF AB, SK and MB workbook and other fact

<p>Goal 3, Obj 2, Action a</p>		<p>2004-2005</p> <p>Since 2004</p> <p>2004</p> <p>2003</p> <p>Since 1992</p> <p>2003</p> <p>January 2006</p> <p>August 2005</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>January 2006</p> <p>2005-2006</p>	<p>sheets to enhance native prairie and other environmental issues for biodiversity, air, water, and soil risk assessment by producers (contact Michele Williamson).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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). EC-CWS, AAFC-PFRA, DFO, AB F & W, SWA, MB Conservation, and MHCC initiated the Prairie Species at Risk and Agricultural Practices project. Scientific review and expert opinion will be incorporated to identify and regionally target BMPs and potentially negative agricultural practices for Prairie Species at Risk. Technological transfer products will be developed and distributed through existing extension and communication programs (contact Michele Williamson, Mark Wonneck). AAFC - EFP funding under APF: National list of BMPs released in August 2004; 6 BMP categories include riparian area management (10 BMPs), alien invasive species control (20) enhancing wildlife habitat and biodiversity (21), Species at Risk (22), Grazing Management Planning (26) and Biodiversity Enhancement (28) (contact Bill Bristol). 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). <p>AAFC-PFRA's goal for range condition on its 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. NOTE: This information is also contained within Goal 1, Objective 4, Action a (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p> <p>NPSS published 'Prairie Roots: A Handbook for Native Prairie Restoration' and the 'Native Plants, Water and Us!' booklet and poster (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p>NS developed 2 information sheets, 'The Value of Biodiversity to Ranching on the Prairies – SK' and 'The Value of Biodiversity to Farming on the Prairies – SK', along with a companion sheet 'Biodiversity Benefits'. The benefits to producers are discussed, along with producer practices that benefit biodiversity. Input was provided by AAFC-PFRA, SAF, SWA, SE, DUC and EC, and funding by the Greencover Canada Program (contact Tara Sample or Margaret Skeel)</p> <p>NS delivered an Agriculture & Biodiversity presentation to landowners at 3 Steward Appreciation Days, in Assiniboia, Outlook and Cabri (contact Tara Sample),</p> <p>SSGA, SRM, AAFC-PFRA Uof S and the GHGMP developed and distributed 4000 calendars featuring information on BMPs (contact Sheila Fishley)</p> <p>SWA, DUC, SAF, and AAFC-PFRA developed the Missouri Coteau Messenger, a newsletter distributed throughout the Missouri Coteau that showcases BMPs (contact Tara Mulhern Davidson).</p> <p>SWA, DUC, SAF, and AAFC-PFRA are developing a directory of water development projects throughout the Missouri Coteau that incorporate the use of BMPs (contact Tara Mulhern Davidson).</p>
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<p>Goal 3, Obj 2, Action a</p>		<p>Winter 2004</p> <p>1999, 2002</p> <p>Since May 1997</p> <p>Quarterly, Since 1997</p>	<p>SWA, DUC, SAF, PFRA, SSCA, and WARC produced the North West Grazing News newsletter, which highlights BMPs being utilized in nw SK (contact Jeremy Brown).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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 and Angela Bethune).</p> <p>SWA produces the "Prairie Update" newsletter, which highlights BMPs being implemented in SK (contact Ryan Lorge and Angela Bethune).</p>
	<p>b) Encourage information exchange between range managers, biologists and others.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 4 Partner Update # 6: 4</p> <p>(All)</p>	<p>2003</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>Since 2003 2005-2006</p> <p>Since 1996</p> <p>February 9-11, 2006</p> <p>February 3-5, 2004</p> <p>2003-04</p> <p>Since 2003</p> <p>August 2005 Since 2003</p> <p>July 5-10, 2004</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>EC, DFO and PC lead the HSP for SAR program and request that species-at-risk occurrence data collected from a funded project be submitted at a coarse scale to either the SKCDC or EC (contact Dr. Stephen Davis).</p> <p>DUC and SAF signed a 15-year partnership to improve waterfowl habitat at SAF Pastures. In 2005-2006, agreements were signed for Buffalo Valley, Lake Johnson and King George Grazing Co-Ops In 2003-2004, agreements were developed for Old Wives and Val Jean Pastures (contact Michael Champion, DUC or Blake Kohls, SAF).</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>NPSS held its 2006 AGM, conference and workshop in Yorkton (40 participants). Sessions dealt with invasive species, native seed industry, conservation and legislation, community initiatives, water gardening with native plants and botanical art (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p>NPSS held its 2005 AGM and Workshop 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).</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>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>NS holds Stewards of Saskatchewan landowner Appreciation Days in July-August to meet and visit with landowners. In 2005, 3 events were held (Assiniboia, Outlook and Cabri) that included an Agriculture & Biodiversity presentation/ discussion, field workshop and social BBQ. In 2004, 1 event was held that included a field workshop and social BBQ (Bengough), and in 2003, 2 social BBQs were held (Weyburn and Assiniboia) (contact Tara Sample).</p> <p>PCAP, AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SSGA, SWA, partnered with Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC) on the development and delivery of the Grasslands</p>

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<p>Goal 3, Obj 2, Action b</p>		<p>2004</p> <p>May 2003</p> <p>May 2003</p> <p>March 2005</p> <p>2003</p> <p>2002 - 2003</p> <p>2004</p>	<p>Grandeur Tour for 25 teachers (contact Karyn Scalise – PCAP, Barb Hanbidge/Daryl Nazar - DUC), Michael Burgess – SSGA, Ross Macdonald – SWA).</p> <p>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 BLM staff from MT (contact Adrian Sturch).</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>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>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).</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>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>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 Riemer or Diane Livingstone).</p>
<p>3. Control the threat and impact of introduced invasive species to native prairies.</p>	<p>a) Identify and promote awareness of the negative impacts of introduced and invasive species to native prairie.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 2</p> <p>(SE, All)</p>	<p>2005-2006</p> <p>Since 1991</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>Since 1998</p> <p>2006 - 2008</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA published an article on leafy spurge and western spiderwort activities at Elbow Pasture in the NPSS newsletter in fall 2005; a poster on this project was presented at the Society for Range Management AGM in Vancouver in February 2006 (contact Erl Svendsen).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>DUC sits on several advisory committees dealing with invasive plants (contact Michael Champion).</p> <p>DUC, EC-CWS, NS, SE and SWF support the Saskatchewan Purple Loosetrife & Invasive Species Project (SPLISP). In 2005, 6 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 loosetrife 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 http://www.sfn.saskatoon.sk.ca/science/splep/ (contact Ron Bennett).</p> <p>NPSS in partnership with SE, SWF and SPLISP submitted a proposal to</p>

<p>Goal 3, Obj 3, Action a</p>		<p>Since 1995</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>Since 1998</p> <p>2003</p> <p>2001</p> <p>2005</p> <p>2004-2005</p> <p>2004</p> <p>Summer 2004</p> <p>Since 1998</p>	<p>the Invasive Alien Species Partnership Program to deliver workshops to the landscaping and urban vegetation maintenance industry, the horticultural industry and community based environmental stewardship groups. The workshops will train participants on how to identify, inventory and control invasive alien plant species. The target is to deliver six workshops. Other project partners include City of Saskatoon, DUC, SWA, NS, Saskatchewan Greenhouse Growers Association, Wakamow Valley, Meewasin Valley Authority, Swift Current Creek Watershed Stewards, City of Moose Jaw Parks and Rec, Moose Jaw Creek Watershed Association, Meecham Hills Forage Club, Wascana Qu'Appelle Weed Management Area (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p>NPSS has representatives on many advisory committees that cover invasive plant issues (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>PCAP, SAF, SE, and SWA reprinted "Invasive Plants of Native Rangeland" posters (contact Karyn Scalise)</p> <p><i>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).</i></p> <p>SAF Livestock Development Branch provided input on the review of Saskatchewan Highways Maintenance Policy and Standards Manual. Saskatchewan Highways staff agreed to add stronger wording emphasizing the importance of weed control (contact Dale Weisbrot).</p> <p>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 Riemer).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>SWA completed invasive species assessments along the Moose Jaw Creek (contact Tom Harrison).</p> <p>SWA provides information on invasive species through its 'Prairie Update' newsletter (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
	<p>b) Investigate and promote methods to manage and control invasive species.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 2</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, AARC-SPARC, DUC, EC-CWS, FNACS, NCC, NS, PC-GNP, RSM, SAF, SP, SE, SSDB, SSGA, SWA, SWF, Universities</p>	<p>Summer 2005</p> <p>Since 1991</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>Since 1990</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA used high resolution satellite imagery to investigate land cover classification to identify the aerial extent of leafy spurge at Elbow Community Pasture and at SEsDouglas Provincial Park. Data will be ground-truthed in summer 2006 (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>DUC has conducted various field trials on the effectiveness of chemical control and biological control (beetle release) of scentless chamomile and leafy spurge in the Kipling and the Mortlach areas (contact Michael Champion).</p> <p>DUC has been investigating noxious weed infestation on its properties and</p>

<p>Goal 3, Obj 3, Action b</p>		<p>Since 1996</p> <p>Since 1993</p> <p>Since 2006</p> <p>2005</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>2002-2006</p> <p>2006</p> <p>2005 Since 2002</p> <p>2004</p> <p>Since 2004</p> <p>2001-2003</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>2003</p> <p>Since 1997</p>	<p>treats the fields as required (contact Michael Champion).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>EC-CWS uses grazing, prescribed burning, and chemical herbicides to control 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).</p> <p>PC-GNP is involved in the following initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a Monitoring Program for invasive exotic plant species within the Park including a Weed Susceptibility Model. Planned implementation of field program in summer 2006 (contact Robert Sissons for copy of the report) • Developed a Priority Ranking System for invasive exotic plant species within the Park (contact Robert Sissons for a copy of the report). • 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. Planning reclamation of a 40 ha patch of crested wheatgrass using results from past research – combination herbicide and native seed treatments – in summer 2006 (contact Laura James). • Cooperating on a UofR graduate student research project on ‘Predicting Invasion of Crested Wheat Grass in Native Prairie’ (contact Malin Hansen – UofR for copy of thesis). <p>SAF is working with a sheep producer to study the effect sheep have on scentless chamomile (contact Trevor Lennox).</p> <p>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. In 2005 SAF reported that since 2002, spurge densities appear to be reduced by half. Beetle populations are also being monitored annually in the Manitou Sand Hills (contact Don Fontaine or Blake Kohls).</p> <p>SAF Lands Branch developed a Biosecurity Protocol to guide staff in following proper precautions when conducting field visits and inspections (contact Rick Ashton).</p> <p>SP leads a provincial committee that has developed and distributed new releases, posters, brochures, and sponsored presentations on preventing the spread of zebra mussel invasion into Saskatchewan waterways. SaskPower facilities continue to monitor for zebra mussels (contact Hélène Careau).</p> <p><i>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).</i></p> <p>SSDB implanted a small grazing project on acreages in the Merrill Hills area near Saskatoon to control spurge (contact Colleen Sawyer).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p>
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<p>Goal 3, Obj 3, Action c</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 2</p> <p>(SE, All)</p>	<p>July 2003</p> <p>Since 1998</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>2002-2004</p> <p>Since 1994</p> <p>2005-2012</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>May 2003</p> <p>January 2003</p> <p>Since 2001</p> <p>2005</p> <p>2004-2006</p> <p>Completed in 2004-2005</p> <p>2004</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>DUC promotes the use of native seed mixes for permanent cover on private land and prohibits the use of smooth brome and crested wheat grass in its programs (contact Michael Champion).</p> <p>EC, DFO and PC lead the Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk program stipulate that invasive agronomic/exotic or problematic weed species not be used in habitat enhancement projects and to not plant perennial cover on land broken from native prairie within the past 3 years (contact Diana Ghikas).</p> <p>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 Riemer – SE).</p> <p>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).</p> <p><i>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).</i></p> <p>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).</p> <p>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>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>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 Michelle Yaskowich – NS or Jennifer Lohmeyer – SWA).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SE is developing a Provincial Invasive Exotic Species Strategy to address the prevention and management of invasive species (contact Ann Riemer).</p> <p>SFC is evaluating annual and perennial forage cultivar evaluation and minor use registration work (contact Michel Tremblay).</p> <p>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).</p>
<p>4. Promote restoration and recovery of native prairie ecosystems.</p>	<p>a) Promote practical research to refine and increase use of restoration technology including the evaluation of the agricultural potential of</p>	<p>2006-2008</p>	<p>AAFC-SPARC in collaboration with NCC-Old Man on His Back (OMB) and with funding from NCC will examine soil carbon sequestration, and above ground biomass differences found within recently seeded land at OMB and SPARC. All seeding will be grazed during the study (contact Mike Schellenberg AAFC-SPARC or Cheri Sykes NCC).</p>

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<p>Goal 3, Obj 4, Action a</p>	<p>using native species in forage production and grazing systems.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 4 Partner Update # 6: 4</p> <p>(AAFC-SPARC, DUC, EC-CWS, PC-GNP, NPSS, SWA)</p>	<p>2001-2015</p> <p>2001 - 2005</p> <p>Since 2006</p> <p>Since 2006</p> <p>Since 2006</p> <p>2001-2005</p> <p>2005-2008</p> <p>2005-2007</p> <p>Since 2003</p> <p>Since 2001</p> <p>Since 1993</p> <p>2003-2005</p>	<p>AAFC-SPARC established long term plots to determine differences between native and introduced grass species, warm season and cool season grasses, and monocultures and mixtures. The differences to quantify are biomass production, soil carbon sequestration, adaptation to changing environment and soil microbial diversity (contact Mike Schellenberg).</p> <p>AAFC-SPARC compared two seed sources of the native shrub winterfat for forage quality, nutritional profiles and digestion characteristics. Funding was provided by ADF and AAFC (contact Mike Schellenberg).</p> <p>AAFC-SPARC initiated research to examine seed bank residence time of a variety of native species (contact Mike Schellenberg).</p> <p>AAFC-SPARC initiated research to examine appropriate native species mixes to provide adequate nutrition and forage in the projected arid climate of the Canadian prairies. Combinations include grasses, legumes and shrubs (contact Mike Schellenberg AAFC-SPARC).</p> <p>AAFC-SPARC reports that the Plant Gene Resource Centre at the Saskatoon Research Centre hired a scientist (75%) to work on developing a gene bank for Canada’s native plant species. At this time the individual is determining which species to work with (contact Mike Schellenberg AAFC-SPARC).</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. 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 or Mike Schellenberg).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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 - AAFC-SPARC or Trevor Lennox - SAF).</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>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>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> <p>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-</p>
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<p>Goal 3, Obj 4, Action a</p>		<p>1997-2012</p> <p>Since 2005</p> <p>Since 2005</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>PC-GNP has been using wild harvested native seed to revegetate 50-100ac of cultivated land/year (contact Laura James).</p> <p>SAF is working with the native plant industry to make native plants more readily available for livestock forage (contact Trevor Lennox)</p> <p>SWA, SAF and AAFC-SPARC secured CCA’s Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Program funding to demonstrate the seeding of native grass and alfalfa mixtures for long-term pastures. A few sites in southern SK were used for demonstration purposes (contact Ross Macdonald – SWA, Trevor Lennox - SAF, Alan Iwaasa, AAFC-SPARC).</p>
	<p>b) Encourage the development and use of native seed mixes in permanent cover, reclamation programs and projects.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(SAF, All)</p>	<p>2006 2003-2008</p> <p>Since 1992</p> <p>Since 2003</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2004-2005</p> <p>2003-2004</p> <p>Since 1995</p> <p>2003</p>	<p>AAFC-PRFA Greencover Canada Program has a native forages component. As of March 1st 2006 there were a total of 2,326 projects, of which 227,964 acres were tame grass seedings, a total of 9,365 acres of native grass seedings and a total of 91 acres of trees approved for conversion in SK; SAF is a partner in program delivery (contact Bill Houston or Michel Tremblay).</p> <p>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)</p> <p>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):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Native Seed Workshop, Swift Current, Saskatchewan (Re-establishing native species for forage source, Why seed do not always germinate) - Southwest Forage Association Annual meeting ((Re-establishing native species for forage source, Why seeds do not always germinate) -Re-establishment of native species in Western Canada for grazing and environmental benefits. 7-8 December, Brandon, MB, Grazing Conference. -Effect of increased biodiversity on grazing performance of different native pasture mixtures seeded in southwest Saskatchewan in 2001. SRM 59th Annual Meeting, 11- 18 February 2006 Vancouver, B.C. <p>- 7th Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conf. (The potential grazing and environmental benefits of re-establishing a mixed native grassland in southwest Saskatchewan)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prairie Forum 2005 (Re-evaluation of native plant species for seeding and grazing by livestock on the semiarid prairie of western Canada) - 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) - NPSS Annual General Meeting and Workshop (Reducing prairie fragmentation through the re-establishment of different native pasture mixtures on cultivated cropped land) <p>2003-2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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) - Native Grassland Restoration Workshop. Eastend SK (Re-establishment of native grassland species: within a livestock production system) - Workshop and Annual General Meeting of the Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan. (Interactions to consider when seeding a mix of species) <p>Since 1995</p> <p><i>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).</i></p> <p>2003</p> <p>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).</p>

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<p>Goal 3, Obj 4, Action b</p>		<p>Since 1994</p> <p>2005 –2006</p> <p>April 2005</p> <p>January 2004</p> <p>2003</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>Since 2005</p> <p>December 14, 2005</p> <p>2006-2007</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2005</p> <p>Since 1996</p> <p>Since 2005</p> <p>Since 2004</p>	<p>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 APF government programs, such as AAFCs Greencover Canada Program (contact – Ron Bennett).</p> <p>NPSS and SWA obtained funding from EcoAction for a restoration coordinator position to facilitate the restoration of native prairie within schoolyards and community native prairie garden projects. In 2005 24 educational presentations were delivered and 11 restoration projects were initiated (contact Garth Wruck - NPSS or Jennifer Lohmeyer - SWA)</p> <p>NPSS delivered a presentation to 500 people at Gardenscape in Saskatoon on the value of landscaping with native plants (contact Garth Wruck)</p> <p>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).</p> <p>NPSSs Native Plant News: Seed and Restoration Special Edition newsletter featured articles on the native seed and restoration industries (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p>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 Michelle Yaskowich).</p> <p>SAF is working with the native plant industry to make native plants more readily available for livestock forage (contact Trevor Lennox)</p> <p>SAF, AAFC-PFRA, AAFC-SPARC, DUC, NPSS, SWA and, with funding support from the Greencover Canada program, held a Native Seed workshop in Swift Current. Presentations covered topics such as planting native seed for forage, and producing and marketing native grass seed (contact Trevor Lennox - SAF and Mike Schellenberg – AAFC-SPARC).</p> <p>SAF has formed a committee that is working on a rewrite of the 1999 document entitled <i>Restoration of Saskatchewan’s Agricultural Crown Rangeland</i>. It 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 www.agr.gov.sk.ca (contact Todd Jorgenson).</p> <p>SE has been working with NPSS to develop standards for use of native plant seed in areas where SE has jurisdiction or land use control (e.g. through environmental assessments). A survey of native seed producers and seed testing laboratories has been conducted and reports finalized. Protocols have been developed to continue the work in 2006-2007 regarding seed testing standards and the development of Saskatchewan’s Ecologically Sensitive Seed Initiative (contact Greg Riemer – SE or Garth Wruck - NPSS).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SWA, SAF and AAFC-SPARC secured CCA’s Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Program funding to demonstrate the seeding of native grass and alfalfa mixtures for long-term pastures. A few sites in southern SK were used for demonstration purposes (contact Ross Macdonald – SWA, Trevor Lennox - SAF, Alan Iwaasa, AAFC-SPARC).</p> <p>SWA encourages the use of native grass species in their cropland conversion projects, wherever feasible (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
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Goal 3, Obj 4, Action b		<p>Since 1999</p> <p>2004-2008</p> <p>2005</p> <p>2005</p>	<p>SWA and NPSS' 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SP is funding nursery maintenance and production of plant materials (contact Garth Wruck or Shelley Heidinger) • EcoAction is funding a restoration coordinator position to facilitate restoration projects (contact Garth Wruck or Jennifer Lohmeyer) • SWA plans to make a guidebook for small prairie restorations available for download on the SWA website (contact Jennifer Lohmeyer).
	<p>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.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(EC-CWS, All)</p>	<p>Since 2002</p> <p>November 2003</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>Since 1990's</p> <p>2005</p> <p>2001-present</p> <p>2005 Since April 2004</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA obtained Interdepartmental Recovery Funds for SAR extension with AAFC-PFRA community pasture managers and livestock producer groups (contact Bill Bristol).</p> <p>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 . PCAP, through Eco-X distributed ~1650 copies in 2005-2006 and ~ 1350 copies in 2004-2005 (contact Genevieve Goggin – EC-CWS and Bill Bristol – AAFC-PFRA).</p> <p>EC-CWS manages an on-line SARA public registry with information on SARA http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/default_e.cfm (contact Ron Bennett).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>NS provides information on species at risk legislation through its 'Stewards of Saskatchewan' (Operation Burrowing Owl, Shrubs For Shrikes, and Rare Plant Rescue programs) and 'Piping Plover Post' (Piping Plover Guardian program) newsletters to landowners and other stakeholders, including support to landowners that is being provided as a result of SARA. 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 Tara Sample or Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>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 Riemer).</p> <p>SP participates on Piping Plover Recovery Team and will be involved in Lake Sturgeon recovery. Through it national industry association – the Canadian Electrical Association – SaskPower has been very active in discussing SARA implementation with EC and DFO (contact H�el�ene Careau).</p> <p>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 (contact Sharon Metz).</p> <p>NPSS, with funding from SE (FWDF) and HSP and in partnership with NS's Rare Plant rescue Program, SPARC, U of S and U of R, is developing and delivering rare plant identification and survey methodology workshops. Data collected by participants of these workshops will be provided to SKCDC, EC, and the W.P. Fraser Herbarium. In 2004, 30 rare plant survey submissions were provided by 72 workshop participants. In 2005, 45 participants attended the workshops, including students and staff of the vegetation conservation technology program at Lakeland College; 33 rare plant surveys were submitted by these participants (contact Garth Wruck).</p>
	d) Identify restoration and recovery targets of high	2005-2006 Since 2002	AAFC-PFRA accessed funding from the Interdepartmental Recovery Fund (IRF) to undertake the following 3 activities (contact Bill Bristol):

<p>Goal 3, Obj 4, Action d</p>	<p>conservation value, assess the feasibility of restoration and recovery of those targets, and develop restoration strategies for suitable target sites.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(EC-CWS, PC-GNP, NCC, RSM, SE)</p>	<p>Since 2002</p>	<p>i) stewardship activities to benefit Piping Plovers at Coteau and Excel Community pastures</p> <p>ii) repeat surveys and draft BMP's for 2 rare plant species (western spiderwort and hairy prairie clover) at 3 community pastures (Elbow, Dundurn, and Rudy-Rosedale), including sheep palatability trial for western spiderwort.; survey for buffalograss at Lomond #1 pasture.</p> <p>iii) research on grazing impacts on silver sagebrush and sage grouse populations</p> <p>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).</p>
		<p>2003</p> <p>2003-2007</p> <p>2006 2002-2006</p> <p>Since 2006 2003-2004</p> <p>2006 Since 1996</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>2003-2004</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>EC-CWS is working the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Washington); in Mexico with La Tierra Environmental Consulting and Facultad de Zootecnica- Universidad Autonoma de Chihuahua ; Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC), and the Nature Conservancy (USA and Mexico) to investigate the regional and long-range movements of ferruginous hawks in the North American grassland ecosystem; identify wintering and breeding areas of regional populations; evaluate hawk philopatry to wintering and breeding areas; and assess survival and mortality factors throughout the year. These data will aid in setting collective recovery and conservation goals for this species throughout North America. Mortality factors may also be identified and management practices established to mitigate the same. Interim reports are available for viewing on the website: ferruginoushawk.org . Together with CEC, EC-CWS and cooperators drafted a North American Action Plan (NACAP) for the ferruginous hawk. Needed research and BMPs are included for both the wintering and breeding range (contact Ursula Banasch).</p> <p>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 in the summer of 2006. This assessment is being expanded in 2005 to include the Mixed Grassland and Cypress Upland ecoregions (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).</p> <p>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. PC-GNP is implementing actions identified in the planning process. The initiative, originally called the Northern Mixed Grass Transboundary Planning Initiative, was renamed to Crossing the Medicine Line (contact Pat Fargey).</p> <p>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 & 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. In 2006 the last 300 cultivated acres will be seeded this to native ecovars and the first bison calves will be born this spring (contact Jordan Ignatiuk).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>PC-GNP, AAFC-PFRA, SE and NCC are mapping the abundance and</p>

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Goal 3, Obj 4, Action d		Since 2002	distribution of silver sage in southwest SK. A report is available (contact Pat Fargey). 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).
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GOAL IV: TO PROMOTE COMPLEMENTARY SUSTAINABLE USES OF NATIVE PRAIRIE

Progress Summary - submitted by Ann Reimer (SE)

GOAL GROUP 4 MEMBERS: Ann Riemer (SE), Garth Wruck (NPSS), Michael Schellenberg (AAFC-SPARC), Shelly Heidinger (SP)

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

Progress on this Objective is below target. 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. Much of the information getting out to the community, while informative about the environment, does not specifically support the 'business end' of community-based enterprises. 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 below target. A number of agencies are conducting research to examine the potential use of native species as beneficial and adaptable forage, wildlife and restoration species, but there is not yet a commitment to develop a dedicated native plant materials research centre.

The widely used *Restoration of Saskatchewan's Agricultural Crown Rangelands*, containing sector specific guidelines that ensure proponents use native species to re-vegetate next to native habitats, is under revision. Although seed certificates are often requested for commercial work and funded planting initiatives, there is no mandatory testing or seed standards that are appropriate for native species. Partners continue to develop a provincial native seed standard for seed used on ecologically sensitive lands.

A well attended 'Native Seed' workshop was held in Swift Current in December, 2005 to stimulate the native seed industry in south-west Saskatchewan. Presentations involved topics from growing/marketing native seed, to using native species for forage. However, there is still a need to promote local seed sources and assist producers in marketing their native seeds. Better marketing tools, such as a real-time producer accessed web site for seed supplies and testing facilities may improve market access. Progress is underway to develop such a site.

Additional work is needed to promote the use of native species in horticulture and landscaping. These industries could provide producers with a high end market for some locally produced seeds.

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

There was no progress on this Objective in 2005-2006. As for 2004-2005, participating agencies do not feel they are able to develop the incentives necessary for encouraging the use of prairie resources for bio-based products. Agencies better positioned to achieve this have not yet partnered with PCAP.

Guidelines and licensing for the harvest of non-game prairie species that would facilitate the monitoring of sustainable use are still required, but not yet completed.

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

Progress on this Objective is below target with respect to organizations reporting on the economic value of the variety of prairie uses, but is on target in some areas of research. In particular, there has been an increase in the amount of research to evaluate the potential of native forage to sequester carbon. A study was also undertaken to assess whether the level of “environmental awareness” of consumers affected their willingness to pay a premium for environmentally friendly food.

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

Objective	Actions (RANKING) (LEAD AND SUPPORTING PARTNERS as in 2003- 2008 PCAP)	Timetable	Partner Update and contact information
<p>1. Promote community-based business opportunities associated with native prairie.</p>	<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>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 2</p> <p>(FNACS, NS, PC-GNP, SAF, SE, SSGA, SWA)</p>	<p>Since 2003</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>2005 Since 1949</p> <p>2005 2000-2004</p> <p>2005 Since 2004</p> <p>January 9, 2003</p> <p>2003-2004</p> <p>2005 –2006 Since 1996</p> <p>1998</p> <p>2005-2007</p>	<p>DUC has been working with interested partners on the reclamation of uplands on a portion of Wascana Creek (contact Michael Champion).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>NS’s Spring and Fall meets have provided community organizations with information and opportunities for nature recreational activities. In 2005, NS’s Spring Meet was held in Eastend, and the Fall Meet in Regina (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>NS’ Bird Quest and Plant Quest programs provided community workshops to enhance people’s skills and recreational enjoyment of nature. In 2005 this was replaced by Nature Quest, in which naturalists deliver natural history presentations in schools and communities. NS plans to develop a presentation on the prairie grasslands (contact Paul Wilson).</p> <p>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. 42 individuals participate in PlantWatch in SK (contact Tara Sample).</p> <p>SAF organized an Agritourism Workshop in Assiniboia in which PCAP, SE, and SRM delivered presentations (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>SRC is assisting the Cowessess First Nation with technical information on developing an ecotourism operation on their lands (contact Bob Godwin).</p> <p>SBOIC reported a total of 4,671 visitors to the Centre for a total of 24,436 visitations since 1996 (contact Claire Sanders).</p> <p>SWA is a founding member in the development of the SK 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> <p>U of S Geography is studying "Park-Neighbour Relations" toward recommendations for the collaborative management and biodiversity conservation in protected areas within “working landscapes,” involving Grasslands, Prince Albert and Riding Mountain National Parks (contact Diane Martz or Maureen Reed).</p>
	<p>b) Liaise with rural revitalization groups to develop guidelines to ensure sustainable use of native prairies.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 1</p>	<p>1999-2002</p> <p>2003-2004</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>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).</p>

Goal 4, Obj 1, Action b	(FNACS, NPSS, NS, PC-GNP, SAF, SE, SSGA, SWA, SWF)		
2. Encourage the development of a native plant production industry.	<p>a) Develop a native plant materials centre for research and development.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 2</p> <p>(AAFC-SPARC, DUC, EC-CWS, NPSS, PC-GNP, SE)</p>	<p>Since 1994</p> <p>Since 2005</p> <p>Since 2004</p> <p>Since 2003</p>	<p>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, sideoats grama and prairie sandreed (contact Grant McLeod, Mike Schellenberg, or Alan Iwaasa).</p> <p>AAFC-SPARC research initiated to examine nutritional optimization of more diverse mixes of native species, and seed ecology of native species (contact Mike Schellenberg).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p>
	<p>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.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(AAFC-SPARC, DUC, EC-CWS, FNACS, NPSS, SE, SWA)</p>	<p>January 2004</p> <p>July 2003</p> <p>Since 1994</p> <p>Since 1995</p> <p>August 2004 August 2003</p> <p>Since 1999</p> <p>2003</p> <p>2006-2007</p> <p>2004</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>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. Applicants for the native component must also take the time to visit with a SAF or AAFC-PFRA approved native forage specialist (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p> <p>AAFC-SPARC develops and evaluates recommendations for the use of different native grasses, forbs and shrubs for revegetation for agricultural benefit (contact Grant McLeod, Mike Schellenberg, or Alan Iwaasa).</p> <p>EC-CWS develops and refines guidelines on the use of native plant material and seed mixtures for restoration or revegetation projects (contact Ron Bennett).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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)</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SAF has formed a committee that is working on a rewrite of the 1999 document entitled <i>Restoration of Saskatchewan’s Agricultural Crown Rangeland</i>. It 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 available on the SAF website at www.agr.gov.sk.ca (contact Todd Jorgenson).</p> <p>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).</p>

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Goal 4, Obj 2, Action b		2005	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).
	<p>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.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 2</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, AAFC-SPARC, DUC, NPSS, SAF, SE, SP, SSGA, SWA)</p>	<p>Since 1994</p> <p>Since June 2005</p> <p>January 2004</p> <p>March 2005</p> <p>March 2005-June 2005</p> <p>Since 1970's</p> <p>2005</p>	<p>AAFC-SPARC is conducting ongoing research on the evaluation and testing of a number of native ecovars® (contact Grant McLeod or Mike Schellenberg).</p> <p>NPSS is represented on the Native Seed Quality Task Force (an initiative of national seed analysts associations, seed producers and users in the United States and Canada). The task force is working to develop testing protocols for seed analysis of native plant species. The idea is to standardize methods within and among labs (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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)</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p>
	<p>d) Promote the development of local native seed growers, processors, suppliers and testing facilities.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 2</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, AAFC-SPARC, DUC, <i>FNACS</i>, NPSS, SAF, SE, UofS – C.Ag)</p>	<p>July 2003</p> <p>Since 1994</p> <p>December 14, 2005</p> <p>2003</p> <p>Since 1999</p> <p>Summer 2005</p> <p>2005</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>AAFC-SPARC conducts research on evaluating and developing processes to aid native seed growers and seed suppliers (contact Grant McLeod and Mike Schellenberg).</p> <p>NPSS delivered a presentation to the native seed industry and potentially interested producers at a workshop in Swift Current delivered by SAF, SWA and DUC with funding from Greencover TAC. The presentation dealt with understanding the native seed market (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>NPSS continues to provide the native plant materials suppliers and producers listing service on their website (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p>SAF reports that the Weed Seeds Order of the Canada Seed Act was amended to remove 15 native species from the noxious weeds prohibited list (contact Michel Tremblay).</p> <p>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)</p>

<p>Goal 4, Obj 2, Action d</p>		<p>Since 1991</p> <p>2003-present</p>	<p>SP uses and recommends local native seed source whenever possible in remediation activities along its transmission and distribution line construction projects (contact Shelley Heidinger).</p> <p>SWA recommends and purchases seed from local growers for restoration projects whenever possible (Jennifer Lohmeyer).</p>
<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>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: POOR Partner Update # 5: 1 Partner Update # 6: 1</p> <p>(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>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 1</p> <p>(AAFC-PFRA, EC-CWS, NPSS, SE, SAF, SSGA)</p>	<p>Since 1998</p> <p>Since 1994</p> <p>2004</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA has a policy for harvesting native seed on Community Pastures; policy incorporates SKCDC rare plant status (contact Chris Nykoluk).</p> <p>EC-CWS has developed, and continually improves upon, guidelines for the wild-harvesting of native plant material (contact Ron Bennett).</p> <p>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 Riemer).</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>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(UofR-CPRC, AAFC-SPARC, All)</p>	<p>2006</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>2006-2008</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA, AAFC- Brandon Research Station, with funding from AAFC-MII and SP, conducted research to examine relationships between range condition and greenhouse gas carbon sequestration at 2 AAFC-PFRA Community Pastures. Field work was conducted in 2000 and 2001, with lab work continuing on in 2002. A large amount of data was analyzed and currently 3 peer reviewed research papers are being prepared to be submitted to scientific journals. The research indicates that movement of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide are related to biomass, soil moisture, temperature, and landscape location, among others. (contact Brant Kirychuk).</p> <p>AAFC-SPARC in collaboration with NCC-Old Man on His Back (OMB) and with funding from NCC will examine soil carbon sequestration, and above ground biomass differences found within recently seeded land at OMB and SPARC. All seedings will be grazed during the study (contact Mike Schellenberg AAFC-SPARC or Cheri Sykes NCC).</p>

<p>Goal 4, Obj 4, Action a</p>		<p>2001- 2015</p> <p>2005</p> <p>Since 2001</p> <p>2005</p> <p>2004-2006</p>	<p>AAFC-SPARC established long term plots to determine differences between native and introduced grass species, warm season and cool season grasses, and monocultures and mixtures. The differences to quantify are biomass production, soil carbon sequestration, adaptation to changing environment and soil microbial diversity (contact Mike Schellenberg AAFC-SPARC).</p> <p>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).</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 7th PCAES Conference (contact Alan Iwaasa or Mike Schellenberg).</p> <p>SSGA, through its Beef Industry Committee, analyzed methods of trading carbon credits and makes recommendations based on the analysis (contact Tim Highmoor).</p> <p>U of S with funding support from AAFC-CARDS developed a questionnaire to compare the willingness by environmental group members compared to randomly drawn Saskatoon residents to accept a price premium on food grown, processed and distributed in an environmentally-supportive manner (contact Ken Belcher or Joe Schmutz).</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>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 2</p> <p>(All)</p>	<p>Since 2004</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>June 2002</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>2005</p>	<p>AAFC-PFRA, in conjunction with provinces and stakeholders, developed a draft EGS policy framework, policy principles, criteria for pilot research initiatives and work plans. AAFC-PFRA worked through the National Agri-Environmental Coordinating Committee (Environment Chapter of the APF) to advance broader communication and develop a sound basis for EGS policy. Analytical research on EG&S policy drivers, policy tools and international experience was completed. AAFC-PFRA will engage industry groups and other stakeholders to address key information gaps through pilot research initiatives (contact Dean Smith). Initiatives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAFC-PFRA staff are involved in the development of pilot research initiatives in MB, PEI and ON. The MB EGS pilot (RM of Blanshard) is expected to go ahead in spring 2006 (contact Chris Nykoluk). • AAFC-PFRA, DUC, EC and MB Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives held a National Symposium on Ecological Goods and Services in Agriculture: approximately 200 representatives from 90 industry, environment and government organizations attended to share their perspectives and experience. Symposium results will inform policy development (contact Chris Nykoluk). <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).</p> <p>DUC is conducting research that explores the potential of prairie wetlands and agricultural lands to act as carbon sinks and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Government of Canada is investing \$2.7 million in the research (contact Chuck Deschamps).</p> <p>DUC produced numerous articles on Natural Capital in its <u>Conservator Magazine</u> and produced a series of Ecological Goods and Services publications: “Value of Natural Capital” by Nancy Olewiler, Canada’s lead Environmental Economist urging government to put a price tag on</p>

<p>Goal 4, Obj 4, Action b</p>		<p>Since 2003</p> <p>2005</p> <p>2003</p> <p>2005</p>	<p>EGS; “Natural Values” – the Importance of Wetlands and Upland Conservation Practices in Watershed; five EGS Fact Sheets: Ecological Goods and Services, Freshwater, Soil, Atmosphere, Biodiversity (Contact Cynthia Edwards, DUC).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SE, using a formula from Tourism SK, estimated the value of wildlife hunting in the Prairie Ecozone for 2005 at \$7,194,000. This number does not include the value of angling in the Prairie Ecozone (contact Brenda Kelly).</p> <p>SWA published the book ‘Stewardship and Economics of Cattle Wintering Sites’ and fact sheet ‘Economics of Riparian Grazing Management (contact Etienne Soulodre).</p> <p>UofS Department of Animal and Poultry Science is recruiting a specialist in Environmentally Sustainable Beef Production for teaching and research (contact Joe Schmutz).</p>
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**GOAL V: TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF NATIVE PRAIRIE
AND ITS VALUES**

Progress Summary - submitted by Lauren Burton (PCAP)

**GOAL GROUP V MEMBERS: Rick West (DFO), Michelle Yaskowich (NS)
Claire Sanders (SBOIC), Karyn Scalise (PCAP), Lauren Burton (PCAP)**

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

Good progress was made on this Objective. The PCAP website is being updated more often than in the past; however several PCAP Partner websites do not appear to be linked back to the PCAP website. These Partners were notified and asked to link back to our website. Excellent progress was made on recruiting new PCAP partners as two new partners joined PCAP this year; the First Nations Agricultural Council of Saskatchewan (FNACS) and the Prairie Learning Centre (PLC). It was suggested that PCAP could submit press releases to weekly newspapers within our stewardship education program target areas. Partners are also reminded that PCAP submits articles to SSGA's *Stockgrower* magazine and that these articles can easily be modified for inclusion in other Partner newsletters.

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

Some progress was made on this Objective. The UofR-CPRC has received funding for conducting a survey in Southern Saskatchewan and Alberta that will contribute to this Objective.

Objective 3: Coordinate PCAP communication and education activities with other native prairie conservation initiatives at local, national and international levels.

Good progress was made on this Objective. PCAP is actively involved with planning the 8th Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference (PCESC) that will be held March 1-3, 2007. Participation at international events, including presentations at the SRM conference in 2005 and 2006, illustrates that the Saskatchewan PCAP is regarded as an effective model for grasslands conservation.

Objective 4: Educate the general public about native prairie ecosystems

Excellent progress was made on this Objective. This is attributed to the outstanding 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.

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. No new activities were reported, however ongoing promotion occurs in various Partner newsletters and publications. It is thought that activities related to this Objective are largely under-reported as most Partners recognize ranchers and other prairie stewards in their ongoing work.

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

Objective	Actions (RANKING)	Timetable	LEAD AND SUPPORTING AGENCIES, Continuing Activities & Update
1. Promote awareness of the PCAP Vision, Goals, Objectives and Actions.	<p>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.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(All)</p>	<p>Since June 2003</p> <p>December 2005</p>	<p>Many examples of co-ordination and communication among PCAP Partners can be found in: Goal 1, Objective 1 (Promote grazing programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles) and Goal 3, Objective 2 (Promote management of native prairie to maintain biological diversity) for related activities.</p> <p>Our December meeting featured 4 presentations relating to Goal 3, and one presentation each that related to Goals 2 and 5.</p>
	<p>b) Maintain and regularly update the PCAP website.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(PCAP Office, All)</p>	<p>Since 1998</p>	<p>PCAP maintains and updates its website. Partners are encouraged to submit events for posting (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>
	<p>c) Link PCAP Partners to (and from) PCAP website.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(PCAP Office, All)</p>	<p>Since 1998</p> <p>March 2006</p>	<p>PCAP Partners and other relevant groups are linked to the PCAP website. Several Partners do not appear to be providing a link to the PCAP website on their websites – this has been brought to their attention (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>PCESC website is linked to the PCAP Website – www.pcesc.ca</p>
	<p>d) Recruit new PCAP Partners.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 4</p> <p>(PCAP Office, All)</p>	<p>March 2006</p>	<p>FNACS and PLC join the PCAP Partnership for a total of 27 Partners since 2003, and 16 (original) Partners since 1998 (contact Karyn Scalise – PCAP, Jessica Clay – FNACS, or Karin Smith-Fargey - PLC).</p>
	<p>e) Promote the PCAP through the media.</p>	<p>October 17, 2005</p> <p>June 2003</p>	<p>PCAP issued a press release on the launch of a partnership, modelled after the SK PCAP, in Chihuahua City Mexico aimed at protecting grasslands in Chihuahua state (contact Dr. David Gauthier or Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>PCAP issued a press release on the launch of the 2003-2008 PCAP (contact</p>

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<p>Goal 5, Obj 1, Action e</p>	<p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3 (PCAP Office, All)</p>	<p>March 2003 Annually -June</p>	<p>Karyn Scalise). PCAP issued a press release on receiving the Countryside Canada Award (contact Karyn Scalise). PCAP issues a press release on Native Prairie Appreciation Week (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>
	<p>f) Compile and distribute annual Partner Updates. Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3 (PCAP Office, All)</p>	<p>June 2006 June 2005 Nov 2003</p>	<p>PCAP Office compiled and distributed Partner Update #6, herein (contact Karyn Scalise). PCAP Office compiled and distributed Partner Update #5, herein (contact Karyn Scalise). PCAP Office compiled and distributed Partner Update #4 (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>
	<p>g) Promote the PCAP at trade-shows, conferences, etc. Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 2 (PCAP Office, All)</p>	<p>Since 1998 January 25-26, 2006 December 7-9, 2006 January 21, 2005 May 30-31, 2005 May 30 - June 1, 2004 May 2004 February 2004 February 2004 February 2004 January 2004 December 2003 June 1-3, 2003 May 2003</p>	<p>PCAP participated in the following: CWRA/SNOWS conference in Regina to ~ 200 delegates. Presentation on stewardship education programs and display with materials (contact Karyn Scalise or Rick West). Western Canadian Forage and Grazing Conference – Saskatoon (~150 delegates): PCAP display and materials provided (contact Karyn Scalise). SSGA Semi-Annual Meeting- Saskatoon (~ 60 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise). 92nd Annual SSGA Convention – Swift Current (~200 delegates): PCAP display and materials 91st Annual SSGA Convention – Assiniboia (~200 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise). SK Network of Watershed Stewards (SNOWS) Conference – Saskatoon (200 delegates): PCAP display and materials provided (contact Karyn Scalise). NPSS AGM and Workshop – Swift Current (77 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise or Garth Wruck). Expert Committee on Forage Crops - Saskatoon (~35 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Tom Harrison). SSGA Meeting Zones 3 & 12 – Minton (~ 80 delegates): Presentation on the PCAP (contact Karyn Scalise). SSGA Meeting Zone 1 – Alameda (~ 80 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise). Western Canadian Forage and Grazing Conference – Saskatoon (~230 delegates): PCAP display and materials provided (contact Karyn Scalise). 90th Annual SSGA Convention - Yorkton; SSGA – June 1-3 (~200 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise). Plain as the Eye Can See - Regina; UofR, RSM, SE (100 delegates): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>
	<p>h) Encourage Partners to regularly update staff and members.</p>	<p>Since 1998 Since 1999</p>	<p>PCAP encourages Partners to update their staff and members and to involve them in reporting activities to Partner Updates (contact Karyn Scalise). AAFC-PFRA sends a copy of the Plan and the Updates to each Community</p>

PCAP Partner Update # 6

<p>Goal 5, Obj 1, Action h</p>	<p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 2 (All)</p>	<p>January 11, 2006 September 11, 2003 December 2003 Since 1998 Since 2004 Spring 2005 2004 Since 1998</p>	<p>Pasture Manager, all Land Managers and other District Staff. Regular presentations are made at staff meetings (contact Chris Nykoluk). DUC Office (Regina): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise or Michael Champion). DUC Office (Regina): PCAP presentation delivered (contact Karyn Scalise). NPSS included PCAP update article to its members in winter issue of the Native Plant News - 250 distributed (contact Garth Wruck). 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). SE regularly distributes minutes of the PCAP meetings to senior managers (contact Ann Riemer). 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 Riemer). 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).</p>
	<p>i) Provide newsletter articles to PCAP Partners and post them on websites. Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 2 (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; SRM newsletters. In 2003 PCAP articles also appeared in the International NCC and SRM newsletters. PCAP articles published every 2 months in the Stockgrower newsletter and can be modified for inclusion in other Partner newsletters (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>
<p>2. Evaluate public awareness, appreciation and understanding of native prairies.</p>	<p>a) Conduct and report on a questionnaire survey assessing public awareness, understanding, and appreciation of native prairie. Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 2 Partner Update # 6: 1 (UofR-CPRC)</p>	<p>2000 2004-2005 2004-2005 2005-2006</p>	<p>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). 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). 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). UofR-CPRC has received some funding for conducting the survey identified in this Action in Southern SK and AB in 2005-2006 (contact Dr. David Gauthier).</p>
<p>3. Coordinate PCAP communication and education activities with other native prairie conservation initiatives at local, national and international levels.</p>	<p>a) Contribute to the development of the CEC North American Grassland Conservation Strategy. Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3</p>	<p>2003 April 18-22, 2005</p>	<p>UofR-CPRC and the CEC published 'Grasslands: Toward a North American Conservation Strategy' (contact Dr. David Gauthier). UofR-CPRC made a presentation on the usefulness of an ecoregional framework in continental conservation area planning to the 1st North American Workshop on Capacity Building for Biodiversity Conservation: monitoring of species, spaces & common threats in Jalisco Mexico (contact</p>

PCAP Partner Update # 6

Goal 5, Obj 3, Action a	Partner Update # 6: 3 (UofR-CPRC, All)		Dr. David Gauthier).
	b) Exchange information on a regular basis with other prairie conservation groups. Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3 (All)	Since June 2003 March 1-3, 2007 February 12-17, 2006 February 6-10, 2005 May 20, 2004 February 26-29, 2004 February 26, 2004 October 21-23, 2003 September 17, 2003 May 31, 2003 March 7-8, 2005 2005 Fall 2004 2003 2003 2003	PCAP delivered presentations and/or attended the following meetings (contact Karyn Scalise): PCAP is planning the 8th Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference (PCEC) at the Delta Regina. Co-Chairs are Dr. David Gauthier (UofR) and Allen Patkau (SSGA) (contact Karyn Scalise). PCAP delivered a presentation on the PCAP Partnership at the Coordinated Resource Management Workshop held with the 59th Annual Meeting of the SRM in Vancouver, BC. PCAP also had a poster on its stewardship education programs at the SRM conference (contact Karyn Scalise or Orin Balas). PCAP delivered a presentation on the PCAP Partnership at the Coordinated Resource Management Workshop held with the 58 th Annual Meeting of the SRM in Fort Worth, TX, and was featured as a success story (contact Karyn Scalise or Allen Patkau). 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). Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference (PCAES) – Calgary AB (~400 delegates). PCAP presentation and poster on Stewardship Education Programs (contact Karyn Scalise). Northern Plains Conservation Network meeting – Calgary. ~ 40 delegates (contact Allen Patkau) Northern Mixed Grass Multi-Site Conservation Planning Initiative (Series One – Grasslands/Badlands) Efromson Fellowship Program 2003 – Workshop 3 – Fort Benton MT; Hosted by NCC and TNC. ~35 U.S. & Canadian delegates (contact Karyn Scalise). International Grasslands Symposium – Fort Collins, CO. ~100 U.S., Mex. & Can, delegates (contact Karyn Scalise). Sierra Club – Val Marie; hosted by PC-GNP. ~ 50 Can. & U.S. delegates (contact Karyn Scalise). UofR-CPRC delivered a presentation on participatory stakeholder participation to the national workshop on Assessing Biodiversity on Agricultural Lands in Tononto, ON. UofR-CPRC published “Managing Changing Prairie Landscapes”, a book edited by T. Radenbaugh and G. Sutter (contact Dr. David Gauthier). UofR-CPRC published “Cultural Crisis in (Agri)Culture”, a special issue of the scholarly journal, Prairie Forum (contact Dr. David Gauthier). UofR-CPRC published ‘The Swift Fox: Ecology and Conservation of Swift Foxes in a Changing World’ (contact Dr. David Gauthier). 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). 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 2005 – March 2006 Since 1999-	DUC’s wetland education program, with sponsorship from SaskPower, has reached 7,662 children and 841 adults at 137 different schools through 720 field trips or class presentations for a total of over 46,000 students since

<p>Goal 5, Obj 4, Action a</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 4 Partner Update # 6: 4 (AAFC-PFRA, PCAP, EC-CWS, <i>FNACS</i>, NPSS, NS, PC-GNP, <i>PLC</i>, RSM, SBOIC, SRM, SWA, SWF)</p>		2000	1999-2000 (contact Barbara Hanbidge DUC or Shelley Heidinger, SP).																																								
		2005	<p>DUC's Canada Conservation Project was visited by The Duke of Edinburgh in Regina as part of Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations. While in Regina, his Royal Highness dedicated DUC's McKell Wascana project by unveiling a project plaque, and planted native grass seeds with a student from a Grade 4 class at W.S. Hawrylak School as part of future revegetation and naturalization work at the project. Once completed, the McKell Wascana project will include a floating dock, a central plaza and over four kilometres of interpretive trails. The project will become an 'outdoor classroom' where students can come to learn through DUC's curriculum-based education program, which aims to teach youth about the importance of wetland habitats (Contact Lee Moats, DUC).</p>																																								
		2005	<p>DUC's education program received recognition at the national level through an Award of Excellence in Environmental Education from EECOM, the Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication (Contact Barb Hanbidge, DUC).</p>																																								
		2005 Since 2004	<p>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. In 2005, 22 schools were presented with information on the PlantWatch program in conjunction with school visits coordinated by the NPSS and SWA's Native Prairie Restoration Program (contact Tara Sample).</p>																																								
		November 2005 (Since November 1998)	<p>PCAP, SBOIC and SWA delivered the Cows, Fish, Cattle Dogs and Kids Game Show during Saskatoon Fall Fair and Regina Agribition to ~ 1,425 students, primarily in Grades 4-6, for a total of 11,275 students since 1998. Volunteer assistance provided by AAFC-PFRA, NS, and SSGA. Funding support provided by DFO - SIA Program (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>																																								
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Agri-Ed: Fall Fair + Agribition (# students)</th> <th>Owls & Cows Tour # schools (# students)</th> <th>Eco-X # schools (# students)</th> <th>Total (# Students)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>05-06</td> <td>1,425</td> <td>53 (3,550)</td> <td>29 (1,610)</td> <td>6,600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>04-05</td> <td>1,350</td> <td>0</td> <td>21 (1,310)</td> <td>2,650</td> </tr> <tr> <td>03-04</td> <td>1,100</td> <td>70 (6,500)</td> <td>10 (1,425)</td> <td>9,025</td> </tr> <tr> <td>02-03</td> <td>1,200</td> <td>160 (7,300)</td> <td>16 (1,075)</td> <td>9,575</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL:</td> <td>5,075</td> <td>283 (17,350)</td> <td>76 (5,420)</td> <td>27,900</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL: 98-03</td> <td>6,200 incl. some non- Agri- Ed events</td> <td>65 (4,300)</td> <td>39 (3,100)</td> <td>13,600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>11,275</td> <td>348 (21,650)</td> <td>115 (8,520)</td> <td>41,500</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Agri-Ed: Fall Fair + Agribition (# students)	Owls & Cows Tour # schools (# students)	Eco-X # schools (# students)	Total (# Students)	05-06	1,425	53 (3,550)	29 (1,610)	6,600	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	TOTAL:	5,075	283 (17,350)	76 (5,420)	27,900	TOTAL: 98-03	6,200 incl. some non- Agri- Ed events	65 (4,300)	39 (3,100)	13,600	TOTAL	11,275	348 (21,650)	115 (8,520)	41,500
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		February- March, 2006	<p>PCAP, SBOIC, and SWA delivered the Owls & Cows Tour to 53 schools (3,550 grade 3-6 students) for a total of 348 schools (21,650) since spring 2001. We are returning to schools in previous target areas to reach new cohorts of students. Information on the Loggerhead Shrike and Swift Fox was also included. See map(s) for target areas. Funding support provided by EC-HSP and DFO - Stewardship in Action Initiative. Teacher evaluations are available (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>																																								
		November 28 – December 2, 2005	<p>PCAP, AAFC-PFRA, DUC, NS, SBOIC and SWA delivered the Eco-X to 9 schools (560 grade K-6 students) in the Kindersley-Manitou Sandhills area (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>																																								
		December 2004	<p>PCAP, DUC, NS, SBOIC and SWA delivered the Eco-X to 5 (435 grade K-6 students) in the Manitou Sandhills area (contact Karyn Scalise).</p>																																								
		January- February 2006 (Since February 2000)	<p>PCAP, DUC, NS, PC-GNP, SBOIC and SWA delivered the Eco-X to 20 schools (1,050 K – 6 students) for a total of 115 schools (7,950 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.</p>																																								
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<p>Goal 5, Obj 4, Action a</p>		<p>Teacher evaluations are available and the table below illustrates annual progress (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="870 264 1507 642"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year (s)</th> <th>Target Area</th> <th># Schools (Students)</th> <th>Year of Revisit(s)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Feb. 2000 Feb. 2005</td> <td>Grasslands Park Area</td> <td>10 (800) 16 (875)</td> <td>2010</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feb. 2001 Jan. 2006</td> <td>S. Missouri Coteau</td> <td>14 (1,200) 20 (1,050)</td> <td>Feb 2006 2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feb. 2002 2007</td> <td>N. Missouri Coteau</td> <td>15 (1,100)</td> <td>Feb. 2007</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feb. 2003 2008</td> <td>Frenchman/Great Sandhills</td> <td>16 (1075)</td> <td>Feb. 2008</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feb. 2004 2009</td> <td>Swift Current</td> <td>10 (1,425)</td> <td>Feb 2009</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec. 2004 Dec 2005</td> <td>Manitou Sandhills</td> <td>5 (435) 9 (565)</td> <td>TBA TBA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Totals</td> <td></td> <td>86 (6,910)</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>July 5-9, 2004</p> <p>June – October 2004</p> <p>May 2002 – Oct 2004</p> <p>2003 - 2004</p> <p>Since 2002</p> <p>2001 - 2003</p> <p>Since March 30, 2006</p> <p>2006</p> <p>January 2006</p> <p>Since 2001</p>	Year (s)	Target Area	# Schools (Students)	Year of Revisit(s)	Feb. 2000 Feb. 2005	Grasslands Park Area	10 (800) 16 (875)	2010	Feb. 2001 Jan. 2006	S. Missouri Coteau	14 (1,200) 20 (1,050)	Feb 2006 2011	Feb. 2002 2007	N. Missouri Coteau	15 (1,100)	Feb. 2007	Feb. 2003 2008	Frenchman/Great Sandhills	16 (1075)	Feb. 2008	Feb. 2004 2009	Swift Current	10 (1,425)	Feb 2009	Dec. 2004 Dec 2005	Manitou Sandhills	5 (435) 9 (565)	TBA TBA	Totals		86 (6,910)		<p>PCAP, SWA, DUC, SSGA, AAFC-PFRA, Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC), 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 pending (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>NS's Nature Quest (formerly Bird Quest and Plant Quest), and Lake Diefenbaker Piping Plover Guardian Program deliver programs to youth (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>NS's Living by Water Project delivered a youth program at SK Landing, Buffalo Pound and Echo Valley Provincial Parks (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>PLC joined the PCAP Partnership. PLC's mandate is to provide unique multi-disciplinary educational opportunities for youth through results-based, experiential program focused on exploring and learning about the native northern mixed grass prairie. During winter of 2006, PLC organized high school student workshops that will be delivered in May and September 2006. PLC is working with SK Learning consultants to develop strong curriculum connections. SK Learning will be supporting the PLC through a province-wide mailout of PLC program brochure in April 2006. PLC is continuing to develop relationships with conservation educators who are currently doing great work by involving these educators in the PLC workshop program. The PLC represents the first formal partnership in Canada with a school division and a National Park of Canada (contact Karin Smith-Fargey).</p> <p>PLC has been chosen by the Royal Canadian Geographic Society and the Canadian Geographic Education Council to host the 2006 summer Teachers' Institute. This Institute will be focusing on elementary and middle year teachers (contact Karin Smith-Fargey).</p> <p>RSM initiated a fourth-year undergraduate course on sustainable development through UofR Geography, including a unit on sustainable agriculture (contact Dr. Glenn Sutter).</p> <p>RSM provides educational material about prairie ecosystems to the general</p>
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PCAP Partner Update # 6

<p>Goal 5, Obj 4, Action a</p>		<p>2004 - 2006</p> <p>September – October 2004</p> <p>Since February 2004 (Annually)</p> <p>September 2003</p> <p>April 2005 – March 2006 Since 1996</p> <p>Since 1993</p> <p>February 2006</p> <p>April 2005</p> <p>November 2005</p> <p>January-December 2005</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>July 2005 Since September 2003</p> <p>May 2005</p>	<p>public (annual attendance ~120,000) and school groups (~20,000 students per year) through its Life Sciences Gallery and associated programming (contact Glenn Sutter).</p> <p>RSM, UofS and UofA fostered school-based invertebrate monitoring programs through the Frenchman River Biodiversity Project (contact Glenn Sutter).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>RSM has organized an annual Youth Forum on Sustainability for urban and rural high schools in and around Regina. Students and community groups have engaged in several naturalizations using native prairie vegetation through this program (contact Glenn Sutter).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SBOIC delivered the Owls On Tour Program to 5,938 individuals and reported 4,671 in-house visits. Since 1996 over 53,000 contacts were made through SBOIC Programs (a total of 29,013 Owls On Tour contacts and 24,436 visitations to the Centre) (contact Claire Sanders).</p> <p>SP and SP 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).</p> <p>SRM sponsored a Grade 12 student to attend the SRM annual meeting in Vancouver and participate in the High School Youth Forum (contact Michel Tremblay).</p> <p>SWA attended and distributed material at the Enviroforum for Elementary and High School students in Swift Current (contact Bob Springer).</p> <p>SWA and SaskEnergy delivered ProjectWET EarthSongs mini-concerts to 855 pre-kindergarten to grade 8 students and 213 teachers and adult supervisors at Agri-Ed during Agribition. Since 2004 3592 youth and 619 adults have participated in ProjectWET and EarthSongs at Agri-Ed (contact Lizabeth Nicholls).</p> <p>SWA delivered ProjectWild workshops to 510 educators and interpreters and ProjectWET workshops to 467 educators and interpreters. SWA launched the ProjectWILD Below Zero supplement and delivered Below Zero workshops to 207 educators and interpreters. Since SWA took over the programs with its inception in October 2002, a total of 869 educators and interpreters have taken ProjectWILD workshops and 774 educators and interpreters have taken ProjectWET workshops (contact Lizabeth Nicholls - SWA).</p> <p>SWA increased ProjectWET and ProjectWILD delivery to education students in all 8 SK teacher education programs, including all 6 teacher education programs: NORTEP La Ronge, SUNTEP Prince Albert, Saskatoon and Regina, ITEP Big River and Saskatoon, FNUC Regina and the college of Education at the U of S and Faculty of Education at the U of R (contact Lizabeth Nicholls - SWA).</p> <p>SWA, Canadian Water Resources Association – SK Branch (CWRA – SK) and Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park (CHIPP) staff delivered ProjectWET SPLASH! Water Festival as part of the Parks Day Celebration to 428 family aged participants. Since September 2003, 1610 youth and family members have participated in ProjectWET SPLASH! Water Festivals in SK (contact Lizabeth Nicholls - SWA)</p> <p>SWA hosted a two day Earth Day 2005 Professional Leadership Development</p>
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PCAP Partner Update # 6

		<p>October 2004</p> <p>December 2004</p> <p>Since 2004</p> <p>2006</p> <p>April 8, 2006</p> <p>September 30, 2006</p> <p>June 2006</p> <p>2006-2007</p> <p>June 3 & 4, 2006</p> <p>2006-2007</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>SWA dedicated the fall issue of the Prairie Update to youth and adult education initiatives for promoting environmental stewardship (contact Sharon Metz).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SWA participated in 4-H summer camps, providing rangeland-related activities for the campers (contact Julie MacKenzie – SWA)</p> <p>SWF has a variety of educational opportunities for youth and adults (contact Joe Milligan):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Great Outdoor Expo & Henry Kelsey Awards Night Banquet in Moose Jaw • Trapping, Predator Calling and Fur Handling Workshop Seminar at the Regina Wildlife Federation • Women’s Bow Hunting Safety Course in Regina • Women’s Hunting Mentoring programs • Trout Fest at Cypress Hills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hunting Shooting Skills workshops with Ian McMurchy
<p>Goal 5, Obj 4, Action b</p>	<p>b) Develop and distribute educational materials.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(All)</p>	<p>2005-2006</p> <p>Since 2004</p> <p>2006</p> <p>Since 1998</p> <p>March 2005</p> <p>September 2004</p> <p>August 2004</p> <p>March 2004</p> <p>Since 1987</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>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 www.agr.gc.ca/pfra/hawk (contact Rick West).</p> <p>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. In 2006, PCAP received funding from Greencover Canada for resource kits, in addition to (school) busing and promotional activities (contact Karyn Scalise).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>NPSS provided printed education materials to the Conservation Learning Centre (contact Garth Wruck)</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>NS’s Rare Plant Rescue distributes educational materials regarding rare and</p>

		<p>2004 – 2006 (ongoing)</p> <p>2004 – 2006</p> <p>2005-2006</p> <p>Since 1998</p> <p>April 2006 Since 2000</p> <p>Summer 2006</p> <p>January 2005</p> <p>2003</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>SWA has completed two additional Native Prairie Activity Guide Modules for grades 1 and 2, to the design stage. Three other modules are in progress at the elementary level. All modules are completely linked to the Saskatchewan Core Science Curriculum (contact Sharon Metz or Lizabeth Nicholls – SWA)</p> <p>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).</p> <p>SWA and DUC are continuing to update a 4-H Range Handbook, developed in 2005. It will be ready for reprinting and used in upcoming 4-H youth range activities (contact Ross Macdonald – SWA).</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>SWF has five posters in the Native Wildlife of Saskatchewan Series. The New Buteos (Broad Wing Hawks) poster will be released in April 2006 (contact Joe Milligan).</p> <p>SWF’s second edition of the ‘Wonders of Wildlife Education manual’ will be released (contact Joe Milligan).</p> <p>UofR-CPRC published Managing Changing Prairie Landscapes, 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).</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. Ranking: Partner Update # 4: GOOD Partner Update # 5: 4 Partner Update # 6: 4 (PCAP, All)</p>	<p>June 21-22, 2006</p> <p>June 21-23, 2005</p> <p>June 24-25, 2004</p> <p>Since 1999</p>	<p>SRM, PCAP, AAFC-PFRA, DUC, SAF, SWA, SSGA are planning the ‘Discovering the Matador Grasslands’ Workshop and Field Tour in conjunction with NPAW 2006, which runs from June 18-24, 2006.</p> <p>SRM, PCAP, SE, AAFC-PFRA, SWA, SAF delivered the ‘Discovering the Great Sandhills’ Workshop and Field Tour in conjunction with NPAW 2005, which runs from June 19-25 (150 participants - evaluations are available). SE and SAF Ministers jointly proclaimed NPAW (contact Karyn Scalise or Michel Tremblay).</p> <p>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. SAF Minister proclaimed NPAW (contact Karyn Scalise or Michel Tremblay).</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>Goal 5, Obj 4, Action d</p>	<p>d) Develop and deliver regional native prairie education workshops and other programs. Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR-</p>	<p>2005 Since 2002</p> <p>Summer 2004</p>	<p>NS’s Lake Diefenbaker Piping Plover Guardian Program provides community programming (schools, youth groups, provincial parks) on the Piping Plover and its habitat. In 2005, 31 presentations were delivered, for a total of 96 presentations. SE provides support to this project. An educational poster on the Piping Plover has been provided to the Chaplin, Wynyard, and Douglas Provincial Park Nature Centres (contact Margaret Skeel).</p> <p>NPSS held field tours at the Matador grassland, and the Great Sand Hills (contact Garth Wruck).</p>

	<p>GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(DUC, NPSS, NS, PCAP, RSM, SWA)</p> <p>See also: Goal 1, Objective 1 (Promote grazing programs that are based on economically and scientifically sound principles) for related activities.</p>	<p>2003</p> <p>August 2004 August 2003</p> <p>Since 2003</p> <p>Gallery since 2001; FRBP since 2004; TRC since 2003</p> <p>July 2003</p> <p>July 2005</p> <p>January 06 to March 06</p> <p>November 2004 to April 2005</p> <p>November 2003 to February 2004</p> <p>1999-present</p>	<p>NPSS held 2 field tours - one at the Matador grassland, and the other in the Bear Hills (contact Garth Wruck).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</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>SAF led an AITC tour and plant identification day for teachers at Regina Beach Community Pasture (contact Don Fontaine).</p> <p>NPSS, SWA, and DUC hosted a native plant identification and native pasture management tour in the Cypress Hills (contact Krista Connick).</p> <p>SSGA held 4 Zone Meetings for SSGA Zone members (contact Sheila Fishley).</p> <p>SSGA held 5 Zone Meetings for SSGA Zone members (contact Sheila Fishley).</p> <p>SSGA Zone Meetings held for SSGA Zone members (contact Sheila Fishley).</p> <p>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:</p> <p>Goal 1, Objective 3 (Recognize and support the efforts of private and public land managers who conserve native prairie) for related activities.</p>	<p>a) Promote the role of the livestock industry and other native prairie stewards through the media, presentations and publications.</p> <p>Ranking: Partner Update # 4: FAIR-GOOD Partner Update # 5: 3 Partner Update # 6: 3</p> <p>(All)</p>	<p>Nov 2003</p> <p>Summer 2003</p> <p>Since 1995</p> <p>Since 1998</p> <p>Since 2003</p> <p>Since 2000</p> <p>2004</p> <p>July 31 2003</p> <p>August 7, 2003</p> <p>Spring 2005</p>	<p>DUC and SSGA will participate in the Support Canadian Beef and Habitat Conservation campaign during Grey Cup week (contact Michael Champion).</p> <p>DUC attended a Beef Rally in Moose Jaw (contact Michael Champion).</p> <p>NPSS promotes the importance of the livestock industry for native prairie at every AGM, presentation and in its publications (contact Garth Wruck)</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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)</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>PCAP Chair submitted a “letter to the editor” through SWNA regarding the importance of the beef industry in native prairie conservation (contact Allen Patkau).</p> <p>SE’s spring 2005 <i>Newsline</i> newsletter promotes the importance of native prairie and the stewards that have conserved it (contact Ann Gerry).</p>

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

Objective	Actions	Timetable	LEAD AND SUPPORTING AGENCIES, Continuing Activities & Update
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. The following committees were established: Executive, Proposal Review, Prairie Conservation Award, Policy and Science (contact Karyn Scalise).
		March 2004	A Committee was established to develop the 8 th Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference (PCESC) and Workshop to be held in Regina on March 1-3, 2007
		March 2006	At the March PCAP meeting, the PCAP committees were renewed (contact Karyn Scalise)
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).
		March 31, 2006	Funding received by 13 PCAP Partners, 1 sponsor (CMDf); EC-HSP, DFO-SIA and AAFC through the Greencover Canada Programs Contribution Agreements completed for 05-06 (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, full-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 components of draft work plan for 2003-2004 (contact Karyn Scalise).
		November 2004	PCAP Office developed components of draft work plan for 2004-2005 (contact Karyn Scalise).
		November 2005	PCAP Office is developing components of a draft work plan for 2005-2006 (contact Karyn Scalise).
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.

PCAP Partner Update # 6

7. Facilitate recruitment of new Partners.

a) Seek and recruit potential Partners that influence the Prairie Ecozone.

June 2006

Partner Update #6 finalized and posted on the website. Limited number of hard copies distributed to Partners.

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.

March 30, 2006

FNACS and PLC join the PCAP Partnership for a total of 27 Partners since 2003, and 16 (original) Partners since 1998 (contact Karyn Scalise – PCAP, Jessica Clay – FNACS, or Karin Smith-Fargy - PLC).

LIST OF ACRONYMS

PCAP PARTNERS (& SUPPORTERS)

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

OTHER ACRONYMS

AAFC - MII	AAFC-Matching Investment Initiative
AAFC - LRC	AAFC - Lethbridge Research Centre
AAFRD	Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

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

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