

## *Native Prairie Speaker Series*

**Title:** How alternative grazing practices affect the diversity and abundance of grassland birds

**Speaker:** Jeannine Randall, PhD Candidate in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies at the University of Northern British Columbia

### **Presentation Summary:**

Prairie ecosystems are a globally important habitat type that is under pressure from multiple sources including livestock production. Grasslands support diverse ecological communities, including grassland birds that are experiencing widespread population declines, largely due to habitat loss and degradation. Much of the remaining prairie habitat is grazed by livestock, so understanding how different grazing practices affect grassland birds is critical for conservation efforts. In this presentation Jeannine will discuss the results of a project conducted by the University of Alberta to assess differences in the diversity and abundance of birds between ranches using traditional grazing practices (continuous and slow-rotational) and those using adaptive multi-paddock (AMP) management practices with fast rotation of grazing animals among pastures.

### **About Jeannine:**

Jeannine is a PhD student at the University of Northern British Columbia. She has been researching birds since she obtained her undergraduate degree in biology from the University of Victoria. She has studied species at risk on Vancouver Island, the impacts of dams on breeding songbirds, completed an MSc. focussed on the breeding ecology of Mountain Bluebirds, and inventoried songbirds on ranch land across the Canadian prairies.

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