

## *Native Prairie Speaker Series*

**Title:** Prairie bats and their conservation in a changing landscape

**Speaker:** Cory Olson, M.Sc., P.Biol., Alberta Bat Program Coordinator, Wildlife Conservation Society Canada

**Summary:** Bats are common residents of prairies landscapes and are important for maintaining the health of natural environments. They are also predators of livestock pests and crop defoliators, providing important economic benefits for our economy. Although bats are seldom noticed, they are especially vulnerable to a host of human-caused changes within their environment, and how we manage their habitats has important conservation implications. Join us to learn about this fascinating group, our ongoing research projects, and how we can build resilience within our bat populations.

**About the Speaker:** Cory Olson is a Professional Biologist and the Alberta Bat Program Coordinator with Wildlife Conservation Society Canada. He has focused on bat conservation and research for over a decade, beginning with his graduate research on bats at the University of Calgary. He co-founded the Alberta Community Bat Program, has led numerous bat inventories across western Canada (including Saskatchewan), and co-authored several reports and management documents on bats, including Alberta and federal status reports for bats that are currently underway.

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