The Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA) in partnership with the South of the Divide Conservation Action Program Inc. (SODCAP Inc.) have secured funding to enter into Term Conservation Easements with cooperating producers who own or manage critical and important habitat for species at risk in southwestern Saskatchewan.

A conservation easement is a voluntary legal agreement between a grantor, generally a landowner and a registered holder, who could be a conservation organization or a government agency.

The details of the agreement are negotiated to meet the interests of the landowner and the conservation objectives of the holder, with the main objective being to protect and preserve the biological, physical and cultural attributes of the land.

A conservation easement is registered against the title for a specified time or in perpetuity. Currently, conservation easements that are available in Saskatchewan are held in perpetuity and restrict development, cultivation and drainage. However, within the legislation, the option exists to register a conservation easement for a specified term.

Native grasslands in southwest Saskatchewan are the last refuge for many species at risk in the province and are also an important forage resource for cattle producers.

These grasslands are valuable from an ecological and cultural perspective and are also economically important.

SSGA and SODCAP Inc. are seeking producers to enter into conservation easements for a minimum of 10 years. The conditions of the easement will be tailored to protect species at risk habitat.

SSGA will pay for appraisals to determine the value of the Term Easement as requested by the producer.

This project was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada.

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**All agreements confidential & privacy is ensured.**