

**2nd Annual Transboundary Grasslands Workshop  
Developing Transboundary Capacity for Community Based Prairie Conservation  
January 11-13th, 2017**

**Survey Results**

**1. Please provide your evaluation of the 2017 Transboundary Grasslands Workshop**

Very successful	17
Somewhat successful	10
Not successful	0

**2. What was the most useful/informative part of the workshop?**

- Some presentations. Interacting with other people and organizations
- Gathering information on the available contacts and programs underway in the transboundary region.
- Being brave:)
- Networking, learning and sharing ideas.
- Presentations, networking
- Most of the presenters were very informative. Sage grouse initiative was excellent, breakout sessions were well done, intense discussion and progressive outcome
- All talks were good
- Panels of speaker for more topics.
- Information sharing
- Sharing information and gaining better perspective on various groups.
- Hearing the different prespective and programming options from the various stakeholders and jurisdictions
- SARPAL related items such as Orin, Randy, Robin, Stephano, Miles, Mark Wayland as we the TBGP can really provide positive helpful feedback to this upcoming Growing Forward Program.
- Sharing of info, action planning
- Breakout discussions
- Producer panel

Networking, meeting people face to face; putting my organizations work into perspective; seeing innovative projects that inspire the work we all do as organizations that are involved in grassland conservation

Indigenous perspective was very enlightening and valuable. We need to further our cultural and spiritual connections to the prairie. Good breakout sessions.

Anderson Ranch presentation , sharing the complimentary nature of local ecological knowledge and rigorous scientific methods and reporting.

Information from the panels such as the amount of CO2 that is sequestered in grasslands and the overall support for the importance of ranchers and their management of the grasslands. Also the networking with other groups.

Open discussions at tables

Meeting different people, hearing the different perspectives, enhancing network and knowledge of what is going on in the grasslands.

Presentations on Sustainable Beef Roundtable, New SARA policy presentations with specifics.

The broad scope of what is being done throughout the area. The breakout groups.

Networking, visiting; First Nations participation.

Networking, meeting people from many different organizations.

Networking , great speakers, many ideas to take home and use at our Forums/AGM

Every presentation was very informational

### **3. What was the least useful part of the workshop?**

Roundtables.

Although the spiritual aspects of First Nations relationship with the land and their efforts to maintain their native languages was very interesting and important, it didn't really tie to grassland conservation and management in my mind. It was important and informative, but seemed off-topic to me.

Breakout sessions

Previous presentaion from Wednesday in the Thursday 1-2pm time slot.

Few topics did not fit as well as others (language)

A bit too much repetition in presentations between day 1 and day 2. Would have been good to have solicited more presenters from a wider variety of groups.

Breakout session 1

Some of the indigenous topics did not fit in well not cohesive whereas Day 1 Wed was more focused and relevant. Also how the agenda was not updated and chair should have stated/informed participants about changes.

Struggling to tie language laws to grassland conservation

Breakout themes

Repetition of presentations for those who attended the entire workshop.

Not entirely clear on the outcomes actions that will be taken to broaden the support for the work to get completed.

Not to be disrespectful, but the weight of First Nations discussions was not well connected to grassland conservation.

#### **4. What would you add/change if anything?**

Have dinner in a separate room. Provide attendees with a list of contacts that attended, complete with contact info and organization affiliation.

Longer networking breaks.

Please be sure to keep all speakers on schedule. It seems everyone was to stay on track except the First Nations presenters.

Integrate indigenous component into main workshop, timing, January sucks but works.

Have name tags. Have Brian Lee talk earlier in the agenda.

Some speakers presentations were good but went on perhaps too long (late presentation on sage grouse)

Provide nametags

Need people to make presentation on their mission and how they envision successful grassland conservation.

Speed up overall process to take advantage of opportunities

Representation of 1st day was not needed for those of us present on both days.

Allow breakout groups time for open discussion to investigate new ideas.

Have breakout on day 1 to get people talking.

Definitely have name tags.(Really helps in networking but thanks for the email list). More clarity re:agenda, lots of changes made it hard to follow at times.

Develop a group similar to the North American Waterfowl Management Partnership (NAWAMP) to proceed own fundraising, governance structure, etc.

More open discussion , small and large group versus presentations.

Drinks available during workshop dinner to encourage people to stay together and collaborate, communicate. Maybe add a question on registration if unsure.

Think we should choose a specific topic focus on that for a workshop. Get into some real, nitty gritty problem solving instead of vague planning.

Name tags. More accurate agenda, likely due to weather. But good juggling to keep things informative and full

Too late start on the second day

**5. What is the single most important contribution you can make following this workshop (with respect to transboundary grasslands initiatives)?**

Continue the work of our organizations.

I can provide producers with information on available programs and funding opportunities to better conserve and steward these working landscapes

Staying connected, on the ground, ensuring we stay respectful to each others different routes but maintain acknowledgement of common goals

Follow up with networking for potential partnerships. Support the work of steering committee on follow-up.

Further public education.

Awareness of grasslands/transboundary

Deciphering government policy that inhibits/assists conservation.

Continue to evaluate our funding programs to enhance how they can be delivered where possible.

Help the steering committee an provide funds to bring ranchers to the table.

Core team review/critique of SARPAL funding model

Reporting back to Northern Plains Conservation Network.

Calling people in the TGP when projects, problems or opportunities present.

Immediately see if NCC can put stories on our website to promote other initiatives. Increase our organizational support for these

Relay information and knowledge learned here to groups in AB, re. spread the word.

Promote the importance of grasslands.

Bring this information back to the Milk River Watershed Council Canada to further strengthen our next state of the watershed report.

Help with organizing, coordinating meeting in Montana. Follow up with sourcing same partnership training.

Keeping the information learned in mind as I do my own work (eg. Knowledge of what conservation is active on the ground)

Help with workshop planning, inform landowners/supervisors, do research on things I've heard here.

Spreading the concept/work that the TBG is working on.

Contacts and knowledge from other jurisdictions

I'm just happy to know and have heard that the landowner's actually do know their land and their management practices are valued and offer a great resource to other and to wildlife.

Improve stewardship messaging and cooperation with MT partners.

**6. If there is another transboundary grasslands workshop, what do you think the focus should be?**

Should be in the US and see if there is projects that are working that have not been reported on yet.

On contacts and opportunities to the programs together between borders.

Maintain focus on partnership, keeping each informed on what is going on and how we can cross pollinate.

Common issues both Canada an US share (conservation related)

Grasslands and carbon. PFRA pastures.

Vision of where we want to be in terms of grassland acres protected, wildlife etc.

Water control agencies, local gov't mechanisms, how they work in SK, AB , MT, national and international mechanisms, conservation

Communication amongst all stakeholders to establish a good base.

Government policy, property rights, economic challenges, conservation should not be done at any cost, needs to be win/win with those that manage land.

Focus on continued relationship and partnership building

Need to determin the areas in which we are able to work together.

What MT wants to focus upon and then the core team can modify/refine.

Networking the networks.

Removing barriers.

Producer success stories, outcomes achieved by program type

Connectivity; tools available for conservation (talks and discussions on the available tools for conservation); how to successfully integrate SAR, habitat, culture and livelihood within conservation

Better understanding the status of the grassland ecosystem, how much native grassland remaining across three jurisdictions

Working committee structure/governance structure, communication strategy, fundraising strategy. Build capacity

Funding to create incentives for good grassland management.

Role of the TGP in coordination, communication.branding, training and capacity building.

Trust building

Grassland conservation, invasives.

Prioritize the actions needed to ensure grasslands conservation. Then create an action plan to complete the actions.

More info on successful programs. USA-Sage Grouse Initiatives, perhaps panel discussions to compare jurisdictions.

Soil conservation

Watershed focus, connection of landuse planning to producer stewardship?

**7. If there is a follow-up transboundary workshop, please identify any agencies, organizations or individuals that should be included as invitees.**

Alberta Beef Producers, Alberta Public Lands (Grazing Reserves, One Four Grazing, Alberta Grazing Leaseholder Association, MD Cypress)

Cows and Fish, Western Stock Growers' Association, Alberta Grazing Leaseholders Association.

Multi-level agriculture representatives, Endangered Species Act (Representatives and presenters)

Legislative representatives.

Other SK First Nations, federal agency representation. FSIN, Nekaneet and other First Nations in the focal area.

Thought there would be more Treaty 4 people here.

Local organizations, non profits.

Elected government officials, local, provincial, landowners.

Department of National Defence from Suffield, try to get some elected officials in attendance.

Need to include petroleum industry and possibly other industries.

More USA if in Canada, more Canada if in USA

Ag Canada, Ministries of AG

Government Planners (MD's, Province), TNC, Potential Funding Partners,

Operation Grassland Community (AB)

More landowners and community members. Need travel funding for these folks.

Each conservation district in the focus area.

Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever

Build on current list.

More municipalities/counties, RM's

Same. Possibly more political support agency and department heads. ABMI(?) AB

## **8. Other comments:**

Name tags of some sort.

Great opportunity to network and confirm what we're doing is important. Thanks very much.

Invite more media attention.

Important work!

Facilitator needs to guide/explain how to proceed to fill breakout forms, etc.

Thanks for all your hard work planning team.

I would love to see a monthly/quarterly newsletter with grassland conservation updates from MT/AB/SK each to keep everyone informed about issues in each area. We're often unaware of what is going on across our borders.

Good facilitator, like to go to Montana next year.

Sorry I missed Wednesday, looked forward to it. Was interested to hear about Bison and Treaty.

Good work to the organizing committee