

# Transboundary Grassland Partnership



What is it?



2nd Annual Transboundary Grasslands Workshop, January 2017, Swift Current Saskatchewan:  
Developing Transboundary Capacity for Community-Based Prairie Conservation



# Elkwater Workshop Summary

- Must haves: Communication, inclusivity/diversity, commitment, collaboration, outcomes/results/on-the-ground action, whole ecosystems (not just pieces), science foundation.
- Gaps and opportunity themes: Invasive Species; Communication/Common Narrative; Information Sharing; Common Goals; Data Classification/Analysis; and Multiple Spatial Scales.
- Outcomes: de-listings, slow conversion, enhance public appreciation, fill conservation gaps, add value to existing conservation initiatives.
- Outputs: leadership group, vision and goal, extension materials and use of existing means of disseminating (e.g. Parks), borderless program, expand participation, link ranching/bio-cultural, piggy back on existing initiatives, grassland birds.



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# Workshop Survey



- Tie grassland conservation to cc adaptation and food sovereignty.
- Engage Tribes and First Nations
- Establish transboundary cooperation mechanism and objectives
- Practical solution to solve conservation problems
- Start with specific topic (invasives)
- Establish identity, messaging, capacity building, funding.
- Organizational Structure to move forward
- Rotate future meetings



# TGP Concept

- TGP exists to secure transboundary ecological health: the structural and functional integrity of our shared native grassland ecosystems.
- TBG recognizes many other partnerships exist: at scales ranging from meso-regional to sites; with varying foci on land conservation, watersheds, waterfowl and species of conservation concern; and that some of these partnerships are trans-boundary in nature while others are jurisdictionally-focused.
- TBG will promote enhanced networking, synergies and linkages amongst such partnerships where there may be opportunity to enhance the integrity of native grassland ecosystems, but will respect boundaries of interest and will not duplicate effort.
- In all events, TBG will create opportunities for empowerment and active participation for local people and communities, including tribes, First Nations and landholders and provide opportunities to celebrate their stories, livelihoods, culture and history. We will ensure all TBG project initiatives address not only ecological goals, but sustain shared social and economic values, communities and human health.



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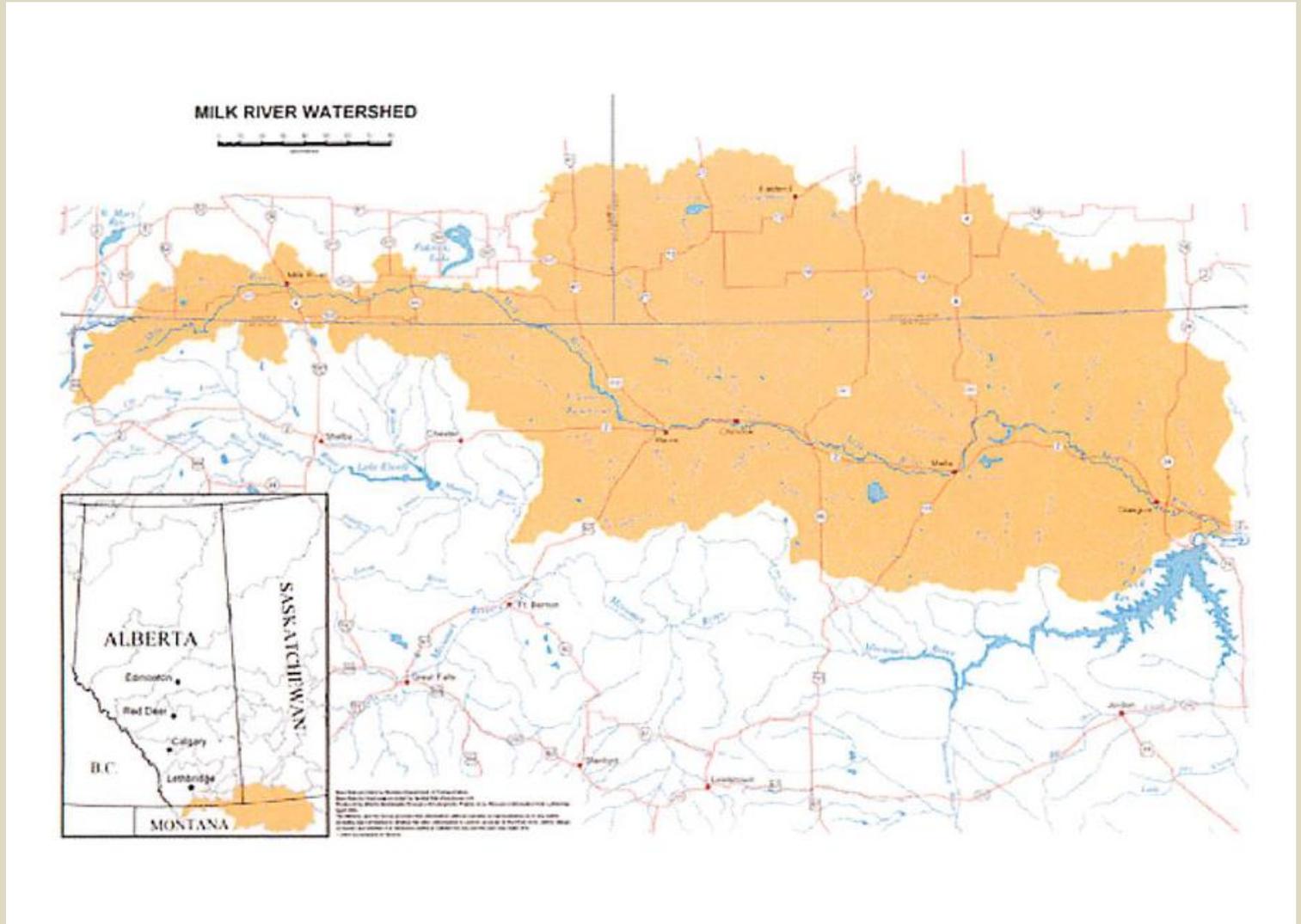


# The TGP will:

- Seek resourcing or partners to better understand the likely spatial and temporal impact of climate change, human footprint and invasive species on native grassland ecosystems.
- Promote borderless science, geospatial data, classification and analysis.
- Seek opportunities for engagement/collaboration with universities/academia to support TBG science and project needs.
- Initiate a project aimed at enhancing native grassland ecosystem integrity that meets an identified transboundary conservation need (such as non-native plants or grassland birds).
- Confirm website presence (currently provided by the PCF) and ensure visibility, accessibility and currency of posted materials.
- Produce communication and extension materials as required and assess potential for delivery/dissemination through partners. Consider the potential for a webinar series.
- Hold an annual public workshop rotating amongst AB, SK and MT.
- Develop an annual workplan.
- Seek feedback on partnership priorities and workplan from agencies, stakeholders and publics at the annual meeting.



# Boundary Options

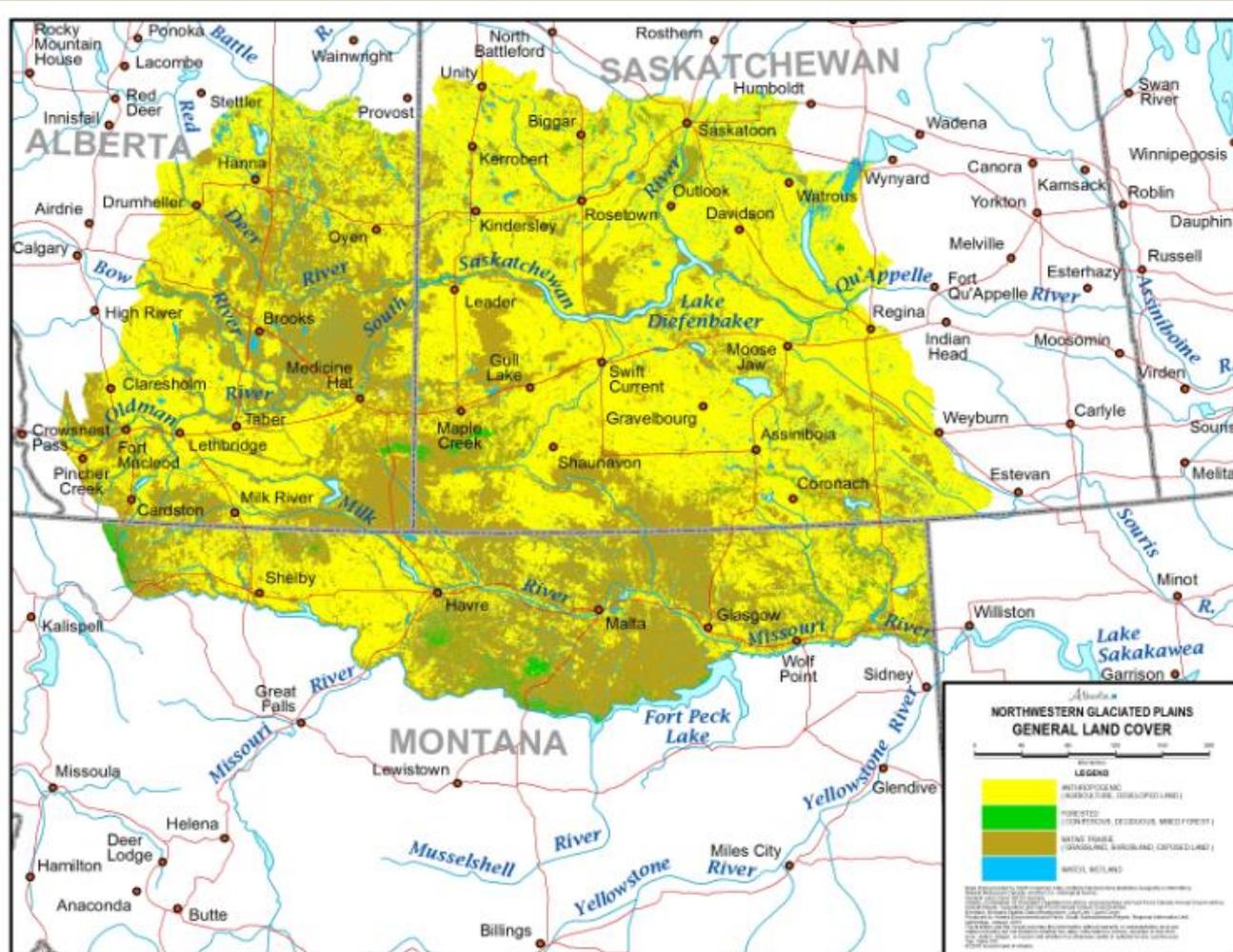




# Elkwater Workshop Summary



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# TGP Structure

- Voluntary partnership.
- Core Team comprising agencies, NGO's, partnerships, tribes and First Nations, landholder/rancher groups from AB, SK and MT who chose to both to invest in the partnership and commit the time (bi-monthly calls, 1 or 2 in-person annual meeting(s) outside the workshop).
- Annual stakeholder meeting will provide a regular opportunity to confirm direction.
- Oversight/coordination in each jurisdiction may be provided (in AB this will be by the Prairie Conservation Forum, the Milk River Watershed Council of Canada and the federal-provincial Trans-boundary Directors Group).
- Options for holding and disbursing any TBD monies will be explored.



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# Core Team

- **Sasha Harriott**, TGP Secretariat, Prairie Conservation Forum (PCF), Crowsnest Pass, AB
- **Sue Michalsky**, Ranchers Stewardship Alliance, Eastend, SK
- **Marisa Sather**, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Glasgow, MT
- **Jeremy Pittman**, Liber Ero Fellow, University of Waterloo, Saskatoon, SK
- **Linda Cerney**, Planning, Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP), Lethbridge, AB
- **Pat Fargey**, Fish and Wildlife Policy, AEP, Edmonton, AB
- **Tom Harrison**, SODCAP, Lumsden, SK
- **Paulette Fox**, Blood Tribe, Stand Off, AB
- **Pat Gunderson**, Bureau of Land Management, Glasgow, MT
- **Kayla Balderson-Burak**, SK PCAP Partners, Regina, SK
- **Tim Romanov**, Milk River Watershed Council of Canada, Milk River, AB
- **Jenifer Anderson**, Phillips Conservation District/Milk River Watershed Alliance, Malta, MT
- **Kerry LaForge**, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Saskatoon, SK
- **Ron McNeil**, LandWise Inc./PCF, Lethbridge, AB
- **Jesse Tuft**, World Wildlife Fund, Bozeman, MT
- **Ian Dyson**, AEP/PCF, Lethbridge, AB



# Organizing the Workshop

## Thank You to Our Organizing Committee



# Workshop Sponsors



2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL TRANSBOUNDARY GRASSLANDS WORKSHOP

*DEVELOPING TRANSBOUNDARY CAPACITY FOR COMMUNITY-BASED PRAIRIE CONSERVATION*

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Saskatchewan  
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Action Plan



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