

Consider Joining the PCF

The Prairie Conservation Forum is made up of many member organizations that are committed to the conservation of Alberta's prairies and parkland. Part of this process involves working together and sharing knowledge of what work has been done, what work is currently being conducted, and what work needs to be done in the future.

Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum

The PCF began in 1988 and is a large voluntary coalition of stakeholder groups. Members are interested in the conservation of native prairie and parkland environments in Alberta.

Our Vision

The biological diversity of native prairie and parkland ecosystems is secure under the mindful and committed stewardship of all Albertans.

The wild and open prairies are highly valued as part of our Canadian heritage. What we work to preserve today will be our legacy to future generations.

Get Involved

- Support activities that maintain healthy prairie landscapes
- Join a conservation organization
- Contact a local elected official and tell them that maintaining intact native prairie is important to you
- Support restoration and reclamation activities
- Take your friends and family out on the prairie!



For more information please contact:

info@albertapcf.org

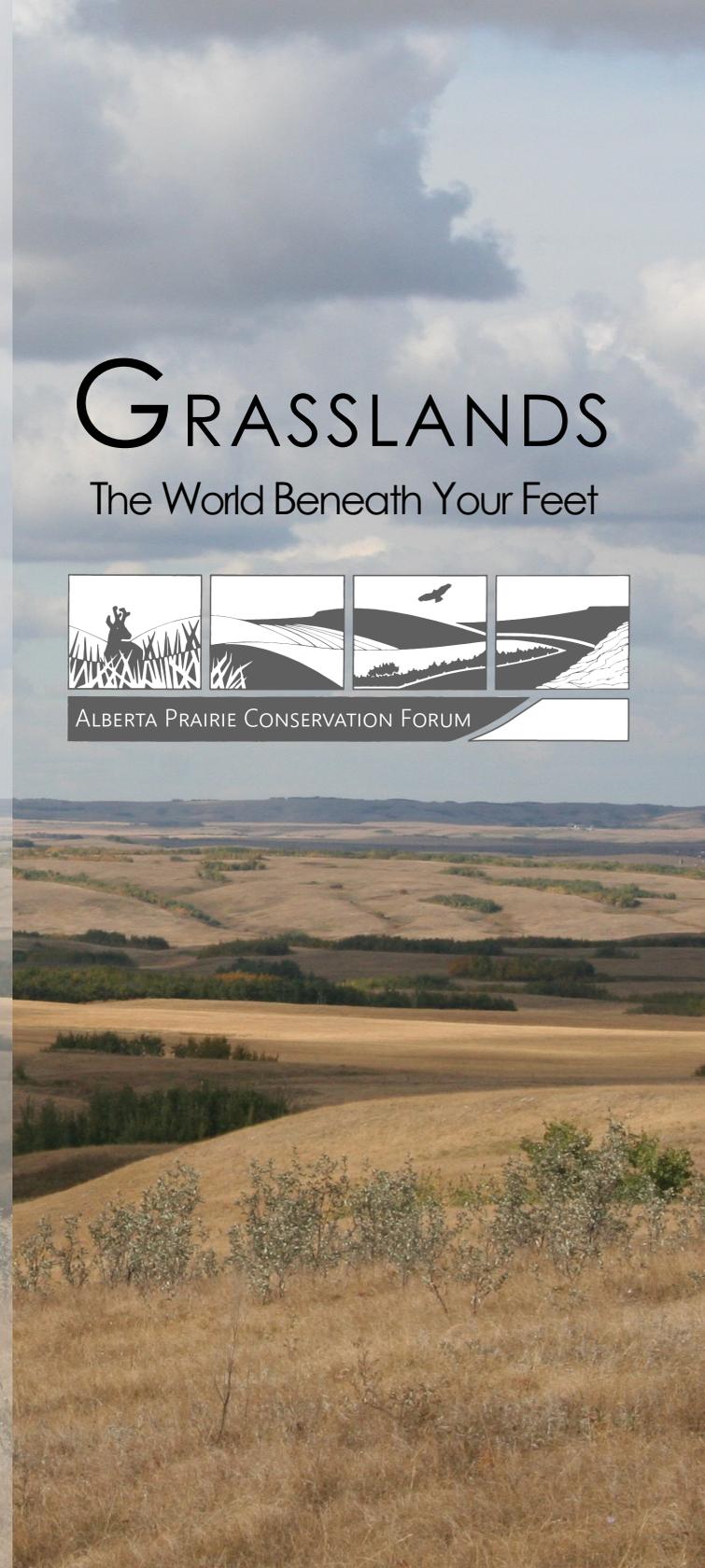
Prairie Conservation Forum
2nd Floor, Provincial Building
200—5th Ave. South
Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 4L1

Or check out our website:

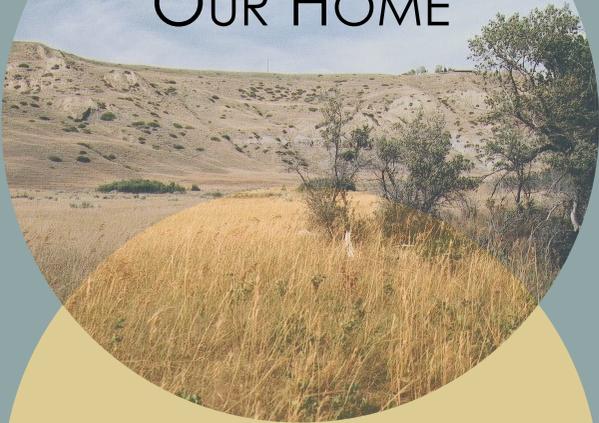
www.albertapcf.org

GRASSLANDS

The World Beneath Your Feet



THE PRAIRIES OUR HOME



What's the Big Deal? It's Just Grass Right?

The prairies are so much more than just grass. They include many different types of flowering plants and shrubs which are incredibly important for wildlife.

Did you know?
75% of Alberta's species at risk rely on grasslands!

The North American prairie is a vast landscape dominated by deep-rooted grasses. Along its fringe, grasslands intermingle with aspen woodlands to produce the aspen parkland.



Map courtesy of Canadian Plains Research Centre, University of Regina

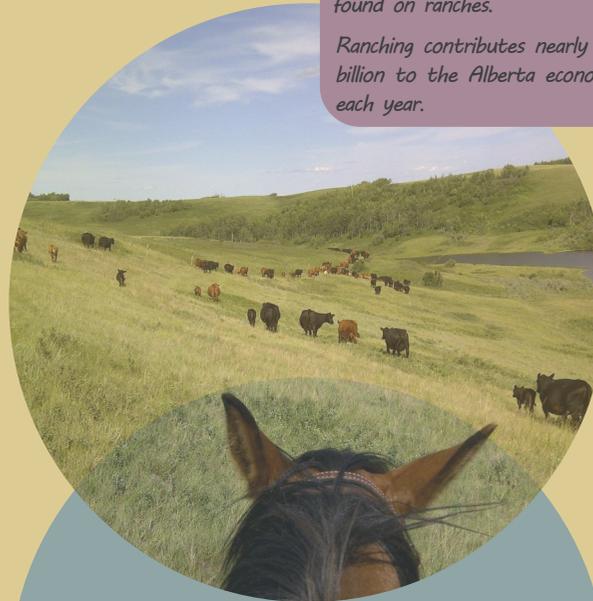
THE PRAIRIES ARE ONE OF THE MOST ENDANGERED ECOSYSTEMS IN THE WORLD

When the first settlers came to the prairies, they thought of it as an inhospitable land where it would be difficult to survive. Since then, the prairie landscape has undergone many changes as people realized they could not only survive here, but thrive. The future of the prairies is uncertain. Resource extraction, agricultural conversions and intensification, urban development, introduced species, climate change uncertainty, and the development of energy resources are some of the many pressures that native grassland environments face.

Did you know?

Many of the largest tracts of native prairie in Alberta can be found on ranches.

Ranching contributes nearly \$5 billion to the Alberta economy each year.



Why should I care about saving native prairie grasslands?

Intact and healthy prairies stores carbon and cleans the air, just like forests. They filter and clean the water that you will eventually drink. The dense roots of prairie plants bind and hold the soil, which prevents erosion.

AN ACTION PLAN

The Alberta Prairie Conservation Action Plans (or PCAPs) are five-year blueprints aimed at prairie-wide efforts to conserve and manage native prairie species, communities, and habitats. The Prairie Conservation Forum exists to promote the Alberta PCAP and to provide an ongoing profile for prairie and parkland conservation initiatives.



Swift Fox, G. Court



Burrowing Owl, G. Court



Leopard Frog, K. Orich



Loggerhead Shrike, K. Orich



Short-horned Lizard, K. Orich



Long-billed Curlew, K. Orich

Alberta's PCAP is linked to a larger prairie conservation strategy. Similar action plans in Manitoba and Saskatchewan promote prairie-wide conservation practices.

Read Alberta's current Action Plan at www.albertapcf.org