



alberta prairie conservation

[2021 - 2025]

ACTION PLAN

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Executive Summary

Alberta's grassland and parkland natural regions are part of a much larger grassland ecosystem called the North American Great Plains that extends from Alberta south through the United States and into Northern Mexico. The Alberta grassland and parkland natural regions are rich in biodiversity and provide ecological, cultural and economic benefits for all Albertans. As such, multiple competing demands are prevalent within the region, including conversion of native landscapes for agriculture, urban expansion, and industrial land uses. Intensive use of land and water can change the health, integrity, capacity and resilience of the ecosystem to maintain the services critical to our current and future society. The Prairie Conservation Forum (PCF) recognizes the need for different activities to occur on the landscape and collaborates with many different stakeholders to improve management and conserve native prairie landscapes while still benefiting from the prairie's resources.

The PCF is continuing our collaborative efforts with our 7th Prairie Conservation Action Plan (PCAP) and is working towards achieving our identified strategies and outcomes. The goal of these five-year plans is to use collaborative approaches among our diverse member stakeholders and partners to initiate and sustain prairie-wide efforts to conserve and manage native prairie species, communities, and habitats. Our vision is that the biological diversity of native prairie and parkland ecosystems is secure under the mindful and committed stewardship of all Albertans. The 2021-2025 PCAP builds on our work from previous PCAPs and continues to

provide an ongoing profile for prairie and parkland conservation initiatives.

PCAP 2021-2025 recognizes the need to focus activities (that the PCF has the capacity to achieve, either alone or in partnership) around three primary strategies: to complete, or further, inventories and assessments of native biodiversity in Alberta; to share knowledge and foster a dialogue around prairie conservation; and to promote stewardship of native prairie and parkland ecosystems. Three important long-term environmental outcomes are also necessary to bring the PCAP vision to reality: maintain large native prairie and parkland landscapes; conserve connecting corridors for biodiversity; and protect isolated native habitats. These outcomes require close linkage to management and planning decisions by all levels of government and private landowners. Our engagement approach to achieving all outcomes includes educational and awareness programming as well as providing web-based access to prairie conservation information.

The PCF takes a coordinating and advisory role, respecting the individual mandates and interests of its members. We recognize that the success of achieving our vision relies upon PCF members to implement PCF programs and activities in their respective organizations. Implementation of the PCAP requires an involved and active membership and Board of Directors. Additionally, successfully achieving our outcomes relies heavily upon the capacity of its member organizations and individuals. The PCF welcomes you to join us on this journey.

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Message from the Honourable Jason Nixon Minister of Environment and Parks

Alberta's grasslands offer opportunity for all Albertans. Working together, we can find ways to keep Alberta's native habitats strong and healthy, while ensuring Albertans can sustainably enjoy our natural heritage.

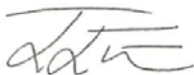
The grasslands of Alberta are a diverse and dynamic working landscape. Home to many native plant and wildlife species, our grasslands are also where we work, live and recreate.

Since 1989, the Prairie Conservation Forum has contributed to the environmental guidelines that establish best management practices for sustainable economic development. The Forum itself consists of more than 50 organizations and individuals that are dedicated to the implementation of conservation initiatives of the prairie and parkland landscapes in Alberta. These organizations and individuals, including federal and provincial agencies, industry, landholders, agricultural and environmental groups, municipalities, and academia, have been informing and facilitating conversations and partnerships centered on prairie conservation for more than two decades.

Today, the Forum continues to promote stewardship of native grasslands through the use of many different tools, and the guidelines for managing environmental impacts originating from human activity on native prairie grass. In addition, the 2021-2025 Prairie Conservation Action Plan is a blueprint that will enable continued stewardship in our province through the Prairie Conservation Forum. This and many other successes of the Forum illustrate what can be done when Albertans from a variety of sectors work together to conserve the prairie and parkland legacy we have inherited.

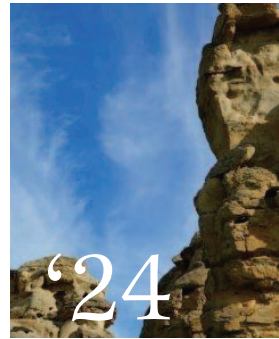
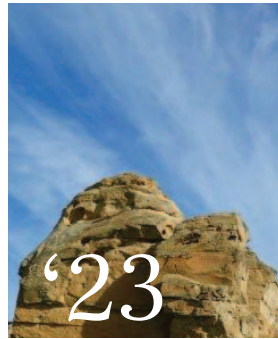
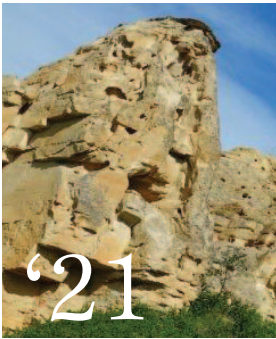
Thank you to the Prairie Conservation Forum for its enduring commitment to the conservation of Alberta's native prairie and parkland environments, its inclusive approach of involving all interests, and for aligning this renewed action plan to support opportunities for the people of Alberta. The western heritage that Albertans pride ourselves in was founded in Alberta's prairie landscapes and continues to shape who we are today.

Sincerely,



Jason Nixon
Minister of Environment and Parks

Preface



The Prairie Conservation Forum (PCF) has been working collaboratively for over 30 years towards the conservation of prairie landscapes and species habitat through the development and implementation of Prairie Conservation Action Plans (PCAPs). The 2021-2025 PCAP is a 5-year action plan that builds on the work from the previous PCAPs in an outcome based and focussed action plan. Highlights of the successes from the 2016-2020 PCAP include:

- Completing a 20-year change analysis of native vegetation cover within the Grassland and Parkland Natural Regions of Alberta. The findings of this work confirmed that approximately 48% and 20%, respectively, of native vegetation remains within the corresponding Natural Regions. The analysis compared imagery data from 1990-2010 and supports the need to focus on awareness of native grassland conservation that the PCF continues to strive towards.
- Initiating a gathering of multi-jurisdictional organizations across provincial and international borders to the inaugural Transboundary Grassland Workshop in 2016 at Elkwater, AB. The purpose of this event was to collaborate on shared visions

and common goals in prairie conservation. The workshop has evolved into the Grasslands Transboundary Partnership with an annual event rotating between Alberta, Saskatchewan and Montana locations.

- Commissioning and releasing documents for beneficial management practices for reducing the renewable energy footprint in grasslands, parklands and wetland ecosystems.
- Commissioning a literature review report to better understand structure and function for connecting habitats in prairie regions including factors or barriers that either facilitate or prevent species level movement through habitats.
- Hosting a workshop in 2019 at Airdrie, AB that was attended by invited professionals to identify location and significance of key habitats that need to be connected or better connected for species movement throughout the landscape.
- Continued support to the MULTISAR program that focusses on landscape level conservation work in southeastern Alberta.

- Delivering a strong interactive educational program called “Deep Roots” into classrooms to educate youth on the importance of native grasslands.

The strength of the PCF lies within its diverse membership and the committed and passionate individuals that choose to lead on PCF projects. This is demonstrated by the critical prairie conservation work recently undertaken by the PCF.

The 2021-2025 PCAP is the seventh edition of documenting and charting the course of continued and expanded conservation efforts for native grasslands. As actions from previous PCAPs are completed, we have identified new needs and provided direction to move conservation work forward. I invite and encourage others to join the PCF in supporting the approaches and actions identified in the proceeding pages. We trust that all Albertans will embrace the shared vision of conserving a critical piece of our landscape.

Nolan Ball
2019-2020 Chair
Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum

Alberta's Native Prairie Landscape

Alberta's native prairie and parkland landscapes are the most northerly extensions of the North American Great Plains (Figure 1).

This includes portions of the Northwestern Glaciated Plains (Figure 2), the Cypress Uplands and the aspen parkland of the Northern Glaciated Plains. The climate is largely semiarid and is located between the cooler and more humid boreal forest and the drier Northwestern Great Plains.

Alberta's grassland and parkland natural regions are rich in biodiversity and have significant heritage value, while providing ongoing ecological, cultural and economic benefits for all Albertans. The extensive tracts of public and

private rangelands in central and southern Alberta are home to both large and small areas of native mixed-grass ecosystems. Sustaining the ecological function of native landscapes throughout prairie and parkland Alberta and adjoining areas, as well as maintaining the connectivity of our landscape within the larger Northwestern Glaciated Plains, provides a highly valuable long-term assurance of environmental quality for the citizens of Alberta.

Native prairie is a fundamental economic and social resource on which the ranching community depends. Ranching provides a unique livelihood and lifestyle, makes a significant contribution to

the provincial economy, and with good stewardship, conserves native prairie. The ranching community assumes a large responsibility in maintaining our grassland and parkland landscapes.

Fostering a stewardship ethic among all current and future users of native prairie rangelands is critical to the success of prairie conservation efforts in Alberta. It demands an enlightened understanding of ecological and economic relationships and an ability to resist persistent pressures to fragment land and intensify land use for short-term economic gains. A strong stewardship ethic strives to maintain long-term values and benefits.

Figure 1:
North American Great Plains



Figure 2:
Northwestern Glaciated Plains

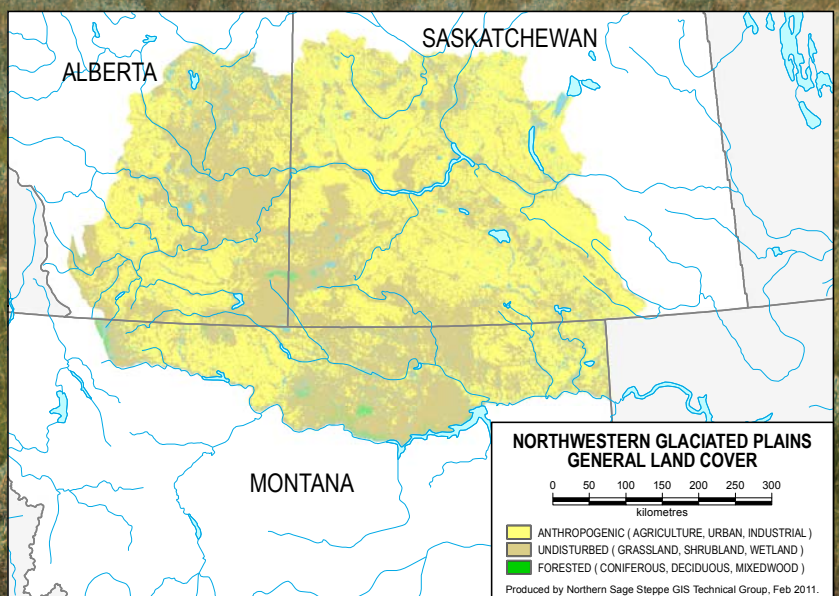
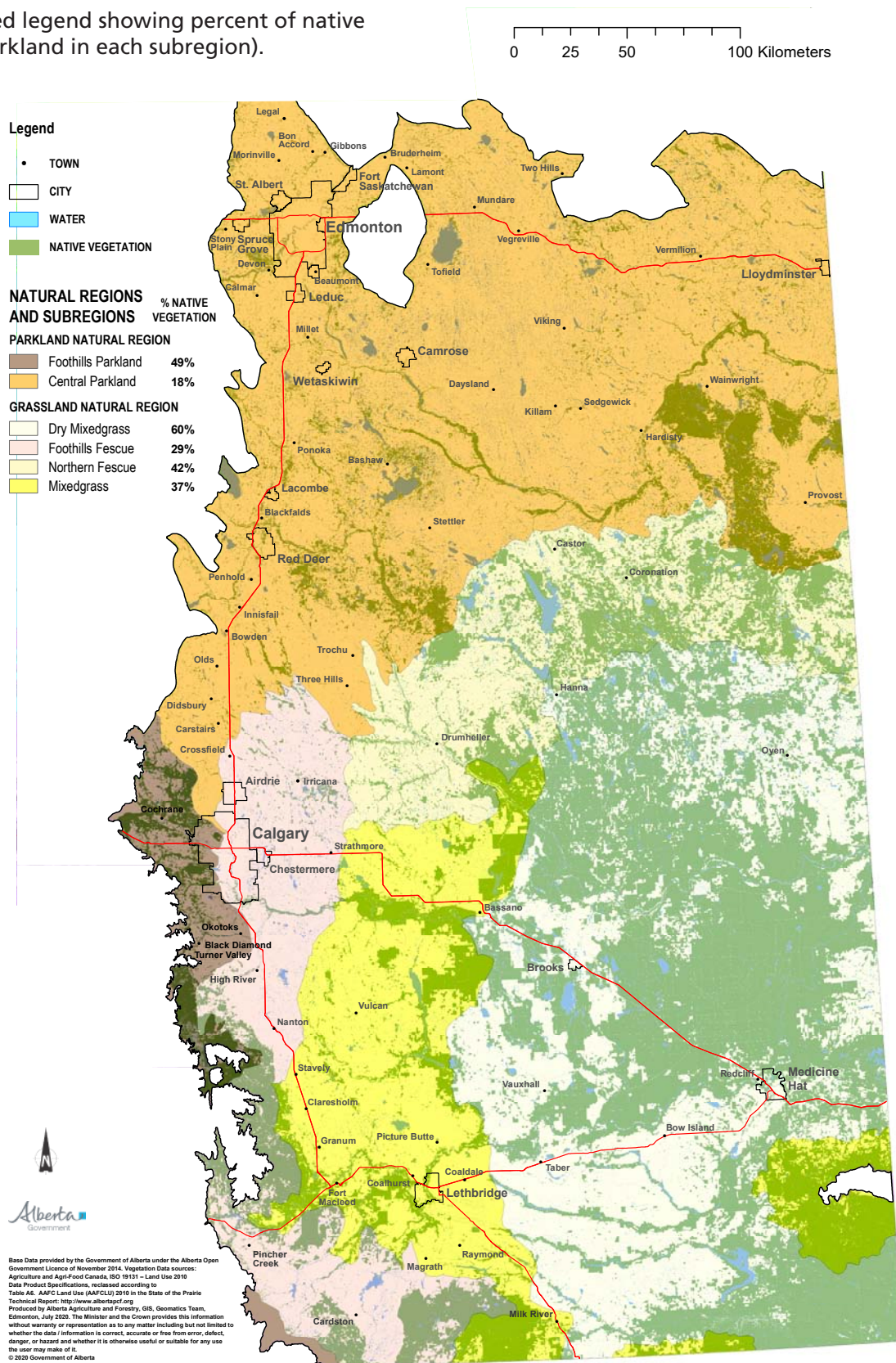


Figure 3:

Prairie and Parkland Alberta:

Natural Regions and Native Prairie

(with expanded legend showing percent of native prairie and parkland in each subregion).



Balancing Ecosystem Health and Function, Human Values and Economic Well-being



The demands on the native prairie and parkland regions are perhaps the most extreme of anywhere in the province. These regions have fertile soils, diverse grasslands, multiple wildlife species, large open spaces, large and small communities, farming and ranching, energy resources, and other land users.

The Alberta Government recognizes these challenges and began working toward a series of regional plans that would create long-term visions and align provincial policies to balance Alberta's economic, environmental, and social goals. During previous PCAPs, the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan was developed and approved. It places policy emphasis on the conservation of native grasslands and biodiversity in the southern portion of the Grassland Natural Region. Recognizing the competing demands, the regional plan included strategies for responsible

energy development, sustainable farming and ranching, recreation, forest management, and nature-based tourism. This plan also proposes additional irrigation development in areas that are primarily grassland habitats. This exemplifies the many pressures and threats grasslands in Alberta face continually from competing interests. The North Saskatchewan Regional Plan, which addresses the northern portion of the Parkland Natural Region, will be developed during the term of this PCAP.

It is these competing uses and associated challenges that brought the PCF membership together in appreciation for the natural landscape, recognizing the necessity of working collaboratively to ensure sustainable use.

Economic Well-being

The agricultural industry is recognized as the number one renewable and sustainable resource in the Prairie and Parkland Regions and is expected to generate substantial social, economic, and environmental benefits into the future. The multifunctional character of agriculture is also both an opportunity and a challenge.

The region has a diversified economy based primarily on agriculture, energy and tourism. Although the agriculture and agri-food sectors have been primarily focused on export markets, the demand for locally grown foods is increasing. This increased demand also brings challenges such as more demand for water and pressure to convert grassland to perceived higher value use. The region is also becoming an international centre for innovation in the development of energy and mineral resources as well as in renewable energy technologies.

Understanding and managing the cumulative impact of a variety of activities making up the footprint on the landscape is challenging. Much of the region's natural grasslands have been converted to other uses. As markets develop and change, cultivated crops have provided better economic returns and the pressure to convert native grasslands increases. New technology and innovation develop

around the higher value use of the land and conversion increases.

The activity level of the entire carbon-based energy sector can be impacted by any combination of commodity prices, global economics, politics, the global climate change agenda, or social acceptability. The global energy/environment relationship has major implications for Alberta's native prairie and parkland ecosystems. Conventional oil and gas extraction in Alberta continue to impact native landscapes with the infrastructure necessary to support it (such as roads, wells, pipeline development, and storage). Non-conventional gas development from coalbed methane or shale gas also have negative impacts to Alberta grasslands.

The prairie conservation challenges for the renewable and non-renewable energy sector poses several challenges to prairie conservation as well. In recent years, wind energy generation has increased dramatically in southern Alberta. Often, the best-suited locations for these projects occur on exposed prairie ridges and are often high value ecological and aesthetic landscapes. Solar generation is also getting increased attention. Often, solar companies target less productive soils for the developments. Moreover, alternate energy sources generate electricity on site, which may require construction of transmission and distribution infrastructure, further impacting native prairie and parkland habitats and the wildlife that depend on it.

All types of energy development pose a risk to conservation of

native grassland ecosystems. Energy development fragments the landscape and allows invasive species to spread, both of which damage ecosystem integrity. The key to management and mitigation include: limiting and coordinating the total footprint activity at any one time; coordination amongst different energy players; and timing and phasing activities so reclamation certification precedes new activity. Restoration of disturbed landscapes takes on an important role. Strong reclamation commitments are critical to ensuring the continued survival of native plants and the wildlife that are associated with them.

Environment

Approaches to environmental management and governance in Alberta continue to shift and evolve. The overall trend in environmental management is toward collaboration. Some of the most successful programs have collaboration built in as a delivery principle. MULTISAR, a program working with landholders to support species at risk, is a prime

example. The Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society, commonly known as 'Cows and Fish' is another good example. Other examples of place-based and broad-tent include: partnerships initiated as a result of Alberta Government air and water strategies such as Airsheds and Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils; locally driven watershed, landholder and municipal groups such as watershed stewardship groups, and Transboundary Grasslands Partnership; and native prairie-focused partnerships such as the Prairie Conservation Forum and the Grassland Restoration Forum.

The Government of Alberta promotes integrated and sustainable approaches to resource and environmental management through an integrated resource management system that can address environmental cumulative effects and meet social, economic, and environmental goals. Regional plans developed under the Land Use Framework are a major delivery mechanism, as is the establishment of an energy regulator (Alberta Energy Regulator), that are intended



to work as components of an integrated system, along with the environmental and natural resource management policy agency (Alberta Environment and Parks). Federal and provincial governments place strong emphasis on environmental and economic sustainability, responsible stewardship, and innovation.

An effective response to climate change requires both controlling emissions and leading on adaptation measures. Alberta's vulnerability to resource-based commodity prices continues. There are liabilities on the environmental file that affect the provinces' environmental reputation and economic interests: Are the perceptions of our neighbours and our trading partners about our broader environmental stewardship impacting access to development capital and export markets for product? Healthy native grasslands are a valuable tool in the management of greenhouse gases and carbon storage. Stewardship of Alberta's native grassland is an important step to demonstrating Alberta's leadership in reducing the impacts of climate change and

supporting the Alberta economy.

It is critical that we understand the biological diversity and ecological function of these regions to enable an informed discussion about current initiatives and policies shaping the use of these regions.

Human Values

The culture of Alberta is influenced by the native grassland, but the rural/urban demographics are changing. Population growth has driven urban expansion and rural subdivision development. Increasing wealth among Albertans who are seeking a country lifestyle influences high value landscapes and fragments portions of remaining natural landscapes. Infrastructure development for transportation of goods and people has intersected important migration corridors for wildlife across all portions of the prairie and parkland landscape. Maintaining connection to the native landscape remains a challenge. New citizens and the concentration of urban dwellers may not easily develop the connection to

the land that has been a core value of Albertans. This important link to the land needs to be developed and strengthened.

Management and conservation of the prairie landscape are influenced by the policies implemented by the federal, provincial and municipal governments, as well as the various public and private boards, agencies, and organizations working in the prairie and parkland regions of Alberta. Land ownership has major influence over the management of native grassland with a mosaic of private and public ownership. The outcomes, approaches and actions in the new PCAP have been developed with these drivers and trends in mind. The PCF involves a large partnership of organizations and individuals and project delivery philosophy is driven by collaborative approaches.

Alberta's native prairie and parkland are part of our past and present; with collaborative, thoughtful action, they will also be part of our future. Working together we can go far in ensuring a healthy native prairie, a healthy economy, and a



History of a Prairie Conservation Strategy

The Prairie Conservation Forum (originally named the Prairie Conservation Coordinating Committee), was established in 1988 by the Government of Alberta in response to the original Prairie Conservation Action Plan (PCAP). The PCF has grown over the last 33 years, and today is comprised of some fifty-member organizations. These organizations represent three levels of government, non-government organizations,

industry, academia, and agricultural and environmental interest groups and individuals.

The first PCAP was released by the World Wildlife Fund – Canada and the provincial governments of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1988. It was a five-year blueprint (which concluded in 1994), aimed at prairie-wide efforts to conserve and manage native prairie species, communities, and habitats.

Following the conclusion of the inaugural 1994 prairie-wide PCAP, successor PCAPs were developed in the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The Alberta and Saskatchewan PCAP groups continue to remain active today. The 2021-2025 PCAP is the seventh-generation guiding document of the original PCAP, and continues to provide an ongoing profile for prairie and parkland conservation initiatives.



Strategic Direction

VISION

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

MISSION

The Prairie Conservation Forum is open to all organizations and individuals that support and have an interest in achieving the PCAP Vision and who are willing to apply the PCF's Guiding Principles. The Vision will be achieved by:

- Defining desired biodiversity outcomes and measuring progress towards outcomes;
- Acquiring and sharing data, information and knowledge;
- Advancing understanding and increasing awareness of the native prairie and parkland landscape and its interdependence with the social and economic needs of society;
- Collaborating to enhance the conservation and compatible use of native prairie and parkland landscapes; and
- Maintaining the stability and building the capacity of the Prairie Conservation Forum.

This PCAP recognizes the need to focus activities around three primary strategies. These strategies underlie all of the approaches and actions that follow within this PCAP.

The strategies and actions identified in this PCAP continue the approach of the 2016-2021 PCAP. It is focused on an agenda that can be effectively driven by the PCF and its members or in association with other partner organizations.

The intent is to achieve more by focussing on pieces the PCF and its partners can successfully complete. Success in advancing the outcomes and vision articulated in the plan will mean connecting thoughtful and directed activities with our greatest asset - the aligned energy and capacity of the PCF's diverse membership.

STRATEGIES

This PCAP recognizes the need to focus activities around three primary strategies. These strategies underlie all of the approaches and actions that follow within this PCAP.



1. Completing inventories and assessments of native biodiversity within Alberta.

- Identify and map areas with high native biodiversity values... what's important, where it is and why (Figure 4).

Maps provide a powerful tool for visualizing resource management issues. They can depict the

current state of knowledge and represent the shared values among stakeholders. Collaboration in producing and updating maps promotes environmental democracy, forges networks of association across jurisdictions and among stakeholders, and facilitates coordination and cooperation for advancing collective actions.

2. Sharing knowledge and fostering a dialogue around prairie conservation

The dialogue will be focused on rural Albertans, local governments, provincial agencies and other organizations that share an interest in prairie and parkland conservation.

The enduring conservation of native prairie and parkland requires the active involvement and cooperation of affected interests including local communities, industry, non-government organizations, and all levels of government. Numerous organizations, agencies and industries possess data, information and knowledge that, if shared, enhances our capacity to understand, plan and implement prairie and parkland conservation initiatives.



The PCF aims to foster partnerships, engage Albertans and increase awareness of the PCF mission and the new PCAP among PCF member organizations, government agencies, conservation and agricultural organizations, and industry.

3. Promoting stewardship of native prairie and parkland ecosystems.

Effective stewardship empowers PCF and members to more readily deliver on actions. A clear focus needs to be on private landowners and local governments.

The collection and sharing of knowledge must support and facilitate prairie conservation. In reality, it is the stewardship of many that will be necessary to achieve the long-term outcomes of the Prairie Conservation Action Plan.

Stewardship works at different levels from federal and provincial agencies, to First Nations, local governments and private landowners. A clear focus of this PCAP is in support of provincial agencies and local governments.

Delivering on these strategies is not simple and straightforward. They are complex and will rely heavily on activities that are consistent with the Mission and Guiding Principles. The actions listed in this plan provide a sense of the PCF priorities in the next five years. However, the annual PCF work plan will provide more specificity and consider other actions as circumstances change and opportunities arise.

• TOWN

CITY

WATER

BIODIVERSITY

HIGH VALUE LANDSCAPES

Map of Alberta showing towns, cities, water bodies, and biodiversity hotspots. The map includes a legend for Town (black dot), City (pink area), Water (blue area), and Biodiversity (green area). Major cities like Edmonton, Calgary, and Lethbridge are highlighted. The map also shows a grid of latitude and longitude lines and a scale bar at the bottom.

Highlights from 2016-2020 PCAP

Strategy One: Completing Inventories and Assessments of Native Biodiversity

Activity: Understanding of change analysis and intactness.

The 'State of the Prairie' collaborative study reports on the current extent of native prairie and parkland and the change in native prairie cover in the Grassland and Parkland Natural Region over various scales to determine any changes or losses of native prairie over time and where they occur. The project area was summarized and evaluated by Grassland and Parkland Natural Regions, public/private lands, natural subregion, eco-districts as well as counties and other administrative areas such as military bases and First Nations. Given the available data sets, the technical team was able to report on the change over time from a baseline of 1990 to what was current in 2010. The technical report provides valuable information on how much of the prairie and parkland landscape remain in native vegetation. It can be found on the PCF website at albertapcf.org.

Activity: Collaborate with research and practitioner parties to better understand structural and functional connectivity on regional and local landscapes.

In 2017, PCF commissioned work on 'Connecting habitats in the prairie of Alberta: What does this mean and how do we manage for it?'. The resulting paper provides a foundation that future work into connecting corridors could be built upon. It covered questions such as: What are the key habitats that need to be connected? What factors or habitat elements facilitate movement? What are barriers to movement and how can the barriers

be mitigated? This document was one of the guiding documents for a 2019 expert workshop facilitated by the PCF to come to a better understanding of how (and where) to move forward with connectivity work in the prairies.

Strategy Two: Sharing Knowledge and Fostering Dialogue around Prairie Conservation

Activity: Continue engagement and support related to minimal disturbance approaches for renewable energy development on native prairie.

The PCF provided leadership, guidance and funding towards a 'Beneficial Management Practices for Renewable Energy Projects' document released in 2017. A stakeholder workshop was held prior to the release of this paper to get feedback into the proposed Beneficial Management Practices (BMP's). Stemming from this work, two communication pieces were developed in 2018. The first was geared towards landholders and highlights the benefits of native prairie and provides information about the renewable energy industry. Printed copies were sent to all Municipal Districts (MDs) and counties within the grassland/parkland natural regions of Alberta. The second was geared towards the solar and wind energy industry and highlights best management practices for these industries, with emphasis on avoiding native prairie habitats. Electronic copies were sent to industry and government representatives, as well as attendees of the renewable energy workshop that was held by PCF in 2017.

Activity: Explore opportunities for enhanced landscape-level collaboration, confirm known landscape/species connectivity, and identify gaps and priorities. Commence by holding a workshop with Montana and Saskatchewan agencies and stakeholders to build relationships.

The PCF identified the need for transboundary collaboration on native prairie concerns between Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Montana to focus on large landscape conservation in the Grasslands Natural Region. The first workshop was held in Elkwater, Alberta in January of 2016, and has since been held annually rotating between the three jurisdictions. The workshops have been deemed successful and contribute to meeting the goals of the PCF, by providing a forum where transboundary jurisdictions, agencies and sectors can communicate and work collaboratively to conserve and enhance native grassland landscapes.

Activity: Encourage the activity of large landscape conservation planning on the prairies among conservation groups and individuals.

The PCF was invited to present a professional development session at the Alberta Institute of Agrologists annual provincial conference in 2018. One hundred and forty people attended the capacity session to learn about conservation of native prairie through the lens of Prairie Conservation Forum initiatives. Initiatives discussed included maintaining large native prairie and parkland landscapes through the state of the prairie collaborative initiative, conserving connecting corridors for biodiversity, and beneficial management practices for renewable energy projects. Roundtable interactive sessions

included topics on the risks of losing large native landscapes, strategies to balance impacts and conservation of native prairie and parkland, identifying risks associated with loss of connectivity, strategies available to retain or re-establish connectivity, identifying additional contemporary challenges (to renewable energy) and emerging opportunities, and collaborative strategies to address challenges and build on opportunities.

Activity: Promote and produce educational materials and products for rural and urban audiences about prairie and parkland habitats of Alberta.

The PCF education committee continued to deliver the interactive videoconference for grades four through seven called 'Deep Roots: The Story of Alberta's Grassland'. Deep Roots allows for direct contact and interaction between the person running the program and the audience, and incorporates professional video segments and games into the program. Activities were created for each grade, with pre-videoconference activities meant to introduce the students to definitions/concepts that they will learn about in the broadcast, and post-videoconference activities meant to expand on concepts learned during the broadcast. To encourage teachers to fill out evaluation forms and submit proof of completed activities, there is an additional opportunity for Deep Roots participants to enter a draw for a \$500 bursary to travel to a grassland site and experience them first-hand. From 2016-2020, 2,296 students have taken part in Deep Roots. Three bursaries have been used by winning classes to visit grassland sites in Alberta.

Strategy Three: Promoting Stewardship of Native Prairie and Parkland Ecosystems

Activity: Support conservation practices by managers of large native landscapes. Apply best management practices of conserving native prairie and initiate pilot projects.

The PCF brought together member organizations to form a committee to offer a range management course for ranchers. The resulting Alberta Range Stewardship Course was first offered in 2018 with the vision of being a collaboratively delivered, annual range management course that is provincial in scope, regional, and local in delivery. The course provides continued stewardship of rangelands through field training in core range management principles, plant identification and lessons learned from ranchers and agency staff. The emphasis is on sharing skills and enhancing working relationships both within and outside the ranching community to support long-term sustainable management of rangelands. The course was successfully offered in 2018, 2019 and 2020 (the latter through webinars) with plans to continue the course well into the future.



Activity: Support work on inventories and assessments that apply to large landscape conservation.

The PCF continues to provide support to the MULTISAR program through a grant from the Alberta government. The MULTISAR program is focused on multi-species conservation at the landscape level that promotes stewardship through voluntary participation of landholders on both Crown and private lands within the Grassland Natural Region of Alberta. The primary goals of MULTISAR are to implement collaborative strategies to manage multiple species on a defined working landscape and to assist with their implementation. These strategies are built as landholder-specific Habitat Conservation Strategies (HCS), which include detailed range and wildlife assessments, leading to the implementation of habitat enhancement activities that benefit both the farm/ranch operation and wildlife. Since its inception in 2002, MULTISAR has implemented 216 habitat enhancement projects on ~514,593 acres of land. By the end of March 2020, MULTISAR has influenced stewardship activities and applied best management strategies for species at risk through direct contact with landholders on ~676,306 acres of land. MULTISAR continues to interact with the public as well through its website and social media platforms, by providing live presentations at events, conferences, and other venues by having a booth at the Calgary Stampede and other tradeshowes such as Aggie Days, and through its newsletter and fact sheets.

OUTCOMES

In order to bring the 2021-2025 PCAP Vision to reality, important strategic or long-term environmental outcomes must be achieved. These outcomes require close linkage to management and planning decisions by all levels of government and private landowners. These outcomes are closely connected to existing functional ecosystems in prairie and parkland Alberta. Three long term outcomes will be the focus of the PCF, with approaches and actions to address each outcome.

OUTCOME 1 Maintain Large Native Prairie and Parkland Landscapes

The existence of intact and fully functioning native prairie and parkland landscapes in Alberta are the best guarantor of future regional biodiversity and environmental quality.

Native prairie and parkland landscapes provide ecological goods and services such as carbon storage, biodiversity, clean air and water, as well as outdoor recreation, nature enjoyment activities and hunting and fishing opportunities that enhance our quality of life. They are also home to families and ranching communities that have frequently proven to be faithful stewards of the environment, and as such have become icons of western Canadian society. In the first half of the 1900s, during the time of western expansion and settlement, large tracts of native prairie were ploughed by pioneers who were homesteading on native prairie and parkland landscapes in Alberta as required by the homestead act of the times. As a result of the massive landscape changes associated with the settlement period and incremental continued expansion, we have

inherited a diminished biodiversity, and the native biodiversity, which currently exists, is frequently under threat. For example, over 75% of Alberta's species at risk, including sage grouse, burrowing owls, Sprague's pipit, ferruginous hawk, swift fox, western silvery minnow, eastern short horned lizard, and the western spiderwort, are associated with prairie environments. Their decline is largely due to these landscape changes. Alberta's remaining native landscapes are an integral component of a much larger continental ecosystem. The maintenance of large native landscapes, whose integrity has not been compromised, affords society a greater range of options in the future and will help us to better withstand the anticipated climatic changes, including increased variability of drought and flooding, that are forecast for the future. Additionally, maintaining native grassland for there intrinsic value of conserving nature for the nature's sake is equally important. Native grasslands help define Alberta as a Province and conservation of native grassland for today is equally important to the conservation of native grassland for the future.



Approaches and Actions

Large Blocks of Native Prairie

**Actions in bold font are actions that the PCF will undertake directly, whereas actions in normal font are actions that PCF partners will undertake.*

Approach 1

Promote Large Landscape Conservation

Actions

- a. Provide input to government policy through engagement in regional plans and other government initiatives.**
- b. Lead, promote and facilitate large landscape conservation planning on the prairies among conservation partners and collaborators.**
- c. Encourage ecosystem services work that documents and quantifies the value of native prairie ecosystems.
- d. Support and facilitate the stewardship of large intact blocks of native prairie to ensure their retention through engagement and collaboration using various conservation approaches.
- e. Support and collaborate work on inventories and assessments that apply to large landscape conservation.
- f. Review key findings from PCF generated or sponsored projects and identify future initiatives.**

Approach 2

Understanding of Change Analysis and Intactness

Actions

- a. Produce occasional paper to discuss and provide context on the results of the state of the prairie project.
- b. Inform and share results of state of the prairie through development of extension materials and events.
- c. Further analysis into the quality and condition of the remaining native prairie (anthropogenic changes, invasive species or other identified factors).
- d. Pursue as appropriate the recommendations outlined within the State of the Prairie Technical Report for further analysis.



Approach 3

Minimize Disturbance and Restoration of Industrial Footprint on Native Prairie

Actions

- a. Retain the structural and functional integrity of native prairie ecosystems by encouraging compatible human use and development opportunities.
- b. Support effective implementation of policy dealing with industrial footprint restoration and reclamation through extension events and the development of technical documents.
- c. Continue engagement and support of minimal disturbance approaches for renewable energy development on native prairie.



Approach 4

Encourage Stewardship among Land Managers

Actions

- a. Support conservation practices by managers of large native landscapes. Apply best management practices of conserving native prairie.



OUTCOME 2 Conserve Connecting Corridors for Biodiversity

Habitat connectivity is essential to maintain native biodiversity and ecosystem function. The conservation and restoration of important corridors will help to maintain functional native prairie and parkland landscapes.

The majority of our native prairie and parkland landscapes are fragmented, and in some areas the connectivity within and between ecosystems has been severed, creating habitat islands. This has the effect of isolating genetic communities, causing species decline or extirpation from traditional ranges, and reducing native biodiversity. The greater sage grouse, which once ranged north of the Red Deer River, is now confined to a small geographical area to the south of the Cypress Hills and is facing rapid population decline within Alberta. The sage grouse has become a casualty of land fragmentation

associated with increasing industrialization of the prairie landscape. Landscape fragmentation within the last five years has also reduced ferruginous hawk populations to the extent that this species is now the subject of a provincial recovery plan. The pronghorn, an important game species and a prairie icon, migrates through a bottleneck across the Trans-Canada highway to the east of Medicine Hat – a habitat corridor that may be permanently closing because of increased traffic volumes and development pressures within this movement corridor. Further habitat blockages in this key corridor could result in significant winter population die offs and genetic isolation within Alberta's Pronghorn populations. The conservation of major river corridors, coulee systems, and critical migratory and home range travel routes are essential to the integrity of ecosystems and biological diversity found in prairie and parkland Alberta.

Approaches and Actions

Connecting Corridors

**Actions in bold font are actions that the PCF will undertake directly, whereas actions in normal font are actions that PCF partners will undertake.*

Approach 1

Analyze of Location and Significance

Actions

- a. Identification of significant major corridors for species reliant on native prairie.**
- b. Conduct a pilot of fine-scale mapping and assessment of at least two other corridors.**
- c. Encourage and support work by agencies, research foundations or academia that can support any of the above actions.
- d. Support work on inventories and assessments that apply to connecting corridors.



Approach 2

Build Awareness and Networking

Actions

- a. For delineated corridors, identify relevant stakeholders and partnerships. Encourage and support corridor conservation networking and collaboration.
- b. Develop and target extension materials or practical guides on the importance of connectivity and connectivity retention. Target and tailor to landholder, municipal and industry audiences.
- c. Ensure current information related to corridor analysis, workshops or extension materials is posted on, or linked to and from, the PCF website.

Approach 3

Promote Stewardship

Actions

- a. Provide input to government policy through engagement in regional planning and policy initiatives.
- b. Work with appropriate jurisdictions and stakeholders to put in place a corridor conservation/retention strategy for one major corridor.
- c. Encourage and support development of comprehensive corridor conservation planning guidelines for right-of-way alignments, development control, industry activity and land use practices.

Approach 4

Collaborate on Transboundary and Cross-Cultural Connections

Actions

- a. In cooperation with Montana and Saskatchewan, support the conservation of transboundary native prairie ecosystems through the Transboundary Grasslands Partnership collaboration.
- b. Continue to hold annual transboundary workshops rotating between Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Montana.
- c. Encourage and support work by agencies, research foundations or academia to fill information and research gaps or support spatial analysis of identified priorities.
- d. Increase awareness of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and application in partnerships.



OUTCOME 3 Protect Isolated Native Habitats

Within fragmented landscapes there exist small, isolated pockets of ecological refugia that may be as important for native biodiversity conservation as larger prairie and parkland landscapes. These need to be identified and studied, and for stewardship to be promoted where required.

Collectively, these smaller areas offer waypoints of refuge for migrating wildlife and often contain species that are significant to hunters and anglers; or, they serve as oases for species at risk. For example, Alberta's established wetlands and ephemeral shoaling and loafing areas, which are used by waterfowl and shorebirds, collectively contribute to our international

commitments for the maintenance of critical breeding grounds for North American migratory waterfowl. Some parks and protected areas are disconnected or are becoming increasingly isolated through land fragmentation, yet these protected areas are capable of retaining diverse communities of native wildlife and plants. These small scattered pockets of natural habitat, which include but are not limited to riparian areas, wetlands, rocky outcrops and remnant parcels of native prairie and parkland, are usually part of the (working) land base that is used by farmers and ranchers. The retention of viable pockets and patches of habitat provides an example of the cooperative stewardship, which is being undertaken by some landowners. Protecting isolated habitats provides an important link in the connectivity chain within a fragmented ecosystem.



Approaches and Actions

Isolated Habitats

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Approach 1

Define 'Isolated' Habitats/Fragments

Actions

- a. **Conduct a literature review to define isolated native prairie habitat in Alberta for native prairie obligates or species at risk.**

Approach 2

Identify locations of isolated native prairie habitats

Actions

- a. **Utilize existing GIS datasets held by PCF member organizations to confirm and determine locations and sizes of isolated habitat fragments.**

Approach 3

Identify the Value or Values of these Isolated Parcels

Actions

- a. **Establish a valuation system based on input from the membership, partners and best available information.**

Education Approaches

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Approach 1

Education and Awareness Programming

Actions

- a. Promote and produce education materials and products for rural and urban audiences about the prairie and parkland habitats of Alberta.**
- b. Promote and produce targeted education materials and products that stem from PCF project initiatives.**



Approach 2

Provide Web-Based Access to Prairie Conservation Information

Actions

- a. Update the PCF website to help increase the profile of work being done in the prairies and parkland habitats of Alberta by PCF and by PCF member organizations.**



Approach 3

Promote native prairie conservation through conferences, events, speaking engagements, etc.

Actions

- a. Host the Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference (PCEC) in Alberta in 2022.**
- b. Support the continuation of the range stewardship course and facilitate a strategy amongst collaborators to ensure the long-term sustainability of the range stewardship course.**

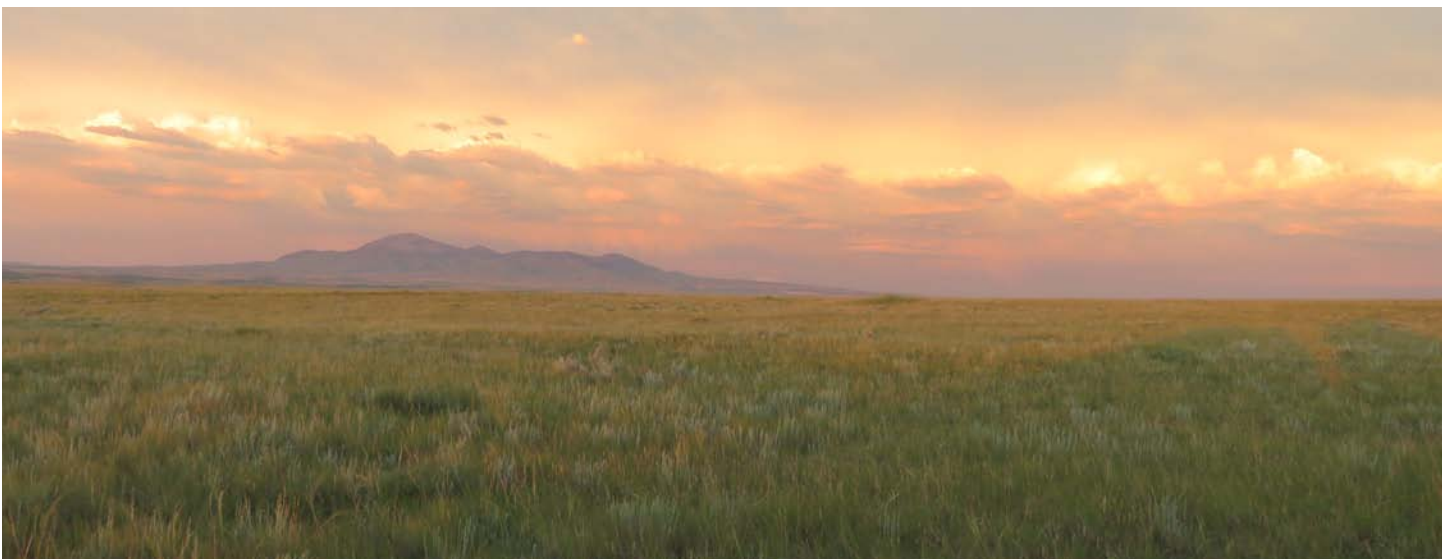


Guiding Principles of the Prairie Conservation Forum

Increase the capacity of the Prairie Conservation Forum and its member organizations to achieve the Vision and Outcomes of the Prairie Conservation Action Plan.

The strength of the PCF lies within its broad membership and their capacity to work both together and independently to achieve common goals. The PCF provides coordinating and advisory functions while respecting the individual mandates and interests of its members. As such, the PCF will follow basic guiding principles:

- 1** Management responsibilities for native prairie and parkland fall primarily on public agencies (i.e. Federal, Provincial, and Local Governments), First Nations and private landowners. The PCF will only support and facilitate discussions concerning management actions that contribute positively to the Vision and Mission of the PCF.
- 2** The PCF will facilitate networking, information exchange and discussion amongst member organizations and with other jurisdictions outside of Alberta.
- 3** Partnership activities are based on the belief that the social and economic benefits, which are derived from prairie and parkland ecosystems, are dependent on the ecological health of these systems. Therefore, management strategies will be promoted that ensure the ongoing health of these ecosystems.
- 4** The PCF Partnership draws together diverse opinions and approaches to ecosystem management. To best ensure the development of collaborative and effective solutions, the Partnership will interact in a manner that is respectful of that diversity.
- 5** PCF members will strive to implement PCF programs and activities in their respective organizations in support of the PCF Vision.
- 6** The Vision can only be achieved by the efforts of many, including the PCF itself and its member organizations, accompanied by effective working relationships with others who share the vision.
- 7** The PCF supports the equitable sharing of social and economic costs and the benefits of maintaining native biodiversity and ecological services among all segments of society.



Building Capacity in the Prairie Conservation Forum

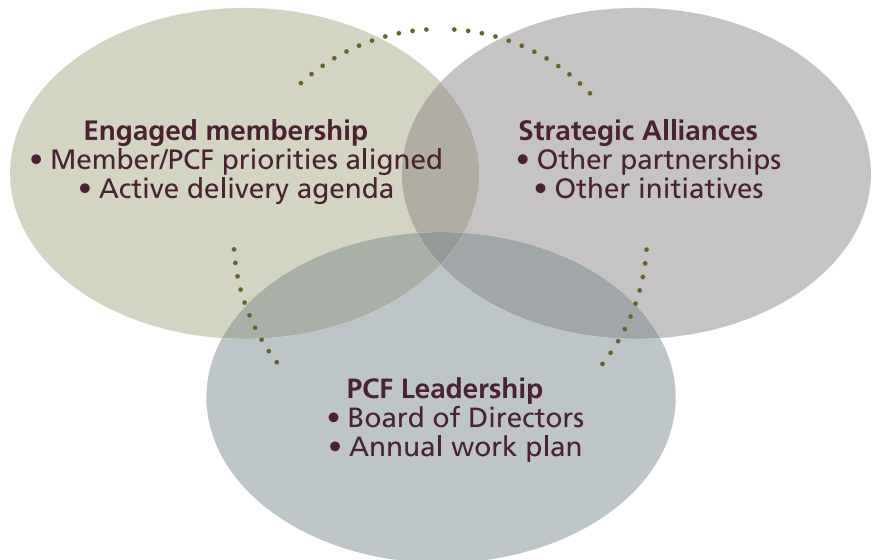
To ensure that the PCF can continue to achieve the Vision and Outcomes of the Prairie Conservation Action Plan, supporting activities are required. These are:

- a. Continue to establish and maintain a stable funding base and institutional support to maintain the PCF Coordinator position and to advance key strategies within the PCAP.
- b. Promote and maintain a diverse membership and Board of Directors to advance the PCF's Vision and Outcomes.
- c. Promote awareness, linkages and partnerships with PCF members, Government of Alberta agencies and other organizations to achieve the PCAP outcomes.
- d. Encourage more participation on the PCF from organizations in the Central Parkland Natural Region.
- e. Establish and maintain mechanisms to facilitate the timely exchange of information and ideas amongst member organizations in the PCF.



Implementation of the PCAP

The 2021-2025 PCAP follows the format of the previous PCAP by including three long-term outcomes. Approaches and actions have been identified to address each of these three outcomes and highlights activities that will be led and implemented by the PCF, as well as some activities that could and should be led by members. As with the previous PCAP, this direction for the PCAP requires a more involved and active membership and Board of Directors. The following approach will be used to ensure that the PCAP is implemented within the acknowledged constraints in capacity of the PCF.



- The PCF Board of Directors will be responsible for overseeing and facilitating the implementation of the PCAP and in cooperation with subcommittees, setting out a process for achieving defined plan outcomes.
- An annual work plan and a reporting structure will be established by the Board that identifies the PCF's priorities, operations, and activities.
- In preparing the work plan, the PCF will consider opportunities to engage the membership and establish effective partnerships with other organizations whose mandate is directly related to the Strategic Direction in the PCAP.
- An annual report will be prepared to document PCF achievements at the end of each year and to help identify priorities for amendments to the work plan.
- The annual report for the previous year and the draft work plan for the coming year will be presented to the PCF membership at the January Annual General Meeting.
- Standing committees may be established whenever there is a clear and ongoing need to focus PCF efforts around a specific strategy or activity. As a general rule, these committees will be chaired by a member of the Board.
- Task groups may be established whenever a clear task emerges that has a defined outcome, deliverable or endpoint. Task groups may be led by any member of the PCF, and will periodically update the Board on the task group's activity and progress.
- The next five-year Alberta PCAP (2026-2030) should include a section that summarizes key plan achievements and other PCF accomplishments during the life of this PCAP (2021-2025).

Glossary

The following definitions are provided for some of the key terms used in the Alberta PCAP.

Anthropogenic

Environmental modification through the work or activity of humans.

Benchmark

A fixed or established reference point against which change, outcomes and conditions can be measured.

Biological Diversity (Biodiversity)

The variability among living organisms from all sources, including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems; and the ecological complexes of which they are part. This includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems (Source: The Convention on Biological Diversity (1992).



Community

The populations of different species interacting with each other in a particular habitat.

Connectivity

Habitat linkages that connect distinguishable areas (i.e., habitat nodes/patches) within a landscape.

Conservation

The wise use, management and protection of natural resources to maintain their quality and quantity on a sustainable basis.

Conservation Ethic

A way of acting and thinking within a conservation oriented framework.

Corridor

An intact passageway that allows for the free movement of animals between habitats in a landscape.

Crown Land

Public lands held by the Crown in right of the provincial or federal government. In Alberta, provincial Crown Land is administered under the authority of the Public Lands Act.

Cumulative Effects

The incremental and combined effects (impacts) of human actions and projects on the environment within a geographically defined area.

Demonstration Site (Project)

An area set aside for the express purpose of testing, confirming, or establishing the outcome of resource management interventions for the benefit of informing others.

Ecological Integrity (see also Landscape Integrity)

An ecosystem condition in which natural processes are intact and fully functional and in which biodiversity (i.e., native species and communities) and ecological components are sustained.

Ecosystem

The structure and function of living and non-living components and the ecological processes that link them.

Ecosystem Function

The set of processes that integrate ecosystem components.

Ecosystem Management

The art and science of conserving natural landscape diversity, productivity and processes while providing a sustainable flow of products to meet society's needs.

Ecosystem Services

Ecosystem services, also referred to as ecological goods and services, are the economic and social benefits humans derive, directly and indirectly, from the natural environment, such as clean air, healthy soil, biodiversity, water quality and quantity, and wildlife-related recreation (Source: Constanza et al, 1997; Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, 2006; Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005).

Environmental Indicators

A measurable variable – describing an environmental state or condition – that is used to assess the effectiveness of chosen strategies in achieving stated resource management goals, targets and objectives.

Ephemeral

Short-lived, as in water bodies such as ponds that fill or streams that flow briefly after precipitation events.

Fauna

All species of vertebrate and invertebrate animals.

Flora

All species of vascular and non-vascular plants.



Functional Ecosystem

A functional ecosystem is one where ecological processes (e.g. energy flow, hydrologic cycling, nutrient cycling, predation, migration) express little to no deviation from an expected condition (Source: Pellant et al. 2005).

GIS (Geographic Information System)

A mapping tool for collecting, storing, retrieving, displaying and transforming or manipulating mapped data. GIS makes 'smart maps' in that any type of data can be mapped where it occurs in real space and used to answer management questions for particular applications. It can be used to model 'what-if' scenarios – which are an important component of environmental and risk assessments – and is used in cumulative impacts modelling as well as examining trends over time and space.

Habitat

The place where an animal or plant lives.

Industrial Footprint

The geographical area which is disturbed or occupied by an industrial project or activity.

Landscape

All of the biotic and abiotic features of an area including vegetation, microbes, wildlife, topography, soils, geology and climate. A landscape can be a small feature such as a hill, or a regional feature such as a natural region or subregion (see definition of these terms).

Landscape Integrity

The quality of a landscape mosaic in which the structure and function of naturally occurring landforms, surface features and landscape characteristics are maintained while accommodating acceptable levels of disturbance.

Management Plan

A document which contains intentional direction statements (i.e., vision, goals, objectives, strategies, outcomes, indicators, targets, thresholds, guidelines, actions, etc.) which are to be pursued to help ensure that a particular species or habitat does not become rare, threatened or endangered.

Microfauna

Insects and other small invertebrates like mites, nematodes and worms that serve an essential role in ecosystems.



Monitoring

The act of assessing some entity with the intent of detecting changes over time. Ecosystem monitoring, for example, might include establishing some benchmarks or records of initial condition and then surveying those benchmarks every few years for changes in wildlife, plant and microbial composition.

Native Biodiversity of Alberta

All forms of life present in prairie and parklands of Alberta at all its levels, from genes and species, to ecosystems and ecological and evolutionary processes that existed in the region before settlement by Europeans. It does not include non-endemic species. Native biodiversity is a reflection of the ecological integrity of native prairie and parkland ecosystems.

Native Prairie

An area of unbroken grassland or aspen parkland dominated by non-introduced species.

Native Prairie Ecosystem

See 'native prairie' and 'ecosystem'. Includes soil, hydrology, vegetation, climate, microbes, wildlife, landscape features, and the processes which link them.

Natural Capital

Refers to those naturally occurring assets that are found on, above or below the earth's surface including: water bodies, soils, forests and grasslands, minerals, energy resources, fish and wildlife, scenery, landforms, etc.

Natural Region/Subregion

A natural region is a broad landscape division characterized by a distinct set of climatic, vegetation, soil, and topographic features. A natural subregion is a finer subdivision of the natural region based on landform variations over a smaller area. There are six natural regions subdivided into 20 natural subregions in Alberta.

Parkland

The Alberta 'parkland' includes three natural subregions (Central Parkland, Peace River Parkland and Foothills Parkland) developed on dark-brown or black chernozemic soils. Characteristic vegetation includes in grassland portions and trembling aspen in the forested areas. This natural region has a well developed shrub and herbaceous layer.

Protection

Retention of the integrity, authenticity, and intrinsic value of the native prairie resource in perpetuity.

Public Land

Provincial Crown Land. Defined in Alberta's Public Lands Act as "land of the Crown in right of Alberta."

Range, Rangelands

Land on which the indigenous vegetation (climax or natural potential) is predominantly grasses, grass-like plants, forbs, or shrubs and is managed as a natural ecosystem. If plants are introduced, they are managed similarly.



Range Management

The art and science of optimizing the returns from rangelands in those combinations most desired by and suitable to society through the manipulation and conservation of range ecosystems.

Recovery Plan

A set of actions for a particular threatened, endangered or extirpated species, aimed at increasing its numbers so that it can be de-listed.

Resource

Any part of the environment which society perceives as having value.

Riparian Management

The actions associated with controlling resource uses in ecosystems along lakes, rivers and streams and on their floodplains to ensure their continuing integrity and function.

Species

A biological unit used to classify living things, describing life forms that share general physical characteristics, and which theoretically can mate and produce fertile offspring.

Species at Risk

An umbrella term that refers to species which fall into the following (federal) categories: extirpated, endangered, threatened, or of special concern (vulnerable).

“**Extirpated**” species are those that no longer exist in the wild in Canada but exist elsewhere.

“**Endangered**” species are those that face imminent extirpation or extinction.

“**Threatened**” species are those which are likely to become endangered if limiting factors are not reversed.

“**Special Concern**” (Vulnerable) species are those which may become threatened or endangered because of a combination of biological characteristics and identified threats.

Stewardship

The individual and corporate responsibility of one generation to maintain the natural inheritance that it has received, both for its benefit and for the benefit of future generations. A commitment to conserve and maintain the natural features of the land (Source: Grasslands – Toward a North American Conservation Strategy. 2003).



Sustainable Development

Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Source: Brundtland Commission).

Tame Pasture (tame grassland)

Landscapes which have been converted from natural vegetative cover to forage species through cultivation and seeding.

White Area

Established by the Government of Alberta in 1948, the ‘White Area’ is that portion of the province which is suitable for human settlement and agricultural use.

Wildlife

All native species of plants, animals (including all invertebrates and vertebrates) fungi, and some unicellular life forms.



Prairie Conservation Forum (current membership)

The Prairie Conservation Forum is a voluntary association of Alberta organizations and individuals whose interests or jurisdictions relate to prairie and parkland landscapes. It exists to encourage effective implementation of the Prairie Conservation Action Plan and to provide an ongoing profile for prairie and parkland conservation initiatives. Its key functions include:

- providing a forum for networking and information exchange
- steering implementation of the PCAP
- promoting public awareness and education

Any organization wishing to participate in the work of the Forum may join the Prairie Conservation Forum. All Forum meetings are open to the public. The Prairie Conservation Forum meets about three times annually in various centers in prairie and parkland Alberta.

The active membership of the Prairie Conservation Forum at the time of publication is as follows:

AJM Environmental Inc.
www.ajmenv.com

Alberta Biodiversity
Monitoring Institute
www.abmi.ca

Alberta Chapter of the
Wildlife Society
www.actws.ca

Alberta Conservation Association
www.ab-conservation.com

Alberta Culture, Multiculturalism and
the Status of Women
www.alberta.ca/culture-multiculturalism-and-status-of-women.aspx

Alberta Environment and Parks
www.alberta.ca/environment-and-parks.aspx

Alberta Environmental
Farm Plan Program
www.albertaefp.com/

Alberta Grazing
Leaseholders Association
<https://albertagrazinglease.ca>

Alberta Riparian Habitat
Management Society, Cows and Fish
www.cowsandfish.org

Alberta Wilderness Association
www.albertawilderness.ca

Antelope Creek Ranch
www.antelopecreekranch.ca

Barbwire Consulting
<https://d.facebook.com/1234Barbwire/>

Battle River Watershed Alliance
www.battleriverwatershed.ca

Blood Tribe Land Management
<https://btlands.com/>

Boundary Creek
Landowners Association
<http://boundarycreekland.ca>

Calgary Zoo
www.calgaryzoo.com

Canadian Parks and
Wilderness Society
www.cpaws.org

Canadian Wildlife Service,
Environment Canada
www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=FD9B0E51-1

City of Lethbridge,
Helen Schuler Nature Centre
www.lethbridge.ca

Ducks Unlimited Canada
www.ducks.ca

Glenbow Ranch Park Foundation
www.grpf.ca

Grassland Restoration Forum
<https://grasslandrestorationforum.ca>

LandWise Inc.

Miistakis Institute
www.rockies.ca

Milk River Watershed Council
www.mrwcc.ca

MULTISAR Program
www.multisar.ca

Municipal District of Taber
www.mdtaber.ab.ca

Nature Conservancy of Canada
www.natureconservancy.ca

Nature Saskatchewan
www.naturesask.ca

Oldman Watershed Council
<https://oldmanwatershed.ca/>

Operation Grasslands Community,
Alberta Fish and Game Association
<http://grasslandcommunity.org/>

Safari Club International, Calgary
www.sci-calgary.org

Southern Alberta Land
Trust Society
www.salts-landtrust.org

Special Areas Board
www.specialareas.ab.ca

Tannas Conservation Services
www.tannasenvironmental.com

Trace Associates Inc.
www.traceassociates.ca

University of Alberta
www.ualberta.ca/index.html

University of Lethbridge,
Natural Product Laboratory
www.uleth.ca/welcome-university-lethbridge

Waterton Biosphere
Reserve Association
www.watertonbiosphere.com

Waterton Lakes National
Park, Parks Canada
www.waterton.ca

Western Stock Growers Association
www.wsga.ca

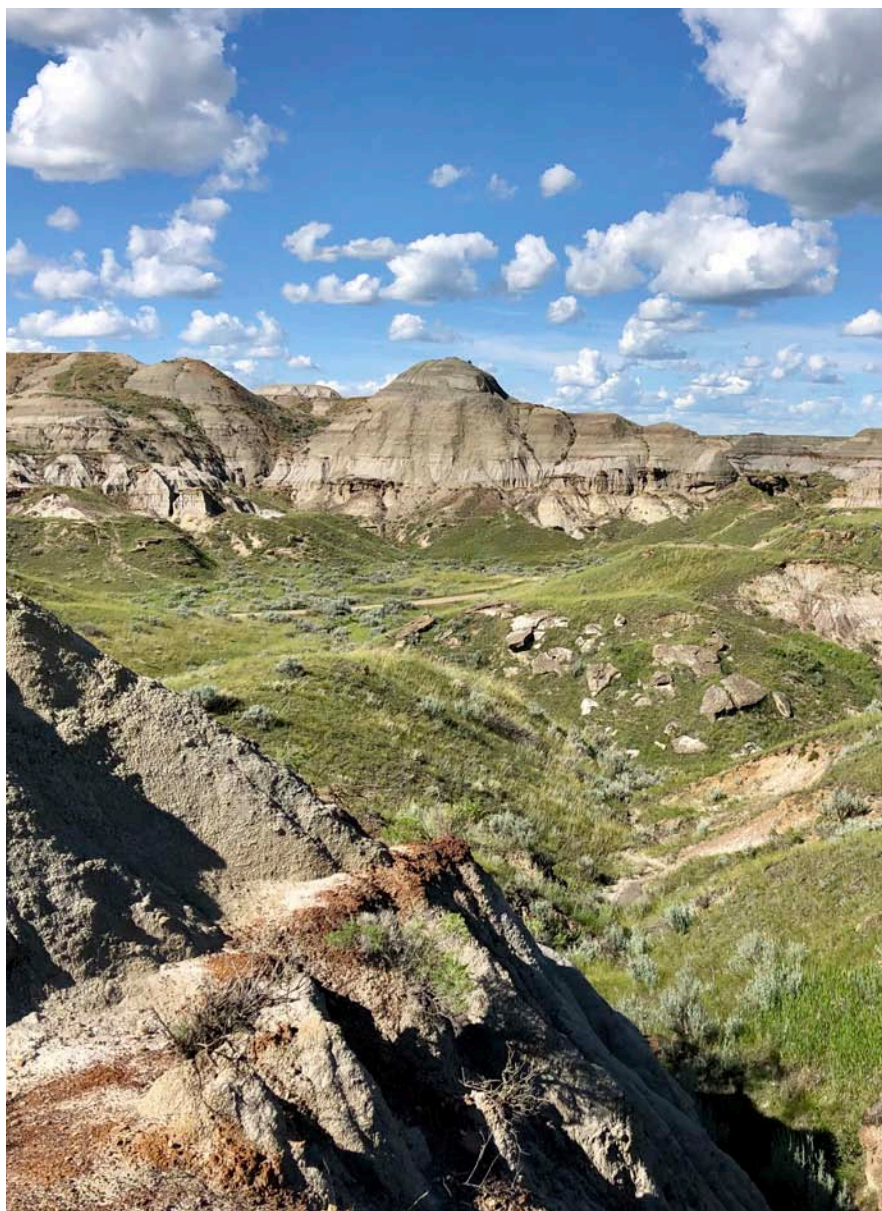
Individuals

There are many individuals that are involved with the PCF but do not represent an organization. Anyone with values that align with the vision, mission, and principles of the PCF are welcome to join.

Prairie Conservation Forum Coordinators

- Katheryn Taylor
- Sasha Harriott

**For contact information on active members and organizations,
please refer to www.albertapcf.org**




PCF Publications

Please refer to the PCF website www.albertapcf.org for a complete list of PCF reports and publications.

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