



Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum

April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021 Annual Report

(On-line)

December 2021

For more information about the Prairie Conservation Forum, contact:

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Photography credits:

- Front Cover Pronghorn; Katheryn Taylor
- This Page Swift Fox; Katheryn Taylor
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http://www.albertapcf.org



Prairie Conservation Forum Vision

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

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 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.

Outcomes

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.

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 land-scapes.

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, studied, and possibly protected.



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"There was only the enormous, empty prairie, with grasses blowing in waves of light and shadow across it, and the great blue sky above it, and birds flying up from it and singing with joy because the sun was rising. And on the whole enormous prairie there was no sign that any other human being had ever been there."

~Laura Ingalls Wilder, Little House on the Prairie~

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# Message from the Coordinators

2020 proved to be a different year for not only the PCF, but for everyone the world over. This is the year that COVID-19 struck and caused a world-wide pandemic. By the end of March, everything was starting to get shut down. People began working from home, kids were sent home from school, businesses were shut down, and travel was slowed down if not shut down altogether. There was a lot of adjustment for everybody as we tried to deal with the pandemic. The casino, which provides a lot of funds for the PCF, was cancelled, and finding funding became a little bit more difficult. However, the PCF has a contingency fund for just such emergencies, and so the PCF was able to carry on due to this and our wonderful volunteers who contribute a lot of their time to get projects done. Fortunately for the PCF, it was relatively easy to move to on-line meetings as well. Our spring and fall meetings in 2020, and our AGM in 2021, were all held online, as were all the PCF board meetings.

The PCF coordinators, Sasha Harriott and Katheryn Taylor, continued to be involved in all of the PCF committees and working groups, providing an array of support including project management, logistical help, leadership and administrative support where needed.

This past year one new committee was struck, the Isolated Habitats committee, to start working on defining what isolated native prairie habitats are. The Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference (PCESC) Committee, which had just chosen a venue to host the conference in 2022, had to cancel all plans to sign with the venue and instead, by decision of the PCF board, push the conference back by one year to see what would happen with the pandemic. The Range Stewardship course partnered with the Women's Grazing School to move to an online format. The State of the Prairie Committee and Connecting Corridors Committee continued working towards their goals, luckily not quite as impacted as the other committees.

We would like to thank all of the volunteers that sit on the working groups and committees for your time and efforts in helping to conserve native prairie and parkland in Alberta. And also a huge thank-you to all of the members and member organizations that stepped up to contribute funding to the PCF in this difficult year. The PCF membership continues to hold their high standards for prairie conservation, and without your support, none of this would be possible.

Katheryn Taylor and Sasha Harriott PCF Coordinators



## PCF Meetings and Tours

The PCF meetings in 2020 and 2021 were different due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All three meetings were moved to an online format and there were no tours. The Spring meeting was held on June 18, 2020 and was just a short update on what the PCF board and committees were working on. Members were encouraged to register for a presentation by Candace Savage, Into This World of Beauty, hosted by the Saskatchewan PCAP afterwards. The Fall meeting was held on September 17, 2020 and followed the same format, also keeping it very short. Unfortunately, a presentation on PCF's online school program, Deep Roots, experienced technical difficulties from the presenter and wasn't able to be given. The AGM, again online, offered the membership the opportunity to give live member updates. The past two meetings, members were encouraged to submit a written update. We also went through committee updates, had our annual board of directors elections, and had a presentation by Lindsye Murfin, Western Stock Growers Association, on their Grassland Conservation Market Pilot Project.

All of the meetings were recorded and can be found on the PCF website: www.albertapcf.org.

# Change Analysis: State of the Prairie

The State of the Prairie technical report was the first document to come from this committee and outlined what the current extent of native vegetation/features of the Grassland and Parkland Natural Regions is and what change has occurred from the earliest datasets (1990) to the latest (2010). To highlight the results from the technical paper, the committee collaborated with Alberta Agriculture to produce an interactive map that is user friendly and can show people what the state of the prairie in their area looks like. This map was added to PCF's new website and was featured on the main page. When this map became available in 2020, the PCF launched a social media campaign in the fall of 2020 with posts made twice a month to both Facebook and Instagram accounts that share the facts and stats about the benefits of native prairies. The PCF picked up many followers during this campaign, gaining more than 375 followers, over 175 new website visits, and posts viewed over 6,000 times between October 2020 and March 2021. Work also commenced on the state of the prairie occasional paper in early 2021. The goal of the paper is to provide greater context to the findings in the technical report and touch on the implications and potential opportunities arising from the findings. This report will be available later in 2021.

# Transboundary Working Group

The 5<sup>th</sup> Transboundary Grasslands Partnership Workshop was hosted in Regina, Saskatchewan in conjunction with Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan's Native Prairie Restoration and Reclamation Workshop. The workshop took place on February 25-27, 2020 and attracted over 250 participants from western Canada and northern United States.

Highlights from the workshop include: project updates from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Montana and progress status on the grasslands mapping tool. Presentations were given by Paul Jones on pronghorn crossings, Trent Bollinger on chronic wasting disease, greater sage grouse recovery and habitat restoration, policy instruments and conservation incentives by Jeremy Pittman, as well as an overview of the Great Plains Conservation Network and Jurisdictional Conservation Planning along with many more great presenta-



tions on the second day of the workshop. For more information, visit the transboundary section on the PCF website. All of these updates and presentations were given in between easy breakout conversations and good food with amazing people.

Overall, the workshop was a great success and continues to meet the partnership goals of providing a forum where transboundary jurisdictions and sectors can communicate and work collaboratively to conserve and enhance native grassland landscapes.

The core Transboundary Grasslands Partnership Team, led by Carolyn Gaudet (Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan) and Tim Romanow (Milk River Watershed Council Canada) met via conference call to share monthly updates and maintain communications throughout the year.

The 6<sup>th</sup> workshop will take place in Montana in 2021.

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# **Connecting Corridors**

The Connecting Corridors Committee continued to meet throughout 2020 to refine the actions around connectivity in the 2021-2025 PCAP. Through monthly meetings with dedicated volunteer committee members; the committee made the following recommendations:

\*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 Location and Significance <u>Actions</u>
- 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 <u>Actions</u>

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 Trans-boundary and Cross-Cultural Connections** <u>Actions</u>

- **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.



# Alberta Range Stewardship Course

In 2020, the Alberta Range Stewardship Committee moved to an online format like so many other important events. The committee joined forces with the Southern Alberta Grazing School for Women to complete year three of sharing knowledge, experiences and stories around range stewardship in Alberta.

The topics covered in 2020 were as follows:

- Grazing Principles and Practices presented by Ross Adams,
- Riparian 101 and Riparian Health Assessments by Norine Ambrose,
- Range Health Assessments by Ross Adams and Donna Lawrence,
- Ranching Women by Marj Veno and Cec Ruschkowski and
- Mental Health in Agriculture by Adelle Stewart.

The presentations took place over 2 weeks, with one 45-minute presentation taking place during the morning with an opportunity for interaction at the conclusion of the presentation through a question and answer period. The virtual grazing school was a great success with many of the participants happy to have the opportunity to safely interact from the comfort of their own homes. Also, those that were not able to participate had the opportunity to view the presentation when it was convenient as most of the presentations were recorded and posted on the PCF website. (https://www.albertapcf.org/about-prairies/range-stewardship).

An additional online webinar was held on mental health for those in the agriculture industry on February 8, 2021 titled: 7 Essential Strategies for Building Resiliency; Mental Health in Agriculture, presented by Jeff Couillard.



# Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference

The core committee for the 2022 PCESC conference was struck in 2019. In 2020, a venue was chosen, however, in light of COVID and shut-downs occurring at the end of March, the decision was made to not sign any contracts with the venue at this time. The PCF board voted to postpone the conference until 2023, with a decision to go ahead with it or cancel it coming in 2021.

## Education & Communication

The Deep Roots Videoconference suffered some set-backs in 2020 with Alberta Parks no longer able to deliver the videoconference. Two new presenters came on board, one from Ducks Unlimited and one from the Oldman Watershed Council, however, up-take by the schools was slow in response to COVID and limited advertising meant that no presentations were delivered in 2020-2021.

PCF developed a new website in 2020, with the website going live at the beginning of January 2021: www.albertapcf.org.

### PCAP Commíttee

The 2021-2025 Prairie Conservation Action Plan (PCAP) committee was struck in 2019. The goals of the committee were to document accomplishments in the current PCAP, look for gaps and action items that were not yet completed, frame an outline for the new PCAP for board review, and start drafting the PCAP 2021-2025. PCF Working Committees were asked to go through the 2016-2020 PCAP and let the PCAP committee know what they would like to see as action items in the new PCAP. The membership was presented with a draft of the new PCAP action items at the AGM in January, 2020 and were given the opportunity to suggest edits to the PCAP. A draft of the PCAP was completed by the end of March, 2020, and the final PCAP was approved by the PCF board in July, 2020. A contractor was hired to design and format the PCAP and printing and distribution of the PCAP to members was completed in January 2021. The 2021-2025 PCAP retains the same format as the previous PCAP, with three large outcomes of: maintaining large blocks of native prairie and parkland landscapes, conserving connecting corridors for biodiversity, and protecting isolated native habitats. Education approaches also remain in the new PCAP as an integral component of the three outcomes.

# MULTISAR

MULTISAR (multiple species at risk) is a program focused on multi-species conservation at the landscape level that promotes stewardship through voluntary participation of landholders on both Crown and private lands. MULTISAR defines species at risk as those with a provincial general status of At Risk, May Be At Risk or Sensitive. The program is a collaborative effort among landholders, the Alberta Conservation Association, Alberta Environment and Parks, the Prairie Conservation Forum, Cows and Fish, Canadian Cattlemen's Association, Alberta Beef Producers, the Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef and Environment and Climate Change Canada.

The habitat conservation program includes the development of detailed habitat conservation strategies (HCSs) and the more compact habitat management plans (HMPs) in the Milk River and South Saskatchewan watersheds of southern Alberta, as well as the species at risk conservation plans (SARC plans) that are delivered throughout the Grassland Natural Region.

In 2020–2021, a new HCS was developed on six ranches totaling approximately 32 362 acres, plus an additional 1120 acres that was new land added to an existing HCS. MULTISAR also completed four habitat management plans (HMPs) on 7645 acres of land within our priority areas. Several habitat enhancement projects were developed to improve the habitat of key wildlife species on HCS and HMP properties. These include the installation and implementation of artificial habitat structures, wildlife friendly fencing, portable and upland watering units, tree protection, riparian protection, shrub planting, weed control, and grazing management tools.

One SARC plan was developed for a landowner in the Parkland Natural Region of Alberta. The plan was requested after learning of MULTISAR from a presentation. No beneficial management plan assessments were delivered this year as no landholders were contacted or referred to MULTISAR.

Due to the limitations imposed by COVID-19 the education, outreach and awareness program was achieved primarily by MUL-TISAR staff giving online presentations and maintaining direct contact with landholders, wildlife and conservation groups, college students and government agencies. In-person events, such as the Southern Alberta Grazing School for Women and other presentations, were moved to an online format with over 600 people attending these events. Communication material produced included one issue of MULTISAR's *Grassland Gazette* newsletter. The *Grassland Gazette* was distributed to 532 contacts while 215 copies of MULTISAR's flagship booklet were also distributed. Social media continues to be a vector to share information related to MUL-TISAR. In 2020 MULTISAR posted 76 tweets, through Twitter, and 57 posts on Facebook to engage the public. In total, MUL-TISAR interacted with more than 1000 people through 244 contacts with individuals/groups including landholders, the general public, academia, industry, media, government and non-governmental organizations and other sectors.

Under the research and monitoring program, MULTISAR continued implementing its monitoring and evaluation protocol to assess the directionality of habitat improvements and management changes and the effectiveness of its HCSs. Due to planning restraints from COVID-19, no MUL-TISAR HCS ranches were reassessed. Reassessments will continue in 2021-2022. Roughly 63 habitat enhancement projects on participating HCS ranches were monitored in 2020 to determine whether enhancements were achieving their objectives. Enhancements monitored include restoration sites, artificial nesting platforms, weed control, watering sites, tree protection, wildlife friendly fencing, and grazing management tools.

MULTISAR continues to compile wildlife observation and vegetation assessment data that it has been accumulating since its first HCS. In 2021, MULTISAR will also continue to focus on determining inferences between species at risk occurrences and habitat metrics.

MULTISAR will strive to promote beneficial management practices recommendations to improve and maximize habitat quality for species at risk.



# Fínancíal Report

#### **Statement of Operations and Net Assets (Deficiency)** March 31, 2021

| March 31, 2021                                              |                          |                                          |                          | _                       |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Revenue                                                     |                          | 2021                                     | 202                      |                         |  |
| Casino                                                      |                          | \$ 54,111                                | \$ 17,5                  |                         |  |
| Alberta Environment and Parks C                             | brant                    | 10,000                                   | 10,0                     |                         |  |
| Administration—Multisar                                     |                          | 7,692                                    | 7,6                      |                         |  |
| Special Areas Board                                         |                          | 5,000                                    | 5,0                      |                         |  |
| Donations                                                   |                          | 2,865                                    | 3,4                      | 24                      |  |
| Alberta Conservation Association                            | 1                        | 2,500                                    |                          | -                       |  |
| Range Stewardship Workshop                                  |                          | 1,281                                    | 4,8                      |                         |  |
| Interest Income                                             |                          | 88                                       |                          | 18                      |  |
| Nature Conservancy Canada                                   |                          |                                          | 5,0                      |                         |  |
| Total                                                       |                          | \$ 83,537                                | \$ 53,5                  | 89                      |  |
| Expenses                                                    |                          |                                          |                          |                         |  |
| Coordinator contract and expense                            | s                        | \$ 46,063                                | \$ 57,9                  | 46                      |  |
| Special Projects                                            |                          | 8,996                                    | 21,3                     |                         |  |
| Website                                                     |                          | 7,866                                    | 3                        | 45                      |  |
| Office                                                      |                          | 3,565                                    | 1,6                      | 26                      |  |
| Professional Fees                                           |                          | 3,050                                    | 3,0                      |                         |  |
| Insurance                                                   |                          | 1,992                                    | 2,1                      |                         |  |
| Meeting Expense                                             |                          |                                          | 5,1                      |                         |  |
| Total                                                       |                          | 71,532                                   | 91,4                     |                         |  |
| Excess (deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses                |                          | \$ 12,005                                | \$(37,8                  | \$(37,888)              |  |
| <b>Statement of Financial Position</b><br>March 31, 2021    |                          |                                          |                          |                         |  |
| Assets                                                      |                          | 2021                                     | 202                      | 0                       |  |
| Cash                                                        |                          | \$ 176,598                               | \$ 220,                  |                         |  |
| GST receivable                                              |                          | \$ 170,398<br>9.763                      |                          | 105                     |  |
| UST receivable                                              |                          | 9,703                                    | 11,                      | 105                     |  |
| Liabilities and Net Assets                                  |                          |                                          |                          |                         |  |
| Due to Multisar                                             |                          | \$ 8,190                                 | \$ 9,7                   |                         |  |
| Deferred Revenue                                            |                          | 15,339                                   | 72,3                     | 331                     |  |
| Net Assets                                                  |                          |                                          |                          |                         |  |
| Unrestricted Net Assets                                     |                          | \$ 21,022                                | \$ 9.0                   | )17                     |  |
| Contingency Reserve                                         |                          | 150,000                                  | 150,0                    |                         |  |
| Contingency reserve                                         |                          | 150,000                                  | 150,0                    |                         |  |
| Total                                                       |                          | \$ 186,361                               | \$ 231,3                 | <b>548</b>              |  |
|                                                             |                          |                                          |                          |                         |  |
| <b>Statement of Changes in Net Assets</b><br>March 31, 2021 |                          |                                          |                          |                         |  |
| Statement of Changes in Net Assets<br>March 31, 2021        | Unrestricted             | Internally Restricted                    | Total 2021               | Total 2020              |  |
| March 31, 2021                                              | Unrestricted<br>\$ 9,017 |                                          | Total 2021<br>\$ 159,017 | Total 2020<br>\$196,905 |  |
|                                                             |                          | Internally Restricted<br>\$ 150,000<br>— |                          |                         |  |
| March 31, 2021<br>Balance, beginning of year                | \$ 9,017                 |                                          | \$ 159,017               | \$196,905               |  |

# PCF Board of Directors

**Nolan Ball** — **Chair.** Nolan is currently working as a Rangeland Agrologist in Public Land Management for the Special Areas. Daily work focuses on helping manage 2.5 million acres of Public land that remains in native grassland and abandoned farmland that has reverted back to a native or modified condition. Prior to this position with the Special Areas, Nolan worked in oil & gas wellsite reclamation for 7 years as a consultant. Most of the work consisted of restoring disturbances from oil & gas production in native prairie environments. Nolan grew up in the Special Areas and moved back to the area following post secondary education in Environmental Sciences. He continues to be part of a family livestock business that ranches on a mixture of tame pastures and native rangeland.

**Neal Wilson** — Vice-Chair. Neal Wilson grew up in southern Saskatchewan and attended the U of S receiving his degree in Agriculture in 1995. He worked for various ranches in Southern Saskatchewan and Manitoba. He then worked for the Prairie Conservation Action Plan, Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation and The Nature Conservancy of Canada working with landowners to develop grazing plans with the strategy of helping them conserve their native prairie. He has managed with Antelope Creek Ranch with his wife Shannon for the past 14 years.

Brian Peers — Treasurer. Brian Peers works for the M.D. of Taber in his role as the Director of Municipal Lands and Leases where he manages the municipalities' owned inventory of lands, primarily native prairie. Brian received his Bachelor of Science from the University of Montana in Wildlife Biology.

**Brandy Downey** — **Board Member.** Brandy is the Senior Species At Risk Biologist in Lethbridge for Alberta Environment and Parks, Fish and Wildlife Management. Brandy has been a member of the MULTISAR team since 2003 and currently assists AEP and the PCF in managing the program, which works collaboratively with several NGO's, government agencies, and individuals to conserve species at risk in the Grassland Natural Region of Alberta. Unrelated to her work roles, Brandy enjoys hiking and exploring the outdoors with her family.

Christyann Olson — Board Member. Christyann is the Executive Director for the Alberta Wilderness Association and is passionate about our society's responsibility to ensure the health and legacy of wilderness for generations to come. She takes every possible opportunity to enjoy Alberta's wilderness and share her enthusiasm with others. Although her roots are in the Crowsnest Pass, Christyann has lived in and explored much of Alberta including many of its wild places by foot, canoe, and occasionally by horse.

**Chelsea Kraus** — **Board Member.** Chelsea was raised on a mixed irrigation family farm near Taber, Alberta where she spent her formative years. When her family moved to farm in Saskatchewan, she attended the University of Saskatchewan and obtained her BSA in 2011. She is now working as an environmental scientist for Trace Associates Inc. in Lethbridge where her work primarily consists of reclaiming disturbances from oil & gas production across Alberta.

**Robert Oakley — Board Member.** Robert is a Rangeland Agrologist in Lethbridge for Alberta Environment and Parks. He grew up in the lake country of west central Alberta and SW Manitoba/NW Ontario, though he has built an appreciation for the prairies and grasslands through his work as a Rangeland Agrologist. He graduated from the University of Alberta in 2009 with a degree in Environmental and Conservation Sciences with a double major in Conservation Biology and Wildlife and Rangeland Resource Management. Though the grassland is now his home; Robert still enjoys the forests and lakes of the mountains and Canadian shield in his spare time.

Lindsye Murfin — Board Member. Lindsye is the general manager of the Western Stock Growers' Association, a beef industry producer advocacy group with a focus on policy, land use and property rights. She is driven by her passion for the success and sustainability of the agriculture industry with a particular interest in leveraging the environmental benefits of agricultural systems. Two of her favourite things are logic and common sense. Lindsye has strong roots in both crop and livestock agriculture and holds a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. Outside of working, she finds joy in spending time with her family in the outdoors and is an avid foodie who has yet to meet a caramel dessert she can refuse.

**Peg Strankman** — **Board Member.** Raised on a mixed cattle and grain operation in Special Areas, Alberta, Peg Strankman has worked toward landscape resilience in a variety of roles. She enjoys the challenge of communicating rural and urban values between the solitudes. Supporting initiatives bringing the value of ecological services and biodiversity to rural livestock producers domestically and internationally occupy her time.

Bryanne Aylward — Board Member. Nature Conservancy of Canada.

Mark Kavanagh — Board Member. Consultant.

Rylee Hewitt — Board Member. Southern Alberta Land Trust Society.

Alvin First Rider — Board Member. Blood Tribe Land Management.

Tammy MacMillan — Board Member. Hanna Business Hub.



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# **Recognition of PCF Supporters**

Funding and support is critical for on the ground action towards prairie and parkland conservation, as well for maintaining the capacity of the PCF coordinators. Funding is also used for printing, meeting venues and meals, transportation and other operational expenses. We would like to thank our funding partners of 2020-2021 for their commitment to prairie and parkland conservation as without them, we wouldn't be the society we are today.

Alberta Environment and Parks (grants for PCF and MULTISAR) Special Areas Board City of Lethbridge Alberta Wilderness Association Oldman Watershed Council Alberta Conservation Association Boundary Creek Landowners Association Miistakis Institute Southern Alberta Land Trust Society

And a special thanks to individuals that make donations to the PCF out of their own pockets: Jim and Cheryl Fujikawa Linda Cerney

We would also like to thank:

Members who incur expenses, without reimbursement, while attending PCF meetings.

Those individuals who made themselves available to serve as tour guides on PCF field trips and those that gave presentations to PCF members at meetings.

Chairpersons of PCF committees who provide valued leadership and committee members who assume a heavier workload to fulfill action recommendations contained in the PCAP.

Members that volunteer at PCF casinos.

We will inevitably have failed to identify the generous contributions of some individuals and organizations in this section. We apologize for any oversight on our part.

# **PCF** Coordinators

**Katheryn Taylor** — **Coordinator.** Katheryn obtained her MSc in biology from the University of Lethbridge in 2003 and has worked on many wildlife and vegetation research projects on the prairies, including work such as 'the effects of cattle grazing on riparian birds' and 'the effects of river damming on riparian birds and vegetation'. She also did some work with the Cows and Fish Program, conducting riparian inventories across Alberta. She has done some teaching and private consulting in the form of environmental impact assessments. She is currently one of the coordinators for the MULTISAR program. Katheryn has been with the PCF since 2007.

**Sasha Harriott — Coordinator/Finance.** Sasha started out her career in the environmental field as a forest fire fighter. From there she joined the Cows and Fish Program and traveled across Alberta conducting riparian inventories, engaging landowners and promoting healthy riparian areas. She also worked with AMEC Earth and Environmental as a Safety and Logistics Coordinator. She is the mother of 4 children and enjoys living in the beautiful Crowsnest Pass. Sasha has been working with the PCF since 2008.

# PCF Member Organizations

#### Government (municipal, provincial, federal)

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

Alberta Energy Regulators

Alberta Environment and Parks

Canadian Forces Base, Suffield (Department of National Defence)

Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada

City of Lethbridge, Helen Schuler Nature Centre

Historic Resources Management Branch, ACT Municipal District of Taber

Special Areas Board Waterton Lakes National Park (Parks Canada)

#### Non-Government Organizations/Companies

AECOM Canada Ltd. AJM Environmental Inc. Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute Alberta Conservation Association Action for Agriculture Agility Program, University of Lethbridge Alberta Native Plant Council Alberta Wilderness Association AltaLink Amec Foster Wheeler Ann and Sandy Cross Conservation Area Antelope Creek Ranch Battle River Watershed Alliance Boundary Creek Landowners Association Calgary Zoo Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (Calgary/Banff Chapter) Cows and Fish — Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society Decisive Edge Ducks Unlimited Canada Eastern Irrigation District Environmental Strategies Inc. Foothills Restoration Forum Glenbow Ranch Park Foundation Alberta Grazing Leaseholders Association



LandWise Inc. Lethbridge Naturalists Society Milk River Watershed Council Millenium Land Ltd. Miistakis Institute Nature Alberta Nature Conservancy of Canada Oldman Watershed Council Operation Grasslands Community, Alberta Fish and Game Association Pekisko Group Rangeland Conservation Service Ltd. Red Deer River Watershed Alliance Round Rock Ranching Salmtec Southern Alberta Land Trust Society Special Areas Advisory Council Sweetgrass Bison

TERA Environmental Consultants, a CH2M Hill Company Trace Associates Inc. University of Calgary University of Lethbridge Vermilion River Watershed Alliance Waterton Biosphere Reserve Association Western Stockgrowers Association



# Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum

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