



## Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference

Calgary, Alberta | February 21-24 2023

### “Prairie Collaboration, Connection and Conservation (PC3)”

#### Tentative Program Overview

\*Schedule is subject to change.

#### Tuesday, February 21, 2023

ROOMS TBD	
2:00 - 5:00 pm	Art show setup Poster setup Exhibit setup Registration Pre-conference Exercises
7:00 - 9:00 pm	Opening reception and art show

#### Wednesday, February 22, 2023

7:30 - 8:30 am	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND REGISTRATION		
8:30 - 9:30 am	Welcome, Conference Opening		
9:30 - 10:20 am	Plenary 1: Calgary Zoo		
10:20-10:40 am	HEALTH BREAK		
	<b>SESSION 1: Collaborations</b>	<b>SESSION 2: Endangered Species Conservation</b>	<b>SESSION 3: Decision-making</b>
10:40-11:00 am	Prairie Collaboration, Connection and Conservation – Perspectives of a Grassroots Conservation Organization <b>Laurie Hamilton, Alberta Native Plant Council</b>	Burrowing Owl Head-Starting in Alberta: 2016 – 2022 <b>Graham Dixon-MacCallum, Wilder Institute/ Calgary Zoo</b>	Using decision analysis for conservation planning: a conservation translocation case study <b>Laura Keating and Lea Randall, Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo</b>
11:00-11:20 am	Mistawasis Guardians – Buffalo Trace to Land Water Sky. <b>Digit Guedo, Parks Canada and Daniel Sylvestre, Mistawasis Nêhiyawak</b>	Conservation Actions for Burrowing Owls in the Canadian Prairies <b>Geoff Holroyd and Helen Trefry, Beaverhill Bird Observatory</b>	Habitat suitability and reintroduction site selection criteria for the northern leopard frog ( <i>Lithobates pipiens</i> ) <b>Rebecca Stanton, Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo</b>
11:20-11:40 am	Shared Legacy: Nature, Culture & Economy	A Multi-partner Collaboration in Conserving	Adaptation and Rollout of the Habitat and

	<b>Norm Gregoire, RM of Stuartburn and Christine Chilton, Nature Conservancy of Canada</b>	Alberta's at-risk Greater sage-grouse Population. <b>Mecah Klem and Joel Nicholson, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas</b>	Biodiversity Assessment Tool Across Canada <b>Heather Peat Hamm, Canadian Forage and Grassland Association</b>
11:40 am-12:00 pm	It Takes a Village: The Value of Partnerships in a Successful Butterfly Conservation Program <b>Laura Burns, Assiniboine Park Zoo</b>	Save the last dance – ten years of Greater Sage-grouse recovery in Grasslands National Park <b>Stefano Liccioli, Grasslands National Park</b>	A New Approach to Assessing and Managing Multiple Species at Risk <b>Sue Michalsky, Paskwa Consultants Ltd and Carolyn Gaudet, SK Prairie Conservation Action Plan</b>
12:00-12:20 pm	Working Together to Restore Matsiyikkapisaa/ Northern Leopard Frog at Paahótómahksikimi <b>Kimberly Pearson, Parks Canada and Alvin First Rider, Blood Tribe Land Management</b>	Locating Critical and Important Bat Habitat in Saskatchewan <b>Erin Swerdfeger, SK Ministry of Environment and Jeff Lane, University of Saskatchewan</b>	Species at Risk - Accelerating Collaboration <b>Tom Hilditch, Colucent Environmental Inc.</b>
12:20 - 1:20 pm	<b>LUNCH</b>		
1:20 - 2:20 pm	<b>Plenary 2: Sandi Robertson, Government of Alberta</b>		
2:20 - 2:40 pm	<b>HEALTH BREAK</b>		
	<b>SESSION 4: Restoration</b>	<b>SESSION 5: Community Dynamics</b>	<b>SESSION 6: Landowner Engagement</b>
2:40 - 3:00 pm	Recovery Strategies for Industrial Development in Native Prairie – the Dry Mixedgrass <b>Jane Lancaster, Grassland Restoration Forum</b>	Extreme weather reduces reproductive output of grassland songbirds, including several species-at-risk <b>Ryan Fisher, Royal SK Museum and Stephen Davis, Canadian Wildlife Service</b>	Securing a Home for Bats in the Milk River Watershed <b>Allison Choquette, Milk River Watershed Council Canada</b>
3:00 - 3:20 pm	Can Removing Topsoil Help with Restoration of Forests and Native Grasslands: An Exploration on a Novel Approach to Ecological Restoration <b>Chris Tenszen, Trace Associates</b>	Connecting the Dots between Grassland Birds, Insects and Vegetation – The Silver Sage Research Project <b>Phil Rose, Alberta Conservation Association</b>	Operation Grassland Community (OGC): Restoring a Legacy of Conservation <b>Christina Reesor and Everett Hanna, Operation Grassland Community</b>
3:20 - 3:40 pm	Collaborations: Working together to increase the availability of diverse native seed species and of local genetics for restoration on	Grazing Impacts on Grassland Insect Communities <b>John Wilmshurst, Canadian Wildlife Federation</b>	A Living Lab for the Prairie Ecoregions <b>Adrienne Tastad, South of the Divide Conservation Action Program Inc</b>

	the Manitoba mixed grass prairie. <b>John Skinner, Skinner Native Seeds and Julie Sveinson Pelc, Nature Conservancy of Canada</b>		
3:40 - 4:00 pm	Developing a Collaborative Framework for a National Native Seed Strategy (NNSS) <b>Carolyn Callaghan, Canadian Wildlife Federation</b>	Spatiotemporal interactions of a grassland community in southern Alberta <b>Paul Jones, Alberta Conservation Association</b>	Climate Change Perceptions and Associated Characteristics in Prairie Agricultural Producers <b>Sheena Stewart, PARC</b>
4:00 - 4:20 pm	Why Ecological Restoration Projects Fail: How Teamwork, Connection, and Collaboration Lead to Success <b>Chris Tenszen, Trace Associates</b>	Estimating grassland bird densities in Grasslands National Park to inform prescribed fire and grazing management decision making. <b>Julia Put, Parks Canada</b>	Supporting Beef Producers and Grassland Conservation <b>Kasie Cullen, Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation</b>
4:20 - 6:00 pm	DEDICATED POSTER SESSION AND CASH BAR		
6:00 - 9:00 pm	BANQUET, SILENT AUCTION AND EVENING PROGRAM		

<b>Thursday, February 23, 2023</b>			
7:30 - 8:15 am	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST		
8:15 - 8:30 am	Opening remarks		
8:30 - 10:00 am	Panel Discussion: Canadian & Indigenous perspectives on the Central Grassland Roadmap		
10:00-10:20 am	HEALTH BREAK		
	<b>SESSION 7: Case studies</b>	<b>SESSION 8: Biodiversity and Agriculture</b>	<b>SESSION 9: Planning and Incentives</b>
10:20-10:40 am	Are Golden Eagles in Saskatchewan's Mixed-grass Prairie faring better than ever? <b>Joe Schmutz, University of Saskatchewan</b>	Precision conservation in prairie landscapes: win-wins for biodiversity and crop yields <b>Paul Gelpert, University of Calgary</b>	Piloting a results-based landowner incentive program to further conservation of tall-grass prairie in Manitoba. <b>Meg Lovett, Nature Conservancy of Canada</b>
10:40-11:00 am	Growth and development of an endangered prairie butterfly <b>Kirstyn Eckhardt, University of Manitoba</b>	Canadian Prairie Wetlands and Bumblebee Communities <b>Abigail Cohen, University of Calgary</b>	Rangeland Management Plans Improving on Native Rangeland Conservation <b>Carol Graham, Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation</b>

11:00-11:20 am	Cooperating for Conservation: The role of Conservation Easements on the Canadian prairies <b>Forrest Hisey, University of Toronto, Mississauga</b>	Habitat diversities effects on bee diversity and abundance in Southern Manitoba. <b>Sydney Shukla-Bergen and Kyle Bobiwash, University of Manitoba</b>	Engaging Ranchers in Effective Conservation Actions in Southwest Saskatchewan. <b>Diego Steinaker, South of the Divide Conservation Action Program Inc.</b>
11:20-11:40 am	Integrating social and natural science for Purple Martin conservation <b>Glen Hvenegaard, University of Alberta</b>	Landscape-level effects of agricultural intensity in the Saskatchewan Prairies on diet source, condition and post-fledging success of juvenile Barn and Tree Swallows <b>Ana Maria Diaz, University of Saskatchewan</b>	Implementing Habitat Management Plans on Native Grasslands in South West Saskatchewan <b>Tom Harrison, Saskatchewan Stock Growers Foundation</b>
11:40 am-12:00 pm	Biophysical Assessment of a Unique Alberta Habitat and the Application to Environmentally Significant Areas <b>Ron McNeil and Allison Choquette, Milk River Watershed Council Canada</b>	GPS tracking and fecal DNA analysis reveal the importance of prairie wetlands for multiple species in a declining avian guild <b>Mercy Harris and Christy Morrissey, University of Saskatchewan</b>	Term Conservation Easements: Ranching for the Future <b>Mindy Hockley, Saskatchewan Stock Growers Foundation</b>
12:00 - 1:00 pm	LUNCH		
1:00 - 1:35 pm	Plenary 4: Iinnii Rematriation – Justin Bruised Head, Blood Tribe Land Management		
	<b>SESSION 10: Fire's Role on the Prairies</b>	<b>SESSION 11: Connecting People</b>	<b>SESSION 12: Conservation Tools</b>
1:40 - 2:00 pm	Prairies on Fire: Prescribed Fire Exchanges as a Collaborative Tool <b>Dinyar Minocher, Canadian Prairies Prescribed Fire Exchange</b>	Building Capacity for Species at Risk Conservation Efforts and Facilitating the Continuation of Cultural Knowledge Gathered from the Land Through Youth-Elder Connections in Piikani Nation <b>Noreen Plain Eagle, Piikani Nation Lands and Carleigh Grier-Stewart, Parks Canada</b>	Understanding WPE in the prairie grasslands using remote sensing <b>Yihan Pu and Xulin Guo, University of Saskatchewan</b>
2:00 - 2:20 pm	Integrating Prescribed Fire and Targeted Grazing to Enhance Species at Risk Habitat in an Urban / Semi-Urban Landscape <b>Renny Grilz, Meewasin Valley Authority</b>	The "Eyes on iNaturalist" Program in Prince Albert National Park <b>Ffion Cassidy, Parks Canada</b>	Collaborative native grassland mapping in Saskatchewan using Google Earth Engine <b>Thuy Doan and Beatriz Prieto Diaz, SK Ministry of Environment</b>

2:20 - 2:40 pm	Burning the prairie: a systematic analysis of the grassland productivity and diversity response to fire <b>Roy Very-Velez, University of Saskatchewan, Canadian Prairies Prescribed Fire Exchange</b>	A partner and community-first approach to the development of the Southwest Manitoba Priority Place Integrated Conservation Implementation Plan <b>Rebekah Neufeld, Nature Conservancy of Canada and Ron Bazin, Canadian Wildlife Service</b>	Designing and Implementing Successful Targeted Grazing Projects in Western Canada <b>Sue Michalsky, Paskwa Consultants Ltd. and Amanda Miller, Palouse Rangeland Consulting</b>
2:40 - 3:00 pm	Using the Canadian fire experience to inform fire management and conservation in Bolivian ecosystems <b>Jane Park, Ember Consulting and Mike May, Independent Contractor</b>	Parks Canada Leadership in Multi-species Action Planning and Implementation: Collaboration, Connection, and Conservation for Prairie Species at Risk <b>Laura Gardiner and Stefano Liccioli, Parks Canada</b>	Reverse Auction to Restore Native Prairie Grasslands in Saskatchewan <b>Marika Sherman and Tom Harrison, Saskatchewan Stock Growers Foundation</b>
3:00 - 3:20 pm	HEALTH BREAK		
3:20 - 4:35 pm	Plenary 5: Ranchers' Panel		
4:35 - 5:00 pm	CLOSING THE CONFERENCE		