Collaborative Conservation Strategy

CENTRAL GRASSLANDS ROADMAP

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Bird Conservancy of the Rockies

Christian Artuso, Canadian Wildlife Service

Alvin First Rider, Blood Tribe Land Management

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PLANNING COMMITTEE

American Bird Conservancy | American Wind & Wildlife Institute | Audubon Rockies | Bird Conservancy of the Rockies
Blackfeet Nation | Canadian Wildlife Service | Colorado Parks and Wildlife | CONABIO | Conoco Phillips
Kansas State University | Northern Great Plains Joint Venture | National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
National Wildlife Federation | Natural Resources Conservation Service | Oaks & Prairies Joint Venture | Partners for Conservation |
Government of Saskatchewan Texas Parks and Wildlife | Tristate Energy | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | U.S. Forest Service
International Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon | Winnett ACES | World Wildlife Fund

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Updates

- Summit held May 23-25 Fort Collins, CO
- 225 in-person attendees, 50 virtual
- 60 scholarships provided
- Outcomes from summit and overall roadmap effort available at www.grasslandsroadmap.org
- Meeting overall success
- Eye opening and partner building
- Strong interest in seeing coordination continuing and future gatherings

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Communications Working Group

- 4-part speaker series launched with hundreds tuning in across the nation
- Focus on urban corridor across the West
- Sense of place and connections to grasslands
- Water, air, culture, communities
- **Grassland and You** Campaign Launched end of July runs wrapping up this week
- > 50 organizations participating
- Use the information and tweak for your needs

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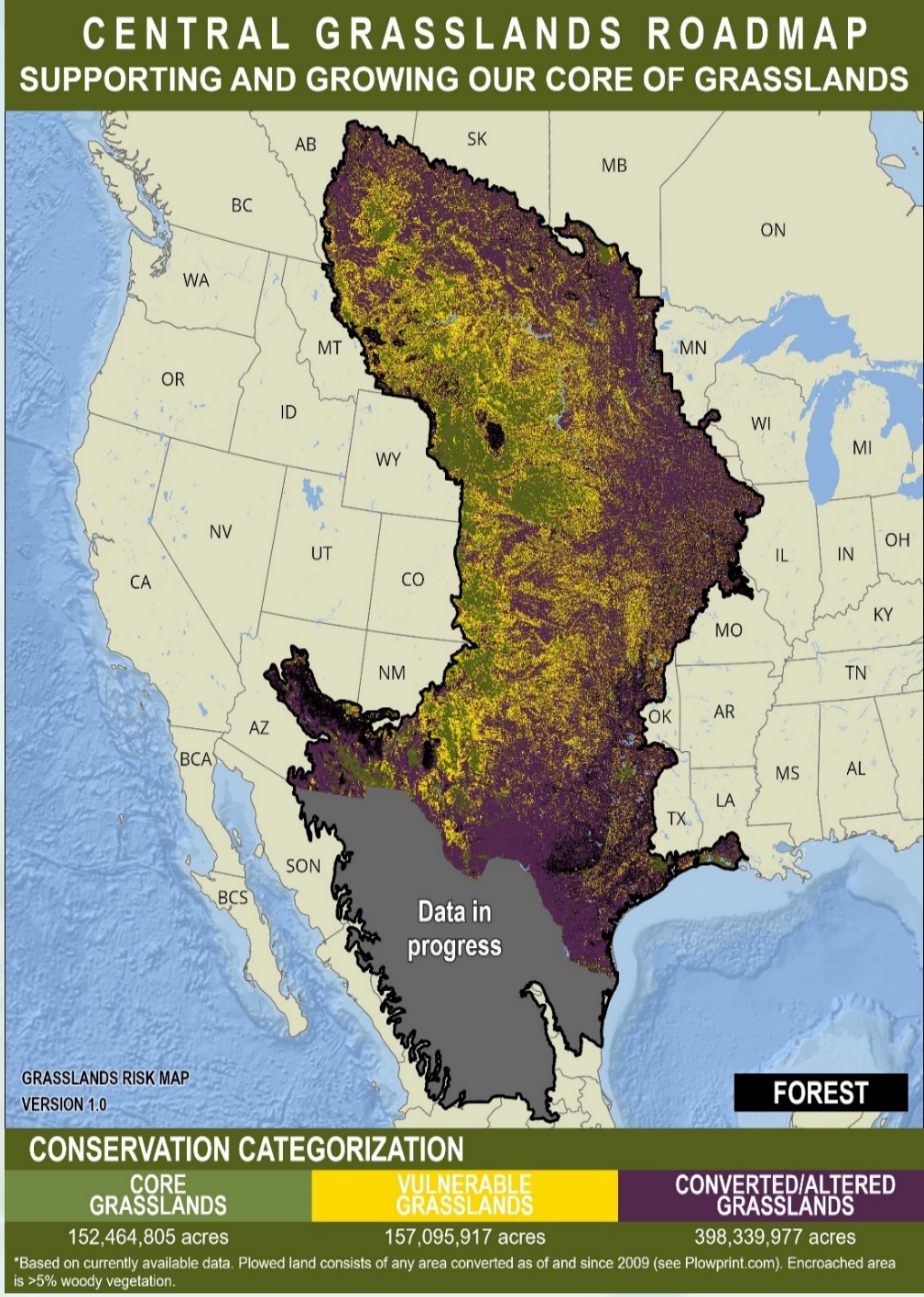
Metrics Working Group Collaborative story map

- Strong alignment from the summit about support and grow the core
- Messaging around the map and focusing on opportunity map
- Special newsletter out end of this week about map endorsement - need partners to promote and use for local conversations
- Story map in development to highlight community work and needs and opportunities



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Indigenous Working Group & Authentic Engagement

- Honor & respect Indigenous sovereignty
- Understand culture, history, contemporary issues & future visions for the generations to come
- Reflect on how work relates to big picture for the Nations
- Acknowledge, understand, & respect different world views
- Don't assume that western science & management are the main approaches
- Honor and respect thousands of years of knowledge and connection to land
- Ask First Nations to design & be decision-makers at onset

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Indigenous Working Group next steps

- Katia Carranza Equity & Justice fellowship – working with Indigenous working group on priorities for future, communications +
- Progress to better engage Indigenous leaders in Mexico
- Charting a course forward for the IWG into 2023 and capacity to support
- Exploring guidelines and communication tools to promote broad & authentic Indigenous engagement

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Canada Working Group

- Monthly meetings, diverse group: excellent brainstorming, information sharing, collaboration
- Generated funding / contracting opportunities
- Linking with numerous regional networks & other initiatives
- Maintaining strong liaison with International group
- Uniting to elevate grassland conservation & “working lands” lens in Canada
- Supporting each other and each other’s events

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Policy Work Group

- Elevating 7 priority policy change recommendations from summit participants
- Need to address dis-incentivizing native prairie conversion to row crops and get language in that helps modeled after Prairie Pothole Region
- Letter to Chief Cosby and FSA Administrator Duchenaux.
- Requesting meetings with NRCS, FSA and Under Secretary
- Visiting with Colorado representatives Neguse and Bennett

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Central Grassland Roadmap Director

- Strong support for leadership to continue to foster and coordinate efforts
- Federal, state, corporations and foundations expressing interest in supporting
- Planning Team supportive of Bird Conservancy of the Rockies housing position- March 2023
- **Primary duties will be:**
- Leading partnership and liaising with facilitator,
- Assisting with community conversations,
- Supporting working groups,
- Setting annual goals and tracking