



PRAIRIE CONSERVATION FORUM



Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum

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Annual Report

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Photography credits:

Front Cover — Prairie; 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 landscapes.

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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*“It is a country to be lived with, not conquered... a place where the land and sky meet in silence and where solitude is not loneliness but spiritual restoration.”*

*~Wallace Stegner, Pulitzer Prize-winning Author,  
born in the American West*

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Message from the Coordinators

The PCF coordinators, Sam Van Ham and Katheryn Taylor, continue 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 two new committees were struck – the PCAP committee, to start reviewing action items from the 2021-2025 PCAP and start working on the next PCAP (2026-2030); and a GVI Committee to look into the feasibility of updating the GVI. The State of the Prairie Committee, Connecting Corridors Committee, Isolated Habitats Committee, Range Stewardship Committee, Deep Roots Educational Videoconference, MULTISAR, and Transboundary Committee continued working towards their goals, which you can read about in this report.

In addition to providing logistical and administrative support, the Coordinators maintain communications, set up both board meetings and general meetings, maintain financial records and coordinate volunteers for casino fundraising events. We want to thank everyone that volunteers at our casino's. This is a significant amount of money that the PCF can use towards our projects and without you, it wouldn't be the success it has been over the many years.

This year saw a change in the number of general meetings the PCF has had in the past. We have moved down to two general meetings—the AGM in January, which is now an online meeting, and either a spring or fall meeting (instead of both). This year, we had a successful fall meeting at Blackfoot Crossing with a wonderful tour provided by an Indigenous guide about some of the history of the area. In lieu of the spring meeting, a newsletter was sent out to the membership to keep them informed of committee work and possible events the PCF is involved with.

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. You are the success of the PCF!

Katheryn Taylor and Sam Van Ham
PCF Coordinators



PCF Meetings and Tours

This year it was decided to hold one general meeting per year, alternating dates between the months June and September. The PCF held their September meeting at the Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park. The indoor venue was a perfect place to meet and provided beautiful views of the Bow River valley. Members gave updates, Robert Sissons shared a presentation about the Southern Alberta Native Seed Collaborative, and Nolan Ball talked about the current updates for the next Prairie Conservation Action Plan. After great conversations and a delicious traditional meal of beef stew and bannock, the group headed outside on a guided tour. It was a beautiful fall day to learn about the history of the Blackfoot Nation and visit this National Heritage Site.

The Annual General Meeting was held online on January 23, 2025. We went through the financial update, board elections and PCF committee updates which included presentations by Livio Fent on the State of the Prairie committee and by Nolan Ball on the Prairie Conservation Action Plan update. David Sauchyn, Director of the Prairie Adaptation Research Collaborative with the University of Regina joined us to present on the exposure and resilience of native prairie to climate variability and change.

The online meeting was recorded and can be found on the PCF website: <https://albertapcf.org/pcf-member-meetings>



Transboundary Grasslands Partnership

The Transboundary Grasslands Partnership (TGP) is a voluntary collaborative partnership working towards native grasslands conservation. Priority areas for the partnership include: connecting people and groups to one another; collaborating to produce conservation outcomes; and communicating the importance of the TGP's conservation efforts to the broader grasslands conservation community.

The TGP is driven by a core team of committed individuals who meet quarterly to share information, maintain connections and collaborate on grassland conservation opportunities. The core team is comprised of members from Alberta, Montana and Saskatchewan and is currently led by Ruiping Luo (TGP Committee Chairperson) with the Alberta Wilderness Association. The role of Chairperson is rotated every two years between the three jurisdictions.

The main work item of the TGP is the annual workshop. The workshop rotates between the three TGP jurisdictions (Alberta, Saskatchewan and Montana). The most recent workshop was held October 23-24 in Shelby, Montana with an optional pre-workshop field tour of grazing management in the Blackfeet Nation on October 22, 2024. The title of the 2024 workshop was: *Beyond Conservation: Connecting Communities for Resilience in the Northern Great Plains*; it included topics around connecting for community and land health, innovative approaches to stewardship, ranch succession and the future of range management and included a producer panel discussing emerging issues. Over 100 participants attended the workshop and enjoyed two packed days of presentations and panel discussions. The workshop will move to Alberta for 2025. For more details visit the PCF website (albertapcf.org).



Alberta Range Stewardship Course

The PCF collaboratively delivers an annual Range Stewardship Course for ranchers and land stewards that is provincial in focus and local in delivery. Plans were in place and the committee was set to deliver a course in Special Areas, near Consort, but due to low registration numbers, the 2024 course was cancelled. The course contains key range management principles and information that includes presentations and discussion around regional and local issues. Participants can look forward to a field portion of the course where they are led through range and riparian health assessments and focus on plant identification. Plans are underway for the 2025 Range Stewardship Course near Peace River, Alberta.

Change Analysis: State of the Prairie

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. The first technical report, completed in September 2019, looked at data from 1990 and 2010. In 2024, the technical report was updated and revised using new and updated Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada (AAFC) datasets. The updated datasets from AAFC were used for years 1990 and 2010 and the additional years of 2000 and 2020 were added into the data analysis. Bringing in additional years to the analyses allows us to look at the change in native cover over 4 decades: 1990, 2000, 2010, and 2020. In addition, the Peace River Parkland region was added into the analysis in early 2025. The final report was first released in December 2024, however, with the addition of the Peace River addendum, the final report was re-released in May 2025.

A social media campaign based on the results of the technical report began in January 2025, with the bulk of the campaign wrapping up at the end of April 2025 (posts continue to be made, however, on a more occasional basis). Social media posts were made on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. A total of 25 posts were made between January and May. Facebook, being the PCF account with the most followers, has the following statistics:

Total views: 29,582 (**Views** The number of times your content was played or displayed. Content includes videos, posts, stories and ads.)

Total Reach: 16,441 (**Reach** This metric counts reach from the organic or paid distribution of Facebook content, including posts, stories and ads. It also includes reach from other sources, such as tags, check-ins and Page or profile visits. This number also includes reach from posts and stories that were boosted. Reach is only counted once if it occurs from both organic and paid distribution. This metric is estimated.)

Total Interactions: 366 (**Content interactions** The number of likes or reactions, saves, comments, shares and replies on your content, including ads. Content can include formats such as posts, stories, reels, videos and more.)

Isolated Native Habitats Committee

The isolated habitats committee was struck in 2021 to directly address action items in the PCAP. The first action was a literature review that helped define what isolated habitats are and included a curated list of 65 species at risk in the Grassland Natural Region of Alberta that could be mapped for isolated habitats. This report was completed in 2022. In 2023, a framework was developed for mapping isolated habitats for specific species. The framework provides a standardization process to ensure that mapping projects are repeatable, robust and scientifically defensible, and provides detailed specifications for future mappers. Hand in hand with the mapping product, a species report template was designed to engage landowners and land users who are interested in learning about a specific species at risk and its habitat, especially if they can see that their land might be within an isolated habitat. These reports include a summary of the species, their habitat, and the mapping project approach and results, including species-specific definitions of habitat, isolating conditions, and barriers. The template also includes an action statement to promote native prairie habitat conservation and stewardship.

In 2024-2025, four bird species were mapped for isolated habitats. These were: common nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*), Sprague's pipit (*Anthus spragueii*), loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*), and chestnut-collared longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*). This brings the total species mapped for isolated habitats up to 12. The other 8 species include: ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*), long-billed curlew (*Numenius americanus*), northern leopard frog (*Lithobates pipiens*), swift fox (*Vulpes velax*), western harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys megalotis*), mountain short-horned lizard (*Phrynosoma herandesi*), western spiderwort (*Tradescantia occidentalis* var. *occidentalis*) and slender mouse-ear-cress (*Crucihimalaya virgata*). All of the species reports have been added to the PCF website: <https://albertapcf.org/isolated-habitats>.

In addition to the completion of more species maps, a communication/engagement strategy that included further advice to the committee/board on next steps, including recommendations on communicating to various different stakeholder groups and engaging with them in the use of the isolated habitats framework, was developed. Aside from adding the species reports to the website, the communication plan did not begin in 2024-2025.



Deep Roots Educational Video Conference

Deep Roots was developed in 2011 as an educational videoconference for youth to educate them about the importance of grasslands. It aims at giving them a chance to experience the grasslands without having to leave the classroom. Pre- and post- presentation activities were developed for the teacher to further engage the students with Alberta's grasslands.

In the 2024-2025 school year, an education contractor, that was first hired to deliver Deep Roots to schools in the 2023-2024 school year, was again contracted to deliver Deep Roots. The contractor successfully delivered the presentation to 30 different classes, or 867 children from grades 3 through 12. One field trip bursary was used for a grade 3 class to visit Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park.



Connecting Corridors Committee

The connecting corridors committee has been focused on the purpose, use and communications around the Prairie Conservation Forum's Interactive Map. Currently, the map centralizes information from government, academic and conservation organizations on ecological, geological and political environments in the prairie region of Alberta, including wildlife habitats, vegetation and native prairie, and protected areas.

In collaboration with the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) and NSERC Alliance, the connecting corridors committee has been involved in analyzing connectivity across the prairies, and identifying vital corridors for movement. The NSERC Alliance group met three times in the past year, as well as smaller meetings between the connecting corridors committee and UTM. Once complete, this work will provide an additional layer to be added to the Interactive Map that shows likely corridors, as well as the effect of developments on the landscape. This layer is meant as an additional resource, and not as the sole method of determining connectivity. A workshop explaining the analysis conducted to determine areas of greater movement as well as practical case studies was planned for this year, but has been delayed to fall 2025. The committee is beginning to explore opportunities to collaborate with on-the-ground projects and support work on wildlife corridors.

Grassland Vegetation Inventory (GVI)

The GVI is a critical tool for land-use planning and management in Alberta, providing a detailed geospatial representation of land cover in the Grassland Natural Region. Despite being finalized in 2019, GVI is based on imagery acquired between 2006 and 2009, making content nearly twenty years old. This presents problems of outdated data and limits the use to which this data can be applied. To address this concern, PCF hired a contractor to investigate the feasibility and cost of updating the dataset and to come up with business case models that would make updating the dataset more feasible. Stakeholders and GVI users were consulted via questionnaires, teleconference meetings and through email discussions. Through this process, update needs were determined and various approaches were investigated for their feasibility, including what would be involved in a comprehensive update of the entire grasslands region versus updates in specific project areas or for specific features (such as wetlands). The PCF will be exploring the options presented in the upcoming year and decide on a course of action to move forward.

Prairie Conservation Action Plan (PCAP) 2026-2030

A PCAP committee was established in 2024 to work on the new PCF action plan for 2026-2030. The committee reviewed the current PCAP and took note of which action items have been completed, which ones are ongoing, and which ones may need to be forwarded into the next PCAP. The PCF membership was consulted both through an online platform where members could add comments on the suggested actions for the new PCAP and add any others they felt should be included. Once the online platform was closed, members were also invited to an online workshop where they could provide feedback on the suggested actions and have discussion around any of the action items. The committee took all member feedback into consideration and sent out the actions for the new PCAP for another review by the membership. After this was completed, the committee got to work on writing and reviewing the new PCAP. Finalization of the PCAP will be in the fall/winter of 2025.

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 Protected Areas, Alberta Forestry and Parks, the Prairie Conservation Forum, Cows and Fish, Canadian Cattle Association, Alberta Beef Producers, the Canadian Round Table for Sustainable Beef, and Environment and Climate Change Canada.

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

In 2024–2025, a new HCS was developed for seven properties totaling approximately 63,685 acres. Sixty-six habitat enhancement projects were developed to improve the habitat of key wildlife species on HCS and HMP properties. These include: the installation or purchase of supplies for wildlife-friendly fencing at ten new sites; the purchase of nine portable watering units; installation or upgrades to 33 upland watering sites; one new native grass restoration site; one shrub planting, seven weed control initiatives, four enhancements to improve grazing management; and one riparian protection enhancement.

No SARC assessments were completed in 2024–2025, ergo no SARC plans were developed. Similarly, no BMP assessments were delivered this year as no landholders were contacted or referred to MULTISAR for this product. MULTISAR will continue to provide SARC plans and BMPs and promote them as a tool for habitat improvements for species of interest.

MULTISAR continued to assist with the delivery of outreach activities and event participation to promote grassland conservation in southern Alberta. The Southern Alberta Grazing School for Women was held July 24–25 in Seven Persons, Alberta with 56 attendees present for the two-day event. MULTISAR also presented to nine different groups and took the display to two different events. MULTISAR publications, such as the *Grassland Gazette* newsletter, *At Home on the Range: Living with Alberta's Prairie Species at Risk*, and various MULTISAR factsheets, continued to be distributed at outreach events.

Social media continues to be a means to share information related to MULTISAR. In 2024–2025, MULTISAR posted approximately 75 times on X (formerly Twitter), Facebook, and Instagram to promote public engagement. MULTISAR maintained direct contact with landowners (over 450 conversations), other organizations (over 33 conversations), and government agencies (over 288 conversations) throughout the year (through email, text, phone calls, or in-person presentations/meetings).

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. In 2024, five MULTISAR HCS ranches were reassessed. Enhancements monitored include restoration sites, upland watering sites, and wildlife friendly fencing. To date MULTISAR has implemented 519 habitat enhancements.

MULTISAR continues to compile wildlife observation and vegetation assessment data that it has been accumulating since its first HCS. In 2025–2026, 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.



Financial Report

Statement of Operations and Net Assets (Deficiency)

March 31, 2025

Revenue	2025	2024
PCESC income	\$ 47,766	\$ —
Environment and Climate Change Canada	45,563	36,296
Casino	14,653	41,968
Alberta Environment and Protected Areas	10,000	10,000
Administration—Multisar	7,692	7,692
Parks Canada	5,000	—
Special Areas Board	5,000	—
Donations	1,125	—
Interest Income	55	261
Range Stewardship Workshop	13	8,270
Total	\$ 136,867	\$ 104,487
Expenses		
Coordinator contract and expenses	\$ 47,322	\$ 64,844
Special Projects	22,703	42,416
Professional Fees	6,897	4,500
Sponsorship	6,000	7,000
Insurance	2,022	1,496
Meeting Expense	1,759	3,948
Office	1,647	1,667
Website	725	912
Casino Expense	—	6,544
Advertising and promotion	—	1,474
Total	\$ 89,075	\$ 134,801
Excess (deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses	\$ 47,792	\$ (30,314)

Statement of Financial Position

Assets	2025	2024
Cash	\$ 210,331	\$ 173,541
Grant receivable	—	3,500
Prepaid expenses	2,048	1,643
Funds held in trust — TGP Conference	5,011	—
Funds held in trust—2023 PCESC Conference	—	57,766
GST receivable	11,776	12,306
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 4,183	\$ 5,059
Due to Multisar	10,756	8,319
Funds held in trust — TGP Conference	5,011	—
Funds held in trust — 2023 PCESC Conference	—	57,766
Deferred Revenue	89,137	105,325
Net Assets		
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 20,079	\$ 4,287
Contingency Reserve	100,000	68,000
Total	\$ 229,166	\$ 248,756

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

	Unrestricted	Internally Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 4,287	\$ 68,000	\$ 72,287	\$ 102,601
(Deficiency) Excess of Revenue Over Expenditures	47,792	—	47,792	(30,314)
Transfer from reserves	(32,000)	32,000	—	—
Balance, end of year	\$ 20,079	\$ 100,000	\$ 120,079	\$ 72,287

PCF Board of Directors

Alvin First Rider — Chair. Blood Tribe Land Management. Alvin is an enrolled member of the Blood Tribe and a descendant of the Blackfeet nation. He is a father of five wonderful children. Alvin earned an undergraduate degree in environmental science from Salish Kootenai College in Western Montana and has worked in various environmental capacities for the Blood Tribe since 2009. He has currently been at his position for 4 years. Alvin has experience in Migratory Bird Surveys, Range and Riparian health, and Blackfoot Ecological Knowledge. He is interested in the PCF to ensure the indigenous voice is included.

Nolan Ball — Vice-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.

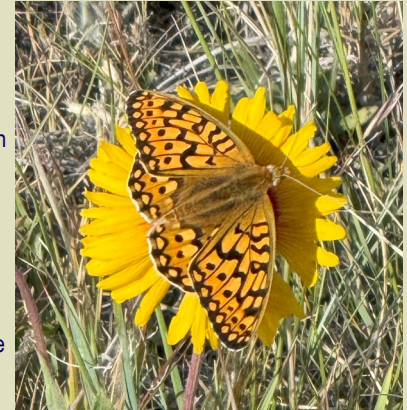
Peg Strankman — Treasurer. Raised on a mixed cattle and grain operation in Special Areas, Alberta, Peg Strankman has worked toward landscape resilience in a variety of roles. She enjoys the challenge of communicating rural and urban values between the solitudes. Supporting initiatives bringing the value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

Rylee Hewitt — Board Member. Southern Alberta Land Trust Society. Rylee was born and raised on the Rafter T Ranch in southeast Alberta. She holds a diploma in Renewable Resource Management from Lethbridge College, and a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Environmental Studies from the University of Lethbridge. Rylee's main role with SALTs is to oversee the stewardship and monitoring of SALT's conservation easements. She has been involved with private land conservation for nearly 10 years. Rylee has a commercial black angus cow/calf operation near Buffalo, Alberta, where she ranches with her husband and two children.

Benjamin Misener — Board Member. Benjamin Misener is an Ecologist with Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc. He graduated from the University of Alberta with a BSc in Environmental and Conservation Sciences. Previously he was the Manager of Land and Environment at Brazeau County. He's currently busy with fieldwork related to wetlands and wildlife and provides support for regulatory applications. Benjamin has sat on many boards and committees over the years and hopes to bring this experience to PCF. He regularly enjoys escaping to the outdoors. The prairies are his favourite spot, and his passion and love for this area are what drives his involvement with PCF.

Stefano Liccioli — Board Member. Stefano holds a BSc/MSc degree in Natural Sciences, a MSc in wildlife Eco-pathology, and a PhD in Ecology. In his current position he develops, leads and implements - in collaboration with other staff, partner agencies and research institutions - monitoring and active management programs for the conservation and recovery of Species at Risk in the prairie region of Alberta.

Graham Dixon-MacCallum — Board Member. Graham leads the burrowing owl program at the Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo. His job requires coordinating with the federal and provincial governments, ranchers, soldiers, graduate students, and multiple departments across the Wilder Institute. Aside from his work with burrowing owls, Graham has also studied anti-predator behavior in the conservation breeding population of Vancouver Island marmots at the Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo. Graham completed a B.Sc. in Biology at Acadia University. His interest in reptiles led him to pursue an M.Sc. in Biology at the University of Victoria, where he studied garter snake habitat ecology in urban parks.



Doug Wray — Board Member. Doug and his wife Linda are 3rd generation ranchers that ranch on 1700 ac west of Irricana and rent another 1000-1500 in other places. Doug's grandfather broke prairie sod here in 1910. Doug and Linda operate Wray Ranch with their nephew Tim (Joanne) and brother Greg (Velma) in a regenerative manner. They manage cow-calf and yearlings on native and tame pastures with a focus to improve soil and landscape health. In 2023 Wray Ranch received the Environmental Sustainability Award from the Alberta Beef Producers provincially, and Canadian Cattle Assoc nationally. They are interested in the long term health and resilience of our prairie landscape. Doug has been active in several forage related organizations over the past 25 years and hopes he can contribute a rancher's perspective to the PCF board.

Sarah Goodman — Board Member. Sarah is a Senior Wildlife Biologist who has 15+ years of experience as an environmental professional. She was born and raised in the Calgary area and is currently living in Airdrie, Alberta. She is working at an environmental consulting company that specializes in renewable energy and transmission projects. Her experience in the environmental consulting, not-for-profit, and government sectors has helped build her knowledge of the Canadian regulatory framework. Sarah has worked as a Wildlife Biologist, Project Manager, Environmental Planner, Environmental Monitor, and Environmental Inspector on projects in Alberta and Saskatchewan. She is knowledgeable about prairie, mountain, and boreal wildlife and habitat identification. Sarah enjoys hiking and tries to get out as much as possible throughout the year. She is excited to contribute what she can to the board and learn more about the Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum.

Everett Hanna — Board Member. Everett was born in southern Ontario but fell in love with the prairies early in his career while working on wildlife research projects with ENGOs and government agencies across western North America. He is a faculty member in the School of Environmental Sciences and scientific lead of the Wildlife Analytics Lab at Lethbridge Polytechnic, where he also teaches courses in wildlife management, population ecology, and species at risk. In addition to his academic role, Everett owns Ponderosa Environmental Consulting Inc., which manages Operation Grassland Community for the Alberta Wildlife Federation. Beyond his professional endeavours, he enjoys exploring Alberta's vast public lands by foot or bike with his family, often with his bow, gun, or camera in hand.

Megan Jensen — Board Member. Nature Conservancy of Canada.

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 2024-2025 for their commitment to prairie and parkland conservation as without them, we wouldn't be the society we are today.

Government of Alberta (grants for PCF and MULTISAR)
Environment and Climate Change Canada—Priority Places
Parks Canada
Special Areas

And a special thanks to members that make donations to the PCF:
Glenbow Ranch Park Foundation
Boundary Creek Landowners Association
Lindsay Wallis

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 is currently one of the coordinators for the MULTISAR program. Katheryn has been with the PCF since 2007.

Samantha Van Ham — Coordinator/Finance. Sam has her B.Sc. in Environmental Sciences from the University of Lethbridge and has worked across the prairie provinces as an environmental consultant on pipeline projects' vegetation and soils monitoring. She spent the last nine years working with the Government of Alberta as a Rangeland Agrologist in southeastern Alberta, assessing the health of the prairie and getting to know local ranchers. She is the mother of two boys that keep her busy and enjoys spending time outdoors camping and gardening.

PCF Member Organizations

Government (municipal, provincial, federal)

Alberta Culture, Multiculturalism and the Status of Women
Alberta Environment and Parks
Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada
City of Lethbridge, Helen Schuler Nature Centre
Municipal District of Taber
Municipal District of Willow Creek
Special Areas Board
Waterton Lakes National Park (Parks Canada)

Non-Government Organizations/Companies

AJM Environmental Inc.
Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute
Alberta Conservation Association
Alberta Environmental Farm Plan
Alberta Grazing Leaseholders Association
Alberta Native Plant Council
Alberta Wilderness Association

Ann and Sandy Cross Conservation Area
Antelope Creek Ranch
Barbwire Consulting
Battle River Watershed Alliance
Blood Tribe Land Management
Boundary Creek Landowners Association
Bow River Basin Council
Calgary Zoo/Wilder Institute
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (Calgary/Banff Chapter)
Cows and Fish — Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society
Ducks Unlimited Canada
Grasslands Restoration Forum
Glenbow Ranch Park Foundation
Great Plains Conservation Network
LandWise Inc.
Lentz Farms
Lethbridge College



Milk River Watershed Council
Miistakis Institute
Nature Alberta
Nature Conservancy of Canada
Nature Saskatchewan
Oldman Watershed Council

Operation Grasslands Community, Alberta Fish and Game Association
Rangeland Conservation Service Ltd.
Red Deer River Watershed Alliance
Round Rock Ranching
Safari Club International (Calgary)
Salmtec
Southern Alberta Land Trust Society
Sweetgrass Bison
Trace Associates Inc.

University of Alberta

University of Calgary
University of Lethbridge
Waterton Biosphere Reserve Association
Western Stockgrowers Association
Wildlife Society (Alberta Chapter)
WL Heritage Connections



Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum

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