



Saskatchewan
Prairie Conservation
Action Plan

Native Prairie Speaker Series Webinar

Strategies to reintroduce prescribed fire as a grassland management process in prairie Saskatchewan



Tuesday August 12th, 2025 at 12:00pm

Speaker: Dr. Dale Gross, Grassland Ecologist, Saskatchewan Parks

Register Free: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_POX_qNBfQN2O0JSpFPWHvQ

This presentation is FREE! Tune in from anywhere! Everyone welcome!
More Information: SK PCAP at 306.352.0472 or pcap@sasktel.net
This webinar is in conjunction with Transboundary Grassland Partnership - Webinar, Saskatchewan Edition

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About this Webinar:

Prescribed fire is a land management practice used to reduce wildfire risks, control invasive, exotic and woody plant species, and enhance productivity and biodiversity. Efforts to reintroduce prescribed fire often face complex obstacles. The purpose of this research was to evaluate and compare organizational strategies for restoring fire in the grasslands of Saskatchewan. Agency practitioners with a range of experience in prescribed fire attended a workshop including presentations on agency practices and burn plan reviews. Common workshop themes stressed the importance of access to education and training, information sharing and public engagement. Agencies were limited by institutional and jurisdictional barriers, liability concerns, weather and site complexities and had developed divergent strategies in response. Established programs with trained personnel and investment of significant funds accomplished the largest and most complex areas burned. In contrast, programs with limited funding used a low-cost collaborative approach and completed frequent small burns. In response to the limitations to prescribed fire identified in the workshops, the Canadian Prairies Prescribed Fire Exchange was formed in 2021 to support interagency cooperation. The success of this organization between 2021 and 2024 emphasizes the importance of collaboration to overcome barriers, build successful programs and accomplish shared conservation goals.

About the Speaker:

Dale Gross, Ph.D., P.Ag., is a grassland ecologist with Saskatchewan Parks specializing in rangeland management, fire – grazing interaction, and collaborating with stakeholders to benefit environmental and economic outcomes. He is the former director of conservation at Nature Conservancy Canada, program manager with SK Pastures Program, range officer with the BC Ministry of Forests and Range, and continues to work on his family farm near Bayard, SK.

PCAP's Native Prairie Speaker Series is a monthly webinar about prairie conservation or species at risk.

Hosted by: Caitlin Mroz-Sailer, Stewardship Coordinator, Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan

We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the traditional territories of many Indigenous Nations and communities, past and present. For a millennia, they have worked to protect these landscapes and the life these areas sustain. I would like to thank these original caretakers, and acknowledge the ongoing work and presence of Indigenous Peoples in Canada today.

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