

The Importance of Prairie Landowners

With less than 20% of our grasslands remaining, rural landowners play a key role in conserving prairie habitat and maintaining healthy grasslands. Their good stewardship arises because of close ties to the land from which they derive their livelihood. We recognize that the health of the prairie ecosystem is a shared responsibility, enhanced by the good stewardship shown by landowners across Saskatchewan!

If there are any species at risk on your land we would like to congratulate you on a job already well done! Remember, if species at risk are on your land you should feel proud because that means that you are already doing something right. Those with species at risk on their land are invited to participate in the Stewards of Saskatchewan banner program.



Working Together to Help You Too

Education- Increase your knowledge of prairie conservation and species at risk through educational materials including fact sheets, booklets, and workshops.

Habitat Enhancement- Nature Saskatchewan offers funding for projects, such as fencing or alternative water developments, to improve habitat for species, such as Sprague's Pipits. Improving your operation as well as habitat for wildlife – a win-win situation!

Conservation Easements- Leave a conservation legacy! Nature Saskatchewan, working together with partner agencies, offers you this opportunity to protect the land you love.

Thank You to Our Supporters!

- Government of Canada through the federal Department of Environment and Climate Change/gouvernement du Canada agissant par l'entremise du ministère fédéral de l'Environnement et du Changement climatique
- Government of Saskatchewan—Fish and Wildlife Development Fund
- Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act Program, US Fish and Wildlife Service
- The Mosaic Company
- R. Howard Webster Foundation
- Earth Rangers
- Enbridge
- The Elsa Wild Animal Appeal of Canada
- SaskTel
- Nature Saskatchewan member donations

And a Special Thank You to
SOS Landowners and Volunteers

To learn more about Stewards of Saskatchewan contact:

Nature Saskatchewan

206-1860 Lorne St.

Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 2L7

Toll Free: 1-800-667-4668

Or (306) 780-9273 Fax: 306-780-9263

Email: info@naturesask.ca

Website: www.naturesask.ca



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Stewards of Saskatchewan



Northern
Leopard Frog



Ferruginous
Hawk



Monarch



Barn Swallows



Sprague's Pipit

Habitat Conservation
Through Stewardship

To Report a Sighting
Call the Hoot Line
1-800-667-HOOT (4668)

Nature
SASKATCHEWAN

Stewards of Saskatchewan

Nature Saskatchewan's Stewards of Saskatchewan (SOS) banner program is a voluntary stewardship program that works with southern Saskatchewan landowners to conserve habitat for all species at risk on the prairies. Started in 2010, the SOS banner program is modeled after the successful Operation Burrowing Owl, and includes all prairie species at risk.



Common Nighthawk

Some of the Species at Risk in Saskatchewan:

Amphibians

Northern Leopard Frog
Great Plains Toad
Western Tiger Salamander

Reptiles

Eastern Yellow-bellied Racer
Greater Short-horned Lizard

Butterflies

Monarch
Mormon Metalmark

Birds

Barn Swallow
Bobolink
Chestnut-collared Longspur
Common Nighthawk
Ferruginous Hawk
Horned Grebe
Short-eared Owl
Sprague's Pipit

Mammals

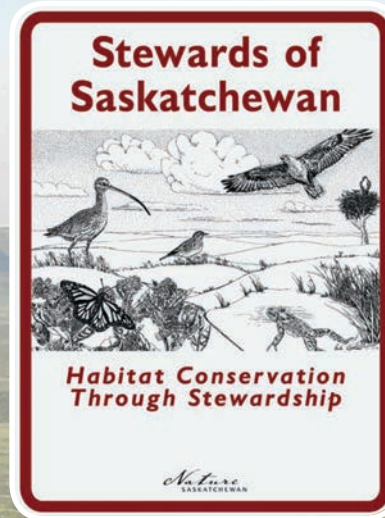
Ord's Kangaroo Rat
Swift Fox
American Badger

What does Stewards of Saskatchewan do?

- Conserves habitat for species at risk and other wildlife through voluntary landowner stewardship.
- Increases awareness and education about Saskatchewan species at risk and other prairie species.
- Encourages and monitors species at risk populations in Saskatchewan through SOS participants.
- Promotes beneficial management practices and support habitat enhancement and restoration.

Become a Steward!

Private and public landowners participate in Stewards of Saskatchewan to conserve prairie habitat, all while using their land as they always have.



Benefits to Participating Landowners Include:

- Gaining **recognition** through receiving a free personalized gate sign.
- Receiving an annual SOS newsletter, calendar and a tool-kit of educational **information** and conservation options.
- Receiving a personal invitation to our **Conservation Awareness Day** events (local, free-of-charge meal provided; day to share knowledge and experiences on biodiversity, species at risk, range management practices, and beneficial management practices).
- Accessing **funding opportunities** to enhance habitat, e.g., converting cropland to pasture using native grasses, or installing an alternate water source or fencing to keep livestock away from shorelines.
- Signing a non-binding 'handshake' agreement
- **Belonging** to a community of like-minded producers with opportunities for networking, support, and information exchange.
- Helping to maintain a **healthy ecosystem** with a diversity of species for future generations.

Did You Know?

- **Northern Leopard Frogs** are the largest frogs in Saskatchewan, and come in many different shades of green and brown. (see below)
- **Monarch Butterflies** migrate thousands of miles, from Canada to Mexico and back, taking several generations to complete the trek!
- **Barn Swallows** build nests by collecting mud in their bills and spitting it out, creating a cup-shape.
- Most of the diet of **Ferruginous Hawks** consists of Richardson's ground squirrels! These hawks can be identified by their rust-coloured legs against their white undersides; which is why some people call them "rusty hawks".
- **Sprague's Pipits** are usually heard, but rarely seen; as the males defend their territory they can sing up to 100 m above ground for hours!
- **Common Nighthawks** often lure predators away by pretending that they have a broken wing, while their well-camouflaged chicks remain motionless, blending in with their surroundings.



Northern Leopard Frog

For more information on species at risk or to participate in Stewards of Saskatchewan, please call
1-800-667-HOOT (4668)