

The Importance of Prairie Land Stewards

With less than 14% of our grasslands remaining, rural land title holders and land managers 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 practices shown by stewards across the province!

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 options and species-at-risk through educational materials 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 operations as well as habitat for wildlife – a win-win situation!

Conservation Easements: Leave a conservation legacy by protecting the land you love through a conservation easement.

Thank you to our supporters!

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- Nature Saskatchewan donations
- Land stewards and volunteers helping to conserve species-at-risk habitat



Northern
Leopard Frog



Ferruginous
Hawk



Monarch



Barn Swallow



Sprague's Pipit

To learn more about *Stewards of Saskatchewan* contact:

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SASKATCHEWAN

Humanity in Harmony with Nature

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Stewards of Saskatchewan

**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 land title holders and land managers 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:

Birds

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

Butterflies

Monarch
Mormon Metalmark

Amphibians

Northern Leopard Frog
Great Plains Toad
Western Tiger Salamander

Reptiles

Eastern Yellow-bellied Racer
Greater Short-horned Lizard

Mammals

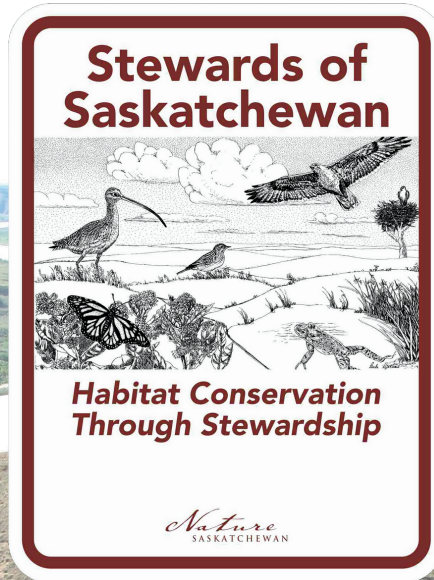
Ord's Kangaroo Rat
Swift Fox
American Badger

What does Stewards of Saskatchewan do?

- Conserves habitat for species-at-risk and other wildlife through voluntary 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 land stewards participate in Stewards of Saskatchewan to conserve prairie habitat, all while using their land as they always have.



Benefits to Participating Include:

- **Recognition** with 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 & Appreciation Day events** (local, free-of-charge meal provided; day to share knowledge and experiences on biodiversity, species-at-risk, 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.
- Non-binding **'handshake' agreement**.
- **Belonging to a community** of like-minded individuals, 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)
- **Monarchs** 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! They 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)**