

# 11<sup>th</sup> Native Prairie Restoration/Reclamation Workshop

Atlas Hotel, Regina, SK

February 12th, 2025

9:00-10:00	<b>Registration – Lower level</b>		
Rooms >>	<b>Imperial Ballroom</b>		
10:00 -10:30	<p><b>Welcome MC-</b> Ashley Syrgiannis, SaskEnergy  <b>Opening Prayer</b> – Bill Strongarm (Touchwood Agency Tribal Council)  <b>Opening Remarks</b> – Councillor David Froh, City of Regina  Heather Pyra, SaskPower (Gold Sponsor)</p>		
10:30-11:15	<p><b>Plenary #1: Partners for okâwîmâwaskiy [Mother Earth]: a First Nations and Academic Partnership</b> – Dr. Andy Miller, First Nations University of Canada and Elder Bill Strongarm, Touchwood Agency Tribal Council</p>		
11:15-12:00	<p><b>Plenary #2: Uncovering Hidden Allies: The Role of Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi in Restoring Alberta’s Threatened Grasslands</b> – Dr. Adriana Morrell, Lethbridge Polytechnic</p>		
Rooms >>	<b>Lower Level</b>		
12:00-1:00	<b>Lunch - Coffee / Poster Session / Trade Show</b>		
Rooms >>	<b>Imperial Ballroom</b>	<b>Watson/Marshall (2<sup>nd</sup> level)</b>	
Theme>>	<b>Lessons Learned</b>	<b>“Speed Dating” Case Study</b>	
1:00-1:30	<p><b>A Tale of Two Sites: Same seed, same time, different results</b>  Chris Tenszen, Trace Associates</p>	<p><b>“Speed Dating” Case Study</b>  <i>Each scenario will have a 3-minute overview presented by a Table Leader. Groups of mixed attendees will have 12 minutes to work through and solve the scenario. Groups will change and rotate through 4-5 different tables and scenarios.</i></p> <p><i>Scenario topics include:</i>  Invasive Species Prevention and Management  Species at Risk Habitat Restoration  Prescribed Fire  Youth Engagement  Wetland Restoration</p>	
1:30-2:00	<p><b>Restoring the Prairie: In it for the long haul</b>  Daryn Farrant, Grasslands National Park</p>		
2:00-2:30	<p><b>The Economics of Grassland Conservation Auctions in Saskatchewan</b>  Koal Sammons, University of Saskatchewan</p>		
2:30-3:00	<p><b>Landowner Insight on Seeding Native Grass through Reverse Auction for Grassland Restoration Program</b>  Mindy Anderson, SK Stock Growers Foundation and Justin Carrier</p>		
3:00-3:30	<b>Coffee / Poster Session / Trade Show</b>		
Rooms >>	<b>Imperial Ballroom</b>	<b>Benson (2<sup>nd</sup> level)</b>	<b>Watson/Marshall (2<sup>nd</sup> level)</b>
Theme>>	<b>Beyond Restoration</b>	<b>Soil</b>	<b>Seeds</b>

3:30-4:00	<b>Sheltering in Place: Community Ecological Collaborations with One School One Farm Shelterbelt Project</b> Elizabeth Bekolay, One School One Farm	<b>Soil microbiome mediation of invasion in the Canadian Great Plains</b> Dr Jon Bennett, University of Saskatchewan	<b>Travels of a Nuffield Scholar: The WOW Factor of the European Native Seed Industry</b> Renny Grilz, Meewasin Valley Authority
4:00 – 4:30	<b>Prairie Song: How Can We Monitor Declining Grassland Bird Populations?</b> Sarah McIntire, The Nature Conservancy	<b>Harnessing the Power of the Microbiome for Native Prairie Restoration</b> Rachel Tilford-Njaa, HumaTerra	<b>Travels of a Nuffield Scholar: The Unique Perspectives of "Habitat Restoration" in Europe</b> Renny Grilz, Meewasin Valley Authority
4:30-5:00	<b>Sweet Grass, Ceremony, and Prairie Restoration: Weaving Knowledges for Climate Resilience</b> Jeff Baker, The Resilience Institute	<b>Promoting native copse conservation through the carbon market</b> Andrea Cline, University of Saskatchewan	<b>A New Native Seed Collaborative for Saskatchewan and Manitoba</b> Michael Skinner, SK and MB Seed Collective and Sean Asselin, AAFC
<b>Rooms &gt;&gt;</b>	<b>Hazel/Golden/Gray/Silver Room (Lower Level)</b>		
<b>5:00-6:00</b>	<b>Reception / Designated Poster Session / Trade Show</b>		
<b>Rooms &gt;&gt;</b>	<b>Imperial Ballroom</b>		
<b>6:00-8:00</b>	<b>Banquet &amp; Silent Auction</b>		
<b>7:00–8:30</b>	Greetings – Adrienne Hanson, Canadian Forage & Grasslands Association (Banquet Sponsor) <b>Presentation: Conservation, however you can</b> - Jared Clarke, Biologist, Teacher and MLA Introduced by Amanda Farnsworth, Trace Associates Inc. (Banquet Sponsor) <b>Award Ceremony (NPRR Grant and Poster Session Winner)</b> <b>Silent Auction will close after the Award Ceremony</b>		

February 13, 2025

<b>Rooms&gt;&gt;</b>	<b>Imperial Ballroom</b>		
<b>7:30-8:30</b>	<b>Hot Breakfast</b>		
<b>8:30-8:45</b>	<b>Greetings</b> Opening Remarks by Geoff Bedard, H3M Environmental (Silver Sponsor)		
<b>8:45-10:00</b>	<b>Panel Discussion: "Producers' insights on converting farmland back to native prairie species"</b> <i>Panelists:</i> Doug Gillespie, Justin Carrier, Kelly Williamson, <i>Moderator:</i> Diego Steinaker		
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	<b>Coffee / Poster Session / Trade Show</b>		
<b>Rooms &gt;&gt;</b>	<b>Imperial</b>	<b>Benson (2<sup>nd</sup> level)</b>	<b>Watson/Marshall (2<sup>nd</sup> level)</b>
<b>Theme&gt;&gt;</b>	<b>Innovative Research</b>	<b>Urban</b>	<b>Traditional Case Study</b>
<b>10:30-11:00</b>	<b>Establishing Vegetation in Riparian Areas</b> Dr. Fardausi (Shathi) Akhter, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada	<b>The Meadoway Restoration Project: Best Practices for Site Preparation and Invasive Plant Management</b> Sarah Kotsopoulos, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority	<b>Led by Ian King, Redberry Lake Biosphere Region</b> Topics include native grass seeding, restoration for species at risk, restoration with native plugs, 2 Billion Trees by 2030, Collaboration and Engagement and more!
<b>11:00-11:30</b>	<b>Protecting and restoring natural features through</b>	<b>The Value of Native Pollinator Gardens: Understanding</b>	

	<b>agroecosystem research on a landscape scale</b> Dr. Branimir Gjetvaj, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada	<b>Preferences and Willingness to Pay for Urban Ecosystem Services</b> Dr. Oscar Zapata, University of Saskatchewan	
<b>11:30-12:00</b>	<b>Drones as a Data Collection Tool: Multispectral Imagery, Topography, and Statistics for Assessing Vegetation Health in High Resolution</b> Jesse Lawrence, Good Lands Environmental	<b>Collaborative Approaches to Reclaim Prairies for the Future</b> Glen Koblun, Native Plant Solutions	
<b>Rooms &gt;&gt;</b>	<b>Imperial Ballroom / Lower Level</b>		
<b>12:00-1:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b> <b>Coffee / Poster Session / Trade Show</b>		
<b>Rooms &gt;&gt;</b>	<b>Imperial Ballroom</b>	<b>Benson (2<sup>nd</sup> level)</b>	<b>Marshall/Watson (2<sup>nd</sup> level)</b>
<b>Theme&gt;&gt;</b>	<b>Tools for Conservation</b>	<b>Collaboration</b>	<b>Invasive Species</b>
<b>1:00-1:30</b>	<b>Optimal and current potential habitats of plains rough fescue (<i>Festuca hallii</i>) in North America Central Plains: What is left?</b> Johan Home, University of Saskatchewan	<b>The Art of Building Partnerships and Collaboration</b> John Kindrachuk, Redberry Lake Biosphere Region	<b>Monitoring Biodiversity Response to Invasive Annual Grass Control Across Several Western Ecoregions</b> Dr. Victoria Maloney, Envu
<b>1:30-2:00</b>	<b>Using science and technology to address biome collapse in the Great Plains</b> Samantha Cady, University of Nebraska-Lincoln	<b>Restoring habitat heterogeneity to promote biodiversity</b> Diego Steinaker, South of the Divide Conservation Action Program Inc	<b>Indigenous Network for Invasive Species Management</b> Daryl Wright, Seed 2 Leaf Environmental Consulting Inc.
<b>2:00-2:30</b>	<b>Range Health Assessment Update</b> Matthew Braun and Levi Boutin, Nature Conservancy of Canada		<b>One Government Invasive Weeds Task Force</b> Cory Jacob, SK Ministry of Agriculture
<b>2:30-2:45</b>	<b>Coffee / Poster Session / Trade Show</b>		
<b>Rooms &gt;&gt;</b>	<b>Imperial Ballroom</b>		
<b>2:45-3:30</b>	<b>Plenary #3: The Call to Conserve the Last Great Grasslands in the North America Plains –</b> Dr. Dirac Twidwell, University of Nebraska-Lincoln		
<b>3:30-4:00</b>	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <b>Hand in Evaluations &amp; Head Home - Safe Travels!</b>		

## What is a Speed Dating Case Study?

A Table Leader will briefly present a real-world problem or scenario. Then a group of participants will work together to solve the problem or brainstorm solutions to a scenario, in 12 minutes. With the goal of networking and sharing ideas/perspectives, participants will move to different tables and will work with different groups, over the course of the session.

<b>Table</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Sheila Taillon	University of Saskatchewan	Leafy Spurge on Native Grasslands
2	John Morgan	Truax Company	Restoring an old agricultural field with high diversity, locally-collected native seed. Are you nuts??
3	Jennifer McGuinness	Lakeland College	Designing a college course: Hands on intro to prescribed fire
4	Jennifer Bogdan	Bridge to Land Water Sky Living Lab	Restoration of the Historic Green Lake Trail on Mistawasis Nêhiyawak
5	Diego Steinaker	SODCAP	Landscape-Scale Strategies to Enhance Habitat Heterogeneity and Biodiversity
6	Tess Ryder	Ducks Unlimited Canada	Managing for Smooth Brome Mitigation in Pastures
7	Roy Vera Velez	Meewasin Valley Authority	Woody Encroachment and Fire
8	James Woodhouse	Lakeland College	Designing a college course: Nature Based Solutions
9	Jane Lancaster	Grasslands Restoration Forum	Spear-leaved goosefoot ( <i>Blitum nuttallianum</i> ) - Blight or Blessing for Revegetating Blowouts
10	Renny Grilz	Meewasin Valley Authority	Restoring Native Prairie Along a Roadway Adjacent to an Urban Natural Area – trials and tribulations
11	Amanda Farnsworth	Trace Associates Inc.	Turning Conservation Challenges into Opportunities: Changing Perceptions of Species at Risk Among Land Managers

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