

# Prairie's Got the Goods Week!

### Measuring nature's benefits: A wetland ecosystem services tool for Prairie Canada



Wednesday March 12th, 2025 at 12:00pm

Presenter: Dr. Lauren Bortolotti, Research Scientist, Ducks Unlimited Canada

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### **Presentation Summary:**

People derive many benefits from nature. These benefits, which are sometimes referred to as ecosystem services, are crucial to human wellbeing, including in the context of mitigation of the dual crises of global climate change and biodiversity loss. Researchers at Ducks Unlimited Canada's Institute for Wetland and Waterfowl Research have developed a tool to quantify carbon, biodiversity, water regulation and nutrient retention ecosystem services from wetlands in Prairie Canada. This tool allows us to quantify and communicate the benefits of prairie wetland conservation and learn about synergies and trade-offs amongst ecosystem services.

### **About the Presenter:**

Lauren Bortolotti is a Research Scientist with Ducks Unlimited Canada's Institute for Wetland and Waterfowl Research. Her research aims to advance conservation in Canada through four avenues: 1) Quantification of the benefits of nature to society; 2) Creation of conservation decision support tools; 3) Evaluation of conservation programming to improve program design; 4) Addressing fundamental knowledge gaps related to the implementation of nature-based climate solutions. Lauren has a PhD in Ecology from the University of Alberta and a BSc in Biology from the University of Saskatchewan.

PCAP's Prairie's Got the Goods Week is an annual series of webinars focusing on the goods and services provided by the native prairie ecosystem.

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