



Conservation and Enhancement of Wetlands in Saskatchewan

Water Security Agency

\$ 40,930 Grant

The abundance and density of wetlands in southern Saskatchewan is unparalleled in Prairie Canada, and provides critical habitat for breeding and migrating waterfowl and other wetland associated species. The majority of southern Saskatchewan is privately owned, and supports agricultural production of either cultivated crops or cattle. Wetlands provide watering and forage for rancher's cattle. In contrast, for farmers small pothole wetlands increase seed and input costs by overlapping applications, and delay spring seeding with increased risk of fall frost damage. Through voluntary partnerships with ranchers, cultivated cropland will be converted to forage to conserve and enhance existing wetlands, and enhance upland habitat for nesting waterfowl and other grassland nesting shorebirds and landbirds.

HABITAT RETENTION

- Four watershed stewardship groups engaged landowners to select eligible cropland conversion projects; voluntary agreements with nine landowners were established.

UPLAND RESTORATION

- 1,090 acres of cropland converted to forage on 13 parcels, which resulted in conservation of 182 acres of existing wetland.

Forage Conversion 2016 R. Eddy



Land Use

- Convert to Forage 91.6 Acres
- Wetland Complex 14.8 Acres 16 Basins
- Mixed Natural Land Acres
- UNDEFINED
- 30m Buffer 28.8 ac

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