



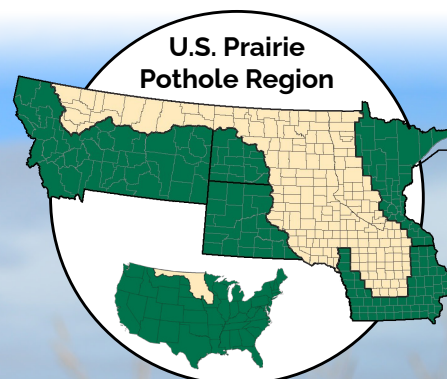
Prairie Pothole JOINT VENTURE



USGS-NPWRC & PPJV A PARTNERSHIP OF CONSERVATION & SCIENCE

The Prairie Pothole Region is among the most important areas in North America for wetland and grassland birds. The [Prairie Pothole Joint Venture](#) (PPJV) is a voluntary, self-directed partnership of federal and state agencies, non-governmental organizations, private landowners, resource managers, and corporations with a common interest in prairie habitat conservation. With base funding from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the PPJV has provided a structured forum for identifying shared goals among diverse stakeholders, coordination of science and conservation, and leveraging of resources to effect meaningful landscape-scale conservation. Using rigorous science and spatial planning tools, the PPJV partnership strategically protects, restores, and enhances high priority wetland and grassland habitat to benefit birds and people.

The [USGS-Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center](#) (NPWRC) works with the PPJV partnership to ensure that regional conservation strategies are grounded in science and adapted to rapid climate and land-use changes. NPWRC science was foundational in providing the initial conservation framework implemented by the PPJV partnership. The PPJV and NPWRC work together to identify science needs for conservation and leverage available funds and capacity to address these needs. This model of science coproduction and PPJV coordination results in relevant and actionable research to inform conservation and policy.



Over \$100 million in conservation funds through DOI are directed to this region each year based on strong scientific foundations.

In the rapidly changing Prairie Pothole Region, USGS-NPWRC science collaborations are addressing the most pressing information needs of the PPJV partnership. These include, among others, impacts from climate and land-use change, habitat management for priority species, evaluation of conservation strategies, and quantifying ecosystem services provided by conservation.



Stacy Simanonok

RECENT NPWRC-PPJV COLLABORATIVE SCIENCE

- ▶ Adaptation to climate and land-use changes: water and habitat availability
 - Models to assess resiliency of conservation plans to climate change ¹
 - Science to inform interactions of climate change and land use changes ^{2,3}
- ▶ Smart wind energy development
 - Assessing impacts of wind development on bird habitat resources ^{4,5}
 - Developing novel approaches to inform conservation offsets for energy development ⁶
- ▶ Evaluation of models used to target conservation and evaluate outcomes
 - Assessing factors limiting duck productivity in the PPR ⁷
- ▶ Inform conservation actions and tools
 - Comprehensive syntheses and meta-analysis to inform habitat management for grassland birds ⁸
 - Managing predation on endangered species ⁹
- ▶ Quantifying and assessing ecosystem services (collateral benefits) of conservation actions ¹⁰
 - Role of wetlands in sequestering greenhouse gasses ^{11,12}
 - Improving downstream water quality with wetland conservation ^{13,14}
 - Economic benefits of grassland conservation for commercial beekeepers ¹⁵
- ▶ Models to support population and habitat monitoring for priority or imperiled species ^{16,17}

MORE INFORMATION



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