## Funding Available to Landowners in Southwestern Saskatchewan

The South of the Divide Invasive Alien Species Strategy aims to help landowners in southwestern Saskatchewan with weed management and support species at risk, in part by providing matched funding to support on the ground activities. The project is a collaboration between the federal government and local non-profit organizations lead by the Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan.

Dollar for dollar matched funding is available for landowners with native prairie who have implemented or plan to implement weed control in 2023. Eligible costs include herbicide and application costs, costs for sheep or goat grazing, expenses from acquiring biocontrol (ie. beetles), and in some cases, fencing or mineral block costs, if it can be demonstrated that the fencing helps to control weeds or helps species at risk. Other costs may also be eligible if they can be proven to manage weeds or improve conditions for species at risk. Those who are approved for matched funding will simply need to submit bills for the total cost and a cheque will be issued for half the amount. Funding is limited and not guaranteed to everyone who applies.

The South of the Divide region, located in the southwest corner of Saskatchewan, is comprised of the rural municipalities of Reno, Frontier, Lone Tree, Val Marie, most of White Valley, and parts of Maple Creek, Piapot, Arlington, Grassy Creek, Wise Creek, Auvergne, Glen McPherson, Mankota, Waverley and Old Post. The 14,157 km² region is critically important to Saskatchewan's ranching industry and contains some of the largest and best quality native prairie remaining in the province, home to many rare plants and animals.

To see if you qualify for matched funding, please contact the Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan at <a href="mailto:info@npss.sk.ca">info@npss.sk.ca</a>

