

MD OF RANCHLAND AG BULLETIN

News, updates, and information for our community.



USING PRESCRIBED BURNS TO IMPROVE RANGELAND HEALTH

Prescribed burns are the use of fire in a controlled manner for a pre-determined purpose. They are applied to a specific area under certain weather conditions and managed to minimize risks and maximize benefits.

Healthy rangelands need biodiversity. Rangelands evolved with fire, so their biodiversity is fire-dependent. Fire suppression has caused many rangeland ecosystems not to function properly. Prescribed fires can mimic the historical fire regime and restore rangeland soil and vegetation. In turn, this improves rangeland uses such as grazing/livestock production and leads to better wildlife habitat.

There are numerous benefits to controlled burns, such as removing invasive plants, reducing brush encroachment, increasing forage amounts/crude protein levels and therefore palatability for livestock, decreasing buildup of dead plant fuel loads that may cause high-intensity wildfires, improving plant diversity/maintaining native species, promoting perennial regeneration, improving seed germination, and enhancing water infiltration.

If you are interested in prescribed burns on your property, please contact Erin at 403-646-3131 or erin@ranchland66.com.

GRANT TO APPLY FOR

www.watertonbiosphere.com
**Waterton Biosphere Reserve
Supporting Landowners in
Conservation and
Stewardship (SLICS)**

Supports producer projects that benefit local biodiversity (e.g. wetland and grassland areas, water quantity/quality, wildlife habitat corridors). Funded with 50-50 cost-share including in-kind materials, planning time, and labour. If interested, contact Erin at 403-646-3131 or erin@ranchland66.com.



WEED TO WATCH

Leafy Spurge

Euphorbia esula

ID characteristics: stems contain milky latex, leaves long, narrow, and waxy, flowers small, yellow-green colour, and shaped like two connected hearts.



Steve Garske, 2022

RIPARIAN HEALTH ASSESSMENT & PLANT ID TRAINING

Southwest Alberta
August 11 | 9am-4pm
<https://bit.ly/cfplant>

Find us online!

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If you would like to contribute to this bulletin by writing an article, submitting a photo to be featured, recommending an organization, noxious weed, or grant, or any other suggestions, please send an email to erin@ranchland66.com with the subject line "Bulletin". Thanks for reading and I look forward to your feedback!

ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHT

Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum

www.albertapcf.org



The goal of PCF is to conserve, protect, and manage native prairie and parkland species, communities, and habitats. They mainly achieve this by creating and implementing Alberta's Prairie Conservation Action Plans (PCAPs), which are five-year management blueprints for prairie-wide conservation efforts. Member organizations represent government, non-government, industry, agricultural/environmental interest groups, and academia. For more information, visit the website above.

