

2025-2026 UPDATES



The Policy Committee continues to play an active role in wetland and grassland policy support, implementation, and evaluation across the ecoregions of the PHJV. This is accomplished in three ways:

1) COMMUNICATION

Education and outreach are important for maintaining engagement. Newsletters are distributed monthly to an audience of over 400 individuals, and are accompanied by monthly webinars that explore current conservation issues and activities within the PHJV.

2) RESEARCH

A coherent understanding of where wetlands are located on the landscape is foundational to policy development. The Policy Committee is supporting a joint effort by Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) and the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency (WSA) on modeling wetland change in Saskatchewan.

The Human Dimensions and Policy Committees are continuing to collaborate on a three-year research project that focuses on grassland conservation policy across Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. This environmental scan of the existing work of grassland conservation organizations is complemented by directly engaging ranchers and Indigenous communities. Sharing perspectives, experiences, and outcomes will inform habitat conservation activities undertaken by the PHJV and the JV8 network of grassland joint ventures.

3) COOPERATION

Partnerships across the Prairie Provinces build policy support. In 2025, the Policy Committee facilitated four grassland policy meetings with provincial and federal policymakers. In addition, annual interprovincial wetland policy meetings were facilitated in April 2025 and are scheduled again for Spring 2026. Interprovincial and federal information sharing ensures that successes and challenges faced by regions and areas will improve collective efforts for conservation.

FLYING FORWARD

Continued engagement with the Environmental Law Center will help the Policy Committee measure the impact of policies and their success.

The Policy Committee is an active and vibrant group of representatives from various sectors that are passionate about guiding decisions that benefit land, water and people.

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