

The 2020 Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit

A Conservation Roadmap for the Future

3-DAY SUMMIT

to identify the tri-national objectives needed to sustain grasslands for generations to come.



5 MAJOR THEMES

- ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS
- RESEARCH AND EVALUATION
- ADDRESSING THREATS
- POLICY AND FUNDING
- LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION

WHO IS INVOLVED?

Conservation leaders in

- ▶ Canada
- ▶ Mexico
- ▶ United States



WHAT TO EXPECT

- ✓ Collaboration between federal and state agencies, tribes, non-governmental organizations, industries, private land owners, academia and foundations to:
 - work toward common goals
 - address greatest needs
 - contribute collectively to a sustainable landscape
- ✓ Development of a unified framework to guide and inform conservation efforts and investment strategies for the next 10



RESULTS

Adoption of priorities and pledging of resources that will support and sustain grasslands for migratory birds, people, pollinators, and more throughout the Central Flyway.



When:

Summer 2020



Where:

Denver area

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Concept

Bring together a cross section of conservation leaders and practitioners across Canada, United States, and Mexico to develop a unified framework to guide and inform grassland conservation efforts and investment strategies for the next 10 years. Several grassland conservation efforts are underway and this is an opportunity to bring them together in a unified framework. Together we will work toward common goals, address greatest needs and contribute collectively to a sustainable landscape for migratory birds, pollinators, other wildlife, people, agriculture and natural resource production throughout the Central Flyway.

Strategy

Using the [NABCI National Bird Conservation Priorities framework¹](#) which identifies grasslands as a habitat in urgent need of conservation action, we will develop and implement a 3-day summit in Denver that addresses the 5 major themes needed for a comprehensive conservation and investment strategy including: engagement and partnerships; research and evaluation; addressing threats; policy and funding; and land and water conservation.

A Grasslands Roadmap Summit organizing team will be assembled in 2019 that represents the cross section of conservation leaders across the Central Flyway from the 8 main sectors working to advance grassland conservation: federal and state agencies, tribes, non-governmental organizations, industries, private landowners, academia, and foundations. The team will communicate monthly, develop the agenda and strategies for the 3-day summit, communicate within their respective networks to ensure the broader community has buy-in for the summit, secure facilitators, determine funding sources (including sponsors), identify and invite attendees, assemble and share pre-summit materials, engage participants and ensure an effective forum.

We expect 100-150 participants representing a cross-section of practitioners, mid-level managers, scientists, and organizational leaders. The summit is planned for summer 2020 in the Denver-metro area. The 3-day summit will kick off with presentations on existing local and large-scale plans and efforts, as well as greatest needs, to set the tone and help inform the breakout sessions during the summit. We anticipate breaking out by the 5 major NABCI themes described above with opportunities for cross-theme discussions as guided by facilitators.

Results

The summit will include adoption of priorities and pledging of resources that will support and sustain grasslands for migratory birds and human communities throughout the Central Flyway. We will culminate with a panel discussion representing leadership across the 8 practitioner sectors to ensure commitment and action to moving the strategies and outcomes from the meeting forward. By bringing foundations, industry and other funding leaders together, we will provide a stronger return on investment and ensure the investments are adding up to achieve the tri-national objectives needed to sustain grasslands for generations to come.

