|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **BASIC INFORMATION** | |
| **Name of Site** | **Tall Grass Prairie Preserve, RM of Stuartburn SW, NW, SE 29-1-6 E** |
| **Designation** | Privately protected area: Nature Trust |
| **Province/Territory** | Manitoba |
| **Year of Establishment / Securement** | 1997 |
| **Area (ha)** | 191 |
| **Management Authority** | Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) |
| **Explanation of Management Authority** *(optional)* |  |
| **Governance Type *(CPCAD type*)** | Private |
| **Legal Basis / mechanism(s)** | Fee simple title held by NCC, 2004 Memorandum of Agreement between NCC and Government of Manitoba, The Mines and Minerals Act. |
| **Explanation of legal basis / mechanism(s)** *(optional)* |  |
| **Summary of Essential / Relevant natural, social and cultural values** | This 191 ha parcel is nested within the 4,650 ha Manitoba Tall Grass Prairie Preserve established by Nature Conservancy Canada. A native tall-grass prairie parcel supporting four nationally and/or provincially listed species (Small White Lady’s-slipper, Riddell’s Goldenrod, Poweshiek Skipperling and Culver’s Root) as well as several other rare species. The Preserve forms part of the much larger Tall Grass Prairie Natural Area (TGPNA/the NA) - a 445,628 hectare (1,101,173 acre) landscape abutting the international border in southeastern Manitoba. The Natural Area is part of the larger Tallgrass Aspen Parkland international conservation landscape that extends from near Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, to Steinbach, Manitoba, extending over 878,000 hectares (2,170,000 acres). Most of the Natural Area lies within the Northern Tallgrass Prairie Ecoregion, although the easternmost portions extend into the Superior Mixed Forest Ecoregion. The Tall Grass Prairie Natural Area (TGPNA) represents one of the largest and last remaining tall-grass prairie landscapes in North America. |

**Decision Support Tool – Screening Criteria**

All criteria in Steps 1 and 2 of the Decision Support Tool are intended to help practitioners determine whether an area meets the Pan-Canadian standards and is therefore eligible to be reported as a Protected Area or “Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measure" (OECMs). Criteria in Step 1 apply equally to both Protected Areas and OECMs, while criteria in Step 2 help to distinguish between Protected Areas and OECMs. **This template is intended to be used in conjunction with the decision support tool and detailed interpretation guide.**

| **STEP 1: STANDARDS COMMON TO PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS** | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CRITERIA:** | **INTENDED EFFECT OF THE CRITERION** | **SCREENING CHOICE** | **EVIDENCE-BASED RATIONALE  Rationale/evaluation of how area meets the intended effect of the criterion** | **OUTCOME** |
| **GEOGRAPHICAL SPACE** | Demarcates the area to facilitate the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. | A. The geographical space has clearly defined and agreed-upon borders. | The legal boundaries are clearly defined on the land titles. A shapefile further depicts the NCC’s fee simple lands. | A. Clearly meets standard for PA or OECM |
| **EFFECTIVE MEANS – 1** | Activities incompatible with the in-situ conservation of biodiversity do not occur and compatible activities are effectively managed. | A. The mechanism(s) provide(s) the ability to prevent incompatible activities and manage all other activities within the area, such that the in-situ conservation of biodiversity can be achieved | The property is owned in fee simple by NCC. Other mechanisms that NCC uses to control and manage activities on their lands include: private ownership legislation and bylaws; legislation governing the purposes and activities for the charitable sector including but not limited to requirements under the Canadian Revenue Agency, organisational letters of incorporation, mission statement. Board and management policies as well as a property management plan which outlines threats, conservation targets, permissible activities and required actions. Protection of the biodiversity values of the site forms part of NCC’s Tall Grass Natural Areas Conservation Plan. The site follows the Property Management Plan for the larger Manitoba Tall Grass Prairie Preserve  Crown mineral rights have been withdrawn under the Mines and Minerals Act but Manitoba Department of Innovation Energy and Mines could still issue oil and gas dispositions. However, there are no known reserves in the area.  Issuing oil and gas disposition would go against the spirit of the 2004 MO, particularly as the Crown has withdrawn the mineral rights due to the ecological importance of the site. | A. Clearly meets standard for PA or OECM |
| **EFFECTIVE MEANS – 2** | B. The mechanism(s) does/do not compel the authority(ies) to prohibit activities incompatible with the in-situ conservation of biodiversity but incompatible activities are not likely to occur. | There are no incompatible activities occurring on the property. The mechanisms compel NCC to prohibit all activities that are incompatible with the conservation of biodiversity. | B. Meets Standard for PA or OECM (i.e meets intended effect of the criterion) |
| **LONG TERM** | The area is permanently protected or conserved and not easily reversed. | A. The mechanism(s) is/are intended to be in effect for the long term and not easily reversed. | NCC’s mission, letters of incorporation and management plans all intend long term protection of biodiversity. See Annex p 2, 7 | A. Clearly meets standard for PA or OECM |
| **TIMING** | Biodiversity is protected or conserved year-round. | A. The mechanism(s) is/are in effect year-round | Mechanisms are in effect year-round. | A. Clearly meets standard for PA or OECM |

| **STEP 2: STANDARDS THAT FURTHER DEFINE AND DISTINGUISH BETWEEN PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS** | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CRITERIA:** | **INTENDED EFFECT OF THE CRITERION** | **SCREENING CHOICE** | **EVIDENCE-BASED RATIONALE:**  **Rationale/evaluation of how area meets the intended effect of the criterion** | **OUTCOME** |
| **PRIMACY OF OBJECTIVES** | Objectives are such that they result in the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. | A. Conservation objectives are stated as primary and overriding of other objectives. | Based on the mission and values, NCC protects areas of natural diversity for their intrinsic value, manages lands and waters for their natural values, and respects and promotes nature’s own processes. All objectives in the NCC Tall Grass Prairie Natural Area Conservation Plan (NACP) and Property Management Plan (PMP) relate to conservation of biodiversity. | A. Clearly meets standard for PA |
| **SCOPE OF OBJECTIVES** | Objectives have sufficient scope to result in the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. | A. The objectives are for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity as a whole, or for indigenous values accomplished through the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. | The site objectives are for the conservation of biodiversity as a whole, as outlined in the NACP and PMP.  Goals for the PMP   1. Maintain and enhance the ecological integrity of the South Block through stewardship 2. Increase Tall Grass Prairie and Oak Savanna in the South Block to greater than 75% of all upland by 2021 3. By 2021, Poweshiek Skipperling are present annually in at least 5 sites in the South Block. 4. Maintain priority invasive weeds cover at less than 5% of all community-based targets in the South Block through to 2021 5. Increase the proportion of “Good” and “Very Good” grassland condition assessments in the South Block to greater than 75% by 2021. 6. Maintain the proportion of “Good” and “Very Good” wetland condition assessments at greater than 75% through to 2021 7. Monitor biodiversity targets and threats to help refine conservation actions 8. Foster effective partnerships with neighbouring landowners, recreational groups, the local Weed Control Board, non-governmental organizations, and government agencies. | A. Clearly meets standard for PA |
| **GOVERNING AUTHORITIES** | The in-situ conservation of biodiversity is not jeopardized by relevant governing authorities. | B. While not all relevant governing authorities are bound by the conservation objectives, the area is being managed in a manner likely to continue achieving in-situ conservation of biodiversity. | NCC has sole governance over the surface rights of the property. NCC actively dissuades oil and gas development requests.  Crown mineral rights have been withdrawn under the Mines and Minerals Act but Manitoba Department of Innovation Energy and Mines could still issue oil and gas dispositions. However, there are no known reserves in the area.  Manitoba Parks and Protected Spaces Branch reviews all potential oil and gas sales before they go to market and would flag these lands and protected lands owned by NCC.  The likelihood of oil and gas rights being sold is low given the conservation status of the property. | B. Meets standard for PA (i.e intended effect of the criterion) |
| **BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION OUTCOMES** | Biodiversity is conserved in-situ. | A. The area is achieving the conservation objectives. | The biodiversity values which are protected at the site are the conservation of a native tall-grass prairie parcel supporting four nationally and/or provincially list species at risk – Small White Lady’s-slipper, Riddell’s Goldenrod, Poweshiek Skipperling and Culver’s Root) as well as several other rare species. The site forms part of the Manitoba Tall Grass Prairie Natural Area (TGPNA) which represents one of the largest and last remaining tall-grass prairie landscapes in North America. | A. Clearly meets standard for PA |
| **SUMMARY of OUTCOMES / EVALUATION** | **Screening Outcome:** Protected Area (meets all criteria)  The evaluation in Steps 1 and 2 above lead to the conclusion that all criteria are met to report this privately governed site as a Protected Area (PA).  **Currently reported to CPCAD/CARTS?** Yes, as Protected Area  **Reporting Outcome:** Report as Protected Area  **Total Area (ha) to be reported to CPCAD/CARTS: 191 ha** | | | |
| Identify deficiencies that could be overcome in order to report as PA or OECM |  | | | |