

Natural Systems



Provincial Parks at Work for Resilience



Provincial parks across Saskatchewan protect more than 1.4 million hectares of land and include a wide range of landscapes, such as grasslands, wetlands, boreal forests and river valleys. With 36 parks located throughout the province, Saskatchewan's parks represent nearly all major ecosystem types and make up more than a quarter of the province's Protected and Conserved Areas Network. These areas play an important role in supporting provincial commitments toward ecosystem and biodiversity conservation.

More than just scenic places to visit, provincial parks reflect Saskatchewan's cultural history and provide opportunities for people to spend time outdoors, whether paddling, hiking, gathering with family and friends, or simply enjoying nature. These shared spaces help strengthen the connection between people and the land.

Parks also help protect plants and animals by providing safe and connected habitat. Pollinators support plant growth, beavers create wetlands that hold water during dry periods and predators keep ecosystems in balance. Together, these natural processes support healthy and diverse landscapes.

In addition, parks play an important role in emissions stewardship. Trees and native grasslands naturally store carbon over long periods of time. Forests capture carbon from the atmosphere and hold it in wood and soil, while grasslands store carbon deep underground through strong root systems. Protecting these ecosystems helps maintain natural carbon storage while supporting healthy land and water systems.

Caring for provincial parks is an ongoing responsibility. The Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport regularly monitors and manages park ecosystems and undertakes activities such as ecosystem health assessments, reforestation and grassland restoration to help keep parks resilient now and for future generations.

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Why It Matters

Provincial parks support healthy ecosystems that benefit both nature and people. They help protect water sources, support wildlife, store carbon naturally and provide places for recreation, learning and cultural connection. Protecting and actively managing park ecosystems helps Saskatchewan prepare its landscapes for environmental variability while supporting enduring social, cultural and economic benefits.

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