



Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H3

DEC 01 2020

Mr. Braum Barber  
Chair  
Southern Alberta Group for the Environment  
braumbarber@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Barber:

Thank you for your letter of October 20, 2020, regarding the conservation of the former Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) community pastures in Southwest Saskatchewan.

Environment and Climate Change Canada appreciates the support of the Southern Alberta Group for the Environment on this issue. The Department has worked closely with the Government of Saskatchewan, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, ranchers and Indigenous leaders on this important land transfer in the province. The Government of Canada recognizes that the conservation of grassland ecosystems is critical. Govenlock, Nashlyn and Battle Creek pastures will maintain habitat for species at risk and migratory birds while continuing to support sustainable cattle grazing.

The conservation of these pastures is an excellent example of how governments, ranchers, Indigenous Peoples, and conservation groups can work together to protect Canada's biodiversity.

Again, I appreciate the Southern Alberta Group for the Environment's interest and passion for the conservation of this country's natural heritage. Please accept my best regards.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, P.C., M.P.

c.c.: The Honourable Marie Claude Bibeau, P.C., M.P.