ALBERTA PRAIRIE CONSERVATION FORUM

Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum Request for Proposals
Submit to Sasha Harriott – sasha@albertapcf.org

Development of a Data Portal for Habitat Connectivity in Alberta
– Deadline 5pm October 21ˢᵗ , 2021

Background: Habitat connectivity is essential to maintain native biodiversity and ecosystem function. The conservation and restoration of important corridors will help to maintain functional native prairie and parkland landscapes. The PCF aims to foster policy change and land-use planning measures that promote connectivity, as well as enable and empower individual landowners, the public sector, local stakeholders, municipalities, private industry and managers.

Participants in the 2019 and 2020 PCF Connecting Corridors Workshops (information can be found at albertapcf.org) highlighted the need for a centralized location for geospatial information to guide decisions, planning and management while maintaining connectivity. The envisioned tool will help to guide users including land use planners in recognizing high value connectivity areas that should be avoided or where appropriate mitigative measures can be used in development considerations.

Qualified applicants are invited to submit quotes for the Connectivity Data Portal.

Scope of Work and Deliverables:

The PCF requires the services of a company, team or individual to design a web-based, searchable mapping tool (data portal) that will be publicly accessible via the PCF website that includes the following bulleted items (the bulleted items include terms that are used by PCF or our member partners). All data sets will be publicly available and free of charge or datasets that partners are willing to share free of charge. The RFP should include information on the suggested web mapping platform and reasons why the platform is recommended. Some examples of platforms include (ArcGIS, CARTO, Mapbox, QGIS Cloud, OpenLayers, Leaflet, Tableau, HERE Technologies) however the proposal could recommend an alternate platform.

Available as a web map services from the Government of Alberta (GOA)
- Watershed boundaries (there are multiple options with different scales & symbology)
    - https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/AlbertaWatersheds-Layers/Latest/MapServer
    - https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Hydrologic_Unit_Code_Watersheds_of_Alberta/Latest/MapServer

- o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Watersheds_of_Alberta/Latest/MapServer
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Watersheds/Latest/MapServer

- Municipal boundaries
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Provincial_Municipalities/Latest/MapServer
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Urban_and_Rural_Municipality/Latest/MapServer

- Wetlands and Waterbodies (hydrology mapping)
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Base_Water_Feature/Latest/MapServer
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Alberta_Merged_Wetland_Inventory
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Wet_Areas_Mapping_Classified_Depth_To_Water_Estimates
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Wet_Areas_Mapping_Predicted_Streams
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/ABWRET-Relative_Wetland_Value_Estimator_By_Section

- Environmentally sensitive area data layers
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Environmentally_Significant_Areas_of_Alberta

- Species information including Alberta Environment and Parks Sensitive Species Data Layers
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/LAT-SensitivesSpeciesOct2020/Latest/MapServer
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Wildlife_Sensitivity/Latest/MapServer
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Wildlife_Sensitivity_Amphibians_and_Reptiles/Latest/MapServer
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Wildlife_Sensitivity_Birds/Latest/MapServer
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Wildlife_Sensitivity_Critical_Habitat_Aquatic_Species_At_Risk_10TM_NAD83_AEP/Latest/MapServer
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Wildlife_Sensitivity_Key_Wildlife_and_Biodiversity_Zone
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Wildlife_Sensitivity_Mammals
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Wildlife_Sensitivity_Plants/Latest/MapServer
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Wildlife_Sensitivity_Prov_Special_Access_Zone/Latest/MapServer

- **Other Potential Datasets are available as web map services from GOA**
  - o Parks and Protected Areas
    - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Parks_and_Protected_Areas_of_Alberta_10TM_NAD83_AEP

- Access
  - https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Access

- Agricultural Land Resource Atlas
  - https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Agricultural_Land_Resource_Atlas/Latest/MapServer

- Alberta Township System
  - https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Alberta_Township_System

Data integral to the PCF Data Portal but not currently available as web map service (available for download from GOA)

- Grassland Vegetation Inventory (some data layers are not available for some regions)
  - https://geodiscover.alberta.ca/geoportal/rest/metadata/item/9dea946a24314ca399b89723fcd857fc/html

- Alberta Conservation Information Management System data layers
  - https://www.albertaparks.ca/albertaparksca/management-land-use/alberta-conservation-information-management-system-acims/download-data/

- Natural Regions and Natural Subregions
  - https://geodiscover.alberta.ca/geoportal/rest/metadata/item/4e5e516a90124de884d1fdbdc552e8b3/html

- Native vegetation maps including Native Prairie Vegetation Inventory
  - https://geodiscover.alberta.ca/geoportal/rest/metadata/item/048a4cbf5df74ac89401660611a442c0/html

- Surface and subsurface dispositions (*available to the public through ALTALIS*)
  - https://geodiscover.alberta.ca/geoportal/rest/metadata/item/8b01b318db5f46618a15be3e014f196c/html
- Land-use maps, land disposition category (public, private, leased designation)
  - There are a few "lease" related datasets available for download on https://geodiscover.alberta.ca/geoportal/#searchPanel (search "lease")

Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute (ABMI) datasets
ABMI has their own webmap (https://maps.abmi.ca/#/) and is a member of PCF and has conducted work with PCF they would be willing to share their web map services with PCF.
Downloadable data includes:
- Existing developments (including linear developments, footprint mapping, fence-line mapping)

- o https://abmi.ca/home/data-analytics/da-top/da-product-overview/Human-Footprint-Products.html

- High Value Landscape
  - o https://abmi.ca/home/publications/401-450/424.html?mode=detail

- Habitat Intactness information
  - o https://www.abmi.ca/home/about-us/intactness-index
  - o https://www.abmi.ca/home/data-analytics/da-top/da-product-overview/GIS-Biodiversity-Data.html

Other

- Land Use Management includes rangeland districts, eastern slopes land use zoning, public land use zones, public recreation areas, public land recreation trails, etc.
  - o https://maps.alberta.ca/genesis/rest/services/Land_Use_Management/Latest/MapServer

- PCF is the host of State of the Prairie and this was developed in partnership with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry.

Data layers will be functional, custom products that can be utilized based on the specific needs of the end user.

Database will be able to be replicated and used throughout all Alberta's prairie, parkland, montane and foothill natural regions.

Include information and data layers on areas that have been identified as critical habitat.

Include: information section that houses guiding documents, rough fescue protective notation, renewable energy development best management practices, (Principles for Minimizing Surface Disturbance in Native Grasslands (AEP, 2016a), Industrial Activity in the Central Parkland and Northern Fescue Native Grasslands (AEP, 2016b), Principles for Minimizing Surface Disturbance in Native Prairie and Parkland Areas (AER, 2014), Recovery Strategies for Industrial Development in Native Grasslands (GRF), COSEWIC Status Reports

Baseline map for all users to work with the same data. Assess pinch points and effectiveness of existing corridors, expand corridor concept to include broader connectivity areas for species types, insects and amphibians.

Proposed Timeline:
- Proposal Submission Deadline: October 21st, 2021
- Proposal Selection Deadline: October 29th, 2021
- Test Run of data portal: January 24th, 2022
- Edits to draft back to contractor: February 14th, 2022
- Final product test and launch of data portal: March 14th, 2022

Appendix 1 lists references relevant to connectivity in Alberta.
Appendix 2 provides the process used by Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum in evaluating Request for Proposals.

All RFP submissions must be sent via email to sasha@albertapcf.org. All applicants will receive a confirmation email when their application has been received. Any questions from potential contractors are directed to Sasha at: sasha@albertapcf.org.

Appendix 1: List of key references to use designing the Connectivity Data Hub. This list is in no way exhaustive and any other relevant literature should be incorporated as required.

- Alberta Prairie Conservation Forum website: www.albertapcf.org
- Connecting Habitats in the Prairies of Alberta: What Does This Mean and How Do We Manage for it? – O2 Planning and Design – 2017-06-26
- Connecting Corridors Workshop Summary Report – Leah Roedler – 2019-10-29
- State of the Prairie – Technical Report – 2019-09-11
- The Status of Biodiversity in the Grassland and Parkland Natural Regions of Alberta – Supplementary Report – Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute – 2016-02-14

Appendix 2: Prairie Conservation Forum (PCF) Request for Proposal (RFP) Process

This document provides a Terms of Reference for potential PCF funding of projects by individuals or groups to support the PCF vision and are relevant to the current PCAP (2021 to 2025) Outcomes, Approaches and Actions.

1. **Request for Proposals**: Targeted calls for proposals will be issued periodically by the PCF Board for specific priorities as identified in the current PCAP. The board will ensure the deliverables are identified with associated completion and payment dates and consequences of non-delivery. The board will also identify the financial reporting requirements for grants and contracts. Contractors on specified larger projects will also be requested to provide a copy of their professional insurance.

2. The **criteria used to evaluate proposals** will be conducted by the PCF Board, or designates of the Board, and proposals will be merited based on the following components.
   - **Relevance to PCF**: Applicant proposals will address the specific requests in the PCF RFP call and is relevant to the RFP and/or PCAP Strategies, Outcomes, Approaches and Actions.

   - **Credibility of Applicant(s)**: Identify the individuals and/or professional staff that will be doing the actual work and document their professional credentials, related expertise and experience. The applicants may be asked to identify and provide specific examples of previous related work.
   - **Methods and Workplan**: Identify and provide supporting evidence for the methodology being used.
   - **Cost**: Provide information on the project cost and for the individual components or tasks as identified in the workplan. Each workplan task and the overall project may be evaluated on the basis of time and resource management and in relation to the allocated budget.

3. **Further Information**: Once proposals to the RFP call are received, the PCF Board will review the applications/proposals based on the above criteria. Proposals will be evaluated based on the quality and should provide a well thought out document with applicable actions, a clear methodology and itemized deliverables that are achievable within the timelines identified in the RFP call.
   - Applicants that the board agrees to fund will be sent a letter or email indicating their successful application.
   - A contract will be prepared for signing between the successful applicant and the PCF outlining and confirming the deliverables, deadlines for delivery and payment, consequences for late or non-delivery as well as any related optional obligations.
   - All successful applicants will be notified by email. Some applicants may be asked to provide amendments such as clarification and upon receipt of an amended proposal, will be subject to re-evaluation by the PCF board.
   - In the event of a tie, identified   applicants will be requested to provide an in-person or web/skype presentation to the board with a focus on particular project components for further consideration and to answer any questions.

- The applicant is responsible for the cost of submissions and presentations for the RFP and will not be reimbursed by the PCF.

4. **Maximum Project Cost (including gst):** $20,000.00