Mapping Ecological Stewardship Webinars

Tribal Stewardship in the Northern Great Plains #1

August 4, 2021
Webinar Management

All attendees will be muted throughout this webinar.

If you have questions, please enter them in the Question box.

Audio Tab: Choose Computer audio to use your computer microphone and speakers. Change your microphone and speaker options using the dropdown menu. Choose Phone call to dial using the information provided to switch to phone audio.

Questions Tab: Ask questions to the staff and panelists about the webinar material or request technical help.
STRENGTHENING
American Indian
COMMUNITIES & ECONOMIES
For 41 years

Our Mission...
to strengthen American Indian economies to support healthy Native communities. We invest in and create innovative institutions and models that strengthen asset control and support economic development for American Indian people and their communities.
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe
Ecological Stewardship on the Lower Brule Indian Reservation

Shaun M. Grassel, PhD

Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, Department of Wildlife, Fish, and Recreation
Outline

- Location
- Program description
- Black-footed ferret recovery
- Pronghorn - Coyote research
- Questions
Program Description

- Director
- Wildlife Biologist
- Habitat Biologist
- Assistant Biologist
- 1 bison manager
- 3 Conservation Officers
- 2 Administrative Assistants
- 3-10 seasonal habitat technicians
- 3-20 seasonal wildlife technicians
Program Focus Areas

- Wildlife Management
- Habitat Mitigation / Restoration
- Hunting and Law Enforcement
- Bison Management
- Recreation
Program Focal Species

- Prairie Chicken & Sharp-tailed Grouse
- Mule Deer & White-tailed Deer
- Black-footed Ferrets
- Prairie Dogs
- Pronghorn
- Pheasants
- Beaver
- Bison
- Elk
Black-footed Ferret Recovery

- *Mustela nigripes*
- Length 18 – 24”
- Weight 1.5 – 2.5 lbs
Black-footed Ferret Recovery

- Highly nocturnal
- Prairie dog specialist
- Solitary & territorial
Black-footed Ferret Recovery

- Ferret range = prairie dog range
Black-footed Ferret Recovery

• “The Most Endangered Mammal in North America”
• Reintroduced at 30 sites
Black-footed Ferret Recovery

**Threats**
- Disease
- Inadequate regulatory mechanisms
- Apathy / Lack of will
- Regulation
- Insufficient support for field sites
Black-footed Ferret Recovery

Why do Tribes work to recover ferrets?
- Species conservation
- Ecosystem restoration
- Cultural significance
Black-footed Ferret Recovery

- Identify Suitable Habitat
- Outreach
Black-footed Ferret Recovery

- Release, monitor
Black-footed Ferret Recovery

- Capture
- Vaccinate
- Microchip
Black-footed Ferret Recovery

- Plague management
Pronghorn – Coyote Research

- Pronghorn population decline
Pronghorn – Coyote Research

- Kid survival
- Adult survival and resource selection
- How does resource selection of adult females affect the survival of their offspring?
Pronghorn – Coyote Research

• 2 years, 54 adults captured
Pronghorn – Coyote Research

- 2 years, 54 adults captured
- High survival
Pronghorn – Coyote Research

- 5 years, 136 kids captured
Pronghorn – Coyote Research

- 5 years, 136 kids captured
- On average, 60% killed by coyotes
Pronghorn – Coyote Research

Options
• Do nothing
• Lethal control
• Non-lethal control
Pronghorn – Coyote Research

• 32 coyotes sterilized in 2020
Pronghorn – Coyote Research

Year 1
• 29 coyotes in study area
• 71% kid survival within study area
• 32% kid survival outside study area
Pronghorn – Coyote Research

Year 2
• 14 coyotes in study area
• 30% kid survival within study area
• 30% kid survival outside study area
Q&A

Please submit your questions in the question box
Contact and Social Media

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The recorded webinar can be accessed on our website under the First Nations Knowledge Center at https://www.firstnations.org/fnk
Next Webinar

Tribal Stewardship in the Northern Great Plains
Webinar #2

Date: Thursday, August 12th 2021 at 12 pm MDT

Where to Register:
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/724546692398769932

Webinar series questions?
Contact: Emilie Ellis at eellis@firstnations.org
Please Take the 3-min Post-Webinar Survey!
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Wrap Up and Reflections

1. What were some of the highlights of today’s webinar?
2. What words or images remain in your memory from today’s presentation?
3. What are some of your reactions or feelings about today’s presentations?
4. What insights are beginning to emerge?
5. How are these presentations relevant to your life and work?
6. What ideas and actions have these presentations inspired you to explore?
Thank you!