



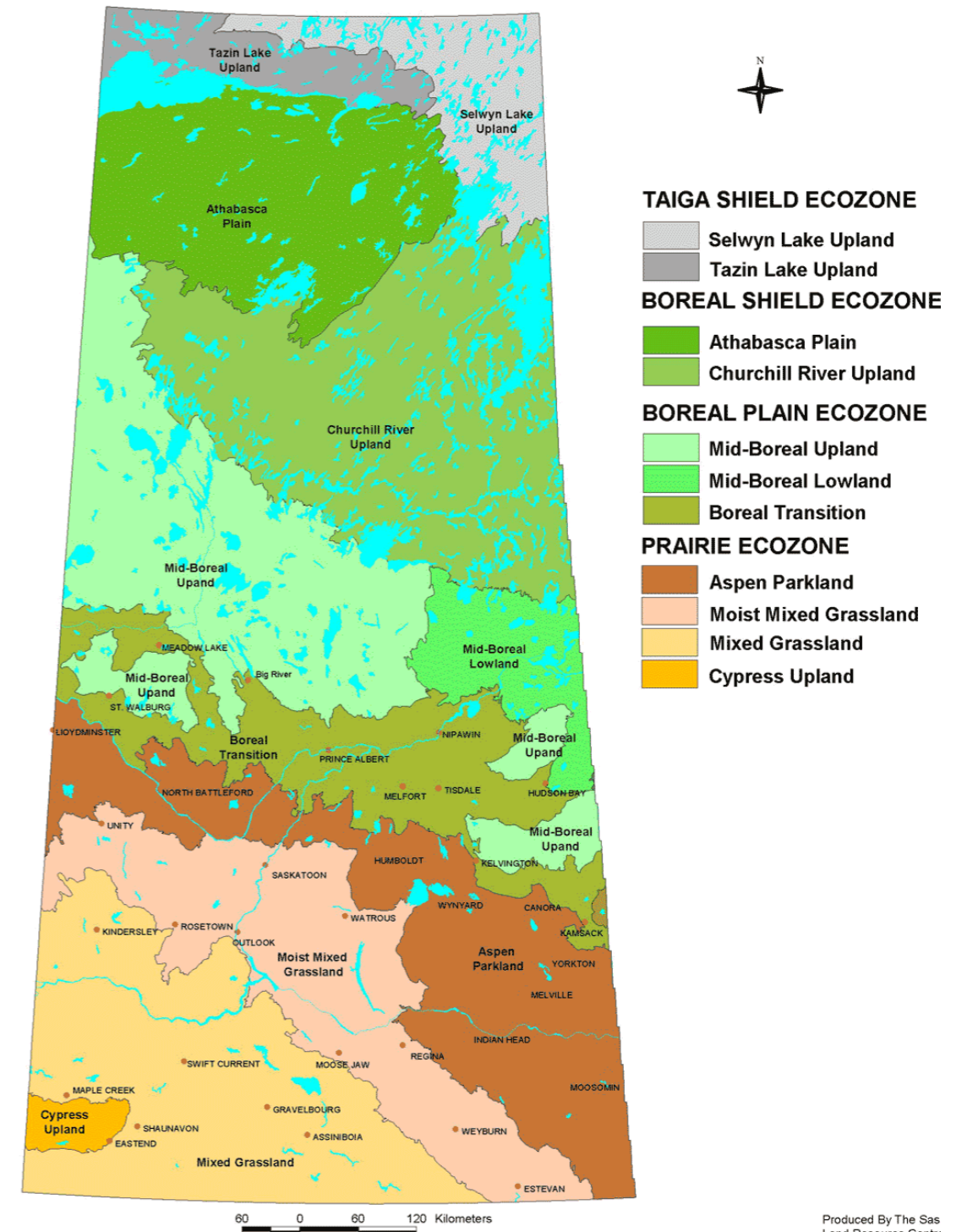
# **Sustaining Species at Risk Habitat**

**With Results Based  
Conservation Agreements  
Kelly Williamson P.Ag**

# Diverse landscape

- large areas of intact native prairie and unaltered habitats
- Areas of altered and modified landscapes

## ECOREGIONS OF SASKATCHEWAN



# **Background**

**South of the Divide Action Plan  
(Environment Canada)**

**Rancher Stewardship Alliance Inc. model  
development**

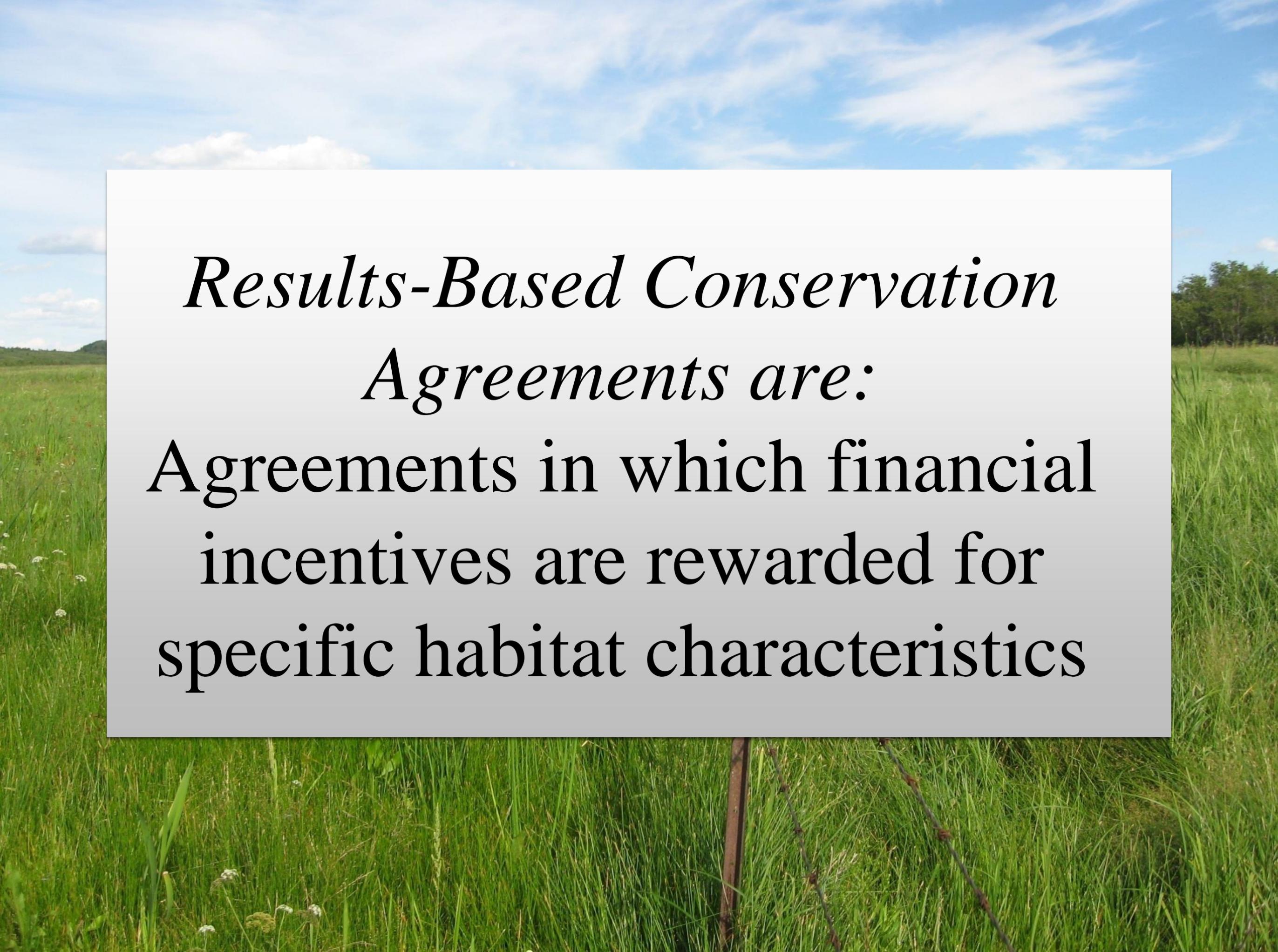
**(Commission for Environmental  
Cooperation)**

# Key Messages

- **Success will require new approaches to stakeholder engagement**
- **Protection does not produce habitat, management does(Easements)**
- **Practices do not guarantee outcomes(BMP's)**

# Key Messages

- **Recognition of Public/Private benefit**
- **Importance of biodiversity/heterogeneity**
- **Recognition of producers already providing habitat**
- **Need for adaptive management**



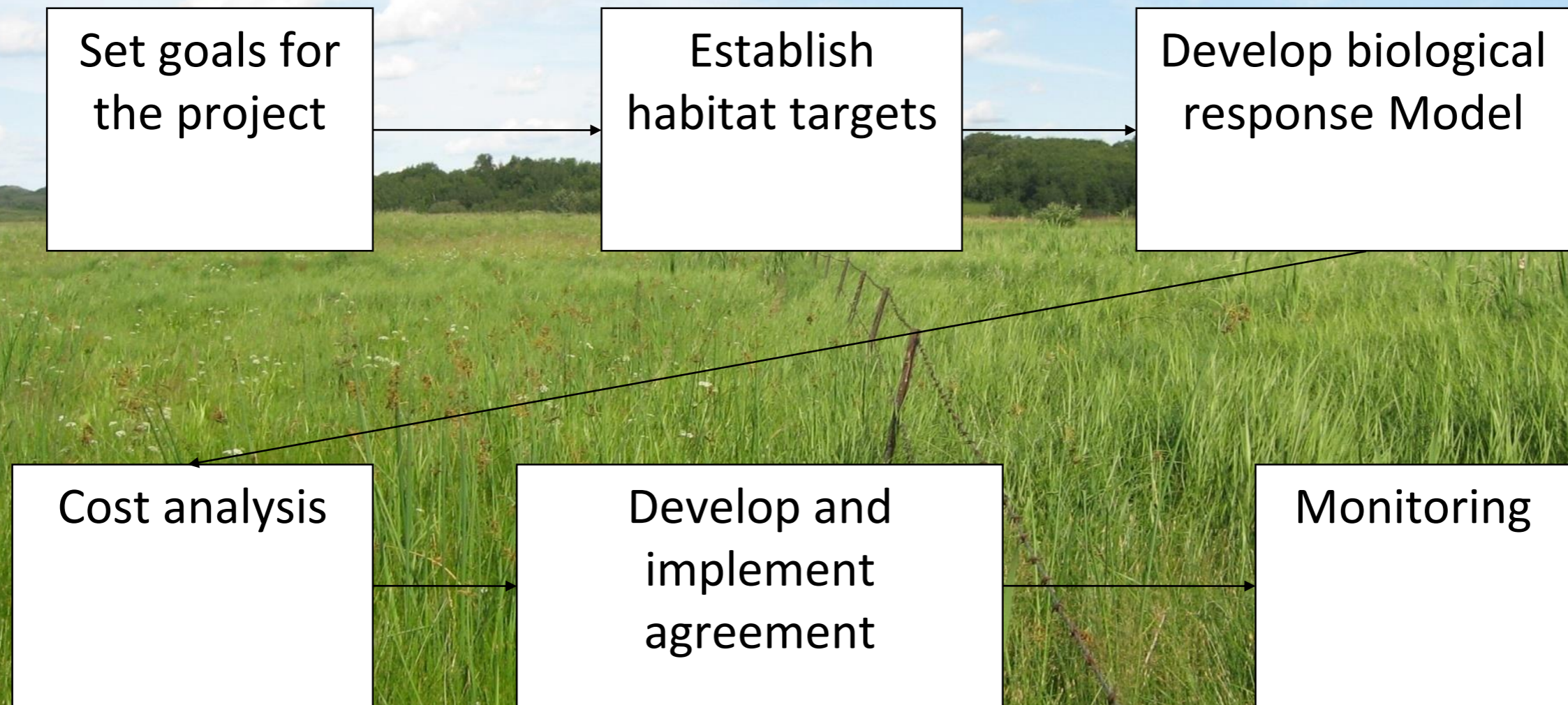
*Results-Based Conservation  
Agreements are:*

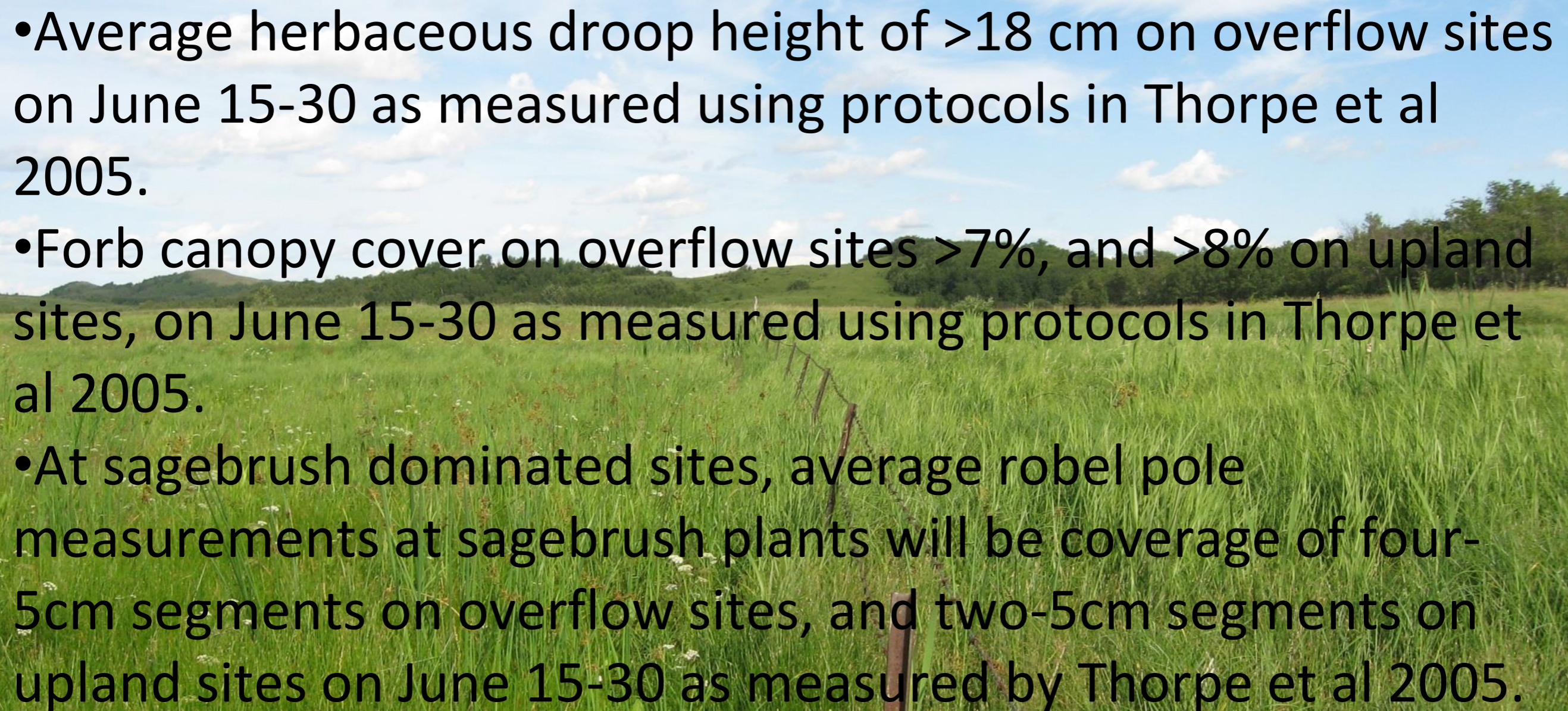
Agreements in which financial  
incentives are rewarded for  
specific habitat characteristics

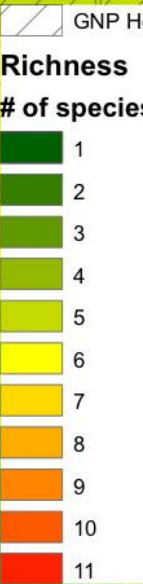
# Developing Results Based Projects for SAR

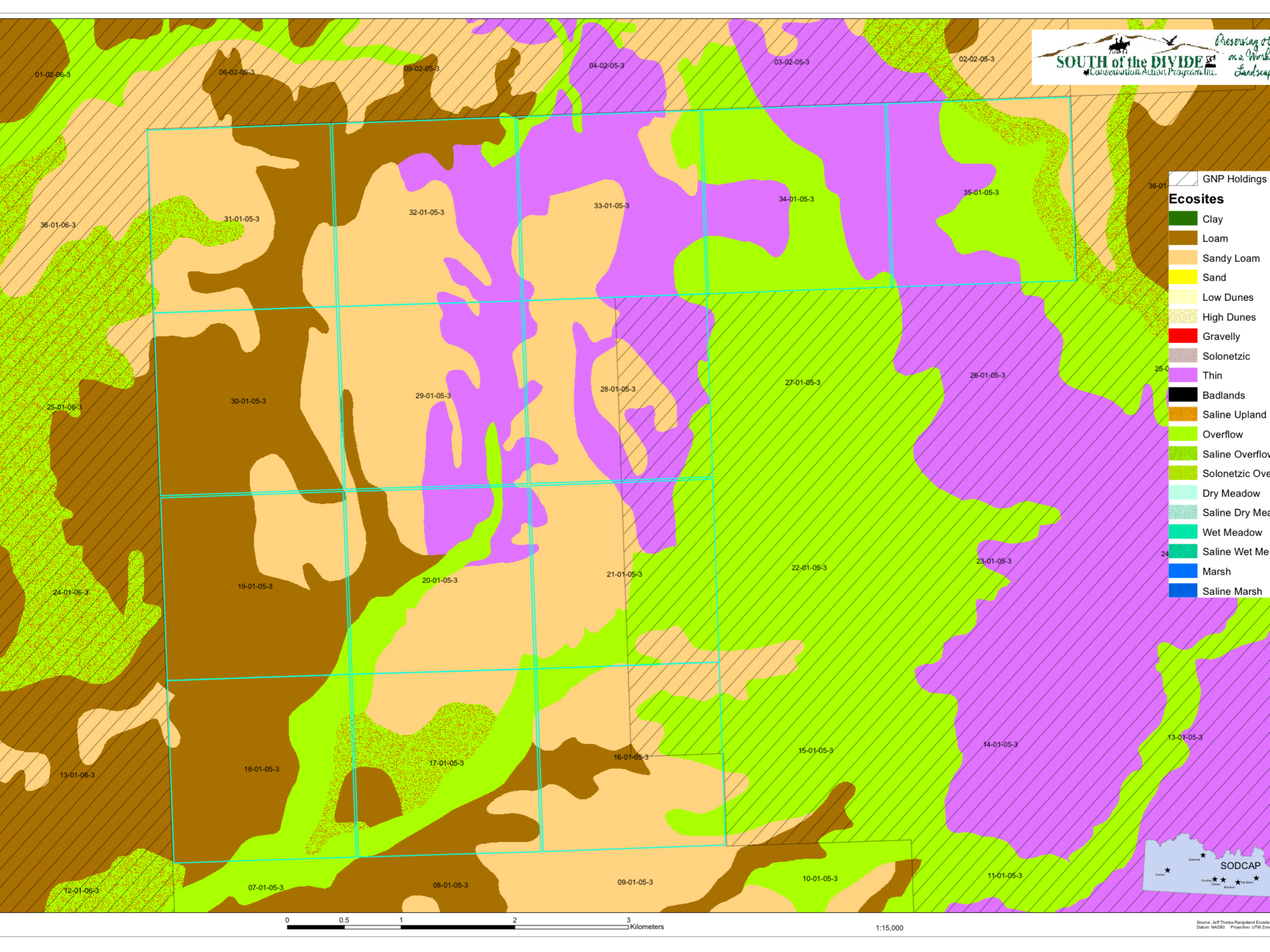


# Steps in the process



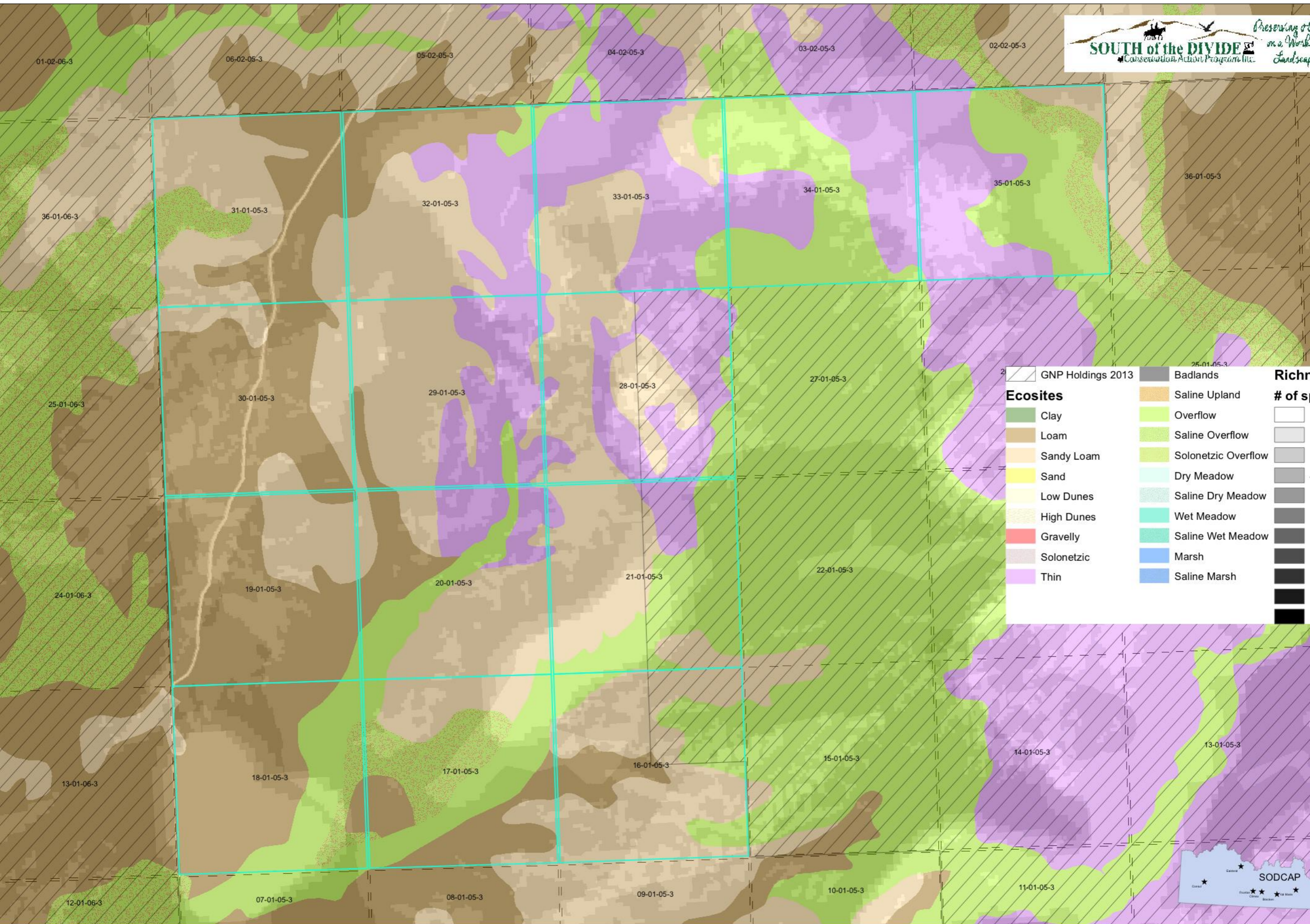
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- The background of the slide is a photograph of a vast, green field, likely a prairie or grassland. A line of tall, green grass runs diagonally across the middle of the frame, with a wooden fence post visible. In the distance, there are rolling hills and a line of trees under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds.
- Average herbaceous droop height of  $>18$  cm on overflow sites on June 15-30 as measured using protocols in Thorpe et al 2005.
  - Forb canopy cover on overflow sites  $>7\%$ , and  $>8\%$  on upland sites, on June 15-30 as measured using protocols in Thorpe et al 2005.
  - At sagebrush dominated sites, average robel pole measurements at sagebrush plants will be coverage of four-5cm segments on overflow sites, and two-5cm segments on upland sites on June 15-30 as measured by Thorpe et al 2005.





- GNP Holdings
- Ecosites**
- Clay
  - Loam
  - Sandy Loam
  - Sand
  - Low Dunes
  - High Dunes
  - Gravelly
  - Solonetzic
  - Thin
  - Badlands
  - Saline Upland
  - Overflow
  - Saline Overflow
  - Solonetzic Overflow
  - Dry Meadow
  - Saline Dry Meadow
  - Wet Meadow
  - Saline Wet Meadow
  - Marsh
  - Saline Marsh





# Problems

- **Production goals and Environmental outcomes don't always align**
- **Range condition and range health do not always directly correlate with producing species at risk habitat**
- **Connecting environmental outcomes to agricultural**

# Opportunities

- **Mitigation and Habitat banks that require indexed or quality habitats.**
- **Diversification of marketable products of an operation**

# Questions



# Funding

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