



The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation

A LAND *and* WATER PARTNERSHIP

FACT SHEET

Conservation Agreements for Wetlands - Potholes Plus Program -

Background

Conservation Agreements (CAs) are a way for landowners to ensure long-term conservation of the habitat on their land. Landowners can sell a “conservation interest” on portions of their land to a recognized conservation organization, but still retain ownership of the entire property. With a CA, a caveat is registered with the land title for as long as CA is in force. It outlines which parts of the property are under a CA and how those areas may be used.

The Potholes Plus Program (PPP) is a partnership initiative between the Delta Waterfowl Foundation and the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation (MHHC). CAs are regulated by the *Conservation Agreements Act* of 1998.

Criteria

Habitat:

Eligible habitats must be

- [1] located in the prairie pothole region in southwestern Manitoba (generally south of Riding Mountain Park and west of Hwy #34)
- [2] wetlands or wetland complexes and their associated upland habitats
- [3] have high values to waterfowl

Basins that have been cultivated and cropped periodically in the past may continue to be cropped when conditions permit (when the wetlands in these basins dry up due to natural, non-man-made conditions or causes.)

A Conservation Agreement should secure a minimum of 40 acres of habitat.

Eligible habitats (wetlands, grasslands, shrubland or woodland) should be largely made up of native vegetation.

Term of Agreement:

All CAs are signed in perpetuity under this program.

Agricultural Use:

Potholes Plus CAs restrict the breaking, draining, filling, annual burning or the converting of the habitat areas identified in the agreement. Haying and grazing is not restricted in the agreement.

(over)

Payment:

A one-time lump sum payment is made. Payments vary with the type of habitat and the conditions of the CA.

Property Taxes:

Landowners continue to pay property taxes.

Access:

Landowners continue to control access to the land.

Weed & Pest Control:

These remain the responsibility of the landowner

Need More Information?

If you would like more information, please drop by, call or email one of our offices:

Killarney	Al Bourrier	203 South Railway St.East	204-523-5522	abourrie@mhhc.mb.ca
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