

Stewards of Alberta's Protected Areas Association (SAPAA)

NEWSLETTER NO. 26, MAY 2012

Hello, fellow stewards! We hope you are enjoying spring! Owing to shortage of time on the part of our executive, we shan't be sending out a full spring newsletter, but this notice will serve to give stewards a heads-up on some upcoming events.

Orchid Walk Day in Wagner Natural Area on Sunday, June 17.th Guided tours of the main trail will depart from the parking lot at Wagner several times during the day.

On **Saturday, June 23rd** a special **mini-conference/workshop** to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Provincial Stewards Program will take place. It will be an all-day event with an evening banquet laid on, courtesy of Alberta Parks Stewards' Program. It will be held in the Hastings Lake Community Hall southeast of Edmonton. Coral Grove, program coordinator, will supply details separately.

On **Sunday, June 24th** join us for a **field trip to Northwest of Bruderheim Natural Area**, about an hour's drive north of Edmonton. Everyone is welcome, but we hope that stewards attending the Saturday workshop will take advantage of being in the area to visit this local Natural Area. The terrain is jackpine-lichen forest on sandy soil and several experts will be on hand to interpret various aspects of its natural history. The site experiences a number of problems, including wildfires, proximity of oil and gas development and off-road vehicle incursions, and these will be discussed in the light of possible management.



Aftermath of a burn Northwest of Bruderheim NA

We will meet at 10 a.m. in the parking lot of the Dow Centennial Complex in Fort Saskatchewan for car-pooling and the onward drive to the site. For anyone

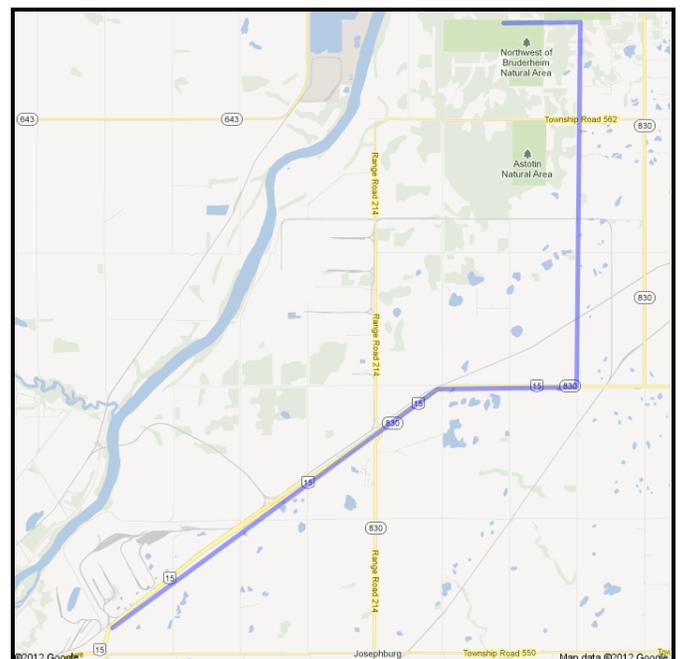
wishing to travel to the site independently, the directions are as follows:

From Fort Saskatchewan follow Hwy 15 for about 15 km (past traffic lights at Scotford intersection); turn left (N) onto Range Road 211; go North for 7 mi. (~12 km); turn left (W) onto Township Rd 564A; travel west on this road for 1 mile (1.6 km) to T intersection with Range Road 212. Turn left on R R 212 and travel for about 1.3 km to where a "natural area" sign is posted and there is a pipeline crossing. This point is just past an intersection with Township Road 563A. (You will pass the intersection of 563A as you are driving N on RR 211; which, however, is unmarked, except for a "natural area" sign (partly obscured by foliage) on the corner.)

Meeting point: intersection of Township Road 563A & Range Road 212; near large disturbed area, dominated by pipeline crossing.

Participants should wear sturdy shoes (there are likely to be plenty of ants), suitable clothing for the weather, and bring a lunch and water.

We will likely complete the field trip by 4:30 p.m. For those who would like to linger and socialize afterwards we plan to get together for a meal at a restaurant in Fort Saskatchewan. Conference participants will be asked to indicate their interest in the field trip upon registration; also contact Patsy at nutmeg@planet.eon.net if you need more information.



Map to Northwest of Bruderheim NA from Fort Saskatchewan

Whitehorse Wildland Provincial Park Wildflower Guide – A new project

For several years Alison Dinwoodie, steward of WWPP, and some of her buddies have been talking about publishing a guide to the beautiful alpine and montane wildflowers of the Cadomin-Cardinal Divide area. We have devised a list of species to include and are looking for participants and contributors to the publication. To this end we are planning three field trips to the area this summer, to fill in gaps in photo records and other information. The field trips are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday June 20 - Sunday June 24

Friday July 6 - Wednesday July 11

Wednesday August 8 - Sunday August 12

To register for these field trips contact Kristen Andersen at Kristen@adoptaplantalberta.com.

For more information on the project, please contact Alison Dinwoodie at adinwoodie@shaw.ca or phone 780 437-7183. Written material is available. **If you are interested in going on any of the field trips, on any or all of the dates shown, or even if you go at some other time, please let Alison know by Monday, May 28th.** You can of course attend the field trips for as long (or as short) as your time allows.

You are responsible for making your own bookings at the Cadomin Motel, phone 1-780 692 3663, or at Watson Creek or Whitehorse Creek campgrounds. (Phone Parks at 780-865-2154) or go online at <http://tpr.alberta.ca/parks/default.aspx>). You are advised to book without delay.

Current SAPAA executive - 2011-2012

President: Patsy Cotterill; Vice-President: Hubert Taube;
Recording Secretary: Alison Dinwoodie
Treasurer: Peter Kershaw; Webmaster: Linda Kershaw
Directors: John Woitenko; Tony Blake; Kate Reeves;
Lucille Horne; Merleen Rafters

Note: Many environmental organizations are opposing P.M. Harper's new omnibus bill, which will seriously weaken environmental protection. Please give generously to these groups to show support and solidarity!