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The Journal of the Great Plains Natural Science Society



The Prairie Naturalist

Established in 1969

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The Great Plains Natural Science Society

The Great Plains Natural Science Society, formerly the North Dakota Natural Science Society, was founded in 1967 and seeks to promote interest in and understanding of natural history in the Great Plains, to encourage the conservation of natural resources, and to provide communication among individuals, institutions, and organizations of like interests. The GPNSS actively promotes the study of natural history of the Great Plains region, including geology, plants, birds, mammals, fish, insects, and other forms of life. Together with local, state, and national conservation organizations, the GPNSS fosters natural resource conservation and preservation of outstanding natural areas. The GPNSS publishes *The Prairie Naturalist*, a widely read, peer-reviewed journal which deals with the natural history and environment of the Great Plains region.

The GPNSS is currently composed of a diverse membership, many of whom are professional scientist. Society members have strong interests in sustainable management of Great Plains natural resources and their habitats. Natural history and ecology of the Great Plains is the primary focus and interest of the GPNSS, thus, the primary interests and goals of the Society seeks to promote increased scientific knowledge of the interactions of all Great Plains organisms with their natural environments, enhance professional stewardship of Great Plains natural resources and their habitats, and encourage use of applied research for informing Great Plains natural resource policy decisions.

The GPNSS hosts annual meetings and serves host to symposiums covering a broad spectrum of topics. Located jointly within the Department of Biological Sciences at Western Illinois University and 410 Sunset Lane in Brookings, South Dakota, the GPNSS takes great pride in working with students, staff, and faculty to foster a greater understanding of the natural history and ecology of Northern Great Plains organisms and their biota.

First published in 1969 by the University of North Dakota, *The Prairie Naturalist* has been published by Minuteman Press since 2013 and fills an important role as the avenue of communication of research on the North American grasslands and their biota. Research topics include articles investigating Great Plains community and landscape ecologies, species-specific population dynamics, mammalogy, ornithology, invertebrate zoology, herpetology, ichthyology, botany, animal behavior, infectious diseases, and biostatistics. This journal offers timely technical information for researchers, educators, students, and the interested public. Published quarterly, *The Prairie Naturalist* reaches subscribers throughout the United States and Canada, as well as libraries in Europe and Asia. A portion of each volume is devoted to shorter and less comprehensive communications (notes) and book reviews. Manuscripts containing original material not submitted elsewhere are considered for publication; all are reviewed by specialists in relevant fields.

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