



EnCana in the Suffield National Wildlife Area

Tucked away in the southeast corner of Alberta lies one of the last tracts of undisturbed grassland remaining in Canada. The region includes the Suffield National Wildlife Area (NWA) – 458 km² of rare unbroken prairie containing landscapes of national significance, including sand hills, ancient glacial coulees, and the stunning South Saskatchewan River valley.

EnCana has applied to drill 1,275 shallow gas wells and construct 220 km of pipeline in this endangered native prairie landscape.

Species at Risk

Home to more than 1,100 species of plants and animals, the Suffield NWA is a haven for 94 species of concern, 18 of which are federally listed species at risk of extinction. This nationally protected area also contains numerous historical sites such as medicine wheels, bison kill sites, and stone cairns. Many of the area's dinosaur remains and fossilized trees remain unclassified.



SWIFT FOX

Cleve Wershler

Since 1971, Canadian Forces Base Suffield, which encompasses the NWA, has recognized the fragility of the area and has zoned the eastern part of the base out-of-bounds for military training.

In addition to the construction of roads, pipelines, and other infrastructure necessary for EnCana's proposed development, the project would increase the current well density to 16 wells per mi². The negative impacts on habitat -- and the wildlife that depend on it -- will be devastating.

EnCana's Past Performance in Suffield

In 2007, government documents revealed that EnCana's "minimal disturbance" shallow gas drilling program in an environmentally sensitive area of CFB Suffield left significant impacts, including invasive species, disregard for species at risk, improper waste management, lack of monitoring, and inadequate reclamation efforts.

On April 24, 2008 EnCana will make its fourth court appearance related to charges of violating the *Canada Wildlife Act* by installing a portion of pipeline without the required permit in Suffield National Wildlife Area.

Questions for EnCana

- Why is Encana planning to drill in a National Wildlife Area?
- If Encana is confident that their operations do not, and will not, impact the NWA negatively, why does the Annual Report not include this project application and Encana's current operations under wildlife stewardship?
- What is the risk that the permit will be denied?
- What are the mitigation and restoration costs for this project?
- What is the risk to Encana's reputation of seeking to drill in a protected area with so many species at risk?



PRAIRIE RATTLESNAKE

Cliff Wallis