

Long-term population monitoring of American Kestrels in Saskatchewan, using nest boxes.



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Hudson Bay

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MANITOBA

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QUÉBEC

NEWFOUNDLAND
AND LABRADOR



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MINNESOTA

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Montreal

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ARIZONA

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ARKANSAS

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MISSISSIPPI

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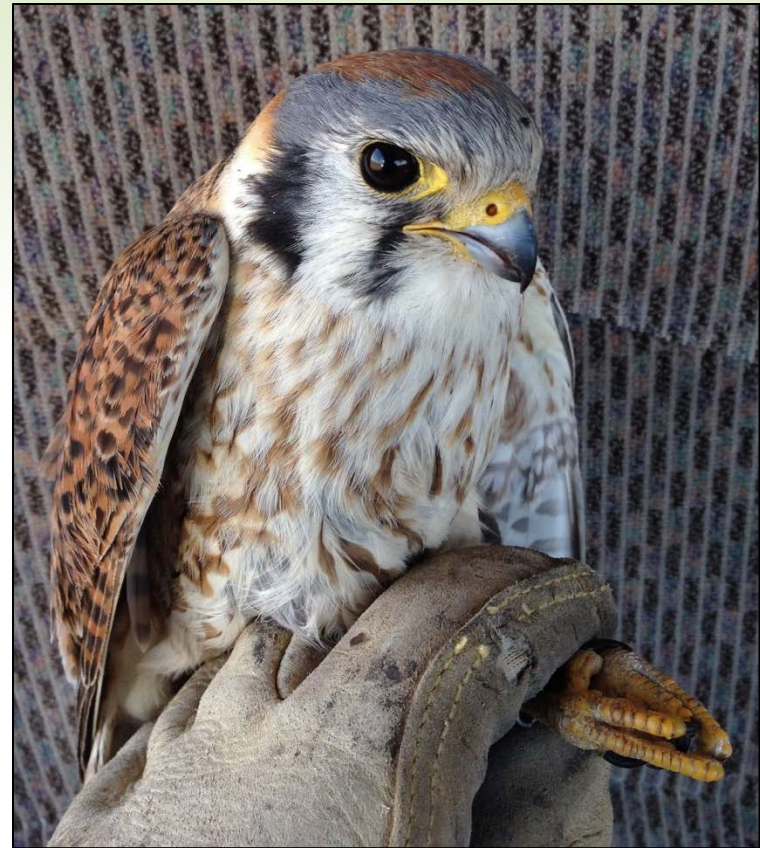
SOUTH CAROLINA

TEXAS

GEORGIA

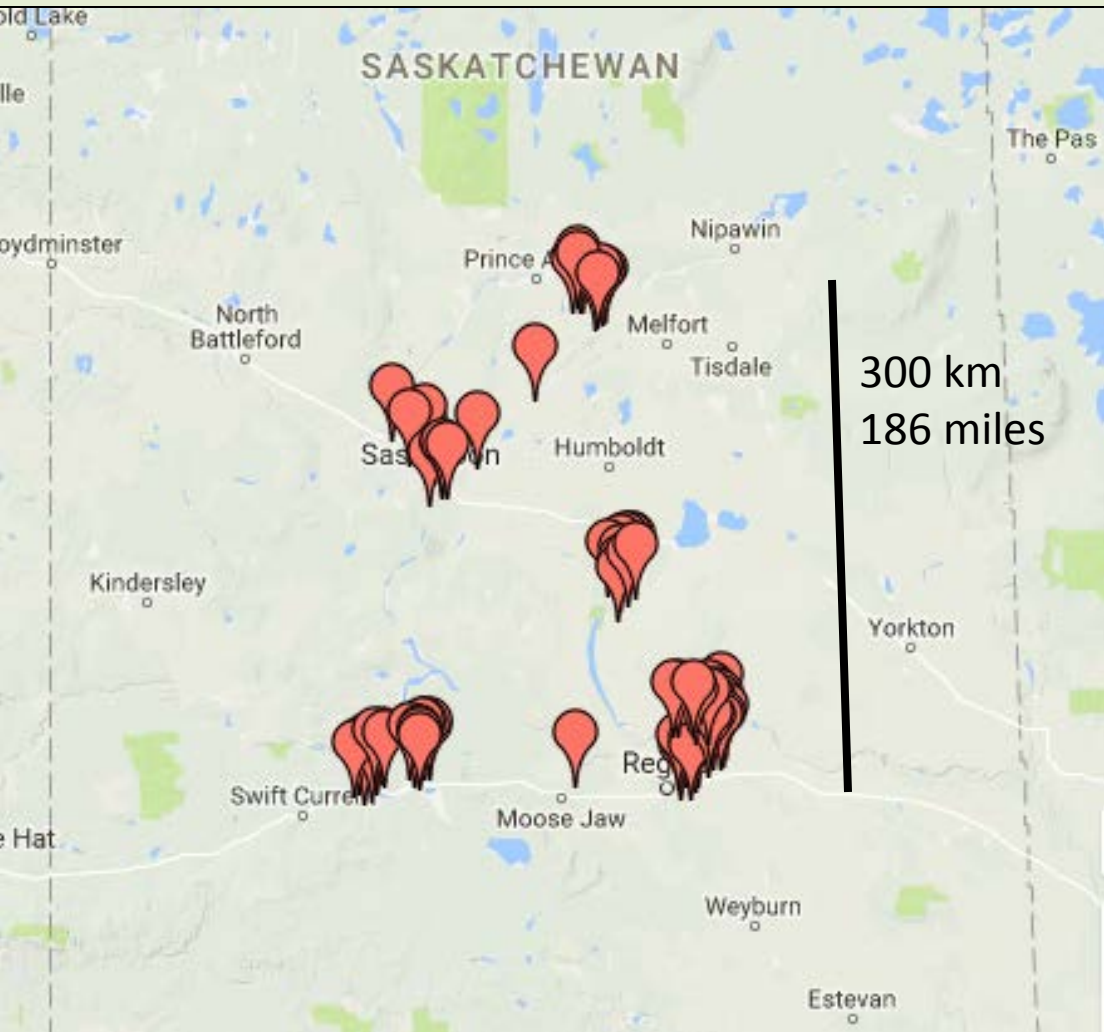
Getting started

- 2007
 - put up 2 boxes around Regina
 - both were occupied!
- 2008
 - put up 14 boxes
 - 8 were occupied!
 - banded 8 adult females & 30 chicks!
- 2009
 - had 11 boxes
 - again 8 occupied!
 - banded 6 adult females, 4 adult males & 8 chicks.



2015 – Let's Get Serious!

- Goal: Set up a long term nest box program to study American Kestrel population in Saskatchewan.



- Set up study to reduce driving and time commitment for each bander.
- 5 banders & each bander had a cluster of 10 boxes to monitor.
 - 2015 – 50 boxes
 - 2016 – 79 boxes
 - 2017 – 60 boxes?

- Standardized the boxes (Audubon Society/Art Gingert)
- Boxes placed at least 1 km apart
- Set up on power poles and trees
- Checked at least twice per year beginning and end of May, more if AMKE present
- Clean the boxes each winter







Species: AMERICAN KESTREL

Date set up: _____
Location: _____ N _____ W. Location Name: _____

Nesting Banding Data Date: _____

Band #	Age	Sex	Weight	Bander

NOTES:

- Catch females in the nest box by plugging the entrance hole
- Males are opportunistically captured with a bal-chatri

Adult Banding Data

Band #: _____ Date (DD-MON-YYYY): _____ Time (24h): _____
Age: _____ Sex: _____ Body Condition (1-5): _____
Wing Chord: _____ Tail: _____ Weight: _____
Method of Captured: Bal-chatri In Nestbox
Primaries Secondaries Notes: _____
Left: _____
Right: _____

Band #: _____ Date (DD-MON-YYYY): _____ Time (24h): _____
Age: _____ Sex: _____ Body Condition (1-5): _____
Wing Chord: _____ Tail: _____ Weight: _____
Method of Captured: Bal-chatri In Nestbox
Primaries Secondaries Notes: _____
Left: _____
Right: _____



Nest data

Box location: _____ Nest height (m): _____

Date (DD-MON-YYYY)	Time	Adults	Eggs	Chick	Notes (Include prey items)

Nest outcome: _____ # of chicks fledged: _____
Reason for nest failure: _____

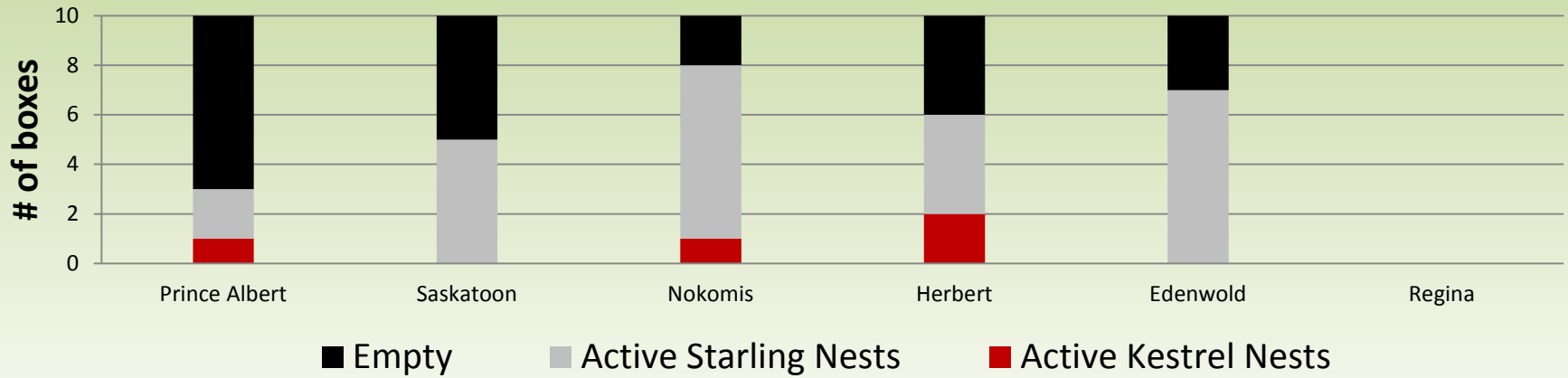


Results

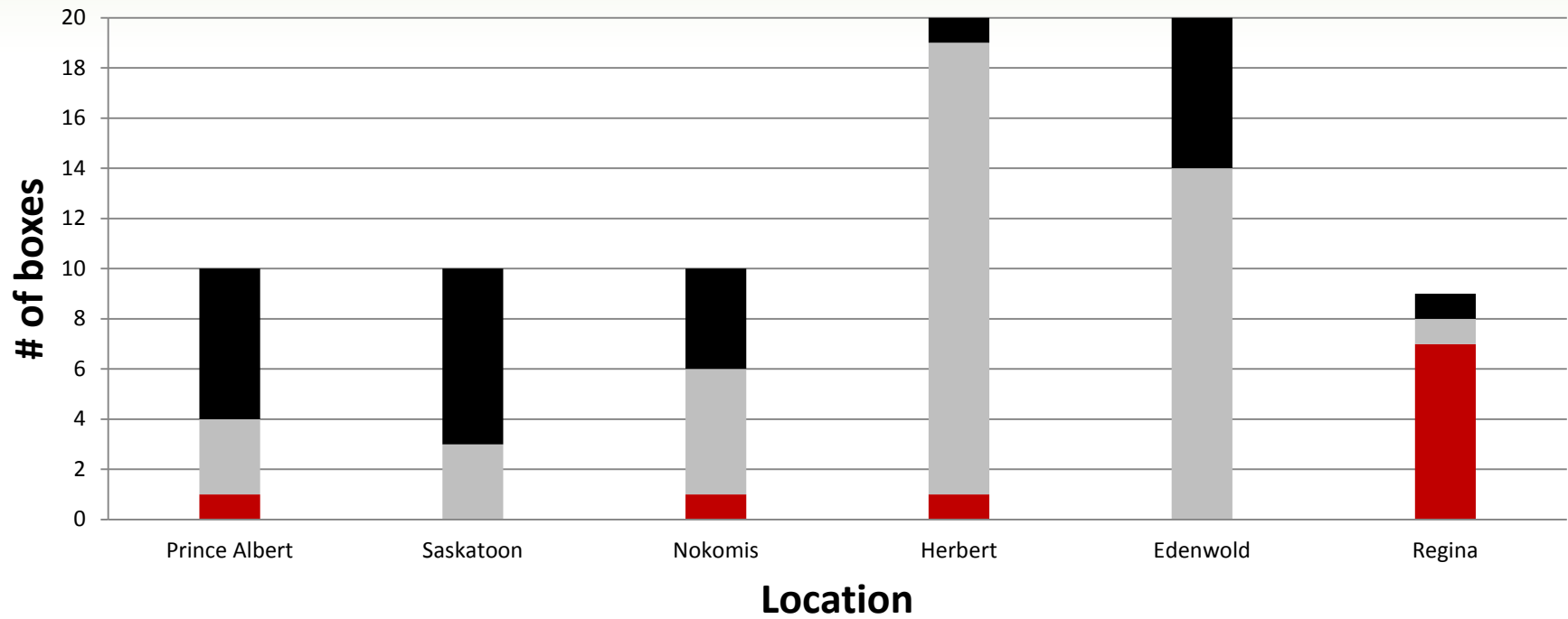
- **2015 (50 boxes)**
 - 8% active nests (n=4), 2 successful
 - Banded 3 adult females, 1 male & 10 nestlings
 - 50% occupancy by European Starlings (n=25)
- **2016 (79 boxes)**
 - 12% active nests (n=10), 7 successful
 - Banded 7 adult females, 0 males & 35 nestlings
 - Recaptured 1 male from 2015
 - 59% occupancy by European Starlings (n=47)



2015



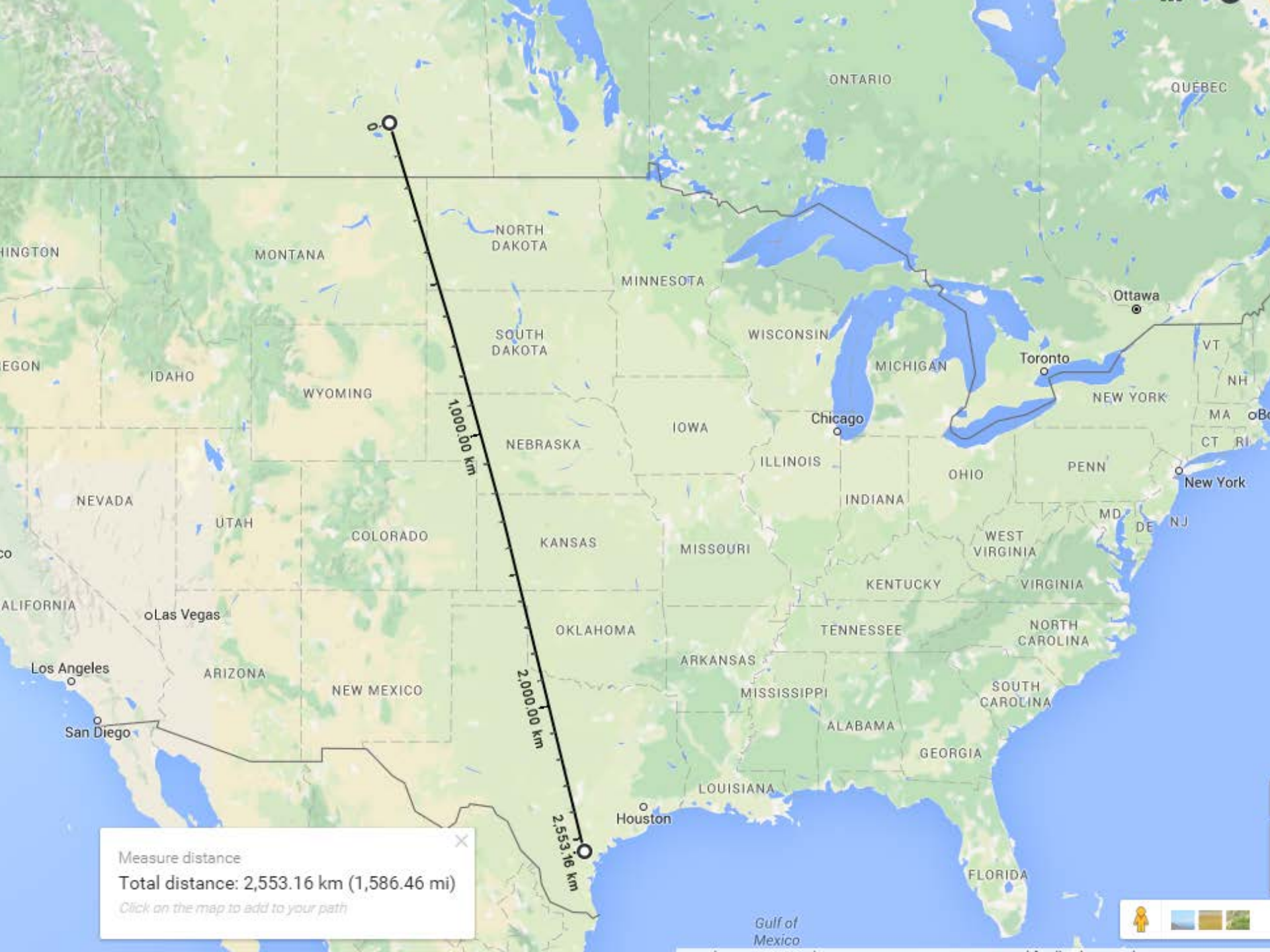
2016



A couple other interesting things







Measure distance ✕
Total distance: 2,553.16 km (1,586.46 mi)
Click on the map to add to your path



Gulf of Mexico

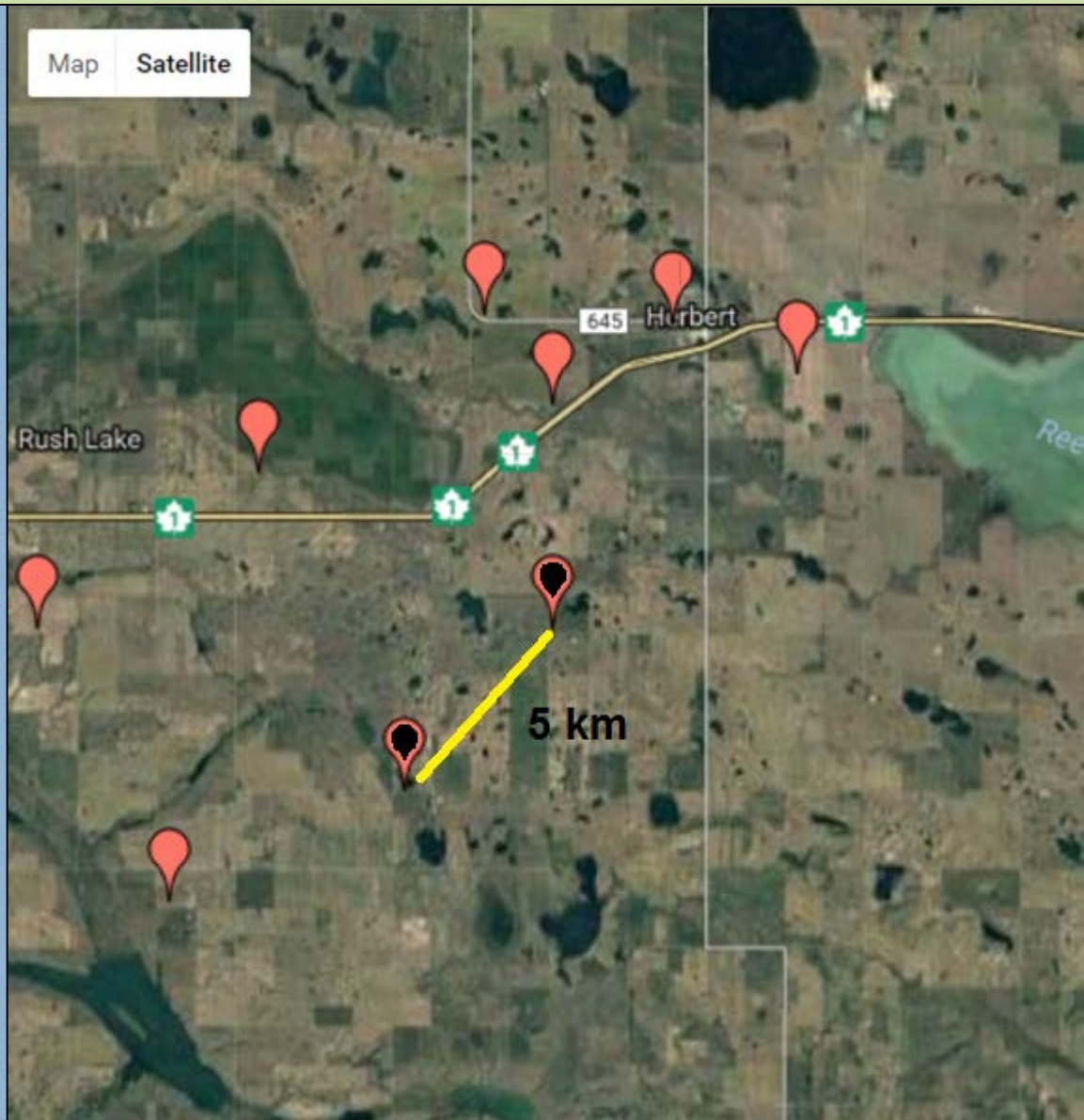


Rotate the view



Hide imagery







Thank you to my team:

Randy McCulloch (Herbert)

Joseph Kotlar (Nokomis)

Adam Crosby (Saskatoon)

Matthew Tokaruk (Prince Albert)