Regina, Saskatchewan Totem Species
This is just a sample – there are many more!

Great resource is **NatureServe Explorer Pro:**

https://explorer.natureserve.org/pro/Welcome — from there, click on the green EXPLORE DATA ON THE EXPLORER PRO MAP button and it will prompt you to sign in (or create a free account). Search by species, or by customized area (which generates a biodversity report for your chosen area). Both options provide detailed records for each species.

Note that the app does not retain your drawn polygon indefinitely (though it gives you a good while before wiping the map clean), so plan accordingly.

TOTEM SPECIES (for use of Totem Species info with One-Page Place Assessment Resource see **https://www.harvestingrainwater.com/resources/one-page-assessments/**)

FISH
Acipenser fulvescens
Lake Sturgeon (click each species' link for full record)

Historically abundant and widespread in rivers and lakes from southern Canada to the southeastern U.S.; now much reduced in distribution and abundance as a result of historical overfishing, dams, and water pollution; many populations continue to be negatively affected by physical barriers to migration, loss and degradation of spawning and nursery areas, and (in some areas) fishing pressures or illegal harvest, but major declines have largely ceased, and populations have stabilized (at relatively low abundance levels) or increased in some areas, in part as a result of substantial ongoing recovery efforts.

https://www.wsask.ca/about/publications/ecology/
Operation of two large dams on the Saskatchewan River System (Gardiner Dam and E.B. Campbell) is suspected to contribute to [Lake Sturgeon] habitat degradation resulting from flow management and fragmentation.

REPTILE
Phrynosoma hernandesi
Greater Short-horned Lizard

Range-wide threats include habitat modification by invasive plants and increased vulnerability to summer droughts and freeze/thaw events associated with climate change. [Unprotected populations] are subject to additional threats including agriculture, oil and gas drilling, increased predation because of habitat modification, and other human developments.

INSECT
Bombus occidentalis
Western Bumble Bee

Once considered one of the most common and widespread bumble bees in western Canada, this subspecies has experienced a significant (>30%) decline in recent years and has been lost from a number of sites in the southern portions of its range where it was once abundant. It has among the highest parasite loads of any bumble bee in North America. Ongoing threats to the species, particularly within the southern portions of its range, include pathogen spillover from

commercially managed bumble bee colonies, increasingly intensive agricultural and other land use practices, pesticide use (including neonicotinoid compounds), and habitat change.

BIRD
Athene cunicularia
Burrowing Owl — a local favorite

This grassland owl has suffered ongoing large declines across much of its North American range. The Canadian population was reduced by 90% from 1990 to 2000, and by a further 64% between 2005 and 2015. Most of the remaining individuals are in southern Alberta and Saskatchewan. The **loss of grassland habitat** and suitable burrows has been compounded by a reduction in prey populations, and concurrent increases in predation, vehicle collisions, expansion of renewable energy, and severe weather events.

Or

Anthus spragueii
Sprague's Pipit — also local but not as beloved as the owl; wetlands relevance

It is a habitat specialist that needs large tracts of intact native grassland for breeding. Population declines have occurred as a result of loss/degradation/fragmentation of native prairie habitat due to **cultivation**, **wetland drainage**, overgrazing, and invasion of non-native vegetation.

MAMMAL

Sylvilagus nuttallii
Mountain Cottontail

Limited in Canada primarily by loss of habitat to human settlement, agriculture, and cattle grazing.

AMPHIBIAN

Pseudacris maculata
Boreal Chorus Frog

Habitat is mostly the vicinity of quiet bodies of water and associated wetlands and meadows. No major threats are known, but locally some populations probably are declining as a result of conversion of habitat to intensive human uses.

PLANT

Entosthodon rubiginosus
Rusty Cord-moss

Habitats include sandy or silt-rich soil along river banks, gullies, seepage slopes, alkaline sloughs, and washes. Potential threats include livestock use, climate change, conversion of natural habitat for agricultural use, and alien invasive species.