

## Instructions

Please download this Word document (available on the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund Program website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm> ) to your computer and provide the information as requested. You are not limited to the spacing provided. After completing the report, save it and attach it to an e-mail and send it to [outdoorheritage@nd.gov](mailto:outdoorheritage@nd.gov) AND print it and mail it to: North Dakota Industrial Commission, ATTN: Outdoor Heritage Fund Program, State Capitol – Fourteenth Floor, 600 East Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405, Bismarck, ND 58505. If you are unable to scan attachments, mail them with your paper copy of the report. You will be sent a confirmation by e-mail of receipt of your report and attachments. The project reports shall be provided to the Commission in both electronic and hard-copy formats with permission for unrestricted distribution. The electronic versions shall be in a suitable format for posting on the Outdoor Heritage Fund/Commission website.

### Outdoor Heritage Fund Status and Final Report Form/Guidelines

This report is used to show progress of grant projects funded through the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Status Reports and the Final Report must be submitted as required in Contract.

Contract Number 013-141	Report Date 12/31/2023	Period Covered by Report 10/01/2022-12/31/23
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Project Name  
**Central Coteau Prairie Management Toolbox**

Project Sponsor Name  
**Audubon Great Plains**

Responsible Official (Last, First Middle) <b>Lefers, Joshua</b>	Responsible Official's Title <b>Director of Conservation</b>
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Project Sponsor Address  
**3002 Fiechtner Dr, Ste A**

City Fargo	State ND	Zip Code 58103	Telephone Number 701-298-3373
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**Financial Update**

Please provide the following information regarding the funding for your project based on the contract award:

	Funds Spent THIS Reporting Period*	Total Funds Spent to Date	Balance of Remaining Funds
Match Funding	\$127,868.88	\$163,489.50	\$67,634.62
In-kind Funding		\$39,707.65	\$20,144.35
OHF Funding	\$142,782.10	\$212,138.55	\$174,953.35
Total	\$270,650.98	\$415,335.70	\$262,732.32

Do you anticipate needing to request a grant extension?    /\_ / Yes    /X/ No

If yes, please explain:

\*As appropriate please provide copies of receipts for purchases.

Work Completed during Period Covered by Report:

(This information will be posted on the Outdoor Heritage Fund/Industrial Commission website)

During the reporting period, five projects were fully completed, which includes 48,471 feet of electric cross fencing, 34,500 feet of barb wire fence, 7,774 feet of water pipeline, six water tanks, and two livestock wells. This grazing infrastructure will benefit management on 1,805 acres of priority habitat within the Missouri Coteau mixed grass prairies; allow for the incorporation of additional paddocks into preexisting grazing systems, and allow for new infrastructure to shift from season long grazing to adaptive rotational grazing to allow for a mosaic of habitat for birds and other wildlife.

To determine true bird friendliness of the acres impacted by the Toolbox program, baseline avian surveys were conducted by an Audubon Dakota grassland bird technician on 2 properties over 9 transects. Eight of ten Audubon Dakota priority grassland species were recorded at one or several sites: Upland Sandpiper, Sharp-tail Grouse, Northern Pintail, Grasshopper Sparrow, Bobolink, Western Meadowlark, Chesnut Collared Longspur, and Sprague's Pipit. Additionally, a Baird's Sparrow was also recorded at one site. While not a priority species, the Baird's sparrow breeding range is small and requires large areas of intact grasslands. Across the two properties, a total of 308 birds were recorded representing 46 species. These results confirm that project areas are important breeding habitat for grassland birds and waterfowl, which will benefit from the 10-year term protections per the Toolbox agreement. Avian survey data will further be analyzed, shared with landowners, and used as baseline with which to compare future surveys results against to measure the effectiveness of using adaptive, planned grazing systems to manage grassland bird habitat.

Photos of work completed are welcome (If appropriate, please submit photos of key elements of the project completed or in progress during reporting period) Do not exceed five photos per project report.

*This report was prepared pursuant to an agreement with the Industrial Commission of North Dakota, which partially funded the project through the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Project participants, its subcontractors, and the Industrial Commission of North Dakota, or any person acting on its behalf, do not:*

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Signature of Responsible Official

