

## **OHF FINAL REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Project Number: 007-093

Recipient: Oliver-Morton-Grant (OMG) Grasslands Improvement Project

Award Amount: \$900,000.00

Total Project Costs: \$1,684,492.35

Total OHF Funds Received: \$900,000.00



**Goal of Project:** The goal of the project was to install best management practices that would improve the conditions of native range and grasslands in the Oliver, Morton, and Grant counties. The goal practices included 16,000 ac. of prescribed grazing, 108,000 ft. of fencing, 165,660 ft. of pipelines, 10 wells, 2 rural water hookups, 71 livestock tanks, 18 water pumps (solar systems) and 1000 ac. of grass seedings. These practices would provide the means to improve grazing distribution when producers implement their required prescribed grazing plans. Grazing management improves the quantity and quality of grasses available for grazing while eliminating any over grazing, which causes bare soils in some cases. With the maintenance of good cover on the grasslands and native range soil and water quality are greatly improved.

**Work Accomplished:** Completed practices include 20,597.7 acres of prescribed grazing or grazing management, 180,409 feet of fencing, 176,192 feet of pipelines, 30 wells, 3 rural water hookups, 90 livestock tanks, 16 water pumping systems, which included 7 solar systems. Grass seedings amounted to 929.6 acres.

Face to Face outreach events were limited due to the Covid pandemic. Articles in district newsletters promoted the project in all three counties.

**Project Results:** The total cost of installed practices and local district contributions in time and labor amounted to \$1,684,492.35, which exceeded the total project's goal amount of \$1,500,000.00.

**Value to North Dakota:** The availability of this project for producers came at a time when drought conditions were extreme in the three counties. The need for a dependable water source was detrimental to accomplish the goals of improving the range and pastureland. The managed grazing on over 20,597 acres is a major improvement compared to the initial goal of 16,000 acres. Through managed grazing producers will not only improve the range and pasturelands but have also invested in the stewardship of North Dakota's important natural resources.