

Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant Application



The purpose of the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund is to provide funding to state agencies, tribal governments, political subdivisions, and nonprofit organizations, with higher priority given to projects that enhance conservation practices in this state by:

Directive A. Providing access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;

Directive B. Improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and by supporting other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;

Directive C. Developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and

Directive D. Conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

Exemptions

Outdoor Heritage Fund grants may not be used to finance the following:

- A. Litigation;
- B. Lobbying activities;
- C. Any activity that would interfere, disrupt, or prevent activities associated with surface coal mining operations; sand, gravel, or scoria extraction activities; oil and gas operations; or other energy facility or infrastructure development;
- D. The acquisition of land or to encumber any land for a term longer than twenty years; or
- E. Projects outside this state or projects that are beyond the scope of defined activities that fulfill the purposes of Chapter 54-17.8 of the North Dakota Century Code.

NO CONSIDERATION:

In addition to those specific items in law that are ineligible for funding, in the absence of a finding of exceptional circumstances by the Industrial Commission, the following projects will NOT receive consideration for funding:

- A completed project or project commenced before the grant application is submitted;
- A feasibility or research study;
- Maintenance costs;
- A paving project for a road or parking lot;
- A swimming pool or aquatic park;
- Personal property that is not affixed to the land;
- Playground equipment, except that grant funds may be provided for up to 25% of the cost of the equipment not exceeding \$10,000 per project and all playground equipment grants may not exceed 5% of the total grants per year (see Budget Form for how this will be calculated);
- Staffing or outside consultants except for costs for staffing or an outside consultant to design and implement an approved project based on the documented need of the applicant and the expenditures may not exceed 5% of the grant to a grantee if the grant exceeds \$250,000 and expenditures may not exceed 10% of the grant to a grantee if the grant is \$250,000 or less (see Budget Form for how this will be calculated);

- A building except for a building that is included as part of a comprehensive conservation plan for a new or expanded recreational project (see Budget Form for definition of comprehensive conservation plan and new or expanded recreational project); or
- A project in which the applicant is not directly involved in the execution and completion of the project.

Application Deadline

Applications for this grant round cycle are due on **April 1, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. CT.** All information, including attachments, must be submitted by that date. See instructions below for submission information.

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 except in those instances where there is a limit on the number of words. After completing the application, save it and attach it to an e-mail and send it to outdoorheritage@nd.gov or print it and mail it to the address noted in the next paragraph.

Attachments in support of your application may be sent by mail to North Dakota Industrial Commission, ATTN: Outdoor Heritage Fund Program, State Capitol – Fourteenth Floor, 600 East Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405, Bismarck, ND 58505 or by e-mail to outdoorheritage@nd.gov. The application and all attachments must be received or postmarked by the application deadline. You will be sent a confirmation by e-mail of receipt of your application.

You may submit your application at any time prior to the application deadline. Early submission is appreciated and encouraged to allow adequate time to review your application and ensure that all required information has been included. Incomplete applications may not be considered for funding. **Any item noted with an * is required.**

Oral Presentation. Please note that you will be given an opportunity to make a ten-minute Oral Presentation at a meeting of the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board. These presentations are strongly encouraged.

Open Record. Please note that your application and any attachments will be open records as defined by law and will be posted on the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund website.

Name of Organization * [North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department](#)

Federal Tax ID# * [45-0433249](#)

Contact Person/Title * [Mathew Gardner – Chief of Grants, Trails and Planning](#)

Address * [1600 E. Century Ave. Suite 3](#)

City * [Bismarck](#)

State * [ND](#)

Zip Code * [58503](#)

E-mail Address * msgardner@nd.gov

Web Site Address (Optional) www.parkrec.nd.gov

Phone * [701-328-5369](#)

Fax # (if available) [701-328-5363](#)

List names of co-applicants if this is a joint proposal

MAJOR Directive: (select the Directive that best describes your grant request)*

Choose only one response

Directive A. Providing access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;

Directive B. Improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and by supporting other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;

Directive C. Developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and

Directive D. Conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

Additional Directive: (select the directives that also apply to the grant application purpose)*

Choose all that apply

Directive A. Providing access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;

Directive B. Improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and by supporting other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;

Directive C. Developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and

Directive D. Conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

Type of organization: (select the category that describes your organization)*

State Agency

Political Subdivision

Tribal Entity

Tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation.

Project Name* *Sheyenne River Water Trail Development*

Abstract/Executive Summary. An Executive Summary of the project stating its objectives, expected results, duration, total project costs and participants.* (no more than 500 words)

The Sheyenne River Water Trail Development is a two year project with the goal of providing a new type of recreational opportunity in southeast North Dakota. By using an existing trail, the Sheyenne River, this project will be able to provide canoeing, kayaking, fishing, camping, and hunting access opportunities with minimal costs and maintenance. The river is currently available to the public as it is, but information and accessibility are lacking. Most would not know where to begin and end their trip on the river or how to navigate the mixed land ownership along its banks. This project aims to give the public parking areas at starting and ending points along a stretch of the river that has a number of segments of public land. The project will also improve information on how to navigate the various opportunities and educate users on potential safety concerns, and rules on public lands to facilitate their responsible and enjoyable use. This will utilize an existing resource that is largely unknown by the public.

Decreasing the barrier to entry for the public to access the river will help promote new recreational activities. This project is scalable and could be expanded in the future by linking it with other opportunities on the Sheyenne River both up and downstream of this project. As use grows, additional amenities may need to be considered. However, the projects focus is to increase the public's awareness of the resource and associated opportunities by providing guidance and encouragement to take advantage of a largely untapped and unique opportunity.

Project Duration:* *June 1st 2018 – December 31st 2019*

Amount of Grant request \$ * *\$8,700*

Total Project Costs \$* *\$16,300*

(Note that in-kind and indirect costs can be used for matching funds)

A minimum of 25% Match Funding is required. **Amount of Matching Funds \$*** *\$7,600*

Please indicate if the matching funds will be in-kind, indirect or cash.

Source(s) of Matching Funds*

Please provide verification that these matching funds are available for your project. Note that effective as of July 1, 2015 no State General Fund dollars can be used for a match unless funding was legislatively appropriated for that purpose.

\$2,000 – In-kind – Doosan/Bobcat Equipment Use and Labor

\$2,900 – In-kind – NDGF Equipment Use, Material, and Labor

\$2,700 – In-kind – USFS labor

Certifications *

I certify that this application has been made with the support of the governing body and chief executive of my organization.

I certify that if awarded grant funding none of the funding will be used for any of the exemptions noted on Page 1 of this application.

Narrative

Organization Information – Briefly summarize your organization’s history, mission, current programs and activities. *

Include an overview of your organizational structure, including board, staff and volunteer involvement. (no more than 300 words)

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department's mission is to "Provide and enhance the state's outdoor recreation opportunities through diverse parks and programs that conserve the state's natural diversity". Currently, the NDPRD operates 13 state parks, five state recreation areas and seven nature preserves; providing unique recreational opportunities for North Dakotans and visitors. In conjunction with operating our state parks and recreation areas, the NDPRD assists other partners in recreation and natural resource management programs. The NDPRD administers around \$2 million annually in State and Federal outdoor recreation grants. Every five years the NDPRD develops the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), which serves as a guide for managing and developing North Dakota's non-consumptive outdoor recreation resources. Through these programs and projects, the NDPRD

has developed strong partnerships statewide to educate, enhance and engage outdoor recreation in North Dakota.

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) manages approximately a third of the land along this stretch of the Sheyenne River. The district office responsible for the Sheyenne NG is located in Lisbon, ND which is less than 25 miles from the project and is interested in contributing to the project to provide additional recreational opportunities for the public. The mission of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department is to protect, conserve and enhance fish and wildlife populations and their habitat for sustained public consumptive and nonconsumptive use. The ND Game and Fish Department supports the project and its ability to improve access to the Sheyenne River for sportsmen/women. The Ransom County Commissioners and the Ransom County Park Board also support the project and agree that the project would provide additional recreation opportunities on the Sheyenne River.

Purpose of Grant – Describe the proposed project identifying how the project will meet the specific directive(s) of the Outdoor Heritage Fund Program *

Identify project goals, strategies and benefits and your timetable for implementation. Include information about the need for the project and whether there is urgency for funding. Please indicate if this is a new project or if it is replacing funding that is no longer available to your organization. Identify any innovative features or processes of your project. Please note that if your proposal provides funding to an individual, the names of the recipients must be reported to the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund. These names will be disclosed upon request.

If your project includes tree/shrub/grass planting, please provide a planting plan describing the site design, planting methods, number of trees/shrubs by species and stock size, grass species and future maintenance. A statement certifying that the applicant will adhere to USDA-NRCS tree/shrub/grass planting specifications along with the name of the governmental entity designing the planting may be substituted for a planting plan.

If your project includes Section 319 program funding, please provide, in detail, the specific best management practices that will be implemented and the specific projects for which you are seeking funding.

If you are requesting funding for fencing, please note that the Board/Commission's preference is for a minimum cost share of 40% by the recipient. Please include detailed information on the type of fencing to be installed, whether funding is requested for boundary fencing, new or replacement of existing fencing, and/or cross fencing.

The Sheyenne River Water Trail Development project began as an idea to provide a new recreational opportunity in southeast North Dakota. Much of what is needed is already there, but most of the public is currently unaware of the possibilities. The NDPRD and the USFS have been receiving an increasing number of questions regarding opportunities to canoe and kayak on the Sheyenne River. The NDPRD and the USFS want to help facilitate the public in recreating on the river. In the 2018-2022 SCORP it was identified that within this region of North Dakota canoe and kayak facilities are a secondary need.

The process started by mapping out potential access routes along the river. The river connects multiple scattered parcels of USFS administered public lands that have limited or no access by road due to private land and therefore see minimal public use. The USFS has an ideal take

out location at the eastern edge of the Sheyenne National Grassland and the scattered parcels along the route provided ideal locations for dispersed camping. A piece of land owned by Ransom County has been identified upstream of the Sheyenne National Grassland which would provide good river access off of a county road. NDGF land was also identified in a midsection of the proposed route. This land already has public access via road and a parking area. Ransom County Park Board, Ransom County Commission, and NDGF department were contacted regarding the potential project. All partners are excited about the opportunity to create a new public recreational opportunity. NDGF was already looking at possibilities to improve access to the river for public fishing and hunting which tied in perfectly with this project. The project came together with multiple partners all having goals that aligned to create new recreational opportunities on the Sheyenne River.

The project is composed of multiple parts and will be completed in cooperation with each of the partners. The project will require four main access points that need various levels of improvements. The most critical piece of this project is providing the public with the information they need to have a safe and enjoyable time recreating on the Sheyenne River. This information will be provided in a number of ways. All four trailheads will have information panels displaying a map, various opportunities, safety concerns, and rules. The trailheads will also make maps with supplemental information that provide the same details available to the public to take with them while on the river. The map will also be made available through the Avenza Maps app which will allow the public to use mobile devices (e.g., phone, tablet) as a GPS while on the river. Information will also be made available on partner websites.

The Ransom County put-in will require the construction of a trailhead. This trailhead will have a short approach off of the county road and have a small area for the public to park and access the river. The NDGF put-in/take-out already has an existing parking area and will only require improvements to the water access. The put in and take out locations located on USFS administered lands both have existing two track roads to potential parking areas that will need some improvements (e.g., parking barriers) to define the parking areas but will require limited to no aggregate. All four trailheads will provide uniform information to the public. Along the river the mile points will be signed on public land. These mile markers will provide confidence reassurance to users as well as assist them in tracking their progress. In addition to the mile markers, potential camping areas on public land and upcoming take-outs will be signed. These individual parts will be completed in multiple ways through each of the partners with the completion being scheduled for the end of 2019. This project was designed with a minimalist approach, but with increased public use in the future these developments can be improved and opportunities can be expanded both upstream and downstream.

Management of Project – Provide a description of how you will manage and oversee the project to ensure it is carried out on schedule and in a manner that best ensures its objectives will be met.*

Include a brief background and work experience for those managing the project.

The NDPRD has been managing grant programs such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund since 1965, the Recreational Trails Program since 1992 and the Community Grant since 2009. Combined, the NDPRD has managed over \$75 million dollars in recreational projects statewide in these three programs alone. During these projects it was the NDPRD's duty to

ensure that the intended recreational need is met, will not negatively impact the environment or historically significant area, bid projects, follow State and Federal procurement processes and monitor progress to meet deadlines and budget constraints.

The NDPRD will be coordinating with the USFS, Ransom County, and NDGF to complete the various pieces of this project.

Evaluation – Describe your plan to document progress and results. *

How will you tell if the project is successful? Please be specific on the methods you will utilize to measure success. Note that regular reporting, final evaluation and expenditure reports will be required for every grant awarded.

The NDPRD will use progress reporting and evaluation standards already established through our grant and project management processes. A spreadsheet and internal process has already been established through past Outdoor Heritage Fund Grants that we will follow. We will implement annual reporting in the fall to accurately capture progress of the project and work more efficiently during the short construction seasons in North Dakota.

Financial Information

ATTACHMENT: Project Budget – Using the standard project budget format that is available on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm> , please include a detailed total project budget that specifically outlines all the funds you are requesting. Note that a minimum of 25% match funding is required.*

The project budget should identify all matching funds, funding sources and indicate whether the matching funds are in the form of cash or in-kind services. Effective July 1, 2015 no State General Fund dollars can be used for a match unless funding was legislatively appropriated for that purpose. As noted on the standard project budget format, certain values have been identified for in-kind services. Please utilize these values in identifying your matching funds. **NOTE: No indirect costs will be funded.**

I certify that a project budget will be sent to the Commission*

Sustainability – Indicate how the project will be funded or sustained in future years. *

Include information on the sustainability of this project after all the funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund has been expended and whether the sustainability will be in the form of ongoing management or additional funding from a different source.

Maintaining this project after the initial construction will be accomplished through the support from each of the major partners who have land ownership within the project. The project was designed to open up a new recreational opportunity with minimal cost and minimal long term maintenance. Ransom County will maintain the gravel trailhead at the Mile 0 put-in. NDGF will maintain the Mile 8 put-in/take-out. The USFS will maintain the river trail confidence markers, information kiosks, Mile 16 take-out, as well as dispersed camping activities on USFS lands.

Partial Funding – Indicate how the project will be affected if less funding is available than that requested. *

Partial funding would negatively impact the completion of the entire project. If partial funding is given, a set of priorities will be established in a relation to funding amounts to accomplish projects of greatest importance.

Partnership Recognition - If you are a successful recipient of Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars, how would you recognize the Outdoor Heritage Fund partnership? * Please note it is a requirement that there be signage at the location of the project acknowledging the funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund if appropriate for your project.

Signs located at trailhead kiosks would recognize the support of the project from the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Recognition on social media and website would also take place during the project construction.

Scoring of Grants

All applications will be scored by the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board after your ten-minute oral presentation. The ranking sheet(s) that will be used by the Board is available on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm> .

Awarding of Grants*

All decisions on requests will be reported to applicants no later than 30 days after Industrial Commission consideration. The Commission can set a limit on duration of an offer on each application or if there isn't a specific date indicated in the application for implementation of the project, then the applicant has until the next Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board regular meeting to sign the contract and get the project underway or the commitment for funding will be terminated and the applicant may resubmit for funding. Applicants whose proposals have been approved will receive a contract outlining the terms and conditions of the grant. Please note the appropriate sample contract for your organization on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm> that set forth the general provisions that will be included in any contract issued by the North Dakota Industrial Commission. Please indicate if you can meet all the provisions of the sample contract. If there are provisions in that contract that your organization is unable to meet, please indicate below what those provisions would be. *

Yes, NDPRD can meet all provisions on the contract.

Responsibility of Recipient

The recipient of any grant from the Industrial Commission must use the funds awarded for the specific purpose described in the grant application and in accordance with the contract. The recipient cannot use any of the funds for the purposes stated under Exemptions on the first page of this application.

If you have any questions about the application or have trouble submitting the application, please contact Karlene Fine at 701-328-3722 or kfine@nd.gov

Revised: December 14, 2017

Budget Standard Form

Please use the table below to provide a detailed total project budget that specifically outlines all the funds you are requesting and the matching funds being utilized to fund this project. Please note if the matching funds are in the form of cash, indirect costs or in-kind services. The budget should identify all other committed funding sources and the amount of funding from each source. Match can come from any source (i.e. private sources, State and Federal funding, Tribal funding, etc.) Effective as of July 1, 2015 no State General Fund dollars can be used for a match unless funding was legislatively appropriated for that purpose. Note a minimum of 25% match funding is required. An application will be scored higher the greater the amount of match funding provided. (See Scoring Form.)

Please feel free to insert columns and rows as needed. Please include narrative to fully explain the proposed budget.

Note that NO INDIRECT COSTS will be funded from the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Also by law several items are ineligible for funding -- see Exemptions in the Application Form. Effective June 10, 2015 the following guidelines were approved by the Industrial Commission:

NO CONSIDERATION:

In addition to those specific items in law that are ineligible for funding, in the absence of a finding of exceptional circumstances by the Industrial Commission, the following projects will NOT receive consideration for funding:

- A completed project or project commenced before the grant application is submitted;
- A feasibility or research study;
- Maintenance costs;
- A paving project for a road or parking lot;
- A swimming pool or aquatic park;
- Personal property that is not affixed to the land;
- Playground equipment, except that grant funds may be provided for up to 25% of the cost of the equipment not exceeding \$10,000 per project and all playground equipment grants may not exceed 5% of the total grants per year; (See Definitions/Clarifications below)
- Staffing or outside consultants except for costs for staffing or an outside consultant to design and implement an approved project based on the documented need of the applicant and the expenditures may not exceed 5% of the grant to a grantee if the grant exceeds \$250,000 and expenditures may not exceed 10% of the grant to a grantee if the grant is \$250,000 or less; (See Definitions/Clarifications below)
- A building except for a building that is included as part of a comprehensive conservation plan for a new or expanded recreational project; (See Definitions/Clarifications below)
- A project in which the applicant is not directly involved in the execution and completion of the project.

Project Expense	OHF Request	Applicant's Match Share (Cash)	Applicant's Match Share (In-Kind)	Applicant's Match Share (Indirect)	Other Project Sponsor's Share	Total Each Project Expense
TH Kiosks	\$1,000	--	\$1,200	--	--	\$2,200
Maps/Info	\$3,500	--	--	--	--	\$3,500
Ransom TH	\$2,700	--	\$2,000	--	--	\$4,700
NDGF TH	--	--	\$2,900	--	--	\$2,900
USFS THs	\$1,000	--	\$600	--	--	\$1,600
Markers	\$500	--	\$900	--	--	\$1,400
Total Costs	\$8,700	--	\$7,600	--	--	\$16,300

1. Trailhead Kiosk/Information Panels
 - a. Two paneled kiosk at each of the four trailheads
 - i. Material - \$1,000
 - ii. Construction and Installation - \$1,200
2. Maps and Information
 - i. Kiosk Maps - \$1,200
 - ii. Information/Map printing - \$2,300
3. Ransom County Trailhead
 - a. Construction of small trailhead including approach off of the county road
 - i. Material - \$2,700
 - ii. Construction Labor - \$2,000
4. North Dakota Game and Fish Trailhead
 - a. Improvements to river access at Mirror Pool
 - i. Material - \$1,000
 - ii. Equipment Rental - \$1,000
 - iii. Construction Labor - \$900
5. US Forest Service Trailheads
 - a. Improvements to parking areas including parking barriers
 - i. Material - \$1,000
 - ii. Construction Labor - \$600
6. Markers
 - a. Mile Markers, Upcoming pull-outs, and potential camping area confidence markers
 - i. Markers - \$500
 - ii. Installation - \$900

In-kind services used to match the request for Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars shall be valued as follows:

- Labor costs \$15.00 an hour
- Land costs Average rent costs for the county as shown in the most recent publication of the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Services, North Dakota Field Office
- Permanent Equipment Any equipment purchased must be listed separately with documentation showing actual cost. (For example: playground equipment)
- Equipment usage Actual documentation
- Seed & Seedlings Actual documentation
- Transportation Mileage at federal rate
- Supplies & materials Actual documentation

More categories will be added as we better understand the types of applications that will be submitted. We will use as our basis for these standards other State and Federal programs that have established rates. For example the North Dakota Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Program has established rates. If your project includes work that has an established rate under another State Program please use those rates and note your source.

Definitions/Clarifications:

Building - Defined as "A structure with a roof either with walls or without walls and is attached to the ground in a permanent nature."

Comprehensive Conservation Plan - Defined as “A detailed plan that has been formally adopted by the governing board which includes goals and objectives--both short and long term, must show how this building will enhance the overall conservation goals of the project and the protection or preservation of wildlife and fish habitat or natural areas.” This does not need to be a complex multi-page document. It could be included as a part of the application or be an attachment.

New and Expanded Recreational Project means that the proposed building cannot be a replacement of a current building. The proposed building must also be related to either a new or expanded recreational project--either an expansion in land or an expansion of an existing building or in the opportunities for recreation at the project site.

Playground equipment calculation - Only the actual costs of the playground equipment (a bid or invoice showing the amount of the equipment costs must be provided) - cannot include freight or installation or surface materials or removal of old equipment, etc.

Staffing/Outside Consultants Costs - If you are requesting OHF funding for staffing or for an outside consultant, you must provide information in your application on the need for OHF funding to cover these costs. For example, if you are an entity that has engineering staff you must explain why you don't have sufficient staff to do the work or if specific expertise is needed or whatever the reason is for your entity to retain an outside consultant. If it is a request for reimbursement for staff time then a written explanation is required in the application of why OHF funding is needed to pay for the costs of that staff member(s)' time. **The budget form must reflect on a separate line item the specific amount that is being requested for staffing and/or the hiring of an outside consultant.** This separate line item will then be used to make the calculation of 5% or 10% as outlined in the law. Note that the calculation will be made on the grant less the costs for the consultant or staff.

Recommended by OHF Advisory Board: October 17, 2013

Approved by Industrial Commission: October 22, 2013

Revisions recommended by OHF Advisory Board: January 22, 2014

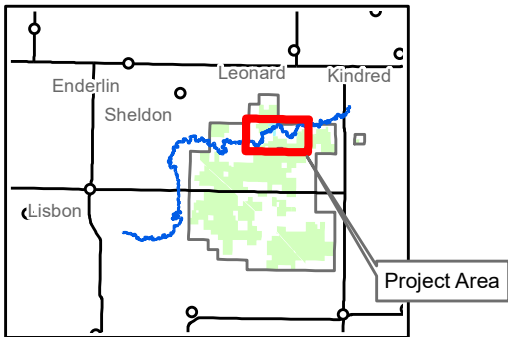
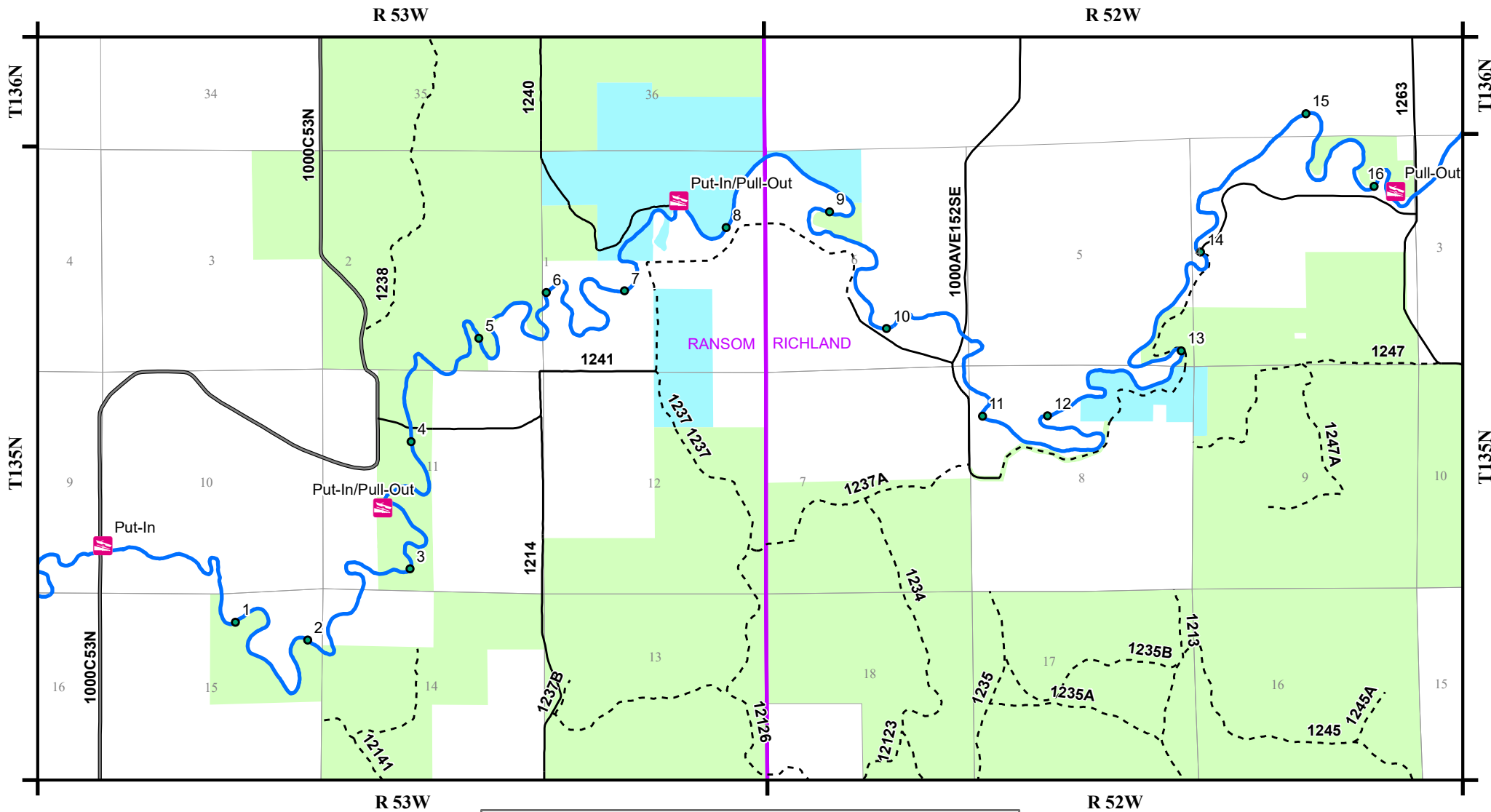
Approved by Industrial Commission: January 29, 2014

Revisions recommended by OHF Advisory Board: May 13, 2014

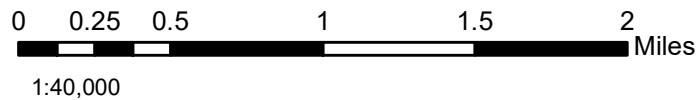
Approved by Industrial Commission: May 27, 2014

Revisions recommended by OHF Advisory Board: June 3, 2015

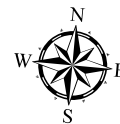
Approved by Industrial Commission: June 10, 2015



Sheyenne River Water Trail 2018 Outdoor Heritage Fund Application Ransom and Richland Counties, ND



Map by: Greg Morel 3/23/2018



Legend

- River Miles
- Proposed Sites**
- Potential River Access
- Sheyenne River
- County Boundary
- National Grassland
- Private
- State





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Dakota Prairie Grasslands

Sheyenne Ranger District
1601 Main Street
P.O. Box 946
Lisbon, ND 58054
701-683-4342
Fax: 701-683-6816

File Code: 1580
Date: March 27, 2018

Outdoor Heritage Fund Program
State Capitol – Fourteenth Floor
600 East Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505

Dear members of the Advisory Board,

I am writing to express the United States Forest Service's (USFS) strong support for the Sheyenne River Water Trail Development project. As is described in the application there are many entities who have agreed to come together to support the implementation of this project including pledging In-kind match.

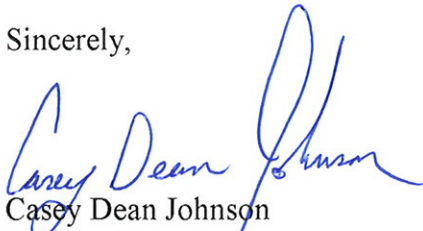
The Sheyenne River and the public lands it intersects is largely unknown by the public in regards to the recreational opportunities that the area provides. This project will improve the public's awareness of the opportunities (through information, maps, signing, etc.), their ability to more easily access the river through enhanced put in and take out locations and provide the knowledge needed to plan and safely complete river trips.

Projects like this are valuable for the public to have improved opportunities to hunt, fish and take part in unique recreation opportunities that are not very abundant in SE North Dakota. These opportunities often lead to a greater knowledge and appreciation for public lands. Establishing a stronger culture of stewardship and increasing support for America's lands and waters is key to their long-term viability. This in turn ensures opportunities for future generations are secured.

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department and the USFS have been receiving an increasing number of questions regarding opportunities to canoe and kayak on the Sheyenne River. This project will allow us to respond to that interest and continue to support the public's use of their public lands.

Thank you for your consideration of the Sheyenne River Water Trail Development project.

Sincerely,



Casey Dean Johnson
District Ranger

cc: Matthew Gardner





"VARIETY IN HUNTING AND FISHING"

NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

100 NORTH BISMARCK EXPRESSWAY BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58501-5095 PHONE 701-328-6300 FAX 701-328-6352

9 April 2018

Dear Members of the Advisory Board,

We are writing this letter in support of the Sheyenne River Water Trail Development Project. The North Dakota Game and Fish Department (NDGF) is one of multiple partners who have pledged in kind work and materials towards the fulfillment of this project.

The Sheyenne River navigates through a diversity of terrain in SE North Dakota, which contains a variety of flora, fauna, and incredible scenery. The Sheyenne River provides great fishing, hunting, and canoeing opportunities. Channel catfish, smallmouth bass, and walleye exist in good numbers. Riparian forests provide habitat for species that do not exist in the 'prairie' regions of our state. In addition to the public waterway that is the Sheyenne River, there are also several areas of public land adjacent to the water's edge. These public lands are managed for the benefit of fish and wildlife, river health, and public use. Several areas of public land on the Sheyenne River are only accessible by the river itself.

Implementation of the Sheyenne River Water Trail Development Project will enhance recreational access to public water and lands, restore continuity, and increase resource awareness to the highly valuable and unique Sheyenne River Valley. It is our hope that value, enjoyment, and awareness of these resources will grow and enhance with the life of this project.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this worthy project.

Sincerely,

Mike Johnson and Rodd Compson
NDGF – Jamestown Office