

# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 \* Audubon Dakota

Federal Tax ID# \* 13-1624102

Contact Person/Title \* Marshall Johnson

Address \* 118 Broadway N, Suite 716

City \* Fargo

State \* ND

Zip Code \* 58102

E-mail Address \* mejohnson@audubon.org

Web Site Address (Optional) Dakota.audubon.org

Phone \* 701-298-3373

Fax # (if available)

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\*** Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion

**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)

Established with initial funding from an OHF grant in 2014, the Urban Woods & Prairies Initiative began as 150 acres along the Red River and has now grown to 1,000 enrolled acres, becoming a vital asset to the Fargo community, as the community's primary access to natural areas recreation. Currently, twenty-four sites have established high quality native grass and wildflower plant communities after being seeded in 2015, with woodland areas also receiving restoration management. Partnering landowner entities have committed to managing each site following the 3-year restoration efforts of Audubon Dakota. The ongoing management efforts for enrolled sites includes spot spraying, mowing, interseeding etc. with the goal of controlling invasive species and increasing native vegetation composition. Since its inception, Audubon Dakota and partners have been able to engage 3,450 community members at over 30 outreach and education events related to these sites. With the success of the UWP Initiative in the Fargo Metro area, Audubon Dakota would like to expand this project to other river cities in North Dakota, such as Bismarck, Grand Forks, and Minot. By including these cities, Audubon aims to create a more extensive initiative around restoring habitat in urban areas, increasing outdoor recreation for the communities, and providing outdoor education space.

In partnership with the Bismarck Parks and Recreation Department, City of Grand Forks, Minot Park District, and the AVEDA Corporation and its North Dakota salon affiliates, these communities can benefit from the variety of ecological services that native habitat provides, such as erosion control and improved water filtration and quality. In addition, flood resiliency within each city is expected to be enhanced. Adding native habitat to these cities will also increase wildlife presence and provide breeding grounds for woodland birds, grassland birds, as well as waterfowl, and other charismatic species such as Bald Eagles. With an increased number of species inhabiting these areas, there comes more

opportunity to perform environmental education and nature-based outreach events to educate the public about the importance of the project as well as allow them to gain understanding of what native habitat is.

Upon the start of the project, the duration would be approximately two years of restoration and establishment, which would include site preparation and seeding. After the professional installation and management, responsibility will be turned over to the partners for following and adapting the management plan as needed with on-going support and guidance from Audubon Dakota. This project would also support enhancement seeding at five sites within the UWP project area in Fargo. The total estimated cost of the project is to be \$802,463.00, which includes all supplies, equipment, labor, and sub-contractor for the project. The key partners in this project will be Audubon Dakota, Bismarck Parks and Recreation Department, Minot Park District, and the City of Grand Forks.

**Project Duration:\*** (Please include information regarding the intended time schedule for drawing down funds if your application is approved by the Industrial Commission.)  
June 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

**Amount of Grant request \$ \* 545,550.00**

**Total Project Costs \$\* 802,463.00**  
(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 \$\***  
**256,913.00**

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

\$90,000.00 in cash match

\$162,013 in in-kind match

\$4,900.00 in indirect match

**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.

Audubon Dakota: \$118,431.00 (\$90,000 cash)

Fargo Park District: \$43,125.00 (in kind)

Minot Park District: \$61,472.00 (in kind)

Bismarck Parks and Recreation Department: \$33,885.00 (in kind)

**Certifications \***

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

X 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)

Audubon Dakota is the North and South Dakota state program within the National Audubon Society. Since 1905, the National Audubon Society has been focused on conserving bird habitat, promoting avian education, and engaging individuals and communities in a variety of activities and opportunities. Audubon Dakota as a state program was instituted in 1997, however Audubon's role in the Dakotas spans back to the mid-1970s.

The mission of the National Audubon Society is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, and other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the Earth's biological diversity.

Audubon seeks partnerships that advance its habitat conservation goals, including supporting through grassland habitat projects and the ranching industry. As a state office, Audubon Dakota has four full time staff members for the two-state region (North and South Dakota). Audubon Dakota's Advisory Board is comprised of five North Dakota citizens, and one South Dakota citizen. Currently, Audubon Dakota manages roughly 5,000 acres within the state. This would not be possible without the support and help of many different private land cooperators, agencies and programs, local businesses and individuals, many volunteers and local Audubon Chapters.

Audubon Dakota is also working on a habitat enhancement project on urban acres in Fargo, and the Conservation Ranching Program throughout the Dakotas. In all of our programs, the efforts and cooperation of our supporters is crucial to our success and the conservation of bird habitat in the Dakotas.

### **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 Urban Woods and Prairies (UWP) Initiative Expansion will perform enhancement seeding on 591 acres, enroll 591 acres within a 3-year management plan, and remove woody invasive species on 150 of those acres in Bismarck, Grand Forks, and Minot, North Dakota. This grant will also provide enhancement seeding on 111 acres and enroll 14 acres within a 3-year management plan in Fargo, North Dakota. While not new as a concept, expanding UWP to cities beyond Fargo is a new project phase focused on the restoration of woodland and grassland habitats for outdoor recreation, wildlife habitat, and nature education. In doing so, this proposal will carry out the Outdoor Heritage Fund's (C) Directive to Develop, enhance, conserve, and restore wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; as well as Directive (D) Conserve natural areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

In 2014, with funding support from the Outdoor Heritage Fund, Audubon Dakota and partners developed the UWP Initiative to create healthy grassland, wetland, and riparian habitat for declining bird species within the urban landscape as well as create natural space for the community to enjoy. Currently, there are almost 1,000 acres of riparian woodlands and uplands that enrolled within the UWP program. The establishment of native vegetation provide a variety of ecological services that is lacking in traditional turf grass regimes. Native plants have extensive root systems that help increase water quality and bank stabilization, decrease soil erosion, and sequester carbon while also requiring little maintenance. Restored wetlands also facilitate in flood mitigation. As the initial acres enrolled in the program have been restored and are phasing out of intensive restoration management, Audubon Dakota, in partnership with the Bismarck Parks and Recreation District, City of Grand Forks, and the Minot Park District, would like to expand habitat restoration efforts to other river cities and enhance already seeded acreage in Fargo.

Through UWP expansion, land that is otherwise idle due to flood buyouts or frequently mowed to control invasive species can be managed through native seeding and directed invasive plant species removal. The most common species seen in these areas include Kentucky Bluegrass, Smooth Brome, Canada Thistle, Leafy Spurge, and Common Buckthorn. Not only do these species diminish the quality of avian and wildlife habitat, but if left uncontrolled can spread rapidly and degrade even the most maintained gardens. Native species, such as Big Bluestem, Little Bluestem, Indian Grass, and Switch Grass are desirable for wildlife habitat and are native to the region. By restoring areas with higher forb seed densities, wildflowers such as Black-eyed Susan, Purple Prairie Clover, and Common Milkweed can promote habitat for declining pollinators and create esthetically pleasing areas for the community to explore.

To aid in the initial establishment and three-year management of these sites, Audubon and partners will work with local contractors to install native vegetation through seeding and restoration, and establishment maintenance of each site for 3 years including herbicide application and prescribed burning. These contractors will also take an aggressive approach to dealing with invasive woody species, such as Common Buckthorn and Russian Olive in more wooded areas through manual removal and chemical application. Following those 3 years, responsibility of the maintenance would

be turned over to the Bismarck Park and Recreation District, City of Grand Forks, and the Minot Park District, and other land owning entities. Audubon Dakota will create a management toolbox for the partners to outline future management goals and objectives of the sites and highlight appropriate management practices while still allowing for adaptive management.



Planting event at Heritage Hills Nature Park in Fargo, ND.



Established prairie at Forest River Nature Park in Fargo, ND.

**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.

From Audubon Dakota, the staff members associated with the project will be Marshall Johnson, Sarah Hewitt, and Kathryn Preston. Marshall Johnson is the Executive Director of Audubon Dakota and has

been doing conservation within North Dakota for the past 9 years. His background in business and his leadership skills make him a natural manager for this project. Sarah Hewitt, Audubon Dakota's conservation programs manager has been with Audubon Dakota for 3 years, and has had technical training in grassland restoration and management in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota through North Dakota State University and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Kathryn Preston has extensive prairie restoration and wildlife research experience through institutions such as the Chicago Botanic Garden, Lincoln Park Zoo, and North Dakota State University. She has been with Audubon since October 2016.

### **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.

In order to evaluate the success of the habitat restoration efforts and utilize adaptive management at the UWP Expansion sites, Audubon Dakota will perform vegetation surveys to determine composition of native and invasive species. Increased density of native vegetation and increased biodiversity indices will indicate successful habitat restoration. Avian surveys will also be conducted at these sites as birds are often considered indicator species of high quality habitat. These surveys will be conducted by interns working with Audubon Dakota to gain work experience as well as local college and universities interested in using these sites as a base for research. Audubon Dakota and partners will carry out a focused marketing and awareness campaign around this project in order to educate the public on the mutual benefits of native plantings, assuage any concerns relative to the transition of the sites, and ensure increased public usage of the new habitat parks. Our hope is to use these sites as educational opportunities to engage the community. Interpretive signage and programs are aimed at generating greater general understanding of natural resources, management objectives, and increased interest in nature. Public use of the restored sites will be monitored by maintaining lists of participants in outdoor programming, which will be conducted by the landowner partners.

### **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.**

X 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.

After initial establishment of 591 acres in Minot, ND, Grand Forks, ND, and Bismarck, ND, funding for the management and sustainability of this project and what it entails (invasive species management, outreach, educational programming, etc.) will be facilitated by Audubon Dakota, Bismarck Parks and Recreation Department, the City of Grand Forks, and the Minot Park District as a portion of their respective operational budgets. Funding from the Outdoor Heritage fund would go towards the initial habitat restoration and establishment, Audubon Dakota, the Bismarck Park and Recreation Department, City of Grand Forks, and the Minot Park District will fund ongoing management of this project in the out years. It is anticipated that after proper establishment, the native vegetation will require less overall maintenance work than what is currently spent on these areas (mowing hours, staffing, fuel, etc.) which will be cost efficient for the partners. Audubon Dakota, having a vested interest in the continuance of habitat on these sites, will also take on financial responsibility for this project in order to ensure its sustainability for many years to come. In addition to strictly financial funding, Audubon Dakota would promote the use of the areas for outdoor recreation and education. This will help gain public favor of the areas and help assure the sustainability of these sites through general community approval. Audubon will also take on administrative tasks such as scheduling contracted management work to ensure the project is completed in a timely manner.

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

If this grant request was not funded to the amount requested, financial burden of this project would be shifted more heavily onto Audubon Dakota and partners. Largely, this would translate to only being able to restore a limited number of acres in each of the three cities. Audubon Dakota will seek funding from sources outside of OHF to aid in the UWP Expansion.

**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.**

At each participating site within the UWP Expansion, signage will be installed recognizing the financial support provided by OHF and other project supporters. Additionally, as the project becomes fully implemented, Audubon Dakota will create maps and brochures that will highlight funders of the program.





## 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. \*

## **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](mailto: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
High-diversity native seeding and labor (\$436.50/acre)	\$178,759.00	\$35,000.00	\$	\$	\$92,664.00	\$306,423.00
3-year establishment management (\$595.00/acre)	\$279,157.00	\$35,000.00	\$	\$	\$45,818.00	\$359,975.00

Woody vegetation removal (\$627.00/acre)	\$74,050.00	\$20,000.00	\$	\$	\$	\$94,050.00
Signage (\$60/unit)	\$1,500.00	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$1,500.00
Printed materials (\$1.83/unit)	\$824.00	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$824.00
Project management for 2 years	\$11,260.00	\$	\$20,000.00	\$	\$	\$31,260.00
Indirect Costs				\$4,900.00		\$4,900.00
Travel for 2 years (\$0.54/mile)			\$3,531.00			\$3,531.00
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$545,550.00</b>	<b>\$90,000.00</b>	<b>\$23,531.00</b>	<b>\$4,900.00</b>	<b>\$138,482.00</b>	<b>\$802,463.00</b>

Multiple bids were collected from professional habitat restoration and landscaping consultants, then averaged, in order to obtain the dollar per acre required for seeding, 3-year enhancement maintenance, and woody invasive removal - \$436.50, \$595.00, \$627.00/acre respectively, which includes labor costs. Audubon's cash match will contribute to hiring professional contractors to perform the seeding, management, and woody invasive removal work. With the cash match and OHF request, 702 acres in Bismarck, Minot, Grand Forks, and Fargo can be impacted. Local printing contractors, Office Sign Company and Knight Printing, respectively quoted rates for signage and brochure printing. In consideration of the in-kind match, Audubon Dakota will be leading project management delivery throughout the 3-year project term, which will include contractor coordination, project administration, education and outreach and other necessary functions. Personnel actively managing the program will be Audubon's Executive Director, Conservation Programs Manager, Operations and Outreach Assistant, and seasonal interns. Audubon will also include travel expenses as in-kind match at the federal rate of \$0.54/mile for travel to the sites 3 times per year for the project term. Partners on the project, Minot Park District, Bismarck Parks and Recreation Department, City of Grand Forks, and Fargo Park District will contribute in-kind match related to site preparation (mowing, tilling, and herbicide application) among other maintenance costs associated with the sites.

#### **DRAW TEXT BOX FOR DETAILS HERE**

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

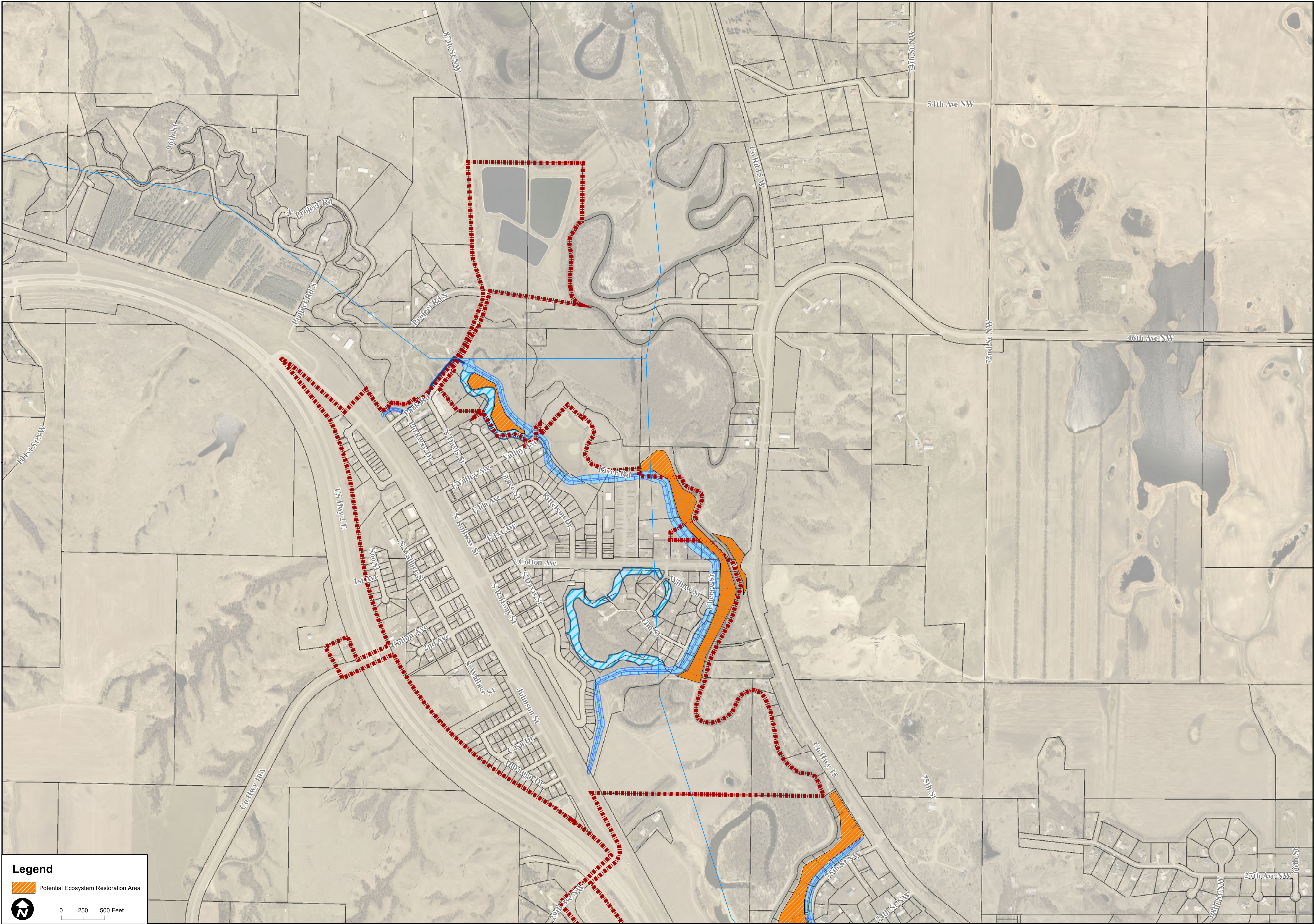
Approved by Industrial Commission: January 29, 2014

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

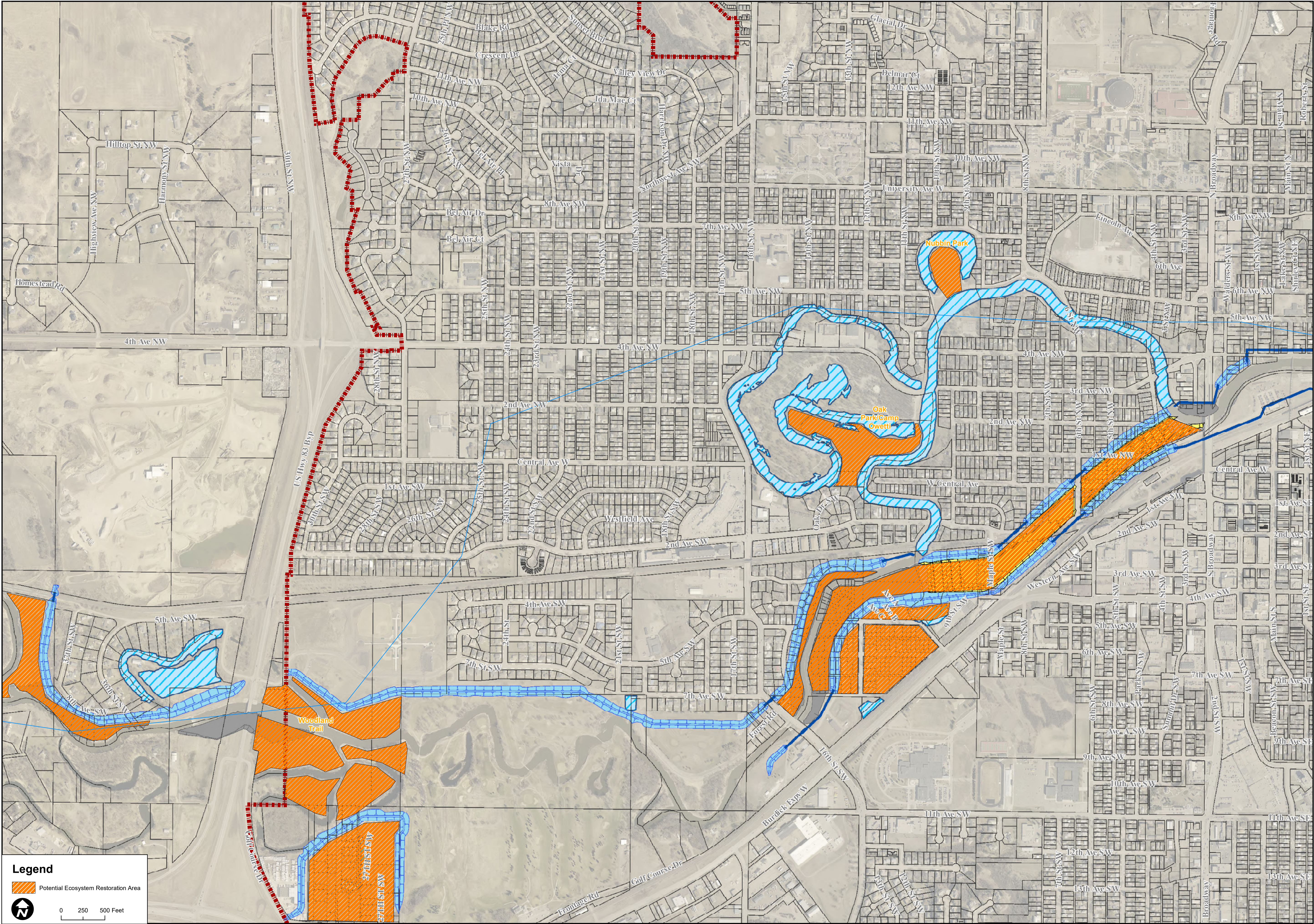
Approved by Industrial Commission: June 10, 2015



BURLINGTON TO MINOT  
POTENTIAL ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AREAS

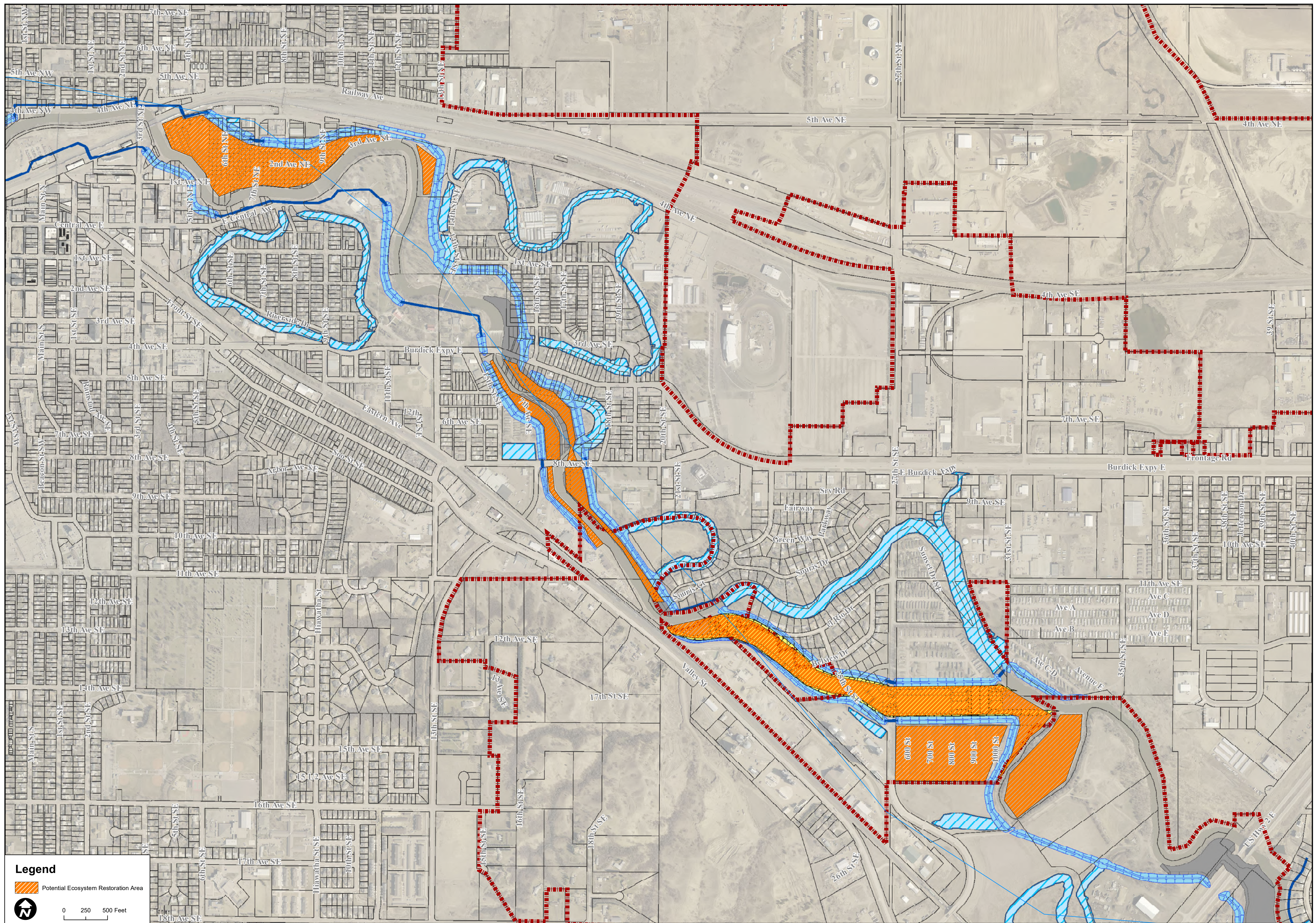
Project Name:	
Project No:	
Scale:	1" = 500'
Date:	03/28/2018
Drawn By:	CFE
Appr. By:	RBA



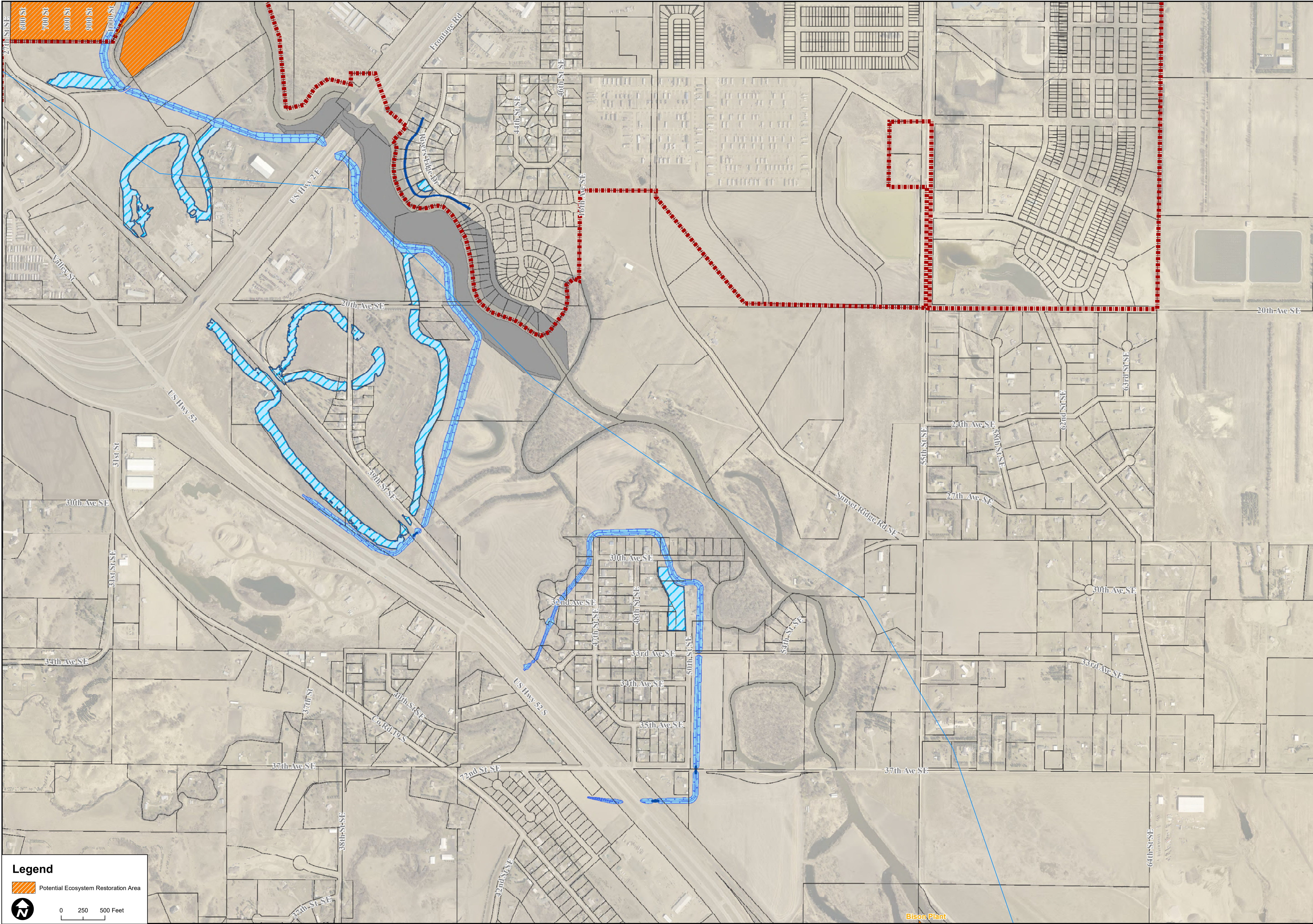


BURLINGTON TO MINOT  
POTENTIAL ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AREAS

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Project No:	
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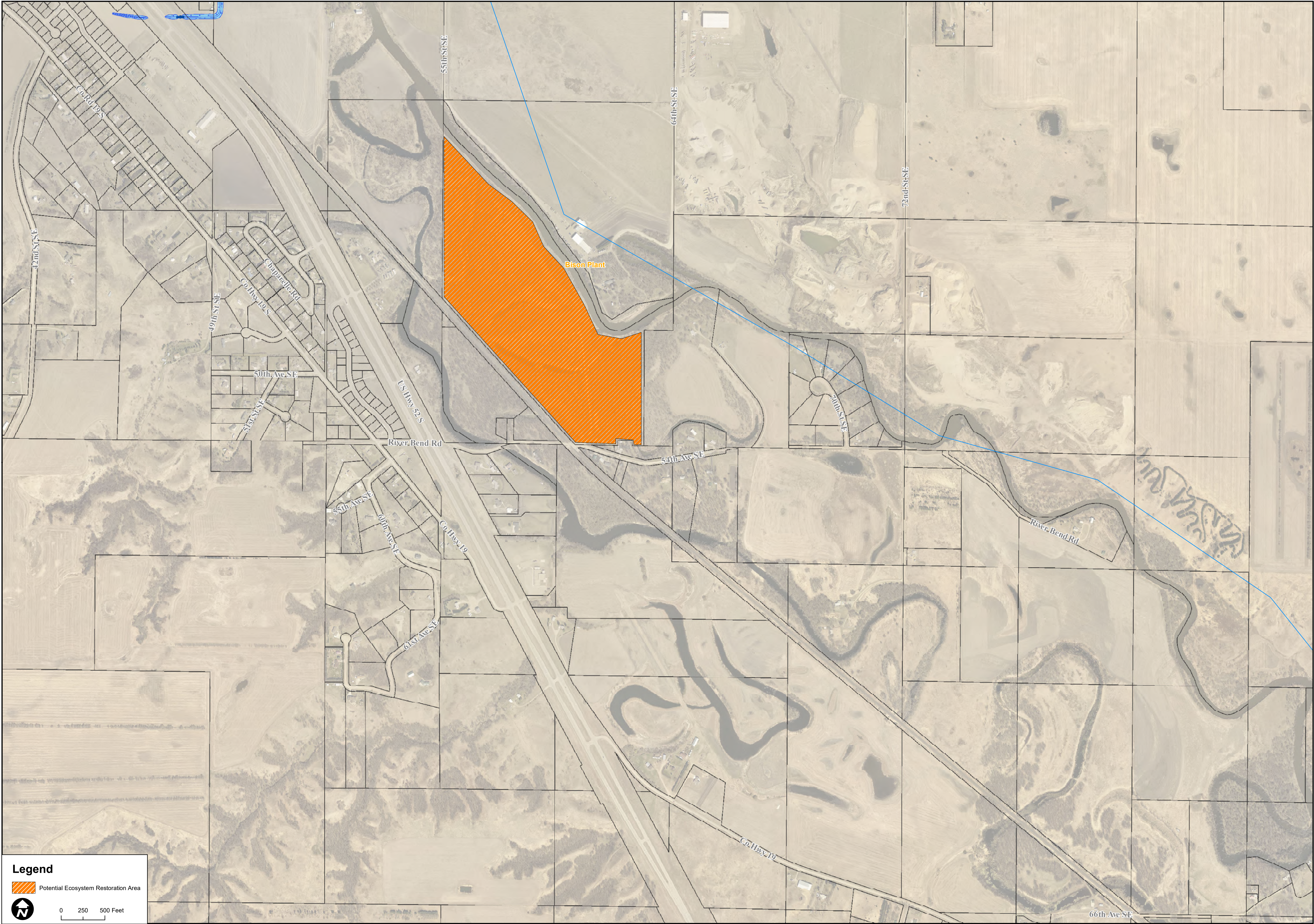


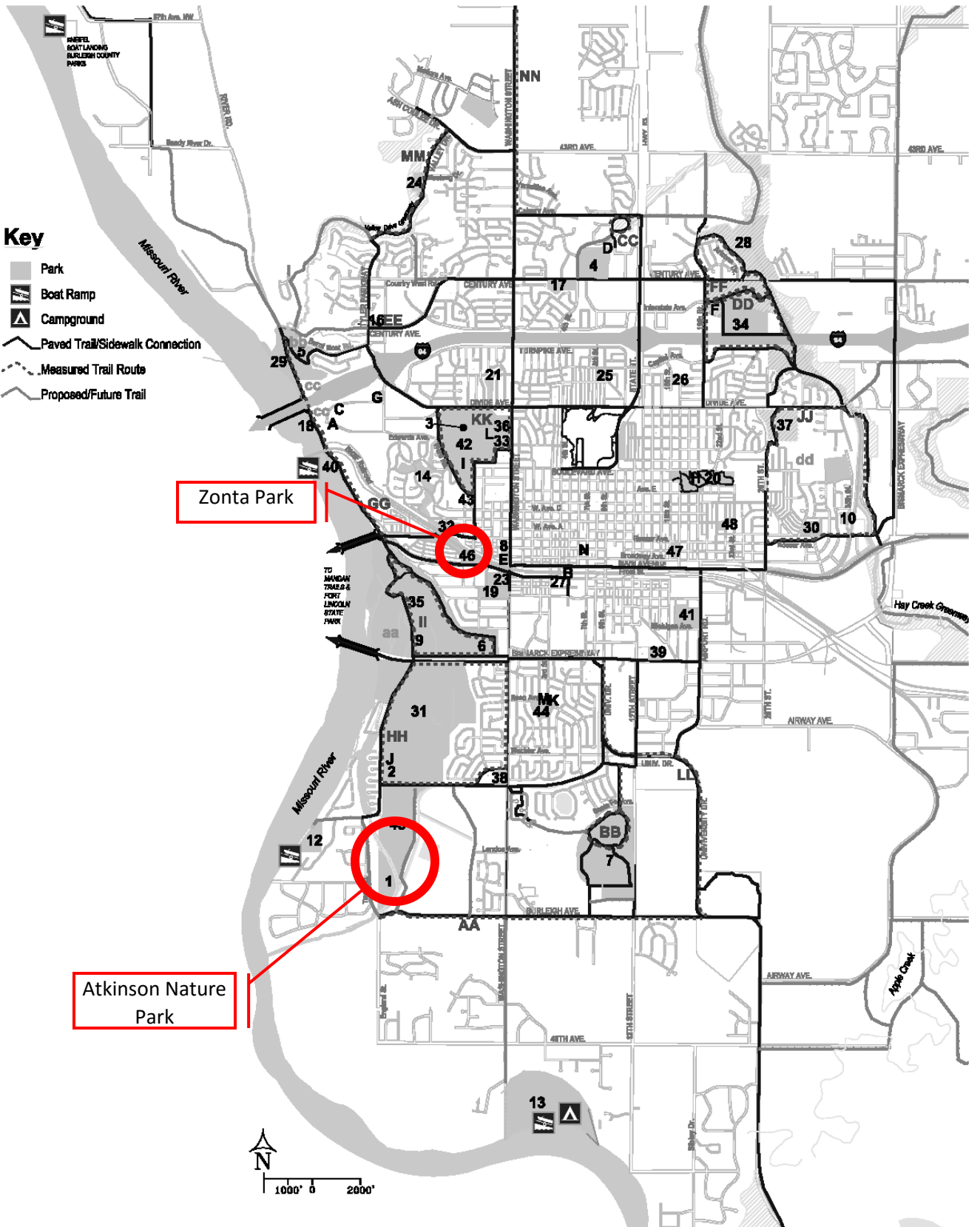
# BURLINGTON TO MINOT POTENTIAL ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AREAS



BURLINGTON TO MINOT  
POTENTIAL ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AREAS

Project Name:	
Project No:	
Scale:	1" = 500'
Date:	03/28/2018
Drawn By:	CFE
Appr. By:	RBA







WALT NEUENS  
HORSE ARENA

SHARED USE TRAIL

WALT NEUENS  
HORSE ARENA

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RIVERWOOD DRIVE

MILLS DRIVE

ATKINSON  
NATURE PARK

HIKING/HORSE  
TRAIL  
1.65 miles

OVERLOOK

TAVIS ROAD

BURLEIGH AVENUE



# Briarwood Prairie



North Dakota state agencies and the ND GIS Hub

## Legend



Wetland



Grassland

1:6,662

0 180 360 720 1,080 1,440 Feet



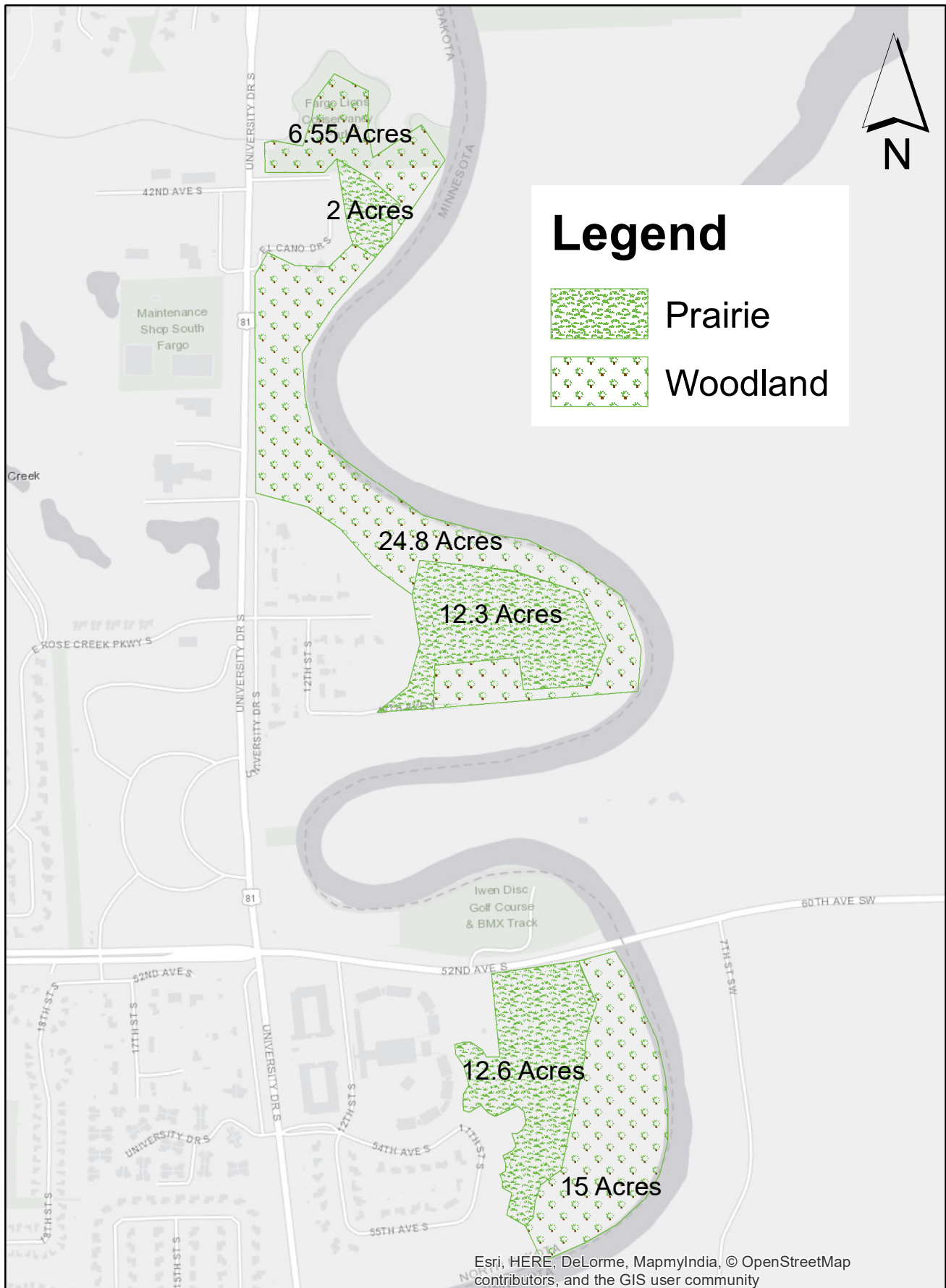
Prepared by Ben Williams

# Heritage Hills Habitat Types



0 0.025 0.05 0.1 0.15 0.2 Miles

# Lions Conservancy Nature Park Habitat Types



00.0425085 0.17 0.255 0.34 Miles

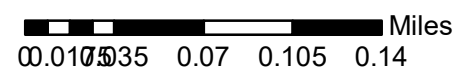
# Orchard Glen Habitat Types



**Legend**

	Wetland
	Woodland

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



# Unicorn Park



North Dakota state agencies and the ND GIS Hub

## Legend



Wetland



Grassland

1:3,016

0 80 160 320 480 640 Feet

CITY OF  
Fargo

fargopark  
DISTRICT

Audubon  
DAKOTA

Prepared by Ben Williams



March 27, 2018

Dear North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund,

I write on behalf of the Fargo Park District in support of the Audubon Dakota and partners' OHF grant application, titled Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion. This project focuses on restoring native habitat to parks, especially on idle flood buyout properties and sites with invasive species issues in Bismarck, Minot, and Grand Forks. We strongly support this grant application as we have collaborated with Audubon Dakota to initiate the Urban Woods and Prairies (UWP) Initiative in the Fargo-Moorhead area in 2014.

The Fargo Park District has been a partner with Audubon Dakota on the UWP Initiative since its creation in 2014. The first 150 acres were restored with support from the Outdoor Heritage Fund in a joint grant completed by both organizations. With Audubon's help, prairies and wetlands were established as well as removal of invasive species such as Common Buckthorn and Canada Thistle which had previously plagued these buyout areas, and prior urban habitat initiatives. By participating in this program, the Fargo Park District has been able to decrease overall maintenance costs of these sites by eradicating the need for mowing of these sites on a regular basis. This has also provided a lot of opportunity for the Park District to expand recreation by drawing larger crowds to the Fargo Birding Festival, utilizing UWP sites in Fargo's Frostival, creating cross country ski trails, and hosting archery tournaments. Audubon Dakota also funded the installation of an ADA-certified kayak launch at Forest River Nature Park, which increases recreational access to the Red River. Currently, the project has enrolled nearly 1,000 local acres into the program and based on their success with the first 150 acres, I anticipate that these sites will be managed with the upmost care and allow even more opportunity to partner on community events with the Park District. Additionally, we have benefitted professionally by working with Audubon through invitations to give presentations at meetings such as the Audubon National Convention in July 2017.

#### **Park Board**

Joe Deutsch, Commissioner  
Mary Johnson, Commissioner  
Matt Magness, Commissioner  
Rusty Papachek, Commissioner  
Jerry Rostad, Commissioner  
Jeff Gunkelman, Clerk

#### **Administration**

Joel Vettel,  
Executive Director

Dave Leker,  
Deputy Director

Jim Larson,  
Director of Finance

Jennifer Satter,  
Director of Human Resources/  
Payroll

Dave Bietz,  
Director of Parks

Clay Whittlesey,  
Director of Recreation

Carolyn Boutain,  
Director of Cultural Activities

Kevin Boe,  
Director of Courts Plus  
Community Fitness

Brian Arett,  
Director Valley Senior Services

Tara Nielsen,  
Executive Assistant



The Fargo Park District appreciates Audubon Dakota and partners' efforts to support the communities of Bismarck, Minot, and Grand Forks with habitat management and outdoor recreation opportunities. Therefore, the Fargo Park District fully supports the goals and commitments presented within Audubon Dakota and partners' ND Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application, and we look forward to seeing the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion in North Dakota.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Dave Leker  
Deputy Director  
Fargo Park District

Let's Play!

3/29/2018

Dear North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund,

I write on behalf of Bismarck Parks and Recreation District (BPRD) in support of the Audubon Dakota and partners' OHF grant application, titled Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion. This project focuses on restoring native habitat to parks, especially on idle flood buyout properties and sites with invasive species issues in Bismarck, Minot, and Grand Forks. We strongly support this grant application and the focus on creating wildlife habitat within urban centers in North Dakota.

BPRD has several sites within Bismarck that are conservation areas with unique wooded and prairie areas, and has chosen two sites for this project. Zonta Park is an underutilized park on Front Avenue with excellent visibility, two picnic shelters, a restroom building and a parking lot. The park is also a partnership with the City of Bismarck, as the park includes a drainage-way and stormwater detention. We think this is a perfect location for a prairie restoration/pollinator garden. Atkinson Nature Park is our proposed urban woods location. BPRD plans to open up this 138 acre natural area for hiking and horse trails. The site, which flooded in 2011, includes old growth trees, underbrush and likely, invasive species, and would be an ideal location for the Audubon project. BPRD will work with Audubon Dakota to provide in-kind labor to prepare sites and maintain sites as needed.

Bismarck Parks and Recreation District appreciates Audubon Dakota and partners' efforts to increase the prevalence and biodiversity of native species. Therefore, BPRD fully supports the goals and commitments presented within Audubon Dakota and partners' ND Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application, and we look forward to seeing the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

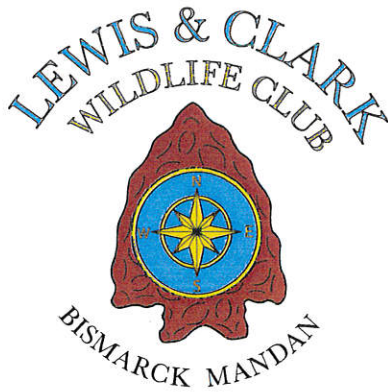


David Mayer

Operations Director

Bismarck Parks and Recreation District

*A nationally accredited park and recreation agency.*



**P.O. Box 421  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58502-0421**

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March 29, 2018


Outdoor Heritage Fund  
North Dakota Industrial Commission  
State Capitol  
Bismarck, ND 58505

I am writing on behalf of the Lewis and Clark Wildlife Club in support of the Audubon Dakota and partners' proposed Outdoor Heritage Fund project entitled the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion. The project proposal calls for restoring native habitats to city parks, especially within the flood buyout properties and sites in Bismarck, Minot, and Grand Forks. We strongly support this grant application and the focus on creating wildlife habitat within urban centers in North Dakota.

The Lewis and Clark Wildlife Club has participated in similar projects in the Bismarck area. We have developed two pollinator gardens in recent years; one in cooperation with the Bismarck Parks and Recreation Department and one on a private developers' office complex. Last year we worked with an Eagle Scout and installed bat houses on a city golf course, again in cooperation with the Parks and Recreation Department. We also worked with another Eagle Scout candidate and the Game and Fish Department on wood duck house project on a nearby Wildlife Management Area, and with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on an interpretive trail on a Waterfowl Production Area adjacent to suburban Apple Valley near Bismarck.

Lewis and Clark Wildlife Club appreciates the effort of Audubon Dakota and its partners to increase the prevalence and biodiversity of native species on their proposed project areas. Therefore, the Lewis and Clark Wildlife Club fully supports the goals and commitments presented in the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion grant application and we look forward to this project receiving funds and being completed.

Sincerely,

  
Michael R. McEnroe  
Past-President  
Lewis and Clark Wildlife Club  
P.O. Box 421  
Bismarck, ND 58502-0421

March 28, 2018

Dear North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund,

I write on behalf of Minot Park District in support of the Audubon Dakota and partners' OHF grant application, titled Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion. This project focuses on restoring native habitat to parks, especially on idle flood buyout properties and sites with invasive species issues in Bismarck, Minot, and Grand Forks. We strongly support this grant application and the focus on creating wildlife habitat within urban centers in North Dakota.


The Minot Park District prides itself on being an integral piece to the quality of life that the Magic City has to offer. It is our goal to make sure our parks & facilities help create a healthy community and enhance the physical environment in which we live. We strive to provide facilities and outdoor settings for people of all abilities, ages, socio-economic backgrounds, and ethnicities. The City of Minot is growing, it is our objective as the park district to grow along side of it to maintain the quality of the life our community deserves.

The 2011 flood was devastating for the Minot Park District. However we are now excited to look beyond recovery and move forward on a list of new endeavors for not only the lifelong residents of the Magic City but also the new and potential residents looking to call Minot home. We look forward to working with Audubon Dakota on invasive species issues in our woodland areas as well as trails. We also look forward to a long term partnership on many projects as we work with the City of Minot on future flood protection and buy out areas.

Minot Park District appreciates Audubon Dakota and partners' efforts to increase the prevalence and biodiversity of native species. Therefore, Minot Parks fully supports the goals and commitments presented within Audubon Dakota and partners' ND Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application, and we look forward to seeing the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Ron Merritt  
Executive Director  
Minot Park District  
420 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SW

# City of Minot

Office of the Mayor

March 28, 2018

Dear North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund,

I write to you on behalf of the City of Minot in support of the Audubon Dakota and partners' OHF grant application, titled Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion. This project focuses on restoring native habitat to parks, especially on idle flood buyout properties and sites with invasive species issues in Bismarck, Minot, and Grand Forks. As a city, we strongly support this grant application and the focus on creating wildlife habitat within urban centers in North Dakota.

The flood of 2011 had devastating impacts on our city. Collectively, residents and city government have worked hand-in-hand since the flood to revitalize our city and build a more resilient community. Together, we have come a long way since 2011, but there is much more work to be done, including the continued effort to beautify our city. Projects such as the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion will play a key and crucial role in accomplishing those goals. We look forward to working cohesively with Audubon Dakota and their partners on this project.

The City of Minot appreciates Audubon Dakota and partners' efforts to increase the prevalence and biodiversity of native species. Therefore, the City of Minot fully supports the goals and commitments presented within Audubon Dakota and partners' ND Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application, and we look forward to seeing the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Chuck Barney,  
Mayor, City of Minot  
515 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SW  
Minot, N.D. 58702

★ The Magic City ★



*March 28, 2018*

Dear North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund,

I write on behalf of the Friends of the Souris River in support of the Audubon Dakota and partners' OHF grant application, titled Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion. This project focuses on restoring native habitat to parks, especially on idle flood buyout properties and sites with invasive species issues in Bismarck, Minot, and Grand Forks. We strongly support this grant application and the focus on creating wildlife habitat within urban centers in North Dakota.

Friends of the Souris is an informally organized group of outdoor and river enthusiasts working in partnership with Minot Park District to restore and revitalize the Souris River corridor along with our area's lost river culture. Due to unintended consequences related to past flood protection efforts, much of Minot's river habitat has been lost, and the few portions of natural river channel that remain have been forgotten and overlooked because of negative stigma associated with the 2011 flood. We are working methodically to improve all aspects of this varied and multi-faceted challenge.

The Friends of the Souris appreciates Audubon Dakota and partners' efforts to increase the prevalence and biodiversity of native species, their mission compliments beautifully our own local efforts to restore river habitat. Therefore, Friends of the Souris fully supports the goals and commitments presented within Audubon Dakota and partners' ND Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application, and we look forward to seeing the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

*Josh Wolsky*  
*Representative Member*  
*Friends of the Souris*  
*[www.FriendsoftheSouris.com](http://www.FriendsoftheSouris.com)*



Dear North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund,

I write on behalf of MBS Studio, an Aveda Salon, in Minot, North Dakota in support of the Audubon Dakota and partners' OHF grant application, titled Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion. This project focuses on restoring native habitat to parks, especially on idle flood buyout properties and sites with invasive species issues in Bismarck, Grand Forks, and Minot. We strongly support this grant application and the focus on creating wildlife habitat within urban centers in North Dakota.

Aveda has worked with Audubon Dakota since 2010 through Aveda's Earth Month program. During the month of April, our salon will be talking to our clients about the importance of clean water and healthy habitats while fundraising for Audubon's related project. This year, we are working on a pollinator planting that will be planted within the project area. By expanding the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative program to Minot, we will have an opportunity to volunteer and make the city more habitable for birds and wildlife while also creating beautiful, long-lasting spaces for stylists and clients to enjoy.

MBS Studio appreciates Audubon Dakota and partners' efforts to increase the prevalence and biodiversity of native species. Therefore, MBS Studio fully supports the goals and commitments presented within Audubon Dakota and partners' ND Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application, and we look forward to seeing the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Shannon Berens  
MBS Studio Salon Owner  
Minot, ND 58701

*March, 30, 2018*

Dear North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund,

I write on behalf of Aveda Salons in North Dakota in support of the Audubon Dakota and partners' OHF grant application, titled Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion. This project focuses on restoring native habitat to parks, especially on idle flood buyout properties and sites with invasive species issues in Bismarck and Minot. We strongly support this grant application and the focus on creating wildlife habitat within urban centers in North Dakota.

Aveda has worked with Audubon Dakota since 2010 through Aveda's Earth Month program. During the month of April, Aveda salons in North Dakota talk to their clients about the importance of clean water and healthy habitats while fundraising for Audubon's related project. This year, Audubon Dakota is working with local salons to install pollinator plantings in their cities. By expanding the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative program to cities such as Minot and Bismarck, these salons will have an opportunity to volunteer and make their cities more habitable for birds and wildlife while also creating beautiful, long-lasting spaces for stylists and clients to enjoy.

Aveda Salons appreciate Audubon Dakota and partners' efforts to increase the prevalence and biodiversity of native species. Therefore, Aveda fully supports the goals and commitments presented within Audubon Dakota and partners' ND Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application, and we look forward to seeing the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

*Heidi M. Henegar*

Salon Development Partner  
AVEDA  
4000 Pheasant Ridge Drive NE  
Blaine, MN 55449