

# 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 \* National Audubon Society, Inc. DBA Audubon Dakota

Federal Tax ID# \* 13-1624102

Contact Person/Title \* Marshall Johnson

Address \* 118 N. Broadway, Ste. 716

City \* Fargo

State \* North Dakota

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;

X **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;

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

O **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)\***

O State Agency

O Political Subdivision

O Tribal Entity

X Tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation.

**Project Name\*** Stutsman County Prairie Management Toolbox

**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 Stutsman County Prairie Management Toolbox (SCPMT) will build on the success of the previously OHF funded conservation tool, the Grand Forks County Prairie Management Toolbox, by providing forage and habitat enhancement resources to landowners within Stutsman County. Audubon and partners recognize that farmers and ranchers producing in each county face local realities and challenges unique to their counties. Therefore, The Grand Forks County Prairie Management Toolbox and the Stutsman County Prairie Management Toolbox projects are designed by Audubon Dakota and partners to work within specific counties to enhance wildlife habitat and grazing lands in ways that are supported and make the most sense locally. Support will fund native prairie restoration, invasive species control, and grazing system support to private landowners and open up additional grazing acres at Audubon's Alkali Lake Sanctuary in Stutsman Co.

For this OHF grant application, Audubon Dakota and partners are requesting financial support for the initiation of the SCPMT, from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 to July 1<sup>st</sup> 2020, to impact up to 8,963 acres of rangeland in Stutsman County. The distribution of the funding resources will be led by Audubon Dakota working with private landowners interested in financial support for projects related to SCPMT goals. The main goal of SCPMT is to provide private and landowners the support programs that offer financial and/or technical assistance, and promote conservation practices on approximately 4,213 acres of grazing lands. Additional objectives of SCPMT relate to increasing habitat biodiversity by providing financial and field resources for prairie restoration on 1,750 acres and delivering financial support to landowners for the control of invasive vegetation species on 3,000 acres.

**Project Duration:\*** (Please include information regarding the intended time schedule for drawing down funds if your application is approved by the Industrial Commission.)

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 to July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

Support for grazing infrastructure and prairie restoration will be spent over July – October each year of the project period. Invasive species control will be spent over May – October (beginning in July for first grant year), and potentially between October – March of each grant year if woody vegetation is to be removed or treated.

**Amount of Grant request \$943,489**

**Total Project Costs \$1,677,871**

(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 \$\* 734,382**

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

Audubon Dakota: \$240,917 in-kind match, 60,000 cash, \$848 indirect costs.

Stutsman County Soil Conservation District: \$20,000 in-kind match

Private Landowners \$412,617

**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 will be contributing \$241,765 in the form of in-kind match through administration and indirect costs, and the associated 40% cost share that is required through the SCPMT for grassland restoration, restoration labor, fencing materials and labor, and well/pipeline materials and labor. Audubon will also contribute \$60,000 through cash match. The Stutsman County Soil Conservation District will be providing \$20,000 of in-kind match for project administration over the grant period.

**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 partnerships that support grassland habitat projects and the production ag industry. 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. As a state office, Audubon Dakota has six full time staff members for the two-state region (North and South Dakota). Audubon Dakota's Advisory Board is comprised of six North Dakota citizens, and one South Dakota citizen

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 \***

The first phase of the SCPMT, if funded, will begin July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 and continue until July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. During the first year of implementation, SCPMT will provide private landowners support programs that offer assistance for conservation focused agricultural practices. SCPMT will implement grazing systems on approximately 4,213 acres of grazing land. This goal meets Directives B and C. Two additional objectives of SCPMT are to provide financial support for invasive vegetation and weed species control on 3,000 acres and prairie restoration on 1,750 acres, with an emphasis on lands enrolled in other conservation programs, such as Private Land Open to Sportsman (PLOTS). This meets Directives A and C.

Stutsman County lies within two geographic areas – the Drift Prairie and the Missouri Coteau. Though both habitats have sandy, drier soils, advances of irrigation and crop technology have led to the loss of productive rangeland. As various threats to this landscape continue to grow, enhancing the remaining tracts of the mixed-grass prairie ecosystem for not only grassland birds and wildlife, but also for cattle, has become a critical conservation issue. The enhancement of these prairie tracts will directly benefit landowners through increased forage production and profitability. The SCPMT will offer two different native prairie seed mixes for landowners to select for the restoration element; general native seed mix (8 grass spp., 9 forb spp., \$110/ac.) and the native pollinator seed mix (12 grass spp., 27 forb spp., \$208/ac.). A landowner cost share rate of 40% will be required. Grazing infrastructure support through the SCPMT will provide financial support for perimeter (4 string barbed wire)

and cross fencing (single string) and water structures (wells, pumps, and pipelines). A landowner cost share rate of 40% will be required for this program element and for the invasive species control services.

For restored acres, delayed grazing for at least two years will be required within the landowner agreement, which will be established between the landowner and Audubon Dakota. It is important to recognize that environmental conditions, like climate, soils and fertility, will impact the establishment of restored stands. Therefore, it will be important for the landowner and program partners to monitor newly restored acres to determine when land management through grazing will be appropriate to implement.

Audubon Dakota's Edward M. Brigham III Alkali Lake Sanctuary will utilize funds provided by the Stutsman County Prairie Management Toolbox to restore 750 acres currently in a cropping project to reduce weed infestation prior to reseeding and to add 86,203 feet of fencing to the existing grazing system (the existing grazing system was supported by OHF and successfully completed in 2016). Implementing these practices will assist in developing the Brigham Alkali Lake Sanctuary as a demonstration site for private landowners to learn about the available SCPMT practices through field tours and workshops. Additionally, these acres will be opened to private producers for grazing. It is expected that the 750 acres of native prairie restoration will be completed by the fall of 2020 through spring and fall seeding events. This will provide Audubon Dakota and partners the opportunity to showcase the various seed timing and management methods typically utilized, and illustrate stages of restoration to landowners. The Brigham Alkali Lake Sanctuary grazing infrastructure (fencing, water structures, and pipelines) will be installed during the 2018-2019 spring and summer months to create 14 additional cells. Audubon Dakota utilizes rotational grazing land management to improve vegetation diversity and grassland wildlife habitat at the Brigham Alkali Lake Sanctuary. As grazing management continues and expands at the Sanctuary, Audubon Dakota will host workshops at the newly constructed Education and Events Barn, to be finalized in July 2018. These workshop events will emphasize and demonstrate vegetation, cattle, and wildlife community responses to rotational grazing while also providing private landowner attendees the opportunity to enroll within the SCPMT.

**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.\***

Priority will be given to lands adjacent to fee title lands or other lands enrolled conservation programs to enhance impact. Producers in this project who are interested in additional cost share or public access incentives will be directed to the Private Lands Open To Sportsmen (PLOTS) program through the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. Producers who are already enrolled in PLOTS will be provided opportunities for additional enhancements (grazing systems, woody removal) through funding from this project.

From Audubon Dakota, the staff members associated with the project will be Marshall Johnson, Sarah Hewitt, Kathryn Preston, Lucy Love, and Joshua Lefers. Marshall Johnson is the Executive Director of Audubon Dakota and has been doing conservation within North Dakota for the past 8 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 2 ½ 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. Lucy Love and Joshua Lefers are range experts for Audubon Dakota whose work focuses on providing ranchers technical assistance for enhancing grassland wildlife habitat through grazing management. Lucy has been a part of the Audubon team since December 2017, and Joshua began his position May 2017.

From the Stutsman Co Soil Conservation District, Ryan Odenbach, 319 program coordinator, who has been the Watershed Coordinator 14 years in Stutsman County, he guided the Lower Pipestem Creek Watershed Project to a successful conclusion in 2010 and is currently managing the Beaver Creek and Seven Mile Coulee Watershed Project as well as the Stutsman Manure Management Program four special equipment projects, and the SCD Crop Plots 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 SCPMT project will be considered successful if, during the project period, acreage goals for each project objective are met, and landowners are approving and supportive of the services provided. For the grazing system support objective, Audubon Dakota and partners plan to impact up to 4,213 acres by collaborating with Stutsman County private landowners and agencies. An important aspect to grazing support is the technical assistance that project partners can provide to landowners aimed at enhancing forage productivity and sustainable land use. This feature will be evaluated through site and cattle health monitoring reports by the landowner. Audubon staff and partners will be responsible for connecting area landowners to the SCPMT, and determining necessary project support. By working with landowners, the SCPMT is expected to deliver invasive vegetation species control on 3,000 acres, while prairie restoration support is anticipated to impact 1,750 acres within Stutsman County.

### **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.

Like the Grand Forks County Prairie Management Toolbox, SCPMT will be a phased project, and will remain on-going as long as the interest from landowners exist. Audubon Dakota and project partners are dedicated to seeking outside funding support through additional granting parties and foundations in order to sustain the toolbox program and ensure that the overall habitat management support resources it provides can be accessible to all within Stutsman County.

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

Audubon Dakota and partners are seeking funding through avenues outside of the ND Outdoor Heritage Fund for the SCPMT project. However, if the ND Outdoor Heritage Fund is unable to fund this portion of SCPMT then program implementation may potentially be delayed, which could lead to missed opportunities for effective conservation within Stutsman County.

**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 that utilizes the toolbox, signage will be installed recognizing the financial support provided by OHF and other project supporters. Additionally, as the project becomes fully implemented through the project landscape and collaborations with landowners begin, Audubon Dakota and partners will place an emphasis on promoting SCPMT and project supporters through newspaper articles and local news exposure.

## **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. \*

Audubon Dakota will be able to meet all the provisions detailed in the sample 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](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 (Cash)	Applicant's Match Share (In-Kind)	Applicant's Match Share (Indirect)	SCSCD Match (In-Kind)	Landowner Match (40%)	Total Project Expense
High Diversity Seeding (1,000 ac., \$208.44/ac)	\$125,064		\$62,532			\$20,844	\$208,440
General Diversity Seeding (750)	\$49,756					\$33,171	\$82,928

ac., \$110.57/ac.)							
Seeding Labor (1,750 ac., \$213/ac.)	\$223,650		\$63,900			\$85,200	\$372,750
Cattle Guards(6)	\$20,000	\$10,000					\$30,000
Livestock and Wildlife Friendly Grazing System 60%	\$441,652	\$50,000					\$491,652
Livestock and Wildlife Friendly Grazing System 40%			\$109,944			\$217,824	\$327,768
Invasive Species Removal (Chemical) (1,500 ac., \$15.50/ac.)	\$13,950					\$9,300	\$23,250
Invasive Species Removal (Mechanical) (1,500 ac., \$77.13/ac.)	\$69,417					\$46,278	\$115,695
Administration			\$4,541		\$20,000- SCSCD		\$24,541
Indirect Costs (24.66%)				\$848			\$848
Total Costs	\$943,489	\$60,000	\$240,917	\$848	\$20,000	\$412,617	\$1,677,871

**BUDGET NARRATIVE:**

The Stutsman County Prairie Management Toolbox will deliver a wide range of support to landowners, including native prairie restoration, grazing infrastructure, and invasive species control.

**Native Prairie Restoration:** SCPMT aims to restore 1,750 acres over the grant period by using two different types of seed mixes; high diversity and general diversity. Based upon estimates collected from regional native seed resources, the high diversity seed mix will cost \$208.44 per acre and the general diversity mix will cost \$110.57. Through the SCPMT, 1,000 acres will be planted with the high diversity seed mix with a total price of \$208,440. Audubon is requesting \$125,064 from OHF, and will be contributing in-kind services equating to \$62,532 for this service. 750 acres will be planted with the general diversity mix, with a total price of \$82,927.50. Audubon is requesting \$49,757 from OHF for this service. The labor cost associated with the grassland restoration service was determined by 2018 eFOTG Cost Data, at the rate of \$213 per acre, which led to a total price for 1,750 acres of \$372,750. Audubon is requesting funding from OHF for \$223,650 for this service, and will be contributing \$63,900 in the form of in-kind services.

**Fencing Installation and Labor:** All costs per foot associated with the fencing installation and labor were obtained through consultation with the Stutsman County Soil Conservation District. Through the grant period, the SCPMT will install 236,203 feet of new or replacement cross/perimeter fencing for grazing systems on private acres. Fence materials are estimated at \$1.28/ft. with a total price of \$302,340, and fencing labor estimated at \$1.08/ft. with a total price of \$225,099. Audubon is requesting \$181,404 (60% cost share) from OHF for fencing materials, and \$153,059 for the fencing labor. Audubon is contributing \$44,136 for fencing materials and \$37,240 for fencing labor, as in-kind match/cost share since 86,203 feet of fence will be installed at the Brigham Alkali Lake Sanctuary to impact 713 acres. In addition, Audubon is contributing \$60,000 cash match to the overall grazing infrastructure expenses.

**Well/pump Materials/install:** In consultation with USFWS and referencing eFOTG Cost Data, the price per unit for well and pump materials and installation is estimated at \$15,727, while water connection per well is estimated at \$3,393. Audubon is requesting OHF funding support totaling \$56,617 for well/pump materials and labor, and \$12,215 of support for water connection expenses. Audubon will be contributing \$18,872 in-kind match for the well/pump materials and \$8,142 in-kind for water connection expenses.

**Water pipeline and installation:** In consultation with the Stutsman County Soil Conservation District, it was determined that SCPMT would provide resources for 33,167 feet of water well pipeline and its installation. The prices for pipeline (\$1.77/ft.) and the pipeline installation (\$2.67/ft.) were taken from 2018 eFOTG Cost Data. For the water pipeline materials the total price is \$58,706, and Audubon is requesting OHF funding of \$35,223 for this expense while contributing \$2,242 in match. For the standard pipeline installation labor, the total price is \$88,556, and Audubon is requesting \$53,134 from OHF while contributing \$3,382 in match.

**Invasive Species Control:** The SCPMT will provide support for the removal of invasive species through chemical treatment on 1,500 acres and invasive woody vegetation removal on 1,500 acres throughout private lands in Stutsman County. Price per acre was determined from 2018 eFOTG Cost Data. Chemical treatment is estimated at \$15.50/ac., with a total price of \$23,250. Audubon is requesting OHF funding support of \$13,950. Woody vegetation removal is estimated at \$77.13/ac., with a total price of \$115,695. Audubon is requesting OHF funding support of \$65,417.

**Administration:** Stutsman County Soil Conservation District will be providing project administration equivalent to \$20,000 over the grant period, while Audubon will be providing \$4,541 for administration, and will be covering the indirect costs associated with the administration of the project which equals \$848 (24.66% NICRA).

**Total Project cost = \$1,677,971**

**OHF Request = \$943,489**

**Total Match = \$734,382**

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

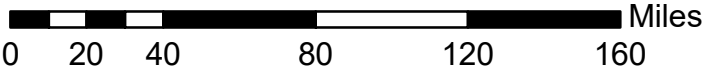
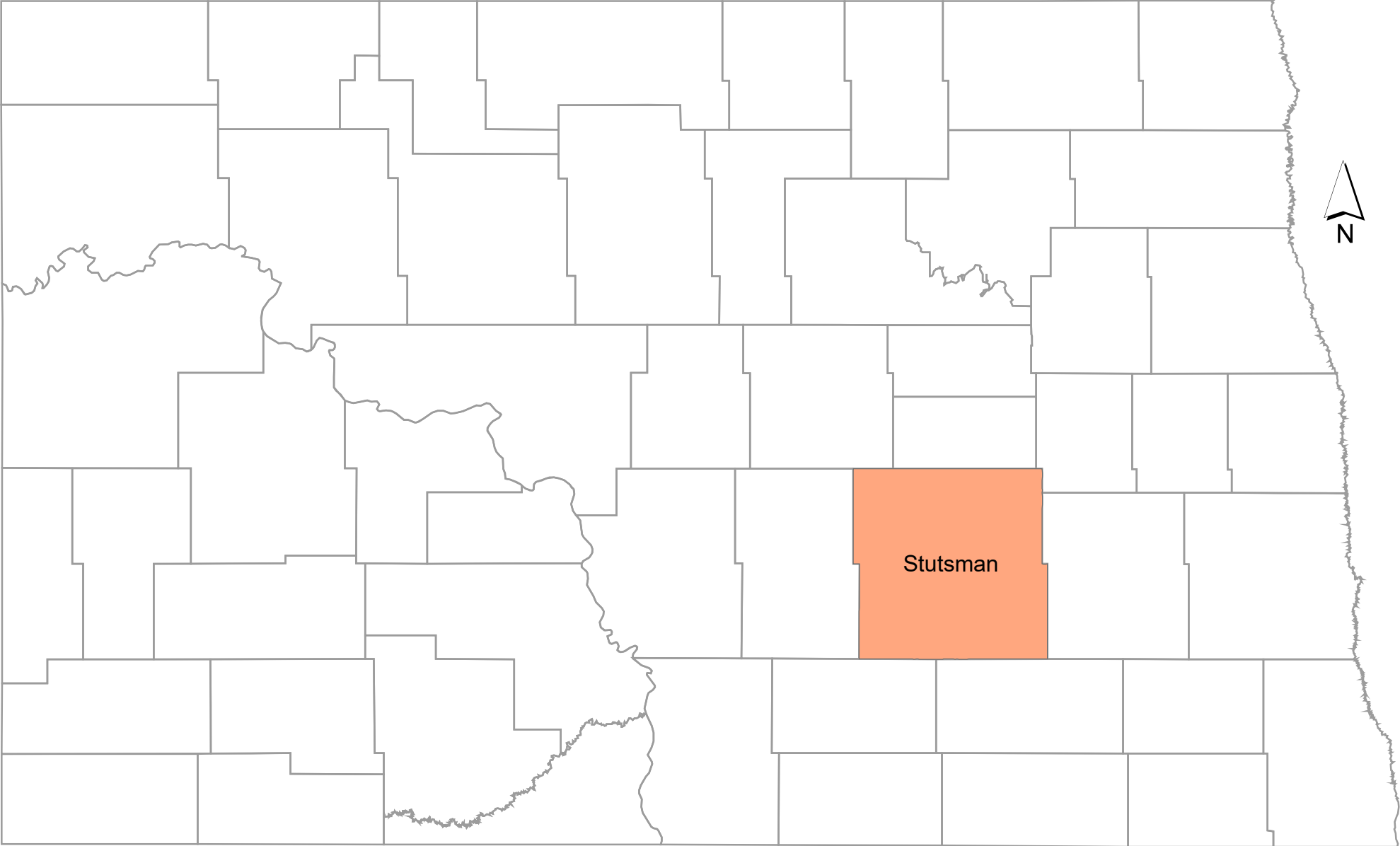
Revisions recommended by OHF Advisory Board: May 13, 2014

Approved by Industrial Commission: May 27, 2014

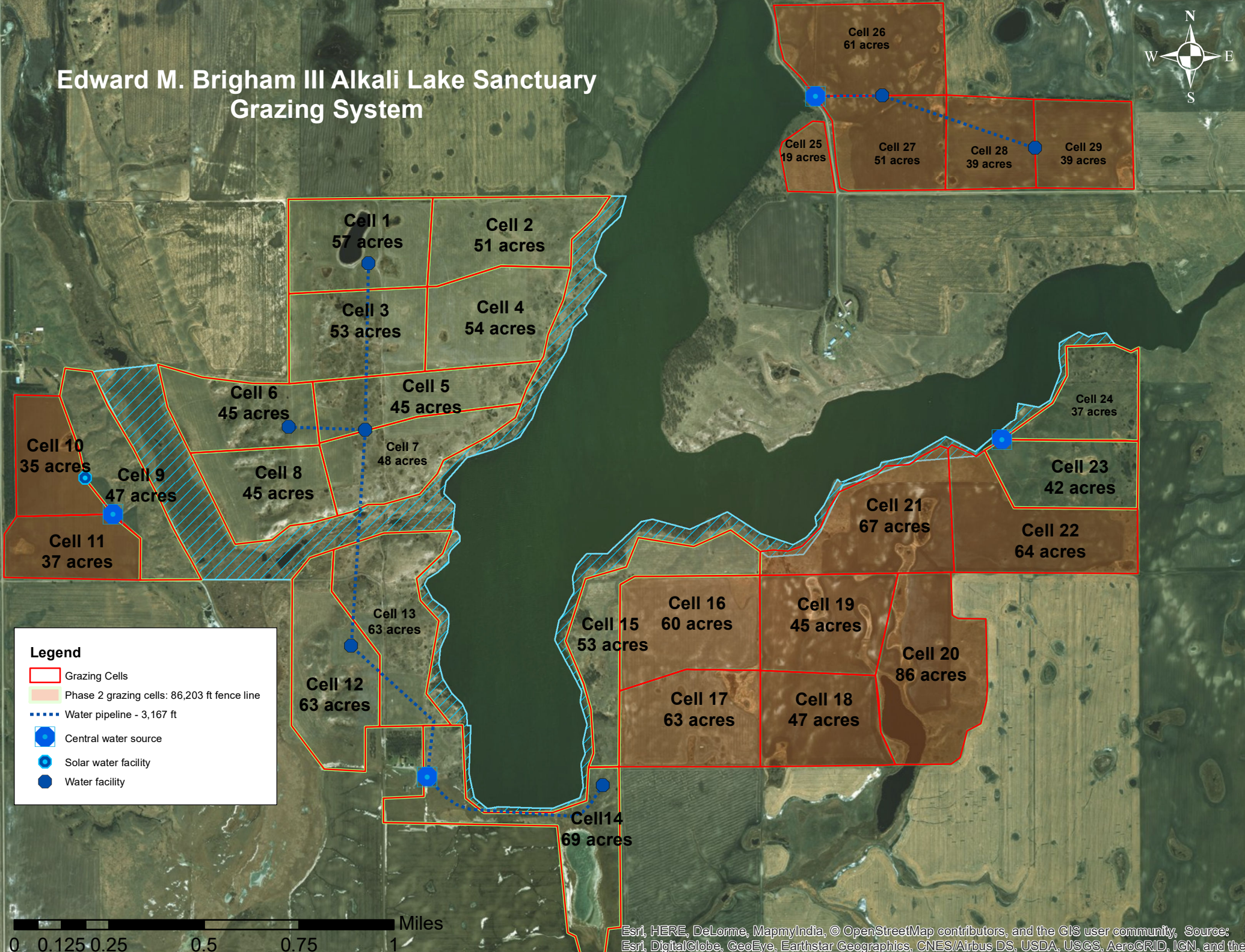
Revisions recommended by OHF Advisory Board: June 3, 2015

Approved by Industrial Commission: June 10, 2015

North Dakota

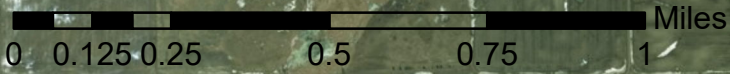


# Edward M. Brigham III Alkali Lake Sanctuary Grazing System



**Legend**

- Grazing Cells
- Phase 2 grazing cells: 86,203 ft fence line
- Water pipeline - 3,167 ft
- Central water source
- Solar water facility
- Water facility







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Stutsman County Soil Conservation District

1301 Business Loop East

701-252-2521 X 3

March 29, 2018

Dear North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund:

I write on behalf of Stutsman County Soil Conservation District in support of the Audubon Dakota and partners' OHF grant application, titled Stutsman County Prairie Management Toolbox. This project focuses on providing private and public landowners access to grassland management tools aimed at increasing grassland productivity and quality. We strongly support this grant application and the focus on providing private landowners the financial support to implement grazing and habitat restoration.

The Stutsman County Soil Conservation District appreciates Audubon Dakota and partners' efforts in providing assistance to Stutsman County landowners interested in increasing forage productivity while at the same time providing high quality habitat for local wildlife. Therefore, the Stutsman County Soil Conservation 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 Stutsman County Prairie Management Toolbox implemented.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Bernie Wanzek  
Vice Chairman, Board of Supervisors  
Stutsman County Soil Conservation District

March 25, 2018

Dear North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund Board,

I am writing in support of the ND Outdoor Heritage Fund grant proposal titled, Stutsman County Prairie Management Toolbox (SCPMT), submitted by Audubon Dakota and partners. As a rancher, I appreciate and support the implementation of a program such as SCPMT which aims to provide private landowners access to grassland management tools through financial support of grazing infrastructure, native range restoration, and invasive species control. Each of these practices offered through the SCPMT is designed to increase forage productivity and grassland health, leading to the potential growth of the county's cattle industry.

Through the financial support of the ND Outdoor Heritage Fund in 2015, Audubon Dakota established 15 grazing cells on over 700 acres of grasslands at the Edward M. Brigham III Alkali Lake Sanctuary. Audubon has since opened these grazing acres up to me, and I have acted as ranch cooperator for Alkali Lake Sanctuary to implement rotational grazing with the goal of improving the grassland habitat, reducing invasive vegetation species, and increasing forage productivity. My operation and The Alkali Lake Sanctuary pastures have greatly benefitted from this initial phase, and other producers will benefit from practices that the SCPMT will offer, such as expanding the grazing infrastructure and restoring prairie acres. In turn, my cattle will receive increased access to native grassland forage and I will also be able to utilize the SCPMT services on my own ranch and other ranch operations in Stutsman County will greatly benefit from these services.

I appreciate Audubon Dakota and partners' efforts to provide assistance to Stutsman County landowners, therefore I fully support the goals and commitments presented within Audubon Dakota and partners' ND Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application, and I look forward to seeing the Stutsman County Prairie Management Toolbox implemented.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Brian Amundson  
Bar V Ranch Ltd.  
Stutsman County Rancher