

# 10849 - Monson Park and Trail

## Application Details

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<b>Funding Opportunity:</b>	7583-Outdoor Heritage Fund May 2021 - Round 18	<b>Initial Submit Date:</b>	Apr 30, 2021 2:08 PM
<b>Funding Opportunity Due Date:</b>	May 3, 2021 11:59 PM	<b>Initially Submitted By:</b>	Bobby Koepplin
<b>Program Area:</b>	Outdoor Heritage Fund	<b>Last Submit Date:</b>	May 11, 2021 10:09 AM
<b>Status:</b>	Under Review	<b>Last Submitted By:</b>	Bobby Koepplin
<b>Stage:</b>	Final Application		

## Contact Information

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### Primary Contact Information

**Active User\*:** Yes

**Type:** External User

**Name:** Salutation Bobby Middle Name  
First Name

Koepplin  
Last Name

**Title:**

**Email\*:** bkoepplin@msn.com

**Address\*:** 230 15th Street NE

Valley City North Dakota  
City State/Province

58072  
Postal Code/Zip

**Phone\*:** 701-840-0250 Ext.  
Phone  
###-###-####

**Fax:** ###-###-####

**Comments:**

### Organization Information

**Status\*:** Approved

**Name\*:** Barnes County Park Board

**Organization Type\*:** County Government

**Tax Id:**

**Organization Website:** <http://www.co.barnes.nd.us>

**Address\*:** 230 4th Street NW

Valley City North Dakota  
City State/Province

58072-\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code/Zip

**Phone\*:** 701-840-0250 Ext.  
###-###-####

**Fax:** ###-###-####

# Budget

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***Objective of Grant***

**Objective of Grant:**

Development of a 42-acre County Park on the west side of Valley City and a 1.4-mile trail on a former railroad bed connecting to an existing shared use path for a 2.8-mile path to downtown. Site requires signage, fencing and repairs to the railbed. Site includes an orchard and pollinator plot.

***Summary***

<b>Grant Request:</b>	\$42,525.00
<b>Matching Funds:</b>	\$43,000.00
<b>Total Project Costs:</b>	\$85,525.00
<b>You must have at least 25% match</b>	
<b>Percentage of Match:</b>	50.28%

## Project Expenses

Project Expense Description	OHF Request	Match Share (Cash)	Match Share (In-Kind)	Match Share (Indirect)	Other Project Sponsor's Share	Total Each Project Expense
Land (42 acres)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42,000.00
Fencing with Gates	\$28,300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28,300.00
Signage	\$3,805.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,805.00
Railroad Bed Improvements	\$10,420.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,420.00
	<b>\$42,525.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$42,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$85,525.00</b>

## Budget Narrative

### Budget Narrative:

The cost of project improvements based on quotes is \$42,525. Improvements will include perimeter fencing with four barb wire access gates (two at each end and two at a pinch point to allow livestock to be moved seasonally between pastures on either side of the property). Two 4 foot pedestrian gates that are self closing are also planned at each end of the fenced trail on the property. About 7,610 feet of old rusted wire, rotted posts, bent posts, two and three wire fencing will be removed prior to construction of the replacement perimeter fence. The attached fencing quote of \$28,300.00 is higher than normal NRCS rates, but more affordable than the \$37,397.15 as quoted by another fence company. Two reasons for the higher fencing quotes: 1) The hilly terrain as the property is on the edge of the Sheyenne River Valley with a waterway going through the property 2) Covid-related shortages of materials and associated fluctuating material prices.

Signage for safety and users as well as donor/funding recognition will be placed strategically at each end of the Monson Park and Trail. Orchard tree and shrub labels identifying fruiting plants will be placed at each plant. An orchard map will be on a sign centrally located at the orchard planting next to the trail. Likewise a sign identifying bee and butterfly plants in the pollinator plot will be placed in a visible location along the trail. Tree label material cost is inquoted. According to KLJ Engineering, typical Newman type signs on telespar posts cost about \$450 each for materials and contractor install.

Several small trees in the middle of the rail-bed will be removed, a few badger holes will be filled and a major slump will be repaired on the railroad bed. In addition, a barricade to prevent the entrance of motorized vehicles will be placed at the east end of the trail.

## Bid Attachments

Description	File Name	Type	Size	Upload Date
Bid attachments for fencing, fruiting plant labels, rail-bed improvements and barricades.	Bid Attachments.pdf	pdf	938 KB	05/02/2021 07:05 PM

## Match Funding

Match Amount	Funding Source	Match Type
\$42,000.00	Landowner	In-Kind
\$1,000.00	Valley City Beautification Committee	Cash
<b>\$43,000.00</b>		

# Description

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## ***Directives***

**Major Directive\*:** Directive D  
Choose One

**Additional Directive:** Directive A, Directive B, Directive C  
Choose All That Apply

**Type of Agency\*:** Political Subdivision  
Choose One

## ***Abstract/Executive Summary***

### **Abstract/Executive Summary\*:**

This project includes the development of a County Park on the west side of Valley City, which would provide an additional healthy outdoor recreational opportunity for the general public. Richard and Karen Monson have offered to gift approximately 42 acres of pasture land containing a former railroad bed on which a 1.4-mile non-motorized grass trail will connect to an existing 1.4-mile shared use path. When the Monson Trail segment is completed, it will provide a 2.8-mile path connected to downtown Valley City.

In 2020, a ND Department of Agriculture Grant of \$15,535 assisted the Barnes County Park Board in planting 72 fruiting trees and shrubs. Audubon Dakota and ND Game & Fish have provided suggestions for habitat improvement including planting oversight of a 3.5-acre pollinator plot with 52 different bee and butterfly flowering plants and native species. Over the past 10 years, the landowner has planted an extensive number of trees and shrubs including 300 Red Oak, 3 acres of Western Cedar, Bur Oak, Siberian Crabapple and Buffalo Berry on the property. The property owner has requested the installation of a 4-wire barbed perimeter fence, four access gates for maintenance and livestock moving, and two pedestrian access gates. In addition, signage will be installed to include user information (dogs on leash, pack it in pack it out, beware of livestock), orchard tree and shrub identification, pollinator plot information, donor/funding agency recognition, and no motorized vehicles signage. The former railroad bed needs a slump repaired and graded to be suitable for non-motorized trail foot traffic and a vehicle barricade installed at the far-east end outside of the fence to prevent unwanted motorized vehicle traffic on the pedestrian trail. To reduce costs, the Barnes County Highway Department will provide County forces to complete the rail bed improvements and install a motorized vehicle barricade.

Private and public owned parcels to the east of the Monson Property that are part of the trail project have verbally approved recreational trail easements which will be signed upon approval of funding. Discussions regarding potential events and activities to be held at the Park have already begun. This project will provide healthy, outdoor recreational and educational opportunities to all ages of Barnes County residents as well as visitors for years to come. The close proximity to town as well as the connection to the existing multi-use path will provide park and trail access to individuals who may not have the means to travel for similar recreational opportunities.

## ***Project Duration***

### **Project Duration\*:**

Pending availability of materials and contractor schedules, expect to have the project completed mid-summer 2022.

## **Narrative**

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## **Narrative**

Briefly summarize your organization's history, mission, current programs and activities. Include an overview of your organizational structure, including board, staff and volunteer involvement.

### **Organization Information\*:**

The Barnes County Park Board has been in the business of providing outdoor recreational facilities to Barnes County residents and visitors for over 81 years. The Park Board manages Clausen Springs Recreation Area, which includes 61 campsites and camping amenities located on 545 acres owned by and in partnership with ND Game & Fish. The Board also manages Little Yellowstone Park located near the Sheyenne River on ND Highway 46, which includes camping amenities, playground equipment and trails with 35 campsites.

The Barnes County Park Board is made up of three County Commissioners, and four additional board members that are appointed by the County Commission. Board members include Commissioners Pete Paulson, Vicky Lovell, Bill Carlblom (Vice Chair) and Scott Tichy, US Army Corps of Engineers; Dallas Dockter, Teacher at Valley City High School; and Bobby Koepplin (Chair) who serves on numerous boards at City, County, State, and National levels. Major improvements at the two existing County Parks have occurred due to Bobby's leadership, fundraising and project management abilities. Staff includes Scott Kohler, on-site part-time Park Manager and two seasonal part time staff; the Parks are open year-round. Volunteers, including Park Board Members and Campground Hosts with assistance of the Barnes County Highway Department make up approximately 20 percent of the work on current projects as well as provide regular maintenance. Three seasonal employees (April 9 through October 31) take care of 80 percent of work/maintenance operations.

Additional projects include the expansion of the Sheyenne River Water Trail, which will result in a 180-mile kayak/canoe trail from Lake Ashtabula to the Sheyenne National Grasslands. This project is being completed with the assistance of numerous Local, State, and Federal agencies in the area.

### **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. 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.

Note: 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 involves an extenuating circumstance to exempted activities please explain.

### **Purpose of Grant\*:**

Monson Park and Trail aligns closely with Directive D. The purpose of this project is to provide additional recreation opportunities for the Valley City community as well as visitors while maintaining plant diversity and conserving natural areas. Community organizations are already discussing potential events to be hosted in this park demonstrating the potential of this space. Providing a new area for educational recreation helps build a generation of young people who understand the importance of processes like pollination and providing habitat to the continuation of the human species. Learning how we are connected to the earth and understanding the well-being of our planet is crucial to our existence. Local educators are looking forward to enhancing their curriculum through the use of this space.

Directive A is met through this project as well. The utilization of gates, signage and marketing in addition to the stabilization of the rail bed will allow the public to safely access public and private lands. The land contains adequate plant life and space, which creates high quality wildlife habitat. The pollination portion of the project provides economic benefits to area farmers and provides access to birding in a habitat that supports some hard-to-find species.

The establishment of this outdoor recreational area and continued maintenance satisfy Directive B. The increased plant diversity in the park and the plans to maintain that habitat; plans to execute flash grazing with neighboring property owners; and the educational/recreational opportunities within the space will increase the stewardship of not only the park itself, but hopefully inspire individuals to be stewards of additional natural spaces and wildlife in the area as well.

Directive C also aligns with Monson Park and Trail. Increased plant diversity in the Orchard and the Pollinator Plot provide quality habitat for wildlife, providing opportunities for birders and wildlife viewing. The fruiting plant identification labels and pollinator interpretation listing plant species will assist visitors in identifying which species grow well in the Sheyenne River Valley and provide pollinator habitat for bees, butterflies and wildlife. The plans for this park include continued maintenance, which will continue conserving, and restoring wildlife habitat for years to come. The Park is located adjacent to agricultural fields, livestock pastures and located on the Sheyenne escarpment just north of Interstate 94 at the west edge of Valley City. This project will provide environmental education and promote conservation ethics.

**Please list the counties that would be impacted by this project:**

**Counties\*:** Barnes

**Is This Project Part of a Comprehensive Conservation Plan?\*** Yes

**If Yes, Please Provide Copy of Plan:** SCORP 2018-2022 Trails-Low Res Web1.pdf

**Does Your Project Involve an Extenuating Circumstance?\*** Yes

**Please Explain:**

The landowner is gifting the land to the Barnes County Park Board. The Board accepted the gift with the understanding no cost of improvements would be borne by the Park Board. It is also understood that the landowner gifting the property will maintain the property, mow the trail, water the orchard, and mow around plantings until he is not physically able, then the Board will take over those responsibilities. The Park Board is providing leadership and management of the planned improvements.

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.

**Management of Project\*:**

Bobby Koeplin, Chairman of the Barnes County Park Board, has fundraised, developed specifications, bid and managed multi-million dollar recreation and community projects including: the nationally recognized Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway with interpretation along 63 miles through 4 communities and 2 counties; the Rosebud Visitor Center in Valley City; the Midland Continental Depot Transportation Museum featuring Peggy Lee in Wimbledon, ND; the Kathryn Community Center (old bank building with interpretation in the City of Kathryn); development of the North Country National Scenic Trail; and significant improvements in rural Barnes County - Clausen Springs and Little Yellowstone Parks, including installation of 8 concrete privies, new playground equipment, upgraded electrified campsites and roadway paving projects.

Serving as Past-President and a current board member of the Valley City-Barnes County Development Corporation, he has been integrally involved in the financial packaging and construction of \$1.5 and \$4 million technology centers and currently is in charge of facility maintenance. He was President of the Development Corporation when key manufacturing companies (John Deere and Malach USA) invested in facilities in Valley City. He was significantly engaged in the successful location of Eagle Creek Software to the community. Bobby served as Manager of Rural Development at Cass County Electric Cooperative where he worked for over 39 years and has since retired but remains involved in various community projects.

Indicate how the project will be funded or sustained in future years. Include information on the sustainability of this project after OHF funds have been expended and whether the sustainability will be in the form of ongoing management or additional funding from a different source.

**Sustainability\*:**

The landowner will mow the trail and around orchard trees and maintain the property, including control of invasive species until he is no longer capable. After which, the Barnes County Park Board will mow the orchard planting and non-motorized trail for users as applicable. The primary perimeter fencing will be maintained by parties operating active pastures on either side of the 42-acre property. When flash grazing is recommended, the party grazing the property short term will be fixing any damaged fencing not adjoining the existing two livestock pastures.

The Valley City Beautification Committee has partnered to assist in developing an Orchard/Pollinator Garden brochure which will recognize contributors to development of the rural park. It is also anticipated, a web page will be developed and put on the Barnes County and primary tourism websites to promote the park, trail and orchard.

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

**Partial Funding\*:**

If less than the requested funding is provided, the landowner will either have to provide the funding for the project or the transfer of property to the Park Board will not occur, as no property tax dollars from Barnes County were approved to make the required capital improvements.

If you are a successful recipient of Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars, how would you recognize the Outdoor Heritage Fund partnership? \* There must be signage at the location of the project acknowledging OHF funding when appropriate. If there are provisions in that contract that your organization is unable to meet, please indicate below what those provisions would be.

**Partnership Recognition\*:**

Signage recognizing the Monson Family, the Outdoor Heritage Fund, ND Department of Agriculture, Audubon Dakota, ND Game & Fish and the Barnes County Park Board will be installed at each end of the property next to the pedestrian gates that access the property. Press releases will also be distributed to local media as well as acknowledgement on any websites, social media accounts, etc. that will be associated with Monson Park and Trail.

Do you have any supporting documents, such as maps or letters of support that you would like to provide? If so, please provide them in a single file.

**Supporting Documents\*:** Yes

**If Yes, Please Provide Copies in a Single File:** Attachments.pdf

Awarding of Grants - Review the appropriate sample contract for your organization. Sample Contract

**Can You Meet All the Provisions of the Sample Contract?\*** Yes

If there are provisions in that contract that your organization is unable to meet, please indicate below what those provisions would be:

**Provisions Unable to Meet:**

## Tasks

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### **Tasks**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
Contract fencing with gates	09/01/2021	08/01/2022
Finalize Sign Design and Order Materials	09/01/2021	08/01/2022
Motorized Barricade Install	09/01/2021	08/01/2022
Rail Bed Improvement	09/01/2021	08/01/2022

### **Description of Tasks**

**Please Describe Tasks:**

Installation of fencing with gates as specified by landowner. Finalize signage (use, plant identification and funding sources). Rail bed improvements and installation of vehicle barricade.

## Deliverables

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## ***Deliverables***

<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Unit of Measurement, if applicable</b>
Install barb wire fencing	12000.000	Feet
Install barb wire gates and hardware	4.000	Gates installed
Install motorized vehicle barricade	1.000	Set of barricades
Install orchard tree labels	75.000	Tree labels installed
Install recognition, safety and usage signage	15.000	Signs installed
Install steel gates and hardware	2.000	Gates installed
Removal of old fence	7810.000	Feet
Trail repair on rail bed	1.000	Slumped area

## **Certification**

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### ***Certification***

#### **Certification:**

**Name:** Bobby Koeplin  
First Name Last Name

**Title:** Barnes County Park Board Chairman  
Title

**Date:** 04/30/2021

#### ***Internal Application Number***

**#/ID:** 18-15

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E & J ENTERPRISE INC.  
502 WINTER SHOW ROAD  
VALLEY CITY, ND 58072  
701-845-1900

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Barnes County Park Board  
230 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Valley City, ND 58072

ESTIMATE FOR THE FOLLOWING SERVICES

- \* Install of approximately 12,000 ft. of fence which includes 6ft t-post with 16.5ft spans. Corner posts will be installed with 5x8 round post in a X bracing for strength.
  - \* Removal of approximately 7,810 ft. of old fence, removal of post and barb wire and disposal of old material
  - \* Install of approximately 12,000 ft. of 4 - 14 gauge Strang barb wire around the perimeter of the posts.
  - \* Install 2 - 14. ft barb wire gates with flip over gate closer with 5x8 posts to anchor gates -  
Install 2 - 16 ft. barb wire gates with flip over gate closer with 5x8 posts to anchor gates.
- Materials will include t-posts-5x8 wood ac2 posts-clips-barb wire and equipment for install and removal of old fence.
- Install 2 - 4ft. Round tubed gates with self-closing hinges.

**This Project will be built up to NRCS Specification**

**ESTIMATED AMOUNT FOR LABOR AND MATERIALS MAY VARY DEPENDING ON CHANGES THAT NEED TO BE DONE IN ORDER TO COMPLETE YOUR PROJECT. THEREFORE, THIS IS AN ESTIMATED AMOUNT AND YOU WILL RECEIVE A BILL FOR THE AMOUNT OWED FOR SERVICES COMPLETED. PRICES OF MATERIALS CAN CHANGE, DUE TO DEMAND CAUSED BY COVID.**

**ESTIMATED PRICE QUOTE:     Material \$12,800 -----Labor \$15,500**

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**TOTAL For Project: \$28,300**

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS! HAVE A GREAT DAY!**



National Band & Tag Company  
INTERNATIONAL IDENTIFICATION INC.

721 York Street PO BOX 72430  
Newport, KY 41072-0430 USA

Phone: 859-261-2035  
Fax: 800-261-TAGS (8247)  
Email: tags@nationalband.com  
Web: www.nationalband.com  
Fed ID: 61-0609185

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

150488

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(THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE)

## QUOTE

Account Address:

Shipping Address:

### BARNES COUNTY PARK BOARD

230 4TH STREET NW  
Valley City, ND 58072  
US

### BARNES COUNTY PARK BOARD

230 4TH STREET NW  
Valley City, ND 58072  
US

ANTICIPATED SHIP DATE	ORDER DATE	ORDERED BY	SHIP TERMS/FOB	ACCOUNT NO.	NBT ORDER NO.
	4/14/21	BOBBY KOEPLIN	02 - U16 - UPS GROUND FOB: ORIGIN	107663	150488
ENTERED BY	DATE ENTERED	TERMS	REFERENCE #	CUSTOMER P.O. NUMBER	
Billie	4/14/21	Cash In Advance		041421BK	

Salesperson Billie

**BALANCE DUE: \$1,230.00**

Order Qty	Part ID/Description	Rev	U/M	Unit Price	Extd Price
Line 1	75 MS14ARBORNH	MS14ARBORNH	EA	10.00000	\$750.00
	3" x 5" Arboretum Tag				
Ship Schedule:	Quantity	Ship Via	Ship Account No.	Shipping Address	
	75	02 - U16 - UPS GROUND		<Address on Order>	

### Tag Summary

Heading	Description	Qty	Unit Price	Line Price
<b>Tag Product Configurator</b>				
	Style: MS14ARBORNH - 3" x 5" Arboretum Tag	75	10.00000	\$750.00
	Material/Color: 3" x 5" Arboretum Tag No Holes			
	STOCK			
	Actual Color: Black			
<b>Holes</b>	No Holes			
<b>Laser:</b>	Laser Etching Notes (Wording, Layout, Barcode, Numbering, etc.): *** Pre-production Image Requested ***			
	Prev ship: 10/22/18 Order #: 547765 - Valley City State Univ.			
	**** DATA FILE NEEDED ***			
<b>Packing:</b>	Standard Packing	75		
	Pack Total	75		
<b>Totals</b>		75	10.00000	\$750.00



National Band & Tag Company  
INTERNATIONAL IDENTIFICATION INC.

721 York Street PO BOX 72430  
Newport, KY 41072-0430 USA

Phone: 859-261-2035  
Fax: 800-261-TAGS (8247)  
Email: tags@nationalband.com  
Web: www.nationalband.com  
Fed ID: 61-0609185

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

150488

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(THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE)

## QUOTE

Order Qty		Part ID/Description	Rev	U/M	Unit Price	Extd Price
Line 2	75	R1530	R1530	EA	6.00000	\$450.00
ARBORETUM STAKE						
Ship Schedule:	Quantity	Ship Via	Ship Account No.		Shipping Address	
	75	02 - U16 - UPS GROUND			<Address on Order>	
Tag Summary						
Heading	Description			Qty	Unit Price	Line Price
Tag Product Configurator						
	Style: R1530 - ARBORETUM STAKE			75	6.00000	\$450.00
	Material/Color: ARBORETUM STAKE STOCK					
Packing:						
	Standard Packing			75		
	Pack Total			75		
Totals				75	6.00000	\$450.00

\*\*\* PAYMENT NEEDED TO PROCESS \*\*\*

Subtotal	\$1,200.00
Credit/Deposit	\$0.00
Freight	\$30.00
Tax	\$0.00
Order Total	\$1,230.00
Balance Due	\$1,230.00





# BARNES COUNTY

230 4<sup>TH</sup> St. NW  
VALLEY CITY, NORTH DAKOTA 58072

## COUNTY OFFICERS

BETH DIDIER

Auditor

845-8500

DEBBIE MAGNUSON

Treasurer

845-8505

JODY PFAFF

Recorder

845-8506

Fax: 845-8538

TONYA DUFFY

States Attorney

845-8526

Fax: 845-8543

RANDY MCCLAFLIN

Sheriff

845-8530

Fax: 845-0002

CORRECTIONS

845-8532

DR. DAVID HOCHHALTER

Coroner

845-8776

STACIE HANSEN-LEIER

Director of Tax Equalization

845-8515

ANGELA HUNT

Veterans Service Officer

845-8511

SUE LLOYD

Emergency Manager

845-8510

KERRY JOHNSON

Highway Superintendent

845-8508

Fax: 845-8533

JASON THIEL

MIS Manager

845-8545

JESSICA JENRICH

Planning & Zoning

845-8188

WANDA LARSON

Social Services

845-8521

THERESA WILL

City-County Health District

845-8518

## COUNTY COMMISSION

Dist. 1: CINDY SCHWEHR

Rogers

646-6203

Dist. 2: SHAWN OLAUSON

Valley City

490-8696

Dist. 3: BILL CARLBLOM

Valley City

840-0763

Dist. 4: VICKY LOVELL

Sanborn

646-6040

Dist. 5: JOHN FROELICH

Valley City

845-1371

April 20, 2021

To: Bobby Koepplin

RE: Rail Bed Improvements for Pedestrian Trail

Provide small dozer, backhoe and skid steer with operators as needed to repair railbed slid area for pedestrian trail.

Repair includes removing several trees and constructing an 8 foot pedestrian path on or near the rail bed that can be mowed with a deck mower upon completion.

Estimated cost \$10,000

Barricade:

Provide necessary materials and labor to install motorized vehicle barricades

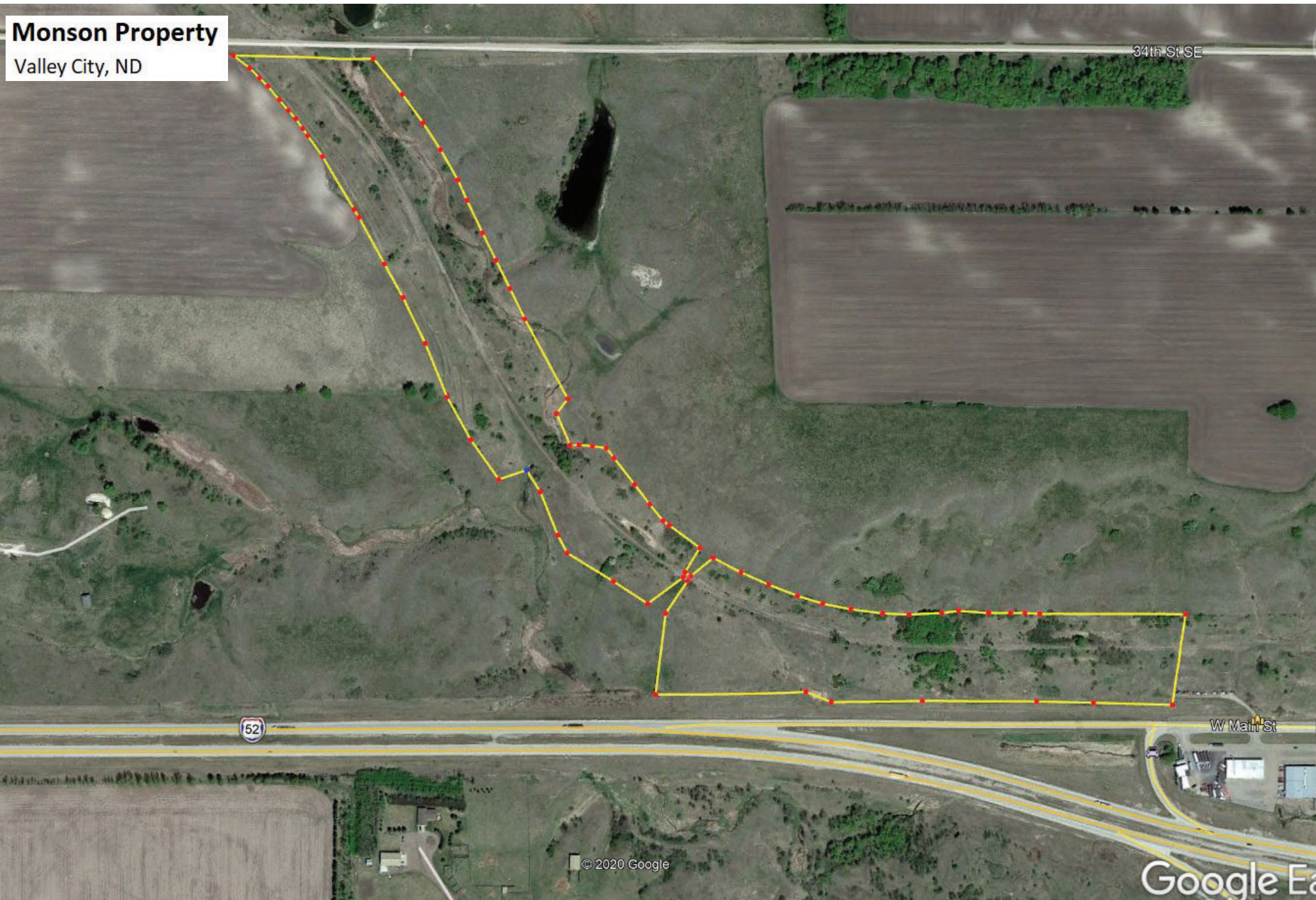
Estimated cost \$420

Kerry Johnson

Barnes County Highway Superintendent



**Monson Property**  
Valley City, ND





# NON-MOTORIZED MONSON TRAIL

## Legend

 PATH (DISTANCE 1.4 MILES)





# Monson Property

Urban Conservation in Valley City, ND

## A Community Prairie

### THE SITE

The Monson Property is located in Valley City, North Dakota and encompasses 42 acres of remnant grasslands interspersed with bur oak and chokecherry trees. As a site enrolled in the Private Lands Open To Sportsmen (PLOTS) program, the property welcomes community members to explore the prairie wildflowers and count the numerous grassland songbirds and gamebirds that call it home. Due to the land's soil and topography, the Monson Property has remained uncultivated, aligning with the landowner's goal of retaining the property as wildlife habitat.



### Grassland Ecological Services:

Water Infiltration and Retention

Improved Water Quality

Soil Stability

Soil Health

Carbon Sequestration

Wildlife Habitat



### THE CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANCE

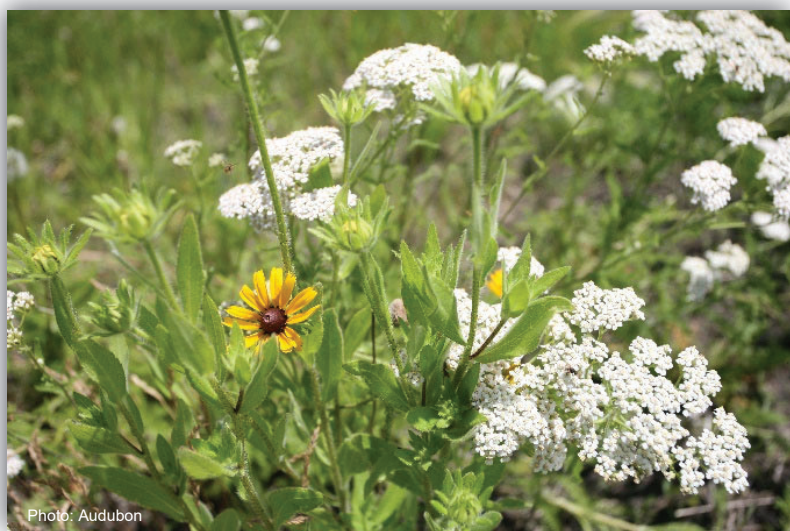
As row crop agriculture continues to expand throughout the Dakotas due to rising crop prices, growing demand, and technological advances, the conservation of remaining native habitat is critical. Remnant grasslands such as the Monson Property provide migratory and breeding habitat, in addition to essential ecological services that benefit local communities.

With limited natural spaces for community members to hike, bird watch, and relax in nature the Monson Property is a unique feature to the city. This property is nestled between agricultural fields and the interstate, creating a natural oasis for wildlife and people alike. Having the property open to the public offers local schools and colleges the opportunity to utilize the acres for environmental education while instilling strong conservation ethic into the next generation.

## THE FUTURE

To ensure that the Monson Property continues to be an important natural feature for community members, the site is proposed as the first Urban Woods and Prairies (UWP) Initiative nature park in Valley City, ND. Through the UWP Initiative, the habitat will receive enhancements to increase bird and wildlife populations desirable to resident and touring outdoor enthusiasts, as well as natural science programs.

As part of Audubon Dakota's UWP Initiative, the Monson Property's unique native habitat will be protected for years to come.



The Urban Woods and Prairies (UWP) Initiative is a partnership between Audubon Dakota and multiple local landowning entities aimed at restoring and enhancing riparian grassland, wetland, and woodland habitats. Audubon Dakota and partners target sites that have the potential to become high quality habitat for birds and places of exploration for people.

OUR GOAL: Impact over 6,000 urban acres through the UWP Initiative, and have a UWP Nature Park within walking distance of 70% of the North Dakota population.

## THE PROJECT

Using the methods proven successful at UWP sites across North Dakota, the Monson Property will undergo a series of practices over a three year establishment period. During the first year fencing will be installed and the site will be grazed to reduce old understory plant growth and invasive species control will be conducted using flea beetle dispersal and buckthorn removal.

During years two and three the site will be enhanced using grassland management practices such as supplemental seedings, prescribed fire, and invasive species removal.

## THE COMMITMENT

Enrolling the Monson Property as a UWP site will be achieved through strategic cash and in-kind commitments.

Mr. Monson's cash and in-kind contributions include a gift of the site to Barnes County Parks along with installation of fencing and invasive species control measures, such as utilizing leafy spurge beetle as biological control.

Audubon Dakota will invest necessary funds, secured through grants and private contributions, and in-kind project management for plant restoration work and site management during the establishment period.

Barnes County Parks' in-kind contributions will include site preparation and post-establishment period maintenance.



## Monson Park and Trail – Valley City, ND

### Project Pictures



Current fencing



Railroad bed



Monson Orchard



Pollinator Plot



Overview of rough landscape



Trail on railbed





Existing trail on railbed



Birdhouse



Railbed slump



Double barricade example



## Monson Orchard Trees & Shrubs

Plant Name	Fruiting date	Pollinating	Planting Date	# of Labels
Haralred Apple	Early October	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Cortland Apple	Late September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Connell Red Apple	October	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Dakota Gold Apple	Late August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Mandan Apple	Early September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Redwell Apple	Late September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Cortland Apple	Late September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Wedge Apple	Late September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Honeycrisp Apple	Late September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Red Prairie Spy Apple	Late September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Woodarz Apple	Early October	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Kindercrisp Apple	Late August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Summer Crisp Pear	Mid August	Pollinator Suggested	Summer 2020	2
Ure Pear	Mid August	Pollinator Suggested	Summer 2020	2
Centennial Crabapple	Mid to Late August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Chestnut Crabapple	Late August	Pollinator Suggested	Summer 2020	2
Meteor Cherry	Early July	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	2
Sweet Cherry Pie Cherry	Late July	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	2
Evans Bali Cherry	Mid July	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	2
Toka Plum	Mid-August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Sapalta Cherry Plum	Late July	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Pembina Plum	Late August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Mount Royal Plum	Late August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Superior Plum	Late August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Compass Cherry Plum	Late July	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Trader Mulberry	July to September	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	2
Northline Juneberry	Late June to Early July	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	3
Smokey Juneberry	Late June to Early July	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	3
Polana Raspberry	Early August	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	6
Sandcherry	July	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	6
Manchurian Apricot	July	Pollinator Suggested	Summer 2020	2
Red Oak				1
Wild Chokecherry	August	Self-Fruitful		1
Wild Plum	August	Pollinator Rquired		1
				75





United States Department of the Interior  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Interior Regions 3, 4, 5  
601 Riverfront Drive  
Omaha, NE 68102

8.B(IR345-RTCA)

April 27, 2021

Ms. Karlene Fine  
Industrial Commission  
State Capitol 14th Floor  
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0840

Dear Ms. Fine:

The National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) supports the Barnes County Park Board's application for a North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund grant for development of the Sheyenne River Water Trail.

Our Midwest Regional staff for RTCA has been working with the water trail partners, including Barnes County, Fort Ransom State Park staff, Sheyenne National Grassland staff, Army Corps of Engineers staff and others since November 2019 on the planning, mapping and design for the water trail. This project will create a 180-mile water trail by adding four canoe/kayak launch sites; improving other launch sites; and adding directional signage from highways to the launch sites, and wayfinding and safety signage along the river for safe navigation. By improving the launch sites and making them easier to find, this project will also provide access to 180 miles of river for sportsmen. The project therefore meets at least two of your directives for funding.

The project will be implemented through a unique partnership between five federal agencies, four cities, the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, the County, the Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway, and other local governments and non-profit organizations, called the Sheyenne River Water Trail Advisory Council. The number and range of partners indicates the value of the water trail in helping meet agency and organization goals for increasing recreational opportunities and access to rivers.

The National Park Service RTCA staff at the Minnesota Field Office will continue to work with the County and other partners to do what we can to help ensure the project's success. We urge your support of this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Holly Larson  
Outdoor Recreation Planner

cc:  
Ms. Andrea Pfennig  
Industrial Commission  
State Capitol 14th Floor  
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0840



**VALLEY CITY**  
**STATE UNIVERSITY**

April 23, 2021

Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board  
State Capitol, 14th Floor - 600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of funding for the Monson Park project as requested by the Barnes County Park Board. I am a past member of the Board and was in on some of the preliminary planning. It would benefit the general public as well as school systems using it for educational purposes.

As Director of Prairie Waters Education and Research Center I see the benefit of natural areas such as this for the purpose of providing of environmental education and research opportunities for students, teachers, and professionals in North Dakota. This would be an excellent area to encourage students to learn about habitat and wildlife. Learning about habitat by experiencing it makes an impression on person. It may resonate enough to make proponents of safeguarding our environment. Please consider funding the Barnes County Park Board request for developing Monson Park.

Sincerely,

**Andre DeLorme, Ph.D.**  
Science Department Chair  
Director of Prairie Waters Education and Research Center  
Valley City State University  
101 SW College St.  
Valley City, ND 58072



# *Valley City Public Schools*

460 Central Ave N Valley City ND 58072

Phone 701.845.0483

[www.hiliners.org](http://www.hiliners.org)

April 27, 2021

Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board  
State Capitol, 14th Floor - 600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

To Whom It May Concern,

We are pleased to submit this letter of support for the application that will be submitted by the Barnes County Park Board. We are honored to partner with the park board and other committees for this project and believe that a successful application will provide many exciting and lifelong learning opportunities for our students at Valley City Public Schools. Our educators believe that learning can be accomplished in many unique and creative ways in and out of the classroom and this project would provide the full range of learning opportunities for our students. Below, we have detailed a few examples of how the Monson Park Project may add to the educational learning of our students at Valley City Public Schools;

- Providing hands-on learning experiences for students with the opportunity to study numerous plant species and the birds that will be inhabiting the Monson Park.
- Connecting the curriculum in the textbook with the real-world experience provided with Monson Park.

We are committed to the partnership of this project and once again believe that an Monson Park Project would provide our students with many learning experiences. If there is anything additionally that we may provide in support of this project, we would be happy to share that with you. Thank you for your review of this application and understanding the important educational implications of connecting the experiences of an Monson Park Project with our students. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Johnson at (701) 845-0483 or [josh.johnson@k12.nd.us](mailto:josh.johnson@k12.nd.us).

Sincerely,

Josh Johnson  
Superintendent  
Valley City Public Schools



## ON THE MOVE

City County Health District, Managing Partner  
415 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE  
Valley City, ND 58072  
701-845-8518

[Sharon.e.buhr@gmail.com](mailto:Sharon.e.buhr@gmail.com)  
[www.barnesonthemove.org](http://www.barnesonthemove.org)

April 26, 2021

Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board  
State Capitol  
14th Floor - 600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

To Whom It May Concern:

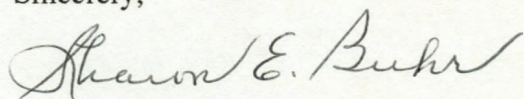
ON THE MOVE fully supports the Monson Project by the Barnes County Park Board, as does the City County Health District, and recommends you provide full funding for this project.

ON THE MOVE is an active Barnes County Partnership with 18 nonprofit and governmental members from our county with the county public health unit (City County Health District) as the managing partner. ON THE MOVE was established over 20 years ago with the vision of healthier children, teens and adults in Barnes County, and whose mission is to reduce the risk of chronic disease in our population (reducing the risk of diabetes, obesity, heart disease, cancer, etc).

We support the effort of the Barnes County Park board to develop a County Park on the west side of Valley City that can be used for the enjoyment of the general public. Trail access to the park includes a 1.4 mile non-motorized grass/natural maintained trail connected to a 1.4 mile shared use path on the west end of Valley City. When the Monson segment is complete, it provides a 2.8 mile path connected to downtown Valley City. ON THE MOVE will share information on this new trail and park with its partners and the community, via the media including social media (our Facebook page) to encourage folks to hike to the new park. This is a project that will encourage more people to hike and enjoy nature. It's close proximity to town makes it easily available to the public and for class outings from nearby schools.

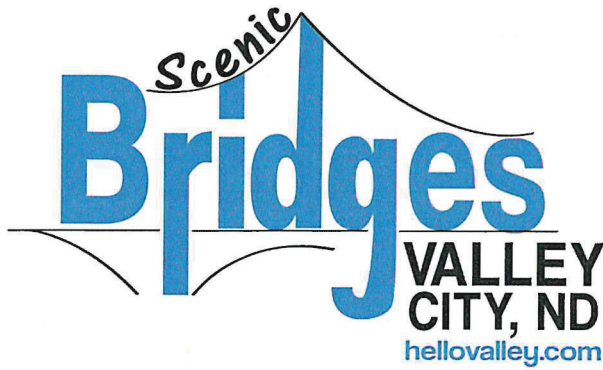
We at ON THE MOVE are excited about the Monson Park and its exercise opportunities for our citizens. Please consider funding the Barnes County Park Board's request for developing Monson Park. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Sharon E. Buhr  
ON THE MOVE Partnership Chair  
City County Health District Board Chair





**Convention & Visitors Bureau**  
**250 Main St W – P.O. Box 724**  
**Valley City, ND 58072-0724**  
**(701) 845-1891**  
**[www.hellovalley.com](http://www.hellovalley.com)**

Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board  
State Capitol, 14th Floor - 600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Barnes County Park Board's effort to create the first Urban Woods and Prairies nature park just outside of Valley City. This park would be an educational experience for residents and visitors to the area.

The Valley City Convention & Visitors Bureau's mission is to bring visitors to the Valley City area and to encourage them to stay with us. Creating a new outdoor experience gives us one more amenity to promote along with the Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway and North Country Scenic Trail. Nature travelers look for this type of area and are good stewards of the environment.

Please consider facilitating the creation of Monson Park. It has great potential to enhance the economy of the area by giving another opportunity for birders and hikers to enjoy the Sheyenne River Valley.

Sincerely,

Mary Lee Nielson, Marketing Coordinator  
Valley City Convention & Visitors Bureau/Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway  
250 Main St. W.  
Valley City, ND 58072  
[www.hellovalley.com](http://www.hellovalley.com)



April 26, 2021

Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board  
ND State Capitol  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Dear Advisory Board Members:

The Valley City-Barnes County Development Corporation respectfully requests your support of the Monson Park & Trail Project and the grant application submitted by the Barnes County Park Board. The park includes an orchard and pollinator plot along with a pedestrian trail located on the railbed, which would also be available to nonmotorized vehicles.

The grant would be used to develop the park on the west side of Valley City and would connect the City's outskirts to the downtown area through a 2.8-mile path. Over the last few years, 72 fruiting trees and shrubs, and 150 red oak trees were planted. The Monson Park & Trail Project would provide educational and recreational opportunities for people of all ages.

This project would enhance amenities in the Sheyenne River Valley, which are important to economic development efforts to entice workers to our area and retain them. Tourists would have another great reason to stay longer and area residents could experience enriched quality of life.

Please consider and approve the grant request from the Barnes County Park Board to support development of the Monson Park & Trail Project. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Feist". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jennifer Feist  
Director of Development

## **EASEMENT AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

AGREEMENT made this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021 between the following described parties:

1. Grantor or Grantors, as referred to in this Easement include:

City of Valley City  
254 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE  
P.O. Box 390  
Valley City, North Dakota 58072

2. Barnes County Park Board with a mailing address of 230 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Valley City, North Dakota 58072; as Grantee.

WHEREAS, Grantees intend to establish an enhancement of a non-motorized non-improved trail which runs on, over, along and through the Subject Properties that is owned by Grantors, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to have easements over small tracts of real estate (on former railroad bed) for purposes of setting up a hiking/trail system for the public, and

WHEREAS, the parties understand that the easement given will exist on a small portion of land as described by the parties and will revert back unto the Grantors if this easement is not used for the purpose intended. The easement granted herein is granted for the benefit of the public to use the Subject Property described below for educational and enjoyment purposes with respect to walking, hiking, biking, snow shoeing, and cross country skiing. Motorized vehicles or horseback riding are not allowed.

1. NOW, THEREFORE, the said Grantor(s) hereby grants, bargains, sells and conveys unto the Grantees, subject to the limitations and conditions hereafter provided, the right and easement hereafter described: Grant of easement: The right for the public to use the Subject Property (two parcels) described below, for the purpose intended as set out above, said Subject Property being described as follows:

## City of Valley City Segment

A strip of land Forty (40 to 100) feet wide from the former railroad track centerline (northern edge of the property) located across the north edge of the property located in in NW ¼ Section 29, Township 140 North, Range 58 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Parcel #63-3440047 - Lot 1 Blk 2 NP West 5th Add (1.97 Acres) Parcel #63-3450012 - Lot 2 Blk 1 NP West 6th Add (1.79 Acres) and Parcel #63-3450030 - Lot 4 Blk 1 NP West 6th Add (6.17 Acres) more or less for a trail, ten feet (10') wide, located on the property identified above, over and across, as constructed, maintained and identified with trail markers.

2. The parties agree that Grantee shall be responsible for clearing, building, signing and maintaining the shared use non-motorized trail on the easement for education and enjoyment of the public's use.
3. A temporary construction easement shall be provided during construction of the trail. Grantors consent to the Grantee's incidental entrance to the Grantors' land adjacent to the trail as is required to gain access to the trail for construction during the time of such project.
4. Grantor hereby grants a permanent easement right of ingress and egress to and from the Property and Easement Area during all periods of maintenance, repair and removal of the trail. Grantor hereby grants and conveys to Grantees the right to clear and keep cleared all structures, trees, shrubbery, or other object or obstruction in the Easement Area that in Grantee's opinion interferes with trail maintenance or removal.
5. This grant of easement shall run with the land and shall be binding on all and shall inure to the benefit of the parties to this easement, their respective heirs, successors or assigns.
6. Consideration: For good and valuable consideration, the receipt of \$1.00 which is hereby acknowledged, Grantor hereby grants and conveys to Grantee the permanent easements and rights as provided herein.
7. Liability: The parties to this easement understand and agree that the liability limitations of North Dakota Century Code Chapter 52-08 apply to Grantor. Grantor makes no assurance that the premises are safe or appropriate for any purpose. While the public may be invited onto the property for a public recreational use, the recreational users do not obtain the legal status of an invitee or licensee to whom a duty of care is owed by Grantor. Any member of the public allowed to access the Subject Property for recreational use is assuming the risk of the use of the property and Grantor is not responsible for any injury to persons or property on the property. Grantor owes no duty of care to keep the land



safe for entry or use by the public, nor does Grantor have an obligation to warn of hazardous conditions, uses or structures on the property.

8. Term: The term of this easement shall be deemed perpetual, or as long as allowed by North Dakota law. Should neither the public nor the County of Barnes use the described shared use trail easement for a period of thirty-six months, this easement shall revert back unto Grantor and shall be void. In order for this to occur, Grantor must notify Grantee in writing and record any necessary document with the Register of Deeds to terminate the easement for non-use.
9. That the parties agree that all of the improvements and appurtenances put onto the easement by the Grantee or its agents or assigns, shall remain the property of the Grantee, and should the easement at any time end, the Grantee shall have the right to enter and take its property back.
10. Insurance, Taxes and Maintenance. Grantee will not be responsible for maintaining liability insurance coverage, real estate taxes, special assessments or maintenance with regard to the easement property or the adjacent property owned by Grantor.
11. Signage: Grantee agrees to install and maintain applicable signage as mutually approved by Grantor and Grantee with respect to distance of the trail, private land ownership, maintenance (pack it in pack it out that may be applicable) and all animals on the trail shall be leashed.
12. Inconsistent Grants. Grantor shall not hereafter grant to any other party any rights or interests in and to the Easement Area for a use inconsistent, nor shall Grantor do anything that would materially interfere with the easement rights herein granted.
13. Whole Agreement. This document constitutes the complete and entire understanding of the parties concerning the easements pertaining to the North Country Trail and supersedes all representations or statements, verbal or written, among the parties.
14. Modification. No change or modification of this easement shall be valid unless the same be in writing and signed by all of the parties.
15. Drafting of Agreement. This easement shall not be construed or interpreted for or against any party hereto because that party drafted or caused the party's legal representative to draft any of its provisions.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

David Carlsrud, Mayor, Grantor

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

)ss:

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

Subscribed and sworn to on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021,  
before me personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_, to me known to be the persons  
described in, and that executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to  
me that they executed the same.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, Notary Public

County and State \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

(SEAL)

My Comm. Exp.: \_\_\_\_\_

The Barnes County Park Board met in regular session on Thursday, April 9, 2020. The following were present via conference call: Bobby Koeplin, Dallas Dockter, Andre DeLorme, Scott Tichy and Bill Carlblom. Vicky Lovell and Shawn Olauson were unable to attend.

Park Board Chairman Bobby Koeplin called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m., the agenda was reviewed.

Bill Carlblom moved to approve the December 12, 2019 minutes; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Carlblom moved to approve the 2020 year-to-date financials, as presented; Andre DeLorme seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### REPORTS/UPDATES:

- Clausen Springs Erosion Control – Strata contracted, but waiting on 404 Permit from Corps of Engineers
- Reimbursement received from ND Game & Fish
- Ordered water crossing signs
- Ordered 5 replacement fire rings

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Park Status & Plan: Park status – Official opening of the parks is on hold until further notice, due to the COVID-19 crisis response, with opening probably delayed until June. In the meantime, Bobby will have Scott Kohler working as needed, doing what is feasible, prudent, and necessary.
- Monson Property: Dick and Karen Monson would like to donate roughly 40 acres of former railroad right-of-way for a walking/hiking trail. Bill Carlblom moved to authorize Bobby Koeplin to pursue this further; Scott Tichy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### PENDING:

- 2021 Budget
- Manager Comprehensive spreadsheet files
- Update maps, brochures and web site
- Final quotes 8' X 10' office building
- Large Shelter Repair Little Yellowstone
- Final quote to replace a 14' X 22' shelter at lake
- Remove shelter by playground area

Bill Carlblom moved to adjourn; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

---

Beth M Didier  
Barnes County Auditor

---

Bobby Koeplin, Chairman  
Barnes County Park Board

The Barnes County Park Board met in regular session on Thursday, May 14, 2020. The following were present: Bobby Koeplin, Dallas Dockter, Andre DeLorme, Scott Tichy, Vicky Lovell and Bill Carlbom. Shawn Olauson was unable to attend.

Park Board Chairman Bobby Koeplin called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m., the agenda was reviewed. Scott Tichy moved to approve the agenda; Bill Carlbom seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dallas Dockter moved to approve the April 8, 2020 minutes; Bill Carlbom seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Carlbom moved to approve the 2020 year-to-date financials; Scott Tichy seconded the motion. Motion carried. Bill Carlbom moved to approve the 2021 budget; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### REPORTS/UPDATES:

Part-time employee  
Clausen Springs dam work  
Kathryn Dam project  
County Road 21 projects/signage  
Times-Record articles about the parks  
Clausen Springs Road failure  
COVID – 19 update  
Signage/website  
Driveway water signs  
Acquired 6 barricades – County Highway Dept.  
Ordered registration envelope stock  
Updated maps, working on brochures and web site  
Tires needed on the side-by-side

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Monson Property – Scott Tichy moved to approve sponsorship for a ND Dept of Ag grant for Orchard Planting on Monson Railroad Right of Way and School Project, with no match funds required; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Andre DeLorme moved to approve serving as local unit of Gov't in collaboration with the SRV Chapter North Country Trail to apply for Recreational Trails Grant for mowing equipment, trailer and supplies, with twenty percent matching funds and grant application provided by SRV; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COVID – 19: June 1<sup>st</sup> will be the advertised opening date. Reservation System – there will be no reservations for shelters. During the COVID-19 precautions, will sanitize restrooms once a day.

#### PENDING:

Comprehensive spreadsheet files - Scott  
Final quotes 8' X 10' office building  
Large Shelter Repair Little Yellowstone  
Final quote to replace a 14' X 22' shelter at lake  
Remove shelter by playground area

Bill Carlbom moved to adjourn; Scott Tichy seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 a.m.

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Beth M Didier  
Barnes County Auditor

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Bobby Koeplin, Chairman  
Barnes County Park Board

The Barnes County Park Board met in regular session on Thursday, August 13, 2020. The following were present: Bobby Koeplin, Dallas Dockter, Andre DeLorme, Shawn Olauson and Bill Carlblom. Scott Tichy and Vicky Lovell were unable to attend.

Park Board Chairman Bobby Koeplin called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m., the agenda was reviewed. Bill Carlblom moved to approve the agenda; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Carlblom moved to approve the May 14, 2020 minutes; Andre DeLorme seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Shawn Olauson moved to approve the 2020 year-to-date financials; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS/UPDATES included: Rover Pass, which is now automated on 20 sites; COVID-19 processes; Signage/website; Trees & Tables; Community Service worker putting in 100 hours; Driveway water signs; Updated maps, brochures and web site; Monson Property Update & Orchard planting; and Approved grant from RTP (Recreational Trails Program) for North Country Trail.

NEW BUSINESS: COVID-19 Shower House schedule; Pay request from Vidette; and Concrete, privy & office building pads. Bill Carlblom moved to approve removal of wooden vault restroom in Clausen Loop, subject to approval from North Dakota Game & Fish; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OTHER: Moving forward with placing concrete sidewalk at concrete privy and office building foundation/pad at Clausen Springs. Finalizing details for order and delivery of office building that were approved in the 2020 budget.

PENDING: Comprehensive spreadsheet files; Office building; Large Shelter Repair Little Yellowstone; Replace cedar fence Little Yellowstone; Quote to replace a 14' X 22' shelter at lake; Remove shelter by playground area

Dallas Dockter moved to adjourn; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:34 a.m.

---

Beth M Didier  
Barnes County Auditor

---

Bobby Koeplin, Chairman  
Barnes County Park Board

The Barnes County Park Board met in regular session on Thursday, December 10, 2020. The following were present: Bobby Koeplin, Dallas Dockter, Andre DeLorme, Scott Tichy, Vicky Lovell and Bill Carlblom. Pete Paulson was unable to attend.

Park Board Chairman Bobby Koeplin called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m., the agenda was reviewed. Bill Carlblom moved to approve the agenda; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Carlblom moved to approve the August 13, 2020 minutes; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Carlblom moved to approve the 2020 year-to-date financials; Scott Tichy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS/UPDATES included: Outhouses pumped; Water drained & lines blown out with help of the Highway Dept; Docks pulled; Replaced tires on pickup; Hand tools, power washer and air compressor stored at BC Weed Storage; BC Highway helped with tree debris in both Parks, rock disposal at Clausen Springs Park, ash pile disposal at Little Yellowstone, removed shelter at beach area, burn pit cleanup, and bury CS, telespar signpost replacement gateway sign at Clausen Springs; Underground service was replaced by Cass County Electric at Clausen Springs; Manager/Staff update -pickup has 231,984 miles, 5,430 miles in 2020, mowers 248.6 and 231 hours respectively (about 100 hours/year); Clausen Springs Erosion Control – Army Corps of Engineers 404 Permit approved. Strata contracted to install rock rip rap pending weather.

OLD BUSINESS: Wooden Privy in Clausen Springs shop loop removed with the help of the BD Highway Dept.

NEW BUSINESS: Andre Delorme is stepping down from the Park Board. His service to Park Board was greatly appreciated. Consider turning off campsite power October 31/end of season annually, consensus to leave on throughout year and monitor fall 2021. Monson Property Update and Approval. Bobby Koeplin will work with the State's Attorney to transfer Monson property to Barnes County Parks. Dallas Dockter moved to approve chip seal funding request at Clausen Springs, (estimated to cost between \$65,000 to \$75,000) to apply to NDDOT Special Road Funds and/or Tap grant with cost share request to ND Game & Fish; Scott Tichy seconded the motion. Motion carried. KLJ design engineering to get to bid estimated at \$6,000 Bobby Koeplin will work with KLJ in applying to NDDOT and ND Game & Fish. Approve 2021 Park Management Contract. Scott Tichy moved to approve the 2021 Park Management Contract; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OTHER:

PENDING: Reimbursement request from ND Game & Fish; Completion of office building in Spring 2021; Comprehensive Operating Procedures Manual for Opening, Operating & Closing Parks; Large Shelter repair in Little Yellowstone; Replace cedar fence in Little Yellowstone; Quote to relocate CS playground shelter to lakeside or replace; 2021 monitor wood privy use in loop at Little Yellowstone, consider demolition; Pending Grant Funds; Construct a shower house at Little Yellowstone.

Bill Carlblom moved to adjourn; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:44 a.m.

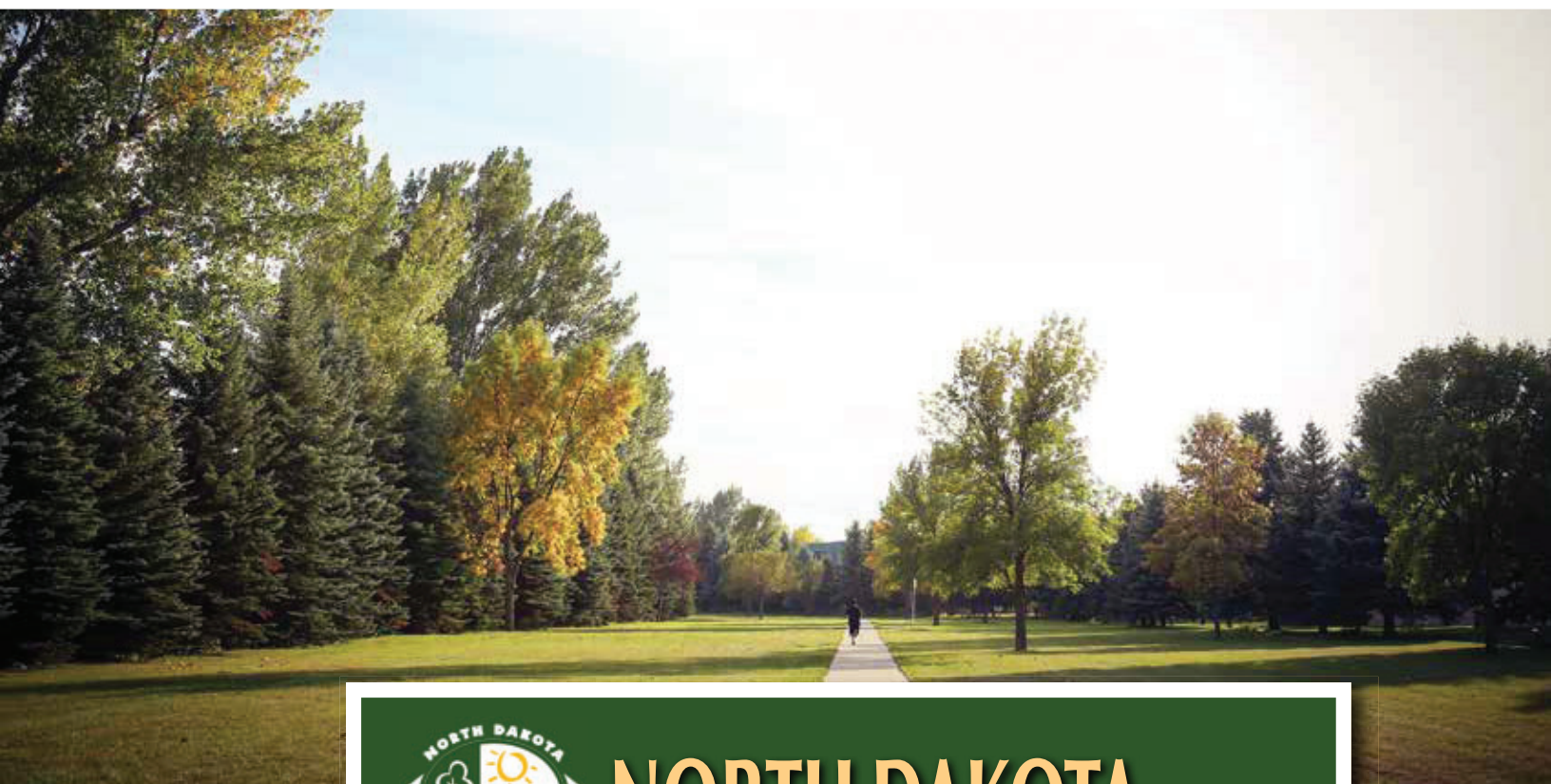
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Julie Mindt  
Barnes County Deputy Auditor

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Bobby Koeplin, Chairman  
Barnes County Park Board





# **NORTH DAKOTA** State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

**RECREATIONAL TRAIL NEEDS | 2018-2022**





# NORTH DAKOTA State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

## RECREATIONAL TRAIL NEEDS | 2018-2022

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#### State of North Dakota

Doug Burgum, *Governor*

#### North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department

Melissa Baker, Ph.D., *Director*

Matt Gardner, *Recreation Division Manager*

Kevin Stankiewicz, *Recreation & Trails Grant  
Coordinator*

---

*The mission of the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department is to provide and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities through diverse parks and programs that conserve the state's natural diversity.*

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Acknowledgements: This publication was prepared by the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department with Clearwater Communications. Winkelman Consulting surveyed North Dakota households and outdoor recreation providers and analyzed the resulting data included in this publication.

Photo Credits: North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, Grand Forks Park District and West Fargo Park District.

Accessibility: The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department's facilities, programs, and employment procedures are open to all, regardless of age, sex, race, color, disability, religion, national origin or political affiliation. Contact us prior to your visit if you need an accommodation for a disability. For more information, contact North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, 1600 E. Century Ave. Suite 3, PO Box 5594, Bismarck, ND 58503; phone 701-328-5357; or Relay North Dakota TTY Service 800-366-6888.



# Overview

## Trails in North Dakota

*Recreational Trail Needs* is a companion publication to the *2018–2022 North Dakota State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan* (SCORP) prepared by the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department. It was financed in part by a planning grant from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, under the provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965 (PL 88-578, as amended), with additional funding provided by the Recreational Trails Program and the state of North Dakota.

Trails, both motorized and non-motorized, are important components of the outdoor recreation infrastructure in North Dakota. Paved multi-use trails for walking, running and bicycling are most often found in communities and provide close-to-home recreation. Unpaved trails for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding are more

common in state and federal parks and recreation areas. Paddling trails for canoes and kayaks on rivers and lakes across the state are much more limited. Winter trails are available in North Dakota for cross-country skiing/snowshoeing and fat-tire biking. Off-highway vehicle (ATV, dirt bike or side by side) and snowmobile trails offer opportunities for those interested in motorized recreation.

North Dakota trail enthusiasts have formed a variety of trail user and advocacy groups at the national, state, regional and local levels to support the development and maintenance of trail systems. Active trail groups include the Maah Daah Hey Trail Association, Save the Maah Dah Hey, North Country Trail Association, North Dakota Back Country Horsemen, North Dakota Dirt Riders, Red River Riders and Snowmobile North Dakota.





# Demand and Supply

## Trails in North Dakota

Trails continue to be among the most popular outdoor recreation infrastructure in North Dakota, utilized by both citizens and visitors to the state.

### Definitions

Support facilities along trails can impact a user's interest level and are categorized as follows:

- Primitive trails have neither restrooms nor running water.
- Semi-modern trails have restrooms but no running water.
- Modern trails have permanent restrooms and running water.

## PERSPECTIVES FROM NORTH DAKOTANS

A 2017 survey of North Dakota households was conducted to assess interest in outdoor recreation activities and to identify the perceived quantity and quality of facilities for these activities.

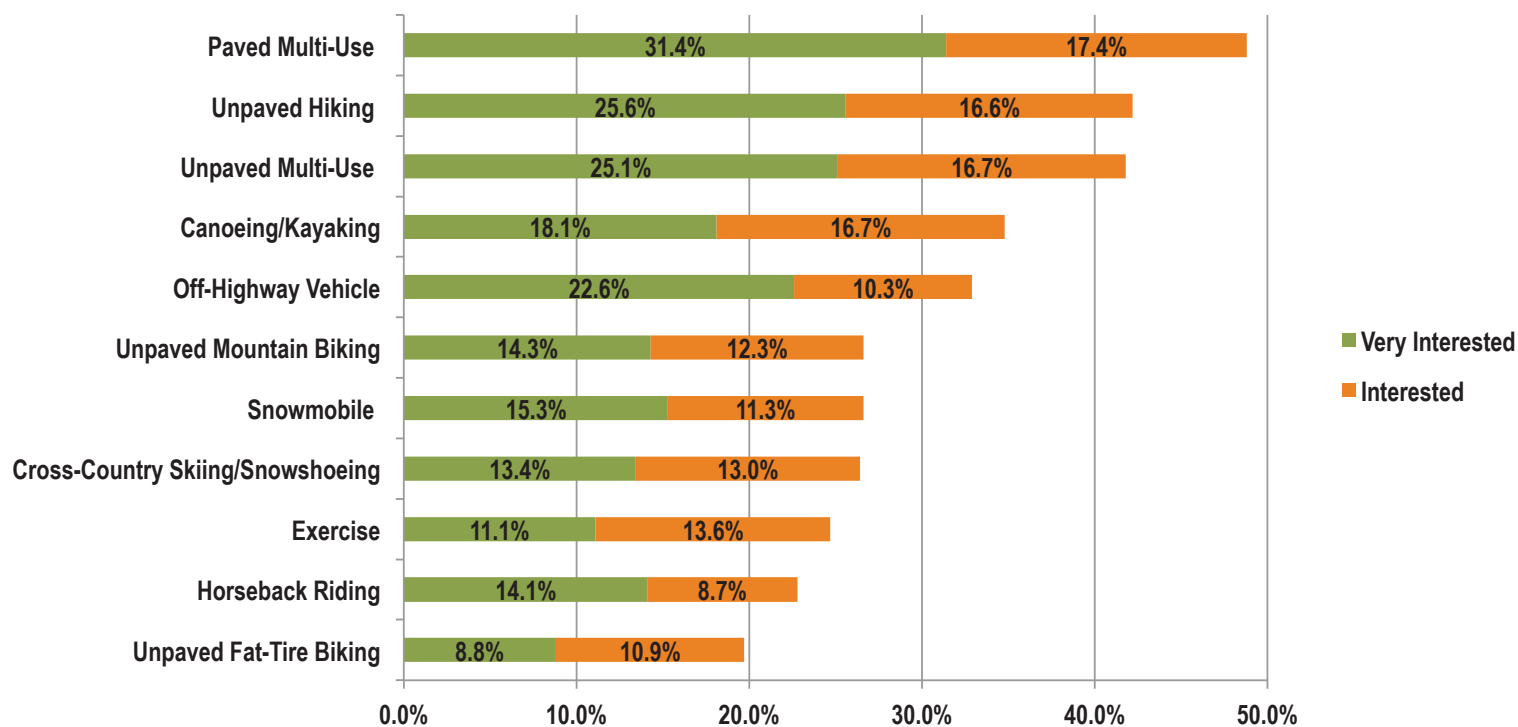
Non-motorized trail usage is one of the most popular outdoor recreation activities for North Dakota households, with 61% interested in using trails for walking, running, bicycling or horseback riding. Five years ago, 58% were interested in using non-motorized trails. When asked an open-ended question about what outdoor activities or facilities they would like to see offered or expanded in North Dakota, the largest number of North Dakota households expressed interest in trails for non-motorized use.

The specific trail activities that interest the most North Dakota households include:

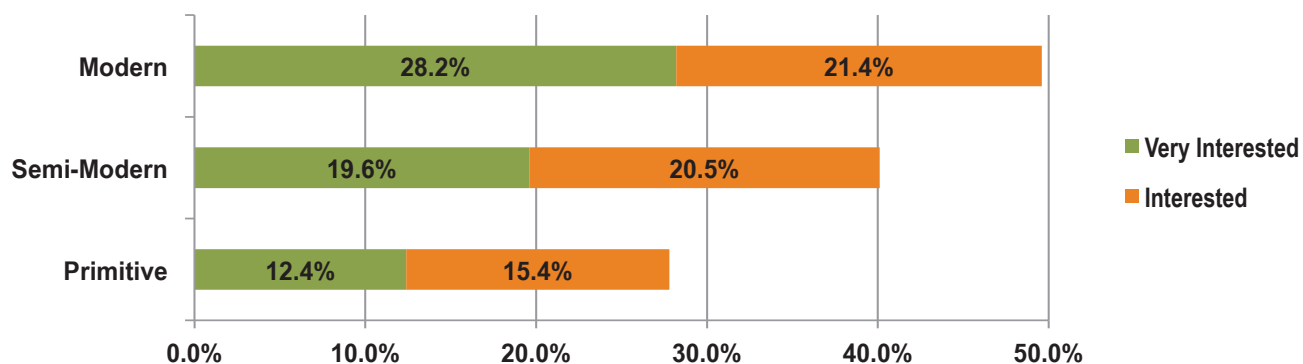
- Using modern trails (50%).
- Using paved multi-use (walking, jogging or bicycling) trails (49%).



## Trail Usage Interest by North Dakotans



## Non-Motorized Trail Usage Interest by North Dakotans Based on Amenities

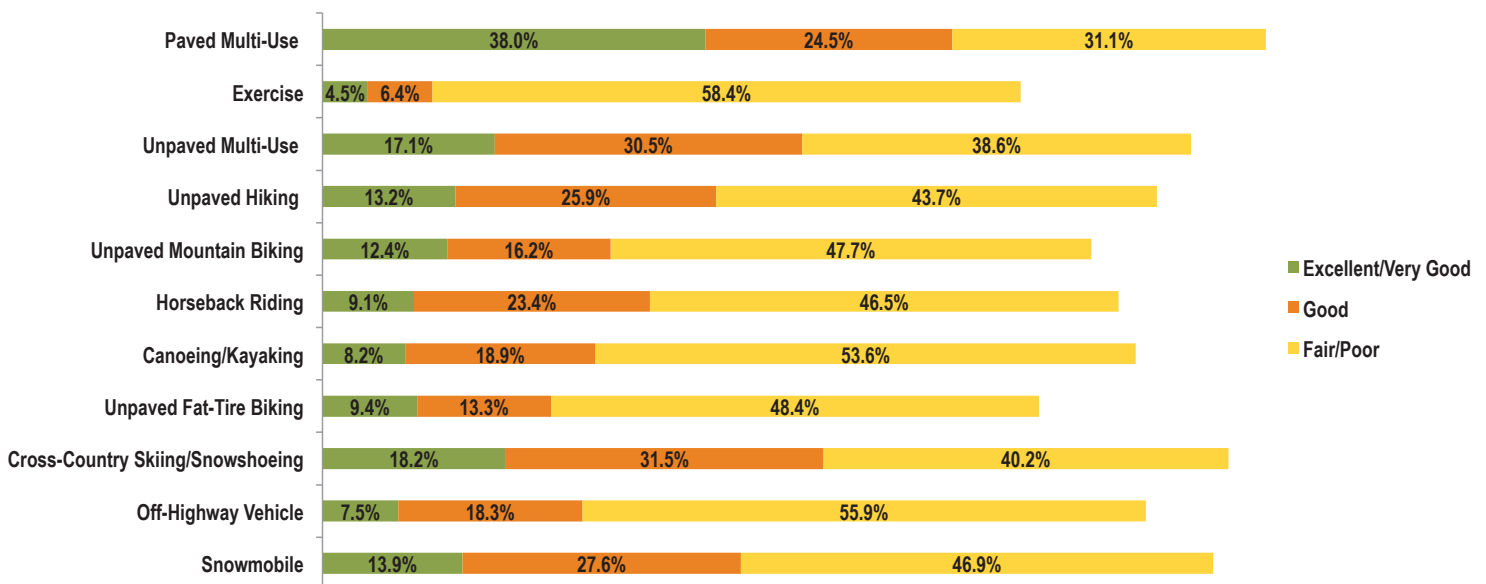


The quality and quantity of trails are critical to the recreation user's experience. North Dakota households that expressed interest in using trails were asked to rate the number of trails and the overall condition of those trails in their area on a five-point scale: excellent, very good, good, fair or poor.

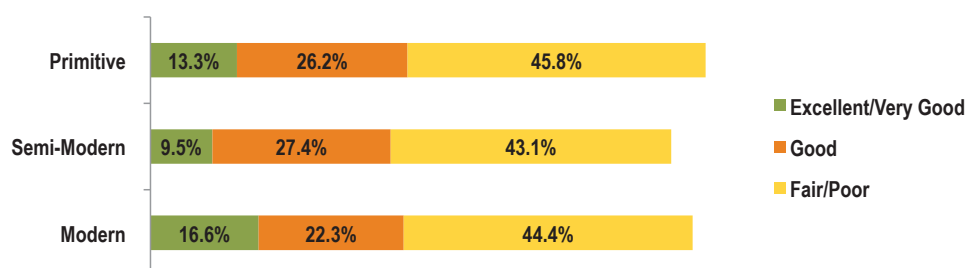
Thirty-eight percent of North Dakota households rate the number and condition of paved multi-use trails as excellent or very good. In contrast, fair or poor ratings are given to:

- Exercise trails with exercise machines or equipment at stations (58%).
- Off-highway vehicle (ATV, dirt bike or side by side) trails (56%).
- Designated paddling trails for canoeing or kayaking (54%).
- Unpaved fat-tire biking trails (48%).

## Trail Quality and Quantity in North Dakota

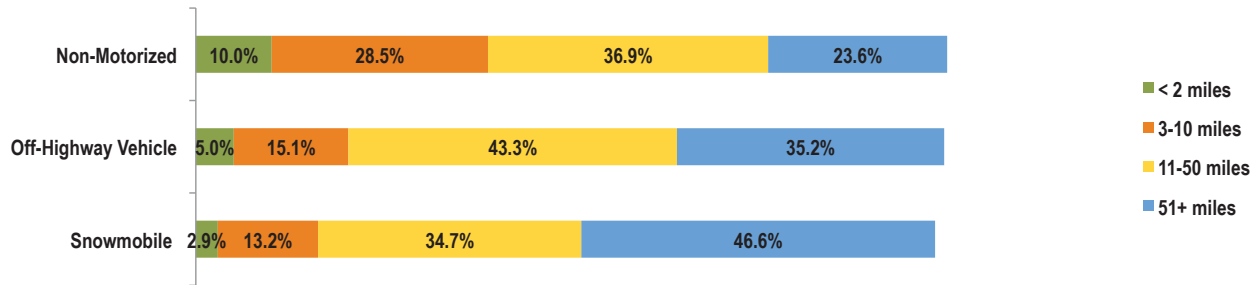


## Quality and Quantity of Non-Motorized Trails Based on Amenities in North Dakota



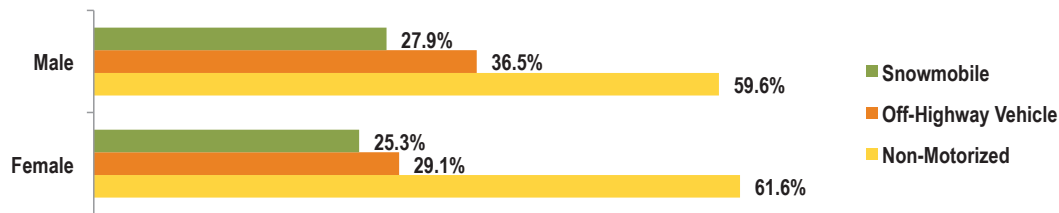
North Dakota households are willing to travel farther to use motorized trails than non-motorized trails, with 47% of North Dakota households interested in snowmobiling willing to drive more than 50 miles to use trails.

### Farthest Distance North Dakota Trail Users Are Willing to Travel

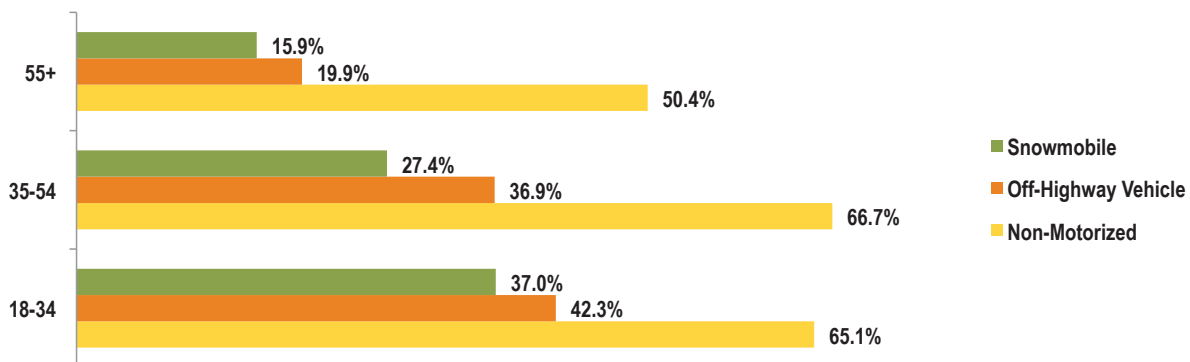


Interest in trails varies somewhat when considering the demographics of North Dakotans or North Dakota households. Men are more interested in using off-highway vehicle (ATV, dirt bike or side by side) and snowmobile trails than women. Motorized trail interest increases as community population decreases.

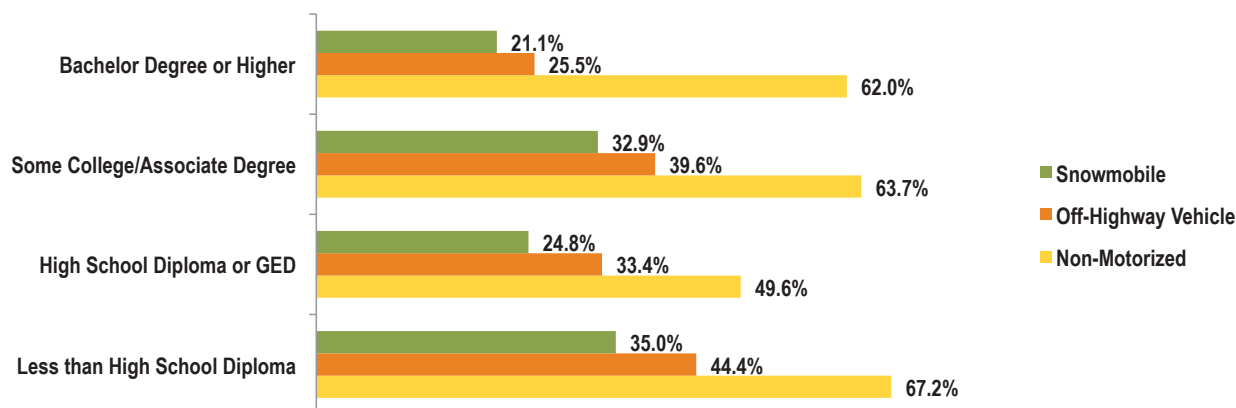
### Trail Usage Interest by Gender



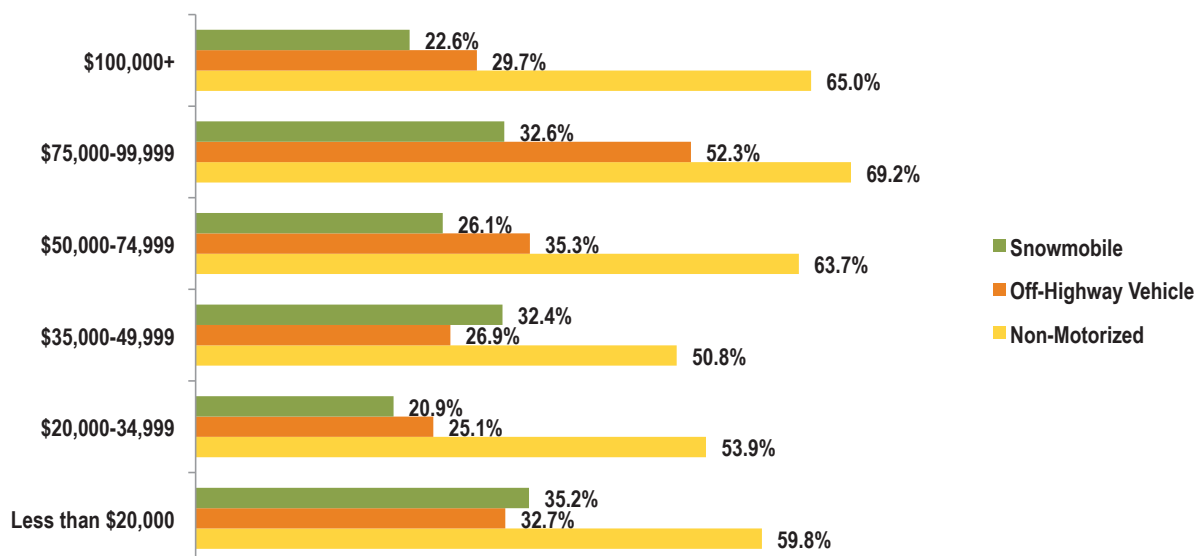
### Trail Usage Interest by Age



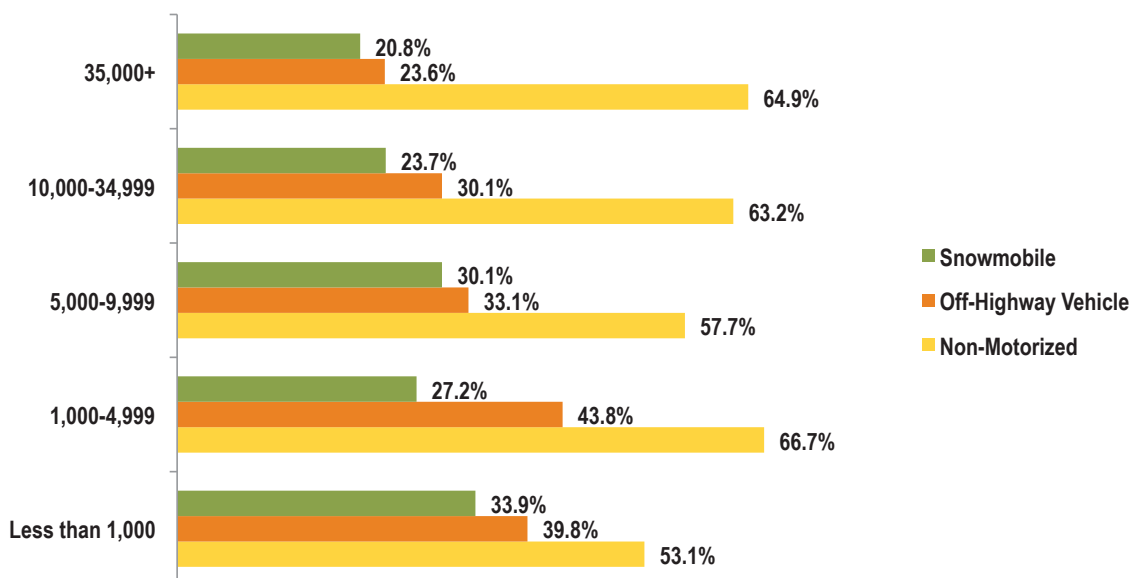
## Trail Usage Interest by Education Level



## Trail Usage Interest by Household Income Level



## Trail Usage Interest by Community Population



Comparing North Dakota households' interest in using different types of trails with their rating of the number and condition of such trails (excellent/very good versus fair/poor) provides a strength-weakness grid. The quality/quantity percentage in the chart shows the difference between the percentage of households that rated a type of trail excellent or very good versus fair or poor.

Modern and semi-modern trails, as well as unpaved multi-use trails, hiking trails and paddling trails for canoeing/kayaking, are primary weaknesses throughout the state. This means there is a high level of interest in these types of trails, but the overall number and condition is rated fair or poor. In contrast, paved multi-use trails are primary strengths, according to North Dakota households.

### Strength-Weakness Trail Grid

Trail Type	Interest Level	Quality/Quantity Rating	Strength/Weakness Category
<b>NON-MOTORIZED</b>			
Paved Multi-Use	48.8%	6.9%	Primary Strength
Exercise with Stations	24.7%	-53.9%	Secondary Weakness
Unpaved Multi-Use	41.8%	-21.5%	Primary Weakness
Unpaved Hiking	42.2%	-30.5%	Primary Weakness
Unpaved Mountain Biking	26.7%	-11.3%	Secondary Weakness
Horseback Riding	22.8%	-37.4%	Secondary Weakness
Paddling for Canoeing/Kayaking	34.8%	-45.4%	Primary Weakness
Cross-Country Skiing/Snowshoeing	26.5%	-22.0%	Secondary Weakness
Fat-Tire Biking	19.7%	-39.0%	Secondary Weakness
<b>NON-MOTORIZED AMENITIES</b>			
Modern	49.6%	-27.8%	Primary Weakness
Semi-Modern	40.1%	-33.6%	Primary Weakness
Primitive	27.8%	-32.5%	Secondary Weakness
<b>MOTORIZED</b>			
Off-Highway Vehicle	32.9%	-48.4%	Secondary Weakness
Snowmobile	26.6%	-33.0%	Secondary Weakness





## PERSPECTIVES FROM PROVIDERS

A 2017 survey of North Dakota outdoor recreation providers was completed to assess perceived demand for various outdoor recreation facilities, inventory the quantity and condition of such facilities, and solicit input on future demand and needs.

Public providers reported on the demand for and condition of trails under their management. The types of trails for which the highest proportion of providers say demand exceeds supply include:

- Paved multi-use trails (31.2%).
- Unpaved multi-use trails (26.7%).
- Unpaved mountain biking trails (22.7%).
- Off-highway vehicle (ATV, dirt bike or side by side) trails (22.3%).

### Trail Demand Assessed by North Dakota Providers

Trails	Demand Greatly Exceeds Supply	Demand Slightly Exceeds Supply	Overall Demand Exceeds Supply
<b>NON-MOTORIZED</b>			
Paved Multi-Use	10.4%	20.8%	31.2%
Exercise with Stations	5.9%	7.4%	13.3%
Unpaved Multi-Use	7.9%	18.8%	26.7%
Unpaved Hiking	6.4%	14.9%	21.3%
Unpaved Mountain Biking	5.9%	16.8%	22.7%
Horseback Riding	4.5%	5.4%	9.9%
Paddling for Canoes/Kayaks	4.5%	5.0%	9.5%
Cross-Country Skiing/Snowshoeing	6.4%	9.9%	16.3%
Fat-Tire Biking	4.0%	6.9%	10.9%
<b>NON-MOTORIZED AMENITIES</b>			
Primitive	4.0%	13.4%	17.4%
Semi-Modern	5.4%	11.4%	16.8%
Modern	5.4%	10.4%	15.8%
<b>MOTORIZED</b>			
Off-Highway Vehicle	12.4%	9.9%	22.3%
Snowmobile	5.0%	8.9%	13.9%

Providers with the following types of trails report they are in poor condition:

- Unpaved multi-use trails (16%).
- Exercise trails with exercise machines or equipment at stations (11%).



## Trail Condition Assessed by North Dakota Providers

Trails	Good Condition	Adequate Condition	Poor Condition
<b>NON-MOTORIZED</b>			
Paved Multi-Use	44.6%	51.3%	4.1%
Exercise with Stations	77.8%	11.1%	11.1%
Unpaved Multi-Use	38.7%	45.6%	15.7%
Unpaved Hiking Only	54.0%	43.0%	3.0%
Unpaved Mountain Biking Only	65.1%	31.2%	3.7%
Horseback Riding	55.0%	45.0%	0.0%
Paddling for Canoes/Kayaks	58.3%	40.8%	0.9%
Cross-Country Skiing/ Snowshoeing	22.0%	78.0%	0.0%
Fat-Tire Biking	55.7%	44.3%	0.0%
<b>NON-MOTORIZED AMENITIES</b>			
Primitive	17.8%	81.4%	0.8%
Semi-Modern	29.2%	69.7%	1.1%
Modern	55.9%	43.3%	0.8%
<b>MOTORIZED</b>			
Off-Highway Vehicle	50%	50%	0.0%
Snowmobile	0.3%	99.7%	0.0%



# Priorities

## Trails in North Dakota

Based on analysis of the demand for and supply of outdoor recreation facilities in North Dakota, facility needs are prioritized into three levels: primary, secondary and tertiary. Non-motorized trails are a primary need statewide and in each of the eight planning regions. Motorized trails are a tertiary need statewide and in Regions 4, 6, 7 and 8, as well as a secondary need in Region 3.

### STATEWIDE TRAIL PRIORITIES

#### Primary Need: Non-Motorized Trails

Sixty-one percent of North Dakota households are interested in using trails for walking, running, bicycling or horseback riding. Household also expressed interest in using modern trails (50%), paved multi-use trails (49%), unpaved hiking trails (42%), unpaved multi-use trails (42%) and semi-modern trails (40%). Semi-modern trails, hiking trails, modern and unpaved multi-use trails are primary weaknesses statewide. The following percentage of providers report demand exceeds supply: 31% for paved multi-use trails, 27% for unpaved multi-use trails, 23% for mountain biking trails and 21% for hiking trails.

#### Tertiary Need: Motorized Trails

Twenty-two percent of providers statewide report demand exceeds supply for off-highway vehicle (ATV, dirt bike or side by side) trails.

### REGION 1 TRAIL PRIORITIES

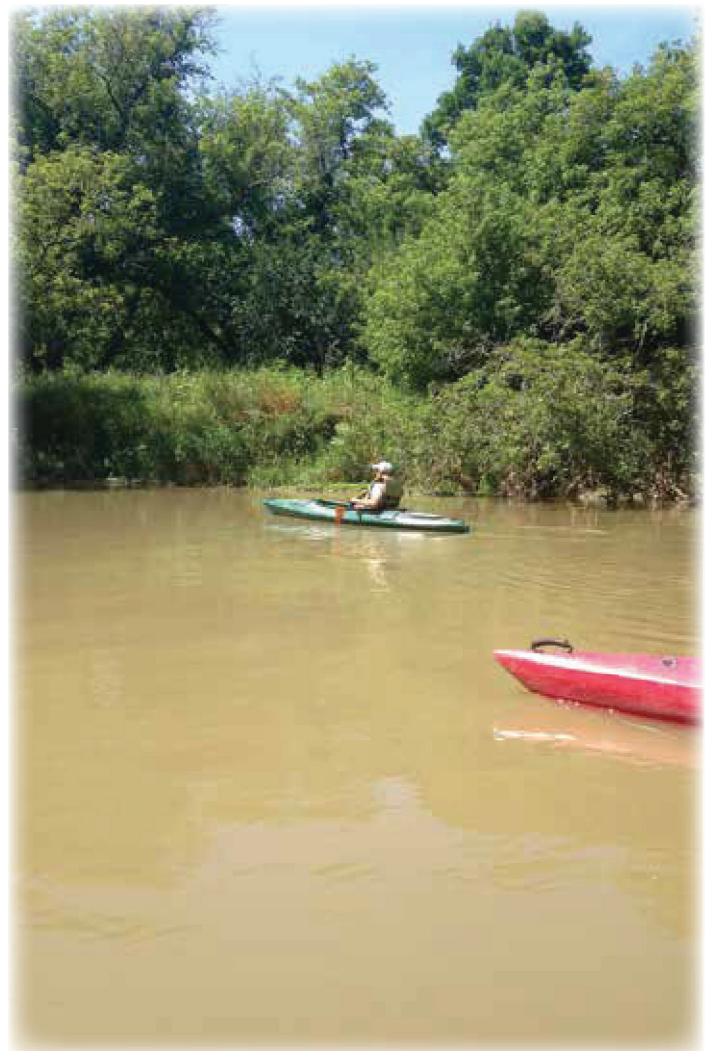
#### Primary Need: Non-Motorized Trails

Using trails for walking, running, bicycling or horseback riding is of interest to 55% of North Dakota households in Region 1, with 47% interested in modern trails. Modern trails, semi-modern trails and unpaved multi-use trails are primary weaknesses for the region. Twenty-nine percent of providers report demand exceeds supply for paved multi-use trails and exercise trails, while 22% say the same for hiking trails.

### REGION 2 TRAIL PRIORITIES

#### Primary Need: Non-Motorized Trails

Fifty-eight percent of North Dakota households in Region 2 are interested in using trails for walking, running, bicycling or horseback riding, with 48% interested in modern trails and 42% in semi-modern. Forty-seven percent are interested in paved multi-use trails compared to 42% in hiking. Primary weaknesses include semi-modern trails, unpaved multi-use trails, modern trails and hiking trails. Twenty-four percent of providers report demand exceeds supply for hiking trails.





## REGION 3 TRAIL PRIORITIES

### **Primary Need: Non-Motorized Trails**

Sixty-one percent of Region 3 households are interested in using designated trails for walking, running, bicycling or horse riding. Fifty-one percent are interested in using modern trails, while 44% are interested in using semi-modern trails. Forty-seven percent of households are interested in using paved multi-use trails and 39% in unpaved multi-use trails. Hiking trails are of interest to 41 percent of households. Semi-modern, modern trails, hiking trails, paved multi-use trails and unpaved multi-use trails are primary weaknesses. Providers report demand exceeds supply in the following areas: paved multi-use trails (38%), hiking trails (38%), unpaved multi-use trails (29%) and semi-modern trails (24%). Providers report 40% of paved multi-use trails in the region are in poor condition.

### **Secondary Need: Motorized Trails**

Using designated trails for riding off-highway vehicles (ATVs, dirt bikes or side by sides) is of interest to 43% of households in the region. OHV trails are primary weaknesses. Thirty-eight percent of providers report demand exceeds supply for OHV trails.

## REGION 4 TRAIL PRIORITIES

### **Primary Need: Non-Motorized Trails**

Trails for walking, running, bicycling or horseback riding are of interest to 62% of Region 4 households, with 50% interested in modern trails and 41% in semi-modern trails. Forty-eight percent are interested in hiking trails and paved multi-use trails, while 46% are interested in unpaved multi-use trails. Primary weaknesses are hiking trails and semi-modern trails. According to providers, demand exceeds supply for unpaved multi-use trails (36%), paved multi-use trails (32%), mountain biking trails (28%), hiking trails (24%), semi-modern trails (20%) and modern trails (20%).

### **Tertiary Need: Motorized Trails**

Twenty-eight percent of the region's providers report demand exceeds supply for off-highway vehicle (ATV, dirt bike or side by side) trails. OHV trails are primary weaknesses.



## REGION 5 TRAIL PRIORITIES

### Primary Need: Non-Motorized Trails

Trails for walking, running, bicycling or horseback riding are of interest to 61% of Region 5 households with 51% interested in modern trails. Fifty-one percent are interested in using paved multi-use trails while 44% are interested in unpaved multi-use trails. Hiking trails, semi-modern trails, modern trails and unpaved multi-use trails are primary weaknesses. Providers note demand exceeds supply for paved multi-use trails (25%), unpaved multi-use trails (25%) and exercise trails (22%).

## REGION 6 TRAIL PRIORITIES

### Primary Need: Non-Motorized Trails

Fifty-four percent of North Dakota households in Region 6 are interested in using designated trails for walking, running, bicycling or horseback riding, while 45% are interested in using modern trails and paved multi-use trails. Primary weaknesses are semi-modern trails, modern trails, hiking trails, unpaved multi-use trails and paved multi-use trails. Paved multi-use trails (33%) and mountain biking trails (26%) are facilities where providers say demand exceeds supply. Providers report 23% of paved multi-use trails in the region are in poor condition.



### Tertiary Need: Motorized Trails

Off-highway vehicle (ATV, dirt bike or side by side) trails are primary weaknesses in the region.

## REGION 7 TRAIL PRIORITIES

### Primary Need: Non-Motorized Trails

Trails for walking, running, bicycling or horseback riding are of interest to 66% of Region 7 households. Fifty-four percent are interested in using paved multi-use trails, 53% in modern trails, 47% in hiking trails, 46% in unpaved multi-use trails and 46% in semi-modern trails. Hiking trails and semi-modern trails are primary weaknesses. Providers listed paved multi-use trails (33%), unpaved multi-use trails (31%) and mountain biking trails (24%) as facilities where demand exceeds supply. According to providers, all exercise trails in the region are in poor condition, as are 29% of mountain biking trails.

### Tertiary Need: Motorized Trails

Demand exceeds supply for off-highway vehicle (ATV/dirt bike/side by side) trails and snowmobile trails, according to 21% of Region 7 providers.

## REGION 8 TRAIL PRIORITIES

### Primary Need: Non-Motorized Trails

Fifty-six percent of North Dakota households in the region are interested in using designated trails for walking, running, bicycling or horseback riding with 44% interested in modern trails. Hiking trails, modern trails, unpaved multi-use trails, semi-modern trails and paved multi-use trails are primary weaknesses. According to providers, demand exceeds supply for the following facilities: paved multi-use trails (42%), unpaved multi-use trails (36%), primitive trails (36%), modern trails (36%), hiking trails (33%), mountain biking trails (33%), exercise trails (26%) and semi-modern trails (31%). According to providers, 33% of hiking trails in the region are in poor condition.

### Tertiary Need: Motorized Trails

Off-highway vehicle (ATV, dirt bike or side by side) trails are primary weaknesses. Thirty-eight percent of providers report demand exceeds supply for OHV trails and 27% say the same for snowmobile trails.

# Survey Data

In January 2017, the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department (NDPRD) contracted with Clearwater Communications, Bismarck, to perform survey and planning services to develop the *2018-2022 North Dakota State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)*, along with two companion publications, *Recreational Trail Needs* and *Wetlands Priorities*.

Clearwater Communications subcontracted with Winkelman Consulting to complete the research portion of the project, which included surveys of North Dakota households and outdoor recreation providers to determine demand for and supply of outdoor recreation facilities in the state. For the household survey, 800 North Dakotans

over the age of 18 were surveyed by telephone in March 2017, resulting in a 95% confidence level with a maximum margin of error of  $\pm 3.5\%$ .

For the provider survey, 68% of North Dakota's 314 outdoor recreation providers (214) completed the mail survey in February and March 2017, resulting in a 95% confidence level with a maximum margin of error of  $\pm 4.0\%$ .

*Recreational Trail Needs* summarizes the research on the demand for and supply of non-motorized and motorized trails in North Dakota.



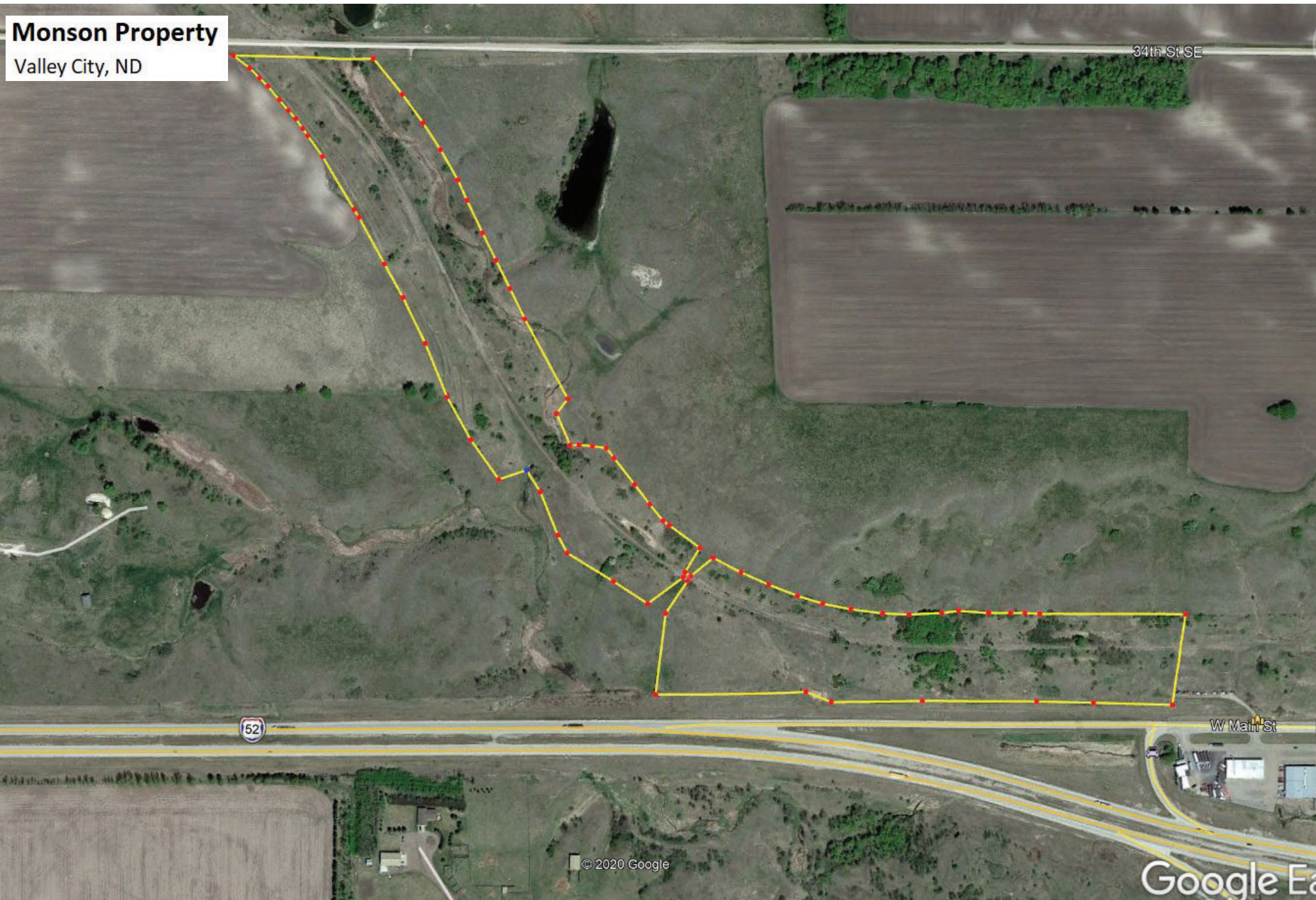




**North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department**  
**1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 3**  
**Bismarck, ND 58503-0649**  
**701-328-5357**  
**[www.parkrec.nd.gov](http://www.parkrec.nd.gov)**



**Monson Property**  
Valley City, ND



34th St SE

52

W Main St

© 2020 Google

Google Earth



# NON-MOTORIZED MONSON TRAIL

## Legend

 PATH (DISTANCE 1.4 MILES)





# Monson Property

Urban Conservation in Valley City, ND

## A Community Prairie

### THE SITE

The Monson Property is located in Valley City, North Dakota and encompasses 42 acres of remnant grasslands interspersed with bur oak and chokecherry trees. As a site enrolled in the Private Lands Open To Sportsmen (PLOTS) program, the property welcomes community members to explore the prairie wildflowers and count the numerous grassland songbirds and gamebirds that call it home. Due to the land's soil and topography, the Monson Property has remained uncultivated, aligning with the landowner's goal of retaining the property as wildlife habitat.



### Grassland Ecological Services:

Water Infiltration and Retention

Improved Water Quality

Soil Stability

Soil Health

Carbon Sequestration

Wildlife Habitat



### THE CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANCE

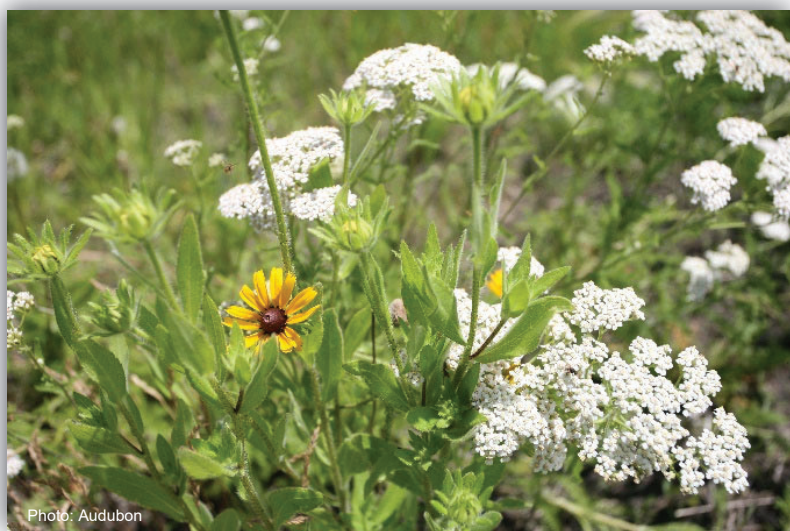
As row crop agriculture continues to expand throughout the Dakotas due to rising crop prices, growing demand, and technological advances, the conservation of remaining native habitat is critical. Remnant grasslands such as the Monson Property provide migratory and breeding habitat, in addition to essential ecological services that benefit local communities.

With limited natural spaces for community members to hike, bird watch, and relax in nature the Monson Property is a unique feature to the city. This property is nestled between agricultural fields and the interstate, creating a natural oasis for wildlife and people alike. Having the property open to the public offers local schools and colleges the opportunity to utilize the acres for environmental education while instilling strong conservation ethic into the next generation.

## THE FUTURE

To ensure that the Monson Property continues to be an important natural feature for community members, the site is proposed as the first Urban Woods and Prairies (UWP) Initiative nature park in Valley City, ND. Through the UWP Initiative, the habitat will receive enhancements to increase bird and wildlife populations desirable to resident and touring outdoor enthusiasts, as well as natural science programs.

As part of Audubon Dakota's UWP Initiative, the Monson Property's unique native habitat will be protected for years to come.



The Urban Woods and Prairies (UWP) Initiative is a partnership between Audubon Dakota and multiple local landowning entities aimed at restoring and enhancing riparian grassland, wetland, and woodland habitats. Audubon Dakota and partners target sites that have the potential to become high quality habitat for birds and places of exploration for people.

OUR GOAL: Impact over 6,000 urban acres through the UWP Initiative, and have a UWP Nature Park within walking distance of 70% of the North Dakota population.

## THE PROJECT

Using the methods proven successful at UWP sites across North Dakota, the Monson Property will undergo a series of practices over a three year establishment period. During the first year fencing will be installed and the site will be grazed to reduce old understory plant growth and invasive species control will be conducted using flea beetle dispersal and buckthorn removal.

During years two and three the site will be enhanced using grassland management practices such as supplemental seedings, prescribed fire, and invasive species removal.

## THE COMMITMENT

Enrolling the Monson Property as a UWP site will be achieved through strategic cash and in-kind commitments.

Mr. Monson's cash and in-kind contributions include a gift of the site to Barnes County Parks along with installation of fencing and invasive species control measures, such as utilizing leafy spurge beetle as biological control.

Audubon Dakota will invest necessary funds, secured through grants and private contributions, and in-kind project management for plant restoration work and site management during the establishment period.

Barnes County Parks' in-kind contributions will include site preparation and post-establishment period maintenance.



## Monson Park and Trail – Valley City, ND

### Project Pictures



Current fencing



Railroad bed



Monson Orchard



Pollinator Plot



Overview of rough landscape



Trail on railbed





Existing trail on railbed



Birdhouse



Railbed slump



Double barricade example



## Monson Orchard Trees & Shrubs

Plant Name	Fruiting date	Pollinating	Planting Date	# of Labels
Haralred Apple	Early October	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Cortland Apple	Late September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Connell Red Apple	October	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Dakota Gold Apple	Late August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Mandan Apple	Early September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Redwell Apple	Late September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Cortland Apple	Late September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Wedge Apple	Late September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Honeycrisp Apple	Late September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Red Prairie Spy Apple	Late September	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Woodarz Apple	Early October	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Kindercrisp Apple	Late August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Summer Crisp Pear	Mid August	Pollinator Suggested	Summer 2020	2
Ure Pear	Mid August	Pollinator Suggested	Summer 2020	2
Centennial Crabapple	Mid to Late August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Chestnut Crabapple	Late August	Pollinator Suggested	Summer 2020	2
Meteor Cherry	Early July	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	2
Sweet Cherry Pie Cherry	Late July	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	2
Evans Bali Cherry	Mid July	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	2
Toka Plum	Mid-August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Sapalta Cherry Plum	Late July	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Pembina Plum	Late August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Mount Royal Plum	Late August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Superior Plum	Late August	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Compass Cherry Plum	Late July	Pollinator Required	Summer 2020	2
Trader Mulberry	July to September	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	2
Northline Juneberry	Late June to Early July	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	3
Smokey Juneberry	Late June to Early July	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	3
Polana Raspberry	Early August	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	6
Sandcherry	July	Self-Fruitful	Summer 2020	6
Manchurian Apricot	July	Pollinator Suggested	Summer 2020	2
Red Oak				1
Wild Chokecherry	August	Self-Fruitful		1
Wild Plum	August	Pollinator Rquired		1
				75



**VALLEY CITY**  
**STATE UNIVERSITY**

April 23, 2021

Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board  
State Capitol, 14th Floor - 600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of funding for the Monson Park project as requested by the Barnes County Park Board. I am a past member of the Board and was in on some of the preliminary planning. It would benefit the general public as well as school systems using it for educational purposes.

As Director of Prairie Waters Education and Research Center I see the benefit of natural areas such as this for the purpose of providing of environmental education and research opportunities for students, teachers, and professionals in North Dakota. This would be an excellent area to encourage students to learn about habitat and wildlife. Learning about habitat by experiencing it makes an impression on person. It may resonate enough to make proponents of safeguarding our environment. Please consider funding the Barnes County Park Board request for developing Monson Park.

Sincerely,

**Andre DeLorme, Ph.D.**  
Science Department Chair  
Director of Prairie Waters Education and Research Center  
Valley City State University  
101 SW College St.  
Valley City, ND 58072





# *Valley City Public Schools*

460 Central Ave N Valley City ND 58072

Phone 701.845.0483

[www.hiliners.org](http://www.hiliners.org)

April 27, 2021

Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board  
State Capitol, 14th Floor - 600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

To Whom It May Concern,

We are pleased to submit this letter of support for the application that will be submitted by the Barnes County Park Board. We are honored to partner with the park board and other committees for this project and believe that a successful application will provide many exciting and lifelong learning opportunities for our students at Valley City Public Schools. Our educators believe that learning can be accomplished in many unique and creative ways in and out of the classroom and this project would provide the full range of learning opportunities for our students. Below, we have detailed a few examples of how the Monson Park Project may add to the educational learning of our students at Valley City Public Schools;

- Providing hands-on learning experiences for students with the opportunity to study numerous plant species and the birds that will be inhabiting the Monson Park.
- Connecting the curriculum in the textbook with the real-world experience provided with Monson Park.

We are committed to the partnership of this project and once again believe that an Monson Park Project would provide our students with many learning experiences. If there is anything additionally that we may provide in support of this project, we would be happy to share that with you. Thank you for your review of this application and understanding the important educational implications of connecting the experiences of an Monson Park Project with our students. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Johnson at (701) 845-0483 or [josh.johnson@k12.nd.us](mailto:josh.johnson@k12.nd.us).

Sincerely,

Josh Johnson  
Superintendent  
Valley City Public Schools



## ON THE MOVE

City County Health District, Managing Partner  
415 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE  
Valley City, ND 58072  
701-845-8518

[Sharon.e.buhr@gmail.com](mailto:Sharon.e.buhr@gmail.com)  
[www.barnesonthemove.org](http://www.barnesonthemove.org)

April 26, 2021

Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board  
State Capitol  
14th Floor - 600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

To Whom It May Concern:

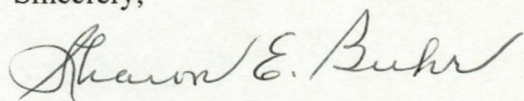
ON THE MOVE fully supports the Monson Project by the Barnes County Park Board, as does the City County Health District, and recommends you provide full funding for this project.

ON THE MOVE is an active Barnes County Partnership with 18 nonprofit and governmental members from our county with the county public health unit (City County Health District) as the managing partner. ON THE MOVE was established over 20 years ago with the vision of healthier children, teens and adults in Barnes County, and whose mission is to reduce the risk of chronic disease in our population (reducing the risk of diabetes, obesity, heart disease, cancer, etc).

We support the effort of the Barnes County Park board to develop a County Park on the west side of Valley City that can be used for the enjoyment of the general public. Trail access to the park includes a 1.4 mile non-motorized grass/natural maintained trail connected to a 1.4 mile shared use path on the west end of Valley City. When the Monson segment is complete, it provides a 2.8 mile path connected to downtown Valley City. ON THE MOVE will share information on this new trail and park with its partners and the community, via the media including social media (our Facebook page) to encourage folks to hike to the new park. This is a project that will encourage more people to hike and enjoy nature. It's close proximity to town makes it easily available to the public and for class outings from nearby schools.

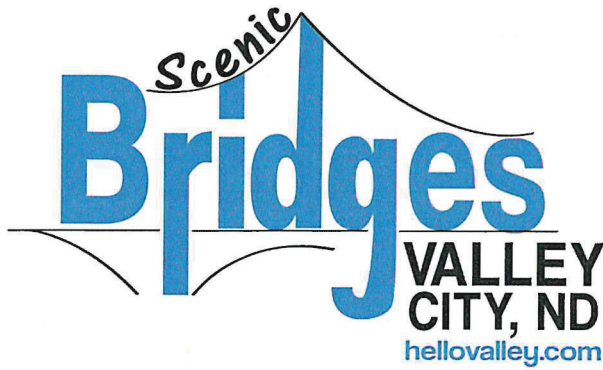
We at ON THE MOVE are excited about the Monson Park and its exercise opportunities for our citizens. Please consider funding the Barnes County Park Board's request for developing Monson Park. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Sharon E. Buhr  
ON THE MOVE Partnership Chair  
City County Health District Board Chair





**Convention & Visitors Bureau**  
**250 Main St W – P.O. Box 724**  
**Valley City, ND 58072-0724**  
**(701) 845-1891**  
**[www.hellovalley.com](http://www.hellovalley.com)**

Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board  
State Capitol, 14th Floor - 600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Barnes County Park Board's effort to create the first Urban Woods and Prairies nature park just outside of Valley City. This park would be an educational experience for residents and visitors to the area.

The Valley City Convention & Visitors Bureau's mission is to bring visitors to the Valley City area and to encourage them to stay with us. Creating a new outdoor experience gives us one more amenity to promote along with the Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway and North Country Scenic Trail. Nature travelers look for this type of area and are good stewards of the environment.

Please consider facilitating the creation of Monson Park. It has great potential to enhance the economy of the area by giving another opportunity for birders and hikers to enjoy the Sheyenne River Valley.

Sincerely,

Mary Lee Nielson, Marketing Coordinator  
Valley City Convention & Visitors Bureau/Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway  
250 Main St. W.  
Valley City, ND 58072  
[www.hellovalley.com](http://www.hellovalley.com)





April 26, 2021

Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board  
ND State Capitol  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Dear Advisory Board Members:

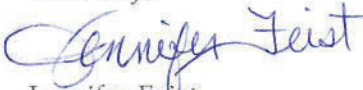
The Valley City-Barnes County Development Corporation respectfully requests your support of the Monson Park & Trail Project and the grant application submitted by the Barnes County Park Board. The park includes an orchard and pollinator plot along with a pedestrian trail located on the railbed, which would also be available to nonmotorized vehicles.

The grant would be used to develop the park on the west side of Valley City and would connect the City's outskirts to the downtown area through a 2.8-mile path. Over the last few years, 72 fruiting trees and shrubs, and 150 red oak trees were planted. The Monson Park & Trail Project would provide educational and recreational opportunities for people of all ages.

This project would enhance amenities in the Sheyenne River Valley, which are important to economic development efforts to entice workers to our area and retain them. Tourists would have another great reason to stay longer and area residents could experience enriched quality of life.

Please consider and approve the grant request from the Barnes County Park Board to support development of the Monson Park & Trail Project. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Jennifer Feist  
Director of Development

## **EASEMENT AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

AGREEMENT made this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021 between the following described parties:

1. Grantor or Grantors, as referred to in this Easement include:

City of Valley City  
254 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE  
P.O. Box 390  
Valley City, North Dakota 58072

2. Barnes County Park Board with a mailing address of 230 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Valley City, North Dakota 58072; as Grantee.

WHEREAS, Grantees intend to establish an enhancement of a non-motorized non-improved trail which runs on, over, along and through the Subject Properties that is owned by Grantors, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to have easements over small tracts of real estate (on former railroad bed) for purposes of setting up a hiking/trail system for the public, and

WHEREAS, the parties understand that the easement given will exist on a small portion of land as described by the parties and will revert back unto the Grantors if this easement is not used for the purpose intended. The easement granted herein is granted for the benefit of the public to use the Subject Property described below for educational and enjoyment purposes with respect to walking, hiking, biking, snow shoeing, and cross country skiing. Motorized vehicles or horseback riding are not allowed.

1. NOW, THEREFORE, the said Grantor(s) hereby grants, bargains, sells and conveys unto the Grantees, subject to the limitations and conditions hereafter provided, the right and easement hereafter described: Grant of easement: The right for the public to use the Subject Property (two parcels) described below, for the purpose intended as set out above, said Subject Property being described as follows:

## City of Valley City Segment

A strip of land Forty (40 to 100) feet wide from the former railroad track centerline (northern edge of the property) located across the north edge of the property located in in NW ¼ Section 29, Township 140 North, Range 58 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Parcel #63-3440047 - Lot 1 Blk 2 NP West 5th Add (1.97 Acres) Parcel #63-3450012 - Lot 2 Blk 1 NP West 6th Add (1.79 Acres) and Parcel #63-3450030 - Lot 4 Blk 1 NP West 6th Add (6.17 Acres) more or less for a trail, ten feet (10') wide, located on the property identified above, over and across, as constructed, maintained and identified with trail markers.

2. The parties agree that Grantee shall be responsible for clearing, building, signing and maintaining the shared use non-motorized trail on the easement for education and enjoyment of the public's use.
3. A temporary construction easement shall be provided during construction of the trail. Grantors consent to the Grantee's incidental entrance to the Grantors' land adjacent to the trail as is required to gain access to the trail for construction during the time of such project.
4. Grantor hereby grants a permanent easement right of ingress and egress to and from the Property and Easement Area during all periods of maintenance, repair and removal of the trail. Grantor hereby grants and conveys to Grantees the right to clear and keep cleared all structures, trees, shrubbery, or other object or obstruction in the Easement Area that in Grantee's opinion interferes with trail maintenance or removal.
5. This grant of easement shall run with the land and shall be binding on all and shall inure to the benefit of the parties to this easement, their respective heirs, successors or assigns.
6. Consideration: For good and valuable consideration, the receipt of \$1.00 which is hereby acknowledged, Grantor hereby grants and conveys to Grantee the permanent easements and rights as provided herein.
7. Liability: The parties to this easement understand and agree that the liability limitations of North Dakota Century Code Chapter 52-08 apply to Grantor. Grantor makes no assurance that the premises are safe or appropriate for any purpose. While the public may be invited onto the property for a public recreational use, the recreational users do not obtain the legal status of an invitee or licensee to whom a duty of care is owed by Grantor. Any member of the public allowed to access the Subject Property for recreational use is assuming the risk of the use of the property and Grantor is not responsible for any injury to persons or property on the property. Grantor owes no duty of care to keep the land



safe for entry or use by the public, nor does Grantor have an obligation to warn of hazardous conditions, uses or structures on the property.

8. Term: The term of this easement shall be deemed perpetual, or as long as allowed by North Dakota law. Should neither the public nor the County of Barnes use the described shared use trail easement for a period of thirty-six months, this easement shall revert back unto Grantor and shall be void. In order for this to occur, Grantor must notify Grantee in writing and record any necessary document with the Register of Deeds to terminate the easement for non-use.
9. That the parties agree that all of the improvements and appurtenances put onto the easement by the Grantee or its agents or assigns, shall remain the property of the Grantee, and should the easement at any time end, the Grantee shall have the right to enter and take its property back.
10. Insurance, Taxes and Maintenance. Grantee will not be responsible for maintaining liability insurance coverage, real estate taxes, special assessments or maintenance with regard to the easement property or the adjacent property owned by Grantor.
11. Signage: Grantee agrees to install and maintain applicable signage as mutually approved by Grantor and Grantee with respect to distance of the trail, private land ownership, maintenance (pack it in pack it out that may be applicable) and all animals on the trail shall be leashed.
12. Inconsistent Grants. Grantor shall not hereafter grant to any other party any rights or interests in and to the Easement Area for a use inconsistent, nor shall Grantor do anything that would materially interfere with the easement rights herein granted.
13. Whole Agreement. This document constitutes the complete and entire understanding of the parties concerning the easements pertaining to the North Country Trail and supersedes all representations or statements, verbal or written, among the parties.
14. Modification. No change or modification of this easement shall be valid unless the same be in writing and signed by all of the parties.
15. Drafting of Agreement. This easement shall not be construed or interpreted for or against any party hereto because that party drafted or caused the party's legal representative to draft any of its provisions.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

David Carlsrud, Mayor, Grantor

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

)ss:

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

Subscribed and sworn to on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021,  
before me personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_, to me known to be the persons  
described in, and that executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to  
me that they executed the same.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, Notary Public

County and State \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

(SEAL)

My Comm. Exp.: \_\_\_\_\_

The Barnes County Park Board met in regular session on Thursday, April 9, 2020. The following were present via conference call: Bobby Koeplin, Dallas Dockter, Andre DeLorme, Scott Tichy and Bill Carlblom. Vicky Lovell and Shawn Olauson were unable to attend.

Park Board Chairman Bobby Koeplin called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m., the agenda was reviewed.

Bill Carlblom moved to approve the December 12, 2019 minutes; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Carlblom moved to approve the 2020 year-to-date financials, as presented; Andre DeLorme seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS/UPDATES:

- Clausen Springs Erosion Control – Strata contracted, but waiting on 404 Permit from Corps of Engineers
- Reimbursement received from ND Game & Fish
- Ordered water crossing signs
- Ordered 5 replacement fire rings

NEW BUSINESS:

- Park Status & Plan: Park status – Official opening of the parks is on hold until further notice, due to the COVID-19 crisis response, with opening probably delayed until June. In the meantime, Bobby will have Scott Kohler working as needed, doing what is feasible, prudent, and necessary.
- Monson Property: Dick and Karen Monson would like to donate roughly 40 acres of former railroad right-of-way for a walking/hiking trail. Bill Carlblom moved to authorize Bobby Koeplin to pursue this further; Scott Tichy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PENDING:

- 2021 Budget
- Manager Comprehensive spreadsheet files
- Update maps, brochures and web site
- Final quotes 8' X 10' office building
- Large Shelter Repair Little Yellowstone
- Final quote to replace a 14' X 22' shelter at lake
- Remove shelter by playground area

Bill Carlblom moved to adjourn; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

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Beth M Didier  
Barnes County Auditor

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Bobby Koeplin, Chairman  
Barnes County Park Board

The Barnes County Park Board met in regular session on Thursday, May 14, 2020. The following were present: Bobby Koepplin, Dallas Dockter, Andre DeLorme, Scott Tichy, Vicky Lovell and Bill Carlbom. Shawn Olauson was unable to attend.

Park Board Chairman Bobby Koepplin called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m., the agenda was reviewed. Scott Tichy moved to approve the agenda; Bill Carlbom seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dallas Dockter moved to approve the April 8, 2020 minutes; Bill Carlbom seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Carlbom moved to approve the 2020 year-to-date financials; Scott Tichy seconded the motion. Motion carried. Bill Carlbom moved to approve the 2021 budget; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### REPORTS/UPDATES:

Part-time employee  
Clausen Springs dam work  
Kathryn Dam project  
County Road 21 projects/signage  
Times-Record articles about the parks  
Clausen Springs Road failure  
COVID – 19 update  
Signage/website  
Driveway water signs  
Acquired 6 barricades – County Highway Dept.  
Ordered registration envelope stock  
Updated maps, working on brochures and web site  
Tires needed on the side-by-side

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Monson Property – Scott Tichy moved to approve sponsorship for a ND Dept of Ag grant for Orchard Planting on Monson Railroad Right of Way and School Project, with no match funds required; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Andre DeLorme moved to approve serving as local unit of Gov't in collaboration with the SRV Chapter North Country Trail to apply for Recreational Trails Grant for mowing equipment, trailer and supplies, with twenty percent matching funds and grant application provided by SRV; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COVID – 19: June 1<sup>st</sup> will be the advertised opening date. Reservation System – there will be no reservations for shelters. During the COVID-19 precautions, will sanitize restrooms once a day.

#### PENDING:

Comprehensive spreadsheet files - Scott  
Final quotes 8' X 10' office building  
Large Shelter Repair Little Yellowstone  
Final quote to replace a 14' X 22' shelter at lake  
Remove shelter by playground area

Bill Carlbom moved to adjourn; Scott Tichy seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 a.m.

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Beth M Didier  
Barnes County Auditor

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Bobby Koepplin, Chairman  
Barnes County Park Board



The Barnes County Park Board met in regular session on Thursday, August 13, 2020. The following were present: Bobby Koeplin, Dallas Dockter, Andre DeLorme, Shawn Olauson and Bill Carlblom. Scott Tichy and Vicky Lovell were unable to attend.

Park Board Chairman Bobby Koeplin called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m., the agenda was reviewed. Bill Carlblom moved to approve the agenda; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Carlblom moved to approve the May 14, 2020 minutes; Andre DeLorme seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Shawn Olauson moved to approve the 2020 year-to-date financials; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS/UPDATES included: Rover Pass, which is now automated on 20 sites; COVID-19 processes; Signage/website; Trees & Tables; Community Service worker putting in 100 hours; Driveway water signs; Updated maps, brochures and web site; Monson Property Update & Orchard planting; and Approved grant from RTP (Recreational Trails Program) for North Country Trail.

NEW BUSINESS: COVID-19 Shower House schedule; Pay request from Vidette; and Concrete, privy & office building pads. Bill Carlblom moved to approve removal of wooden vault restroom in Clausen Loop, subject to approval from North Dakota Game & Fish; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OTHER: Moving forward with placing concrete sidewalk at concrete privy and office building foundation/pad at Clausen Springs. Finalizing details for order and delivery of office building that were approved in the 2020 budget.

PENDING: Comprehensive spreadsheet files; Office building; Large Shelter Repair Little Yellowstone; Replace cedar fence Little Yellowstone; Quote to replace a 14' X 22' shelter at lake; Remove shelter by playground area

Dallas Dockter moved to adjourn; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:34 a.m.

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Beth M Didier  
Barnes County Auditor

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Bobby Koeplin, Chairman  
Barnes County Park Board

The Barnes County Park Board met in regular session on Thursday, December 10, 2020. The following were present: Bobby Koeplin, Dallas Dockter, Andre DeLorme, Scott Tichy, Vicky Lovell and Bill Carlblom. Pete Paulson was unable to attend.

Park Board Chairman Bobby Koeplin called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m., the agenda was reviewed. Bill Carlblom moved to approve the agenda; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Carlblom moved to approve the August 13, 2020 minutes; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Carlblom moved to approve the 2020 year-to-date financials; Scott Tichy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS/UPDATES included: Outhouses pumped; Water drained & lines blown out with help of the Highway Dept; Docks pulled; Replaced tires on pickup; Hand tools, power washer and air compressor stored at BC Weed Storage; BC Highway helped with tree debris in both Parks, rock disposal at Clausen Springs Park, ash pile disposal at Little Yellowstone, removed shelter at beach area, burn pit cleanup, and bury CS, telespar signpost replacement gateway sign at Clausen Springs; Underground service was replaced by Cass County Electric at Clausen Springs; Manager/Staff update -pickup has 231,984 miles, 5,430 miles in 2020, mowers 248.6 and 231 hours respectively (about 100 hours/year); Clausen Springs Erosion Control – Army Corps of Engineers 404 Permit approved. Strata contracted to install rock rip rap pending weather.

OLD BUSINESS: Wooden Privy in Clausen Springs shop loop removed with the help of the BD Highway Dept.

NEW BUSINESS: Andre Delorme is stepping down from the Park Board. His service to Park Board was greatly appreciated. Consider turning off campsite power October 31/end of season annually, consensus to leave on throughout year and monitor fall 2021. Monson Property Update and Approval. Bobby Koeplin will work with the State's Attorney to transfer Monson property to Barnes County Parks. Dallas Dockter moved to approve chip seal funding request at Clausen Springs, (estimated to cost between \$65,000 to \$75,000) to apply to NDDOT Special Road Funds and/or Tap grant with cost share request to ND Game & Fish; Scott Tichy seconded the motion. Motion carried. KLJ design engineering to get to bid estimated at \$6,000 Bobby Koeplin will work with KLJ in applying to NDDOT and ND Game & Fish. Approve 2021 Park Management Contract. Scott Tichy moved to approve the 2021 Park Management Contract; Dallas Dockter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OTHER:

PENDING: Reimbursement request from ND Game & Fish; Completion of office building in Spring 2021; Comprehensive Operating Procedures Manual for Opening, Operating & Closing Parks; Large Shelter repair in Little Yellowstone; Replace cedar fence in Little Yellowstone; Quote to relocate CS playground shelter to lakeside or replace; 2021 monitor wood privy use in loop at Little Yellowstone, consider demolition; Pending Grant Funds; Construct a shower house at Little Yellowstone.

Bill Carlblom moved to adjourn; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:44 a.m.

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Julie Mindt  
Barnes County Deputy Auditor

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Bobby Koeplin, Chairman  
Barnes County Park Board