

# Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant Application



## Instructions

After completing the form, applications and supporting documentation may be submitted by e-mail to [ndicgrants@nd.gov](mailto:ndicgrants@nd.gov). It is preferred that only electronic copies are submitted.

You are not limited to the spacing provided, except in those instances where there is a limit on the number of words. If you need additional space, please indicate that on the application form, answer the question on a separate page, and include with your submission.

The application and all attachments must be received by the application deadline. You may submit your application at any time prior to the application deadline. **Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit applications prior to the deadline for staff review in order ensure that proposals will be complete when submitted on deadline date.** Incomplete applications may not be considered for funding.

**Please review the back of this form to determine project eligibility, definitions, budget criteria, and statutory requirements.**

Project Name: Beach Dam Replacement Project

Name of Organization: City of Beach

Federal Tax ID#:

Contact Person/Title: Kimberley Gaugler

Address: PO Box 278

City: Beach

State: ND

Zip Code: 58621

E-mail Address: [cityofbeach@midstate.net](mailto:cityofbeach@midstate.net)

Web Site Address (If applicable): <https://www.beachnd.com/>

Phone: 701-872-4103

List names of co-applicants if this is a joint proposal: N/A

## MAJOR Directive:

Choose only one response

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

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

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

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

**Additional Directive:**

Choose all that apply

**Directive A.**

**Directive B.**

**Directive C.**

**Directive D.**

**Type of organization:**

State Agency

Political Subdivision

Tribal Entity

Tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation.

**Abstract/Executive Summary.**

Summarize the project, including its objectives, expected results, duration, total project costs and participants. (no more than 500 words)

The Beach Dam, located in the southwest corner of town, was originally built in 1932. It serves as a source of both flood protection and public recreation for the City of Beach. The adjacent pond, situated on city-owned property, is stocked annually by the North Dakota Game and Fish providing fishing opportunities for residents and visitors. In addition to fishing, the pond provides wetland aesthetics and opportunities for kayaking and canoeing.

The proposed project will remove and replace the existing dam structure and outlet works at the Beach City Pond. A 2020 inspection by the North Dakota Department of Water Resources (ND DWR) classified the dam as a high-hazard structure with potential for failure, posing a significant risk to public safety. The objective of this project is to improve the safety of this structure and reduce risk to the community, preserve the recreational use of the pond for fishing and kayaking, and improve the water quality and fishing habitat by dredging and increasing depth of the lake.

The project engineer estimates a total project cost of \$3,682,000 with construction beginning in the spring/summer of 2026 or 2027. The City is also planning to apply to the ND DWR for a 60 percent cost-share in this project; however, ND DWR policy dictates that we cannot apply until January 2026. As a result, there are no other funds awarded at this time.

Key participants include the City of Beach, which owns and manages the site; ND Game and Fish, which stocks the pond and supports recreational use; and ND DWR, which will provide technical oversight and potential cost-share funding. The City has also engaged AE2S, a professional engineering firm, to conduct a feasibility study and develop project plans.

**Project Duration:** Final design and permitting will be completed in Winter 2025/2026, bidding in late 2026 or early 2027, and construction in 2027 with completion anticipated for late 2027 or early 2028.

**Indicate the intended schedule for drawing down OHF funds.**

March 2026-December 2027

**Amount of Grant request: \$920,290**

**Total Project Costs: \$3,682,000**

Note: in-kind and indirect costs can be used for matching funds.

**Amount of Matching Funds: \$2,761,710**

**A minimum of 25% Match Funding is required.** Indicate if the matching funds will be in-kind, indirect or cash. Please provide verification that these matching funds are available for your project. Note that effective as of July 1, 2015 no State General Fund dollars can be used for a match unless funding was legislatively appropriated for that purpose.

Amount of Match	Funding Source	Type of Match (Cash, In-kind or Indirect)
\$2,209,200	ND DWR Cost-Share	Cash
\$552,510	City of Beach	Cash

**Certifications**

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

I certify that if awarded grant funding, none of the funding will be used for any of the exemptions noted in the back of this application.

## Narrative

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

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

The City of Beach, incorporated in 1909, is the county seat of Golden Valley County, North Dakota, located just 1.5 miles from the Montana border. With a population of 981—57% of the county’s total—the City serves as a hub for community life in the area.

The City is governed by a six-member city council and a mayor, who oversees essential services including public works, law enforcement, and community development. City staff work to maintain infrastructure, support local initiatives, and enhance quality of life for our residents.

Beach’s mission is to foster a vibrant, healthy community by investing in public infrastructure, fostering economic growth, and expanding recreational opportunities for our residents. The City is actively engaged in developing and maintaining outdoor spaces that encourage healthy lifestyles and community engagement. Recent efforts include the new Beach Farmers Market Pavilion at our Gazebo Park. Made possible through the dedication of countless volunteers, generous local donations, and a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant facilitated by the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, the pavilion is a true testament to teamwork and our residents who show up and volunteer in our community.

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

- Identify project goals, strategies and benefits and your timetable for implementation.
- Include information about the need for the project and whether there is urgency for funding.
- 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.

#### Purpose of Grant

The City of Beach seeks funding to replace the aging Beach Dam and dredge the adjacent lake to enhance outdoor recreation, improve public safety, and preserve access to a valued natural area. This project directly supports Directive A and Directive C by maintaining fish habitat and recreational access for sportsmen, and Directive D by conserving and improving a public recreation area.

#### Project Goals & Strategies:

- Replace the structurally compromised dam with a safe, modern design.
- Dredge the lake to reduce sediment, increase depth, and improve water quality.
- Preserve and enhance recreational access for fishing, kayaking, and wildlife viewing.
- Maintain the lake as a community asset for residents and visitors.

The City evaluated multiple alternatives and determined that dam replacement and lake restoration offer the most effective solution to meet safety and recreational needs. These improvements will support aquatic habitat and create a safer, more enjoyable environment for outdoor activities.

Benefits & Urgency:

The North Dakota Department of Water Resources (ND DWR) has classified the Beach Dam as a high-hazard structure requiring immediate action to correct critical deficiencies. While it is higher cost than simply removing the dam, the City wants to replace the structure and maintain this key recreational resource. This project preserves the reservoir and its benefits while addressing urgent safety concerns.

Timeline & Background:

Planning began in 2020 following receipt of the ND DWR inspection report. The City received a planning grant from the ND Department of Emergency Services and initially planned to apply for FEMA's BRIC program. However, that funding was unexpectedly cut in April 2025, creating a need for alternative support.

Innovative Features:

This project integrates infrastructure renewal with habitat conservation and recreation enhancement, offering a model for communities balancing safety, access, and stewardship.



Is this project part of a Comprehensive Conservation Plan?  Yes    x No

If yes, provide a copy with the application.

*Note: Projects involving buildings and infrastructure will only be considered if part of a Comprehensive Conservation Plan. Please refer to the "Definitions" section at the back of the form for more details.*

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

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

The City of Beach and their Public Works Director will work in conjunction with the project engineer to manage the project. The City has hired AE2S as the project engineer. AE2S' project manager Jesse Kist has more than a decade of engineering experience focused on water resources work throughout North Dakota and the upper Midwest. Jesse has worked on a wide array of water resources projects throughout that time, as part of both the private and public side, and has exceptional expertise in hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, regulatory agency coordination, and drainage infrastructure design.

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

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

AE2S will have an engineer on site throughout construction to conduct inspections and complete daily reports on work performed. There are multiple key milestones within the project schedule that the City will use to measure progress:

- Completion of final design plans and specifications;
- Permitting of project plans (NDDWR, FEMA, USACE, etc.);
- Publication of notice for, opening of contractor bids, and awarding of project;
- Beginning of project construction;
- Substantial completion of construction; and
- Final completion and project closeout.

Ultimately, success of this project is measured in removal of the hazard presented by the existing dam structure and improved recreation opportunities through enhanced fishing access, water recreation, and natural aesthetics.

## Financial Information

### Project Budget – Use the table below to provide an itemized list of project expenses and describe the matching funds being utilized for this project.

Indicate if the matching funds are in the form of cash, indirect costs or in-kind services. The budget should identify all other committed funding sources and the amount of funding from each source. **A minimum of 25% match funding is required.** An application will be scored higher the greater the amount of match funding provided. (See Scoring Form.)

Certain values have been identified for in-kind services as detailed under “Budget Information” at the back of this form. Refer to that section and utilize these values in identifying your matching funds.

**NOTE: No indirect costs will be funded. Supporting documentation for project expenses, including bids, must be included or application will be considered incomplete.**

Project Expense	OHF Request	Applicant's Match Share (Cash)	Applicant's Match Share (In-Kind)	Applicant's Match Share (Indirect)	Other Project Sponsor's Share	Total Each Project Expense
Construction	\$760,260	\$1,773,940	\$	\$	\$	\$2,534,200
Contingency	\$114,030	\$266,070	\$	\$	\$	\$380,100
Engineering Design / Bid	\$46,000	\$352,100	\$	\$	\$	\$398,100
Permitting	\$0	\$113,700	\$	\$	\$	\$113,700
Geotechnical Services	\$0	\$113,700	\$	\$	\$	\$113,700
Engineering Construction	\$0	\$142,200	\$	\$	\$	\$142,200
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$920,290</b>	<b>\$2,761,710</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$3,682,000</b>

Note: Costs for seeding, fencing, pipelines, wells, and cover crops cannot exceed NRCS Field Office Tech Guide without justification. Projects involving perimeter fencing must follow NRCS eligibility standards.

### Budget Narrative – Use the space below to provide additional detail regarding project expenses.

Engineering, geotechnical services, and permitting expenses are estimated to make up nearly 21 percent of the project budget. The expenses submitted to OHF are limited to 5 percent or \$46,000 and the balance will be funded through city matching funds.

### Sustainability – 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.

The City of Beach will perform long-term maintenance for the dam and recreation area. Maintenance will include routine vegetation upkeep, critter control, inspections of all outlet works and downstream conditions, and monitoring of sediment accumulation within the reservoir. The City will budget \$5,000 per year annually to cover the annual vegetation upkeep and develop a reserve to address the sediment accumulation as needed.

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

The City hopes to move forward with the dam replacement even if less OHF funding is available. We are aware of the recreational and quality of life benefits this dam brings to our community and are grateful for any outdoor support available to help our community. Depending on the final local match amount, the city will use either cash reserves or borrow from the Bank of North Dakota.

**Partnership Recognition - 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.***

The City of Beach is always grateful for external support and we try to recognize our state and federal partners where possible. In addition to the required signage, our City and chamber of commerce facebook pages are proactive in celebrating the city's projects and our partners. We will use these resources to provide status updates to our community and celebrate the new dam and improved recreation opportunities following the project's completion.

**Awarding of Grants - Review the appropriate sample contract for your organization on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm>.**

Can you meet all the provisions of the sample contract? X Yes No

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

## **ABOUT OHF:**

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

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

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

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

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

## **EXEMPTIONS**

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

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

OHF funds may not be used, except after a finding of exceptional circumstances by the Industrial Commission, to finance:

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

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

The goal of the Industrial Commission is that at a minimum 15% of the funding received for a biennium will be given priority for recreation projects that meet Directive D.

The following projects are not eligible for funding, unless there is a finding of exceptional circumstances by the Industrial Commission include:

- Construction or refurbishment of indoor/outdoor ice rinks,
- Construction or refurbishment of indoor/outdoor athletic courts and sports fields,
- Other substantially similar facilities.
- Infrastructure that is not part of a comprehensive conservation plan.
- Projects not meeting a minimum funding request of \$2,500.

## **Budget Information**

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

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

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

## **Definitions/Clarifications:**

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

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

New and Expanded Recreational Project means that the proposed building cannot be a replacement of a current building. The proposed building must also be related to either a new or expanded

recreational project--either an expansion in land or an expansion of an existing building or in the opportunities for recreation at the project site.

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

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

Maintenance – Activities that preserve or keep infrastructure in a given existing condition, including repairs. Repair means to restore to sound condition after damage, to renew or refresh; except repairs due to damage caused by Acts of God.

## Scoring of Grants

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

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

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

## Awarding of Grants

All decisions on requests will be reported to applicants no later than 30 days after Industrial Commission consideration. The Commission can set a limit on duration of an offer on each application or if there isn't a specific date indicated in the application for implementation of the project, then the applicant has until the next Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board regular meeting to sign the contract and get the project underway or the commitment for funding will be terminated and the applicant may resubmit for funding. Applicants whose proposals have been approved will receive a contract outlining the terms and conditions of the grant.

## Responsibility of Recipient

The recipient of any grant from the Industrial Commission must use the funds awarded for the specific purpose described in the grant application and in accordance with the contract. The

recipient cannot use any of the funds for the purposes stated under Exemptions on the first page of this application.

If you have any questions about the application, the Commission can be reached at 701-328-3722 or [ndicgrants@nd.gov](mailto:ndicgrants@nd.gov).

Revised: November 4, 2019, April 12, 2023