

**Instructions**

Please download this Word document (available on the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund Program website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm> ) to your computer and provide the information as requested. You are not limited to the spacing provided. After completing the report, save it and attach it to an e-mail and send it to [outdoorheritage@nd.gov](mailto:outdoorheritage@nd.gov) AND print it and mail it to: North Dakota Industrial Commission, ATTN: Outdoor Heritage Fund Program, State Capitol – Fourteenth Floor, 600 East Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405, Bismarck, ND 58505. If you are unable to scan attachments, mail them with your paper copy of the report. You will be sent a confirmation by e-mail of receipt of your report and attachments.

<b>Outdoor Heritage Fund Status and Final Report Form/Guidelines</b>			
This report is used to show progress of grant projects funded through the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Status Reports and the Final Report must be submitted as required in Contract.			
Contract Number	Report Date	Period Covered by Report (xx/xx/xx to xx/xx/xx)	
001-003	June 30, 2017	11/01/12 to 6/30/2017	
Project Name <b>Aquatic Habitat Infrastructure Enhancement</b>			
Project Sponsor Name <b>Ducks Unlimited, Inc.</b>			
Responsible Official (Last, First Middle)		Responsible Official's Title	
<b>Davis, Jonas</b>		<b>Manager Conservation Programs – ND</b>	
Project Sponsor Address <b>2525 River Road</b>			
City	State	Zip Code	Telephone Number
Bismarck	ND	58503	701-355-3527
<b>Financial Update</b>			
Please provide the following information regarding the funding for your project based on the contract award:			
<u>Funds Spent this Reporting Period</u>			
(As appropriate please provide copies of receipts for purchases)			
Match Funding \$			110,577.84
In-kind Funding \$			313.31
OHF Funding <b>Requested for Reimbursement</b> \$			<b>187,875.12</b>
Total Funding Expended for this Reporting Period \$			298,766.27
<u>Total Funds Spent to Date</u>			
Match Funding \$			274,401.27
In-kind Funding \$			4,050.80
OHF Funding Received and Requested for Reimbursement \$			322,000.00
Total Funding Expended to Date \$			600,452.07
<u>Balance of Grant Funds</u>			
Match Funding \$			<b>(187,401.27)</b>
In-kind Funding \$			7,949.20
OHF Funding still to be Requested \$			0.00
Total Funding to be Expended on this Project \$			<b>(179,452.07)</b>
Do you anticipate needing to request a grant extension If yes, please explain			
/_/ Yes /X/ No			



Work Completed during Period Covered by Report: FINAL REPORT

(This information will be posted on the Outdoor Heritage Fund/Industrial Commission website)

The Aquatic Habitat Infrastructure Enhancement project was developed to restore and enhance wetland habitats throughout the state on public and privately owned and managed land where aquatic resources have been degraded due to erosion, breached impoundments, direct drainage, or sedimentation. During the grant period, three wetland restoration projects were completed totaling 512 acres of functioning aquatic habitat benefiting both wildlife and the people that recreate on these improved public sites. In total, DU and its partners contributed over \$300,000 in match to the projects, further leveraging OHF funds that made the program possible.

The first project completion was the Alkali Creek wetland impoundment project in Bowman County. Managed by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, the 58-acre wetland lost functionality to its water control structure reducing management ability causing high water to erode the embankment and threatening failure. DU cleared the obstructions in the structure and replaced the pipe in a way that sediment will no longer be able to plug the structure. The embankment was also repaired and armored to withstand future high water events so that the dam will not breach. The restoration has allowed for drawdowns to improve habitat conditions and function during high water as a spillway. The marsh now provides enhanced habitat for waterfowl, wading birds, shorebirds, and other wetland-dependent wildlife species. Additionally, the project is open to the public for such activities as hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other recreational opportunities. The restoration activities also improved goods and services such as flood attenuation, water quality benefits, and groundwater recharge. A permanent sign has been erected on-site honoring and thanking OHF and other funding partners for their contribution to the project.

The G-19 wetland enhancement project in Burleigh County was completed in 2016. As part of the Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge, the G-19 unit is a 10-acre wetland that drains into Long Lake through a water control structure. With an unprecedented 20-year wet cycle, Long Lake experienced extremely high water over many years. That high water coupled with wave action to the levees, extensive erosion occurred and subsequent breach in the levee pushed lake water into G-19 making it much deeper and taking water level management away from refuge staff. No longer shallow and managed, the aquatic resources were reduced, vegetation became less diverse and available, and without repair, the erosion would continue to spread along the embankment. With the help of OHF and other conservation partners, the water control structure was replaced and the levee was repaired and armored with rip-rap to withstand future high water events. The unit is now functioning correctly and providing optimal habitat for breeding and migrating waterfowl and shorebirds.

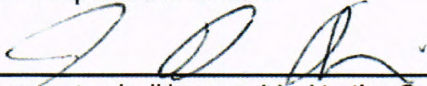
The final project was the Unit II marsh dike enhancement south west of the G-19 unit along Long Lake. As with G-19, extensive erosion and multiple breaches in the levee occurred over the past 10 years. The lake water had inundated hundreds of acres of productive shallow marsh habitat slowly altering a diverse vegetative state to more monotypic stands of perennial species. After months of constructing through last winter and dealing with snow fall, the project was completed in April 2017. DU repaired and enhanced 444 acres of a critically important habitat types utilized by migratory and breeding waterfowl in perpetuity by repairing the breaches and armoring 5,000 feet of embankment with rock rip-rap to ensure long-term sustainability. In addition to the excellent aquatic habitat Unit II provides, the repaired embankment was also raised and dressed with proper sized substrate for nesting federally endangered piping plovers that have utilized the site each year when not inundated by high water. Bird watching on the Unit II project had been revered as a top birding destination.

The completion of these projects under the OHF Aquatic Habitat Infrastructure project has helped facilitate proper management of these resources necessary to restore the functions and characteristics of productive wetland systems. The scale and size of the project would not have been possible without the assistance of the Outdoor Heritage Fund.

Exhibit B

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Signature of Responsible Official

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. D. R.', is written over a horizontal line.

The project reports shall be provided to the Commission in both electronic and hard-copy formats with permission for unrestricted distribution. The electronic versions shall be in a suitable format for posting on the Outdoor Heritage Fund/Commission website.



Photos of work completed



A new perforated pipe being installed at the 58-acre Alkali Creek Wetland Impoundment project so that sediment does plug the water control structure.



Alkali Creek wetland impoundment after pipe installation and rip-rap armoring of eroded embankment.

Exhibit B



Newly restored 10-acre wetland on the Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge G-19 project where a new water control structure was replaced, embankment breach fixed, and rip-rap armor installed to ensure long-term viability of the project.



Nearing completion of the 5,000 feet of raising the embankment, filling breaches, and armoring the face of the lake to eliminate erosion and protect the restored 444 acre Unit II marsh behind it.