

## 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.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Status and Final Report Form/Guidelines			
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 001-005	Report Date 4/28/2017	Period Covered by Report (5/1/2016 to 4/30/2017)	
Project Name North Dakota Hen House Project I			
Project Sponsor Name Delta Waterfowl Foundation			
Responsible Official (Last, First Middle) Chouinard, Matthew D		Responsible Official's Title Senior Waterfowl Programs Manager	
Project Sponsor Address 1312 Basin Ave			
City Bismarck	State ND	Zip Code 58504	Telephone Number 701-222-8857
<b>Financial Update</b>			
Please provide the following information regarding the funding for your project based on the contract award:			
<b>Funds Spent this Reporting Period</b>			
(As appropriate please provide copies of receipts for purchases)			
Match Funding \$ 103.79 (mileage for travel to project site for inspection)			
In-kind Funding \$ 262.50 (17.5 hours of in-kind labor)			
OHF Funding <b>Requested for Reimbursement</b> \$1,870.00			
Total Funding Expended for this Reporting Period \$ 2,231.29			
<b>Total Funds Spent to Date</b>			
Match Funding \$103.79			
In-kind Funding \$3,206.52			
OHF Funding Received and Requested for Reimbursement \$16,900.45			
Total Funding Expended to Date \$20,210.76			
<b>Balance of Grant Funds</b>			
Match Funding \$			
In-kind Funding \$ 193.48			
OHF Funding still to be Requested \$ 17,099.55			
Total Funding to be Expended on this Project \$ 37,400.00			
Do you anticipate needing to request a grant extension If yes, please explain			
/_/ Yes /_/ No			



Work Completed during Period Covered by Report:

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

This grant report covers Delta Waterfowl activities on North Dakota Hen House Project I from 5/1/2016 to 4/30/2017. The original goal of this project was the installation and management of 121 Hen Houses, a type of mallard nest structure. In 2015, 121 Hen Houses were installed, with another five added prior to the 2016 nesting season to bring the project total to 126 nest structures. In May 2016, Delta Waterfowl staff inspected the accessible Hen Houses and found most to be in great shape, with several already occupied by mallards. Figure 1 is a project Hen House with a nest full of duckling on May 24, 2016. Though some Hen Houses were occupied by mallards, most wetlands near Woodworth had low water levels and some were dry for the first time in several years. Delta staff had concerns that the dry conditions would have an impact on breeding pairs and occupancy rates of Hen Houses.



*Figure 1. Mallard ducklings in a Delta Waterfowl Hen House that was funded by a North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund grant.*

Winter maintenance of our project Hen Houses began in February 2017. This work is typically conducted when wetlands are frozen to facilitate easy access to the nest structures. However, temperatures can vary greatly each year during late winter. During the maintenance visits, contractors remove old nest remains (eggs, eggshells, feathers, etc.), replace grass nesting material, and repair any damage to the Hen Houses. For each structure, contractors document evidence of nest(s) during the previous breeding season. This information is submitted to Delta Waterfowl staff, entered into a database, and evaluated to determine usage rate (percentage of Hen Houses used during a nesting season).

Heavy snowfall in December 2016 and January 2017 made early field work very difficult, but contractors were able to maintain nearly all of the nest structures by early April. Contractors noted that ice movement during spring thaw damaged eight Hen Houses rendering them unsuitable for nest sites by ducks. Four were replaced to bring the project total back up to 122 (just above project goal) for the 2017 nesting season. Of the 118 Hen Houses found to be in suitable condition for use by ducks, contractors were able to definitively determine the presence or absence of a nest in 113 and found evidence of 34 nest attempts by ducks.

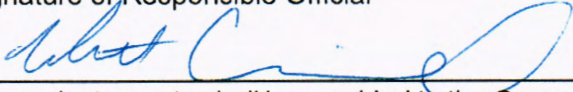
Despite the dry conditions, overall usage rates of OHF Hen Houses doubled from 15% in 2015 to 30% in 2016. This is a great usage rate for second-year nest structures. Successful nesting hens and their female offspring frequently return to the same area and nest in a Hen House. Over time, we suspect usage rates in the Woodworth area could exceed 50%. Based on previous research on nest success in North Dakota Hen Houses (86%), we estimate that 280 mallard ducklings were hatched in OHF nest structures in 2016.

Exhibit B

Over the next couple months, Delta Waterfowl staff and/or contractors will visually inspect a sample of the Hen Houses to determine if any additional damage occurred during spring thaw. Usage rates and estimated duck production for 2017 will be provided in the April 2018 project report. Delta Waterfowl sincerely appreciates the Outdoor Heritage Fund, program staff, and the support of this project by the State of North Dakota.

Photos of work completed are welcome (If appropriate, please submit photos of key elements of the project completed or in progress during reporting period) Do not exceed five photos per project report.

Signature of Responsible Official



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.