

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 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 4/30/2019	Period Covered by Report (5/1/2018 to 4/30/2019)
----------------------------	--------------------------	---

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 and Research Manager
---	--

Project Sponsor Address
1412 Basin Ave

City Bismarck	State ND	Zip Code 58504	Telephone Number 701-222-8857 (ext. 5209)
------------------	-------------	-------------------	--

Financial Update

Please provide the following information regarding the funding for your project based on the contract award:

Funds Spent this Reporting Period

(As appropriate please provide copies of receipts for purchases)

Match Funding \$ 237.55

In-kind Funding \$ ~~412.50~~ **\$382.50**

OHF Funding **Requested for Reimbursement** \$1,910.54

Total Funding Expended for this Reporting Period \$ 2,530.59

Total Funds Spent to Date

Match Funding \$ 578.89

In-kind Funding \$ 4001.52

OHF Funding Received and Requested for Reimbursement \$20,671.53

Total Funding Expended to Date \$ 24,631.89

Balance of Grant Funds

Match Funding \$

In-kind Funding \$

OHF Funding still to be Requested \$13,328.47

Total Funding to be Expended on this Project \$37,400

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 5/1/2018 to 4/30/2019. There were 122 Hen Houses (HH) available for nesting ducks in 2018 through the OHF/Delta Waterfowl Grant 001-005 partnership. Much of North Dakota remained in a drought during the 2018 nesting season and many of the wetlands in our project area were dry throughout the nesting season. Not surprisingly, fewer ducks and wetlands were counted in the 2018 North Dakota Game and Fish breeding duck survey.



Figure 1. Photo taken in March during winter maintenance. Heavy snow covered most of the Woodworth area improving wetland conditions for the 2019 nesting season.

Preparation for winter maintenance of our project Hen Houses began in October 2018. Flax straw and other necessary materials were secured and transported to the project site. Maintenance is critical to the success of nest structure programs, ensuring all HHs are ready for nesting ducks when they return from wintering sites. Maintenance is typically conducted from December through March, beginning as soon as wetland ice is safe for travel to facilitate easy access to the nest structures. Warm temperatures in December 2018 and extreme cold temperatures and snow in January and February 2019 extended the HH field work, but contractors continued their efforts into early April to ensure all HHs were maintained (Fig. 1). All 122 HHs were ready for nesting hens at the start of the 2019 nesting season.

As in other years, contractors documented 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). Overall usage rate for Woodworth and Carrington area Hen Houses was 31% in 2018, a slight decrease from 2017 (37%). This decrease was almost assuredly a result of the drought, resulting in dry wetlands and expansion of cattail stands. Hen Houses in dry wetlands or surrounded by emergent vegetation have very low usage rates.

The good news is that wetland conditions and duck numbers are improved in 2019. Delta Waterfowl staff and/or contractors inspected a sample of the Hen Houses and found considerable numbers of hens already nesting in project HHs. Usage rates and estimated duck production for 2019 will be provided in the 2020 project report.

Delta Waterfowl sincerely appreciates the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund, OHF program staff, hunters, outdoor enthusiasts and others that supported this project.



Figure 2. Mallard hen nesting in a nest structure near Woodworth, ND in May 2019.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Robert C. ...', written over a white background.

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.