

**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. 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.

**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 5/18/2022	Period Covered by Report (05/01/2021-04/30/2022)
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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 Delta Marsh Property Manager
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Project Sponsor Address  
1412 Basin Ave

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

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

	Funds Spent THIS Reporting Period*	Total Funds Spent to Date	Balance of Remaining Funds
Match Funding	0	680.01	0.00
In-kind Funding	225.00	4,586.52	0.00
OHF Funding	1,850.00	26,242.61	7,727.93
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,075.00</b>	<b>31,509.14</b>	<b>7,727.93</b>

Do you anticipate needing to request a grant extension?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain:

\*As appropriate please provide copies of receipts for purchases.

**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 5/1/2021 to 4/30/2022. This project consists of 122 Hen Houses that were first available to nesting ducks in 2015 as part of OHF/Delta Waterfowl Grant 001-005. Annual maintenance of Hen Houses is critical to ensure they remain attractive to nesting hens and productive. Delta Waterfowl contractors visited all 122 project Hen Houses in March and early April to ensure the structures were ready and available to hens returning to North Dakota from their wintering sites. At each Hen House, contractors replaced the grass for nest material (hens do not bring grass to their nest site), repaired the exterior as needed, and completed an assessment of each structure to determine usage during the previous (2021) nesting season. In two cases, a Hen House was badly damaged or missing and was replaced with a new structure.

The primary contractor assigned to this project is the University of Jamestown Shooting Sports Team, coached by long-time Hen House contractor John Mazur. Their efforts on behalf of this project earned the Jimmies Shooting Sports Team much needed funds to support their team activities. The work also provided great outdoor experience for the next generation (Figure 1).



*Figures 1 & 2. Photos above show a successful project Hen House and students from the University of Jamestown Shooting Sports Team conducting Hen House maintenance.*

Once again contractors utilized the QuickCapture app to collect Hen House locations, document usage information, and verify completion of field work. This information was transmitted through the app to Delta Waterfowl, and staff verified the locations and uploaded them to our Hen House database. This step in the maintenance process ensures each Hen Houses is visited annually and provides important details about structure usage and condition.

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Many wetlands in North Dakota were completely dry in 2021, which resulted in fewer ducks settling and nesting in the state. Despite the conditions, Delta's Hen House contractors definitively detected usage by ducks in 52% of project nest structures, a slight decrease from 2020 (61%). In some portions of the project area, usage remained above 70%, a testament to the strong desire that hens have to use Hen Houses even when conditions are less than ideal. Research in North Dakota found that nest success in Hen Houses averaged 85%. Using this metric and the usage rate, Delta Waterfowl staff estimate that 512 mallard ducklings hatched in 2021 as a result of this project.



Figure 2. In this area just east of Woodworth, 11 of 15 (73%) available Hen Houses were used in 2021.

Snowfall in late winter and heavy spring rains in early 2022 appear to have ended the drought in many parts of North Dakota. We expect mallards that settle in the project area will make a strong breeding effort and usage rates of Hen Houses will be higher in 2022. Usage rates and estimated duck production for 2022 will be provided in the 2023 report. Delta Waterfowl sincerely appreciates the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund, OHF program staff, hunters, outdoor enthusiasts and others that supported this project.

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.

*This report was prepared pursuant to an agreement with the Industrial Commission of North Dakota, which partially funded the project through the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Project participants, its subcontractors, and the Industrial Commission of North Dakota, or any person acting on its behalf, do not:*

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Signature of Responsible Official

\*As appropriate please provide copies of receipts for purchases.