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

Report Date

Period Covered by Report

001-016

11/29/2014

(4/7/2014 - 11/30/2014)

(Revised 1/5/2015)

Project Name

Natural Resource Stewardship in North Dakota's Parks Preserves and Natural Areas

Project Sponsor Name

North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department

Responsible Official (Last, First Middle)

Responsible Official's Title

Duttenhefner, Kathleen Grace

Natural Resource Division Coordinator

Project Sponsor Address

1600 East Century Ave. Suite 3

City Bismarck State ND Zip Code 58503 Telephone Number 701-328-5370

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)

Cash Match Funding

\$685.00 \$32,655.00

In-kind Match Funding

\$6,196.50

OHF Funding

\$0,190.50

OHF Funding Requested for Reimbursement \$ 0.00

Total Funding Expended for this Reporting Period \$39,536.50

Total Funds Spent to Date

Cash Match Funding

\$685.00

In-kind Match Funding

\$32,655.00

OHF Funding

\$6,196.00

OHF Funding Received and Requested for Reimbursement \$ 12,900.00

Total Funding Expended to Date \$39,536.50

Balance of Grant Funds

Match Funding \$ 39,500.00

In-kind Funding \$ 25,028.10

OHF Funding still to be Requested \$ 116,100.00

Total Funding to be Expended on this Project \$202,331.60

Do you anticipate needing to request a grant extension

If yes, please explain

/ / Yes /X/ No

Work Completed during Period Covered by Report:

Purpose of Grant

Project Goals

- A. Conserve and enhance existing prairies, woodlands, tree and shrub plantings, within parklands, preserves and natural areas to maximize biodiversity of plant and animal species.
- B. To provide direction, technical assistance and funding for natural resource activities that are integral to and integrated within parklands, preserves, and natural area uses.
- Effective control and eradication of noxious weeds and invasive species on parklands, preserves, and natural areas.

<u>Native Prairie Restoration and Enhancements Strategies and Best Management Practices</u>: A multi-site, long term, collaborative project with specific goal to restore, enhance, and sustain a healthy, diverse and sustainable native prairie thus enhancing the biodiversity on parklands, preserves and natural areas.

The 2014 prairie restoration and enhancement strategies and best management practices for 2014 included tillage, herbicides, and seeding and planting of native grasses and forbs.

Tasks Completed: May - November 2014:

- a) Identified and mapped <u>Turtle River State</u>
 <u>Park</u> prairie restoration (2 sites approximately 17.9 acres) utilizing a Trimble GPS unit.
- b) Developed and updated Prairie Restoration Plans for Turtle River and Icelandic State Parks.
- Site preparation for weed and brome control prior to planting at Turtle River was critical. Utilized both application of herbicide and disking at Turtle River State Park.





2014 Turtle River State Park Fall Disking

- f) Post-seeding weed control is an important part of successful prairie reestablishment. Mechanical method of mowing was used at Icelandic State Park.
- g) Monitoring the Icelandic prairie enhancement site will be conducted during the first three growing seasons and again at years 5 and 10, beginning in 2015.
- Record keeping and maintaining a written records of observations and management activities are recorded in the Prairie Restoration Plans.

- d) Selected seed mix for <u>Icelandic State</u>

 <u>Park prairie restoration</u>. Native seed mix selection was based on individual site characteristics. High diversity native seed mix included 16 native grass and forb species.
- e) Icelandic State Park (2 sites approximately 8.5 acres) prairie enhancements was accomplished through broadcasting/drill seeding according to the full seeding rate.



Icelandic State Park Tract 2 Post Planting



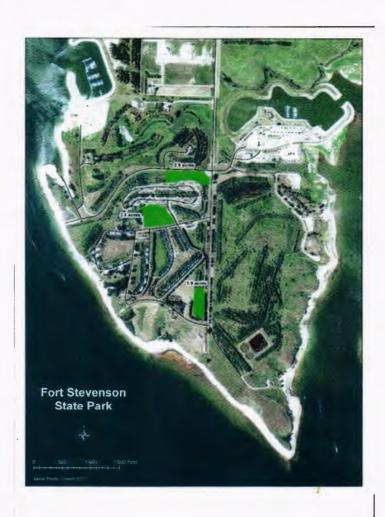


Icelandic State Park Tract 3 Post Planting

<u>Woodlands – Tree and Shrub Plantings Strategies and Best Management Practices</u>: A multi-site, long term, collaborative project with a specific goal to increase woodland and tree row habitat acres and biodiversity on parklands, preserves and natural areas. The project purpose is to create and maintain a mosaic of woodland habitats through the planting of a diverse selection of native trees and shrubs. The woodland creation and tree and shrub plantings strategies and best management practices will include the use of a variety of practices ranging from site preparation, planting and monitoring.

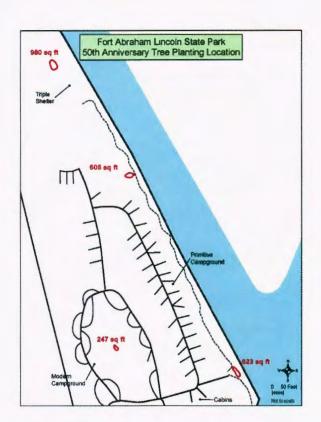
Tasks Completed: May - November 2014:

- a) Utilizing a Trimble GPS, identified and mapped potential tree and shrub 50th Anniversary tree planting sites at 11 state park. 550 trees and shrubs to be planted in 2015. Parks included Fort Abraham Lincoln, Cross Ranch, Lake Sakakawea, Fort Stevenson, Lake Metigoshe, Grahams Island, Lewis and Clark, Fort Ransom, Icelandic, Turtle River and Beaver Lake State Parks,
- b) Inter-planted 480 trees and shrubs on approximately 8.2 acres on three sites at Fort Stevenson State Park.
- c) Use of Volunteer staff was critical in the success of the planting project at Fort Stevenson State Park.



- d) Species selected for the 2015 50th Anniversary Tree and Shrub Planting.
- e) Several sites for the 50th Anniversary Tree and Shrub planting sites were treated with using herbicide application.





Example of Species Selection and Site Map

Noxious Weed and Invasive Species Control Strategies and Best Management Practices: A multi-site, long term, collaborative project with specific goals to control noxious weeds as required by state law; reduce nonnative invasive plants; continue the implementation an integrated pest management system to reduce the use of chemical controls. The noxious weeds of primary concern include leafy spurge, Canada thistle, and wormwood. To date, all noxious weeds within major parks have been inventoried and mapped.

The noxious weed and invasive species control strategies and best management practices for 2014 included the use of a variety of practices ranging from inventory, mapping, implementing integrated biological, chemical and mechanical controls, reporting and monitoring.

Tasks Completed: May - November 2014:

- a) Biological technician located and re-mapped noxious weeds utilizing Trimble GPS units in 9 state parks including Fort Abraham Lincoln, Fort Ransom, Beaver Lake, Lake Sakakawea, Fort Stevenson, Grahams Island, Icelandic, Turtle River, and Lake Metigoshe State Parks.
- b) Biologist and biological technicians treated all noxious weeds with appropriate control methods at 16 major state parks including several recreation, natural areas and nature preserves. (Approximately 1,080 acres treated).
- Followed standard reporting protocol as determined by ND Department of Agriculture.
- d) GIS Specialist produced noxious weed treated .vs nontreated maps utilizing ArcGis.

State Park/Land	Total Area Treated (Acres)
Butte St. Paul	3.113
Pelican Point	0.158
FALSP	75.999
FRSP	102.705
НОТМ	3.201
CRSP	43.466
TRSP	73.983
FSSP	182.747
LSSP	257.693
GISP	221.085
LCSP	22.607
MRNA	15.643
ISP	13.864
LMSP	12.205
Stumpf	25.64
BLSP	24
Total Acres	1078.109

<u>Natural Areas Registry</u> A cooperative program with the *ND Geological Survey. The* Natural Areas Registry Program is citizen-based conservation program that currently has 54 landowners involved in voluntary protection of their significant natural areas. This project is a multi-site, long term, collaborative project with a specific goal to encourage conservation of important natural lands in private and public ownership.

Tasks Completed: May – November 2014: Natural Area visits and site assessments conducted in 2014 included Missouri River and Elkhorn Natural Areas, Stumpf Site, Anderson Woods, and Thuen Prairie Registered Natural Area. Site visits including noxious weed spraying conducted at Head of the Mountain, Cross Ranch, and Gunlogson Nature Preserves. No Outdoor Heritage Funds were utilized to accomplish these tasks, therefore we did not record any match funds.

<u>Natural Heritage Inventory</u> - A cooperative program with NatureServe, a non-profit conservation organization whose mission is to provide the scientific basis for effective conservation action. The North Dakota Natural Heritage Program identifies the state's most significant natural areas through a comprehensive inventory of rare plant and animal species, exemplary natural communities, special geological features, and significant natural areas.

Tasks Completed: May – November 2014: The biological conservation database was upgraded to a NatureServe web-based program which will requires a substantial annual maintenance and support fee. No Outdoor Heritage Funds were utilized to accomplish these tasks, therefore we did not record any match funds.

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 Kathy Duttenhefner

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.