

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 001-016	Report Date 11/30/2017	Period Covered by Report (6/16/2017—11/16/2017)
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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) Duttenhefner, Kathleen Grace	Responsible Official's Title Natural Resource Division Coordinator
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Project Sponsor Address
1600 East Century Ave. Suite 3

City Bismarck	State ND	Zip Code 58503	Telephone Number 701-328-5370
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Financial Update
Please provide the following information regarding the funding for your project based on the contract award:

<u>Funds Spent This Reporting Period</u>	
Cash Match Funding	2,469.33
In-kind Match Funding	3,128.00
Other Sponsors Funding	
OHF Funding	10,797.49
OHF Funding Requested for Reimbursement	10,797.49
Total Funding Expended for this Reporting Period	16,394.82
<u>Total Funds Spent to Date</u>	
Cash Match Funding	21,037.73
In-kind Match Funding	64,939.60
Other Sponsors Funding	15,059.00
OHF Funding	88,489.11
OHF Funding Received and Requested for Reimbursement (includes above request)	88,489.11
Total Funding Expended to Date	189,525.44
<u>Balance of Grant Funds</u>	
Match Cash Funding (proposed \$40185.00)	19,147.27
In-kind Match Funding (proposed \$57683.10)	(7,256.50)
Other Sponsors Funding (proposed \$15,000)	(59.00)
OHF Funding still to be Requested (granted \$129,000)	40,510.89
Total Funding to be Expended on this Project (Proposed \$241,868.10)	52,342.66

Work Completed during Period Covered by Report:

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.
- C. Effective control and eradication of noxious weeds and invasive species on parklands, preserves, and natural areas.

Native Prairie Restoration and Enhancements Strategies and Best Management Practices: 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. 169 hours spent on restorations.

Tasks Completed June 16, 2017 – November 2017:

Weed Control: Mowing and Chemical Application conducted by department fulltime and seasonal staff. Total Hours: 131

Prairie Restoration Monitoring: Conducting by fulltime department staff. Total Hours: 38



Figure 1 Prairie Restoration: Beaver Lake State Park



Figure 2 Prairie Restoration: Beaver Lake State Park



Figure 3 Prairie Restoration: Cross Ranch State Park North



Figure 4 Prairie Restoration: Fort Stevenson State Park



Figure 5 Prairie Restoration: Grahams Island State Park



Figure 6 Prairie Restoration: Turtle Mountain Recreation Area



Woodlands – Tree and Shrub Plantings Strategies and Best Management Practices: A multi-site, long term, collaborative project with a specific goal to increase woodland and tree –shrub 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. Tree and shrub planting at all state parks, recreation and natural areas is ongoing.

A total of 184 hours were spent on tree planting maintenance. This includes only Natural Resource Division hours. Countless hours were spent throughout the period watering and weeding by state park staff.

Tasks Completed June 16, 2017 – November 2017:

Weed control specifically at FALSP and CRSP tree and shrub complexes. 30 hours by natural resource division staff only.

Deer fencing was installed at CRSP and FALSP. The University of Mary assisted with installing deer fence at FALSP.

Tree Rick assessments and removal of high risk trees is an ongoing task. Natural Resource Division staff focuses assisting park staff at CRSP and FSSP. Over 154 natural resource division hours



Figure 7 University of Mary Day of Giving Crew #1



Figure 8 Tree Risk Assessment



Figure 9 Tree Risk Assessment ID Tag

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.

Almost 1,200 hours was spent spraying noxious weeds from June-September 2017. The technicians operate John Deere Gator UTV units. The two units are equipped with a 75 gallon boomless sprayer with an independent 15-gallon hand wand tank that is connected with 75 feet of hose. A GPS is used to map new infestations of weeds found in the field. The technicians are provided weed maps for each park and track spraying efforts on pesticide application forms. In areas that cannot be accessed easily with one of the units or on steep hillsides, backpack sprayers are used.

Tasks Completed June 16, 2017 – November 2017:

Noxious weed spraying conducted at all state parks, natural and recreation areas. 1,196 hours (biological technicians) 1,114 weed acres were treated in 2017 with an additional 99 acres treated on lands we manage outside our state park boundaries.



Figure 10 Example of Noxious Weed Acres Treated 2017 Map Icelandic State Park

Natural Areas Registry 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.

No Outdoor Heritage Funds have been allocated for Natural Areas Registry.



Figure 11 Stumpf Natural Area

Tasks Completed June 16, 2017 – November 2017:

No grant associated tasks completed during this timeframe.

Natural Heritage Inventory - 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. No Outdoor Heritage Funds have been allocated for Natural Areas Registry.

Tasks Completed June 16, 2017 – November 2017:

No grant associated tasks completed during this timeframe.

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 Duttonhefner

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.