

**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 6/15/2015	Period Covered by Report (12/1/2014 – 6/15/2015)
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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:

Funds Spent this Reporting Period

(As appropriate please provide copies of receipts for purchases)

Cash Match Funding	\$2,788.55	
In-kind Match Funding	\$7,065.00	
Other Sponsors Funding	\$11,309.00	
OHF Funding	\$35,621.85	
OHF Funding Requested for Reimbursement		\$ 28,918.35
Total Funding Expended for this Reporting Period		\$56,784.40

Total Funds Spent to Date

Cash Match Funding	\$3,473.55	
In-kind Match Funding	\$39,720.00	
Other Sponsors Funding	\$11,309.00	
OHF Funding	\$41,818.35	
OHF Funding Received and Requested for Reimbursement		\$ 41,818.35 (includes above request)
Total Funding Expended to Date		\$96,320.90

Balance of Grant Funds

Match Funding	\$ 36,711.45	
In-kind Funding	\$ 17,963.10	
Other Sponsors Funding	\$ 3,691.00	
OHF Funding still to be Requested		\$ 87,181.65
Total Funding to be Expended on this Project		\$145,547.20

Do you anticipate needing to request a grant extension If yes, please explain
 Yes No

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.

Tasks Completed: December 2014 – June 2015:

a) Updated Prairie Restoration Plans for:

- Turtle River State Park – Big Bluestem Tallgrass Prairie – 17.9 acres
- Turtle River State Park – Big Bluestem Tallgrass Prairie – 1.4 acres
- Icelandic State Park – Sand Bluestem – Prairie Sandreed Sand Prairie – 10 acres
- Icelandic State Park – Sand Bluestem-Little Bluestem Sand Prairie – 6.2 acres
- Icelandic State Park – Sand Bluestem-Prairie Sandreed Sand Prairie – Tract 2 – 2.3 acres
- Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park – W. Wheatgrass-Green Needlegrass Mixedgrass Prairie-1.33 acres
- Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park – W. Wheatgrass-Green Needlegrass Mixedgrass Prairie-66 acres
- Fort Stevenson State Park – Needle-and-Thread-Western Wheatgrass Mixedgrass Prairie-5.6 acres
- Fort Stevenson State Park – W. Wheatgrass-Green Needlegrass Mixedgrass Prairie-32 acres
- Fort Stevenson State Park – Western Wheatgrass-Green Needlegrass Mixedgrass Prairie-10 acres
- Cross Ranch State Park - Western Wheatgrass-Green Needlegrass Mixedgrass Prairie-.8 acre
- Cross Ranch State Park - Western Wheatgrass-Green Needlegrass Mixedgrass Prairie-.7 acre
- Devils Lake State Park- Western Wheatgrass-Green Needlegrass Mixedgrass Prairie-11 acre
- Lake Sakakawea State Park- Wheatgrass-Green Needlegrass Mixedgrass Prairie-1.33 acres

b) Sites visits to Turtle River State Park – Big Bluestem Tallgrass Prairie – 17.9 acres and Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park – W. Wheatgrass-Green Needlegrass Mixedgrass Prairie-66 acres early May.

c) Sprayed green up with Glyphosate prior to seeding at Turtle River State Park – Big Bluestem Tallgrass Prairie and Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park – W. Wheatgrass-Green Needlegrass Mixedgrass Prairie.

d) Seeded both sites with no-till drills at Turtle River State Park – Big Bluestem Tallgrass Prairie and Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park – Western Wheatgrass-Green Needlegrass Mixedgrass Prairie.

e) Spot sprayed weeds with Glyphosate at both Turtle River and Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park prairie restoration sites.



Fort Abraham Lincoln Site-No-till Seeded

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 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. 50th Anniversary woodland/complex plantings and Fort Abraham Lincoln Tesoro Tree and shrub plantings will be top priority in 2015.

Tasks Completed: December 2015-June 2015.

- a) 50th Anniversary Tree and Shrub Planting tree and shrub planting designs completed for 11 parks.
- b) Tree and shrub bid solicitation and bid award to Cashman Nursery completed.
- c) Cashman Nursery deliver 550 containerized stock to all 11 parks.
- d) As of June 15, 2015 the following state parks have held their 50th Anniversary Commemorative tree and shrub planting event: Grahams Island, Fort Stevenson, Lake Metogoshe, Turtle River and Beaver Lake State Parks. Over 24 volunteers and 18 staff participated in the planting events. 3 of the 4 events were rained out.
- e) The Donate a Tree Program brought in \$5,450 dollars with 23 donors. These funds will be used as sponsorships to current and future tree planting projects.
- f) Most sites have been mulched as well.
- g) Sponsors and donor recipient signs placed in each planting.



Turtle River State Park – 50th Anniversary Commemorative Tree Planting Volunteers



Grahams Island State Park – 50th Anniversary Commemorative Tree Planting



Lake Metogoshe State Park – 50th Anniversary Commemorative Tree Planting

- h) Fort Lincoln State Park 1.6 acres tree row planting trees ordered and delivered to the park.
- i) Fort Lincoln State Park 1.6 acres tree row planting site preparation completed.
- j) 75 Volunteers helped plant 365 trees and shrubs as part of the Annual Tesoro Community Tree planting project. Tesoro sponsored lunch for staff and volunteers.
- k) Biological Technicians began placing weed control fabric squares around the trees.
- l) Trees were also sprayed with deer deterrent.
- m) Deer fence was removed from all trees and shrub complexes at Cross Ranch and Fort Abraham Lincoln State Parks.



Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park – Tesoro Annual Tree Planting – May 16



Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park – Tesoro Annual Tree Planting – May 16

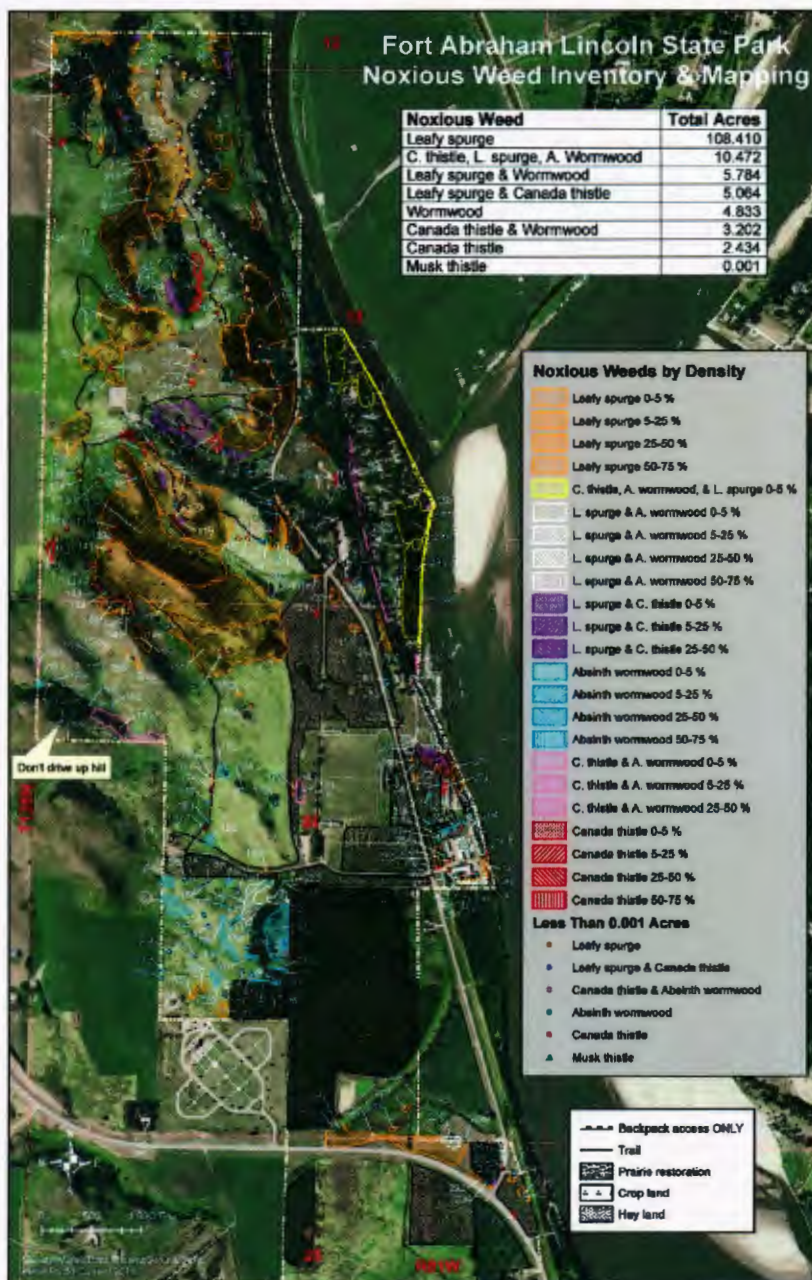


Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park – Tesoro Annual Tree Planting – May 16

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.

Tasks Completed: December 2014 – June 2015:

- a) Biologist and biological technicians treated noxious weeds with appropriate control methods Fort Lincoln State Park
- b) Followed standard reporting protocol as determined by ND Department of Agriculture.
- c) GIS Specialist produced noxious weed maps utilizing ArcGis.



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 were utilized to accomplish these tasks.



Potential Natural Areas Registry Site

Tasks Completed: December 2014 – June 2015:

- a) Potential natural area assessment completed for site in northwestern North Dakota.
- b) Head of the Mountain Nature Preserve prescribed burn completed.

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.

Tasks Completed: May – November 2014: The biological conservation database was upgraded to a NatureServe web-based program which will require 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.

Tasks Completed: December 2014 – June 2015:

- a) Entered Western prairie fringed orchid spatial and tabular data into Biotic biological conservation database – partnership project with US Fish and Wildlife Service and NatureServe.
- b) Entered Dakota skipper spatial and tabular data into Biotics biological conservation database – partnership project with NatureServe.
- c) Entered Piping plover and Least tern spatial and tabular data into Biotics biological conservation database – partnership project with NatureServe

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.