

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 004-060	Report Date 10/15/18	Period Covered by Report 9/10/18-10/15/18	
Project Name Western North Dakota Habitat Enhancement Projects			
Project Sponsor Name Mule Deer Foundation			
Responsible Official (Last, First Middle) Johnson, Marshall		Responsible Official's Title Regional Director	
Project Sponsor Address 2034 Northridge Dr			
City Bismarck	State ND	Zip Code 58501	Telephone Number 406-850-8785
<u>Financial Update</u> Please provide the following information regarding the funding for your project based on the contract award:			
Funds Spent this Reporting Period: \$33,528 (As appropriate please provide copies of receipts for purchases) Match Funding \$8,382 from MDF In Kind: \$1,680 in volunteer labor + \$5,000 in use of Bobcat Equipment and delivery OHF Funding Requested for Reimbursement: Total New Funding requested for this Reporting Period \$25,146.00			
<u>Total Funds Spent to Date</u> Match Funding \$97,803 In-kind Funding \$11,235 + In kind equipment and labor from JMAC and Bobcat/Doosan (Value was approx. \$55,000) Total Funding Expended/requested to Date \$232,991			
<u>Balance of Grant Funds</u> Match Funding \$480,900 In-kind Funding \$11,235 + JMAC & Bobcat/Doosan OHF Funding still to be Requested \$222,763 Total Funding to be Expended on this Project			

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

Request for Extension:

The Mule Deer Foundation would like to request an extension to access these grant funds for an additional 12 months thru 2019. Our program works specifically with private landowners in Western North Dakota that are willing to improve habitat as well as open their land to access thru the PLOTS program. Grant funds are used specifically for improvement prescriptions, no funds are used for the PLOTS program or any other program that would be used for the rental, lease or purchase of land. We found that dealing with landowners out west that at first they were unsure of our intent and it took approximately at least one year before landowners saw what we were doing with the first two project sites. In 2018, landowners are now reaching out to MDF to learn more about what we are trying to achieve in regard to projects and the interest has ramped up and we have had to tell some landowners recently that we cannot move forward unless we get an extension on our existing grant. With this Outdoor Heritage Grant, we have been able to remove over 50 miles of old barbed wire fence and woven fence from the landscape. We have been able to assist in the installation and purchase of wildlife friendly fencing with roughly 40+ miles. We are currently working on a cedar/juniper reduction project that will take one more year to complete which will re-establish native grasses, forbs and shrubs on over 250 acres of grassland. We have planted trees, seeded native grasses and forbs, protected riparian areas to assist in the re-establishment of that area and more. These projects help leverage access programs for sportsman and women thru the PLOTS program in Western North Dakota. We are requesting an additional year to utilize the funds that have been granted to continue the work that has shown increased interest from private landowners and a continuation of existing projects in process.

Work Completed during Period Covered by Report:

(This information will be posted on the Outdoor Heritage Fund/Industrial Commission website)

MDF/OHF #12: Woven fence removal & installation of wildlife friendly fence – Paul Ranch
 Location: 20 miles south of Carson, ND in Grant County
 All 4,930+ acres are open to public thru the ND PLOTS program

The objective of this habitat project is to eliminate five miles of sheep woven fencing and to replace with the installation of wildlife friendly fencing. The woven fencing is a barrier to natural movement for mule deer and antelope as well as a significant danger to upland birds. This project is phase one as there is over 30-40 miles of woven fence. Studies have shown that woven fencing, and especially woven fencing with a barbed strand across the top is the worst for wildlife. A recent study showed ungulate deaths that are caused by fencing is twice as high for woven fence than traditional barbed wire. One main reason is that wildlife, especially fawns, are unable to jump over the fence and have no means to crawl thru or under a woven fence. Additionally, these fences create a danger to antelope as they typically go underneath the wires and with a woven fence they are unable to do this.

The Paul family has made huge strides in the last 5 years making changes from season long grazing in 4 or 5 large pastures to a 24 plus pasture rotation system. The Paul ranch has been working with Chad Meier, USFWS Partners in Wildlife program, have seen in the last 5 years the increase in grass stands & wildlife. Before 2012 & the beginning of the current rotation system legumes were almost absent due to close to a 100 years history of sheep and season long grazing of both sheep & cattle.

This landowner is dedicated to bring this habitat back to a natural state after years of a sheep operation. For the past several years the Paul family has been working with the USFWS Partners in Wildlife program to improve the riparian areas, grasslands and using different grazing strategies. The family has minimal means to make many changes that cost money, but agreed to extend the terms of their PLOTS agreement if the Mule Deer Foundation, with the use of our Outdoor Heritage Fund grant, use funds to improve the movement of mule deer, antelope and upland game birds by pulling out the woven fencing and replacing with wildlife friendly fencing

The Mule Deer Foundation helped offset costs by having a volunteer event where 14 volunteers pulled four of the five miles of fence with the assistance of Bobcat of Mandan donation of equipment use (two Bobcat skid steers and a UTV, in which they delivered and picked up the equipment).

Total Cost of Project; Estimated at +\$50,000.

Exhibit B



Exhibit B





Exhibit B



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.

N/A

Signature of Responsible Official

Exhibit B

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.