

Contract No. 005-081

“Bottineau Winter Park Infrastructure & Program Improvements”

Submitted by Bottineau Winter Park

Principal Investigator: Michael Cerkowniak (resigned); New Investigator is Bradley Knudson
Directive D

PARTICIPANTS

Sponsor	Cost Share	
Bottineau Winter Park, Inc. (cash)	\$23,185	
Bottineau Winter Park Inc. (in-kind)	\$15,570	
Bottineau Winter Park Inc. (indirect - state grant)	\$33,240	
Other sponsors (See application for detailed list)	\$ 8,900	
Unknown	<u>\$64,893</u>	
Subtotal Cash Cost Share		\$145,788
North Dakota Industrial Commission	<u>\$70,000</u>	
Total Project Cost		<u>\$ 70,000</u> \$215,788

Project Schedule – 6 months

Contract Date – 7/29/2015

Start Date – 7/29/2015

Completion Date – June 30, 2016*

Project Deliverables:

Status Report: October 31, 2015 ✓

Status Report:* January 31, 2016

Final Report: June 30, 2016* ✓

OBJECTIVE/STATEMENT OF WORK:

Project as submitted included the drilling of a new well; purchase of a Magic Carpet lift; improvement and expansion of nature trail system including rest areas, restrooms, signage and leveling and contouring of steeper sections; installation of dock; tree transplanting; renovation of an unused building as a nature/learning center; stocking of a holding pond. Outdoor Heritage Fund (OHF) dollars requested were \$134,893. The amount that was awarded was \$70,000 with the stipulations that (OHF) dollars cannot be used for the Magic Carpet Lift, renovation of an unused building and improvements to the restrooms.

STATUS:

Contract 005-081 - Has been executed.

8/23/2015 update provided: The dock has been delivered and installed. Some sand work is still needed at the entrance to the dock and the edge of the lake. (Picture of the dock is posted on the website.)

10/31/2015 - Status report submitted. A map and photos are part of the status report. The map shows that 7965 feet of the Nature Hiking Trail that has been cleared, leveled, widened, for use by foot, or by track chairs for handicap, winter snowshoes and hikers.

Wayland Trails in Small Shelter #1 area is 1.25 miles long and are all level and usable with the track chairs on site. Trails are named after the special needs children that broke ground in 2012 for Annie’s House. These trails will be used year round for nature hikes, bird watching, geocaching (treasure hunts), snowshoeing, and other un-motorized use. In 2016 special needs biking also will use these trails as they

have small elevation changes. We have partnered with Independence Inc. of North Dakota to plan 500 Juneberry trees along these trails in 2016 and 2017 for future harvesting and selling to local ice cream producer Pride Dairies (5-7 years from now), Berry trees (100 planted in 2014 along trail west side of lake are now producing a few juneberries and are over 2 feet tall.

Trails, small shelter #2 area, was the most difficult due to the need to create switch backs to make these trails assessable for summer use with track chairs. Elevation rise is over 100 feet form entrance to shelter #2. 2 Track chairs are available on site for special needs people to use to fish, hike with friends and family. Stand up chair donated in September by local and State American Veterans organizations.

Warming cabin will be sided with log siding and green steel roofing, has a 6 foot deck that is built for track chair use. Wheel chair will be available in shelter to access a portable restroom that is behind shelter. South side will have picnic area and tables under oaks. Located 200 feet above the base area this shelter offers a great view from the porch of the North Dakota prairies and Annie's House. Heating will be by floor heat and wall forced air heater. Supplies and restroom services access to building will be from east.

Trail shelters; 2 open shelters with roof are under construction and all post and sign post holes have been dug on trail. Waiting for volunteer group to complete before freeze up shelters provide a large area to view wildlife and science views.

An extension to June 30, 2016 has been requested to complete this project. Transplanting of trees has not been started and there have been some mechanical and other problems with the new water well that may not be resolved before freeze up. Extension has been granted.

Mr. Knudson indicated that other funding had been received which allowed the Bottineau Winter Park to purchase the Magic Carpet Lift. The Lift has been constructed and will be ready for use this winter season.

Final Report received dated August 31, 2016. The report with pictures is posted on the website. The report states:

The 2 shelters and the warming log house have been completed on the exterior. Work continues to get the hearing and interior of the log cabin but should be completed by December. Two portable bathrooms are available at the 2 heated buildings. One is located at the Lake house near the fishing and dock area and the second at the log cabin that overlooks the prairies and has a very nice view.

Hiking trails have all been seeded and 90% of the trails have an excellent grass cover and all 3.3 miles are open to the public to use. Twelve geocaches have been placed and we have seen some activity by hikers to search and find them. Each cache represents one of Anne's Bucket List and is very inspiring to find. These trails are handicap usable for all ages and for those that are wheelchair confined or have

limited ability to walk can use a track chair at no charge but need to have a person along for safety reasons. We have installed a trail map on the south lawn of the facility.

The dock on the lake was a great improvement but because of safety reasons individuals using wheelchairs and others were restricted on its use. BWP requested grant funds through the Christopher Reeves Foundation to install safety railing on the dock and was granted. Anyone now can use the dock without the chance of falling into the water that is about 6 feet deep at its furthest point. Beach sand has just been placed.

After 7 attempts in the past 5 years to find water at Bottineau Winter Park a water well has been established and hooked up to the building. The well is 550 feet deep and produces 5 gallons per minute continuously. A large turtle that was donated hides the pump head and will be used as a fountain into a wishing well in the future.

12 years have passed since the Board of Directors planted 100 evergreen trees in the upper meadow and 43 of these trees ranging from 8 feet to 3 feet have been transplanted on the western slope of BWP middle run and the pattern represents a diamond in shape. One of BWP logos is The Jewel Above the Prairie and has many positive comments on those that have visited the park this summer. An additional 6 evergreens were moved and planted around Annie's House. Once the trees get to 10 or more feet this area will be opened to the public for tree skiing in the future. Located inside the trees at the top of the hill is a 1800 gallon water tank that is filled weekly with the snowmaking water system and a drip system has been installed at the base of each tree to provide the needed water to make these trees healthy and grow better.

This is the final report for this project. This contract is now closed.

***notes amendments to original contract**
Revised: 10/6/2016