

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. 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.

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 011-130	Report Date November 1, 2019	Period Covered by Report November 1, 2018-September 30, 2019
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Project Name
Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion

Project Sponsor Name
Audubon Dakota

Responsible Official (Last, First Middle) Johnson, Marshall	Responsible Official's Title V.P., Executive Director
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Project Sponsor Address
2315 University Drive North Suite 15

City Fargo	State ND	Zip Code 58102	Telephone Number 701-298-3373
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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*	Total Funds Spent to Date	Balance of Remaining Funds
Match Funding	\$9,526.40	\$9,526.40	\$80,473.60
In-kind Funding	\$23,282.74	\$25,900.30	\$141,012.70
OHF Funding	\$100,544.36	\$100,544.36	\$429,455.64
Total	\$133,353.50	\$135,971.06	\$650,941.94

Do you anticipate needing to request a grant extension? /_/ Yes /x/ No

If yes, please explain:

*As appropriate please provide copies of receipts for purchases.

Work Completed during Period Covered by Report:

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

Since the last reporting period, Audubon Dakota has planted, enhanced and managed 188 urban acres in Fargo, Bismarck, Minot, and Grand Forks through the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Expansion.

In Fargo, common buckthorn removal was conducted at Forest River Nature Park on 20 acres in November 2018 and January 2019, led by volunteers and Prairie Restorations Inc. Cut trees were stump treated by PRI, and received a follow up foliar application in October 2019. Forest River (5 acres) and Briarwood (6 acres) nature parks prairie plantings received prescribed burns in May. Heritage Hills Nature Park (15 acres) and Pontes Prairie (10 acres) were mowed and harrowed in preparation for the high diversity enhancement seedlings in June. In August 5 acres at Lions Conservancy nature park were seeded. Throughout the summer months, Audubon Dakota continued collaborating with Prairie Restorations, Inc. to identify and implement management needs for the woodland and prairie habitats at enrolled UWP sites.

Across all sampled sites, overall avian species richness was 50 species. Forest River had the highest average avian diversity of any site (24 species), followed by Heritage Hills (22 species). Average individual birds observed at UWP sites was 10.82 birds per survey point. Heritage Hills had the highest number of individual birds per survey point (10 individuals), followed by Lemke Park (nine individuals per survey point) and Lions Conservancy Park (eight individuals per survey point). The most abundant bird species were American Robin (0.51 individuals per survey point), Common Grackle (0.51 individuals per survey point), Brown-headed Cowbird (0.47 individuals per survey point), Chipping Sparrow (0.46 individuals per survey point), and Song Sparrow (0.39 individuals per survey point).

In Bismarck, Russian olive trees were removed across 80 acres of Atkinson Nature Park between December 2018 and March 2019. In May, the Grand Forks Parks District prepped Zonta Nature Park for a June seeding on 2 acres. Unfortunately, a few days later a majority of the site flooded due to heavy summer rains, which negatively impacted a portion of the new planting. On the acres not flooded though, a great flush of native plant species were recorded. Audubon will monitor the site vegetation in spring 2020 to determine the need for reseeding. In July, PRI planted 4,000 native trees such as Juneberry, American linden, pin cherry, and American cranberry bush, and planted native prairie at Atkinson Nature Park to return plant biodiversity to the area after the Russian olive removal.

Avian surveys were conducted at two Bismarck UWP sites in 2019. A total of 23 species were observed at the Bismarck sites, with 19 species observed at Atkinson Park and 10 species observed at Zonta Park. Both sites had similar amounts of individual birds per survey point, with 13.3 birds observed per point at Atkinson Park and 13.5 birds observed per point at Zonta Park. The most abundant species were Mourning Dove (1.5 individuals per survey point) and House Sparrow, Warbling Vireo, Yellow Warbler, and American Robin, each with 1.25 individuals per survey point.

In Minot, Russian olives and excess woody materials were removed from Woodland Trail Park across 30 acres. Oak Park (10 acres) will receive Russian olive removal in the winter of 2019-2020, while Nubbin Park (5 acres) will be seeded in spring 2020.

In Grand Forks, the English Coulee Nature Park (5 acres) was site prepped by the Grand Forks Park District in August 2019, and seeded the same month by PRI. Unfortunately, the city experienced a major rainfall event (up to 6 inches) that caused the English Coulee to come out of its banks. This event, and sequential rain and snowfall, will likely influence the success of the planting. However, Audubon will diligently monitor the site in the spring to determine if a reseeding is necessary.

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.

This report was prepared pursuant to an agreement with the Industrial Commission of North Dakota, which partially funded the project through the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Project participants, its subcontractors, and the Industrial Commission of North Dakota, or any person acting on its behalf, do not:

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Signature of Responsible Official





Tree planting at Atkinson Nature Park, Bismarck.
Photo: Audubon



Prescribed burn at Forest River Nature Park, Fargo.
Photo: Audubon