

Contract No. 012-131
“Livestock & Wildlife Dams - Creation & Enhancement”

Submitted by ND Natural Resources Trust (NDNRT)

Primary Contact: Rick Warhurst

Directives C, A, B

PARTICIPANTS

Sponsor	Cost Share	
Landowners	\$ 62,500.00	
NDNRT	<u>\$ 68,500.00</u>	
Subtotal Cash Cost Share		\$ 131,000.00
 NDNRT	 <u>\$ 7,850.00</u>	
Subtotal In-kind Cost Share		\$ 7,850.00
 North Dakota Industrial Commission	 <u>\$138,850.00</u>	
Subtotal OHF Funding		<u>\$138,850.00</u>
Total Project Cost		\$277,700.00

Project Schedule: 4 years
 Contract Date: 10/1/2018
 Start Date: 10/1/2018
 Completion Date: ~~11/1/2022~~ 4/1/21

<u>Project Deliverables</u>	
Status Report:	May 1, 2019 ✓
Status Report:	November 1, 2019 ✓
Status Report:	May 1, 2020 ✓
Status Report:	November 1, 2020 ✓
Status Report:	May 1, 2021 ✓

OBJECTIVE/STATEMENT OF WORK:

By completing new wetlands or repairing small, nonfunctional dams, the objective of this project is to create and enhance aquatic habitats of twelve separate wetlands covering approximately 78 acres. When functional, these wetlands will facilitate the enhancement of surrounding grassland habitat exceeding 4,000 acres.

STATUS:

The contract has been approved and executed by all the parties.

May 2019

One wetland creation project was completed during the reporting period. A 7.3 acre wetland was created on private land owned by Al Gross of Fargo. The project is located in Burleigh County. This project site is enrolled in the ND Game & Fish PLOTS program. A sign will be installed giving recognition to OHF.

Reconnaissance was conducted on the following potential projects:

- Wetland restoration site in McLean county. An agreement has been signed with Ducks Unlimited to perform contract engineering services for restoration of the 30-acre wetland. Topography survey has been completed and engineering design is in progress. An agreement will be signed soon.
- Wetland in Morton county. Agreements with Ducks Unlimited to perform contract engineering services will be signed soon.

Discussion was conducted with ND Game & Fish regarding which wetland sites on Raab Wildlife Management Area in Stark county will be created, restored, and enhanced. Work has begun to determine structural needs, dirt work quantities and cost estimates for each wetland on this tract.

An agreement was signed with a landowner in McKenzie county for the creation of a 5.3 acre wetland. Completion of the project will occur during the next reporting period.

November 2019

Engineering design plans were completed for the Harmon Lake Wetland Project located in Morton County. The NDNRT paid \$4,623.00 for completion of this engineering design (see attached documentation). This expense is split 70% OHF = \$3,236.10 and 30% NDNRT = \$1,386.90. A Wetland Creation and Enhancement Agreement between NDNRT and the Morton County Water Resources Water Board was signed to allow this project to be done (Attached). A Construction Agreement was signed by NDNRT with Guthmiller and Son Dirtworks (Attached) to complete the project. Because of excessively wet conditions the work has not been completed this fall. The plan is to complete the project in the spring of 2020.

Plans for the Myron Lick Wetland Restoration site in McLean County are moving forward. The engineering design was submitted to the North Dakota State Water Commission for permitting. We are awaiting approval. Construction is planned for summer, 2020.

Reconnaissance of four projects sites in Sioux County was performed during the summer.

Due to wet conditions this fall construction at several project sites was not able to be done this fall. All of these sites should be constructed in 2020.

May 2020

One 3.4 acre wetland creation project on private land was completed during this report period. The project was located in Burleigh County. The project included earthen embankment construction, installation of a primary spillway riser and pipe, grass seeding, development of an emergency spillway and fence installation to protect the embankment. A sign will be erected this spring on the site recognizing OHF cooperation and funding for this project.

Final engineering design plans were completed for the Harmon Lake Wetland Project located in Morton County. A Construction Agreement has been signed by NDNRT with Guthmiller and Son Dirtworks to complete the project this summer.

A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 404 Permit Application was completed and submitted for the Myron Lick Wetland Restoration Project. We are hopeful that permitting for this project will be approved and the project completed this summer.

November 2020

Nine separate wetlands, covering 57.4 acres, were created or enhanced during the report period.

- Wetland enhancement on a 1.1 acre wetland located in Morton County
- One 5.3 acre wetland creation located in McKenzie County
- Wetland repairs on a 6.8 wetland located in Grant County
- Wetland enhancements on two wetlands, 17 and 4.6 acres in size, located in Sioux County
- Wetland enhancements on three wetlands totaling 19.4 acres located in Sioux County
- Wetland repairs on a 3.2 acre wetland in Oliver County

April 2021

Three separate wetlands totaling 4.68 surface acres were created on Raab Wildlife Management Area (WMA) located in Stark county during this reporting period. Raab WMA is owned and managed by the ND Game and Fish Department and is open for public access, including hunting.

Project Results:

The creation and enhancement of 10 wetlands covering 67 surface acres developed on private land will supply water for livestock production for seven North Dakota ranchers, facilitate the enhancement of surrounding grassland habitat exceeding 4,000 acres and improve their ranching operations and ranch economics. Many wetland wildlife species populations will be improved by these new and enhanced wetlands sites and acres. Several of these wetland project sites are enrolled in the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's PLOTS Program and are open to public access.

This project is now closed. All awarded funds were spent.

Date: 4/7/2021