

OHF FINAL REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Number: 014-149

Recipient: Dunn County Park Board

Award Amount: \$85,600

Total Project Costs: \$406,964

Total OHF Funds Received: \$85,600



Goal of Project:

The Little Missouri Recreation Area is located north of Dunn Center at the mouth of the Little Missouri River. This recreation area is unique in that it is surrounded by North Dakota Badlands and provides valuable access to Lake Sakakawea in an area with little public access.

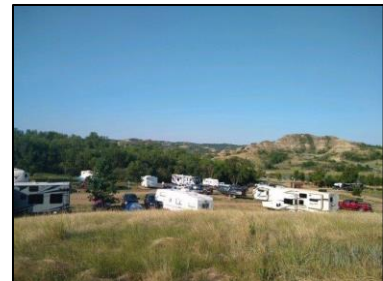
The Dunn County Park Board, with a community planning committee, designed a campground that will add 30 RV campsites and 4 tent sites to the Missouri River/Lake Sakakawea camping inventory. Additionally, the development plan included the mowing of old road beds to provide non-motorized trails for recreation use and pedestrian water access. Development of the area will include a shoreline public picnic area.

Work Accomplished:

The Little Mo Campground successfully opened for the 2021 Camping Season on May 15. Each of the 30 RV sites located within the Campground boasts both water and electricity hook ups. Additionally, the facility provides two full service camping sites for Hosts. The four tent sites, located in the middle of the facility share water access. Each of the 34 (36 with Host) sites have picnic tables and fire rings.

Visitors to the area have shoreline access near the main boat ramp, as well as, the northern most point of the campground. (*Lowest water access will be secured from this point in 2022.*) Picnic areas under the shoreline tree area are located near the main boat ramp. The campground sets in two natural valleys near the lake leaving the majority of the recreation area along the shoreline undeveloped and open to wildlife.

The ND Game and Fish assisted in the installation of a fish cleaning station at the southern end of the recreation area. Anglers can access the cleaning station as they exit the parking lot.



The recreation area has a new RV dump station and water facilities for dumping. Fencing was built around the garbage cans to assist in the policing for trash. The local community of Halliday provides garbage service.

3.18 miles of walking trails have been groomed. The trails wander through the undeveloped shoreline area, through the Campground and into the surrounding badland terrain.

The recreation area road access was paved with the assistance of the Federal Lands Access Program.

Project Results:

All reservations for The Little Mo can be made at [Little Mo Campground - Halliday, North Dakota \(webreserv.com\)](http://webreserv.com). The North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund is recognized as a project partner and funder of the facility on the reservation site. Additionally, similar information is posted on the bulletin board at the Campground.

The Project generated a lot of excitement with the campground quickly filling up on the weekends through reservations. Lake Sakakawea water levels became an ongoing issue, mid-summer to the end of the season with many guests canceling reservations noting water levels as the reason. In the end, the Memorial to Labor Day saw a 20% occupancy rate with the peak occupancy of 30% in the month of July, supported mostly by the first two weekends.

It is important to note that as more people became familiar with the area, there was a noticeable increase of non-water seeking patrons who simply wanted to get away for the weekend. Day use facilities were utilized at an increased rate as the water receded.

Value to North Dakota:

Where the North Dakota prairie gives way to the badlands, families may once again interact with the environment through camping, hiking and improved access. The partnership between the Dunn County Park Board, North Dakota Game and Fish, the Corps of Engineers and the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund has built a recreational facility that preserves the undeveloped shoreline and allows for a greater mixed-use recreational opportunity, for this and future generations.