

Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant Application



Instructions

After completing the form, applications and supporting documentation may be submitted by e-mail to ndicgrants@nd.gov. It is preferred that only electronic copies are submitted.

You are not limited to the spacing provided, except in those instances where there is a limit on the number of words. If you need additional space, please indicate that on the application form, answer the question on a separate page, and include with your submission.

The application and all attachments must be received by the application deadline. You may submit your application at any time prior to the application deadline. **Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit applications prior to the deadline for staff review in order ensure that proposals will be complete when submitted on deadline date.** Incomplete applications may not be considered for funding.

Please review the back of this form to determine project eligibility, definitions, budget criteria, and statutory requirements.

Project Name: TRPL Prairie Enhancement Land Management Phase 1

Name of Organization: Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Foundation

Federal Tax ID#: 47-1324043

Contact Person/Title: Kelli Gardner, Corporation and Foundation Relations Associate

Address: 350 Third Ave

City: Medora

State: ND

Zip Code: 58645

E-mail Address: kelli@trlibrary.com

Web Site Address (If applicable): <https://www.trlibrary.com/>

Phone: 203-470-8504

List names of co-applicants if this is a joint proposal

MAJOR Directive:

Choose only one response

Directive A. Providing access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;

Directive B. Improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and by supporting other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;

Directive C. Developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and

Directive D. Conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

Additional Directive:

Choose all that apply

Directive A.

Directive B.

Directive C.

Directive D.

Type of organization:

State Agency

Political Subdivision

Tribal Entity

Tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation.

Abstract/Executive Summary.

Summarize the project, including its objectives, expected results, duration, total project costs and participants. (no more than 500 words)

The TRPL is pursuing an ambitious and significant prairie restoration project, which consists of collecting seed of local genetic origin for over 100 species of plants indigenous to the TRPL site, but for which seed volume and local genetics is limited. Many of these plants are not commercially available and are diminished in number in the western ND wild. After these seeds are collected, they will be cleaned and tested and then planted in nurseries in order to produce hearty native plants. Some of these plants will be transferred as plugs to the TRPL site while others will have their seeds harvested and then those seeds will be broadcast on site. This will result in a landscape that is populated with all native, genetically sourced plants. A project like this has never been done before in ND. These native seeds will be available for others going forward. Our big picture objectives will be to restore and replenish the native ecosystems of the existing Badland plant communities, increase the availability of indigenous seed with local genetics of western ND prairie, create an outdoor public space that will provide opportunities for recreation and renewal for local communities, and finally, be a living classroom and sustainability exemplar to inspire, educate, and motivate others to find ways to live more sustainably. Expected results for this project are a restoration of ecological balance and

increased biodiversity of the grassland landscape with healthy soils that supports human use as well as animal biodiversity, habitat, and livestock grazing and engaged local community and stakeholders, who find that the TRPL is not only a good neighbor but an accessible and restorative place to recreate. There will be a trailhead on site that will connect with the Maah Daah Hey Trail for hikers, horseback riders, and mountain bikers. We expect the TRPL to be among the most visited public parks in ND (all outdoor spaces at TRPL will be open to the public) and one of the most sustainable museums in the world. Another result of this project is the contribution of research about western ND prairie plants and availability of local and indigenous seed, which is currently not commercially available. Project duration for this phase is June 2023 to August 2024. Total project costs for this first phase are \$1,345,185 which includes growing the native plants, weed control on site, restoring the firebreak scar, creating the trailhead structure and berm and the crushed aggregate trail, and installing wildlife-friendly cattle fencing. There are many who are participating in this important work. Local landowners, Theodore Roosevelt’s Ranchlands, and the United States Forest Service are all important partners for collecting the local, indigenous plants. NDSU Research Extension Center in Hettinger will house and cultivate the native plants. RES, our ecologists, along with Snøhetta and Confluence make up our site design team. JE Dunn is our construction manager and will manage the installation of the plants. We hope the Outdoor Heritage Fund will be a partner in this project.

Project Duration:

Indicate the intended schedule for drawing down OHF funds.

This project is focused on the first phase of work in enhancing and replenishing the land surrounding the TRPL as we prepare for and begin construction. This phase of enhancement work will occur primarily between June 2023 and August 2024. Of course, these efforts in responsible and sustainable land management will be ongoing and a key aspect of the TRPL’s day-to-day operations. We anticipate needing the majority of the requested funds in late summer 2023.

Amount of Grant request: \$939,105

Total Project Costs: \$1,345,185

Note: in-kind and indirect costs can be used for matching funds.

Amount of Matching Funds: \$406,080

A minimum of 25% Match Funding is required. Indicate if the matching funds will be in-kind, indirect or cash. Please provide verification that these matching funds are available for your project. Note that effective as of July 1, 2015 no State General Fund dollars can be used for a match unless funding was legislatively appropriated for that purpose.

Amount of Match	Funding Source	Type of Match (Cash, In-kind or Indirect)
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\$2,480	Billings County	In-kind
\$3,600	NDSU	In-kind
\$400,000	TRPL	cash
\$		
\$		
\$		

Certifications

I certify that this application has been made with the support of the governing body and chief executive of my organization.

I certify that if awarded grant funding none of the funding will be used for any of the exemptions noted in the back of this application.

Narrative

Organization Information – Briefly summarize your organization’s history, mission, current programs and activities.

Include an overview of your organizational structure, including board, staff and volunteer involvement. (no more than 300 words)

We are building a presidential library and museum for Theodore Roosevelt in Medora, ND. Our mission is to explore the life, legacy, and enduring relevance of our 26th president. We have a vision for a presidential library that speaks to the staggering beauty of the Western American landscape, 19th-century American virtues, and fully interactive and digital 21st-century presentation. This is a concept that we hope will inspire bold action and fearless participation *in the arena* and challenge all of us to dare greatly, think boldly, live passionately, and care deeply, just like TR. Practical progress toward realizing the TRPL includes raising over \$200M since 2018, unlocking a \$50M endowment from the North Dakota Legislature to support our ongoing operations, the retaining of our architect Snøhetta, our decision to construct the facility as part of the Living Building Challenge, a carbon-neutral designation, and the official acquisition of 93.8 acres of land adjacent to Theodore Roosevelt National Park in Medora in June 2022. The dramatic landscape of the Badlands, striking in natural beauty, was

restorative to TR. Our design concept marries with the Badlands topography and facilitates a conservation ambition, while also including a contradiction like TR—landscape in harmony with a bold vision. It promotes biodiversity, conservation, and stewardship of the land. Deep in our conceptual thinking is a model of self-reliance that uses no more than it takes. It is a concept that leapfrogs baseline building code specifications as well as best practices of peer institutions, boasting the top category LEED Platinum certification. Upon opening, we expect net-zero energy, carbon emissions, and water with full habitat restoration. By 2032, we aim to achieve net-zero waste as well. Groundbreaking for the building is expected in 2023 and the anticipated grand opening is on July 4, 2026—the 250th anniversary of America. We have 15 board members, 16 full-time staff, 4 part-time staff, and 1 very-involved volunteer.

Purpose of Grant – Describe the proposed project identifying how the project will meet the specific directive(s) of the Outdoor Heritage Fund Program

Identify project goals, strategies and benefits and your timetable for implementation. Include information about the need for the project and whether there is urgency for funding. Indicate if this is a new project or if it is replacing funding that is no longer available to your organization. Identify any innovative features or processes of your project. Note: if your proposal provides funding to an individual, the names of the recipients must be reported to the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund. These names will be disclosed upon request.

For tree/shrub/grass plantings: provide a planting plan describing the site design, planting methods, number of trees/shrubs by species and stock size, grass species and future maintenance. A statement certifying that the applicant will adhere to USDA-NRCS tree/shrub/grass planting specifications along with the name of the governmental entity designing the planting may be substituted for a planting plan.

For projects including Section 319 funding: provide in detail the specific best management practices that will be implemented and the specific projects for which you are seeking funding.

For projects including fencing: A minimum cost share of 40% by the recipient is preferred. Include detailed information on the type of fencing to be installed, whether funding is requested for boundary fencing, new or replacement of existing fencing, and/or cross fencing.

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Theodore Roosevelt had a powerful vision of sustainability in his time: he embraced conservation and helped to expand the nation’s national parks, forests, and bird reserves. To be truly sustainable today, however, we must—as TR would—dare to go above and beyond. The TRPL will enhance conservation practices in North Dakota, both through our own sustainable choices and ongoing operations as well as through the model of sustainability we will provide to others. Recognizing the prime importance of the Badlands to TR’s story, we begin from the premise that the Library is the landscape and cannot be thought of as separate entities. This concept promotes biodiversity, conservation, and stewardship of the land upon which the Library is built. The TRPL was specifically designed to function in harmony with the unique ecology surrounding it. As part of those efforts, the TRPL is embarking on a prairie enhancement and land management program that will enhance habitat for pollinators and wildlife and improve soil conditions. The site design is focused on managing the land to restore and replenish native ecosystems. Practices such as grazing and prescribed burns will be designed into the Library’s calendar as regular ecological events. This environmental stewardship will help manage invasive species, encourage biodiversity, and promote healthy ecosystems across the site for visitors to observe and enjoy. The design of the Library will be carefully planned to minimize negative impact to the landscape and existing site systems.

In this first stage of work we are focusing on restoring indigenous plants to our site and preparing the land for grazing. Decades of human activity have diminished the diversity of native ND Badlands prairie species, including rare and endangered plants. Moreover, we have found that very few of these native species are even available for purchase commercially. And the few that are available, have not been grown in western ND; plants grown from these seeds would be native to North Dakota's Badlands but not genetically related. Therefore, the TRPL, in partnership with ecologists and local stakeholders, is collecting and cultivating native seeds to grow these unique plants on site, helping to restore ecological balance and increase biodiversity in this striking grassland landscape.

Enhancement of the grasslands at TRPL will improve habitat for many bird species that Theodore Roosevelt observed during his time in North Dakota. Roosevelt described the North Dakota state bird, the Western Meadowlark, as "The meadow lark is a singer of a higher order, deserving to rank with the best. Its song has length, variety, power and rich melody; and there is in it sometimes a cadence of wild sadness, inexpressibly touching." Unfortunately, the meadowlark is declining at a rate of 1.3% annually in North Dakota. It is listed as a Species of Conservation Priority in the North Dakota State Wildlife Action Plan (<https://gf.nd.gov/wildlife/swap>), the state's principal document for safeguarding rare and declining species. Meadowlarks are synonymous with cattle pastures. Prescribed grazing at TRPL will be crucial to maintaining healthy grasslands and grassland structure that meadowlarks prefer for nesting.

Another endemic grassland bird which has declined significantly but may benefit from the grassland enhancement efforts at TRPL is the Sprague's Pipit. This species, which breeds only in a small portion of the Northern Great Plains, has declined 75% since 1970 (Rosenberg et al. 2016, <https://partnersinflight.org/resources/the-plan/>). The pipit is a secretive, nondescript, small grassland bird that is not readily seen like the Western Meadowlark. However, the bird's song is unmistakable, and unforgettable to those who have witnessed it. During Roosevelt's time, the Sprague's Pipit was referred to as the Missouri Skylark. His description perfectly describes this legendary bird "Sometimes in the early morning, when crossing the open, grassy plateaus, I have heard the prince of them all, the Missouri skylark. The skylark sings on the wing, soaring overhead and mounting in spiral curves until it can hardly be seen, while its bright, tender strains never cease for a moment."

Other birds listed as Species of Conservation Priority in the North Dakota Wildlife Action Plan that may benefit from grassland enhancement at TRPL include: American Kestrel, Baird's Sparrow, Bobolink, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Grasshopper Sparrow, Lark Bunting, Loggerhead Shrike, Long-billed Curlew, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Sprague's Pipit, Upland Sandpiper, and Western Meadowlark. Other reptile, mammal and insect Species of Conservation Priority include Plains Spadefoot, Short-horned Lizard, Big Brown Bat, Little Brown Bat, Long-eared Bat, Long-legged Bat, Merriam's Shrew, Northern Long-eared Bat, Merriam's Shrew, Sagebrush Vole, Swift Fox, Townsend's Big-eared Bat, Western Small-footed Bat, Monarch Butterfly, and Regal Fritillary.

We understand that this prairie enhancement work is a long-term project that will be ongoing for many years and require the support and insight of local and expert partners. Following the advice and feedback we received from the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board last Fall, TRPL has decided to focus our efforts on moving the native seed development forward with our partners. Since last fall, TRPL managed to collect and clean the seeds from the Little Missouri Badlands region through the help of many volunteers and the support of a few generous benefactors. We have also found a capable and knowledgeable partner in Ben Geaumont. Dr. Geaumont will own and grow the native plants at the NDSU Hettinger Research Extension Center until they are ready to be harvested for healthy seed to be planted on site.

What we are asking Outdoor Heritage Fund's help with in this phase of work is the following:

1. Help supporting the vital work of NDSU in housing and cultivating the native plants (specifically: labor and transportation of the plugs to the NDSU facility), as well as supporting the production of new plugs for recovering crop loss at NDSU in 2024.
2. Help supporting construction of the trailhead that will connect to the Maah Daah Hey Trail for hikers, horseback riders and mountain bikers.
3. Preparing and seeding areas of TRPL's site that need attention before construction, specifically restoring the scar resulting from the fire break (earthwork, grading, seed purchase, labor, irrigation) and creating and planting the trailhead berm (seed purchase and earthwork), which will protect the site from artificial light spilling into the landscape.
4. Weed control (herbicide) on TRPL's site to protect the native plants when they are installed.
5. Installing wildlife-friendly cattle fencing, both permanent and temporary that will be necessary to implement our long-term grazing plan, which is vital to prairie management and ongoing maintenance of a healthy ecosystem.

The work outlined here will all take place approximately between June 2023 and August 2024.

The TRPL will not only be a place where visitors can learn about and from the life and lessons of Theodore Roosevelt, it will also be one of the most sustainable museums in the world. Central to our sustainability goals is to lead by example and be a resource for others. We will educate our visitors about our ongoing prairie enhancement and sustainable land management techniques, serving in a sense as a small nature center. All of TRPL's outdoor spaces, including our large, occupiable, green roof, will be publicly accessible year-round upon opening. The vision for the TRPL is bold, innovative, and transformative—especially for North Dakota. As a result, there is an urgency for enthusiastic local support. Outdoor Heritage Fund's partnership is vital to the success of the project.

Is this project part of a Comprehensive Conservation Plan?  Yes  No.

YES

If yes, provide a copy with the application.

*Note: Projects involving buildings and infrastructure will only be considered if part of a Comprehensive Conservation Plan. Please refer to the "Definitions" section at the back of the form for more details.*

**Management of Project – Provide a description of how you will manage and oversee the project to ensure it is carried out on schedule and in a manner that best ensures its objectives will be met.**

Include a brief background and work experience for those managing the project.

We have a talented collection of partners who are helping us achieve this work. Our site design team is made up of Resource Environmental Solutions (RES), Confluence, and Snøhetta. RES is the nation's largest ecological restoration company. Confluence is a landscape architecture, planning, and urban design firm. Snøhetta is a world-renowned Norwegian and U.S. based architecture and design firm. Together, these three teams have designed and will implement our prairie enhancement project. In addition to our site design team, JE Dunn is our construction manager, and Sherwood and AE2S are our civil engineers.

Benjamin Geaumont is our partner at NDSU and prairie enhancement consultant. He has been a wildlife and range science research assistant professor at the Hettinger Research Extension Center since 2011. Originally from Deering, New Hampshire, he holds a BS degree in Biology from Keene State College and MS and PhD degrees in natural resources management from NDSU. After completing his PhD, he worked as a post-doc at the HREC. In 2011, a multiple land use position was funded by the

ND legislature as part of the Soil Health Initiative. He applied and was offered the job which is his current position. Geaumont is responsible for the development of the Multiple Land Use program at the HREC which includes conducting research projects, writing manuscripts, mentoring both undergraduate and graduate students, as well as securing funds for future research projects. Geaumont's main research goal is to provide stakeholders with information to help them better manage the land for multiple uses; essentially providing applicable knowledge that will be useful for the management of natural resources. With a limited land base and many demands placed upon it, the idea behind the research is to help meet these demands through applied research.

These teams are overseen by TRPL's Design and Construction team led by Tony Erickson and Ken Vein. Tony is our Associate Director of Design and Construction. He has 18 years of experience in the design and construction industry. Over the past 9 years, Tony served as facility manager of a large healthcare system, where he managed over 500 million dollars of capital projects. Ken Vein is our Director of Design and Construction. For nearly 20 years, Ken served as a Senior Leader and as Administrative Director of Plant and Facilities for Altru Health System in Grand Forks, ND. Before that, Ken was the City Engineer and Public Works Director for the City of Grand Forks. He also served as program manager for the construction of the Alerus Center and Tri-Chair for Recovery following the devastating Red River flood in 1997. During flood recovery, Ken oversaw rehabilitation of all public infrastructure and implementation of permanent flood protection, working directly with the Corps of Engineers, FEMA, and Geological Survey. TRPL is coordinating all the partners on this project and ensuring consistent progress through regular meetings and tracking of project milestones. This prairie enhancement project is occurring simultaneously with the construction of the TRPL building and is a key part of that larger project. Before TRPL opens, we plan to add a full-time position that will be dedicated to overseeing our ongoing sustainable land management work.

### **Evaluation – Describe your plan to document progress and results.**

Please be specific on the methods you will utilize to measure success. Note that regular reporting, final evaluation and expenditure reports will be required for every grant awarded.

As the TR Library has many precedent-setting sustainability goals that we are pursuing, evaluation of our success and documentation of our progress and process is a top priority. We hope to achieve and go beyond LEED Platinum, SITES Platinum, and the full Living Building Challenge Certification—all of which require detailed evaluation and reporting and will be clear markers of achieving our sustainability goals.

For our native plant project, we have specific goals and expectations, which have been laid out for us by our ecologists. These goals pertain to the native plant project as a whole and not just the phase 1 work that we have focused this application on.

Seed Collection (2023, 2024) - The measure of success is to meet the target seed quantities and number of native species with wild seed collections spanning two years. We need 700-800 pounds of pure live seed for all plantings, with about 30 percent of that in the first phase of the project. We are striving to collect 100-150 species of plants native to North Dakota rangeland and that grow near the Library site. The actual quantities and number of species depend on the amount of rainfall, plant distribution and rarity, and other uncontrollable factors.

Expansion of Seed Availability (2023, 2024) - The measure of success is to meet the number of live plants needed to establish nursery beds at NDSU nursery facilities, in order to harvest in 2023 and 2024 additional quantities of seed of species that are hard to collect or that make up an important component of the seed mixes being planted at the Library site. We are targeting 30-35 species of native North Dakota rangeland plants, with the goal of providing about 35,000 live plants to be installed in



NDSU nursery beds. The harvested amount from mature nursery beds is estimated to be 100 pounds per acre of nursery beds, and the nursery beds may occupy up to four acres of ground. However, harvest depends on weather conditions and the speed at which the beds mature, so the actual amount harvested from beds may be less than the estimated amount.

Native Prairie Seeding and Planting at the Library site (2024, 2025) - The measure of success is to seed the required acreage and plant the required number of live plants in order to complete the planting plans at the Library site. Approximately 33 acres will be seeded in the first phase of the Library project, and at least 200,000 live plants will be installed on the roof, in the stormwater management areas, and other special locations of the site. Standard requirements for survivorship have not been set, but typically live plant survival should be greater than 90% at one year after planting, and seeded areas should support at three years after seeding over half the species that were planted.

## Financial Information

**Project Budget – Use the table below to provide an itemized list of project expenses and describe the matching funds being utilized for this project.**

Indicate if the matching funds are in the form of cash, indirect costs or in-kind services. The budget should identify all other committed funding sources and the amount of funding from each source. **A minimum of 25% match funding is required.** An application will be scored higher the greater the amount of match funding provided. (See Scoring Form.)

Certain values have been identified for in-kind services as detailed under “Budget Information” at the back of this form. Refer to that section and utilize these values in identifying your matching funds.

**NOTE: No indirect costs will be funded. Supporting documentation for project expenses, including bids, must be included or application will be considered incomplete.**

| Project Expense         | OHF Request       | Applicant's Match Share (Cash) | Applicant's Match Share (In-Kind) | Applicant's Match Share (Indirect) | Other Project Sponsor's Share | Total Each Project Expense |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Weed Control            | \$5,000           | \$ 5,000                       | \$2,480                           | \$                                 | \$                            | \$12,480                   |
| Firebreak Scar          | \$35,951          | \$30,000                       | \$                                | \$                                 | \$                            | \$65,951                   |
| Native Plants at NDSU   | \$123,087         | \$                             | \$3,600                           | \$                                 | \$                            | \$126,687                  |
| Trailhead Structure     | \$413,819         | \$200,000                      |                                   |                                    |                               | \$613,819                  |
| Trailhead Berm          | \$97,002          | \$50,000                       |                                   |                                    |                               | \$147,002                  |
| Crushed Aggregate Trail | \$242,334         | \$100,000                      | \$                                | \$                                 | \$                            | \$342,334                  |
| Cattle Fencing          | \$21,912          | \$15,000                       | \$                                | \$                                 | \$                            | \$36,912                   |
|                         | \$                | \$                             | \$                                | \$                                 | \$                            | \$                         |
| <b>Total Costs</b>      | <b>\$ 939,105</b> | <b>\$ 400,000</b>              | <b>\$6,080</b>                    | <b>\$</b>                          | <b>\$</b>                     | <b>\$1,345,185</b>         |

Note: Costs for seeding, fencing, pipelines, wells, and cover crops cannot exceed NRCS Field Office Tech Guide without justification. Projects involving perimeter fencing must follow NRCS eligibility standards.

**Budget Narrative – Use the space below to provide additional detail regarding project expenses.**

Weed Control:

Prairie Land Consulting out of South Dakota will be providing us with the herbicide necessary to eradicate noxious weeds (as dictated by ND State Law). They will spot spray in the spring (not in budget) and again in the fall of 2023, and continue in subsequent years. The estimated cost for the fall is \$10,000, which includes both the cost of the chemical as well as the labor.

Billings County provided \$2,480 of in-kind support in the form of the labor and supplies necessary to collect and release the beetles on TRPL's site as biocontrol agents. Labor: 7 people for 4 hours at \$15/hour (\$420). Supplies: \$200. This will be done 4 times June-July 2023-2024.

Restoration of Firebreak Scar:

We have contracted with Midwest Erosion Control, located in Dickinson, ND, to do this work. Breakdown of costs: \$58,462 for the specialized labor to do the earthwork. \$3,589 to purchase the native seed (for about 1 acre of land). \$3900 for the labor for establishment and irrigation.

Native Plant Nursery at NDSU:

We have contracted with Dr. Ben Geaumont and his team at NDSU Hettinger Research Extension to house and cultivate the native plants until they are ready to be harvested for healthy seed that will be planted on site. Our ecologists, RES, collected, cleaned, and propagated the wild collected seed. In June these plugs will be transported from the RES Greenhouse in Wisconsin to NDSU. This transportation cost is \$19,000. We are purchasing these plugs from RES (36,000 plugs) for \$28,529.12. NDSU labor for 2023-2024 is \$60,000. We are estimating a need for a 30% refill to cover crop failure, which would be \$15,558 paid to RES for purchase and shipment of these plugs. NDSU has offered labor and land in-kind: Dr. Geaumont's consulting on the project (approximately 80 hours at \$30/hour) for \$2,400. NDSU is not charging us for the use of the land where the native plants will grow approximately 2 acres for 12 months between 2023 and 2024, (estimating \$50/acre/month): \$1200.

Trail, Trailhead and Berm:

Trailhead structure cost breakdown: Excavation \$12,614, Structure \$83,047, Enclosure \$460,168, Carpentry \$20,418, Roofing \$34,295, Paint \$3,277.

Trailhead Berm cost breakdown: Fill \$53,363, Planting Soil Type 1 \$25,900, Plug Mixture Type 3: \$67,739. We have contracted with Midwest Erosion Control, located in Dickinson, ND, to do this work.

The Crushed Aggregate Trail will cross the property to join up to the Maah Daah Hey Trail: \$342,334.

Wildlife-Friendly Cattle Fencing:

We will install 8,372 ft of linear foot barb wire to help facilitate our grazing plans. The supplies for fencing is \$30,092. The labor to install fencing is \$6,820. A TRPL benefactor will pay \$15,000 of the fencing.

TRPL's Match Share

With generous support from our benefactors, TRPL will manage to cover \$400,000 (i.e., 30% of the total project cost) of this first phase of prairie enhancement work. In the budget above we have spread this out across the budget items, but this can be allocated however best to suit all parties.

**Sustainability – Indicate how the project will be funded or sustained in future years.**

Include information on the sustainability of this project after OHF funds have been expended and whether the sustainability will be in the form of ongoing management or additional funding from a different source.

The TRPLF believes that “nonprofit” is a tax status, not a business plan. Not only are we the beneficiaries of a \$50M sustaining endowment set up by the State of North Dakota to help with ongoing operating costs, but we are also counting on various revenue streams, from venue rental to corporate sponsorships, to offset future fundraising efforts in the long term. Our long-term plan for sustaining our land management and prairie enhancement work does involve future fundraising, but specifically to sponsor an Ecology Enhancement Endowment fund. This endowment would provide ongoing support for continued landscaping costs, including an onsite ecologist and/or an interpretive guide, as well as groundskeeping, composting programs, and educational programs related to Land Ecology Enhancement. Our plans to fundraise for this endowment reflect how vital we feel ecological enhancement and education are to our mission and sustainability ambitions.

**Partial Funding – Indicate how the project will be affected if less funding is available than that requested.**

If we receive only partial funding for this project from the OHF, we will likely continue with the project but may have to do it on a smaller scale and/or over a longer period of time, unless other funding can be secured. We would be so grateful for the contribution of the Outdoor Heritage Fund. We are eager, in fact, to involve every North Dakota-focused funder, as we understand our project to be beneficial for the entire state, and beyond. Moreover, Outdoor Heritage Fund’s endorsement and partnership will no doubt attract more North Dakota benefactors to this important work.

**Partnership Recognition - If you are a successful recipient of Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars, how would you recognize the Outdoor Heritage Fund partnership? \* *There must be signage at the location of the project acknowledging OHF funding when appropriate.***

We would honor and recognize a gift from the Outdoor Heritage Fund with physical naming in both signage on site as well as in our related publicity materials. While we would need to work out specifics in terms of location of this signage and wording, with full funding the Outdoor Heritage Fund would be an important supporter of the first stage of our prairie enhancement and land management work. TRPL would be honored to have the Outdoor Heritage Fund as a named supporter of our project that we believe is vital to the conservation efforts of the state of North Dakota.

**Awarding of Grants - Review the appropriate sample contract for your organization on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm>.**

Can you meet all the provisions of the sample contract?  Yes  No YES

If there are provisions in that contract that your organization is unable to meet, please indicate below what those provisions would be:

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ABOUT OHF:

The purpose of the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund is to provide funding to state agencies, tribal governments, political subdivisions, and nonprofit organizations, with higher priority given to projects that enhance **conservation** practices in this state by:

Directive A. Providing access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;

Directive B. Improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and by supporting other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;

Directive C. Developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and

Directive D. Conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

EXEMPTIONS

Outdoor Heritage Fund grants may not be used to finance the following:

- Litigation;
- Lobbying activities;
- Any activity that would interfere, disrupt, or prevent activities associated with surface coal mining operations; sand, gravel, or scoria extraction activities; oil and gas operations; or other energy facility or infrastructure development;
- The acquisition of land or to encumber any land for a term longer than twenty years; or
- Projects outside this state or projects that are beyond the scope of defined activities that fulfill the purposes of Chapter 54-17.8 of the North Dakota Century Code.

OHF funds may not be used, except after a finding of exceptional circumstances by the Industrial Commission, to finance:

- A completed project or project commenced before the grant application is submitted;
- A feasibility or research study;
- Maintenance costs;
- A paving project for a road or parking lot;
- A swimming pool or aquatic park;
- Personal property that is not affixed to the land;

- Playground equipment, except that grant funds may be provided for up to 25% of the cost of the equipment not exceeding \$10,000 per project and all playground equipment grants may not exceed 5% of the total grants per year (see Definitions/Clarifications for how this will be calculated);
- Staffing or outside consultants except for costs for staffing or an outside consultant to design and implement an approved project based on the documented need of the applicant and the expenditures may not exceed 5% of the grant to a grantee if the grant exceeds \$250,000 and expenditures may not exceed 10% of the grant to a grantee if the grant is \$250,000 or less (see Definitions/Clarifications for how this will be calculated);
- A building except for a building that is included as part of a comprehensive conservation plan for a new or expanded recreational project (see Definitions/Clarifications for definition of comprehensive conservation plan and new or expanded recreational project); or
- A project in which the applicant is not directly involved in the execution and completion of the project.

The goal of the Industrial Commission is that at a minimum 15% of the funding received for a biennium will be given priority for recreation projects that meet Directive D.

The following projects are not eligible for funding, unless there is a finding of exceptional circumstances by the Industrial Commission include:

- Construction or refurbishment of indoor/outdoor ice rinks,
- Construction or refurbishment of indoor/outdoor athletic courts and sports fields,
- Other substantially similar facilities.
- Infrastructure that is not part of a comprehensive conservation plan.
- Projects not meeting a minimum funding request of \$2,500.

Budget Information

In-kind services used to match the request for Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars shall be valued as follows:

- Labor costs \$15.00 an hour
- Land costs Average rent costs for the county as shown in the most recent publication of the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Services, North Dakota Field Office
- Permanent Equipment Any equipment purchased must be listed separately with documentation showing actual cost. (For example: playground equipment)
- Equipment usage Actual documentation
- Seed & Seedlings Actual documentation
- Transportation Mileage at federal rate
- Supplies & materials Actual documentation

More categories will be added as we better understand the types of applications that will be submitted. We will use as our basis for these standards other State and Federal programs that have established rates. For example, the North Dakota Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Program has established rates. If your project includes work that has an established rate under another State Program, please use those rates and note your source.

Definitions/Clarifications:

Building - Defined as “A structure with a roof either with walls or without walls and is attached to the ground in a permanent nature.”

Comprehensive Conservation Plan - Defined as “A detailed plan that has been formally adopted by the governing board which includes goals and objectives--both short and long term, must show how this building will enhance the overall conservation goals of the project and the protection or preservation of wildlife and fish habitat or natural areas.” This does not need to be a complex multi-page document. It could be included as a part of the application or be an attachment.

New and Expanded Recreational Project means that the proposed building cannot be a replacement of a current building. The proposed building must also be related to either a new or expanded recreational project--either an expansion in land or an expansion of an existing building or in the opportunities for recreation at the project site.

Playground equipment calculation - Only the actual costs of the playground equipment (a bid or invoice showing the amount of the equipment costs must be provided) - cannot include freight or installation or surface materials or removal of old equipment, etc.

Staffing/Outside Consultants Costs - If you are requesting OHF funding for staffing or for an outside consultant, you must provide information in your application on the need for OHF funding to cover these costs. For example, if you are an entity that has engineering staff you must explain why you don't have sufficient staff to do the work or if specific expertise is needed or whatever the reason is for your entity to retain an outside consultant. If it is a request for reimbursement for staff time then a written explanation is required in the application of why OHF funding is needed to pay for the costs of that staff member(s) time. **The budget form must reflect on a separate line item the specific amount that is being requested for staffing and/or the hiring of an outside consultant.** This separate line item will then be used to make the calculation of 5% or 10% as outlined in the law. Note that the calculation will be made on the grant less the costs for the consultant or staff.

Maintenance – Activities that preserve or keep infrastructure in a given existing condition, including repairs. Repair means to restore to sound condition after damage, to renew or refresh; except repairs due to damage caused by Acts of God.

Scoring of Grants

Oral Presentation. Please note that you will be given an opportunity to make a ten-minute Oral Presentation at a meeting of the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board. These presentations are strongly encouraged.

Open Record. Please note that your application and any attachments will be open records as defined by law and will be posted on the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund website.

All applications will be scored by the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board after your ten-minute oral presentation. The ranking form that will be used by the Board is available on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm> .

Awarding of Grants

All decisions on requests will be reported to applicants no later than 30 days after Industrial Commission consideration. The Commission can set a limit on duration of an offer on each application or if there isn't a specific date indicated in the application for implementation of the project, then the applicant has until the next Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board regular

meeting to sign the contract and get the project underway or the commitment for funding will be terminated and the applicant may resubmit for funding. Applicants whose proposals have been approved will receive a contract outlining the terms and conditions of the grant.

Responsibility of Recipient

The recipient of any grant from the Industrial Commission must use the funds awarded for the specific purpose described in the grant application and in accordance with the contract. The recipient cannot use any of the funds for the purposes stated under Exemptions on the first page of this application.

If you have any questions about the application, the Commission can be reached at 701-328-3722 or outdoorheritage@nd.gov.

Revised: November 4, 2019, April 12, 2023