

Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant Application

The purpose of the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund is to provide funding to state agencies, tribal governments, political subdivisions, and nonprofit organizations to:

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

Directive B. Improve, maintain, and restore water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and to support other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;

Directive C. Develop, enhance, conserve, and restore wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and

Directive D. Conserve natural 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:

- A. Litigation;
- B. Lobbying activities;
- C. 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;
- D. The acquisition of land or to encumber any land for a term longer than twenty years; or
- E. 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.

Application Deadline

Applications for the first grant round cycle are due on **December 2, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. CST.** All information, including attachments, must be submitted by that date. See instructions below for submission information.

Instructions

It is our intent to have this form available on line. However, until that on-line form is available we are asking that you submit your application as a Word document. 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 except in those instances where there is a limit on the number of words. After completing the application, save it and attach it to an e-mail and send it to outdoorheritage@nd.gov .Then submit the Word document as noted in the following paragraph.

Attachments in support of your application may be sent by mail to North Dakota Industrial Commission, ATTN: Outdoor Heritage Fund Program, State Capitol – Fourteenth Floor, 600 East Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405, Bismarck, ND 58505 or by e-mail to outdoorheritage@nd.gov. The application and all attachments must be received or postmarked by the application deadline. You will be sent a confirmation by e-mail of receipt of your application.

You may submit your application at any time prior to the application deadline. Early submission is appreciated and encouraged to allow adequate time to review your application and ensure that all required information has been included. Incomplete applications may not be considered for funding. **Any item noted with an * is required.**

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 tentatively scheduled for the week of January 13, 2014. 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.

Name of Organization *Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Federal Tax ID# *13-5643799

Contact Person/Title *Rick Warhurst/Manager of Conservation Programs in North Dakota

Address *2525 River Road

City *Bismarck

State *North Dakota

Zip Code *58503

E-mail Address *rwarhurst@ducks.org

Web Site Address (Optional)

Phone *701-355-3500

Fax # (if available) 701-355-3512

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

MAJOR Directive: (select the Directive that best describes your grant request)*

Choose only one response

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

Directive B. Improve, maintain, and restore water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and to support other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;

Directive C. Develop, enhance, conserve, and restore wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and

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

Additional Directive: (select the directives that also apply to the grant application purpose)*

Choose all that apply

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

Type of organization: (select the category that describes your organization)*

State Agency

Political Subdivision

- O Tribal Entity
- X Tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation, as described in United States Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. § 501 (c))

Project Name* Aquatic Habitat Infrastructure Enhancement

Abstract/Executive Summary. An Executive Summary of the project stating its objectives, expected results, duration, total project costs and participants.* (no more than 500 words)

This project will restore, develop and enhance aquatic habitats located on privately and publicly owned and managed lands in North Dakota over a two-year time period (2014-2015). These aquatic habitats may include stock dam wetland impoundments, prairie pothole wetlands, larger, developed wetland management units or small lakes. Development activities include the construction of dams, dikes, levies and emergency spillways, installation of water control structures and development of water conveyance systems. Project development sites will be situated on private land managed for livestock production and on public lands such as North Dakota Game and Fish Department Wildlife Management Areas, North Dakota Trust Lands, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuges, Waterfowl Production Areas and Conservation Easement Land Tracts, U.S. Forest Service National Grasslands, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers properties. This proposal represents an on-going, longer-term program to enhance and develop the infrastructure of aquatic habitats in the state. Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (DU) will oversee all development work associated with this project and will cooperate with all land owners on which aquatic enhancement and development activities occur. Ducks Unlimited seeks \$800,000 of O.H.F. funds including \$650,000 for construction contracts and \$150,000 for engineering and other professional services provided in the development of habitat enhancement projects. DU will provide \$30,000 cash, \$30,000 of in-kind professional services and \$74,218 of indirect contribution to the project. Five probable project sites in five North Dakota counties have been identified for aquatic habitat enhancement work. These include sites located on privately owned land and public land owned by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Completion of these projects will enhance and restore 549 acres of aquatic habitat important to waterfowl and other wildlife populations. These aquatic habitats provide many benefits to people including; recreational opportunities for hundreds of people for such activities as hunting, bird watching, wildlife viewing, furbearer trapping and hiking, goods and services such as flood attenuation, improved water quality and groundwater recharge and economic gain and grassland enhancement for ranchers using the stock dam wetland impoundments for livestock water sources.

Amount of Grant request \$ *\$800,000

Total Project Costs \$*\$934,218

(Note that in-kind and indirect costs can be used for matching funds)

Amount of Matching Funds \$ Cash - \$30,000; In-Kind - \$30,000; Indirect Costs - \$74,218

If applicable

Please indicate if the matching funds will be in-kind, indirect or cash.

Source(s) of Matching Funds - Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

If applicable

Certifications *

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

X I certify that if awarded grant funding none of the funding will be used for any of the exemptions noted on Page 1 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)

Ducks Unlimited, Inc. is dedicated to conserving North America’s continually declining waterfowl habitats. Established in 1937, Ducks Unlimited has conserved more than 13 million acres in North America, thanks to more than one million supporters across the continent. DU’s mission is to conserve, restore, enhance and manage wetlands and associated habitats for North America’s waterfowl and other wildlife populations. These habitats also benefit people by filtering pollutants from our water, replenishing groundwater supplies and increasing flood storage capacity during storm events. DU is regarded among the scientific and conservation community as a world leader in wetlands conservation.

The DU Great Plains Regional Office (GPRO), located in Bismarck, ND, employs an engineering services department, wetland and waterfowl scientists, agronomists, and regional biologists stationed throughout a seven-state region in the Northern Great Plains of the U.S. DU biologists and engineers work with private landowners and public land management agencies to develop water and grassland

projects that are beneficial to agriculture and waterfowl populations. DU completed 1,280 conservation projects impacting 441,508 acres during 1984-2013 in North Dakota. DU has performed biological planning, engineering design, other professional services, construction contract administration and construction management on most of these completed projects. Construction contracts are awarded to private contractors through regulated procurement processes. DU has worked cooperatively with private land owners and public land management agencies in the completion of these projects.

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. Please 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.

This project will restore, develop and enhance aquatic habitats located on privately and publicly owned and managed lands in North Dakota over a two-year time period (2014 and 2015). These enhanced aquatic habitats will provide vital habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife populations and will also provide a wide range of benefits for people. Opportunities will exist on completed projects for access for recreational activities such as hunting, bird watching, wildlife viewing, furbearer trapping and hiking. Goods and services for society will result from completing these enhanced habitats and include flood attenuation, improved water quality and groundwater recharge. North Dakota ranchers will also see economic gain and enhanced grassland quality as their livestock use the developed and restored stock dam wetland impoundments as water sources. Because aquatic biomes are the world's most dynamic and productive biological system, biodiversity of plants and animals will also be enhanced as a result of completing this project. These aquatic habitats may include stock dam wetland impoundments, prairie pothole wetlands, larger, developed wetland management units or small lakes. Habitat development activities include the construction of dams, dikes, levies and emergency spillways, installation of water control structures, placing of water pumps and establishment of water diversion structures. This proposal represents part of an on-going, longer-term program to enhance and develop the infrastructure of aquatic habitats in North Dakota.

Project development sites will be situated on private land managed for livestock production and on public lands such as North Dakota Game and Fish Department Wildlife Management Areas, North Dakota Trust Lands, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuges, Waterfowl Production Areas and Conservation Easement Land Tracts, U.S. Forest Service National Grasslands, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers properties.

Since 1984, DU has completed 1,280 projects impacting 441,508 acres of wildlife habitat in North Dakota. DU has worked cooperatively with governmental agencies such as the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the completion of many of these projects on land owned and managed by the public agencies. DU has performed biological planning, engineering design and other professional services, construction bidding and oversight and construction management on numerous wetland habitat restoration, enhancement and development projects in North Dakota since 1984.

DU has also worked extensively with private land owners to enhance and develop wildlife habitat on their land in North Dakota and other states in the region. In many instances DU is the only agency or

organization performing wetland impoundment restoration, enhancement and development work. DU has completed projects on many Works Progress Administration (WPA) Dams in North and South Dakota. These historically significant impoundments supply livestock water sources and recreational sites in many areas of North Dakota. DU also seeks to develop wetland impoundments in landscapes dominated by grassland used for grazing. These wetlands supply valuable waterfowl breeding pair and brood-rearing habitat that is interspersed in excellent nesting cover and significantly enhance the biodiversity of plants and animals in these grasslands. The ponds also provide vital water sources for livestock production, improve water quality and help retain ranchers and the ranching lifestyle on the North Dakota landscape.

DU has cooperatively identified five probable aquatic habitat enhancement and restoration project sites covering 549 acres located in five North Dakota Counties. These sites include privately and publicly owned land. They include a private land site and public land owned by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The five sites include: (1) Bowman Haley - Alkali Creek Impoundment (58 acres) owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and managed by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department located in Bowman County, (2) Magnolia Dam (25 acres) owned and managed by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department located in Cass County, (3) Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge – Unit II Marsh (444 acres) owned and managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service located in Burleigh County, (4) Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge – Unit G19 Wetland (10 acres) owned and managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service located in Kidder County and (5) Jim Ehlert Dam (12 acres) owned and managed by Jim Ehlert located in Mountrail County. The completion of these projects will facilitate proper management of the aquatic habitats necessary to restore the functions and characteristics of productive wetland systems.

These projects represent aquatic habitat enhancement and restoration project sites that have immediate needs and in which no other funding exists for the aquatic enhancement, restoration and development work. DU will work cooperatively with all landowners of project sites and will oversee all development work associated with the projects. DU will use \$650,000 of O.H.F. funds for construction contract expenditures and \$150,000 of O.H. F. funds to pay for engineering and other professional services required to complete these projects. DU will provide a \$30,000 cash contribution, \$30,000 of in-kind professional services and \$74,218 of indirect contribution to completion of the project. The indirect rate is a federally approved indirect rate of .0863. DU has been the recipient of numerous state and federal grants and has developed federally approved procedures to account for all costs.

The five project sites identified in this proposal represent initial efforts to enhance, restore and develop aquatic habitats in North Dakota. Numerous other sites exist that have a need for future habitat restoration, enhancement and development actions.

Management of Project – Provide a description of how the 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.

Ducks Unlimited will oversee all enhancement and development work associated with completion of this project. For those project sites located on private land, DU will develop a Private Lands Habitat

Development Agreement that states the roles, contributions and responsibilities of DU and the landowner in the habitat enhancement and development work and in the future management of the project to restore the functionality and characteristics of a productive wetland. The Agreement will be dated and signed by the landowner and DU. In most instances, the project site on private land will be managed for livestock production and for wildlife habitat, specifically for waterfowl and other wildlife production.

For projects located on publicly owned and managed land DU will develop a Site Specific Agreement with the landowning agency or the management agency that identifies and details the habitat enhancement or development work that will be performed, DU's role in this work and the agency's contribution and responsibilities for future management of the completed project.

Managers of this project for DU are Rick Warhurst and Roger Smith. Rick Warhurst is Manager of Conservation Programs in North and South Dakota and Central Flyway. Rick has worked as a waterfowl and wetlands biologist for DU in the GPRO for 28 years. Rick has performed biological recommendations and evaluations on hundreds of completed DU projects in North Dakota and six other Northern Great Plains states. Rick has a B.S. Degree in Wildlife Management from Kansas State University and an M.S. Degree in Zoology from Ohio State University. Before joining DU Rick was employed by the Ohio Division of Wildlife as an Assistant State Waterfowl Biologist and the Kansas Fish and Game Commission as a Wildlife Area Manager.

Roger Smith is the Director of Conservation Services for DU. Roger serves as the lead engineer for DU in the Great Plains Region (GPRO) and has 29 years of experience in designing wetland infrastructure enhancement and restoration projects. Roger has a B.S. Degree in Civil Engineering from North Dakota State University and is a registered Professional Engineer (P.E.) in North Dakota and surrounding states. Prior to employment with DU Roger worked for the North Dakota State Water Commission as a Project Engineer.

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

How will you tell if the project is successful? 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.

DU will perform construction management services to ensure that all projects are constructed and completed according to acceptable engineering standards. When a project is completed the landowner and DU will meet on site with the construction contractor to mutually approve and accept the completed project. Following completion of the project, management of the project will be with the landowner in compliance with plans and objectives identified in the Private Lands Habitat Development Agreement or the Site Specific Agreement. The managing person or agency will keep DU informed if the project site fails or does not perform to expectations from an engineering or biological standpoint.

DU will prepare and submit expenditure reports periodically and also submit a final report stating results of the project including final budget expenditures.

Financial Information

ATTACHMENT: Project Budget – Using the standard project budget format that is available on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm> , please include a detailed total project budget that specifically outlines all the funds you are requesting.*

The project budget should identify all matching funds, funding sources and indicate whether the matching funds are in the form of cash or in-kind services. As noted on the standard project budget format, certain values have been identified for in-kind services. Please utilize these values in identifying your matching funds. **NOTE: No indirect costs will be funded.**

X I certify that a project budget will be sent to the Commission*

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

Include information on the sustainability of this project after all the funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund has been expended and whether the sustainability will be in the form of ongoing management or additional funding from a different source.

For those projects developed on private land the landowner will assume responsibility for future management and sustainability of the project. For those project sites situated on public land the agency owning the land or the land management agency will assume future management of the project and ensure sustainability of the project. DU engineers and biologists will be available in the future to respond to questions concerning structural management and maintenance and biological concerns of each project site.

Partial Funding – Indicate how the project will be affected if less funding is available than that requested. *If less funding than is requested is granted fewer project sites will be enhanced and developed. DU engineers and biologists and landowners will discuss which project sites are of highest priority if less funding is available.

Scoring of Grants

All applications will be scored by the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board after your ten-minute oral presentation. The ranking sheet(s) 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. Applicants whose proposals have been approved will receive a contract outlining the terms and conditions of the grant. Please note the appropriate sample

contract for your organization on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm> that set forth the general provisions that will be included in any contract issued by the North Dakota Industrial Commission. Please indicate if you can meet all the provisions of the sample contract. If there are provisions in that contract that your organization is unable to meet, please indicate below what those provisions would be. *

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 or have trouble submitting the application, please contact Karlene Fine at 701-328-3722 or kfine@nd.gov

Budget Standard Form

Please use the table below to provide a detailed total project budget that specifically outlines all the funds you are requesting and if there are any matching funds being utilized to fund this project. Please note 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. Match can come from any source (i.e. private sources, State and Federal funding, Tribal funding, etc.) Note match funding is not required but an application will be scored higher if match funding is provided. (See Scoring Form.)

Please feel free to add columns and rows as needed. Please include narrative to fully explain the proposed budget.

Note that NO INDIRECT COSTS will be funded from the Outdoor Heritage Fund.

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
Contractual Costs	\$650,000	\$30,000	\$	\$58,684	\$
Professional Services	\$150,000	\$	\$30,000	\$15,534	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Project Costs	\$800,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$74,218	\$

DRAW TEXT BOX FOR DETAILS HERE

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
- Equipment Any equipment purchased must be listed separately with documentation showing actual cost.
- 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.

Approved by OHF Advisory Board: October 17, 2013
 Approved by Industrial Commission: October 22, 2013