

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 * Pheasants Forever Dakota Chapter, Bismarck ND

Federal Tax ID# * 41-1429149

Contact Person/Title * David Nehring, Habitat Committee Chairman

Address * 12550 10th Ave SE

City * Bismarck

State * North Dakota

Zip Code * 58504

E-mail Address * dnehring@bektel.com

Web Site Address (Optional)

Phone * 701-214-3184

Fax # (if available)

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

- 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.

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

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

Project Name* Pheasants Forever Bismarck Chapter Tree Equipment

Abstract/Executive Summary. An Executive Summary of the project stating its objectives, expected results, duration, total project costs and participants.*

Our objective is to purchase a no-till tree planter and no-till weed barrier applicator to enable our members to enhance their wildlife habitat projects through the use of no-till equipment, that is currently not available in many areas.

In addition to use by our members, we would be executing a cooperative use agreement with the Bismarck District of the ND Game & Fish. Our discussions with them have been as follows: They would store and use the equipment during the week, and this would allow our members to use the equipment on weekends. The equipment would be owned and maintained by our local Pheasants Forever chapter, as to alleviate any future costs by the State Agency.

The need for this equipment is due to the following factors:

1. The County Soil Conservation Districts do an excellent job, but many times do not have the time to handle projects, due to the short season available for tree/shrub plantings.
2. In many cases, the existing equipment in many districts is not “No-till” equipment, leading to the need for cultivation, etc, - this can be a problem for many operators, who cannot till the ground due to lack of equipment, time constraints, etc. In addition, tilling leads to unnecessary weed growth.
3. Lack of funding programs, and lengthy processes lead to frustration for the operators – this would streamline the actual process for our operators.

The durability of this equipment, as well as the limited time to use each year, makes this an excellent long-term investment. Our PF chapter is committed to enhancing our area’s wildlife habitat, and has made significant equipment purchases in other areas, such as bale trailers, etc. We also have an excellent track record with keeping our fund raising dollars in our local area, for many habitat and youth projects. Each year, we allocate around \$30,000 just for habitat projects.

We expect this program to be very successful – over the last 4 years, we have seen our annual habitat reimbursements for tree/shrub plantings drop considerably, due to the reasons listed above – in discussions with our co-operators, they have expressed great interest in availability of this equipment. As we’ve seen over the past 3 winters, wildlife has a great need for winter survival habitat – this would fill that need.

Total costs for the equipment would be approximately as follows:

- Tree planter and freight - \$8,000
- Barrier machine and freight - \$16,500
- Gooseneck trailer - \$9,500
- Weed barrier - \$2,500 annually
- Trees/shrubs - \$3,000 annually

We would ask for funding for the planter, and barrier machine at \$24,500 total. Our chapter would provide funding for the annual costs, and trailer.

Amount of Grant request \$ * 24,500

Total Project Costs \$* 50,000 est.

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

Amount of Matching Funds \$ 25,000 est.

Matching funds would include annual cost sharing by our chapter for tree/shrub planting costs, etc.

If applicable

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

Source(s) of Matching Funds

Our annual fundraising events.

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 on Page 1 of this application.

Narrative

Organization Information – We are a local chapter of Pheasants Forever – the funds raised in our annual fundraising events are used locally for habitat improvement, and youth education/safety. Our board consists of the typical officers, plus an event committee chairman and habitat chairman. We utilize several dozen volunteers to help us in our events/fundraising.

Purpose of Grant – The equipment requested will help ensure attainment of the following directives:

Directive C – It will help North Dakota landowners provide diversity of habitat, providing winter survival cover.

Directive B – It will improve water quality through riparian buffer zones, soil conditions through windbreaks, increase plant diversity, and enhance all areas of good stewardship.

Directives A&D – through ND Game and Fish’s involvement, there would be additional natural areas conserved, and potential for more access to sportsmen.

Project Goals – We will increase the utilization of tree/shrub plantings in several areas of North Dakota. Our habitat committee chairman will schedule and coordinate use of the equipment between NDG&F, and our members.

This is a new project for us, and we would look at implementation before the 2014 planting year (May 2014, typically) – we would rollout to our members at our February 2014 main banquet.

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.*

Management of project would be done by the following people:

PF – Dave Nehring, Habitat Committee Chairman

Owner, Habitat Unlimited LLC – Since it’s inception in 2005, Habitat Unlimited LLC has provided establishment and enhancement of wildlife habitat all over the state of North Dakota. We work with private landowners, and State and Federal Government agencies.

NDG&F – Bill Haase, Wildlife Mgmt Resource Supervisor

Bill oversees the Wildlife Management Resources in the Bismarck District.

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

Documentation will be included in our annual habitat worksheet, showing year-to-year results and increases in specific areas.

Financial Information

ATTACHMENT: Project Budget – Using the standard project budget format that is available on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-info/page.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.**

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. *

This program will continue to be funded by our annual habitat disbursements, which typically are at \$30,000 in annual reimbursements to our cooperators for habitat cost share.

Partial Funding – Indicate how the project will be affected if less funding is available than that requested. * The project would have to be postponed, and re-evaluated at a future time.

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