

# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Northern Plains Resource Conservation and Development Council

Federal Tax ID# 45-0423871

Contact Person/Title Paul Overby, President

Address 5237 78<sup>th</sup> Street NE

City Wolford

State North Dakota

Zip Code 58385

E-mail Address lffpc@utma.com

Web Site Address (Optional)

Phone 701-656-3654 or 701-351-0913

Fax # (if available)

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

No other participants will be receiving or authorized to spend ND Outdoor Heritage grant funds other than the Northern Plains RC&D Council. All other participants will be contracted to provide specific services or be reimbursed for their expenses according to agreements.

**Project Collaborators:**

Regional Farmers & Ranchers  
North Dakota State University  
North Dakota NRCS  
University of Manitoba  
Manitoba Agriculture, Food, and Rural Initiatives  
Manitoba-North Dakota Zero Tillage Farmers Association

Cavalier County Soil Conservation District  
Mouse River Soil Conservation District  
Nelson County Soil Conservation District  
North Central Conservation District  
Pembina County Soil Conservation District  
Pierce County Sol Conservation District  
Ramsey County Soil Conservation District  
Rolette County Soil Conservation District  
Towner County Soil Conservation District  
Turtle Mountain Soil Conservation District  
Walsh County Soil Conservation District

**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;

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

O **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)\***

O State Agency

O 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**

Measurable and Sustainable Agricultural, Economic, Watershed, and Wildlife Impacts  
with  
Cover Crops Along the 49<sup>th</sup> Parallel.

**Abstract/Executive Summary.**

**Project Description:** The project will initiate sustainable planting of cover crops by farmers along the 49<sup>th</sup> Parallel and develop measurement tools to evaluate, document and share results through Field Days, Workshop presentations, and produce a “Measurable Best Cover Crop Practices Manual.” This international project encompasses farms and communities in the Devils Lake Basin, the Pembina River Basin, the Red River Basin, and parts of the Assiniboine River Basin, all part of the Greater Lake Winnipeg Basin located in northern North Dakota and southern Manitoba.

**Project Abstract:** Cover crops are being studied and adapted in many parts of the United States. But farmers along the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel (the border between the United States and Canada) experience unique challenges to raising cover crops due to a shorter growing season for cash cropping, a shorter post-crop growing season for cover crops, and recurring wetness from above normal rainfall the past 20 years. This project will connect farmers and provide tools to measure the impact of cover crops to enable rapid and effective innovation of cover crops in this region.

The project will recruit 40 farmers in northeastern and north-central North Dakota to plant at least 40 acres of cover crops on their farm for three years. Farmers will document their plantings, make fields available for research and demonstration, and share successes and challenges with fellow farmers. A variety of farm operations will be included: farms with and without livestock, farms using conventional and no-till methods, and organic producers where available. As an international project, a parallel

effort by Manitoba Agriculture and the University of Manitoba will recruit farmers in southern Manitoba.

Meetings of project farmers and staff from Soil Conservation Districts (SCDs), North Dakota State University (NDSU), the University of Manitoba (UM), Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI), and USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) will provide education on cover crops and soil health and an opportunity to learn from each other.

Ongoing and past research of NDSU and UM will provide base information for cover crop species selection and the development of metrics to measure the impacts of raising cover crops. Fields will be monitored pre-, during, and post-season to record data of the results of the cover crop planting. A searchable "Measurable Results Cover Crop Data Base" of data will be used to produce a "Measurable Best Cover Crop Practices Manual" to convey the agronomic, economic, soil health, and wildlife impact of cover crop practices. Field days and Workshop presentations will convey their success to other farmers.

Desired long-term outcomes of planting of cover crops in our project area are improved soil health and productivity, increased economic benefits to our farmers, increased agri-business benefit through new seed sales, potential increase of post-harvest livestock grazing, improved water quality, and reduced watershed runoff, and increased wildlife habitat.

**Amount of Grant request \$494,000**

**Total Project Costs \$999,450**

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

**Amount of Matching Funds \$505,450**

If applicable

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

Matching funds will be in-kind and cash. Please see Budget Detail attached.

**Source(s) of Matching Funds**

If applicable

Participating Farmers, Participating Soil Conservation District staff and supervisors, NDSU Research and Extension Service staff, NRCS staff, and Northern Plains RC&D Council members will all be contributing to the success of this project. Further funding is being sought to offset farmer seed expense. Sponsors are anticipated for local field days.

Please See Budget Detail Attached.

**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**

The Mission of the Northern Plains RC&D Council is to facilitate the development of human and natural resources resulting in a desirable quality of life for the residents of north central North Dakota. We will do this by building partnerships which promote leadership development and the wise use of natural resources.

The Council was formed in 1975 as an outgrowth of USDA-NRCS. In 1992 the council reorganized as a stand-alone 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and renamed itself to the Northern Plains RC&D council.

Members of the council include the Soil Conservation Districts of Benson, Cavalier, Eddy, Ramsey, Rolette, and Towner Counties and cities, counties, and Economic Development groups in the six county area, along with tribal governments of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and Spirit Lake Nation. Lake Region State College, Cankdeska Cikana Community College, and the Turtle Mountain Community college are also associate members.

The board consists of representatives of the six SCD's and Tribal governments plus a rotating representation of the dues paying cities, counties and colleges.

The Council's headquarters were based in conjunction with the USDA-NRCS Regional Office in Devils Lake, North Dakota and staffed by an NRCS employee until the spring of 2011 when NRCS removed its funding. We have been operating in an all-volunteer capacity since that time.

Past projects include a Park on Spirit Lake Nation, "Salt of the Earth" video, Ramsey County Tiling Demonstration Project, and an area Soil Health Tour. The Cover Crop Project in this grant was approved in January of 2012 and is the current focus of the Council.

We have visited with the North Central Planning Council and Lake Region State College Foundation, about providing part-time support to the Council on a contract for services basis should we receive funding for this grant project.

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

**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;

**Relevance:** This project will improve the sustainability and economic viability of farms by teaching, demonstrating, and providing measurement tools to farmers as to how the addition of cover crops will provide an agronomic, economic, and soil health benefit to their operations.

The increased use of cover crops may also invite an increase in livestock operations to graze cover crops through expanded herds, additional weight gains for fall calves, the purchase of calves to use the cover crops for grazing, or the leasing of land to others for cover crop grazing. The increased sustainable soil health benefit of grazing cattle on cover crops has been well documented.

This increased activity also adds to the potential for beginning or part-time operators. In addition a new niche in farming may be created by raising cover crop seeds, adding further economic and sustainable benefits.

Increased and diversified farm incomes improves the sustainability of farm communities. Cover crop seed sales also adds a new income stream for local businesses.

The water usage of fall cover crops and the improved soil health will allow for better nutrition and water retention, improving water quality reducing runoff from excessive rainfall. This will improve the viability of small communities in these watersheds by reducing water treatment costs and the potential for flooding, and the associated costs, for communities.

**Impact:** The primary impact will be on the farmers and ranchers in the approximately 8 million acres in north central and northeastern North Dakota and the 8 million acres of southern Manitoba, the communities they support, and the watersheds where they farm, and the wildlife that live there. (See attached map for geographic location.)

This project will document and demonstrate the successful agronomic, economic, and soil health impact of cover crops and extend those benefits to farmers in this northern region. These improvements from incorporating cover crops will strengthen the viability and sustainability of their farming operation.

The sustained use of cover crops adds the potential for a secondary impact of an increase in livestock operations to graze cover crops through expanded herds, additional weight gains for fall calves, the purchase of calves, or the leasing of land to others. The increased sustainable soil health benefit of grazing cattle on cover crops has been well documented. A diversified farm sector improves farm and community sustainability.

Expanded cover crop use provides an agri-business benefit through new seed sales and the potential new commodity from raising cover crops for seed, adding new income streams to the community.

Because of the unusual wet weather North Dakota and Manitoba have experienced due to a changing climate, many streams are experiencing regular “100 year” flood events. The most dramatic impact of this has been on Devils Lake in North Dakota, which in the past 20 years has risen over 30 feet and expanded by 150,000 acres, much of it prime agricultural land.

Research already conducted shows that cover crops can help by using up soil moisture in the fall, improve water infiltration during rainfall, and by increasing organic matter, add to the soils water holding capacity. Adding cover crops to a significant number of acres can have a long-term impact to help reduce flooding to communities in the project area.

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

Wildlife are receiving an interesting side-benefit of cover crops that are just beginning to be appreciated. The most obvious is the additional forage and cover that is provided to deer, which will be a good replacement for some of the CRP that has been discontinued. The NRCS also includes cover crops as an approved practice for the Northern Plains Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative.

Research published by Jonathon Lundgren and Janet Fergen, USDA-ARS, Brookings, SD shows they have found that cover crops reduce the infestation of corn rootworm and increase the presence of beneficial insects which may lead to a decrease in the use of chemicals harmful to insects. Other research is showing an increase in both numbers and diversity of songbirds where cover crops are present, an indicator of a healthy ecosystem.

A further indication of the potential importance to wildlife is underscored by the major funding being undertaken by the National Wildlife Federation to support research and education on the benefits of cover crops in the Mississippi River Basin. Other wildlife and environmental groups participating in this effort include The Nature Conservancy and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

As part of the measurement metrics, this grant will collect and document observed species utilization of cover crops as an additional environmental benefit of encouraging increased planting of cover crops.

**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.\***

**Method/Approach:** Participating Soil Conservation Districts will recruit 40 farmers to plant at least 40 acres of cover crops per year for the project. We will select a balance across the project area of conventional till, no till, and transitioning farms, and include farms with and without livestock. Organic farmers will be included if available.

A major incentive for farmer participation is connecting like-minded farmers and professionals in exclusive working group meetings twice per year. The initial meetings with soil professionals from SCD's, NRCS, NDSU, UM and MAFRI related businesses such as agronomists and seed providers will be primarily education on cover crops, soil health, and economics. Later meetings will be devoted

to discussing farmer goals, approaches planned, and results achieved, along with university and other research updates.

Farmers will be encouraged to use information from working group meetings to plan their own approach to planting cover crops rather than use of replicated trials. SCD staff will follow up with farmers during the growing season to document the cover crop plantings and the results. This will also SCD staff knowledge and their ability to help other farmers.

The results will be entered into a searchable “Measurable Results Cover Crop Data Base” including such data as cover crop seeding methods, crops prior to and following cover crops, plant species chosen, seeding dates, and grazing or other termination method, if any.

Field measurements will be taken pre-, during, and post- cover crop of plant height, rooting depth, and biomass along with measurements of soil bulk density, aggregate size, and retained moisture levels. Microbial activity will be recorded with tests such as the Solvita or Haney tests. This data will also be recorded in our Measurable Results Cover Crop Data Base.

Field days and Workshop presentations during Years Two and Three will convey the ongoing cover crop results to other farmers. By Year Three of the project some patterns of successful innovative approaches will emerge.

The Measurable Results Cover Crop Data Base will be used to develop a profile of the most beneficial approaches for cover crop practices. A Measurable Best Cover Crop Practices Manual will be developed with anecdotal and measurement data of cover crop approaches conveying the agronomic, economic, and soil health impact of cover crop practices. This will provide tools to quantify the impact of cover crop strategies, enabling rapid and effective innovation with cover crops in this region.

**Project coordinator:** The project is coordinated by Paul Overby, President, Northern Plains Resource Conservation and Development Council. Paul and his wife Diane’s farm practices include sustainable practices such as no-till, variable rate zone management, diverse rotations, and cover crops. Pasture land has been converted to cell grazing.

In addition to serving on the Northern Plains RC&D Council, Paul is a board member of Manitoba-North Dakota Zero Tillage Association and a Supervisor for the Rolette County SCD. They were recognized by NDSU as Rolette County Agriculturalist of the Year 2012. Prior to beginning farming in 1993 Paul served as Vice-President of Development for Great Plains Regional Hospital in North Platte, NE where he was tasked with fund raising and grant writing, and supervising the hospital’s public relations, volunteer, and marketing programs.

**Project Collaborators** who serve on our steering committee are:

Brad Brummond, Walsh County North Dakota State University Extension Agent

Dr. Abby Wick, Assistant Professor of Soil Health-Extension, North Dakota State University, ND Soil Health NDSU Extension Team Leader

Mary Podoll, North Dakota NRCS State Conservationist

Dr. Yvonne Lawley, Assistant Professor of Agronomy and Cropping Systems, University of Manitoba

John Heard, Nutrient Management Specialist, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, Government of Manitoba

Marla Riekman, Land Management Specialist, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, Government of Manitoba

**Soil Conservation District Program Managers** are also key personnel in managing the relationships with farmers and conducting the cover crop assessments.

**Farmers** who will provide cover crop fields have not yet been identified. We will ask the SCDs to identify several potential farmers. The interested farmer's information will be submitted to project participants to review and make recommendations. The 30 project farmers will be selected by group consensus based on our desire for a balance across the project area of conventional till, no till, and transitioning farms, and including farms with and without livestock. We would also like to include an organic farmer if available.

**Suitability of Method:** Farmers have heard of the potential benefits of cover crops from several sources, including projects funded through NCR-SARE grants. The recent NCR-SARE survey conducted by CTIC revealed several advantages to Midwest farmers in the 2012 drought. While the benefits of cover crops are becoming fairly well-known, adoption has lagged along the 49<sup>th</sup> Parallel because of the unique challenges raising cover crops due to a shorter growing season for cash cropping, a shorter post-crop growing season for cover crops, and recurring wetness with above normal rainfall the past 20 years.

The approach we are using, farmer experimentation and professional support, is modeled after the successful Manitoba-North Dakota Zero Tillage Association, now in its 36<sup>th</sup> year of carrying out its mission of helping farmers adopt sustainable farming practices. Those international efforts in the 1980's changed the way of farming across the northern plains of the U.S. and Canada.

The exclusive working group meetings connect like-minded farmers, providing an intense focus on their education needs and interests and creating long-term working relationships between farmers and professionals from NDSU, UM, NRCS, MAFRI, and others. Farmers will develop, with advice from professional staff, their experimental plan to incorporate cover crops on their farm.

Involvement of Soil Conservation District professional staff leverages our efforts across the region as they are the point of farmer contact and follow-up. Their on-farm visits to document results are important to insure measurements are taken regularly and consistently. This documentation becomes part of the Measurable Results Cover Crop Data Base.

SCD's, NDSU County Extension and NRCS staff will conduct the Field Demonstration Days in each District/County. While we can borrow research from other areas for building knowledge for our project farmers, to accelerate the adoption of cover crops most farmers need to see working farm fields rather than replicated plots.

Creating the Measurable Results Cover Crop Data Base and Measurable Best Cover Crop Practices Manual are important tools to document and share the best approaches to advance the agronomic, economic, and soil health impact of cover crop practices. This also follows the successful approach of the Manitoba-North Dakota Zero Till Association which produced a series of three manuals to assist farmers transitioning to no till and are purchased by agencies such as NRCS, NDSU Extension Service, and MAFRI for distribution to farmers.

**Outreach:** Field days during Years Two and Three at project farms will be held to share results with farmers, area professionals, and local news media.

The Manitoba-North Dakota Zero Tillage Association Annual Workshop will include project presentations in Years Two and Three, extending the information to farmers in North Dakota, Manitoba and across the US and Canada. Presentations at Extension or SCD meetings are also likely.

Analysis of Measurable Results Cover Crop Data Base will be used to develop a Measurable Best Cover Crop Practices Manual featuring participant farmers, their successes and challenges, and the measurement metrics developed to assess success. The manual will be published with the assistance of the Manitoba-North Dakota Zero Till Association, who will also include it as a resource on their web site.

This Measurable Best Cover Crop Practices Manual will also be an important tool for communicating with government, watershed and other interested parties.

**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.

**Project Outcomes:** A key project outcome is increased knowledge and workable approaches for cover crops to be a sustainable addition to farms in the very short growing season of the project area. This includes the best methods to plant cover crops; the best species for cover crops based on desired outcome; and the best farm operation strategies to maximize the benefits of raising cover crops.

Meetings with farmers and professional staff will provide another important short-term outcome – connecting like-minded farmers. Much of the cover crop experimentation has been isolated, and these working group meetings will encourage farmers in pursuing cover crop practices.

Farmers' project fields will be monitored pre- during, and post-season by SCD staff to measure results of cover crop adoption. Planned measurements include biomass production, nutrient uptake by the cover crop and availability for the following crop season, soil bulk density, water usage, and soil microbial activity.

Practices and measurements from project farms will be recorded in a searchable Measurable Results Cover Crop Data Base. That data base will be used to publish the Measurable Best Cover Crop Practices Manual. This Manual and presentations at Field Days, Workshops and seminars will support the medium-term outcome of providing farmers along the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel useful knowledge and evaluation tools.

A second medium-term outcome is that project farmers will evaluate changing their operation to include less or no tillage to maximize the sustainable economic and soil health value of cover crops. Livestock farmers may also add “after-grazing” with cover crops, and non-livestock operations may buy or lease livestock to utilize their cover crops or rent cover crop fields for grazing, improving farm profitability.

Successful incorporation and increased use of cover crops by project farmers and will validate this practice within their neighborhood. A long-term outcome is farmers in the region increasing the sustainability of their farm by expanding cover crop acres to realize the economic gains from captured soil nutrients or livestock grazing, and the additional benefits of increased soil health. This may also add increase seed sales business opportunities.

Data base information on the rate of water infiltration, water usage, and nutrient retention from planting cover crops will also increase the knowledge of watershed management authorities and area communities. A desired long-term outcome is recognition of the benefits of cover crops in improving water quality and reduced runoff that leads to future watershed partnerships in encouraging farmers to plant cover crops.

**Evaluation Plan:** Regular interaction with NDSU County Extension Agents, SCD and NRCS will give us anecdotal evidence of farmer adoption of cover crops.

An analysis of current and future applications for EQUIP or CSP funding that involve using cover crops will provide hard number to measure interest and adaption in a county.

A survey will be completed at all working group meetings to assess current adaption rate, knowledge level of cover crops, and comfort levels in using them. This survey will also be useful to hand out at Field Days and other events. The results over three years will give us a trend of the impact of the project.

A modification of the survey will also be distributed to watershed authority boards to measure their knowledge of cover crop adoption.

The Measurable Results Cover Crop Data Base will be used to evaluate changes and trends in soil health measures from project fields.

## **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.

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

## **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](mailto: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
Cover Crop Planting	\$264,000	\$172,000	\$132,000	\$	\$20,000
Cover Crop Analysis	\$128,500	\$ 18,000	\$72,450	\$	\$
Education/Outreach	\$ 41,000	\$ 14,000	\$69,500	\$	\$11,000
Data Management	\$ 60,500	\$ 0	\$7,500	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$494,000</b>	<b>\$204,000</b>	<b>\$281,450</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$31,000</b>

The cover crop planting will be paid for up front by the farmers involved. They will choose their varieties for their own goals and needs. The farmers will also need to commit to attending meetings and hosting cover crop tours on their farm. In return for this, they will be paid a flat stipend for their planting, reporting, and other participation.

The cover crop analysis will be conducted in the field by Soil Conservation District staff. They may also be accompanied by Extension and NRCS staff. The analysis includes the cost of intensive soil testing to determine the results of the cover crop planting. The SCD's will be reimbursed a flat stipend per farmer for each farmer they work with. SCD's are making a large investment in the success of this project.

The education effort includes both the education to the farmer and SCD participants as well as the education for the public at large. Cash costs include printed materials and advertising, along with mileage for Extension staff. In kind contributions are the staff time involved in planning and hosting this effort.

Data management is the actual cost of designing and entering data on an annual basis. This will be nearly all contracted or paid staff time. The in-kind contribution includes the effort of designing the survey instruments and the data base.

Further details are shown on the attached budget.

## ND Outdoor Heritage Grant Application

Function or Activity	Participant	Sources of Funding			ND OHF Grant	Other Potential Funding	Total Outside Funding
		Cash	in-Kind	Total Cash & In-Kind			
<b>Farmer Cover Crop Planting - 40</b>							
Farmer recruitment (one time-\$1,000/district)	Soil Conservatio Dist.		11000	11000			0
Cover Crop Seed & Planting Expense- 40 acres	Farmer	\$192,000	12000	204000		20000	20000
Partial year land rent (40 acres @ \$15/acre)	Farmer		72000	72000			0
Arrange Innovation Working Group meetings	NP RC&D Council	9000	1000	10000	9000		9000
Innovation Working Group Meetings (4/year)	Extension & SCD	3000	18000	21000	15000		15000
Attend Innovation Working group meeting (2/year/3 hours)	Farmer		18000	18000			0
Meeting mileage (50 mile/trip)	Farmer	\$ 12,000		12000			0
Innovation Report Stipend to farmer (\$50/acre/year)	Farmer	240000		240000	240000		240000
<b>Total Farmer Cover Crop Planting</b>		<b>456000</b>	<b>132000</b>	<b>588000</b>	<b>264000</b>	<b>20000</b>	<b>284000</b>
<b>Cover Crop Soil Health Field Analysis</b>							
Develop protocol for Reports and Analysis	NP RC&D Council, et al	2500	2500	5000	2500		2500
Farm Documentation Vists (1 hour ea @ 4/year)	Farmer		12000	12000			0
Farm Documentation visits (2hours each @ 4/year)	Soil Conservatio Dist.		24000	24000			0
Farm Visits Mileage	Soil Conservatio Dist.	18000		18000			0
Documentation Reports (1 hour/farm visit)	Soil Conservatio Dist.		12000	12000			0
Biomass Assay and Nutrient Value tests	Soil Conservatio Dist.	36000		36000	36000		36000
Soil Kit tests from NRCS	Soil Conservatio Dist.		7700	7700			0
Analysis of results from Soil Health and Nutrient Tests	NDSU Extension		6000	6000			0
Supervisor Meeting & Management time	Soil Conservatio Dist.		8250	8250			0
Innovation Monitoring Stipend to SCD @ \$750/farmer/year	Soil Conservatio Dist.	90000		90000	90000		90000
<b>Total Cover Crop Soil Health Field Analysis</b>		<b>146500</b>	<b>72450</b>	<b>218950</b>	<b>128500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>128500</b>
<b>Farmer &amp; Public Education Programs</b>							
Coordinate Field Days in Counties	NP RC&D Council	10000	2500	12500	5000	5000	10000
Host Innovation Field Days (8/year)	Soil Conservation Dist.	12000	18000	30000	6000	6000	12000
Innovation Field Day Participation	Farmer		4000	4000			0
Presentations at Innovation Field Days	NDSU Extension	3000	36000	39000			0
Presentations at Zero-Till Workshop on Results	ManDak Zero-Till Assoc		2000	2000			0
Create, Print, Distribute Results Booklet & Materials	ManDak Zero-Till Assoc	20000	2000	22000	20000		20000
Electronic media development (apps & video clips)	NP RC&D Council, et al	10000	5000	15000	10000		10000
<b>Total Farmer &amp; Public Education Programs</b>		<b>55000</b>	<b>69500</b>	<b>124500</b>	<b>41000</b>	<b>11000</b>	<b>52000</b>
<b>Cover Crop Innovation Data Management</b>							
Cover Crop Innovation Data Survey Development	NP RC&D Council, et al	2500	2500	5000	2500		2500

Cover Crop Innovation Data Base Development	NP RC&D Council, et al	15000	2500	17500	15000	15000
Cover Crop Innovation Data Gathering & Input	NP RC&D Council, et al	18000		18000	18000	18000
Project administration	NP RC&D Council	25000	2500	27500	25000	25000
<b>Total Cover Crop Innovation Data Management</b>		<b>60500</b>	<b>7500</b>	<b>68000</b>	<b>60500</b>	<b>60500</b>
<b>Totals</b>		<b>718000</b>	<b>281450</b>	<b>999450</b>	<b>494000</b>	<b>31000</b>
						<b>525000</b>

## Geographic Location of the Project Area along the 49<sup>th</sup> Parallel

