

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, 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:

- 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.

NO CONSIDERATION:

In addition to those specific items in law that are ineligible for funding, in the absence of a finding of exceptional circumstances by the Industrial Commission, the following projects will NOT receive consideration for funding:

- 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 Budget Form 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 Budget Form 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 Budget Form 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.

Application Deadline

Applications for this grant round cycle are due on **July 15, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. CT.** All information, including attachments, must be submitted by that date. See instructions below for submission information.

Instructions

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 or print it and mail it to the address noted in the next 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. 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 * Bowman-Slope Soil Conservation District

Federal Tax ID# * 45-0370896

Contact Person/Title * Camie Janikowski, District Manager

Address * PO Box 920

City * Bowman

State * ND

Zip Code * 58623

E-mail Address * bowsloscd@ndsupernet.com

Web Site Address (Optional)

Phone * (701) 523-5531 Ext 3

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

Choose all that apply

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

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

State Agency

Political Subdivision

Tribal Entity

Tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation.

Project Name*

Bowman-Slope SCD Grazing Conservation Program

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)

The goal of this project is to assist producers with installing Best Management Practices to facilitate a grazing system. The goal of the grazing systems will be to improve distribution and rangeland health. Improved rangeland in return will improve soil health and water quality by improving infiltration rates and ground cover.

The strategies to the grazing systems will be to first install the physical BMP's needed to rotate livestock through a grazing system. Fencing, both electric and barbed wire, will create smaller pastures and allow the changing of season-of-use in the grazing system. Water developments (wells, pipelines, tanks) will also ensure vital water sources needed in the newly fenced areas.

Three producers are planned to implement practices/systems in this project application. They are producers that have their plans completed, they are ready and committed to install the BMP's, they are just waiting for the cost-share assistance to lessen the cash investment needed to complete their plan. The proposed projects are all new requests and projects that have not been started.

Construction of these BMP's will start in the Fall of 2018 with planned completion dates of November 1, 2020. The total project cost is \$187,257, for three participants, implementing conservation management on approximately 5,000 acres.

Project Duration:* (Please include information regarding the intended time schedule for drawing down funds, if any, awarded by the Industrial Commission.)

BMP's will be installed during the Fall of 2018 through the Summer of 2019. Producers cost-share will be paid when their individual BMP's are completed and certified.

Amount of Grant request \$ 112,354

Total Project Costs \$ 187,257

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

A minimum of 25% Match Funding is required. Amount of Matching Funds \$74,903

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

Source(s) of Matching Funds*

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.

Producers will be providing the Cash Match.

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)

The Bowman-Slope SCD’s mission is “To educate and assist the public of the Bowman-Slope SCD with natural resources conservation.”

The Bowman-Slope Soil Conservation District has over thirty years of proven effective experience implementing conservation programs. These conservation programs include EPA-319 Watershed Projects, Wildlife Habitat Incentive Programs (WHIP), North Dakota Department of Energy Program, RCPP, Outdoor Heritage Fund Tree Planting Program, USFWS conservation programs, to name a few. The SCD has demonstrated leadership in progressive conservation in the local communities, district, region, and state. The SCD has sufficient resources to implement all aspects of this program including:

personnel with state/federal grant program experience, equipment, and an established reputation with the agriculture community.

The SCD organizational structure includes the governing SCD five-member board and the employees include a District Manager/Watershed Coordinator and SCD Technician.

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. Please note that 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.

If your project includes tree/shrub/grass planting, please 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.

If your project includes Section 319 program funding, please provide, in detail, the specific best management practices that will be implemented and the specific projects for which you are seeking funding.

If you are requesting funding for fencing, please note that the Board/Commission's preference is for a minimum cost share of 40% by the recipient. Please 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.

The strategies to the grazing systems will be to first install the physical BMP's needed to rotate livestock through a grazing system. Fencing, both electric and barbed wire, will create smaller pastures and allow the changing of season-of-use and rest in the grazing system. Water developments (wells, pipelines, tanks) will also ensure vital water sources needed in the newly fenced areas.

Three producers are planned to implement practices/systems in this project application. They are producers that have their plans completed, they are ready and committed to install the BMP's. The proposed projects are all new requests and projects that have not been started.

Producer A is a large Buffalo Rancher whom has been working with a private Holistic Management Consultant to develop a plan to implement an intensive grazing management system on approximately 3,500 acres. The management plan is to have large herd/hoof impact on the range, for a short duration of time, with long period of rest. This type of grazing system requires 63,360 feet of electric cross-fencing with multiple water "hubs" that can be utilized by multiple grazing cells. This grazing plan also includes utilizing grazing cover crops to improve old hayland and crop fields. This producer and project is also part of the Little Missouri River Tributaries 319 project, the SCD as the local project sponsor has capped this producers cost-share at \$100,000 due to budget limitations. The 319 BMP's contracted items are separate from the requested BMP's in this OHF application. This is "Phase I" of this project

and plan for this family ranch, they feel this is a realistic quantity of projects they can complete and grazing system to implement within one year. This is a potential Three Phase project, potentially impacting 11,000 acres.

Producers B has a newly acquired piece of land that they want to implement a grazing plan on native range and incorporate crop aftermath grazing on. To facilitate the grazing system, they need cross fencing and water developments. The new water sources will also move livestock away from riparian areas and shallow dams.

Producer C is planning to add a cross fence and install a water pipeline to rotate the grazing livestock and improve grazing distribution.

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.

The conservation planning steps have been followed to develop the plans with these producers, therefore the ground work has been laid for this project along with an established working relationship between the producers and conservation staff. SCD and NRCS staff will work with these producers to certify the BMP's are installed to NRCS Specifications and to verify the quantiles installed. The producers will keep grazing records and photo point monitoring of their grazing systems impacts on the rangeland. Since these are committed producers with existing plans for their projects, we are confident the BMP's will be implemented by the fall of 2019. But as with any natural resources project there is potential for weather, conditions or contractor delays, if this is the case the SCD Staff will work the producers and the OHF to extend or reschedule the project.

As mentioned, the SCD has over 30 years of successfully implementing conservation programs on-the-ground with producers. The District Manager/Watershed Coordinator has been in her position for seventeen years, with the Little Missouri River Tributaries 319 project being her fifth 319 project to manage. With all projects successfully; getting conservation practices implemented with producers and land owners, budgets and reporting have been managed to meet and/or exceed project and sponsor expectations and requirements. References are available upon request.

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.

The first measurement of success of this project will be the certification of the completed BMP's. Specific quantities, certification sheets, and pictures will be documented for each BMP. In addition the producers will keep grazing records and photo monitoring points to document the changes and impacts of their grazing rotations.

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. Note that a minimum of 25% match funding is required.***

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. Effective July 1, 2015 no State General Fund dollars can be used for a match unless funding was legislatively appropriated for that purpose. 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*

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
Cross Fencing- 2 wire electric	\$ 36,115	\$24,077	\$	\$	\$	\$60,192
Cross Fencing- 4 wire barb	\$ 12,426	\$ 8,284	\$	\$	\$	\$20,710
Pipelines	\$ 41,013	\$ 27,342	\$	\$	\$	\$68,355
Drinking Tanks (13)	\$ 11,700	\$ 7,800	\$	\$	\$	\$19,500
Water Storage Tanks	\$5,100	\$ 3,400	\$	\$	\$	\$8,500
Well	\$6,000	\$4,000	\$	\$	\$	\$10,000
Total Costs	\$112,354	\$74,903	\$	\$	\$	\$187,257
*						

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.

Sustainability will be ongoing grazing management and BMP practices maintenance by the producers. The three producers in this project are committed to the sustainability of their projects and systems.

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

If less funding is offered by the OHF, than what is requested, the producers will likely wait and re-apply for USDA EQIP funding in future years.

Partnership Recognition - If you are a successful recipient of Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars, how would you recognize the Outdoor Heritage Fund partnership? * Please note it is a requirement that there be signage at the location of the project acknowledging the funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund if appropriate for your project.

The OHF partnership would be recognized in any and all public reports, stories and possible public tours that may result from the success of these projects.

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. 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. 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

Revised: December 14, 2017