

# Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant Application



## Instructions

After completing the form, applications and supporting documentation may be submitted 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). It is preferred that both a hard copy and electronic copy are submitted.

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

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

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

Project Name: [Precision Agriculture: Technology, Conservation and Habitat](#)

Name of Organization: [Pheasants Forever, Inc.](#)

Federal Tax ID#: [41-1429149](#)

Contact Person/Title: [Rachel Bush, State Coordinator](#)

Address: [PO Box 3935](#)

City: [Dickinson](#)

State: [ND](#)

Zip Code: [58602](#)

E-mail Address: [rbush@pheasantsforever.org](mailto:rbush@pheasantsforever.org)

Web Site Address (Optional): [www.pheasantsforever.org](http://www.pheasantsforever.org) or <https://www.facebook.com/NorthDakotaPF/>

Phone: [701-403-4853](#)

Fax # (if available): [n/a](#)

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

**MAJOR Directive:**

Choose only one response

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

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

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

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

**Additional Directive:**

Choose all that apply

**Directive A.**

**Directive B.**

**Directive C.**

**Directive D.**

**Type of organization:**

State Agency

Political Subdivision

Tribal Entity

Tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation.

**Abstract/Executive Summary.**

Pheasants Forever has a long history of working with private landowners, farmers and ranchers assisting them in reaching their on-farm goals. As an Organization we pride ourselves in our ability to find innovative ways to address issues, our flexibility to create programs that meet the needs of farmers and ranchers, and our technical knowledge to address resource concerns across the landscape. Precision Agriculture: Technology, Conservation and Habitat is the next step in our continued effort to deliver conservation that works for North Dakota.

Trends in precision agriculture generally include more automation, increased efficiencies, artificial intelligence and a lot of data. Pheasants Forever believes the secret to unlocking the potential of these data to address resource concerns and habitat loss is a trained team of conservation professionals. Specifically, professionals who understand agriculture, conservation planning, are knowledgeable about the suite of practices and programs available,

and who place a premium on individualized customer service. Pheasants Forever employs Precision Ag & Conservation Specialists that work directly with North Dakota growers. Our specialist work one-on-one to identify acres of opportunity through precision technology and offer alternative options that reduce inputs, improve soil health and create wildlife habitat. Our innovative and flexible approach utilizes business planning to aid farmers in turning their precision data into on the ground management decisions, by integrating technology, economics and environmental performance. Our Precision Ag & Conservation Specialists may offer precision business planning consultative services to cooperating growers, evaluate alternative options, and assist with implementation of practices including those proposed in this project.

Through the Precision Agriculture: Technology, Conservation and Habitat project we will utilize precision ag technology and grower knowledge to identify opportunity acres within cropland and provide cost-share assistance to implement grower selected alternative practices. This project will offer practices that will improve, maintain or restore water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity and animal systems. By supporting these practices of stewardship this project will enhance farming and ranching to meet Directive B of the Outdoor Heritage Fund. We foresee impacting an estimated 3,600 acres through perennial cover establishment, cover crops and pollinator habitat helping to reduce input cost, improve soil health and create valuable wildlife habitat. Through this project we anticipate working with 10-20 growers throughout the 3 year project period. We are requesting \$301,875 from the Outdoor Heritage Fund over 3 years to implement this project and deliver conservation to North Dakota. Pheasants Forever is providing \$45,301 for project management, coordination and delivery. Cooperating landowners will be asked to provide \$100,625 in match toward practice establishment, for a total project cost of \$447,801.

**Project Duration: 3 years**

We anticipate delivering roughly 1/3 of the acres (1,200) per year for the 3 year project. However, reimbursement request will be made based on practices implementation and cooperator reimbursements.

**Amount of Grant request: \$301,875**

**Total Project Costs: \$447,801**

**Amount of Matching Funds: \$145,926**

**Cash – \$100,625**

**In-Kind – \$45,301**

**Source of Matching Funds:**

**Pheasants Forever – In-Kind Staff Cost \$36,301**

**In-Kind Software License & Use \$9000**

**Landowners – Cash Match \$100,625**

**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 in the back of this application.

## **Narrative**

### **Organization Information**

Pheasants Forever (PF) is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of pheasants, quail, and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public awareness, education and land management policies and programs. Formed in 1982 in response to declining pheasant populations, PF has grown to over 140,000 members and 650 chapters across North America. The board of directors includes the President/CEO and 16 volunteers from across the country. One key to PF's success has been the model of empowering local chapters to decide how funds are raised and invested to impact the Pheasants Forever mission. North Dakota is currently home to 28 Pheasants Forever chapters, 200 volunteers and more than 3,600 members. Pheasants Forever chapters hold annual fundraising events, support statewide partnerships and programs, work on habitat projects, and promote the recruitment, retention or reactivation of hunters. North Dakota Pheasants Forever has been awarded four OHF grants, assisting landowners in addressing salt impacted soils (OHF GR13), establishing rotational grazing systems (OHF GR9), creating habitat through our youth pollinator habitat program (OHF GR5) and our pollinator habitat partnership (OHF GR2) as well as longstanding local partnerships and programs that assist landowners, provide quality habitat, improve hunter access and engage youth. Pheasants Forever's tagline is "The Habitat Organization" and we bring a unique model and mission that empowers local people to impact local habitat for pheasants and other wildlife in meaningful ways across North Dakota.

### **Purpose of Grant**

Pheasants Forever continually seeks and implements new and innovative ways to work with farmers and ranchers to demonstrate how conservation can improve their operation and quality of life. With the advancement and rapid growth of precision agriculture technology, our goal is to assist growers in harnessing the power of their precision data to increase return on investment (ROI), improve, maintain, and restore water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity and animal systems. Pheasants Forever believes working collaboratively with private landowners to reach their goals is the best way to support practices of stewardship that enhance farming and ranching. The main underpinning of this strategy is the integration of precision agriculture technology with business planning and environmental performance metrics to showcase how conservation makes economic sense. This is a paradigm shift since conservation programs and practices have sometimes been viewed by operators as sacrificing economic opportunities rather than augmenting. The key advancement is evaluating opportunities at a sub-field scale rather than the historic view of entire fields.

With the current farm economy, growers are continuing to explore new options for marginal acres. Pheasants Forever believes profitable agriculture and conservation of our soil resources and wildlife habitat are not only possible, they are a win-win possibility. The process of evaluating precision data offers growers the opportunity to identify and validate marginal acres by analyzing machine data (yield, as planted, as applied) and personalized crop budgets, making it possible to turn data into decisions. During the review and planning steps, alternative land-use options including forage, conservation cover, or cover crops may be explored which may result in a greater ROI over the entire field. Pheasants Forever's process can clearly demonstrate to farmers that conservation adoption does not come at a sacrifice to farm productivity.

Pheasants Forever has been working alongside North Dakota growers since 2016 utilizing precision ag technology and business planning software to identify acres of opportunity, recommend alternatives and assist with implementation of grower selected practices. What we have witnessed during this time is the demand for conservation practices outpaces current program availability and funding. In many cases growers are interested in implementing conservation through either Federal or State programs, but either program criteria, deadlines, or funding limitations do not work with for their operations. We know, that a majority of growers do not adopt a management change on their operation without the addition of an incentive. The US Department of Agriculture’s Economic Research Service summarized data from 2009 -2012 and estimated that 90% of producers who received payments for off-field conservation practices (field borders, filter strips) would NOT have adopted the practice without a payment. Even looking at on-field practices, such as grassed waterways, nearly 80% of participants indicated they would NOT have adopted the practice without a payment. The Outdoor Heritage Fund offers the unique ability to meet this on-the-ground demand for conservation practices, address resource concerns and provide a benefit to North Dakota farmers and ranchers.

Pheasants Forever’s Precision Agriculture: Technology, Conservation and Habitat project will provide on the ground assistance, technology and tools to address marginal acres, while meeting Directive B and C of the Outdoor Heritage Fund. We anticipate engaging 10-20 farmers and impacting an estimated 3,600 acres during the 3-year project lifespan by offering a set of practices that will address water quality, soil health, and create wildlife habitat. Promotion and outreach of this opportunity will begin immediately with the approval of this grant. The opportunity will be provided to producers currently working with Pheasants Forever through our Precision Ag & Conservation Specialist with broader promotion to follow. Applications will be accepted continuously until all funds have been obligated through signed agreements.

Is this project part of a Comprehensive Conservation Plan?  Yes  No  
If yes, provide a copy with the application.

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

### **Management of Project**

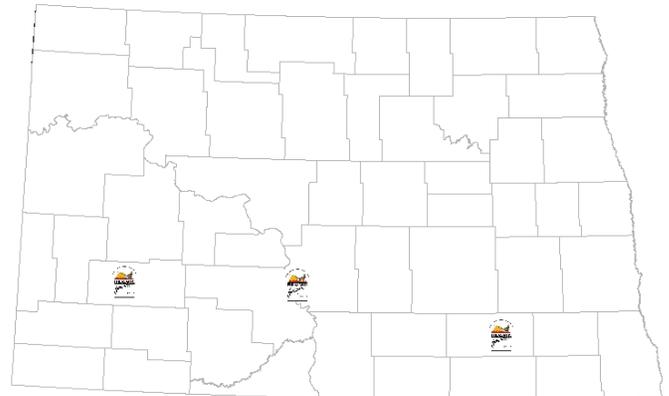
Pheasants Forever will provide management, coordination, delivery and administration of the Precision Agriculture: Technology, Conservation and Habitat project. Pheasants Forever will also provide coordination at the local level with program participants and partners, which may include program contract development, grass seeding design, technical standard checklists, and submission of payment applications.

Rachel Bush, North Dakota State Coordinator, will be the project lead, overseeing the management of this grant. Rachel has been employed and an active volunteer with Pheasants Forever since 2011. As State Coordinator, Rachel is responsible for grant writing and reporting, developing partnerships, coordinating with Chapters and volunteers and overseeing contracts enrolled in Pheasants Forever programs. Rachel also oversees all Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant contracts Pheasants Forever has with the Industrial Commission. Having grown up on a farm Rachel enjoys working with private landowners and appreciates the value in finding

options that work for agriculture and conservation to benefit North Dakota’s farmers, ranchers and wildlife species.

Pheasants Forever has three field staff, two of which are Precision Ag & Conservation Specialist, in the field across North Dakota. Our staff will be responsible for on-the-ground delivery of the Precision Agriculture: Technology, Conservation and Habitat project working one-on-one with ND operators, providing technical assistance and evaluation of alternative land use opportunities to participating operators. Pheasants Forever staff will work directly with operators to complete applications, planning maps, technical documents, and contracts.

Pheasants Forever Field Staff Locations



**Evaluation**

Success will be measured by the number of cooperators this partnership between conservation and agriculture impacts with OHF grant funds to improve and restore water quality, soil conditions, and plant diversity while supporting practices of stewardship that enhance agricultural operations in North Dakota. We will measure success by 1) the number acres of enrolled into the program 2) the number of private landowners we engage. We will report the number of cooperators that participate in the project and acres enrolled along with all required reporting.

**Financial Information**

**Project Budget**

Project Expense	OHF Request	Applicant’s Match Share (In-Kind)	Landowner Match (Cash & In-Kind)	Total Each Project Expense
Grass Establishment	\$270,000	\$0	\$90,000	\$360,000
Cover Crops	\$16,875	\$0	\$5,625	\$22,500
Pollinator Planting	\$15,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$20,000
Project Management, Coordination & Delivery	\$0	\$36,301	\$0	\$36,301
Precision Ag Software License & Use	\$0	\$9000	\$0	\$9000
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$301,875</b>	<b>\$45,301</b>	<b>\$100,625</b>	<b>\$447,801</b>

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

**Grass Establishment** – Cost-share is based on total establishment cost, including, but not limited to seed bed prep (mechanical or chemical), drill rental, seed costs, and drilling operations. We estimated establishment costs at \$120 per acre. Reimbursements will be made from receipts.

**Cover Crops** – Cost-share is based on practice implementation costs, including but not limited to equipment rental, seed cost and drilling operations. We estimated costs at \$45 per acre based on multi-species cover crop mixes. Reimbursements will be made from receipts.

**Pollinator Planting** - Cost-share is based on total establishment cost, including, but not limited to seed bed prep (mechanical or chemical), drill rental, seed costs, and drilling operations. We estimated establishment costs at \$200 per acre. Reimbursements will be made from receipts. Pollinator plantings will be higher diversity with species from early, mid and late bloom periods represented in the final seed mix. Increased cost associated with pollinator plantings is due to 1) additional site preparation and 2) increased seed costs.

**Project Management, Coordination & Delivery** – Pheasants Forever has four staff across the State that will help to administer, coordinate and deliver this project. Pheasants Forever pledges \$36,301 in staffing costs, to deliver this project. Staff activities will include program promotion and outreach, landowner meetings, coordination with partners, processing payments and agreement monitoring. Pheasants Forever also pledges \$9000 in precision ag software licensing fees and use to assist producers in analyzing and validating precision data and evaluating alternative practices.

**Precision Ag Software License & Use** – Pheasants Forever staff maintain a desktop license with EFC Systems for the use of FieldAlytics and Profit Zone Manager. Full subscription cost for the 3-year project, for 2 desktop licenses totals \$15,000. We estimate we will utilize Pheasants Forever’s software license for the precision ag business planning process, as opposed to a grower’s software, 60% of the time, for a total in-king value of \$9000.

### **Sustainability**

Cooperators participating in this project will be required to sign a contract with Pheasants Forever indicating they will maintain the practice on the land for the designated practice lifespan. Perennial Cover and Pollinator practices shall be maintained for a minimum of 5 years. Cover crops are an annual practice. Random spot checks will be completed by Pheasants Forever staff to ensure contracted acres are maintained according to the guidelines specified in the contract. Underlying resource concerns are rarely remedied in the timespan of five years. It is our goal to provide educational opportunities and materials to project cooperators allowing them to realize the benefits of the implemented practice and maintain it past the contract lifespan.

### **Partial Funding**

If the project is partially funded, the number of acres we are able to address will be reduced and the cost-share provided to cooperating growers may be reduced. A reduction in funding will likely decrease the number of growers that will be able participate in this opportunity.

### **Partnership Recognition**

The Outdoor Heritage Fund will be recognized when working with producers and in contract documents in both text and logo form. Pheasant Forever will highlight this opportunity and project success, acknowledging the Outdoor Heritage Fund, through its network of over 3,600 members. Pheasants Forever will also work with local media contacts to highlight successful

projects completed through the Outdoor Heritage Fund and by promoting completed projects through Pheasants Forever's social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram).

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

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

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

## **ABOUT OHF:**

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

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

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

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

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

## **EXEMPTIONS**

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

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

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

- A completed project or project commenced before the grant application is submitted;
- A feasibility or research study;
- Maintenance costs;
- A paving project for a road or parking lot;
- A swimming pool or aquatic park;
- Personal property that is not affixed to the land;
- Playground equipment, except that grant funds may be provided for up to 25% of the cost of the equipment not exceeding \$10,000 per project and all playground equipment grants may not exceed 5% of the total grants per year (see Definitions/Clarifications for how this will be calculated);
- Staffing or outside consultants except for costs for staffing or an outside consultant to design and implement an approved project based on the documented need of the applicant and the expenditures may not exceed 5% of the grant to a grantee if the grant exceeds \$250,000 and expenditures may not exceed 10% of the grant to a grantee if the grant is \$250,000 or less (see Definitions/Clarifications for how this will be calculated);

- A building except for a building that is included as part of a comprehensive conservation plan for a new or expanded recreational project (see Definitions/Clarifications for definition of comprehensive conservation plan and new or expanded recreational project); or
- A project in which the applicant is not directly involved in the execution and completion of the project.

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

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

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

## **Budget Information**

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

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

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

## **Definitions/Clarifications:**

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

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

New and Expanded Recreational Project means that the proposed building cannot be a replacement of a current building. The proposed building must also be related to either a new or expanded

recreational project--either an expansion in land or an expansion of an existing building or in the opportunities for recreation at the project site.

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

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

## Scoring of Grants

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

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

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

## Awarding of Grants

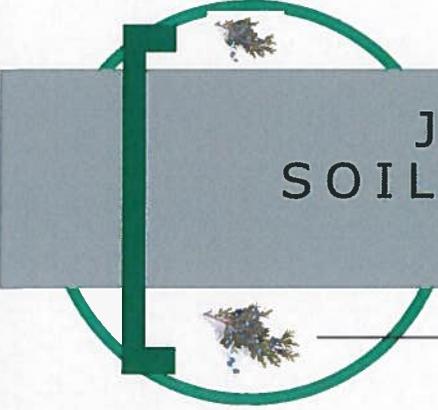
All decisions on requests will be reported to applicants no later than 30 days after Industrial Commission consideration. The Commission can set a limit on duration of an offer on each application or if there isn't a specific date indicated in the application for implementation of the project, then the applicant has until the next Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board regular meeting to sign the contract and get the project underway or the commitment for funding will be terminated and the applicant may resubmit for funding. Applicants whose proposals have been approved will receive a contract outlining the terms and conditions of the grant.

## Responsibility of Recipient

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

If you have any questions about the application or have trouble submitting the application, please contact Andrea Pfennig at 701-328-3786 or [apfennig@nd.gov](mailto:apfennig@nd.gov).

Revised: September 14, 2018



JAMES RIVER  
SOIL CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT



April 10, 2019

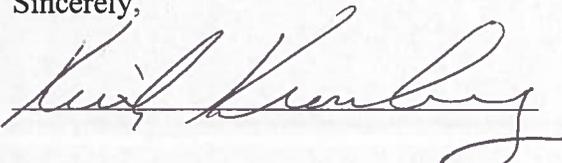
Karlene Fine, Executive Director  
North Dakota Industrial Commission  
ATTN: Outdoor Heritage Fund Program  
600 East Boulevard Ave., Dept. 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505

Dear Ms. Fine:

Please accept this letter of support by the James River Soil Conservation District Board of Dickey County for Pheasants Forever Precision Ag Outdoor Heritage Fund proposal. This project's primary objectives are to help producers enhance soil health and to enhance wildlife habitat. These goals align well with our natural resource concerns and conservation goals in Dickey County. We have seen the success of this program in it's first stages and our Board would like to see it continue.

There are necessary costs associated with enhancing wildlife habitat and bringing soil productivity back. Having financial assistance to support these efforts is vital. This program will be beneficial for producers in our area and for our natural resources.

Sincerely,



James River Soil Conservation District

Board Chairman



*For a Permanent Agriculture*

**Ransom County Soil Conservation District**  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Lisbon, North Dakota 58054

Outdoor Heritage Fund Program  
State Capitol – Fourteenth Floor  
600 East Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505

April 15, 2019

Dear Chairman Melchior and Members of the Board,

Please accept this letter of support for the proposal titled "Precision Agriculture: Technology, Conservation and Habitat" submitted by Pheasants Forever. Over the past several years we have worked closely with Pheasants Forever's Precision Ag and Conservation Specialist to assist growers in evaluating their precision ag data and turning that data into decisions which have resulted in on-the-ground conservation practices. We realize the value of utilizing this innovative approach to conservation delivery and look forward to working with Pheasants Forever to deliver even more conservation to our County as a result, through this Outdoor Heritage Fund project.

The Ransom County Soil Conservation District supports the efforts of Pheasants Forever's pioneering method of conservation delivery and looks forward to a favorable recommendation from the OHF Advisory Board.

Sincerely,

Patrick Freeberg  
Chairman  
Ransom County SCD  
P.O. Box 431  
Lisbon, ND 58054



# LaMoure County Soil Conservation District



Outdoor Heritage Fund Program  
State Capitol – Fourteenth Floor  
600 East Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505

April 25, 2019

Dear Chairman Melchior and Members of the Board,

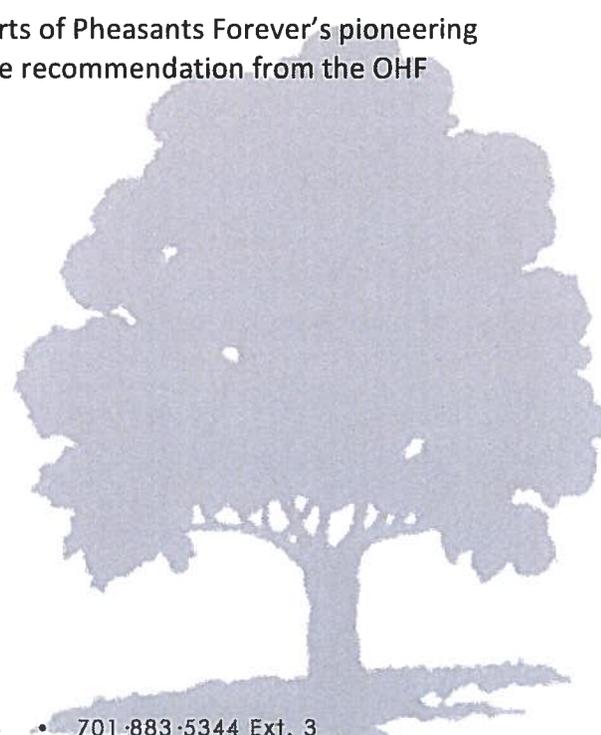
Please accept this letter of support for the proposal titled "Precision Agriculture: Technology, Conservation and Habitat" submitted by Pheasants Forever. Over the past several years we have worked closely with Pheasants Forever's Precision Ag and Conservation Specialist to assist growers in evaluating their precision ag data and turning that data into decisions which have resulted in on-the-ground conservation practices. We realize the value of utilizing this innovative approach to conservation delivery and look forward to working with Pheasants Forever to deliver even more conservation to our County as a result, through this Outdoor Heritage Fund project.

The LaMoure County Soil Conservation District supports the efforts of Pheasants Forever's pioneering method of conservation delivery and looks forward to a favorable recommendation from the OHF Advisory Board.

Sincerely,

Christof Just

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors  
LaMoure County Soil Conservation District



Wild Rice Soil Conservation District  
8991 Hwy 32 Suite 2  
Forman, ND 58032

Outdoor Heritage Fund Program  
State Capitol – Fourteenth Floor  
600 East Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505

4/11/2019

Dear Chairman Melchior and Members of the Board,

Please accept this letter of support for the proposal titled "Precision Agriculture: Technology, Conservation and Habitat" submitted by Pheasants Forever. The Wild Rice Soil Conservation District has a positive history of working together with Pheasants Forever's Precision Ag and Conservation Specialist. By partnering together, we have been able to assist growers in evaluating their precision ag data and turning that data into decisions that have resulted in conservation practices being implemented that increase soil health and water quality in Sargent County. With this program being piloted in our area we were able to firsthand see the value of utilizing this innovative approach to conservation delivery and look forward to working with Pheasants Forever to deliver even more conservation in our County as a result, through this Outdoor Heritage Fund project.

The Wild Rice Soil Conservation District supports the efforts of Pheasants Forever's pioneering method of conservation delivery and looks forward to a favorable recommendation from the OHF Advisory Board.

Sincerely,



Matthew Olson

Wild Rice Soil Conservation District Manager



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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
1783 Buerkle Circle  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55110  
(651) 773-2000  
(651) 773-5500 FAX  
(877) 773-2070 TOLL-FREE  
[www.PheasantsForever.org](http://www.PheasantsForever.org)

April 30, 2019

Karlene Fine, Executive Director  
North Dakota Industrial Commission  
State Capitol – Fourteenth Floor  
600 East Boulevard Ave., Dept. 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505

ATTN: Outdoor Heritage Fund

Dear Ms. Fine:

Pheasants Forever willingly provides support to deliver, if funded, the “Precision Agriculture: Technology, Conservation and Habitat” project submitted to the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund. This project will allow Pheasants Forever’s field staff and precision specialist to work directly with North Dakota landowners and operators to assist them in improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, and plant diversity. The “Precision Agriculture: Technology, Conservation and Habitat” project will also assist landowners and operators in developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private lands.

Pheasants Forever pledges, \$36,301 in in-kind staffing costs along with \$9000 in-kind towards precision ag software access to deliver and administer the work of this proposal.

We look forward to working collaboratively with the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund, our partners and North Dakota farmers to address soil health and create wildlife habitat.

Sincerely,

James Koerber, Chief Financial Officer  
Pheasants Forever, Inc. & Quail Forever