

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

NO CONSIDERATION:

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

- Projects that are already completed;
- Projects that are on-going (Phased projects would be considered);
- Staffing;
- Feasibility studies;
- Annual maintenance;
- Paving projects for roads and parking lots;
- Swimming pools;
- Non-permanent equipment (such as tractors, snowmobiles);
- Research;
- Projects where the applicant is not directly involved in the project.

Application Deadline

Applications for the second grant round cycle are due on **August 1, 2014 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 * Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Federal Tax ID# * 13-5643799

Contact Person/Title * Steven Dvorak, Field Agronomist

Address * 2525 River Road

City * Bismarck

State * North Dakota

Zip Code * 58503-9011

E-mail Address * sdvorak@ducks.org

Web Site Address (Optional) www.wintercereals.us www.ducks.org

Phone * 701-355-3500 or direct 701-355-3538

Fax # (if available) 701-355-3512

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

DU will serve as the primary grantee of this project. Other key project participants include NDSU Extension Service and local Soil Conservation Districts.

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

Choose only one response

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

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

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

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

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

Choose all that apply

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

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

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

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

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

- State Agency
- Political Subdivision
- Tribal Entity
- Tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation.

Project Name*

“Partnering with ND Producers to Promote Profitable Agriculture with Wildlife Benefits”

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)

Since its launch in 1999, DU's agronomy program has collaborated broadly with private industry (manufacturers, wholesalers & retailers), farm and conservation organizations, farmers, ag extension and academia. DU Agronomy promotes winter wheat to growers as part of an integrated cropping system using no-till seeding methods that benefit soil, water and wildlife. This project would be a new program that would operate additionally, yet synergistically, with the other activities and efforts of the larger DU Agronomy program.

OHF funds would be used to provide incentive payments directly to producers who agree to increase their seeded winter wheat acreage over previous years, whether they would be veteran winter wheat growers, or were new to the crop. DU plans to partner with soil conservation districts (SCDs) to serve as contracting agents to find and sign-up growers, and to verify the execution of contract commitments.

Producer incentives: In each of 18 ND counties where the landscape is more mixed (cropland/grassland) in composition, 3 growers will be paid \$12/acre (roughly 1/3 the total cost of seed and seeding) for every acre of increased winter wheat seeding up to a maximum of 160 acres (total of up to \$1,920/contract). In each of 16 counties where the landscape is more heavily dominated by row crops, 6 growers will be paid \$24/A (roughly 2/3 the total cost of the seed plus seeding) for every acre of increased winter wheat seeding up to a maximum of 160 acres (total of up to \$3,840/contract). Candidate producers will be given a winter wheat best management practices packet of information and will either have to take a written test on that packet of info or attend a WW production seminar as one of the requirements for being awarded a contract. (See Appendix for list of counties and categorization).

Contracting agents will be paid \$100 per executed contract, as well as an additional \$100 for taking the same written test required of the growers. SCD offices will be reimbursed for any direct expenses incurred do to the implementation of this program.

It is our intent for this program to be on-going for a number of years (8-12) – until it fully matures and demand begins to diminish. We will apply to the OHF Advisory Board on an annual basis in hopes of securing succeeding rounds of funding. That will also enable us to annually report on the successes and accomplishments of the program; and to recruit additional funding sources thereby reducing the level of OHF fund requests as well. Individual producers will be allowed to receive incentives only one time during the life of this program. Each year an entirely new class of producers will be allowed to benefit from the opportunity. This approach will help incentivize new producers to enroll in the program, learn of the agronomic factors of success, and to begin producing sustainable benefits over time.

Project Duration:* 8 to 10 years

Amount of Grant request \$ * 472,320

Total Project Costs \$* 1,005,930

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

A minimum of 25% Match Funding is strongly encouraged. Amount of Matching Funds \$* 533,610

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

In-Kind:	\$447,360
Indirect:	\$ 62,750
Cash:	\$ 23,500

Source(s) of Matching Funds*

Please provide verification that these matching funds are available for your project.

Ducks Unlimited (cash, in-kind, in-direct): \$131,850
(Great Plains Regional Director, Steve Adair, has confirmed this commitment.)
NDSU Extension (in-kind): \$ 10,080
(Contracting WW Agronomist, John Lukach, has confirmed his willingness to reallocate his budget in support of this project.)
Participating growers (in-kind): \$391,680
(By definition, producers' in-kind partnership.)

Certifications *

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

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

Narrative

Organization Information – Briefly summarize your organization’s history, mission, current programs and activities. *

Include an overview of your organizational structure, including board, staff and volunteer involvement. (no more than 300 words)

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

Ducks Unlimited has invested \$22 million in private dollars to conserve almost 442,000 acres in North Dakota. DU's Great Plains Regional Office opened in Bismarck in 1984 and employs engineers, biologists and other scientists, economists and agronomists throughout a seven-state region. Staff works with farmers and ranchers to develop water and grassland projects beneficial to both agriculture and wildlife. Agronomists work with growers in the Prairie Pothole Region to enhance the profitability and adoption of winter wheat, which provides secure nesting cover for ducks in cropped landscapes, reduces soil erosion and sedimentation, and reduces pesticide and nutrient transport. DU has 46 employees in North Dakota, the heart of one of the world's best waterfowl nesting grounds.

DU has 6,720 members in North Dakota who in 2012 alone raised almost \$600,000 at 51 North Dakota events for DU's conservation work.

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.

By planting winter wheat growers are able to spread their production and marketing risks as well as their workload (utilize equipment and human resources more efficiently). Winter wheat also represents an opportunity to increase potential revenues -- directly from the profitability of winter wheat itself, as well as indirectly through crop rotation benefits.

Reduced tillage, low pesticide requirements, the presence of living roots through the winter months, and the maintenance of a crop residue cover on the soil surface make no-till winter wheat production one of the most environment-friendly cropping options available. Additionally, for the more intensively cropped farms in the eastern part of the state, the early harvest date of winter wheat provides one of the only viable opportunities available to take advantage of the soil health benefits achievable via the immediate subsequent planting of cover crops. Furthermore, winter wheat is an effective tool that can be used to help reclaim low- and non-producing salt-affected soils. And lastly, the inclusion of winter wheat provides both cultural and chemical options helpful in managing and delaying the development of herbicide-resistant weeds. (Directive B).

Research conducted in Canada and the U.S. found that ducks nesting in fall-seeded winter cereals are anywhere from 6.5X (mixed crop/grass landscapes) to 24X (cropland-dominated landscapes) more productive than those nesting in spring-seeded cereals. Data from South Dakota shows that when winter wheat is available, pheasants will readily use it and maintain survival rates similar to grass-dominated areas. This program will positively affect tens of thousands of acres of potential wildlife habitat on private lands (Directive C).

Goals:

1. To directly support the seeding of 24,000 new acres of winter wheat production annually. (Directives B and C).
2. To establish and strengthen relationships with 150 North Dakota growers annually.
3. To educate a new class of producers on cutting-edge practices involved in the successful and profitable production of winter wheat. (Directive B).
4. To augment and strengthen working relationships with 34 soil conservation district offices as well as with the 34 ag extension agents in those same counties.

Strategies:

1. Utilize soil conservation districts to make their producers aware of the opportunity and to recruit participants/beneficiaries.
2. Partner with NDSU Extension and research, wheat organizations, ag input manufacturers, ag input wholesalers and retailers, soil conservation districts and NRCS to effectively reach and educate growers.
3. Educate producers on the latest and best management practices by providing them with a packet of winter wheat production information, and then by testing them (written test) on that material, -- or by having them attend a winter wheat production seminar in lieu of taking the test.
4. Utilize a brief, user-friendly contract that is simple, understandable and attractive to producers.
5. Ultimately the crop has to prove itself in order for acreage increases to become sustained over time; our intent through this program is to help set producers up with the greatest odds of success and a positive experience.
6. Contract awardees will be given the opportunity to sign up to receive our "Agronomy Newsletter", if they are not already.
7. Contract awardees will agree to allow their contact information, and the knowledge of their participating in this program, be made available to other supporting industry partners (ag input manufacturers, wholesalers & retailers as well as ag service providers).

Benefits:

1. An increase in the use of no-till and reduced-till seeding systems to maintain and enhance ND's soil and water resources. (Directives B and C).
2. An increase in winter wheat profitability for growers that will also allow them to spread their workload, give them a much needed management tool in their fight against weed resistance, and provide a crop that can be harvested early enough to allow seeding of a cover crop (Directives B & C).
3. An increase in the availability of secure nesting habitat for ground-nesting birds such as ducks and pheasants on private land. (Directive C).
4. Improved working relationships between DU Agronomy and SCD and NDSU Extension staffs.
5. It provides one more opportunity to foster the dialogue between production agriculture and conservation – underscoring the fact that our interests overlap, and that by working together we are more likely to find paths forward where everybody wins (benefits).

Implementation and Funding:

1. This is a new project that brings together private landowners, industry leaders, research experts and conservation organizations. Funding support from the OHF will help jump start this new approach to winter wheat promotion in ND. In future annual cycles of this program it is likely that we will be able to recruit additional private funding sources to help reduce reliance upon OHF for continued funding.
2. If OHF funds are awarded, we would move quickly to make sure that all supporting pieces are in place in order to have contracts signed by the end of summer (2015), and incentive payments made before the end of the year once it is verified by our contracting agents that program participants actually got their intended acreage increases planted.
3. We will seek approval from each soil conservation district board for one or more of their staff to work with us as contracting agent(s). DU commits our own Agronomy staff (and Conservation Specialists, if needed) to perform contracting roles in counties where the local soil conservation district staff is unable or unwilling to participate.
4. DU will pay all contracting fees and costs; as well as provide all staff and administration expenses associated with this project.
5. Other active DU Agronomy supporters will be made aware of this program and will be given the opportunity to offer further enhancements by providing in-kind matching contributions (products and/or services) to the contracted producers as well – if they should so-choose.

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.

DU Field Agronomist, Steven Dvorak, will provide leadership and management for the project. He will be committed fulltime to this and other projects that constitute the WCSIA initiative. He has been a vital part of the DU agronomy program for the past 5 years, and has performed several critical roles in orchestrating its expansion during that time.

Winter Wheat Agronomist, John Lukach (NDSU -- Langdon REC) will work directly with 14 SCD offices in NE ND, and Steven Dvorak will be responsible for the remaining 20 counties. In the case that there are more SCDs that are not willing/able to cooperate as contracting agents than we anticipate, we (DU) also have 4 Conservation Specialists in various areas of the state that can be tapped to help with contracting activities. Contract agents will be responsible for finding interested growers, delivering the packet of educational materials (and testing them on it), confirming that the increased acres were actually seeded (thereby triggering payment by DU), and filing a brief follow-up report summarizing the growers' experiences.

Steven Dvorak's background:

Grew up on a dairy farm in southeast SD

BS Degree in Agronomy from SDSU

Has worked both as a technical- and as a sales-agronomist in the seed industry for companies such as Pioneer Hi-Bred, Syngenta (NK), and Pulse USA

Has sales experience in minor product lines like micronutrients (TJ Technologies), biological inoculants (Philom Bios), and plant growth regulators (GroLand).

Has served on boards of commodity organizations (ND Dry Pea & Lentil Ass'n, SD Corn Growers, SD Forage & Grassland Council)

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.

By the end of calendar year 2015, winter wheat acreage increases will have been confirmed by the contracting agents, incentive payments will have been made to the growers, and contracting fees will have been paid to the contract agents. A report of those items, as well as listings of all producers and contract agents involved (as well as acres paid on, varieties seeded, management practices utilized, etc.) will be submitted by the end of the year.

The only final expenses yet to be determined will be final reimbursements to SCD offices for expenses incurred in support and execution of this program; as well as remaining DU match for staff, overhead and other related expenses. A brief interim progress report could probably be compiled during the growing season if so desired. A final report tallying all program costs and matching contributions, as well as a summarization of participant and contract agent experiences (like final yields, surprises (pleasant or otherwise) and final impressions and/or assessments of whether or not they thought the program was a “success” will be completed and submitted sometime after harvest (late summer) but before EOY 2015.

Ultimately, the true success of this program will be measured by the winter wheat acreage trends averaged over years. Unless this program is continued over a period of years, it would be very difficult to determine its real impact. A reasonable expected “length of run” for this program would be 10 years (plus or minus a couple years). Ten years of full participation would directly involve 1500 growers and 240,000 “new” winter wheat acres.

It is important to note the overlapping of cycles in this project. An application for funding of the next year’s incentive outlays will occur before harvest by the PY’s participants, let alone submittal of the final report.

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 strongly encouraged.*

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.

Producer incentive programs have proven to be attractive to private ag-supply (seed, agri-chemicals, fertilizer, etc) companies – if they are allowed to contribute in-kind products and services. The attractiveness of this program to prospective producers is that it is very streamlined and incentivized (in cash) without a lot of complicating requirements. Persuading private industry to participate at the level of contributing cash is orders of magnitude more difficult than garnering in-kind commitments. Regardless, a concerted effort will be made to accomplish just that. It is anticipated that this program will “fully mature” after a period of 10 years (+/- 2) and will no longer be needed or effective as we run out of interested new growers in many counties.

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

At least in this first year of the program, funding at less than the full request will result in a significant reduction in producers enrolled and acres positively impacted. We have prioritized (via a competitive ranking process) the list of counties based upon maximum habitat values (the more intensively cropped counties with a high concentration of wetlands are the higher priority counties). See Appendix.

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. *

We can meet all the provisions of the sample contract except (maybe):

11. "...The Contractor agrees that all materials prepared under this Agreement are 'works for hire' within the meaning of the copyright laws of the United States and assign to the Commission all rights and interests the Contractor may have in the materials it prepares under this Agreement, including any right to derivative use of the material..."

Our primary concern regards the “packet of information” containing educational material on the best management practices of producing winter wheat that we will distribute to participating growers and contracting agents. Much of the material in that packet, whether already in existence (much of it from other sources such as NDSU), or to be created/assembled/formatted for that purpose -- is material/information that we use elsewhere in our on-going educational efforts outside of this project. Of course, and material developed specifically related to and for this project would be considered “works for hire” and would be agreeable to this provision.

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 July 3, 2014

Appendix

The list of targeted counties, listed in order of highest priority (habitat value) to least (1 through 34):

High Priority:	6. Ramsey	12. Richland	17. McIntosh	23. McLean	29. Divide
1. Sargent	7. Stutsman	13. Towner	18. Logan	24. Sheridan	30. Burke
2. Dickey	8. Benson	14. Cavalier	19. Kidder	25. Burleigh	31. Renville
3. Ransom	9. Barnes	15. Griggs	20. Wells	26. Pierce	32. Bottineau
4. LaMoure	10. Foster	16. Steele	21. McHenry	27. Rolette	33. Emmons
5. Nelson	11. Eddy	Low Priority:	22. Ward	28. Mountrail	34. Williams

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 the 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 a minimum of 25% match funding is strongly encouraged. An application will be scored higher the greater the amount of match funding 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. Also by law several items are ineligible for funding -- see Exemptions in the Application Form. Effective January 29, 2014 the following guidelines were approved by the Industrial Commission:

NO CONSIDERATION:

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

- Projects that are already completed;
- Projects that are on-going (Phased projects would be considered);
- Staffing;
- Feasibility studies;
- Annual maintenance;
- Paving projects for roads and parking lots;
- Swimming pools;
- Non-permanent equipment (such as snowmobiles, tractors);
- Research;
- Projects where the applicant is not directly involved in the project.

“Partnering with ND Producers to Promote Profitable Agriculture with Wildlife Benefits”

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
Producer Incentives	\$472,320	\$	\$	\$54,742	\$391,680	\$ 918,742
Contracting Fees	\$	\$18,400	\$	\$ 2,133	\$	\$ 20,533
Contracting Expenses	\$	\$ 5,100	\$	\$ 591	\$	\$ 5,691
Project Management	\$	\$	\$26,560	\$ 3,078	\$ 10,080	\$ 39,718
Project Travel	\$	\$	\$ 9,840	\$ 1,140	\$	\$ 10,980
Printed Materials	\$	\$	\$ 9,200	\$ 1,066	\$	\$ 10,266
Total Costs	\$472,320	\$23,500	\$45,600	\$62,750	\$401,760	\$1,005,930

DRAW TEXT BOX FOR DETAILS HERE

Details:

Producer Incentives: 18 low priority counties X 3 contracts X 160 acres X \$12 = \$103,680
 16 high priority counties X 6 contracts X 160 acres X \$24 = \$368,640
 \$472,320

Producer match: 18 low priority counties X 3 contracts X 160 acres X \$24 = \$207,360
 16 high priority counties X 6 contracts X 160 acres X \$12 = \$184,320
 \$391,680

Rationalization: One of the deterrents for growers to seed winter wheat is the risk of winter-kill (with no crop insurance coverage for this risk in North Dakota). This risk often is not as great as most producers think. The long-term average abandonment rate for winter wheat in ND is roughly 10% (only about twice the long term abandonment rate for spring wheat). The incentives offered in this program are meant to cover the costs that would not be recoverable should a grower have enough winter-kill to warrant replanting to a different crop. In those situations a producer is usually just out the costs for seed and planting as any fertilizer applied in the fall should still be available for the replanted crop.

One of the attractive features of this program is that even if a producer does lose the stand and needs to replant, he will already have fulfilled his contractual requirements and will not be asked to refund the incentive payment that he would have already received.

In high priority counties where row crops predominate, it is likely that a good number of participants do not own a seeder capable of seeding wheat. In those cases they will need to hire someone to custom-seed it. In low priority counties it is more likely that participants will have their own seeding equipment as well as to already having experience in growing winter wheat. These differences explain only part of the rationale behind the unequal levels of support for low- and high-priority counties. Producer match is calculated as 2/3 of the seed (~\$20/A) and seeding (~\$16/A) costs in the low-priority counties; and 1/3 of the seed and seeding costs in the high-priority counties.

Contract Fees: 150 contracts X \$100/contract + \$100 kicker/contractor = \$ 18,400

Contracting Expenses: 34 SCD offices X \$150 in expenses per = \$ 5,100

Project Management: Steven Dvorak: 320 hours X an HCR rate of \$83/hour = \$ 26,560
 John Lukach (NDSU): 168 hours X a prorated rate of \$60/hour = \$ 10,080

Project Travel Expense: Steven Dvorak: hotel expense: 6 nights X \$100/night= \$ 600
 meal expense: 40 days X \$35/day = \$ 1,400
 mileage: 350 mi/day X 40 days X \$0.56/mi = \$ 7,840
 \$ 9,840
 John Lukach: travel expenses are included in his contract rate = \$ 0

Printed Materials: 184 educational packets and tests X \$50 = \$ 9,200

Indirects: all indirects calculated at 11.59% = \$ 62,750

Total Project Cost:	\$1,005,930	100%
OHF Request:	\$ 472,320	47%
Match:	\$ 533,610	53% of total
Match:	\$ 533,610	113% of OHF request

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.

Approved by OHF Advisory Board: October 17, 2013
Approved by Industrial Commission: October 22, 2013
Revised by OHF Advisory Board: January 22, 2014
Approved by Industrial Commission: January 29, 2014
Revised by OHF Advisory Board: May 13, 2014
Approved by Industrial Commission: May 27, 2014