

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 * The Nature Conservancy

Federal Tax ID# * 53-0242652

Contact Person/Title * Eric Hoff: Sheyenne Delta Land Steward

Address * 7290 146th Ave SE

City * Milnor

State * ND

Zip Code * 58060

E-mail Address * ehoff@tnc.org

Web Site Address (Optional): nature.org

Phone * (701)-439-0841

Fax # (if available) (701)-439-9280

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

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

Choose only one response

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

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

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

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

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

Choose all that apply

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

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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* Brown Ranch Habitat Enhancement through Prescribed Grazing

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 Nature Conservancy's Brown Ranch office desires to install shallow water wells and portable livestock tanks along with a solar powered pumping unit to improve its rotational grazing program, with the ultimate goal of improving wildlife habitat over 1,500 acres. This project can be completed in one year's time, will cost approximately \$24,255 and will result in better pasture management and better wildlife habitat by providing more predictable grazing use, allowing more sustainable management on both Brown Ranch and the livestock producers home ranch which will benefit the grasslands and wildlife. . Additional benefits will include healthier cattle and increased weight gains.

Project Duration:* May/June of 2015

Amount of Grant request \$ * 16,889

Total Project Costs \$* \$24,255

(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 \$* 5,296 CASH, \$1,200 labor (in-kind), \$600 for four shallow well materials (in-kind), \$270 (indirect).

Source(s) of Matching Funds* The Nature Conservancy. (See attached email)
Please provide verification that these matching funds are available for your project.

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. ***

The Nature Conservancy has been a nationally recognized conservation organization for more than 50 years and has been active in ND for over 30 years, maintaining staff at Brown Ranch and Cross Ranch. The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to “conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends”. In the Sheyenne Delta that means managing native and restored prairie to maintain and improve the diversity of plants and animals as well as to maintain and improve the livelihood of ranching for local families. Our Brown Ranch property is leased to one of our neighbors to keep the land in production, to use grazing as a tool to keep it healthy and it helps support the people that depend on it for income as well as recreational pleasures such as hunting and hiking.

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.

The goal(s) of this project is to provide reliable water sources for cattle grazing in pastures on The Nature Conservancy’s Brown Ranch. Water locations will be strategically placed to maximize grazing benefits and allow for maximum flexibility in subdividing pastures for better grazing management. Reducing pasture sizes and mimicking historic grazing disturbances will help increase plant diversity and habitat heterogeneity.

This is a new project that will help provide a predictable water source/ grazing system for our local livestock producer and TNC. This predictability will also create more sustainable management on over 1,500 acres of TNC and other private lands, which will benefit grassland health and the species, which depend on it. . This project is fairly urgent as wells will be installed summer/fall of 2014. The unpredictability of current water sources creates a reactive management situation and often places our grazing partner in an undesirable position. This places increased pressure on the grazing cooperators home acres, reducing the quality of the habitat throughout the landscape. Decreased grazing options on Brown Ranch means reduced ability to actively and efficiently manage prairie resources across a larger landscape and also means increased uncertainty for tenants.

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 immediate installation of water sources on Brown Ranch is a fairly simple matter of purchasing the right sized tanks and appropriate solar powered pumping unit and setting them up in the pre-determined strategic locations throughout pastures. Tank sizes and pumping units have already been selected by working with a local expert on livestock watering and solar pumping. The Nature Conservancy is already working with a local expert on installing shallow wells for the project and will have them in place by the end of 2014. With water sources, tanks and pump unit in place for the 2015 grazing season managing grass will be much easier and more successful by being able to sub divide large pastures and graze based on grass needs and not water availability. As mentioned before, this will allow for better wildlife habitat, better hunting for sportsmen and an increased plant diversity.

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.

To document the progress of this project all bills and receipts will be kept to track expenditures. Each tank location will be recorded (lat/long), name, well diameter, well depth, and a photo taken. As part of the ongoing "work plan" for Brown Ranch, the number of days grazed is recorded and notes on pasture condition are taken. In addition to this, yearly monitoring to determine the percent coverage of native vs. non-native species is conducted. With improved grazing management in conjunction with other prairie management tools, we should see a decrease in the percent coverage of non-native species, indicating we are reaching our goal.

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.

This project should be very sustainable with the need to only occasionally replace a tank liner or pump parts over the course of several years. Annual maintenance will be administered by TNC..

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

If this project were to be only partially funded it would greatly reduce the amount of land on Brown Ranch that could be grazed based on grass needs and not water availability. Which in turn would reduce the amount of prairie that could be better managed for wildlife habitat and hunting opportunities.

Scoring of Grants

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

Awarding of Grants*

All decisions on requests will be reported to applicants no later than 30 days after Industrial Commission consideration. Applicants whose proposals have been approved will receive a contract outlining the terms and conditions of the grant. Please note the appropriate sample contract for your organization on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm> that set forth the general provisions that will be included in any contract issued by the North Dakota Industrial Commission. Please indicate if you can meet all the provisions of the sample contract. If there are provisions in that contract that your organization is unable to meet, please indicate below what those provisions would be. *

Responsibility of Recipient

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

If you have any questions about the application or have trouble submitting the application, please contact Karlene Fine at 701-328-3722 or kfine@nd.gov

Revised July 3, 2014

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.

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
Bottomless steel tanks (4)	12,000	4,000	\$		\$	16,000
1 solar pump unit	3,889	1,296	\$		\$	5,185
4 Wells	\$	\$	600		\$	600
Labor	\$	\$	1,200	270	\$	1,470
Small trailer	1,000	\$	\$	\$	\$	1,000
	\$	\$	\$		\$	\$
Total Costs	16,889	5,296	1,800	270	\$	24,255

Budget Explanation:

Bottomless stock tanks cost \$4,000 each. These tanks are rubber lined making them "portable", because we cannot get concrete to the tank locations. Tanks are sized to hold a 3 day water supply for a 350 head herd of cattle.

The solar pump unit costs \$5,185 and includes all wiring, controllers, pump and tubing. Well materials cost \$150 per well. It takes about a day to put in each well, plus a day to check and record data for each well. The labor cost is calculated at the given rate of \$15.00 per hour. It is estimated that it will take two people 8 hours each per well, for a total of 80 hours and a total cost of \$1,470.

A small trailer is needed to mount the solar pump unit on to make it portable between each tank location. This item can be purchased locally for \$1,000.

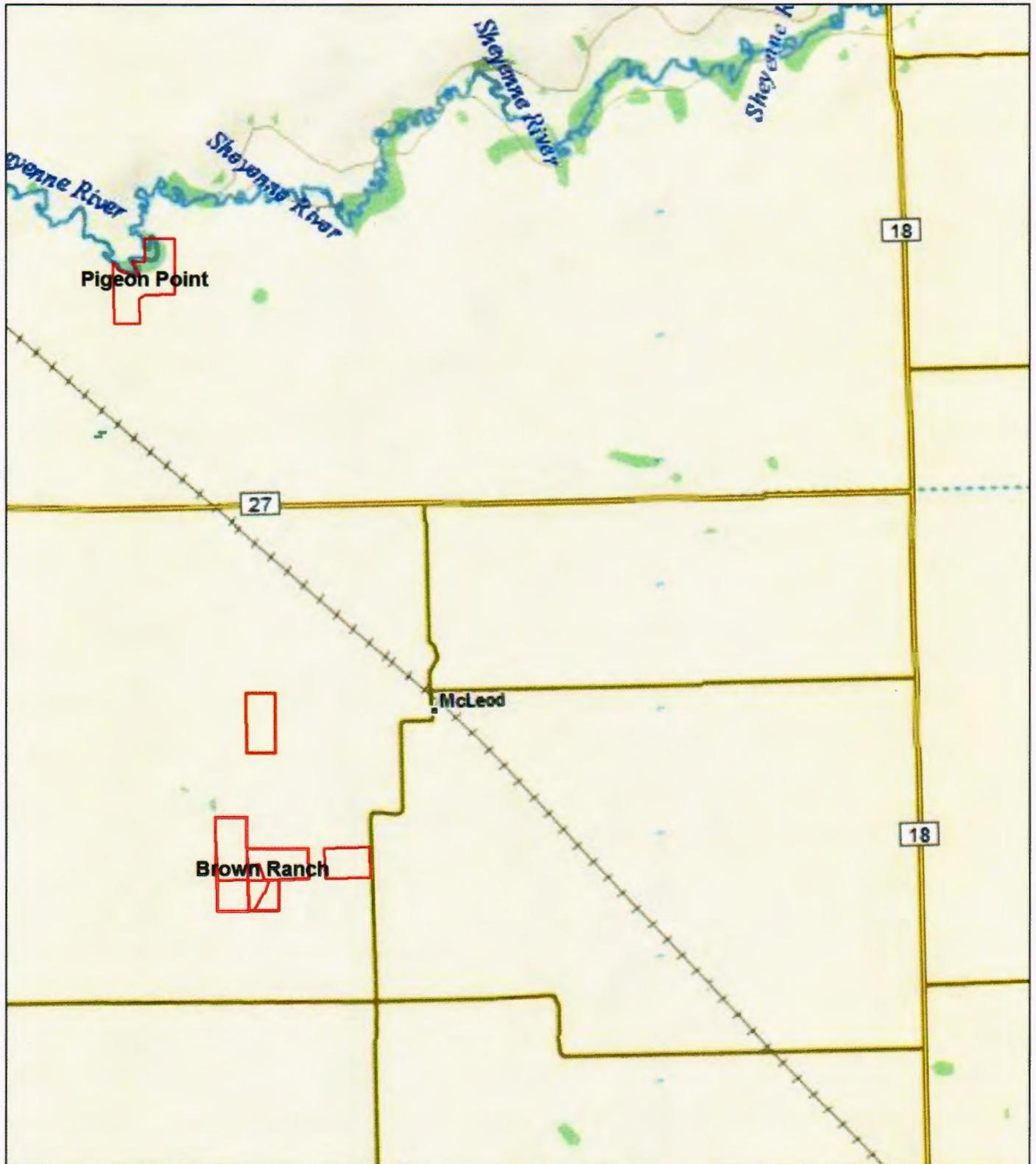
In-kind services used to match the request for Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars shall be valued as follows:

- 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

General Location of Brown Ranch and Pigeon Point



Legend

-  Brown Ranch
-  Pigeon Point



Map By: Eric Hoff, The Nature Conservancy
2.13.13

Subject: Re: application for ND funding ND OHF
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 4:15:01 PM Central Daylight Time
From: Eric J. Hoff
To: Corey Jansen

From: Corey Jansen <cjansen@TNC.ORG>
Date: Monday, July 28, 2014 3:53 PM
To: Doug Shaw <dshaw@TNC.ORG>, Eric Hoff <ehoff@tnc.org>
Subject: RE: application for ND funding ND OHF

Dakotas Grant Match

Corey Jansen
Finance Manager
MN, ND, SD

cjansen@tnc.org
(612) 331-0773 (Phone)

The Nature Conservancy
Minnesota Field Office
1101 West River Parkway
Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55415



nature.org

From: Doug Shaw
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2014 3:53 PM
To: Eric J. Hoff
Cc: Corey Jansen
Subject: RE: application for ND funding ND OHF

Please check with Corey on this.

From: Eric J. Hoff
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2014 3:38 PM
To: Doug Shaw
Subject: Re: application for ND funding ND OHF

Doug, is there a name for the funds? Is it Dakota's Match?

Eric Hoff
Sheyenne Delta Land Steward
701 439-0841 (office)
701-439-9280 (fax)
Ehoff@tnc.org

The Nature Conservancy
Brown Ranch Field Office
7290 146h Ave SE
Milnor, ND 58060



From: Doug Shaw <dshaw@TNC.ORG>
Date: Monday, July 28, 2014 3:24 PM

To: Eric Hoff <ehoff@tnc.org>

Cc: Neal Feeken <nfeeken@TNC.ORG>, Corey Jansen <cjansen@TNC.ORG>

Subject: RE: application for ND funding ND OHF

Green light. This is a good use of those match funds. Glad you got the green light from Peggy on submitting the proposal.

Doug

From: Eric J. Hoff

Sent: Monday, July 28, 2014 3:11 PM

To: Doug Shaw

Subject: FW: application for ND funding ND OHF

Importance: High

Doug,

I have the green light from Peggy on applying for the ND OHF (deadline Aug 1). I am working on the proposal today