

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 * Pheasants Forever Dakota Chapter, Bismarck ND

Federal Tax ID# * 41-1429149

Contact Person/Title * David Nehring, Habitat Committee Chairman

Address * 12550 10th Ave SE

City * Bismarck

State * North Dakota

Zip Code * 58504

E-mail Address * dnehring@bektel.com

Phone * 701-214-3184

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

None- North Dakota Game and Fish is a cooperating partner for this project

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;

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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

O Tribal Entity

x Tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation, as described in United States Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. § 501 (c))

Project Name: Bismarck PF Habitat Enhancement

Abstract/Executive Summary:

The Bismarck Pheasants Forever Chapter's objective is to increase habitat and plant diversity with member/partner knowledge of habitat through education, tree and shrub planting and infrastructure. This project would help increase conservation, access for sportsmen and women and habitat on a variety of public and private lands along with increase conservation on private lands while offsetting the decrease in conservation in public funds (example: CRP reduction of funding for private lands).

The funding with this application will allow the chapter to increase planting of habitat and shrub plantings. The Chapter is purchasing with their funds ~~with~~ a no-till tree planter and no-till weed barrier applicator and ~~with~~ partner with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department for use during the week, storage and maintenance. The chapter members and cooperative partners will use the equipment on the weekends and the combination public/private partnership will create additional lands benefiting habitat, recreationalists and outdoor enthusiasts. This grant will allow the purchase of trees, weed barrier, grass seed and other necessary habitat to create a long term, beneficial environment for private and public land owners.

The Bismarck chapter has a strong long-lasting relationship with the Bismarck District of the ND Game & Fish. The Bismarck Pheasants Forever Chapter is committed to enhancing the regions wildlife habitat, and has made significant equipment purchases in the past along with habitat improvements in other areas that are used by public/private partnerships. The Bismarck Chapter sees an opportunity to increase public access while creating a greater awareness of the need for outdoor recreation areas that bring attention to the benefits of conservation.

This project, in partnership with the North Dakota Game and Fish, would create a model for many of the similar chapters to follow for conservation, public benefits and common sense conservation measures that work for North Dakota.

Project Duration:* 10 months. This will allow the committee time to place orders for public and private land owner's trees, shrubs and weed barrier for the 2015 season, and promote the program and use of the equipment with members and the Game and Fish Department

Amount of Grant request \$ 60,000

- \$37,500 for tree/shrub plantings - this would allow the chapter to establish approximately 40,000 linear feet of new shrub/conifer plantings with barrier.
- \$22,500 for native grass establishment - this money would be utilized to purchase seed, and cost share assistance for the seeding and weed suppression.

Total Project Costs: \$100,000

(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: \$ 40,000

- \$8,000 for the cost of the tree planting equipment for the tree/shrub planting – cash from chapter
- \$16,500 for the Barrier Machine – cash from chapter
- \$9,500 for trailer – cash from chapter
- \$3,000 for freight of the equipment. – cash purchase by the chapter
- Volunteer labor (estimated at 150 man-hours) - In kind by chapter members
- Fuel for the transfer of equipment – donation by chapter members

Source(s) of Matching Funds

The chapter has funds in their account for this purchase and continues to raise additional funds through chapter fundraisers and benefits, along with memberships. The yearly fund raising efforts go toward promoting education and habitat restoration.

Certifications

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

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

Narrative

Organization Information:

The Bismarck chapter of the Pheasants Forever is a long established chapter with roots in the Bismarck/central North Dakota area. The mission of the chapter and all chapters is is the unique grassroots system of fundraising and project development that allows members to see the direct result of their contributions. The Bismarck Chapter determines how 100 percent of their locally raised conservation funds will be spent With this in mind, the Bismarck chapter has set aside funds from their annual fundraising efforts to be used locally for habitat improvement, youth education and safety. Being a grassroots organization, our members, board of directors and volunteers are committed to maintain conservation and opportunities for recreation for all people in the region.

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

The chapter intends to increase conservation and support private and public landowners as the conservation measures decrease with reduction in CRP. This project will work WITH private landowners where mutually agreeable private/public partnerships can be reached for conservation, recreation and increased sportsmen and women can have access.

The Bismarck chapter spends approximately \$32,000 annually on habitat establishment and enhancement, but our member requests have exceeded our available funds by \$30,000-50,000 annually over the past few years.

Due to the drastic reduction in CRP acres, and the decrease in other funding areas, the chapter believes that the funding requests will continue to increase. This funding will aid in increasing habitat and replace the decreasing federal and local funding.

Tree/shrub plantings are important to wildlife for winter survival, as well as concealment from predators, additional food sources, etc. Native grass establishment has many important benefits to wildlife, such as nesting cover, concealment, in addition to a high value in ecosystem protection. Both of these areas are priorities in this grant application.

The intention of the grant will be to request and secure projects for the 2015 planting season. The Bismarck Pheasants Forever Chapter will utilize the fall and winter meetings along with outreach through media and public avenues, including the Game and Fish Department, to increase awareness of the program.

As federal funding decreases for habitat, conservation and public access benefits, this program with funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund will be a model for other chapters in the state to follow as public, private and state partnerships.

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.

This project will be managed by members and professionals in habitat and conservation along with members of the club that have a strong belief and commitment to conservation and outdoor activities.

Dave Nehring, Habitat Committee Chairman of the chapter will serve as project manager for this program. Dave, with his company, has provided establishment and enhancement of wildlife habitat throughout the state of North Dakota. He has established positive working relationships with private landowners, state and federal government agencies.

A member and North Dakota Game and Fish Department staff, Bill Haase, will aid in the direction of the project and provide guidance for the public lands.

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department will store and use the equipment during the week, and our members would be allowed to use the equipment on weekends. The equipment would be owned and maintained by our local Pheasants Forever chapter, as to alleviate any future costs by the State Agency.

Evaluation – Describe your plan to document progress and results.

If the grant is accepted, the chapter will begin promoting the project the fall and winter of 2014 at their local meetings, public forums through the North Dakota Game and Fish and the media. The past several years of member requests have exceeded our available. It is anticipated the success of the program will can be measured by amount of planting beyond the past years.

The spring of 2015 they will secure membership and other private/public areas to provide habitat plantings with long and short term agreements. The intentions of this program is to provide for approximately 40,000 linear feet if new shrub/conifer plantings with barrier and purchase of native grass see and cost share assistance for seeding and weed suppression.

The purchase of the equipment, trailer and maintenance will be a commitment of the Pheasants Forever Chapter. Documentation will be included in our annual habitat worksheet, showing year-to-year results and increases in specific areas

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.

The funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund will allow the region and the chapter to ‘catch up’ on the habitat that is being lost to other sources and lack of funding and resources form other federal programs. This grant funding will allow the Pheasants Forever chapter to get ahead of the demand and meet the needs of the region in future years with the annual habitat disbursements, which typically are at \$30,000 in annual reimbursements to our cooperators for habitat cost share.

If there appears to be a continued lack of funding from federal and other sources, the chapter will continue to look for ways that it can improve and increase education and habitat in cooperation with local, state and private landowners.

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

If funding is partially distributed, the chapter will only be able to meet some of the demands from private and public areas for habitat. They will continue to work towards meeting the needs of the region.

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

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
Tree/Shrub planting (1)	\$37,500	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$37,500
Native grass establishment (2)	\$22,500	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$22,500
Tree Planter (3)	\$	\$8,000	\$	\$	\$	\$8,000
Equipment freight (4)	\$	\$3,000	\$	\$	\$	\$3,000
Trailer (5)	\$	\$9,500	\$	\$	\$	\$9,500
Barrier Machine (6)	\$	\$16,500	\$	\$	\$	\$16,500
Fuel (7)			\$750			\$750
Labor (8)			\$2,250			\$2,250
Total Costs	\$60,000	\$37,000	\$3,000	\$	\$	\$100,000

- 1) Tree/Shrub planting will cover 40,000 linear feet of new shrub/conifer plantings with barrier.
- 2) native grass establishment be utilized to purchase seed, and cost share assistance for the seeding and weed suppression
- 3) Purchase of a tree planter, to be stored and used during the week at the ND Game and Fish Headquarters and utilized by members on the weekends
- 4) Freight to ship the equipment to North Dakota
- 5) Gooseneck trailer to haul equipment to site
- 6) Barrier machine to lay fabric for new plantings. To be stored and utilized by North Dakota Game and Fish during the week and on weekends by members and their cooperators.
- 7) Fuel and gasoline to haul and power the machines – donation by chapter members
- 8) Labor over the spring/summer for barrier and natural habitat plantings.