

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 *

Audubon Dakota

Federal Tax ID# *

13-1624102

Contact Person/Title *

**Benjamin Williams; Conservation Programs Coordinator
Marshall Johnson; Executive Director, Vice President**

Address *

118 Broadway N. Ste. 512

City *

Fargo

State *

North Dakota

Zip Code *

58102

E-mail Address *

bwilliams@audubon.org
mejohanson@audubon.org

Web Site Address (Optional)

dk.audubon.org

Phone *

701-298-3373

Fax # (if available)

701-298-9097

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

Fargo Parks District

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

(X) 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*

Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative

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 North Dakota landscape is one of the most productive landscapes for wildlife in all of America, and the right to have access and to have outdoor recreational opportunities is an essential element of our state's heritage. The Urban Woods & Prairies proposal contained herein seeks to create a string of pearls along the Red River Valley for residents and wildlife alike to enjoy.

The Urban Woods & Prairies initiative is a partnership project between Audubon Dakota and the Fargo Parks District aimed at enhancing wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities in Southeastern North Dakota for the public. While the initiative itself will be on-going, this proposal request is solely focused on the habitat restoration and enhancement of the project.

The aim of the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative is to create, restore and enhance wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities for the growing city of Fargo. The 142.25 acre project area is spread across 5 sites around the city of Fargo aimed at the restoration and management of woodland and grassland habitats for both avian and other wildlife species. In partnership with the Fargo Parks District, Audubon Dakota has identified locations currently owned and/or managed by the Parks District that would be suitable for conversion from exotic turf grass into native prairie grasses and wildflowers, as well as more intensive woodland management. Restoration and enhancement plans and objectives have been developed and are ready for implementation in the fall of 2014 with the goal of enhancing the habitat quality for birds and other wildlife species by planting native grasses and forbs. Site preparation, proper seeding and installation, and diligent maintenance are all crucial to this projects success. The expected results for the project would be increased native plant diversity, decreased presence of invasive plants, and increased use by avian and wildlife species. Secondary benefits of the project would

be increased soil health, increased water filtration, and increased natural flood protection along both the Red River and Wild Rice River. In addition to habitat and natural benefits, this project would create beautiful areas for the citizens of Fargo to experience nature and the environment within an urban landscape. Upon commencement of the project, the duration would be approximately 1 year of installation and establishment (including site preparation and seeding; both of which are weather dependent). After the professional installation and management, responsibility will be turned over to the Fargo Parks District for following and adapting the management plan as needed with support and guidance from Audubon Dakota. The total estimated cost of the project is to be \$148,788.50, which includes all supplies, equipment, labor, and sub-contractor for the project. The key partners in this project will be Audubon Dakota and the Fargo Parks District. It will be recommended that Prairie Restorations Inc., a local Fargo-Moorhead area company should be the contracted service provider of installation and maintenance.

Project Duration:*

1 year of professional installation and establishment

Amount of Grant request \$ *

\$82,217.50

Total Project Costs \$*

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

\$148,788.50

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

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

Matching funds for this project will be provided through both in-kind services and cash.

Source(s) of Matching Funds*

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

Cash: \$22,500

In kind: \$44,071

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)

Audubon Dakota is a state program within the National Audubon Society. Since 1905, the National Audubon Society has been focused on conserving bird habitat, promoting avian education, and engaging individuals and communities in a variety of activities and opportunities. Audubon Dakota as a state program was instituted in 1997, however Audubon’s role in the Dakotas spans back to the mid-1970s. The mission of the National Audubon Society is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the Earth’s biological diversity. As grasslands across the Great Plains disappear at an alarming clip, the conservation of grassland and prairie birds has become one of the greatest challenges and is of extreme importance for Audubon in the Dakotas. As a state office, Audubon Dakota has two full time staff members for the two-state region (North and South Dakota). Audubon Dakota’s Advisory Board is comprised of 7 North Dakota citizens. Currently, Audubon Dakota manages and impacts roughly 5,000 acres within the region. This would not be possible without the support and help of many different land management cooperators, government agencies and programs, local businesses and individuals, and many volunteers and local Audubon Chapters. In all of our programs, from grazing and haying to education and outreach, the efforts and cooperation of our supporters is crucial to our success and crucial to conserving bird habitat in the Dakotas.

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 Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative is a new project focused on the restoration of woodland and grassland habitats on 142.25 urban acres within and around the city of Fargo for outdoor recreation and wildlife habitat. In doing so, this proposal will carry out the Outdoor Heritage Fund’s (C) Directive to Develop, enhance, conserve, and restore wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; as well as Directive (D) Conserve natural areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

Audubon Dakota and the Fargo Parks District have worked together to identify specific land tracts that are good candidates for this program. Currently, the tracts being considered for restoration are areas of invasive grasses, weeds, and woody vegetation. The most common species seen in these areas include Kentucky Bluegrass, Smooth Brome, Canada Thistle, Leafy Spurge, buckbrush, and Common Buckthorn. Not only do these species represent a limited amount of avian and wildlife habitat, but if left unchecked will completely choke out any and all native plants within the area, which will considerably degrade the habitat quality of these areas. The current management practices, usually either the use of mowing or no management, are not sufficient enough to contain these invasive species. Native species, such as Big Bluestem, Little Bluestem, Indian Grass, and Switch Grass are much more desirable for habitat and are native to the region. Wildflowers such as Black-eyed Susan, Tall Blazing Star, and Common Milkweed are great for pollinators and insects in grasslands. These are just a few of the species to be planted as a part

of this project. Audubon and the Parks District have worked to set these areas aside for wildlife habitat and developed management plans for these areas to control the invasive species and establish higher quality habitat for birds and wildlife.

Specifically, this project would work to establish urban nesting, brooding, and cover habitat for grassland and wetland bird species within Fargo. Situated on the Red River, Fargo is along a natural flyway for many different avian species. By creating the different habitat types needed for these birds to successfully nest, the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative will encourage these species to use natural areas within an urban landscape. Nesting and brooding habitat for waterfowl, grassland birds, and forest birds can be very different, which is why this project covers several key areas within Fargo. Waterfowl species such as Mallards and Blue-winged Teal will utilize grasses close to wetland areas, like those to be created at Unicorn Park or Briarwood Park. Grassland birds, like Bobolinks and Grasshopper Sparrows, will do well in larger, open prairies like at Pontes Prairie Park. Lastly, wooded areas like at Forest River and Heritage Hills will be used more by species which like some more tree cover, such as Wood Ducks or woodpeckers. The breadth of the habitat that is to be restored is ideal for a large suite of species.

To do this, Audubon Dakota, with cooperation and support of the Fargo Parks Districts, proposes to restore these areas to native prairie, and manage invasive buckthorn in particularly troublesome spots to achieve those habitat goals. Not only will birds and wildlife benefit from the change in vegetation, but native prairies naturally assist in increased water filtration, increased soil health, and increased natural flood resiliency. Also important is the lower required maintenance (after proper establishment) and higher aesthetic value of native vegetation as opposed to invasive and exotic plants. The key to this plan is proper establishment and maintenance (especially within the first three years). Prairie Restorations Inc. is an organization based in Princeton, MN with offices throughout the state. The office in Hawley, MN does habitat restoration work throughout Northwestern Minnesota as well as Eastern North Dakota. As a contracted partner, Prairie Restorations would be responsible for the site preparation, installation of native vegetation, and maintenance of each site for 3 years (year 1 being the spring in which the vegetation is planted). Because establishment of a prairie requires proper knowledge, attention, and adaptive management, professional installation and maintenance is ideal. Also in this timeline, Prairie Restorations will take an aggressive approach to dealing with Common Buckthorn in more wooded areas. Manual removal, followed by chemical application can be effective in removing buckthorn, but should be done professionally and should also be monitored for regrowth. Following those 3 years, responsibility of the maintenance would be turned over to the Fargo Parks District. These management plans, created with input from Audubon Dakota, the Parks District, Local Community Associations and Prairie Restorations, outline future management goals and objectives. These plans would also define acceptable management practices while still allowing for adaptive management.

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 management team for this project would include individuals from Audubon Dakota, the Fargo Parks District, and Prairie Restorations Inc. From Audubon Dakota, the staff members associated with the project will be Marshall Johnson and Benjamin Williams. Marshall Johnson is the Executive Director of Audubon Dakota and has been doing conservation within North Dakota for the past 6 years. His background in business and his leadership skills make him a natural manager for this project. Ben Williams, Audubon Dakota's Conservation Programs Coordinator has had technical training in invasive

species management and woodland management in North Dakota through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service. From the Fargo Parks District, Dave Leker Dave Bietz and Clay Whittlesey. Dave Leker has been with the Park District for 15 years. Dave oversees the parks, forestry, facilities and sports fields departments for the District. The Fargo Park District maintains over 2000 acres of land in the City of Fargo. Dave Bietz, Park Foreman, has been with the Park District for 21 years. Dave helps supervise the Parks Department, with 21 full time staff. Dave's staff maintains over 90 parks and facilities throughout the Park District. Clay Whittlesey has 25 years of experience in programming youth and adult outdoor programs, allowing participants to enjoy and help protect natural areas for future generations. These three have been instrumental in the groundwork of this project. With their knowledge and expertise dealing with parks and recreation facilities, this team from the Fargo Parks District is prepared and willing to assist and support this project. Lastly, from Prairie Restorations Inc. is Blaine Keller. Blaine has been installing and enhancing grassland habitat with Prairie Restorations Inc. for over a decade. Blaine's crew does prairie installation and management throughout Northwestern Minnesota and North Dakota. The combination of all of these experienced professionals working on this project will help ensure success by offering varying viewpoints and expertise.

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.

Measuring success on a project like this can be both very simple yet also challenging. The first and easiest way to measure success for Urban Woods and Prairies is to look at the vegetation species composition in the enhanced areas. Currently, there are few to no native species in these areas, and so the increased presence and diversity of native species is a clear indicator of success. Plant and vegetation surveys will be conducted in tandem by the Parks District and Audubon. Increased species diversity and bird utilization will be attained by through regular spring and breeding bird surveys conducting by Audubon Dakota. Audubon Dakota and The Fargo Parks District will carry out a focused marketing and awareness campaign around this project in order to educate the public on the mutual benefits of native plantings, assuage any concerns relative to the transition of the sites, and ensure increased public usage of the new habitat parks. Our hope is to use these sites as educational opportunities to engage the community. Interpretive signage and programs will lead to a better general understanding of natural resources, management objectives, and increased interest in nature. Audubon will monitor use of the sites by the public and maintain lists of participants in outdoor programming at these sites. The decreased presence of invasive species, increased presence of native plant and bird diversity, and the opportunity for educational events would be the measures of success for this project.

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.

After the establishment of 142.25 acres of habitat is complete, funding for the management and sustainability of this project and what it entails (weed management, outreach, educational programming, etc.) will be taken up by Audubon Dakota and the Fargo Parks District as a portion of their respective operational budgets. Funding from the Outdoor Heritage fund would go towards the initial habitat restoration and establishment, Audubon Dakota and the Fargo Parks District (in line with the site management plans) will bear the burden of funding for this project in the out years. As for now it is anticipated that after proper establishment, the native vegetation will require less overall maintenance work than what is currently spent on these areas (mowing hours, staffing, fuel, etc.) which will be cost efficient for the Fargo Parks District. Audubon Dakota, having a vested interest in the continuance of habitat on these sites, will also take on some financial responsibility for this project in order to ensure its sustainability for many years to come. In addition to strictly financial funding, Audubon Dakota would promote the use of the areas as outdoor education locations within Fargo including continuing its sponsorship of the annual Fargo birding festival in partnership with the Parks District. This will help gain public favor of the areas and help assure the sustainability of these sites through general community approval.

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

If this grant request was not funded to the amount requested, financial burden of this project would be shifted more heavily onto Audubon Dakota and the Fargo Parks District. This may require that not all land tracts previously included in the project would be able to be converted to native vegetation. The scale of the project would be lessened, but ultimately there would still be good conservation work being done on much needed areas around Fargo.

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
(1) Site prep (142.25a c)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$33,571	\$33,571
(2) Native seed installation	\$82,217.5	\$ 20,000	\$	\$	\$	\$102,217.5
(3) Signage	\$	\$2,500	\$	\$	\$500	\$3,000
(4) Bird surveys(3 years)	\$	\$	\$5,000	\$	\$	\$5,000
(5) Vegetation surveys(3 years)	\$	\$	\$5,000	\$	\$	\$5,000
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Costs	\$82,217.5	\$22,500	\$10,000	\$	\$34,071	\$148,788.5

- 1) Each project site selected for this initiative will be prepped by the Fargo Parks District in the fall of 2014. Invasive weeds and turf grass will be tilled and sprayed in the fall, then re-sprayed in spring of 2015.
- 2) Prairie restoration, which has a history of working with both Audubon Dakota and the Fargo Parks District has placed a bid for seed and seeding of the 142.25 project area.
- 3) As part of a focused marketing and outreach strategy, Audubon Dakota will design, in partnership with the community associations and Fargo Parks District, signage for each new habitat area.
- 4) In order to confirm and illustrate the increased use of the project areas, post-habitat establishment, by birds and wildlife, Audubon Dakota will conduct spring and summer bird surveys
- 5) To best inform and implement an effective long-term management plan, Audubon Dakota will conduct plant and vegetation surveys at each site for 3 years and beyond.

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



July 31, 2014

Outdoor Heritage Fund Commission
600 E Boulevard Ave, Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Dear Board Members:

The Fargo Park District would like to extend our full support regarding Audubon Dakota's proposed Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative which is requesting grant funds from the Outdoor Heritage Fund.

This initiative is aimed at converting existing cool-season turf grass areas within the Fargo Park District to more native species of grasses and vegetation. This conversion will help mitigate long-term maintenance costs as well as provide habitat for birds and wildlife within an urban landscape. Weed control and aesthetic value are also benefits of the proposed project. Audubon Dakota and the Fargo Park District have partnered to select five sites that would be ideal candidates for such a project.

As a match of funding for the Outdoor Heritage Fund grant, the Fargo Park District will help fund, execute site preparation activities and provide general oversight where necessary on the five sites selected for the project.

The Fargo Park District is in full support of Audubon Dakota, regarding the Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative.

Sincerely,

Dave Leker

Director of Parks
Fargo Park District

Cc: Roger Gress, Executive Director
Jim Larson, Director of Finance

Park Board

Barb Johnson, Commissioner
Joel Vettel, Commissioner
Ron Sorvaag, Commissioner
Mary Johnson, Commissioner
Joe Deutsch, Commissioner
Chris Kennelly, Clerk

Administration

Roger Gress,
Executive Director

Jim Larson,
Director of Finance/Human
Resources

Dave Leker,
Director of Parks

Clay Whittlesey,
Director of Recreation

Carolyn Boutain,
Director of Cultural Activities

Kevin Boe,
General Manager Courts Plus
Fitness Center

Brian Arett,
Director Fargo Senior Services

Amy Rasmussen,
Administrative Assistant



Urban Woods and Prairies



Unicorn Park

11.79 Acres

Pontes Prairie Park

9.56 Acres

Briarwood Prairie

41.83 Acres

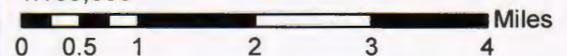
Forest River

46.26 Acres

Heritage Hills

32.81 Acres

1:100,000



Legend

 Proposed Areas



Unicorn Park



Legend

-  Wetland Restoration
-  Park Boundary



Target Bird Species: Great Blue Heron, Virginia Rail, Spotted Sandpiper, Eastern Kingbird, Grasshopper Sparrow, Mallard, and Western Meadowlark

Target Vegetation Species: Little Bluestem, Big Bluestem, Indian Grass, Side Oats Grama, Black-eyed Susan, and Purple Prairie Clover

1:4,000



*Note: Any facilities buildings will remain.

Pontes Prairie Park



Legend

 Park Boundary



Target Bird Species: Bobolink, Western Meadowlark, Upland Sandpiper, Grasshopper Sparrow, Field Sparrow, and Mallard

Target Vegetation Species: Little Bluestem, Big Bluestem, Indian Grass, Side Oats Grama, Stiff Goldenrod, and Tall Blazing Star

1:3,232

 Miles

Briarwood Prairie



Legend

-  Wetland Restoration
-  Park Boundary



Target Bird Species: Great Blue Heron, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Spotted Sandpiper, Red-winged Blackbird, Field Sparrow and Marbled Godwit

Target Vegetation Species: Big Bluestem, Indiangrass, Common Milkweed, Lead plant, and Yarrow

1:5,879



Forest River



Legend

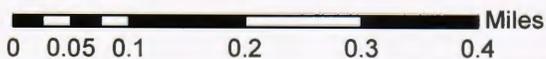
-  Wetland Restoration
-  Boundary



Target Bird Species: Wood Duck, Canada Goose, Mallard, Marbled Godwit, Pied-billed Grebe, Red-headed Woodpecker, and Field Sparrow

Target Vegetation Species: Little Bluestem, Big Bluestem, Indian Grass, Side Oats Grama, Tall Blazing Star, and Common Milkweed

1:10,000



*Note: All houses have been moved from project area.

Heritage Hills



Legend

 Boundary

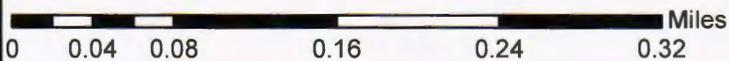


Target Bird Species: Bobolink, Western Meadowlark, Upland Sandpiper, Grasshopper Sparrow, Wood Duck, Canada Goose, and Mallard

Target Vegetation Species: Little Bluestem, Big Bluestem, Indian Grass, Switch Grass, Green Needlegrass, and Yarrow

1:5,727

*Note: All houses have been moved from the project area.



Prepared by Ben Williams 7/24/14

Fine, Karlene K.

From: Williams, Benjamin <bwilliams@audubon.org>
Sent: Monday, August 04, 2014 9:50 AM
To: Fine, Karlene K.
Subject: RE: OHF application

Karlene,

Thanks for your questions! I'll do my best to answer them thoroughly. Let me know if you have any follow ups or if I can make something clearer. Thanks!

1) The seed and seeding bid we received from Prairie Restorations was simply to estimate a cost for the entire project. The bid was placed with Audubon Dakota and is based on the 142 acre project. Each site will most likely get a different mixture of seeds (depending on drainage, sunlight, etc.) but for pricing, it was considered a 142 acre project unit. If the project size were to decrease, the price per acre would increase.

2) The cost for surveys is a best approximation. This accounts for staff time taken to conduct the surveys and log data, as well as any costs for materials and equipment (binoculars, measuring tapes, etc.). With 142 acres of land to survey birds at least twice a year (Spring and Fall migration; it would be prudent to survey again mid-summer as well though to get a good sense of breeding populations) and survey vegetation at regular intervals (to catch plants/flowers that bloom and come to seed at different times), this is a large part of the project and crucial for determining success.

3) The cost for signage for this project would be design, manufacturing and installation.

Let me know if you have any more questions!

Benjamin Williams
Conservation Programs Coordinator
Audubon Dakota
118 Broadway N. Suite 512
Fargo, ND 58102
701-298-3373

From: Fine, Karlene K. <kfine@nd.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 04, 2014 8:20 AM
To: Williams, Benjamin
Subject: OHF application

Ben – In looking over your application this weekend, we had a couple of questions. On your budget you indicated that Prairie Restoration has “placed a bid” for seed and seeding. I wasn’t sure what placed a bid meant. Is that the bid they have already submitted to the Fargo Parks District? Is that bid for all the areas or is it broken down by project? Would it be possible to get a copy of that bid?

You also discuss conducting surveys. How did you determine the cost of those surveys?

Under three you talk about signage. You indicate designing signage. Will it be only the designing or will it include actual installation?

If you could provide some additional clarification as soon as possible so we can post the information with your application on the web, we would appreciate it very much. Karlene

Karlene Fine
Executive Director & Secretary
ND Industrial Commission
State Capitol, 14th Floor
600 E Blvd Ave Dept 405
Bismarck ND 58505
701-328-3722