

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 **November 3, 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:
Stutsman County Soil Conservation District

Federal Tax ID#:
45-0283683

Contact Person/Title:
Ryan Odenbach, Watershed Coordinator

Address:
1301 Business Loop East

City:
Jamestown

State:
North Dakota

Zip Code:
58401

E-mail Address:
ryan.odenbach@nd.nacdnet.net

Web Site Address (Optional):
www.stutsmanscd.org

Phone
(701) 252-2521 ext. 3

Fax # (if available)
855-561-7866 attn: Ryan Odenbach

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

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:

Riparian Grazing Systems Project

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 primary goal of this project is to restore proper vegetative balance in riparian areas in Stutsman County. This is accomplished by focusing on proper rotation of grazing animals (generally beef cattle) through use of a multi-celled grazing system. A secondary goal is to restore and maintain water quality of the rivers and reservoirs in Stutsman County. The plan is to work with up to 10 currently interested producers to develop grazing systems. On average each producer would implement about 15,000 linear feet of fence, 3 water tanks, 2,000 feet of pipelines, 1 well or rural water hookup, and electrical work. The timetable for implementing this project is to have all practices in place by December 31, 2017.

Project Duration:
3 years (2015 – 2017)

Amount of Grant request: \$253,500

Total Project Costs: \$422,500
(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:

\$169,000 (40% in-kind)

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

Source(s) of Matching Funds:

40% Matching funds are provided through local landowners/ag producers through in-kind.
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.

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

The Stutsman Soil Conservation District was created on August 21, 1948. The Mission Statement of the Stutsman County SCD: “To take available technical, financial, and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user for conservation of soil, water, and related resources.” The Current SCD is governed by a Board consisting of five county producers. The SCD staff includes a district manager and technician, and a 319 Watershed Project consisting of Coordinator Ryan Odenbach, and two technicians. The 319 oversees the Beaver Creek/Seven Mile Coulee Watershed Project as well as the Stutsman Manure Management Program, four specialized equipment pieces, and the SCD's Crop Plots Project. The SCD promotes conservation with annual tours, landowner workshops in targeted areas of the county as well as several newsletters per year and a website www.stutsmanscd.org.

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 primary goal of this project is to restore proper vegetative balance in riparian areas in Stutsman County. This is accomplished by focusing on proper rotation of grazing animals (generally beef cattle) through use of a multi-celled grazing system. These grazing systems provide periods of heavy grazing followed by longer periods of rest. This system mimics historic pre-settlement grazing provided by herds of bison, which benefits the entire vegetative community. Grazing animals such as beef cattle, bison, etc., should be concentrated enough to impact the entire plant community, thereby allowing a balance of species (i.e. grasses, forbs, woody vegetation, etc.). A secondary goal of this project is to restore and maintain water quality of the rivers and reservoirs in Stutsman County. This project is focused on the riparian areas (areas surrounding rivers and streams) in Stutsman County. Throughout the drift prairie (non-Couteau) area of Stutsman County, the rangeland and grazing areas are primarily around streams and rivers. The remainder of the area is generally in crop production. The impact of proper grazing techniques in these areas can be substantial for water quality, reducing manure and erosion contributions to area streams.

The Stutsman County SCD already has a track record of developing high quality multi-celled systems in riparian areas through the 319 watershed programs along Beaver Creek and the Pipestem Creek. There is much interest in developing these grazing systems in additional areas. The plan is to work with up to 10 currently interested producers to develop grazing systems. Using an average cost and implementation scenario from previous systems installed, the budget for this project was developed. This average includes per producer: 15,000 linear feet of fencing (usually 4 wire barbed), 3 water tanks, 2,000 ft. of pipelines, 1 well or rural water hookup, and electrical work.

The timetable for implementing this project is to have all practices in place by December 31, 2017. Construction of these practices will start in 2015.

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 project will be managed by Ryan Odenbach who has been Watershed Coordinator with the Stutsman County SCD for 12 years. In Stutsman County, he guided the Lower Pipestem Creek Watershed Project to a successful conclusion in 2010 and is currently managing the Beaver Creek / Seven Mile Coulee Watershed Project as well as the Stutsman Manure Management Program, four special equipment projects, and the SCD's Crop Plots Project.

Implementation of this project will begin in 2015. Some of the projects are already in planning stages. Section 319 provides the staffing costs for this program. The Stutsman SCD staff and Stutsman NRCS maintain consistent planning and administration including individualized plan folders and notes to ensure documentation of practices and organization. Conservation plans are signed with each producer which ensure proper timing and objectives.

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.

Success will be measured through the implementation of successful grazing systems, with livestock producers who are following a grazing rotation. Grazing tours will be planned and photographic monitoring points will be setup to tell impacts over time. This has already been occurring on projects implemented in the past.

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.

Producers receiving this cost share will be expected to maintain their grazing systems as specified in their plans. Operation and maintenance agreements will be signed and field checks will occur in the future to determine if agreements are being followed. Personnel from the SCD will also monitor implemented systems for compliance with signed agreements.

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

Fewer grazing systems will be implemented as a result of partial funding.

Partnership Recognition - If you are a successful recipient of Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars, how would you recognize the Outdoor Heritage Fund partnership:

The Outdoor Heritage Fund partnership will be recognized in a few different ways. First, producers are made aware of where the funding is coming from that they are receiving through SCD staff. Second, SCD newsletters are published recognizing the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Third, the Outdoor Heritage Fund will be recognized on tours that are held looking at implemented projects. Fourth, the SCD website will recognize the Outdoor Heritage Fund projects.

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. *

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) | Landowner/Producer Match Share (In-Kind) | Applicant's Match Share (Indirect) | Other Project Sponsor's Share | Total Each Project Expense |
|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 150,000 lf fence | \$121,500 | \$ | \$81,000 | \$ | \$ | \$202,500 |
| 10 wells or rural water hookups | \$30,000 | \$ | \$20,000 | \$ | \$ | \$50,000 |
| 30 water tanks | \$36,000 | \$ | \$24,000 | \$ | \$ | \$60,000 |
| 20,000 lf of pipeline | \$36,000 | \$ | \$24,000 | \$ | \$ | \$60,000 |
| 10 electrical/power setups | \$30,000 | \$ | \$20,000 | \$ | \$ | \$50,000 |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Total Costs | \$253,500 | \$ | \$169,000 | \$ | \$ | \$422,500 |

- 4 wire barbed fence is estimated at \$1.35/ft.
- Wells/rural water hookups are estimated at \$5,000 each
- Water tanks are estimated at \$2,000/tank
- Pipeline is estimated at \$3.00/ft.
- Electrical setups are estimated at \$5,000 per site