

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, with higher priority given to projects that enhance conservation practices in this state by:

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

Directive B. Improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and by supporting other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;

Directive C. Developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and

Directive D. Conserving natural areas and creating other 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 a finding of exceptional circumstances by the Industrial Commission, the following projects will NOT receive consideration for funding:

- A completed project or project commenced before the grant application is submitted;
- A feasibility or research study;
- Maintenance costs;
- A paving project for a road or parking lot;
- A swimming pool or aquatic park;
- Personal property that is not affixed to the land;
- Playground equipment, except that grant funds may be provided for up to 25% of the cost of the equipment not exceeding \$10,000 per project and all playground equipment grants may not exceed 5% of the total grants per year (see Budget Form for how this will be calculated);
- Staffing or outside consultants except for costs for staffing or an outside consultant to design and implement an approved project based on the documented need of the applicant and the expenditures may not exceed 5% of the grant to a grantee if the grant exceeds \$250,000 and expenditures may not exceed 10% of the grant to a grantee if the grant is \$250,000 or less (see Budget Form for how this will be calculated);

- A building except for a building that is included as part of a comprehensive conservation plan for a new or expanded recreational project (see Budget Form for definition of comprehensive conservation plan and new or expanded recreational project); or
- A project in which the applicant is not directly involved in the execution and completion of the project.

Application Deadline

Applications for this grant round cycle are due on **November 1, 2016 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 * North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department

Federal Tax ID# * 45-0433249

Contact Person/Title * Matthew Gardner – Recreation Division Manager

Address * 1600 E. Century Ave. Suite 3

City * Bismarck

State * ND

Zip Code * 58503

E-mail Address * msgardner@nd.gov

Web Site Address (Optional) www.parkrec.nd.gov

Phone * 701-328-5369

Fax # (if available) 701-328-5363

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

Directive B. Improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and by supporting other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;

Directive C. Developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and

Directive D. Conserving natural areas and creating other 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. Providing access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;

Directive B. Improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and by supporting other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;

Directive C. Developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and

Directive D. Conserving natural areas and creating other 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* *Trail Restoration and Improvement Program Part 2*

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 Trail Restoration and Improvement Program Part 2 is a one year project with the goal of improving trail conditions on the grasslands of North Dakota. The main project has four individual projects on three separate trails on the Little Missouri and Sheyenne National Grasslands. These trails are located on U.S. Forest Service (USFS), ND State School, National Park Service (NPS) and private lands through easement. These projects are being accomplished with a partnership between North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department (NDPRD) and the Dakota Prairie Grasslands (DPG) of the USFS. This partnership has been vital to creating and improving trail opportunities in North Dakota.

The Maah Daah Hey (MDH) trail is a 144 mile long National Recreation Trail on the Little Missouri National Grassland and is managed by the USFS, in partnership with the NDPRD and NPS through a Memorandum of Understanding since 2006. This trail has been nationally recognized as one of the premier mountain biking trails in the country. The trail is also open to spectacular hiking and horseback riding. The Buffalo Gap trail is a 19 mile trail that is connected to the MDH and allows mountain bikers a bypass around the NPS wilderness that the MDH runs through. This project would surface and restore sections of these two trails. This project would also bring in a youth crew to improve and repair sections of the two trails.

The North Country trail (NCT) is a 4,600 mile National Scenic Trail that runs from Lake Sakakawea State Park to Crown Point, New York and is managed by the NPS. The USFS manages what is planned to be a 31 mile section of this trail through the Sheyenne National

Grassland. The trail is designed primarily for hiking, but is also open to mountain bikes and horseback riding. This project would construct the remaining 1.24 miles of trail that will result in having a completed section of NCT from grassland boundary to grassland boundary. This project would connect the trail, constructed with Outdoor Heritage Funds, around the Ekre Farm in southeastern North Dakota to the Sheyenne National Grassland, creating a continuous 34.6-mile section trail.

Project Duration:* January 1st 2017 – December 31st 2017

Amount of Grant request \$ * \$86,858

Total Project Costs \$* \$485,112

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

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

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

\$398,254

Source(s) of Matching Funds*

Please provide verification that these matching funds are available for your project. Note that effective as of July 1, 2015 no State General Fund dollars can be used for a match unless funding was legislatively appropriated for that purpose.

\$366,696 – Cash – Federal funds – Recreational Trails Program, USFS Washington Office
21CSC Grant

\$16,000 – In-kind – Volunteer In-kind rate for four weeks on Montana Conservation Crew

\$15,558 – Indirect costs – FS force account

Certifications *

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

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 North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department's mission is to "Provide and enhance the state's outdoor recreation opportunities through diverse parks and programs that conserve the state's natural diversity". Currently, the NDPRD operates 13 state parks, five state recreation areas and seven nature preserves; providing unique recreational opportunities for North Dakotans and visitors. In conjunction with operating our state parks and recreation areas, the NDPRD assists other partners in recreation and natural resource management programs. The NDPRD administers one State and two federal recreational grants; Community Grant Program, Recreational Trails Program and the Land and Water Conservation Fund. These grant programs provide approximately \$3.5 million per biennium towards outdoor recreation. Every five years the NDPRD is charged with developing the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), which serves as a guide for managing and developing North Dakota's non-consumptive outdoor recreation resources. During this process, recreationalists, park districts, state/federal agencies and other recreational providers were surveyed to identify statewide outdoor recreation priorities. Through these programs and projects, the NDPRD has enhanced outdoor recreation across the state by educating and engaging North Dakotans to ensure diverse outdoor recreation opportunities are available to citizens and visitors.

The USFS manages the largest trail system in the world. Locally the DPG applies a multiple use management strategy to over 1.1 million acres of land within North Dakota. A major portion of this multiple use strategy is recreation. The DPG manages 250 miles of non-motorized trail including the Maah Daah Hey National Recreation Trail and a portion of the North Country National Scenic Trail. These trails are open to hikers, bikers, and horseback riders for recreational use across some of the most beautiful landscapes in North Dakota. From the rugged badlands along the banks of the Little Missouri River in the west to the oak savannahs along the Sheyenne River in the southeast, these trails allow users numerous and varying recreation opportunities.

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. If your project includes tree/shrub/grass planting, please provide a planting plan describing the site design, planting methods, number of trees/shrubs by species and stock size, grass species and future maintenance. A statement certifying that the applicant will adhere to USDA-NRCS tree/shrub/grass planting specifications along with the name of the governmental entity designing the planting may be substituted for a planting plan. If your project includes Section 319 program funding, please provide, in detail, the specific best management practices that will be implemented and the specific projects for which you are seeking funding. Please note that if your proposal provides funding to an individual, the names of the recipients must be reported to the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund. These names will be disclosed upon request.

The goal of the project is to improve and create public recreational opportunities on the three project trails. This project would reduce water erosion by surfacing the trail and constructing waterbars or drainage dips. This project would also benefit sportsman as the trails are great access routes to remote areas of public land, especially in the badlands on the west side of the state. Construction for this project is planned to take place over the 2017 calendar year. This project will be combined with several Recreational Trail Program (RTP) grant projects for

which the USFS has already successfully applied. The overall project consists of four individual items that are broken out below.

Maah Daah Hey Trail Surfacing and Restoration – This item is located solely on the MDH trail. The trail would be excavated and cleared where needed, and surfaced with approximately 4” of compacted crushed aggregate at a width of approximately 36”. Waterbars would be constructed in the trail to promote drainage and reduce erosion. The attached map shows, in red, the trail segments that would be worked on with this project. Approximately 4.7 miles of trail would be completed, where the trail crosses Rd 767 and south, except for approximately 2,150 feet already completed near the Third Creek Trailhead. This item would also restore miles 67-84 of the MDH. Miles 67-84 are some of the older sections of the trail and are in need of long term repair. Restoration would be accomplished by contractor operated equipment. The attached map shows, in red, the trail segments that would be worked on with this portion of the item. Currently areas of the trail are difficult to traverse because of the damage.

North Country Trail Extension – This item is located on the NCT trail. The contract would construct 1.24 miles of new trail on the Sheyenne National Grassland. This would complete the NCT section within the grassland’s boundary and would connect to a previously established section of NCT trail to the east that was completed with a previous OHF Grant. The NCT Association, in preparation for this extension, has already provided numerous volunteer hours installing trail gates, confidence markers, and a small bridge.

Maah Daah Hey And Buffalo Gap Trails – This item is located on both the MDH and Buffalo Gap trails. This project continues where the 2016 project leaves off on the MDH. The trail would be excavated and cleared where needed, and surfaced with approximately 4” of compacted crushed aggregate at a width of approximately 36” where needed. Waterbars would be constructed in the trail to promote drainage and reduce erosion. A puncheon (boardwalk) would also be constructed near where the trail crosses Second Creek. The attached map shows, the trail segments that would be worked on with this project. The project would start at Burning Coal Vein Campground, which is the starting point of the trail, and work north until it reaches the 2016 surfacing project which would total 3 miles of surfacing. Also, 2.2 miles of surfacing would take place on the Buffalo Gap trail just south of I-94. This item would also restore miles 0-3 and 5-19 of the Buffalo Gap trail. These miles are some of the older sections of the trail and are heavily used due to their proximity to Medora.

MCC Crew – This portion of the project would bring in a Montana Conservation Corps (MCC) trail crew. MCC allows youth and young adults an opportunity for hands on conservation service. These crews consists of 6-7 members, including two experienced crew leaders. This crew would perform trail improvements and restoration on the MDH and Buffalo Gap trails. This work would be done primarily through the use of hand tools like pulaskis, mcclouds shovels and tampers. The crew would have two hitches of two weeks each on the trail. While working on the project a majority of their nights would be spent camping near the project area with a few nights planned at FS housing in Dickinson. This will allow a more well-rounded outdoor experience and reduce travel times to the work site.

Combined, these four items will add to trail opportunities and greatly improve the trail user experience. The project will also result in trails that are more sustainable and require less maintenance.

Project Timeline

Winter 2017

- *Contracting for all projects – design, preparation, staking, bids and awards.*

Spring 2017

- *NCT Extension – Begin construction as soon as field conditions will allow.*
- *MDH Surfacing and Restoration – Begin construction as soon as field conditions will allow.*
- *MDH and B-Gap Trails – Begin construction as soon as field conditions will allow.*

Summer 2017

- *NCT Extension – Complete construction and final project.*
- *MDH Surfacing and Restoration – Complete surfacing. Restoration may get pushed into Fall 2017.*
- *MDH and B-Gap Trails – Continue construction*
- *MCC Crew – Work would be completed late June and into July.*

Fall 2017

- *MDH and B-Gap Trails – Complete construction and final project.*
- *All projects completed by the end of the year.*

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 NDPRD has been managing grant programs such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund since 1965, the Recreational Trails Program since 1992 and the Community Grant since 2009. Combined, the NDPRD has managed over \$75 million dollars in recreational projects statewide in these three programs alone. During these projects it was the NDPRD's duty to ensure the intended recreational need was met, that there were no negative impacts to the environment or historically significant area, bid projects, follow State and Federal procurement processes and monitor progress to meet deadlines and budget constraints.

The USFS in coordination with NDPRD will be providing project engineering services including all project surveying, design, construction engineering, and contracting. These services will be handled by experienced USFS engineers. Supervision and direction of MCC crews will also be handled by USFS trail personnel. Final construction project approvals would be conducted by NDPRD and USFS.

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.

The NDPRD will use progress reporting and evaluation standards already established through our grant and project management processes. A spreadsheet and internal process has already been established through past Outdoor Heritage Fund Grants that we will follow. We will implement biannual reporting for spring and fall to accurately capture progress of the project and to work more efficiently during the short construction seasons in North Dakota.

Financial Information

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 required.*

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. Effective July 1, 2015 no State General Fund dollars can be used for a match unless funding was legislatively appropriated for that purpose. 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.

The key to sustainability in trails is to implement sustainable trail building and armoring techniques. The most destructive force to trails is water and a key focus area for the Trails Restoration and Improvement Program is to mitigate water issues. Getting trails to a sustainable state will help ensure the longevity of the trail system and reduce maintenance costs in the future.

All trails require some maintenance especially those in the western region of North Dakota. The NDPRD and USFS have trail maintenance resources within their program areas. These agencies also have volunteer groups to provide future trail assistance and maintenance. Federal funds through the Recreational Trails Program matched with other federal, state and local funds will also be used when available. The NDPRD and USFS along with the North Country Trail Association have active Memorandums of Understandings to ensure long term trail management and maintenance. The Maah Daah Hey and North Country Trail Association along with non-profit organizations like Save the Maah Daah Hey and other individuals provide

substantial amounts of time to help keep these trail maintained. Together they provided almost 2000 volunteer hours on the trail in 2016.

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

Partial funding would negatively impact the completion of the entire project. If partial funding is given, a set of priorities will be established in relation to funding amounts to accomplish projects of greatest importance.

Partnership Recognition - If you are a successful recipient of Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars, how would you recognize the Outdoor Heritage Fund partnership? * Please note it is a requirement that there be signage at the location of the project acknowledging the funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund if appropriate for your project.

Signs located at trailhead kiosks would recognize the support of the project from the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Recognition on social media and agencies websites would also take place during project construction.

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. The Commission can set a limit on duration of an offer on each application or if there isn't a specific date indicated in the application for implementation of the project, then the applicant has until the next Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board regular meeting to sign the contract and get the project underway or the commitment for funding will be terminated and the applicant may resubmit for funding. 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: December 16, 2015

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.) Effective as of July 1, 2015 no State General Fund dollars can be used for a match unless funding was legislatively appropriated for that purpose. Note a minimum of 25% match funding is required. An application will be scored higher the greater the amount of match funding provided. (See Scoring Form.)

Please feel free to insert 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 June 10, 2015 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 a finding of exceptional circumstances by the Industrial Commission, the following projects will NOT receive consideration for funding:

- A completed project or project commenced before the grant application is submitted;
- A feasibility or research study;
- Maintenance costs;
- A paving project for a road or parking lot;
- A swimming pool or aquatic park;
- Personal property that is not affixed to the land;
- Playground equipment, except that grant funds may be provided for up to 25% of the cost of the equipment not exceeding \$10,000 per project and all playground equipment grants may not exceed 5% of the total grants per year; (See Definitions/Clarifications below)
- Staffing or outside consultants except for costs for staffing or an outside consultant to design and implement an approved project based on the documented need of the applicant and the expenditures may not exceed 5% of the grant to a grantee if the grant exceeds \$250,000 and expenditures may not exceed 10% of the grant to a grantee if the grant is \$250,000 or less; (See Definitions/Clarifications below)
- A building except for a building that is included as part of a comprehensive conservation plan for a new or expanded recreational project; (See Definitions/Clarifications below)
- A project in which the applicant is not directly involved in the execution and completion of 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
RTP2016 MDH	\$31,865	\$149,440	\$	\$5,495	\$	\$186,800
RTP2016 NCT	\$4,804	\$37,360	\$	\$1,078	\$	\$43,242
RTP2017 MDH	\$40,189	\$169,896	\$	\$6,085	\$	\$216,170
MCC Crew	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$16,000	\$2,900	\$	\$38,900
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Costs	\$86,858	\$366,696	\$16,000	\$15,558	\$	\$485,112

1. RTP2016 MDH
 - a. Construction and Restoration Contract to surface 4.7 miles and restore 17 miles of trail. (\$31,865 OHF Grant and \$127,460 RTP Match)
 - i. Construction - \$ 116,465
 - ii. Restoration - \$27,325
 - iii. Gravel Material - \$15,535
 - b. Survey, design, and construction engineering (\$5,495 FS Match and \$21,980 RTP Match)
 - i. Engineering - \$27,475
2. RTP2016 NCT
 - a. Construction of 1.24 miles of new trail. (\$4,804 OHF Grant and \$33,049 RTP Match)
 - i. Construction - \$37,853
 - b. Survey, design, and construction engineering (\$1,078 FS Match and \$4,311 RTP Match)
 - i. Engineering - \$5,389
3. RTP2017 MDH & B-Gap
 - a. Construction and Restoration Contract to surface 5.5 miles, restore 22 miles of trail, and install trail puncheon. (\$40,189 OHF Grant and \$145,556 RTP Match)
 - i. Construction - \$ 142,500
 - ii. Restoration - \$22,500
 - iii. Gravel and Lumber Material - \$20,745
 - b. Survey, design, and construction engineering (\$6,085 FS Match and \$24,340 RTP Match)
 - i. Engineering - \$30,425
4. MCC Crew
 - a. Conservation crew to perform trail improvement and restoration projects. (\$10,000 OHF Grant, \$10,000 FS WO 21CSC Match, \$16,000 MCC In-Kind Match, and \$2,900 MCC Indirect Match)

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.

Definitions/Clarifications:

Building - Defined as "A structure with a roof either with walls or without walls and is attached to the ground in a permanent nature."

Comprehensive Conservation Plan - Defined as "A detailed plan that has been formally adopted by the governing board which includes goals and objectives--both short and long term, must show how this building will enhance the overall conservation goals of the project and the protection or preservation of wildlife and fish habitat or natural areas." This does not need to be a complex multi-page document. It could be included as a part of the application or be an attachment.

New and Expanded Recreational Project means that the proposed building cannot be a replacement of a current building. The proposed building must also be related to either a new or expanded recreational project--either an expansion in land or an expansion of an existing building or in the opportunities for recreation at the project site.

Playground equipment calculation - Only the actual costs of the playground equipment (a bid or invoice showing the amount of the equipment costs must be provided) - cannot include freight or installation or surface materials or removal of old equipment, etc.

Staffing/Outside Consultants Costs - If you are requesting OHF funding for staffing or for an outside consultant, you must provide information in your application on the need for OHF funding to cover these costs. For example, if you are an entity that has engineering staff you must explain why you don't have sufficient staff to do the work or if specific expertise is needed or whatever the reason is for your entity to retain an outside consultant. If it is a request for reimbursement for staff time then a written explanation is required in the application of why OHF funding is needed to pay for the costs of that staff member(s)' time. **The budget form must reflect on a separate line item the specific amount that is being requested for staffing and/or the hiring of an outside consultant.** This separate line item will then be used to make the calculation of 5% or 10% as outlined in the law. Note that the calculation will be made on the grant less the costs for the consultant or staff.

Recommended by OHF Advisory Board: October 17, 2013

Approved by Industrial Commission: October 22, 2013

Revisions recommended by OHF Advisory Board: January 22, 2014

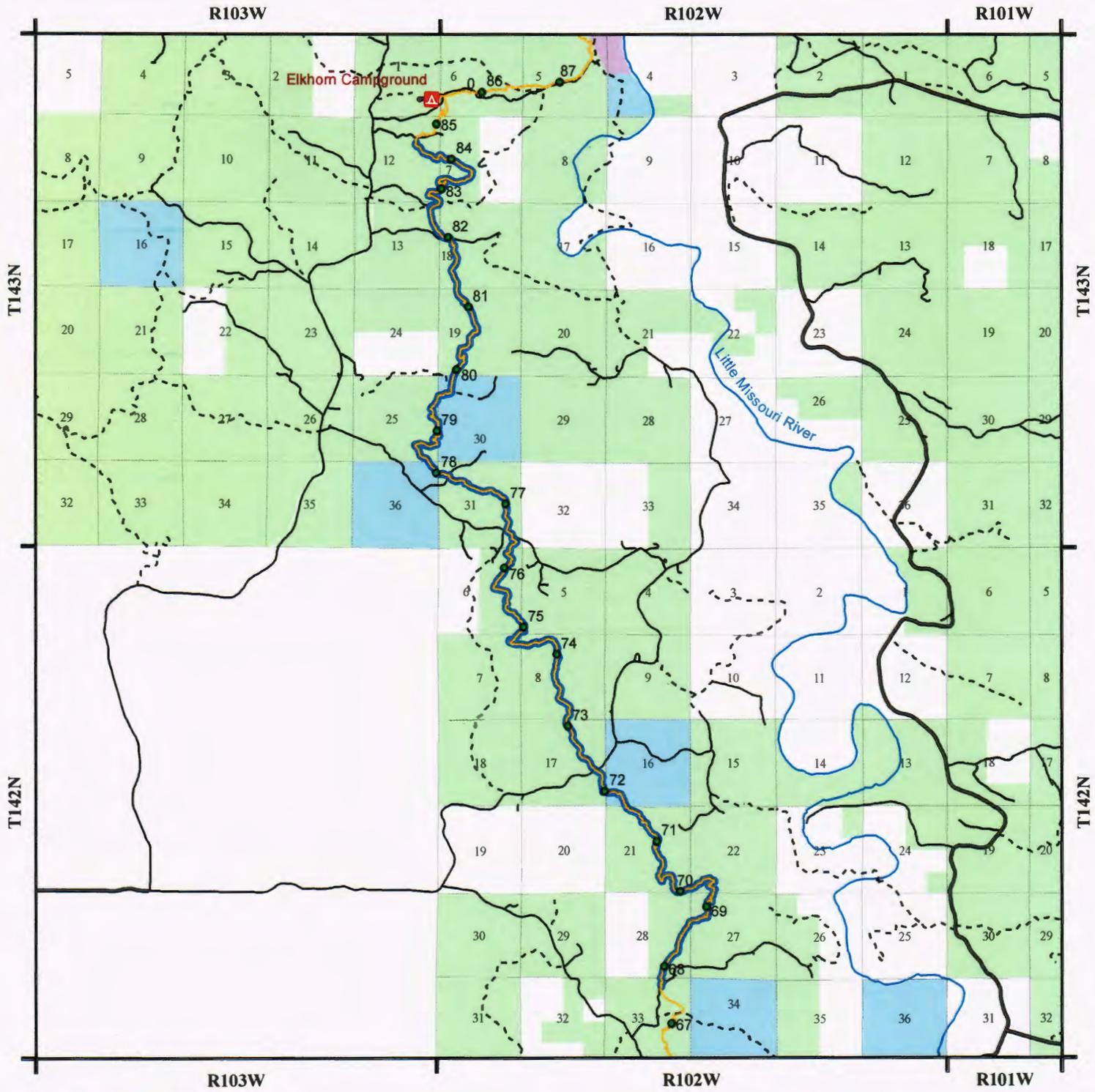
Approved by Industrial Commission: January 29, 2014

Revisions recommended by OHF Advisory Board: May 13, 2014

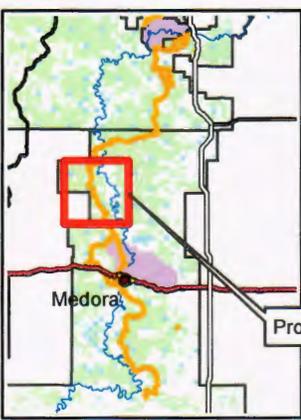
Approved by Industrial Commission: May 27, 2014

Revisions recommended by OHF Advisory Board: June 3, 2015

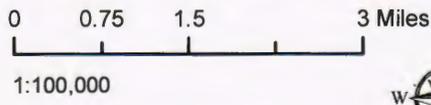
Approved by Industrial Commission: June 10, 2015



Maah Daah Hey Trail Surfacing and Restoration
Part B
Little Missouri National Grassland
Medora Ranger District
Billings and Golden Valley Counties, ND



Legend	
●	Mile Marker
YH	Trailhead
▲	Campground
—	Recreation Trail
—	Restoration
■	National Grassland
■	Private
■	National Park Service
■	State



Map by: Greg Morel 10/24/2016

R 52W

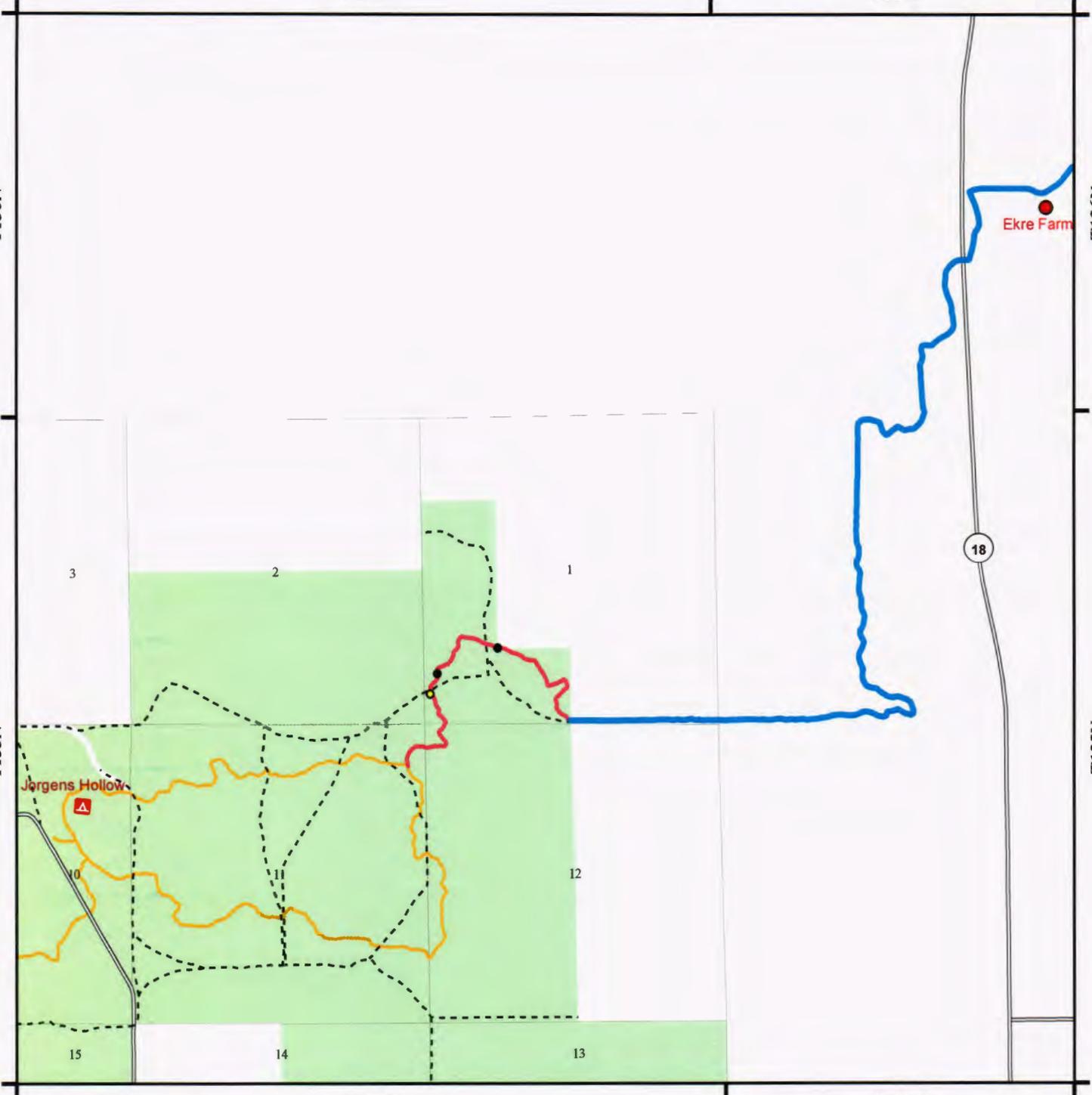
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Trail Extension - 1.24 miles

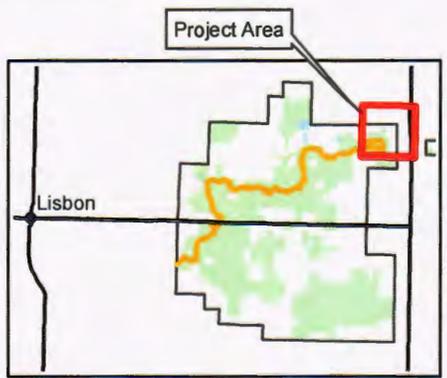
R 52W

R 51W

**North Country Trail Extension
 Sheyenne National Grassland
 Sheyenne Ranger District
 Richland County, ND**

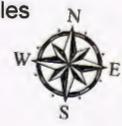
Legend

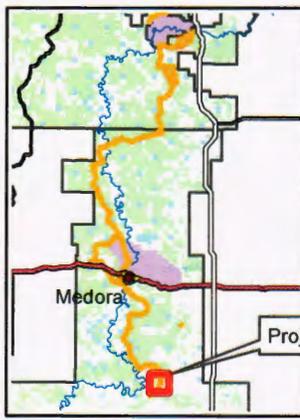
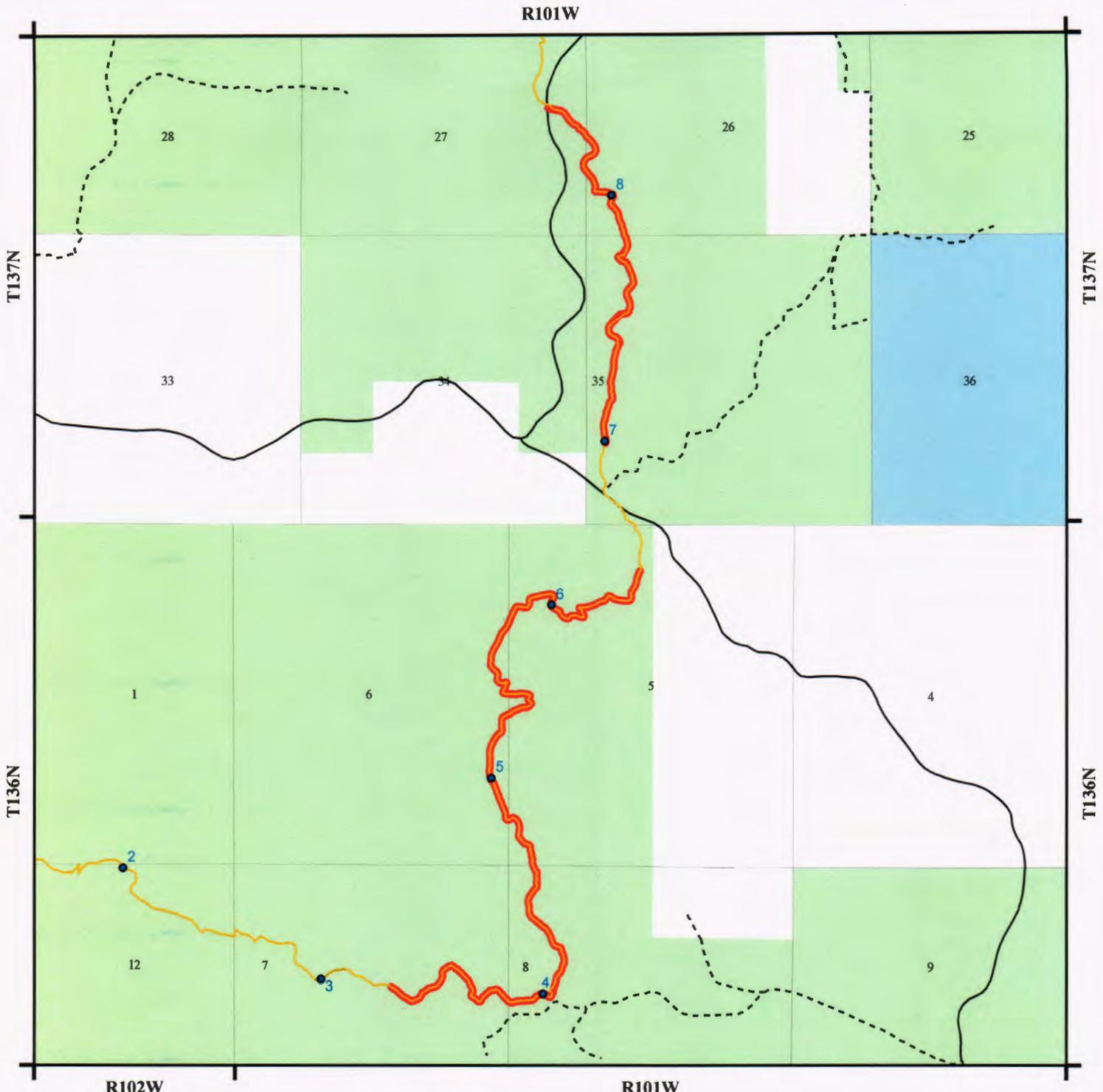
- Ekre Farm
- TH Trailhead
- ▲ Campground
- Bridge
- Gate
- 2014 OHF TRIP I Project
- North Country Trail Extension
- Existing Trail
- National Grassland
- Private
- National Park Service
- State



1:30,000

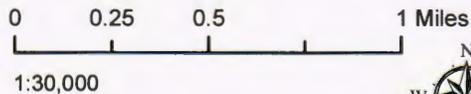
Map by: Greg Morel 10/24/2016





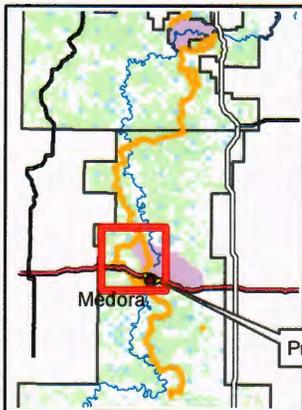
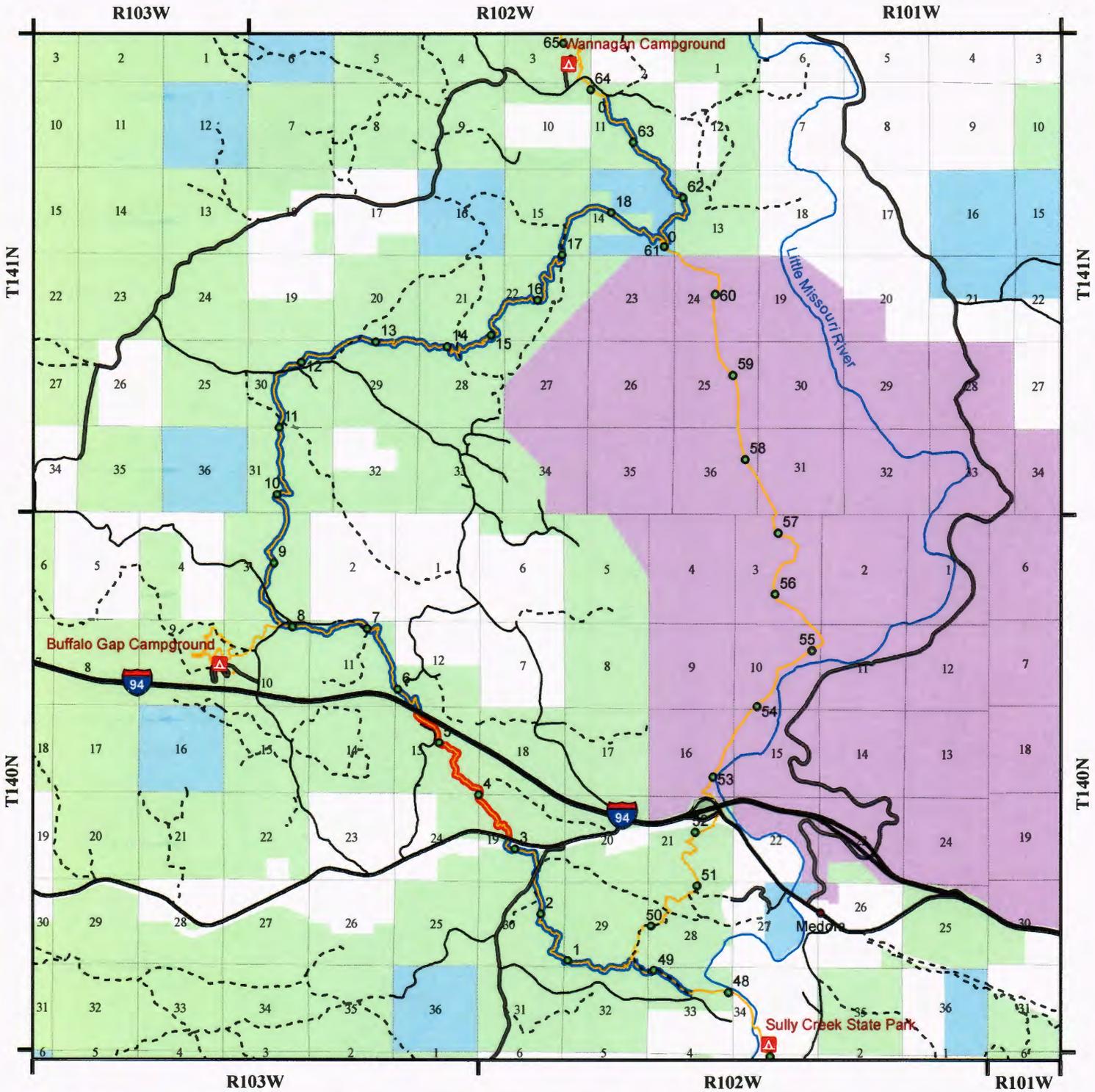
**Maah Daah Hey Trail Surfacing and Restoration
Part A
Little Missouri National Grassland
Medora Ranger District
Billings and Slope Counties, ND**

Surfacing - 4.7 miles of trail



Legend	
●	Mile Marker
TH	Trailhead
▲	Campground
—	Recreational Trail
—	Surfacing
■	National Grassland
■	Private
■	National Park Service
■	State

Map by: Greg Morel 10/24/2016



Project Area

**Maah Daah Hey and Buffalo Gap Trails
Part B
Little Missouri National Grassland
Medora Ranger District
Billings and Golden Valley Counties, ND**

0 0.75 1.5 3 Miles

1:100,000

Map by: Greg Morel 10/24/2016



Legend

Feature

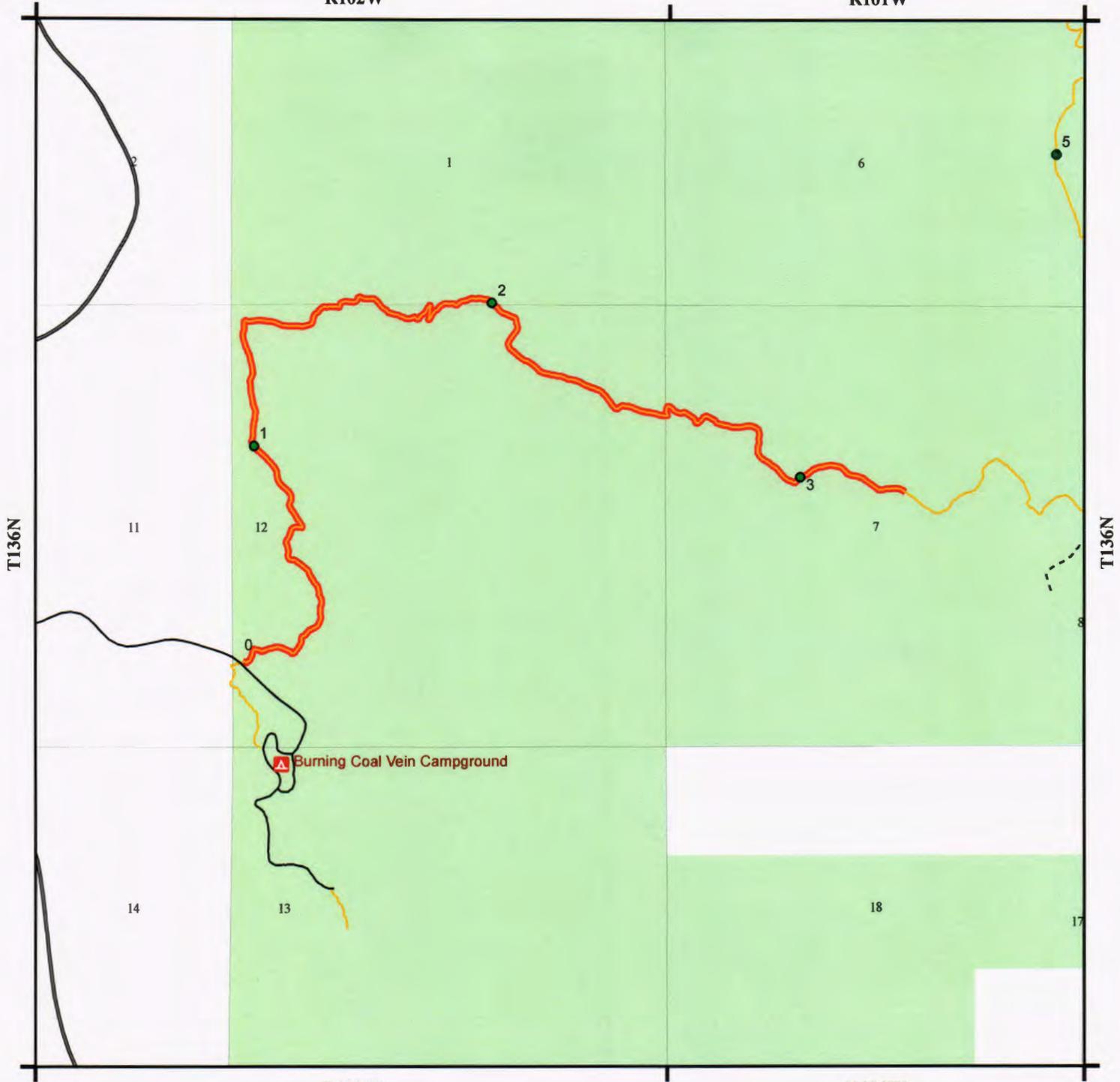
- Mile Marker
- TH Trailhead
- ▲ Campground
- Recreational Trail

Project

- Restoration
- Surfacing
- National Grassland
- Private
- National Park Service
- State

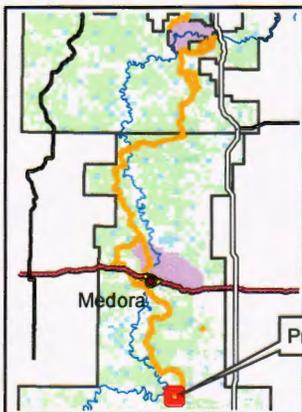
R102W

R101W



R102W

R101W



**Maah Daah Hey and Buffalo Gap Trails
Part A
Little Missouri National Grassland
Medora Ranger District
Slope County, ND**

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

1:20,000

Map by: Greg Morel 10/24/2016



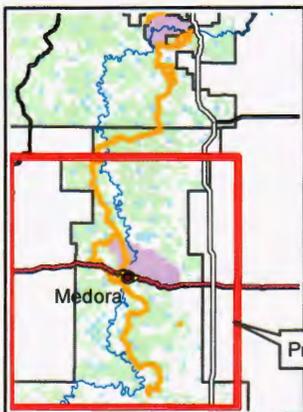
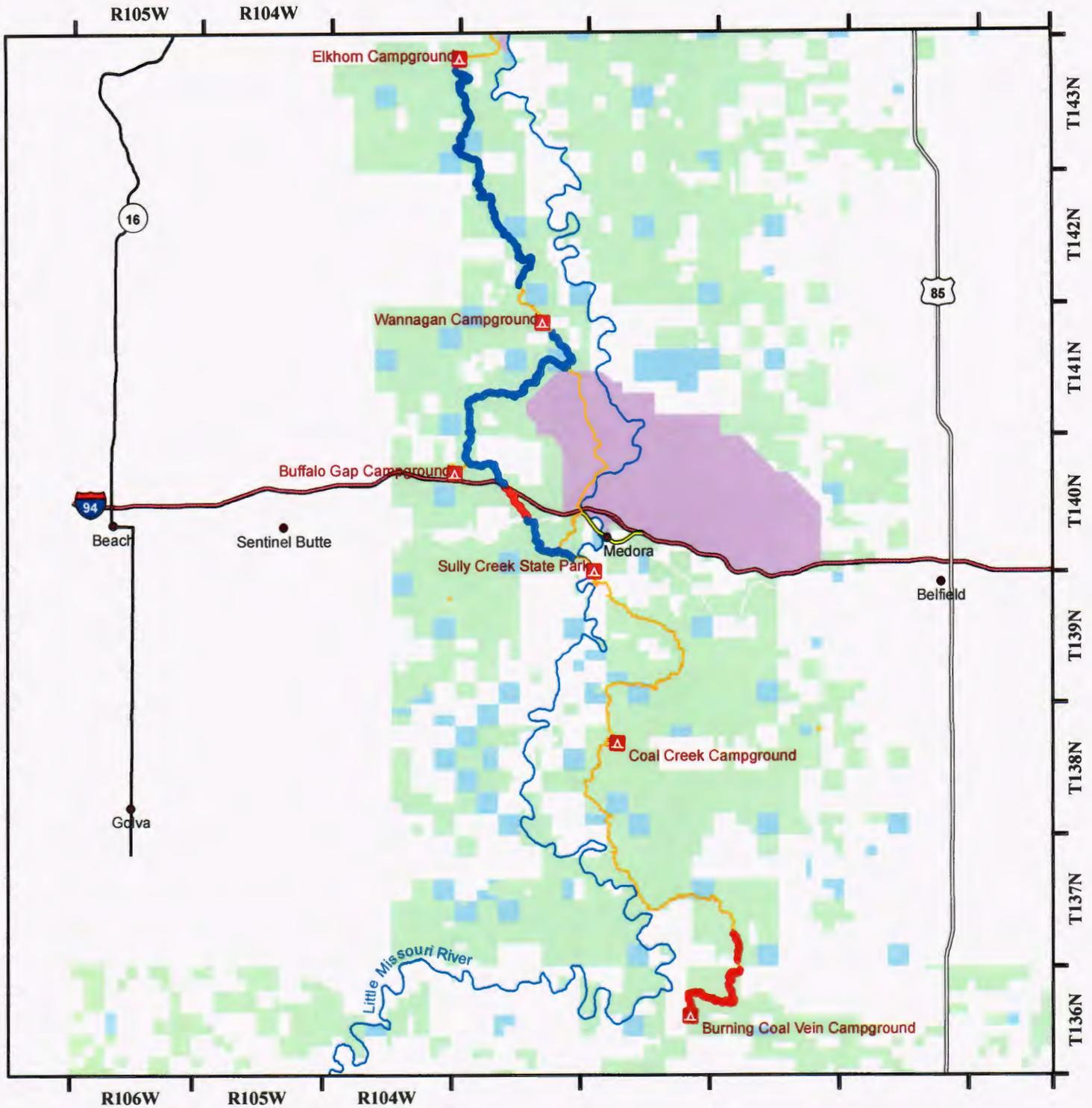
Legend

Feature

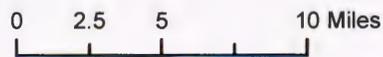
- Mile Marker
- Trailhead
- Campground
- Recreational Trail

Project

- Restoration
- Surfacing
- National Grassland
- Private
- National Park Service
- State



Project Vicinity
Little Missouri National Grassland
Medora Ranger District
Billings, Golden Valley and Slope Counties, ND



1:400,000

Map by: Greg Morel 10/24/2016



Legend	
	Campground
Project	
	Restoration
	Surfacing
	Recreational Trail
	National Grassland
	Private
	National Park Service
	State

“Restoration Needed”



“Sample Restoration Projects”



ND Industrial Commission
Outdoor Heritage Fund
State Capitol, 14th Floor
600 E. Boulevard Ave./ Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

October 21, 2016

To the ND Industrial Commission:

The Dakota Prairie Chapter of the North Country Trail Association is sending this letter in support of an Outdoor Heritage Fund grant proposal being submitted by the North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department. One of the objectives of the grant proposal is to complete a very important segment of the North Country National Scenic Trail in the Sheyenne National Grasslands of North Dakota.

The North Country National Scenic Trail (NCNST) is one of only 11 National Scenic Trails in the country authorized by the US Congress. The planned 4,600 mile route of the NCNST, a work in progress, traverses 7 states from North Dakota to New York. The NCNST offers the public quiet, non-motorized opportunities to see and experience the natural, scenic, cultural, and historic features of large segments of the country. The National Park Service is the federal agency that administers the NCNST, most of which is built and maintained by volunteers organized into local chapters of the non-profit North Country Trail Association (NCTA). The Dakota Prairie Chapter of the NCTA has about 75 members working on the Trail between Fort Abercrombie and Lisbon, ND. This planned 80 mile NCNST segment includes about 30 miles through the Sheyenne National Grassland built by the US Forest Service.

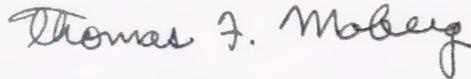
Over the past 3 years, the Dakota Prairie Chapter and the NCTA Sheyenne River Valley Chapter of the NCTA, under the leadership of the North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department, was very fortunate to have received a grant from the Outdoor Heritage Fund to construct several segments of the NCNST. The OHF grant covered property easements, trail construction materials, trail signage, and various other expenses. In the Dakota Prairie Chapter's trail area, we have established almost 15 miles of new off-road trail segments with the help of the OHF grant.

The current OHF proposal being submitted by the North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department includes support to complete a key 1.2 mile segment of the NCNST that will connect a new 3.5 mile segment built by the Dakota Prairie Chapter with a previous OHF grant and an existing 30 mile segment on the Sheyenne National Grasslands. The "missing link" piece will complete a contiguous section of the NCNST that is almost 35 miles long, running through some of North Dakota's most beautiful grasslands, river bottoms, sand hills, oak savannas, and natural prairie areas. The 35 miles of trail will provide outstanding opportunities for hiking, running, multi-day backpacking trips, geo-caching, camping, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, bird watching, etc. Completing the "missing link" will connect trail sections on private lands provided by easements funded by the OHF, including the Albert Ekre Grassland Preserve, with the public lands on the Sheyenne National Grasslands.

Use of the North Country National Scenic Trail in southeast North Dakota is growing rapidly as more off-road sections are completed. This September, the NCTA national conference was held in Fargo, hosted by the two North Dakota chapters of the NCTA. About 275 people from 17 states attended the event and participated in a full day of hikes on NCNST sections between Fort Abercrombie and the Sheyenne National Grassland. Volunteers from the North Country Trail Association and staff members from the North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department and the US Forest Service have developed excellent working relationships that are having a huge impact on our ability to create and maintain an outstanding recreational asset in North Dakota.

The new Outdoor Heritage Fund grant proposal will continue the outstanding progress achieved by the previous OHF award. On behalf of the Dakota Prairie Chapter of the North Country Trail Association, I urge you to approve the application to help create the North Country National Scenic Trail in North Dakota.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas F. Moberg". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Thomas F. Moberg
3598 Harrison Street South
Fargo, ND 58104

Past President; North Country Trail Association
Vice President; Dakota Prairie Chapter of the NCTA
National Park Service 2015 National Volunteer of the Year



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
North Country National Scenic Trail
P.O. Box 288
Lowell, Michigan 49331



I.B (NOCO-North Dakota)

October 21, 2016

North Dakota Industrial Commission

Dear Sir or Madam:

I'm writing to express support for the North Country Trail Extension within Sheyenne National Grassland, Sheyenne Ranger District, Richland County, North Dakota.

Completing this last remaining small gap will connect a significant number of miles of North Country Trail in North Dakota and will enhance the overall hiking/walking experience for trail users.

The North Country NST staff looks forward to cooperating as needed to provide technical support for this project. We will work with the North Country Trail Association and other local groups to make this portion of trail a reality.

Sincerely,

Mark Weaver
Superintendent

mark_weaver@nps.gov
616-319-7906

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IN AMERICA 

OCT 10 2016



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ND Industrial Commission
Outdoor Heritage Fund
State Capitol, 14th Floor
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

October 10, 2016

To the ND Industrial Commission:

The Dickinson Convention & Visitors Bureau is writing in support of the Maah Daah Hey Trail application that is being submitted to the next Outdoor Heritage Fund grant round.

This trail has become a national destination for outdoor enthusiasts, which include hikers, mountain bikers and horseback riders. This is a multi-use trail that attracts not only daily use, but also event uses, such as the Maah Daah Hey 100, which has brought bikers from a variety of states and Canada annually to western North Dakota.

Regionally, the Maah Daah Hey Trail benefits not one community, but numerous communities along the trail, including Watford City, Grassy Butte, Fairfield, Medora, Belfield, South Heart and Dickinson.

The trail can be fragile in spot situations due to the natural landscape and soil conditions. Diligent work is required to ensure that the trail users are confident that the trail is passable when in remote areas between campgrounds and trail heads. That confidence in the trail is shared by users to other potential visitors who may make plans to travel to western North Dakota for the Maah Daah Hey Trail.

Keeping the trail in good use condition, along with appropriate signage and other trail amenities not only assures public safety, it also provides a great visitor experience, which supports our local communities with economic returns.

Please consider the application to support the work of the Maah Daah Hey Trail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terri Thiel". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Terri Thiel
Executive Director

Enclosure

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- › Maah Daah Hey Race Promo Video
- › Past Race Results

Past Race Results

2015 Results click here.

2014 Maah Daah Hey Race Series
MAAH DAAH HEY 100 FINISHERS

- 1 Kelly Magelky 8:56:22 Denver CO (Course Record)
- 2 John Paul Peters 10:46:16 Winnipeg MB
- 3 Jason Wiebe 11:10:24 Morden MB
- 4 Joe Kjeer 11:12:02 Shakopee MN
- 5 Matthew Christiansen 11:30:34 Minot ND
- 6 Shane Kullman 11:47:49 Saint Paul MN
- 7 Jeff Bushendorf 12:15:47 Sartell MN
- 8 Adam Curtis 12:21:09 Harris MN
- 9 Jake Aisenbrey 12:21:10 Bismarck ND
- 10 Galen O'Moore 12:21:59 Bellingham WA
- 11 Timothy Hines 12:29:24 Medical Lake WA
- 12 Ken Grantier 12:32:28 Bemidji MN – SINGLESPEED
- 13 Jesse Sich 12:35:42 Roseville MN
- 14 Lee Johnson 12:55:40 Absarokee MT – FATBIKE
- 15 Nathan Weselake 12:59:19 Portage MB
- 16 Michaela Boehnisch 13:02:56 Banff AB – SINGLESPEED
- 17 John Hartland 13:13:39 Champlin MN
- 18 Martin Rudnick 13:22:36 Minneapolis MN
- 19 Kevin Jacobsen 13:25:12 Bozeman MT – SINGLESPEED
- 20 Ben Oney 13:33:08 Minneapolis MN
- 21 Matt Radlowski 13:37:53 Missoula MT
- 22 Brian Hayden 13:41:52 Duluth MN
- 23 Craig Doell 13:48:16 Morden MB
- 24 Sean Heide 14:16:54 Lakeville MN
- 25 Evan Tweed 14:16:54 Lakeville MN
- 26 Barry Buhr 14:20:58 Duluth MN
- 27 Alexander Oenes 14:32:51 Mpls MN
- 28 Ted Bibby 14:55:43 Grand Forks ND
- 29 Sveta Kovalchuk 15:04:39 St. Louis Park MN
- 30 David Peterson 15:04:42 Minneapolis MN
- 31 Kari Gates 15:12:23 Duluth MN
- 32 Tommy Everson 15:15:28 Minneapolis MN
- 33 Matthew Engen 15:25:54 Fargo ND – FATBIKE
- 34 Doug Lamott 15:45:48 Boise ID
- 35 Eric Polries 15:56:03 Grand Forks ND
- 36 Brent Lien 16:12:17 Minneapolis MN
- 37 Rick Shone 16:47:23 Winnipeg MB

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The view from the top of the "Never Ending Switchbacks" at sunset. Train hard, race hard, die hard...
<https://t.co/cTDEYgevKy>
 1 year ago

The only thing missing from this picture is about 120 cyclists on their bikes grinding through 120...
<https://t.co/Of1avtVZ2s>
 1 year ago

I want to thank and recognize four new "members" of our #SaveTheMDH movement. These guys went out for...
<https://t.co/pwhURDu3g6>
 1 year ago

- 58 Steve Dysievick 16:47:23 Winnipeg MB
- 39 Kelly Hanlon 16:57:54 Bismarck ND
- 40 Phil Helfrich 16:57:55 Bismarck ND
- 41 Chad Frandson 17:03:22 Burnsville MN
- 42 John Byrd 17:19:19 Frisco CO
- 43 Matthew Webb 17:19:19 Apple Valley MN
- 44 Dan Dickmeyer 17:23:20 Princeton MN
- 45 Kevin Kopplin 17:45:55 East Grand Forks MN
- 46 Amy Oberbroeckling 17:45:56 Minneapolis MN
- 47 John Butgereit 17:45:56 Minot ND
- 48 James Rosenberg 17:45:57 Boise ID
- DNF's not listed

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 Watford City, ND
 58854
nick@experienceland.org

NEWS FROM THE TRAIL

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TWEETS

The view from the top of the 'Never Ending Switchbacks' at sunset. Train hard, race hard, die hard...
<https://t.co/cTDEYgevKy>
 1 year ago

The only thing missing from this picture is about 120 cyclists on their bikes grinding through 120...
<https://t.co/Of1avtVZ2s>
 1 year ago

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OCT 14 2016

October 8, 2016

North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund
Bismarck, North Dakota



Dear Members:

The Maah Daah Hey Trail Association (MDHTA) is writing this memo in support of the efforts by the North Dakota Park and Recreation Department and the US Forest Service to obtain funding to bring the MDH trail system back to the original condition of 2010. The MDHTA has enjoyed significant growth within the last few years. In that time, our volunteers resurfaced many miles of trail, installed interpretive signs, fixed drainage crossings and bridges, hosted informative and entertaining slide shows, and launched a retail line of Turtle merchandise. Our MDHTA, with some 135 members, has increased the effort to effectively help maintain the Maah Daah Hey Trail system and keep pace with our organization's growing administrative responsibilities.

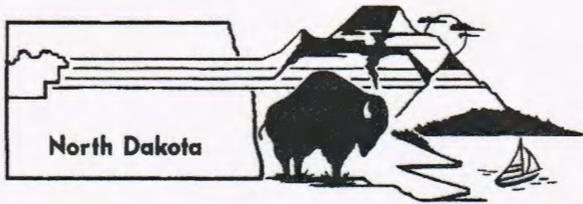
We ask for your support because of the demonstrated interest in volunteerism and conservation. MDHTA has worked hard to bridge the gap and anticipate the necessary funds to keep the MDH trail in place and useable. Despite our general fundraising efforts, our program budget is far from meeting those needs, cuts in government financing continue, with more expected, especially those affecting our cooperative partners, the U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service.

Undaunted, the MDHTA is an organization committed to sustaining the Maah Daah Hey Trail system through voluntary and public involvement. With a clear vision and a passion for restoring and improving the MDH Trail for future generations of recreation enthusiasts, we ask you to work with us to capitalize on our growth and these strengths. Volunteer programs developed and managed by individuals for the benefit of society, make a striking impact. With your support, our volunteers will help to furnish a quality recreation opportunity and demonstrate the value of volunteerism to our neighbors, family members, peers, and communities. The MDHTA membership serves as a model volunteer corps for the state of North Dakota and throughout the country. Thanks to their dedication, the Maah Daah Hey Trail has attracted national attention as a recreational treasure and preferred destination for mountain bikers, equestrians, and hikers alike. The need for effective trail restoration and improvement cannot be overstated.

Thank you for your support and assistance to the MDH trail network and how that will serve the public. We look forward to your consideration of the request.

Sincerely,

Curtis W. Glasoe – President Maah Daah Hey Trail Association



McKenzie County Tourism

100 2nd St. SW Telephone 701-444-5804
PO Box 699 Toll Free: 800-701-2804
Watford City, ND 58854
Web Site: www.VisitWatfordCity.com
E-mail: dbolken@co.mckenzie.nd.us

October 26, 2016

Mathew Gardner
North Dakota Parks & Recreation
Recreation Division Manager
1600 E. Century Ave. Suite 3
Bismarck, ND 58503 Dear Dean:

Visit Watford City and McKenzie County Tourism greatly supports the Maah Daah Hey Trail project to the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Your goal to resurface and do restoration projects on many portions of the Maah Daah Hey Trail is greatly needed and greatly appreciated.

This world class trail is an integral part of McKenzie County Tourism. Along with Theodore Roosevelt National Park, it is one of the many reasons why visitors are attracted to Western North Dakota.

I definitely recommend the Recreation and Grants Division of North Dakota Parks and Recreation for any matching funds through the Outdoor Heritage Fund.

The Maah Daah Hey Trail is an asset to tourism in the west and I am happy to provide this support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Bolken", is written over a horizontal line.

Doug Bolken
Director Tourism – McKenzie County

October 26, 2016

ND Industrial Commission
Outdoor Heritage Fund
State Capitol, 14th Floor
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Commissioners:

Back Country Horsemen of North Dakota is writing in support of the Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application submitted by North Dakota Department of Parks and Recreation Department for the resurfacing and restoration of sections of the Maah Daah Hey Trail.

Our organization consists of around 100 members from across the state, and the Maah Daah Hey Trail is a favorite riding destination for many of us. Keeping the trail in good condition is important to us, and this grant will help with that goal.

Thank you for consideration of this grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tyler Maasjo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the name.

Tyler Maasjo
President
Back Country Horsemen of North Dakota



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Theodore Roosevelt National Park
Post Office Box 7
Medora, North Dakota 58645



Reply Refer To:
L6017 (THRO)

October 27, 2016

North Dakota Industrial Commission
Outdoor Heritage Fund
State Capital, 14th Floor
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 405
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0840

RE: SUPPORT LETTER FOR THE MAAH DAAH HEY TRAIL RESTORATION GRANT APPLICATION

Dear Industrial Commission Members:

Theodore Roosevelt National Park is pleased to support the grant application for restoration of the Maah Daah Hey Trail submitted by the United States Forest Service and the North Dakota Park and Recreation Department. The park is one of several partners in the establishment, promotion, and maintenance of the original Maah Daah Hey Trail. This long-distance multi-use trail in the North Dakota Badlands contributes significantly to the southwestern North Dakota tourism industry and regional economy. The trail has become increasingly popular with outdoor enthusiasts from all walks of life and ability levels. It is a wonderful addition as a diverse, high-quality recreational opportunity, connecting public lands, private lands, and communities. Restoration of the trail to its original condition will renew an unparalleled western North Dakota recreational opportunity.

National Park Service managed lands are an integral part of a larger visitor driven tourism and recreational network. We welcome people who use the long distance trail and we encourage park visitors to explore opportunities outside of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Both the park and the Maah Daah Hey Trail have become major tourism destinations. The park hosts more than a half million visitors a year. Theodore Roosevelt National Park is committed to providing a world class visitor experience with an educational and interpretive foundation based on the North Dakota badlands. The restoration of the Maah Daah Hey Trail and latest designation as a National Recreational Trail will increase the relevance and educational value of the greater North Dakota badlands ecosystem for local communities and people all over the world.

As superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, I am honored to support the restoration of the Maah Daah Hey Trail as a world class recreational and educational opportunity.

Sincerely,

Wendy Hart Ross
Superintendent

cc: G. Morel, Trails Manager, US Forest Service, Dakota Prairie Grasslands, 99 23rd Avenue W., Suite B, Dickinson, North Dakota 58601

Fine, Karlene K.

From: Gardner, Matthew S.
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2016 1:22 PM
To: Fine, Karlene K.
Cc: Zimmerman, Mark A.
Subject: OHF Grant

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Karlene

Our latest application GR8-004 will need to be reduced if possible. We found some alternative funding to complete the North Country Trail portion on the Sheyenne National Grasslands. A reduction in the amount of \$4,804 from our OHF grant request is needed. This project is detailed as "RTP2016NCT" on the budget form.

Let me know if you have any further questions.

Thanks you,

Matthew Gardner
Recreation Division Manager
1600 E. Century Ave. Suite 3
Bismarck, ND 58503
701-328-5369
msgardner@nd.gov