

Grant Round 1 Status Report
December 15, 2014

On January 14 the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board recommended 18 projects to the Industrial Commission for funding. Of those 18, 17 were funded and 1 was tabled. At the request of Chairman Moser 001-TTT Recreational Trail Reconstruction in Response to Mineral Development at Little Missouri State Park - North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department was tabled. Subsequently the Advisory Board at their meeting in May withdrew their recommendation based on a request from the applicant, North Dakota Parks and Recreation.

Here is the status of the 17 approved projects:

Directives C, A, B & D

001-OFF - LSC 20,000 Trees by 2020

Ludden Sportsmen Club

Original Request - \$130,000

Awarded Amount - \$50,000

Contract 001-001 - Executed

5/13/14 - Project changes as a result of partial funding: None. The Club responded to the reduced funding by stating that they would work to find additional funding so the entire project could be completed as submitted.

9/5/14 - First planting of 2,057 trees was done on May 1st on Project Rifle Range (4.82 acres - 19 rows by 700 ft.) This is no tilled (no plastic barrier) due to highly erodible and will be mowed and watered and will look at fencing if wildlife becomes an issue.

12/15/14 - Waiting for status report which was due on September 1, 2014

Directives D & B

001-00B Community Outdoor Fitness Park

Minot Family YMCA

Original Request - \$50,000

Awarded Amount - \$45,000

Contract 001-002 - Executed

9/5/14 - Waiting for status report

12/15/14 - Waiting for final report

Directives C, A, B & D

001-0LL Aquatic Habitat Infrastructure Enhancement

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Original Request - \$800,000

Awarded Amount - \$322,000 - OHF Funding cannot be used for the \$150,000 of professional fees identified in the budget

Contract 001-003 - Executed.

5/13/14 - Project changes as a result of partial funding: Although this is not final, it is anticipated that they will do fewer sites although the final sites have not been determined. The original request was for five sites

9/5/14 - As a result of the reduced funding three projects have been identified to be done with the possibility for a fourth project if first three projects come in under budget. The three sites selected are: Jim Ehlert (12 acres) (private land in Mountrail County); Bowman Haley - Alkali Creek Impoundment (58 acres) (land owned by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and managed by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department in Bowman County; and Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge - Unit G19 wetland (10 acres) (owned and managed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife located in Kidder County). A Ducks Unlimited Civil Engineer began the engineering design plans for the 58-acre Alkali Creek Impoundment enhancement project. They expect to complete this project enhancement work this fall. The DU Civil Engineer and a DU Biologist met with landowner Jim Ehlert. DU performed the topography survey of the project site and the DU engineer has begun developing the engineering design for repairing and enhancing this wetland impoundment.

12/15/14 - Ducks Unlimited completed the engineering design for the repair and enhancement of the Bowman Haley-Alkali Creek Impoundment located in Bowman County this fall. Materials for the project have been ordered and it is anticipated that the project will be developed and completed this winter.

For the Jim Ehlert Dam project, Ducks Unlimited has completed 90% of the engineering design. The engineering plans and design report will be submitted to the North Dakota State Water Commission in December, 2014. We anticipate the State Water Commission permitting process to be complete in time to complete construction of this project in the summer of 2015.

Ducks Unlimited plans to perform the topography survey and complete the engineering design for the Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge - G19 Wetland Impoundment this winter. We plan to complete the construction in the summer of 2015.

Ducks Unlimited will coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service this winter to determine which section of the Unit II Marsh lake-front dike located on Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge will be repaired in late summer of 2015.

Directives B, A, C & D

001-AAA Enhanced Grazing Lands & Wildlife Habitat (Phase I)

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Original Request - \$1,500,000

Awarded Amount - \$828,000 - OHF Funding cannot be used for staffing and those items identified in the budget as communications & outreach (\$15,000) or Staff/Benefits/Travel/Indirects (\$80,400)

Contract 001-004 - Contract is in the final stages of negotiations. A meeting has been scheduled for later this week to look at a revised budget based on the amount of the reduced funding.

5/13/14 - Project changes as a result of partial funding: Although this isn't final, it is anticipated that there will be a 55% reduction in the number of acres - from 20,000 to 11,000.

9/5/14 - Contract is still under review due to IC staff workload

12/15/14 - Contract with revised application is still under review due to IC staff workload and discussions with counsel.

Directives C & B

001-MMM North Dakota Hen House Project I

Delta Waterfowl

Original Request - \$60,530

Awarded Amount - \$34,000 - OHF funding cannot be used for staffing and those items identified in the budget as Annual Reporting, Contractor Recruitment and Training and Annual Evaluation and Mapping which totaled \$8,000.

Contract 001-005 - Executed

5/13/14 - Project changes as a result of partial funding: There will either be one larger Hen House Supersite near Bismarck or Woodworth, ND, or one smaller Supersite (59 structures per site) in both of the proposed areas. The number of hen houses will be reduced from 200 to 118.

9//05/14 - First status report is due November 30, 2014.

12/15/14 - Waiting for status report

Directives B & C

001-0VV North Dakota Statewide Conservation Tree Planting Initiative

North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts

Original Request - \$2,500,000

Awarded Amount - \$1,878,000

Contract 001-006 - Executed

9/5/14 - Rhonda Vetsch will give an oral report at the meeting. First status report due June 30, 2015

12/15/14 - Rhonda Vetsch will give an oral report at the meeting. First status report due June 30, 2015

Directives B, A, C & D

001-0II The Marcus Friskop Nature Center

Hankinson Public School

Original Request - \$297,850

Awarded Amount - \$30,000 - OHF Funding can only be used for the outdoor projects

Contract 001-007 - Executed

5/13/14 - Project changes as a result of partial funding: The applicant has selected as their projects the Outdoor Classroom; Amphitheater and Access to South Lake Elsie.

9/5/14 - The applicant is waiting on bids for the construction of the access to South Lake Elsie. The other phases of the project are in the design stages.

12/15/14 - The planning, design, surveying and proper permits obtained for the project named "Access to South Lake Elsie" are completed. Construction of the project is also now complete. One camping site has been excavated and partially completed. We have purchased 4 picnic tables in anticipation of completing a number of picnic sites. We are now in the planning stages of the remaining projects.

Directives D, A, B & C

001-00T Bismarck Trailhead/Neighborhood Park

Bismarck Parks and Recreation District

Original Request - \$313,960

Awarded Amount - \$105,000 - OHF dollars cannot be used for paving/parking lot

Contract 001-008 - Executed

5/13/14 - Project changes as a result of partial funding: The project as presented to the Advisory Board has been scaled back and the junior tennis courts/pickleball courts will not be constructed as part of this project and the number of playgrounds has been reduced to one.

9/5/14 - At the May 13, 2014 meeting Mr. Bina updated the Board and indicated that other funding sources had been obtained and the project will go forward as originally planned depending on bids with no increase in funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund. In their August 28, 2014 status report, Mr. Greg Smith stated: Bid amounts received were much higher than expectations. Project was separated into smaller components. Projects not listed below will be bid in early 2015 and work completed prior to November 1, 2015. This plan is based upon reasonable and affordable bids being received. Projects included in the 2015 work schedule include sidewalks, tennis/pickleball courts, park signage and park amenities.

- Grading and earthwork as well as construction of the shared use path is underway and nearing completion as of August 28.
- Bids were solicited and received for play equipment and installation. Bid recommendation was approved by the BPRD board of commissioners at August 21 meeting. Awarded to Cunningham Recreation. Gametime equipment is on order and is expected to be installed in fall of 2014. Included in this order is the shade shelter referred to in the OHF Grant application.
- Providing a water supply to future community gardens will hopefully be completed in the fall of 2014 also. Specifications are being developed and price quotes for this project will be solicited prior to October 1, 2014. Project will be completed using partial funding from the BPRD Matching Grant program in cooperation with the Bismarck Community Gardens organization.

12/15/14 - On October 30, 2014 the applicant requested an extension. As soon as time permits an amendment to the contract will be drafted and given to the applicant extending the project completion date to November 2, 2015. The November 20 status report stated the following:

Bismarck Parks and Recreation District (BPRD) secured through a bid process the grading work for the park, as part of another larger trail project in the area. The grading is now complete, including the parking area, trail connection and general levelling of the site. The trail has now been paved as part of the larger project including funds from the T.A.P. and Rec. Trails Program. The trail continues through the park area, and is now complete.

In addition, BPRD has bid out the playground project, as the playground industry has their own vendors and installers. BPRD received bids for the playground on Tuesday, August 12, and the bids were just under the estimate for that portion of the project. The project was awarded and ordered and the playground and picnic shelter was installed this fall. Installation of the fabric shade material will occur when the installer is back in the Bismarck area and when weather permits.

BPRD has also worked with a local community garden group, who has submitted for and received a matching grant to bring water from the street to the community gardens location so that the community gardens might be ready for planting next spring. Sealed

quotes were opened on November 6 and the work awarded to Weisz & Sons. The water service installation should be completed prior to the 2015 growing season.

The remainder of the work scheduled for the spring will include all concrete and paving work, the installation of the pickleball courts and the addition of any additional site amenities and interpretive signs.

Directive B

001-00A Sheyenne River Sedimentation Reduction Project

Barnes County Soil Conservation District

Original Request - \$200,000

Awarded Amount - \$126,000

Contract 001-009 - Executed

5/13/14 - Project changes as a result of partial funding: Did not indicate any changes.

9/05/14 - Several projects were undertaken involving Pasture/Hayland Plantings (126 acres); Fencing (22,320 feet); Septic System Renovations (2 each); Clean Water Diversion (37121 cu/yds.); Critical Area Planting (12 acres).

12/15/14 - Several projects were undertaken involving Cover Crops (781.7 acres); Fencing (5,143 feet); Pipelines (2,250 feet) Portable windbreaks (408 feet); Water Tanks (3); Wells (livestock) 2; Misc. erosion control at 3 sites; Critical area planting (3 acres)

Directives B & C

001-00J Antelope Creek Wild Rice Corridor Watershed Restoration Project

Richland Soil Conservation District

Original Request - \$220,000

Awarded Amount - 105,000

Contract 001-010 - Executed

5/13/14 - Project changes as a result of partial funding: Did not indicate any changes.

9/05/14 - Staff has been working with several producers in the planning stages of River Bank Stabilization. No projects have been completed at this time.

12/15/14 - Staff has been working with two producers. We have two projects turned over to engineers to get a plan and also get an estimated cost of the project so that the producer can make a decision on whether they can move forward with the project. These proposed projects will probably get surveyed yet this fall and have design done over the winter. No projects have been completed at this time.

Directive B

001-00N Ransom County Water Quality Improvement Board

Ransom County Soil Conservation District

Original Request - \$450,000

Awarded Amount - \$115,000

Contract 001-011 - Executed

5/13/14 - Project changes as a result of partial funding: Applicant will be able to do only 2 of the 5 manure management systems.
9/05/14 - A final design was completed for one agwaste system and the second one is being developed. One CNMP has been completed and the second one is being developed. A permit from the NDDH has been received for one of the agwaste systems. Construction has not been started yet because of weather delays due to the wet spring. Construction of the agwaste systems will commence next spring.
12/15/14 - Waiting for November 30, 2014 status report

Directives C, A, B & D

001-0KK Warwick Dam - Modification & Rehabilitation (Water Comm. Project No. 0240)
Eddy County Water District
Original Request - \$95,002
Awarded Amount - \$55,000 - OHF Funding cannot be used for engineering or legal fees
Contract 001-012 - Executed

5/13/14 - Project changes as a result of partial funding: None
9/05/14 - As of today's date, no on-site work has taken place. Some materials (sheet piling) have been acquired. The successful bidder, Harvey Sand & Gravel, intends to start (and complete) this project yet this fall. As I understand it, it is necessary to shut down the Devil's Lake west-end outlet prior to commencement of construction. So, it is necessary for us to coordinate the closure of the west-end outlet with the schedule of HS&G.
12/15/14 - Next report which is the Final Report is scheduled for February 15, 2015.

Directives C, A, B & D

001-00W - Artificial Nesting Habitat Improvement
Spirit Lake National Fish and Wildlife Department
Original Request - \$5,565
Awarded Amount - \$5,565
Contract 001-013 - Executed
9/05/14 - Working on payment methods in order for Ms. Duafala to acquire the building materials and cameras.
12/15/14 - To be discussed with the Advisory Board. (Should we make an exception for our payment process?)

Directives A & B

001-RRR Mapping of Tribal Land for Sportsmen
Spirit Lake Nation Fish and Wildlife Department
Original Request: \$8,568
Awarded Amount: \$8,568
Contract 001-014 - Partially Executed
9/05/14 - Waiting on fully executed contract. Working on payment methods in order for Ms. Duafala to acquire computer and appropriate computer programs.

12/15/14 - To be discussed with the Advisory Board - (Should we make an exception regarding payment process?)

Directives D, A, & B

001-JJJ Trail Restoration & Improvement Program

North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department

Original Request - \$132,456

Awarded Amount - \$112,000

Contract 001-015 - Executed

5/13/14 - Project changes as a result of partial funding: The items removed from the Project are: Trail identification and signage from Lake Ashtabula to the McCluskey Canal and reduction in the purchase of signing and building materials (Less puncheons, boardwalks, fence stiles and kiosks). The Department is seeking additional funding from the Garrison Diversion Conservation District. If that funding is received then the project will be completed as originally submitted.

9/05/14 - The Sheyenne Valley and Dakota Prairie Grasslands Chapters of the North Country Trail Association (NCTA) have been working hard on their projects this summer. Even given the wet spring and late start into the work season, the volunteers logged over 1,000 working hours on the Outdoor Heritage Fund Project. These hours do not include trail mowing, general trail maintenance and the work being done by the Army Corps of Engineers and the US Forest Service on other sections of the trail in North Dakota. There is a diverse group of volunteers working on this project that include NCTA members from ND and other states, Doosan volunteers and Boy Scouts; including 52 volunteers in all. Their work activities even included two Eagle Scout projects. The Turtle Mountain Trail project is set to be bid out this winter with construction to start summer 2015. The North Dakota trail crew spent some time in the Turtle Mountains with a GPS finalizing the best sustainable routes around the wet areas to better develop the bid packet this winter. A detailed report is posted under the OHF updates.

12/15/14 - The Sheyenne Valley and Dakota Prairie Grasslands Chapters of the North Country Trail Association (NCTA) worked hard this fall to finish up some last minute projects before freeze up. Since the last report period at the end of July, the volunteers have logged 1,220 working hours on the Outdoor Heritage Fund Project. That brings the total volunteer hours by the NCTA to 2,406 hours. Keep in mind these hours do not include trail mowing, general trail maintenance and the work being done by the Army Corps of Engineers and US Forest Service on other sections of the trail in North Dakota. In regards to the Turtle Mountain Trail Project final layout of the trail reroutes around the wet areas is complete. Some rock armoring was done with the nice late fall weather and more will be done during the summer of 2015. A detailed report is posted under the OHF updates

Directives C, A, B & D

001-0QQ Natural Resource Stewardship in North Dakota's Parks, Preserves and Natural Areas

North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department

Original Request - \$274,344

Awarded Amount - \$129,000 - OHF funding cannot be used for annual maintenance costs or staffing and the \$71,000 identified in the budget for technicians

Contract 001-016 - Executed

5/13/14 - Project changes as a result of partial funding: Although full funding was not received it is anticipated that all objectives will be met within the 5 year time frame. The reduction in funding for supplies and materials will directly affect the total number of acres seeded and the number of acres planted to trees but in any event both will show an increase in acres.

9/05/14 - First Status Report is not due until November 30, 2014.

12/15/15 - Native Prairie Restoration and Enhancements Strategies and Best Management Practices; The 2014 prairie restoration and enhancement strategies and best management practices for 2014 included tillage, herbicides and seeding and planting of native grasses and forbs. The tasks completed May - November 2014 included: a) identified and mapped Turtle River State Park prairie restoration (2 sites - approximately 17.9 acres) utilizing a Trimble GPS Unit; b) Developed and updated Prairie Restoration Plans for Turtle River and Icelandic State Parks; c) Site preparation for weed and brome control prior to planting at Turtle River was critical. Utilized both application of herbicide and disking at Turtle River State Park; d) Selected seed mix for Icelandic State Park prairie restoration. Native seed mix selection was based on individual site characteristics. High diversity native seed mix included 16 native grass and forb species; e) Icelandic State Park (2 sites approximately 8.5 acres) prairie enhancements was accomplished through broadcasting/drill seeding according to the full seeding rate; f) Post-seeding weed control is an important part of successful prairie reestablishment. Mechanical method of mowing was used at Icelandic State Park; g) Monitoring the Icelandic prairie enhancement site will be conducted during the first three growing seasons and again at years 5 and 10, beginning in 2015; h) Record keeping and maintaining a written record of observations and management activities are recorded. Woodlands - Tree and Shrub Plantings Strategies and Best Management Practices. Tasks Completed May - November 2014 included a) utilizing a Trimble GPS, identified and mapped potential tree and shrub 50th Anniversary tree planting sites at 11 state parks. 550 trees and shrubs to be planted in 2015. Parks included Fort Abraham Lincoln, Cross Ranch, Lake Sakakawea, Fort Stevenson, Lake Metigoshe, Grahams Island, Lewis and Clark, Fort Ransom, Icelandic, Turtle River and Beaver Lake State Parks. B) Inter-planted 480 trees and shrubs on approximately 8.2 acres on three sites at Fort Stevenson State Park; c) Use of volunteer staff was critical in the success of the planting project at Fort Stevenson State Park; d) Species selected for the 2015 50th Anniversary Tree and Shrub Planting; e) Several sites for the 50th Anniversary Tree and Shrub planting sites were treated with using herbicide application. Noxious Weed and Invasive Species Control Strategies and Best Management Practices. The noxious weed and invasive species control strategies and best management practices for 2014 included the use of a variety of practices ranging from inventory, mapping, implementing integrated biological chemical and mechanical controls, reporting and monitoring. Tasks Completed May - November 2014 included a) Biological technician located and re-mapped noxious weeds utilizing Trimble GPS units in 9 state parks including Fort Abraham Lincoln, Fort Ransom, Beaver Lake, Lake Sakakawea, Fort Stevenson, Grahams Island, Icelandic, Turtle River and Lake Metigoshe State Parks; b) Biologist and biological technicians treated all noxious weeds with appropriate control methods at 16 major state parks include several recreation, natural areas and nature preserves. (Approximately 1,080 acres treated); c) Followed standard reporting protocol as determined by ND Department of Agriculture; d) GIS Specialist produced noxious weed treated vs non-treated maps utilizing ArcGis. Natural Areas Registry. Tasks completed during May-November, 2014 included Natural Area visits and site assessments conducted in Missouri River and Elkhorn Natural Areas, Stumpf Site, Anderson Woods and Thuen Prairie Registered Natural Area. Site visits including noxious weed spraying conducted at Head of the Mountain, Cross Ranch and Gunlogson Nature Preserves. No Outdoor Heritage Funds were utilized to accomplish these tasks, therefore we did not record any match funds. Natural Heritage Inventory. Tasks completed during May-November, 2014 included the biological conservation database was

upgraded to a NatureServe web-based program which will require a substantial annual maintenance and support fee. No Outdoor Heritage Funds were utilized to accomplish these tasks, therefore we did not record any match funds. More detailed information is available in the full report that is posted on the website.

Directives A, B, C & D

001-OTT North Dakota Game and Fish Department Outdoor Heritage Habitat Initiative

North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Original Request - \$2,000,000

Awarded Amount - \$1,900,000

Contract 001-017 - Executed

9/05/14 - First Status Report is not due until November 30, 2014

12/15/14 - The initial proposal indicated that SOL agreements would be between 10 and 20 years and PLOTS agreements would be for 10 years. SOL payments would be made one-time, upfront, while PLOTS payments would be made annually. The only deviation from the original proposal included a slight adjustment to allow a range of 6-10 years for PLOTS agreements to better fit the needs and interests of producers.

Save Our Lakes - Eight SOL agreements total 597.66 acres were secured in Emmons, Logan, Morton, Grant and Dickey Counties. Seven of these agreements are for ten years, one is for 20 years; payments were issued one-time upfront, for land rental only. OHF funds were used to provide 75 percent of the land rental payment, while SOL funds provided the remaining 25 percent of the payment. Other non-OHF SOL funds were used to install infrastructure such as fencing and wells and to plant grass on or adjacent to these areas. The main objective of these agreements is to manage riparian systems and important watersheds through an array of practices and methods including managed grazing and/or haying; i.e. reducing the duration, frequency and intensity of grazing or haying along the riparian systems.

PLOTS - Eleven agreements totaling 3,041 acres were secured in Ransom, LaMoure and Dickey Counties. The \$1.5 million PLOTS allocation is fully obligated within these agreements. Five of these agreements are 10 years in length; the remaining agreements are 6 years in length. The agreements were all initiated in 2014 but no OHF rental payment was made in 2014; only an access payment was made in 2014 using non-OHF PLOTS funds. Beginning in 2015, the agreements will receive annual rental payments to be expended from OHF funds. Payments will be made annually in March through the life of the agreement. Many of the agreements contain expiring CRP that was in its final year of contract with USDA; OHF funds provide an annual rental payment to maintain these acres as wildlife habitat and to retain soil and water quality benefits achieved while enrolled in CRP. Through the OHF/PLOTS agreement, uses such as haying and/or grazing are allowed as per a management plan. This is a feature of the PLOTS program that is very well received by producers. In addition to rental payments, OHF funds will be used to provide cost share for seeding 382.8 acres to native grass and another 5.1 acres into a high diversity pollinator planting. Another agreement will be seeding between 70-107 acres of grass depending upon conditions in spring 2015. Finally, another agreement will be seeding between 60-220 acres of grass depending upon conditions in spring 2015.

The agreement between NDGF and the NDIC was not fully executed until June 2014. The Department was concerned that we missed the peak of the field season and that many producers already had made plans for the year. While we did miss out on the

window to plant grass for 2014, there was tremendous interest in both the SOL and PLOTS OHF funds. With very little promotion, simply word of mouth between private landowners, networks through county USDA offices and other conservation partners and a few mailings, the \$1.5 million of PLOTS OHF funds was fully obligated in agreements in the months of July and August. SOL had similar success and expended \$200,000 of the \$400,000 in less than one month. It is expected that the remaining SOL funds will be obligated during the next reporting period.

Prepared by Karlene Fine
12/14/14

Grant Round 2 Status Report
December 15, 2014 (Revised)

On May 13, 2014 the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board recommended 17 projects to the Industrial Commission for funding. All 17 projects were funded. Here is the status of the 17 approved projects:

Directives C, A & D

GR2-02 - South Golden Lake Inlet Beautification Project

Golden Lake Improvement Association

Original Request - \$67,342

Awarded Amount - \$57,342

Contract 002-018 - Executed

9/05/14 - Waiting for status report.

12/15/14 - Final report filed. Project has been completed. In-kind cost share came in at a higher amount than first anticipated. Total cost of the project was \$74,394. Final report along with before and after pictures are posted on the website. More pictures are available in the files.

Directive B

GR2-03 - Bald Hill Creek Watershed Project

Griggs County Soil Conservation District

Original Request - \$300,000

Awarded Amount - \$300,000 The funds were awarded with the stipulations that the landowner must provide a 40% match and maximum amount of cash share dollars for each manure management system is \$175,000.

Contract 002-019 - Executed

9/05/14 - Waiting for status report

12/15/14 - First status report arrived shortly after the 9/5/14 OHF meeting. Here is what it said: I have contracts for 3 different producers that consist of 13,635 feet of fencing, 60 acres of hay planting, and 161 acres of cover crops total \$8,673.27 in cost share dollars with a match funding of \$5,782.18. None of this money has actually been spent on the projects because they are not finished. Once the producer finishes his project he will receive his cost share dollars.

The second status report was dated 11/30/14 and stated the following: - Producers have completed 2 contracts that I have paid out on. Eric Broten planted 161 acres of cover crop and received a cost share payment of \$1,932 and he matched that with \$1,288 for a total of project \$3,220. Garfield Clemens installed a total of 2,940 feet of fence to improve his grazing system. He received a cost share of \$2,381.40 and matched that with \$1,587.60 for a total project cost of \$3,969.00. I have another contract signed with a producer that includes fence, pipeline, water tanks, and prescribed grazing that is worth a total project cost of \$18,597. He will be paid as his practices are completed.

Directives C & B

GR2-04 - Water Storage Piggyback

ND Natural Resources Trust

Original Request - \$300,000

Awarded Amount - \$300,000

Contract 002-020 - Executed.

9/05/14 - First status report due August 31, 2015

12/15/14 - First status report due August 31, 2015

Directive D

GR2-05 - City of Munich Playground Equipment Fund

City of Munich - City Park

Original Request - \$45,000

Awarded Amount - \$45,000

Contract 002-021 - Executed

9/05/14 - Have received a verbal report - Equipment was to be delivered and installed in July.

12/15/14 - Final status report filed but is incomplete - No documentation on expenditures. Report states equipment and surface materials were delivered and installed. Playground was inspected and ok'd by the board of directors. No problems have arisen and the equipment has been enjoyed by many kids already this fall. Thanks to all involved - OHF.

Directive B

GR2-07 - Red River Riparian Project

Red River Regional Council

Original Request - \$230,000

Awarded Amount - \$230,000 - Stipulations were that any landowners receiving funding must provide a 40% match and the maximum amount of cash share dollars for each manure management system is \$175,000.

Contract 002-022 - Executed

9//05/14 - First status report is due November 30, 2014.

12/15/14 - Waiting for status report

Directives D & A

GR2-09 - Centennial Park Woodland Trail and Souris River Recreational Access Plan

Minot Park District Foundation

Original Request - \$551,000

Awarded Amount - \$305,000

Contract 002-023 - Discussions are ongoing with Foundation attorney

9/05/14 - Discussions are ongoing with Foundation attorney.

12/15/14 - Contract has been signed. Waiting for September 30, 2014 status report

Directives A, B & C

GR2-10 - Prairie Project

United Prairie Foundation Inc.

Original Request - \$640,300

Awarded Amount - \$300,000 - OHF Funding cannot be used for administration

Contract 002-024 - Executed

9/05/14 - First status report due October 1, 2014.

12/15/14 - Waiting for first status report

Directives D, B & C

GR2-12 - Northern Cass Pass

Hunter/Arthur JPA Park Board

Original Request - \$138,876

Awarded Amount - \$138,876

Contract 002-025 - Executed

9/05/14 - Waiting for status report

12/15/14 - A status report was filed on 10/30/2014. It was noted that the majority of the reporting period consisted of items not included in the OHF Grant award as presented by Hunter Arthur JPA. These items were essential in being completed prior to any OHF work being undertaken. Items included **1)** Writing and submitting a Title VI and Non-Discrimination plan for the Hunter Arthur JPA. This plan was approved by the State of North Dakota on July 18, 2014. **2)** Completing a comprehensive boundary and topographical survey of the entire six mile, 100 foot wide corridor. **3)** Also completed was an intensive structural engineering assessment of the three timber bridges located on the Northern Cass Pass corridor. This assessment determined that two of the three bridges were in satisfactory condition to allow the anticipated pedestrian (and required maintenance vehicles) usage, however, Bridge Number 2 was determined to be in need of either significant reconditioning or replacement in order to be safe for public use.

Upon receiving the Engineering Assessment of the bridges, the JPA proceeded with other elements of the project. Intensive meetings with North Dakota State Forestry employees on design of the corridor tree plantings took place and it was determined that rather than a 6 mile long, single row of trees, a more aesthetic design needed to be incorporated which will entail providing groves (or clumps) of various species of trees along the entire route. This will provide an interesting, more educational and actually, a design more conducive to provide habitat for birds and animals. Kiosks and educational signage will be added along the corridor to speak of the types of trees.

The Northern Cass School district, which is located near the project, has been recruited to assist in the construction of the Kiosks that will be placed along the project. The Schools' Industrial Arts/Woods classes will provide the volunteer labor for this portion of the project and it is anticipated the entire 2014/15 school season will be needed for completion.

Bids for Grading of the corridor were received and upon discussion by the Hunter Arthur JPA it was determined that costs were excessive and re-bidding will take place.

Bids were received (and awarded) on planking (decking) materials for the bridges. Bid tabs are also out for local companies to bid on providing the labor to install the planking on the bridges. It is anticipated the planking will be delivered and installed by mid-November 2014.

An amendment to the contract has also been executed extending the completion date on the project

Directives B & C

GR2-11 - Stutsman County Manure Management Project

Stutsman County Soil Conservation District

Original Request - \$800,000

Awarded Amount - \$300,000 - Monies to be used for winter rotation activities. Any landowners receiving funding must provide 40% match and the maximum amount of cash share dollars for each manure management system is \$175,000.

Contract 002-026 - Executed

9/05/14 - Waiting for Status report

12/15/14 - Status report was submitted on 11/17/2014 with photos. Cost share occurred with 5 different producers who are working on installing winter rotational grazing systems. Practices installed include: 2643 linear feet of barbed wire fencing; 4 winterized water tanks; 100 acres of cover crops seeded; 2,449 linear feet of pipelines for water; 1,250 feet of portable windbreak

Directives A, B, C & D

GR2-13 - Pheasant Lake Fishing Access/Shoreline Restoration Project

Dickey County Park Board

Original Request - \$21,250

Awarded Amount - \$21,250

Contract 002-027 - Executed

9/05/14 - Currently are awaiting plans from Craig Martin (Craig Martin's Construction). We are meeting to review project and get started ASAP. However we received over 4 inches of rain over past week. Therefore water levels are higher than normal creating difficulty with access. Harvest of nearby field is delayed due to excessive moisture thereby prevent the dumping of sediment in nearby/adjacent field which will be taken from lake bottom and shoreline project. Hopeful that project will proceed as planned with expected completion mid-October.

12/15/14 - 12/10/14 status report was received. Work began on Texas rock crossing at far west tributary on 11/7/14. Texas crossing partially completed. Excess road bed sediment removed and rocks/large boulders placed in crossing area. Work temporarily halted on 11/20/2014 due to early snow fall and freeze up. Rip rap and erosion barrier fabric placed at Texas rock crossing. Project set to begin again with completion set for late Spring 2015.

Directives A & C

GR2-14 - Blacktail Dam Association

Blacktail Dam Association

Original Request - \$75,000

Awarded Amount - \$35,000

Contract 002-028 - Executed

9/05/14 - Trees have been purchased and planted. Lift station preliminaries are in progress. Soil samples have been taken. Percolations test have been performed and we are waiting for results which will be used to calculate drain field size. We are waiting for state approval for plans and will proceed upon approval.

12/15/14 - Waiting for final report

Directive D

GR2-15 - North Dakota 4-H Camp

North Dakota 4-H Foundation

Original Request - \$18,768

Awarded Amount - \$18,768

Contract 002-029 - Waiting for comments from the applicant - Because of staff turnover they have not completed their review.

9/05/14 - Waiting for applicant's comments on contract.

12/15/14 - October report indicated that they expect this project to be completed in May of 2015.

Directives B, A & C

GR2-17 - Turtle Creek Watershed Project Water & Habitat Initiative

South McLean County Soil Conservation District

Original Request - \$138,000

Awarded Amount - \$138,000 - Any landowners receiving funding must provide 40% match and the maximum amount of cash share dollars for each manure management system is \$175,000.

Contract 002-030 - Executed

9/05/14 - First status report due November 30, 2014

12/15/14 - A detailed status report was received 11/30/14. - Water & Habitat Initiative Projects using OHF Grant Money

- Fully implemented portable wind breaks: 4 panels totaling 96 linear feet. OHF funds were used to assist a livestock producer in the Turtle Lake area in purchasing additional portable wind breaks to increase the effectiveness of his winter manure management plan to the benefit of local water bodies. This project was implemented to help prevent the need for extended use of feeding operations of upwards of 100 head of cattle during winter months. Cumulative length of all windbreaks owned by the producer does not exceed the maximum amount allowed by the ND Health 319 cost share guidelines for 2014. The ranch at which these will be used drains into a system of interconnected lakes and water bodies that includes Hanson Slough, Cherry Lake, Turtle Lake and Lake Ordway. As such, the use of cost shared wind breaks will have a positive impact on

approximately 1175 acres of near downstream lakes and surface water bodies, 302 acres of wetland habitat, and ultimately to the 51 mile reach of Turtle Creek that lies downstream of Lake Ordway.

- Cover crops seeded & awaiting field verification: 5.7 acres. A local producer was interested in planting cover crops for the purposes of weed management and erosion control. Though a late harvest limited the number of feasible crop types, winter rye was seeded and verified to have come up. As winter rye is a winter hearty crop, this planting is expected to provide appreciable cover and serve as temporary habitat for wildlife during the spring of 2015.
- Planned livestock exclusion fencing: 4375 linear feet. A producer contacted our project with explicit interest in fencing his livestock out of the Lake Williams shoreline. The Lake Williams shoreline is an important habitat, not only because it is a lakeshore but also because regularly fluctuating lake levels makes it suitable habitat for riparian species. Exclusion fencing will protect 5,007 feet, or almost a mile of shoreline habitat suitable for riparian species.

Directive D

GR2-16 - Downtown River Access for Grand Forks Greenway

City of Grand Forks

Original Request: \$75,000

Awarded Amount: \$75,000

Contract 002-031 - Executed

9/05/14 - Formal status report has not been sent but a short message stated that they could have part of the river access project done this fall. It appears it will be next summer before the access is complete and the boathouse up and running.

12/15/14 - A status report was received stating that the initial plan was to place a concrete stairway with platforms and a removable railing at the site right below the Boathouse. After further review of the area, the local consultant, CPS, Ltd. proposed a site a few hundred feet from the Boathouse. This site was recommended as it would allow us to work with the existing bank making the access ADA accessible. One goal was to allow access to the river throughout the season with the adjusting levels of the water. Utilizing this site would allow all ages and abilities to access and enjoy the river. (A copy of the full report with the attached revised design is posted on the website.)

Directives C & B

GR2-23 - Conservation of Grasslands and Long-billed Curlews on Private Lands in SW North Dakota

American Bird Conservancy

Original Request - \$29,322

Awarded Amount - \$29,322

Contract 002-032 - Executed

9/05/14 - First report due October 1, 2014

12/15/14 - October 1 status report stated: We are in the process of finalizing our ranking criteria for projects. To provide the greatest ecological benefit to grassland birds, we will use a quantitative and qualitative process. Our intent is to implement projects on grassland blocks ≥ 120 acres (native prairie, expired or soon to expire CRP lands) although areas >80 will be considered if in the vicinity of a wetland or native grasslands. Criteria will include a perimeter/area ratio (interior habitat is preferable to grassland birds

so a square area would rank higher than a long, thin, rectangular one of the same area), implementation of a voluntary grazing program, whether or not public access is allowed, distance from vertical structures and how likely is the project to benefit grassland birds. We have been working with our partners to identify specific opportunities where the funds could be best applied. We have held preliminary discussions with producers who are interested in using temporary electric fencing to distribute livestock grazing with the goal of controlling noxious weeds on native grasslands and areas recently seeded with native grasses and forbs.

Directives B, A & C

GR2-22 - North Dakota Pollinator Partnership

Pheasants Forever, Inc.

Original Request - \$173,750

Awarded Amount - \$173,750

Contract 002-033 - Applicant is reviewing the contract.

9/05/14 - Ongoing discussions on the contract

12/15/14 - Contract has been signed. First status report is due December 31, 2014

Directives D, A & C

GR2-25 - Beulah Bay Campground Expansion and Conservation Project

Beulah Park District

Original Request - \$53,212

Awarded Amount - \$42,120

Contract 002-034 - Executed

9/05/14 - There have been some delays in getting the work underway because of workload at the park and getting the contractor to come in. The IC has signed the contract and applicant has verbally indicated they are going to sign. Project will not be completed until next year.

12/15/14 - Contract has been signed. The contract was written with the completion date being December 31, 2015.

Prepared by Karlene Fine

12/14/14