**Outdoor Heritage Fund**

**Status and Final Report Form/Guidelines**

This report is used to show progress of grant projects funded through the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Status Reports and the Final Report must be submitted as required in Contract.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract Number</th>
<th>Report Date</th>
<th>Period Covered by Report</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>006-087</td>
<td>4/30/2019</td>
<td>(5/1/2018 to 4/30/2019)</td>
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**Project Name**

North Dakota Hen House Project II

**Project Sponsor Name**

Delta Waterfowl Foundation

**Responsible Official (Last, First Middle)**

Chouinard, Matthew D

**Responsible Official’s Title**

Senior Waterfowl Programs and Research Manager

**Project Sponsor Address**

1412 Basin Ave

**City**

Bismarck

**State**

ND

**Zip Code**

58504

**Telephone Number**

701-222-8857 (ext. 5209)

**Financial Update**

Please provide the following information regarding the funding for your project based on the contract award:

**Funds Spent this Reporting Period**

(As appropriate please provide copies of receipts for purchases)

- Match Funding $3,214.54
- In-kind Funding $240.00
- OHF Funding **Requested for Reimbursement** $0.00
  Total Funding Expended for this Reporting Period $3,454.54

**Total Funds Spent to Date**

- Match Funding $6,831.90
- In-kind Funding $1,380.00
- OHF Funding Received and Requested for Reimbursement $26,000.00
  Total Funding Expended to Date $34,211.90

**Balance of Grant Funds**

- Match Funding $22,468.10
- In-kind Funding $3,260.00
- OHF Funding still to be Requested $300.00
  Total Funding to be Expended on this Project $60,900.00

Do you anticipate needing to request a grant extension? If yes, please explain

/ / Yes  / / No

**Work Completed during Period Covered by Report:**
This grant report covers Delta Waterfowl activities on North Dakota Hen House Project II (OHF Grant 006-087) from 5/1/2018 to 4/30/2019. Delta Waterfowl contractors (Hen House Delivery Specialists) installed 200 Hen Houses as part of this grant in 2017. All 200 of these Hen Houses were verified by Delta Waterfowl staff to be available to nesting ducks during the 2018 waterfowl nesting season.

After the nesting season was complete, Delta staff and contactors began preparations for maintenance of the Hen Houses and a complete assessment of use by ducks. Maps of the nest structures were created and printed to assist with locating all Hen Houses during field work. With Delta staff assistance, contractors secured flax straw bales and transported them to the Woodworth area to be used for Hen House maintenance in late winter.

During the maintenance visits, contractors removed old nest remains (Figure 1; eggs, eggshells, feathers, etc.), replaced grass nesting material, and repaired (replaced if necessary) damage to the Hen Houses. Maintenance of all North Dakota Hen Houses, including replacement of two HHs that were damaged beyond repair, was completed by mid-April 2019. While refurbishing each HH, contractors also documented evidence of nest(s) during the previous breeding season. This information was submitted to Delta Waterfowl staff, entered into a database, and evaluated to determine usage rate (percentage of Hen Houses used during a nesting season).

Overall usage rate for Woodworth and Carrington area Hen Houses was 31% in 2018, providing a good boost to the local mallard population. Usage did decrease slightly from 2017 (37%) as a result of the drought, characterized by dry wetlands, fewer duck pairs, and expansion of vegetation in wetlands (e.g., cattails, bulrush, etc.). Hen Houses in dry wetlands or surrounded by emergent vegetation typically have very low usage rates.

On a positive note, wetland conditions and duck numbers are improved in 2019. Delta Waterfowl staff and/or contractors inspected a sample of the Hen Houses and found considerable numbers of hens already nesting in project HHs (Figure 2). Usage rates and estimated duck production for 2019 will be provided in the 2020 project report. All Hen Houses included in this project will be maintained by Delta Waterfowl through the 2026 nesting season and then reevaluated to determine future expansion or changes to the project site.

Delta Waterfowl sincerely appreciates the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund, OHF program staff, hunters, outdoor enthusiasts and others for their continued support of Delta Waterfowl’s Hen House program.
Photos of work completed are welcome (If appropriate, please submit photos of key elements of the project completed or in progress during reporting period) Do not exceed five photos per project report.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Signature of Responsible Official</th>
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The project reports shall be provided to the Commission in both electronic and hard-copy formats with permission for unrestricted distribution. The electronic versions shall be in a suitable format for posting on the Outdoor Heritage Fund/Commission website.