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. After completing the report, save it and attach it to an e-mail and send it to outdoorheritage@nd.gov AND print it and mail it to: North Dakota Industrial Commission, ATTN: Outdoor Heritage Fund Program, State Capitol – Fourteenth Floor, 600 East Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405, Bismarck, ND 58505. If you are unable to scan attachments, mail them with your paper copy of the report. You will be sent a confirmation by e-mail of receipt of your report and attachments.

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>008-097</td>
<td>12/21/2017</td>
<td>(5/01/2017 to 12/31/2017)</td>
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Project Name
Grasslands Enhancement Pilot Project

Project Sponsor Name
Ducks Unlimited

Responsible Official (Last, First Middle) Responsible Official’s Title
Buysse, Dane Thomas Biologist - ND

Project Sponsor Address
2525 River Road

City State Zip Code Telephone Number
Bismarck ND 58503 0: 701-355-3500 / C: 701-425-4852

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 $ 12,439.22 (Lessee $12,439.22)
In-kind Funding $ 12,740.03 (DU $12,740.03)
OHF Funding Requested for Reimbursement $ 18,658.82
Total Funding Expended for this Reporting Period $ 43,838.07

Total Funds Spent to Date
Match Funding $ 12,439.22
In-kind Funding $ 12,740.03
OHF Funding Received and Requested for Reimbursement $ 18,658.82
Total Funding Expended to Date $ 43,838.07

Balance of Grant Funds
Match Funding $ 121,922.18
In-kind Funding $ 61,579.97
OHF Funding still to be Requested $ 211,341.18
Total Funding to be Expended on this Project $ 394,843.33

Do you anticipate needing to request a grant extension If yes, please explain
/ / Yes /X/ No
Work Completed during Period Covered by Report:
(This information will be posted on the Outdoor Heritage Fund/Industrial Commission website)

The Grasslands Enhancement Pilot Project (GEPP) continues to move forward as the Department of Trust Lands Board agreed to take ownership of cross fence for the pilot project. The Department of Trust Lands Board also agreed to depreciate the lessees 40% of the cross fence.

The first project is nearly complete with only a couple outstanding items for the well pump system. The project was completed this summer on the Koenig Waterfowl Production Area in McLean County near Turtle Lake, ND. The project will directly benefit 747 acres of public land by providing quality water to promote rotational grazing practices. The property will be subdivided into 13 pastures and the two wells will provide critical clean water for the upcoming grazing season.

Six additional projects are in the planning stages to be implemented on Department of Trust Lands property. The counties currently planning projects included Divide, McLean, Mountrail, and Sheridan.

Outreach for the Grasslands Enhancement Pilot Project includes program flyers in local Soil Conservation District offices, outreach at local Soil Conservation District board meetings (Bottineau, Burke, McHenry North, McLean South, McLean West, Mountrail, Sheridan, Ward,), an article in Agweek’s print and online versions, Bottineau Co Newsletter and also on the North Dakota Ducks Unlimited website and twitter page.

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.

Koenig WPA (McLean Co) Water Development

Water infiltration test in NW ND (August 3, 2017)
Outdoor Heritage Fund provides for ag conservation solutions

By Jenny Schiecht
Agronomy Staff Writer

BISMARCK — The Cover Crop and Livestock Integration pilot project is not the only agriculture-related project for which Ducks Unlimited has gone to the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund for money. In fact, of five projects funded by the fund in which Ducks Unlimited plays a role, four have agricultural connections.

OHF is overseen by the North Dakota Industrial Commission and was established in 1973 to provide grants to state agencies, tribal governments, political subdivisions and nonprofit organizations, with higher priority given to projects that enhance conservation practices in the state. Among the fund’s main objectives are provisions to improve, maintain and restore water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity and animal systems, and to enhance farming and ranching by supporting other practices of stewardship.

The fund has put considerable money into agriculture conservation programs, including more than $2.7 million on the four agriculture-related projects in which Ducks Unlimited is involved.

The objective of another recently approved project, the Grasslands Enhancement Pilot Project, is to better utilize grasslands on public lands that are open to grazing by supporting infrastructure for rotational grazing systems, says Dan Bysse, a Ducks Unlimited biologist.

The project, which received $330,000 from the Outdoor Heritage Fund, will pay 60 percent of costs, including cross fencing and water infrastructure, while producers will pay 40 percent. The five-year agreements will run at the same time as leases on the public lands, but the infrastructure developed will be depreciated out over 10 years for producers, and any cross fencing and permanent water improvements will remain with the property.

North Dakota Department of Trust Lands will provide rent credits to lessees for funding permanent water developments, like well holes and casings, and Fish and Wildlife Service will do the same on Waterfowl Production Areas. Trust Lands also will provide technical assistance through their surface management team. Ducks Unlimited will provide outreach, funding for wetland restorations and technical assistance. Dakota Missouri Valley and Western Railroad will provide funding for fencing materials along railroad right-of-way when deemed necessary.

Bysse explains that sportsmen have reported that some areas on school trust, public land and adjacent private land were overgrazed while others were under grazed. That hit waterfowl development in those areas, too, he says.

By moving cattle more effectively across acres, the project hopes to improve quality for ranchers and for sportsmen who hunt on the land.

Bysse says the project also will include water infiltration testing to monitor rangeland or grassland quality to allow leasees to see the impact rotational grazing can have on the property. Organizers hope to show that rotational grazing will capture more water and make the land more drought tolerant.

The project covers much of northwest North Dakota, including all or part of Burke, Bottineau, Burleigh, Divide, McHenry, McLean, Mountrail, Pierce, Ramsey, Rolette, Sheridan and Ward counties. Bysse says several producers are working on agreements with the project, and substantial funding remains. For more information, contact him at 701-355-3584 or dbysse@ducks.org.

Other agriculture-related Outdoor Heritage Fund projects in which Ducks Unlimited is involved include the Working Grasslands Partnership, with the North Dakota Natural Resources Trust at the helm, and the Enhanced Grazing Lands and Wildlife Habitat project. Both projects seek to help producers keep capturing Conservation Reserve Program acres in grass for grazing.

New Ideas to achieve higher yields

StollerUSA selects Plant Power Agriculture as their newest dealer.

Kickoff meeting to be held in Aneta, ND 2 PM, Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Founded by Jerry Stoller in 1970, Stoller products have a long history of profitability, helping farmers improve both yield and crop quality. How? “We are dedicated to helping growers understand and naturally enhance the genetic potential of plants,” Stoller says.

“One goal is to help growers learn how to overcome plant stress to maximize growing season yield potential,” StollerUSA Regional Manager Larry Linber says.

Make your plans now to be in Aneta Auditorium on Main Street at 2 PM on Tuesday, December 19 to learn how Stoller products can help boost yield and grain quality on your farm.

Plant Power Agriculture owners Fred and Jodi Luthe will share more than 10 years of experience with StollerUSA. Plant Power Agriculture Sales Manager Kevin Christopherson will also participate.

Qualified growers will have the opportunity to earn complimentary registration for two to Commodity Classic in Anaheim CA February 27 - March 1, 2018.

Be in Aneta on December 19 to learn how Stoller products can improve yield and quality on your farm.

PLANT POWER AGRICULTURE
Grasslands Enhancement Pilot Project

- Provides Grazing Incentives on Leased State School Trust and Public Land

Do you have a need for water, fencing and power on leased State School Trust and public land? The Grasslands Enhancement Pilot Project (GEPP), funded through North Dakota’s Outdoor Heritage Fund, may be the opportunity you have been looking for. Ducks Unlimited and the North Dakota Natural Resources Trust have partnered to provide grazing incentives for lessees of State School Trust and public land in the Bakken oil field (North of the Missouri River).

Across the Bakken, lessees of State School Trust and public land have a need for quality water, cross fencing, and power to allow for rotational grazing practices. GEPP will provide cost-share to implement rotational grazing infrastructure. This opportunity will make it more cost effective to transition to rotational grazing and better utilize leased land. The objective of the program is to provide lessees with the resources to improve rangeland health, plant diversity, drought tolerance and water quality.

Contact Dane Buysse with Ducks Unlimited at 701-425-4852 or dbuysse@ducks.org.
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.