**Contract No. 008-096**

"Trail Restoration and Improvement Program Part 2"
Submitted by North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department
Primary Contact: Matthew Gardner

**Directives D, A & B**

**PARTICIPANTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Cost Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Forest Service - Recreational Trails Program</td>
<td>$329,336.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subtotal Cash Cost Share</td>
<td>$329,336.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Forest Service - Force Account (indirect costs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer Services (in-kind)</td>
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<td>Subtotal In-kind and Indirect Cost Share</td>
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<td>North Dakota Industrial Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subtotal OHF funding</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Project Cost</td>
<td>$441,870.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Project Schedule - 1 year**

- Contract Date - 3/6/2017
- Start Date - 1/1/2017
- Completion Date - 12/31/2017

**Project Deliverables:**

- Status Report: September 30, 2017 ✓
- Final Report: December 31, 2017 ✓

**OBJECTIVE/STATEMENT OF WORK:**

Goal is to improve trail conditions on ND grasslands. There are three individual projects on two separate trails on the Little Missouri National Grasslands -- Maah Daah Hey Trail and Buffalo Gap Trail. These projects are being accomplished with a partnership between North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department and the Dakota Prairie Grasslands of the United States Forest Service. 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.

**STATUS:**

A contract has been partially executed and forwarded to the North Dakota Parks and Recreation for their consideration.

The contract has been fully executed.

9/29/17 - Status Report received. It states: The Trail Restoration and Improvement Program Part 2 is currently over half complete. The Maah Daah Hey (MDH) Surfacing and Restoration portion of the project was completed late summer. This portion surfaced 4.7 miles and restored 17 miles of the MDH Trail. Also the Montana Conservation Corps (MCC) spent two hitches on the MDH completing the prep work for the contracts and restoring sections of the trail. At this time a part of the MDH and Buffalo Gap Trails portion of the project is complete. The 2.2 miles of surfacing on the Buffalo Gap trail was finished in June. Also approximately two miles on the MDH trail was surfaced which leaves only one mile of surfacing. This had to be postponed due to the dry conditions this summer which would have led to poor surfacing compaction. The remaining mile will be completed this fall. Also remaining is the construction of the puncheon near Second Creek. All materials are at the site and construction is scheduled for early October. Finally the restoration work on the Buffalo Gap trail has not been completed due to challenges with contracting which are to be worked through at this time.
There have not yet been any reimbursement payments made for any of the completed work as much of it was completed late summer and shortly before this progress report. The majority of in-kind funds spent this reporting period on the MCC volunteer match with a smaller amount of Forest Service engineering cost making up the remainder. At this time a sign is being planned to be constructed at the beginning and ending trailheads on the MDH to recognize major trail supporters which will be acknowledging the Outdoor Heritage Fund's funding of this project. The Outdoor Heritage Fund was also acknowledged for providing project funding in the spring newsletter of the Maah Daah Hey Trail Association newsletter.

12/29/17 - Final Report received. The Final Report has been posted on the OHF website. The report states in part:

The majority of the projects initially planned for the Trail Restoration and Improvement Program Part 2 are now complete. Since the last progress report the remaining surfacing on the Maah Daah Hey was completed. The puncheon at Second Creek was constructed in October and now provides great access for trail users across the creek. The only uncompleted item is the restoration work on the Buffalo Gap Trail which was not able to be completed in the timeframe planned due to contracting issues. The work will now be completed at the beginning of the 2018 field season. In total, this project surfaced 10.2 miles of trail and restored an additional 17 miles of trail.

The Outdoor Heritage Funds requested for reimbursement are lower than the approved amount. Not having completed the Buffalo Gap restoration work accounts for a small portion of this underrun, but a major factor was the other three contracts all coming in below estimates. With the cost saving realized from other aspects of this project the Buffalo Gap restoration project will be completed. There will be $27,185.64 of OHF funds that will not be requested for reimbursement.

Pictures of the Second Creek trail puncheon and the last of the surfacing that was completed on the southern end of the Maah Daah Hey near Burning Coal Vein campground are posted on the website.

This contract has now been closed. The remaining amount of $27,185.64 is now available for other projects.

Dated 12/29/2017