

**Activity Report of The Sandhills Task Force
January 1 through December 31, 2000**



Wetland restoration on Jumbo Valley Fen. Photo top left was taken after the water control structure was installed in the fall of 1999. Photo on right is same site one year later.

This report is the fulfillment of the reporting requirement specified in the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund 1996 Grant Agreement dated November 4, 1996. The grant agreement (Project #96-237 “A Sandhills Fen and Grassland Partnership”) states: **Between December 1 and 31 of each year after 1996 the authorized representative will provide the Trust with a detailed report of activities undertaken through the Sandhills Resource Conservation Fund.** This document meets those requirements plus includes information about activities and projects that Sandhills Task Force were involved in during 2000.

The Sandhills Resource Conservation Fund was established April 1, 1996 by the Sandhills Task Force (STF), a non-profit organization. The Fund is used to facilitate various conservation projects throughout the Sandhills. Often, projects involve multiple partnerships and funding arrangements can become troublesome. The Fund has allowed the STF to facilitate payment to landowners and to assume the responsibility of overseeing the completion of the project. Because STF was not a tax-exempt organization, the Fund was established with Nebraska Community Foundation. Appendix A is the 2000 financial statement of funds held with the Foundation. Listed below are projects and activities that have involved funding through the Sandhills Resource Conservation Fund or through cooperative agreements with individual agencies. Under some cooperative agreements, the STF accepted the responsibility of administration and overseeing the completion of the project while payment went directly to the contractor without going through the STF. Appendix B is the 2000 Statement of Financial Position.

Board of Directors

Board of Directors include:

A.B. Cox	Rancher	Mullen
Al Steuter	The Nature Conservancy	Ainsworth
Barb Cooksley	Rancher	Anselmo
Byron Eatinger	Rancher	Theford
Dean Funk	Rancher, Holt County Commissioner	Atkinson
Gene D. Mack	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Kearney
Gene Lehnert	North Central R, C & D	Bassett
Kenneth Noonan	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Lincoln
Mick Knott	Rancher	Hyannis
Mike Kelly	Rancher	Sutherland
Richard Lackaff	Rancher	Bassett
Rob Ravenscroft	Rancher	Valentine
Ron Dobbins	Rancher, Chr. Upper Loup NRD	Tryon
Ted LaGrange	Nebraska Game & Parks Commission	Lincoln
Troy Bredekamp	Nebraska Cattlemen	Lincoln

In January, Jana Jensen submitted her resignation as a member of the Board. Jana had resigned her position with Nebraska Cattlemen (NC). And in doing so, had to resign from the Board because that position is held by a staff member of the Nebraska Cattlemen. The Board position was filled by Troy Bredekamp. Troy serves as Executive Vice-President for Technical Services for NC.

Ken Noonan replaced Gus Hughbanks as the NRCS staff member. Gus took on new responsibilities with NRCS and Ken filled the Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations position previously held by Gus.

Barb Cooksley was selected to serve on the National Invasive Species Committee formed by the Secretary of Interior. The Committee consists of 25 members—almost all are associated with large organizations. Barb is the only person from Nebraska. The Committee is led by Secretary Babbitt and Vice President Al Gore. Barb was also selected to serve on Congressman Osborne's staff. Her focus will be livestock, conservation, and environmental issues.

A.B. Cox and Mick Knott were asked by the Western Governor's Association (Great Plains Partnership) to assist them in forming landscape and ecosystem level conservation organizations; involving multiple levels of government and private organizations. The Great Plains Partnership recognizes the STF as an example of successful partnerships. Jack Shipley, from the Applegate Partnership (located in northwestern U.S.) met with A.B., Mick, and Byron Eatinger to share ideas about each other's grassroots organization.

Interest in duplicating the Sandhills Task Force is also occurring in the Flint Hills of Kansas. A group of individuals invited Gene Mack to meet with them to discuss how the organization was formed, its goals, function, and day-to-day operation.

Mike Kelly, Byron Eatinger, and Gene Mack attended a national Land Conservation Summit held in St. Paul on July 28 & 29. Its focus was forming land trusts and managing conservation easements.

Financial Activities

On April 26, 2000 the Board was notified by the Internal Revenue Service that they had been granted 501 (c) 3 tax-exempt status. Attorney John Detisch of Kutak Rock in Omaha had volunteered his time over the last couple of years to assist in the application.

In the original grant agreement (Project #96-237 "A Sandhills Fen and Grassland Partnership"), it stated that funds associated with the sale of property would be transferred to the Sandhills Resource

Conservation Fund once the STF obtained tax-exempt status. In previous years, the STF had maintained its fund with the Nebraska Community Foundation. They kept all interest our account generated in return for charging the STF no administrative fees. In 2000, NCF changed their policy and began charging up to 3 percent of the amount of the check. Our standard operating practice has been to request funds from contributing partner once a project is done. The funds are held briefly in the account before payment is made to the contractor. Thus, we receive little interest but are charged full administrative fee. Average fee per check was \$133. The NET Board granted the STF permission to establish a regular checking account to reduce banking fees.

A checking account was established with The Tri County Bank in Stuart, Nebraska. The Board chose to bank with a locally-owned, Sandhills bank. Approximately 20 banks were contacted about ownership and banking rates. On November 2, 2000, The Nature Conservancy wired \$450,000 to the Tri County Bank account. Three \$100,000 Certificates of Deposits were purchased from three separate banks. Each CD has a different maturity date so funds would become available on a more quarterly basis. \$100,000 was sent to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation as the organizations contribution toward the Birdwood Creek conservation easement. The Nature Conservancy had received a grant from the Wildlife Foundation to help pay the cost of the easement. One condition of the grant was all other contributions had to be passed through the Foundation.

Projects

Funding by Sandhills Task Force, as shown in the following projects, came from grants (through cooperative agreements) with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Each year, the FWS grant between \$20,000 and \$30,000 to the STF for conservation projects within the Sandhills. This money is part of the Services "Partners for Fish and Wildlife Project."

A Sandhills Fen and Grassland Partnership

Purpose: The project is to acquire property and restore the hydrology and vegetation (and associated wildlife) of two Sandhills fens located in western Cherry County to their more natural condition and to evaluate the cost/benefit for restoration as it relates to ranching. STF co-sponsored the project with The Nature Conservancy.

Funding:

NET past grant:	\$ 585,000	(land acquisition)
NET grant (1998):	\$ 315,000	(land acquisition)
TNC/STF:	\$ 198,000	(Surveys and land management)
TNC:	\$ 61,000	(In-kind administration)
STF:	\$ 7,000	(In-kind administration)
USFWS:	\$ 17,000	(Fencing)
NRCS:	\$ 12,000 ^a	(In-kind technical assistance)
NGPC:	\$ 18,000	(Control Structures)
Nebraska Cattlemen:	\$ 3,000	(In-kind administration)
Total	\$1,201,000	

^a NRCS contribution has far exceeded this amount.

Accomplishments: Coordination has begun between NRCS and TNC to install three water control structures in Pullman Valley and two additional structures in Jumbo Valley. Currently there exists three structures in Jumbo Valley, costing \$52,024.37: NRCS paid \$40,493.28 and NGPC paid \$11,531.09. In Jumbo Valley, water levels in the channel were raised to within 6 inches of the fen elevation (See photos of front page).

Elevation surveys were completed in Pullman Valley Fen and NRCS are currently designing the size and capacities of the new structures. Construction is planned for next summer. Seventy-five percent

of the funding for construction will come from the Wetland Reserve Program.

Initial steps are being taken to sell the property in the fall of 2001. The Task Force has begun discussion of conservation easements and what the terms of the easement will be on this property.

The property continues to be grazed and hayed through lease agreements with neighboring landowners.

Jumbo Valley Fen Project
Financial Statement
July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000

ACCOUNTS					
	Operating Center	Land Center	Lease Reserve	Land Reserve	Total
Beginning	\$0	(\$1,910)	\$0	\$461,948	\$460,038
Lease plus interest	\$21,255	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$21,255
Fund transfer	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	(\$30,000)	\$0
Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TNC payment ^a	(\$30,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$30,000)
Operating expenses	(\$18,383)	\$0	\$0	(\$1,704) ^b	(\$20,087)
Interest	\$28	(\$139)	\$0	\$68,771 ^c	\$68,660
Balance	\$2,900	(\$2,049)	\$0	\$499,015 ^d	\$499,866

^a Funds transferred to STF in December, 1999
^b Maintenance fee for endowment.
^c Revenue for investment of endowment.
^d \$450,000 of this amount was transferred to the STF in November, 2000.

Cow Creek Riparian Restoration

Purpose: The project is directed toward repairing control structures that were lost due to extensive flooding. The structures provided stream stabilization, enhancement of riparian habitat, and flood control in southeastern Cherry County.

Funding: Funding came from multiple partnerships. Final contributions by partners are listed:

NET:	\$59,000 (Construction)	
STF:		\$ 1,600(Coordination)
FWS:	\$9,992 (Construction)	\$ 2,560 (Administration/coordination)
Upper Loup NRD:	\$4,000 (Construction)	
Ducks Unlimited:	\$12,000 (Construction)	
Nebraska Dept. of Roads:	\$29,663 (Construction)	
NRCS:		\$ 55,360 (Engineering)

Landowners: \$3,500 (Fencing)
Total: \$118,155 (Construction) \$ 59,520 (In-kind services)

Accomplishments: Construction was completed in December, 1999. In January, 2000 final payments were made and a final project report was submitted to NET. On August 15, 2000, NET notified the Board that the conditions of the grant agreement were met and the project was complete.

Birdwood Creek Easement

Purpose: To protect a segment of scenic Sandhills stream from being developed. Birdwood Creek is a short, spring fed stream that begins in McPherson County and flows southward to the Platte River. Because of the scenic and hydro-geologic significance of the stream, the Task Force joined with the Nature Conservancy to purchase a conservation easement on the property. Both TNC and STF share the belief that unique areas of the Sandhills will be commercially developed. This threat makes it more difficult for ranching operations to continue with higher land values and taxes. The conservation easement ensures the land will remain open, scenic, and economical for ranching.

Funding:

TNC: \$300,000 (Acquisition of conservation easement)
TNC: \$ 80,000 (Trust established for administration of easement)
STF: \$100,000 (Acquisition of conservation easement)
Total: \$480,000

Accomplishments: The Task Force issued payment of \$100,000 (in November) to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation as STF's contribution to the easement acquisition. The Nature Conservancy had received a grant from the Wildlife Foundation to help pay the cost of the easement. One condition of the grant was all other contributions had to be passed through the Foundation.

Sandhills Grassland Program

Purpose: This program is designed to address Sandhills landscape issues and incorporate existing agency programs (funding) to accomplish projects that are more directed toward wildlife and public benefits. The program would trade (up-front) funds for capital improvement on ranches in return for 10-agreements to manage for wildlife, grassland health and diversity, and improvement of water quality and quantity. Each project would be based on sound science and economic use of the funds. NET funds will be used in combination with other partnerships to develop grazing systems, riparian habitat restoration, stream restoration, technical assistance, and environmental education associated with the Sandhill resources. One key component of the grant is hiring a Project Coordinator to promote the program and provide technical assistance to landowners.

Funding: On April 21, NET granted \$81,500 to the STF. The 2000 budget is shown below.

2000 Sandhills Grassland Program Budget

SOURCE of funds ➤	NETF	STF	NGPC	FWS	Land-owners	NRCS	NRD	TOTAL
BUDGET								
Cross-fencing	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$10,000		\$6,800	\$70,200	\$3,000	\$108,000
Livestock watering	\$6,000	\$10,000	\$10,000		\$15,800	\$14,400	\$2,000	\$58,200
Water control	\$6,000	\$15,000	\$15,000		\$4,000	\$24,000		\$64,000
Monitoring wildfire	\$9,000	\$1,000				\$5,000		\$15,000
Education-outreach	\$2,000	\$41,000						\$43,000
Monitoring grazing		\$15,000						\$15,000
Grazing plan tech			\$2,000	\$4,000		\$25,000		\$31,000
Engineering/tech			\$2,000	\$6,000		\$24,000		\$32,000
Temporary Staff	\$50,500							\$50,500
Note: NETF, STF & NGPC funds will be used in equal proportions on all projects								
TOTALS	\$81,500	\$92,000	\$39,000	\$10,000	\$26,600	\$162,600	\$5,000	\$416,700

Accomplishments: A cooperative agreement was signed between the Sandhills Task Force and Nebraska Cattlemen to hire and fund a Project Coordinator. The key points of the agreement is the person would be hired by NC to work exclusively on projects directly connected to this grant and the role of the Sandhills Task Force. In turn, the Task Force will cover all costs associated with the position. In September, the position was advertised in numerous newspapers and a couple of Nebraska magazines. A selection committee consisting of two Task Force members and two NC staff was formed to make the final selection. About 25 applications were reviewed. Jim VanWinkle was selected for the position and began working on December 14.

Jim is a life-long resident of Cherry County who has been actively involved in community and natural resource issues. His accomplishments include serving 8 years as Cherry County Commissioner, chairing the Niobrara Council, and representing Cherry County on the National Park Service planning team.

Key/Klase Grazing Project

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to: develop a planned grazing system to improve distribution of grazing within the 2880 acre pasture; reduce over-utilization of wetland areas; encourage warm-season grasses; provide residual vegetation for spring nesting; and enhance wildlife production and use of the pasture. Currently, the ranch is grazed as a single unit with no cross fencing. As a result, livestock concentrate on the low wetland areas and avoid the high uplands. The project calls for the installation of approximately 2.16 mile of cross-fencing, one livestock well (depth of 250 ft), one livestock tanks (4700 gallons), and windmill. The project is expected to benefit 221 acres of lakes and wetlands, and 2659 acres of grassland habitat.



Funding:

STF:	\$3,480	Fence and windmill
NGPC:	\$3,480	Fence and windmill
Upper Loup NRD:	\$1,242	Well and tank
Landowner:	\$3,515	Fence, windmill, tank, and well
Total	\$11,716	

Accomplishments: Project is scheduled to be done next spring.

Monsour Grazing Project

Purpose: The project will reduce overgrazing associated with large pastures; to encourage warm-season grasses; to provide residual vegetation for spring nesting for upland game birds; and to enhance wildlife production and use of the 1186 acres.

Historically, the area was grazed as a single unit with no cross fencing. Season long grazing has caused upland grasses, especially near windmills, and aquatic vegetation near the Dismal, to be over-utilized as the livestock concentrate at these sites.

The project includes: Installing approximately 2 miles of cross-fencing, one livestock well, tank, and moving an existing windmill from a large blowout to a new area. The project is expected to benefit 1094 acres of grassland habitat and 92 acres of riparian habitat along one half mile of river.

Funding:

STF:	\$1,443
NGPC:	\$1,443
NRCS (EQIP):	\$6,339
Cooperator:	\$3,954
Total:	\$13,179

Accomplishment: Work has been completed but not paid for to date.

Baldwin Grazing Project

Purpose: The project will reduce overgrazing associated with large pastures and over-utilization of riparian areas; to encourage warm-season grasses; to provide residual vegetation for spring nesting; to enhance riparian vegetation; and to enhance wildlife production and use of the 3,135 acre ranch. Historically, the ranch contained large, seasonally grazed pastures. Recent management has



begun a simple rotation grazing system on the smaller pastures but rotation is limited by lack of water and fencing on the larger pastures. Both the historic and current grazing practices have caused grasses and aquatic vegetation near the Dismal to be over-utilized as the livestock concentrate on low areas. Construction includes: approximately 1 mile of cross-fencing, a well and tank. The project is expected to benefit 294 acres of riparian area, one mile of river, and 2841 acres of grassland habitat.

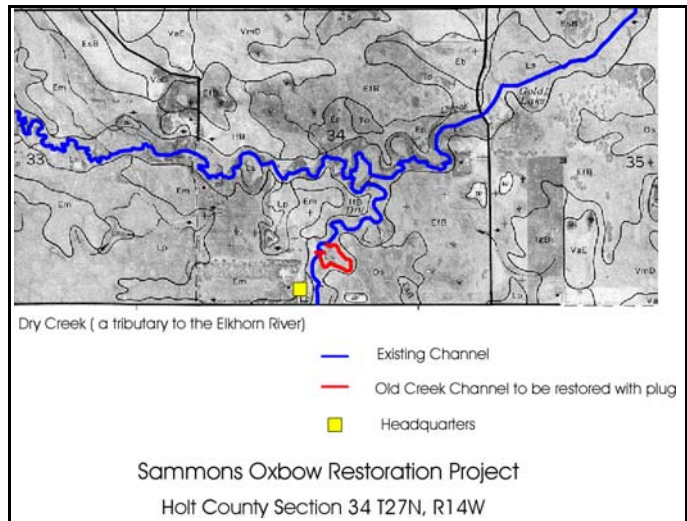
Funding:

STF: \$5,400
 NRCS (EQIP): \$15,405
 Cooperator: \$5,691
 Total: \$26,496

Accomplishments: The project has been completed and paid for.

Sammons/ Dry Creek Restoration

Purpose: Construct an earthen plug in Dry Creek, a tributary to the Elkhorn River, to restore an abandoned oxbow that dried up when the channel was straightened. Channelization caused the stream to severely erode as it adjusted to carry the same amount of water over a shorter distance. The downcutting stream has begun to drain adjacent meadows and subirrigated meadows. The plug will be placed near the entrance to the abandoned channel to let water back into it. This will help restore the historic water levels, wet meadows, and plant communities. In total 1900 ft of channel will be restored. The landowner will construct a fence to manage livestock in 26 acres surrounding the riparian area. With the assistance of NRCS, the landowner will plant native trees and shrubs as a riparian buffer.



Funding:

STF: \$853
 Landowner: \$ 2,480
 Total: \$3,333

Accomplishments: Ground elevations have been surveyed by NRCS but construction has not started.

Appelt Grazing Project

Purpose: One and one half miles of fence was constructed to reduce overgrazing, streambank erosion, and non point sediment pollution in Plum



Creek and the Niobrara River. The fence will allow better management of the canyons and grasslands close to the banks of Plum Creek and the Niobrara River.

Funding:

STF:	\$3,310
Middle Niobrara NRD;	\$3,737
Landowner:	\$2,011
Total:	\$9,058

Accomplishments: Project has been completed.

Hazel Creek Project

Purpose: The project will reduce grazing, trailing, and erosion on springheads and tributaries to the Niobrara River; encourage warm-season grasses; enhance wildlife production and use of the 1140 acres; and allow the riparian area to be managed differently than the surrounding uplands. Currently, the property is divided into 3 pastures that are in a rotational grazing system. The riparian area is not fenced adequately to keep cattle out of Hazel Creek and several other tributaries to the Niobrara River. The lack of proper fencing has resulted in overgrazing and trampling around the springheads and creeks. Construction includes approximately four miles of fencing and installation of a well and windmill.

Funding:

STF:	\$5,000
Landowner (TNC):	\$11,594
Total:	\$16,594

Accomplishments: A wildlife extension agreement has been signed with the landowner (TNC).

Theford Fire Monitoring

Purpose: The effect of different grazing or management practices on the grasslands affected by the large Theford burn is being documented and evaluated. Many ranchers were affected by the March, 1999 fire. Landowner and land manager responses varied greatly. Some believed the burned areas would take three years to recover, others believed grazing would not be possible on the land for at least a year, while others believed that grazing would only have to be delayed until June. The Task Force saw this as an opportunity to evaluate the effect grazing (short-term, season-long, and deferred) would have on the grasses.

Funding:

STF:	\$25,000(Salary & expenses)
NRCS:	\$25,000(Salary & expenses)
Total:	\$50,000

Accomplishments: NRCS completed the second year of monitoring. A report is expect to be completed in the near future.

Diverse User Viewpoint: Perceptions, Preferences, Beliefs, and Aspirations in Nebraska's

Sandhills

Purpose: The study is aimed at examining the concerns and values are of those who live and depend on the Sandhills for a livelihood, and of those who use the Sandhills for recreational purposes. Information obtained from the study will be used by land planners including local,

state, and federal government. The STF is funding the project through a cooperative agreement with USFWS.

Funding:

STF:	\$38,000(Salary & expenses)
NGPC:	\$11,600(Salary & expenses)
Analytical Software:	\$3,700(Software & equipment)
UNL/other sources:	\$10,000(Salary & expenses)
Total:	\$63,300

Accomplishments: Dr. Amy Richert presented preliminary findings from her study to the Task Force in August. Some key points she brought out included: 78 ranchers, 20 recreationists, 30 commercial operators have been interviewed to date. Eighty percent of those contacted agreed to do the interview—compared to a normal rate of 25 percent. People interviewed had positive attitudes toward the study and the Task Force for funding it. The study itself has sparked similar research projects in other parts of the nation.. The Nebraska State Museum has become involved in the project and would like to expand on the data analysis and the distribution of the findings.

Sandhills Natural Resources Education Cooperative

The Task Force decided to join in sponsoring the newly formed Sandhills Natural Resources Education Cooperative. Its goal is to provide information and structured educational programs to increase public awareness of Sandhill resources. The Cooperative is organized through the Cooperative Extension Service and Halsey 4-H camp. Al Steuter is the STF’s representative.

Other Donations to STF

Contributions have come from other sources that have helped the STF accomplish its mission. They include:

- Ranching members of the Sandhills Task Force who freely give their time and expenses required to attend Board meetings.
- John Detisch, attorney for Kutak Rock for providing legal services in applying for 501 (c) 3 status.

Organization of Sandhills Land Trust

The Sandhills Task Force has been exploring the possibility of becoming a land trust organization. Its purpose would be to provide a central, structured land trust that would balance resource and ranching interests. Outside interest in acquiring interest in Sandhills property is growing. The Task Force is concerned about non-Sandhills-based organizations forming land trusts which may impose restrictions that are harmful to resources and ranching operations. The Board has also recognized that conservation easements may be very beneficial in estate planning for multi-generation ranches that wish to see the land remain as a private ranching enterprise.

On July 28-29, three Board members attended a national Land Conservation Summit held in St. Paul, Minnesota. This past fall, several Board members attended a conservation easement session held by the Nebraska Society of Range Management in Chadron. The Board has organized a special meeting with Lynne Sherrod, Executive Director of the Colorado

Cattlemen's Agricultural Lands Trust. Other people invited include policy makers from Nebraska Cattlemen, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The intent of the meeting is to learn more about conservation easements and how each organization views its role in the Sandhills.

Purchase of Equipment

The Task Force purchased a "Total Station" surveying equipment to help in surveying ground elevations throughout the Sandhills. The equipment imports data directly into computer mapping and engineering programs. The result is quicker planning and construction water control projects, stream restoration, and pipelines for livestock watering. Mullen NRCS has used it extensively this past fall. Total cost was \$12,008.

APPENDIX A

**Sandhills Resource Conservation Fund EIN# 58-2490972
Financial Statement
November 30, 2000**

Transaction	Date	Deposit	Debit	Balance
USFWS for Appelt & Weir material	01/28/00	\$7,385.48		\$27,060.12
Jason Appelt (fencing)	01/28/00		\$3,310.00	\$23,750.12
Inlaw Construction (weir material)	01/28/00		\$4,075.48	\$19,674.64
IRS (tax exempt application)	01/31/00		\$500.00	\$19,174.64
January 00 Allocated Interest	02/01/00	\$79.53		\$19,254.17
January 00 Disbursement Fees	02/01/00		\$375.00	\$18,879.17
February 00 Allocated Interest	03/01/00	\$76.72		\$18,955.89
February 00 Disbursement Fees	03/01/00		\$221.56	\$18,734.33
March 00 Allocated Interest	03/31/00	\$83.06		\$18,817.39
April 00 Allocated Interest	04/30/00	\$84.11		\$18,901.50
May 00 Allocated Interest	05/31/00	\$89.38		\$18,990.88
June 00 Allocated Interest	06/30/00	\$90.79		\$19,081.67
June 00 Disbursement Fees	06/30/00		\$546.27	\$18,535.40
USFWS for "Perception Study"	06/15/00	\$18,309.47		\$36,844.87
UNL Sponsored Programs	06/29/00		\$18,309.47	\$18,535.40
Interest (NCF between 7/1/00 & 8/1/00)	07/31/00	\$94.02		\$18,629.42
UNL Sponsored Programs	09/01/00		\$9,845.25	\$8,784.17
Interest (NCF between 8/1/00 & 9/1/00)	08/31/00	\$93.11		\$8,877.28
USFWS for "Perception Study"	09/22/00	\$9,845.25		\$18,722.53
Interest (NCF between 9/1/00 & 10/1/00)	09/30/00	\$90.57		\$18,813.10
Administrative fees	09/30/00		\$294.00	\$18,519.10
Transit Works, Lincoln (survey equip.)	10/12/00		\$12,008.43	\$6,510.67
October 00 Disbursement Fees (est.)	11/01/00		\$360.03	\$6,150.64
October/Nov Interest (est)	11/30/00	\$54.25		\$6,204.89

APPENDIX B

SANDHILLS TASK FORCE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION November 30, 2000

ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$356,358.38
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	\$356,358.38
Permanently restricted	<u>\$0.00</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	
	<u><u>\$356,358.38</u></u>
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES	
Period of January 01, 1999 to November 30, 2000	
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	
Income	
Interest from Nebraska Community Foundation	\$1,014.43
Interest from Tri County Bank Checking Account	\$164.37
The Nature Conservancy	\$450,000.00
INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	
	<u><u>\$451,178.80</u></u>
Expenses	
Administrative fees from Nebraska Community Foundation	\$1,925.92
Checking costs from Tri County Checking Account	\$10.88
IRS (tax exempt application)	\$500.00
Transit Works, Lincoln (survey equip.)	\$12,008.43
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (Cons. easement)	<u>\$100,000.00</u>
DECREASE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	
	<u><u>-\$114,445.23</u></u>
PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	
US Fish and Wildlife Service	\$35,540.20
Ducks Unlimited	\$12,000.00
Restrictions satisfied by payment:	
Jason Appelt (Grazing system)	-\$3,310.00
Inlaw Construction (Weir material)	-\$4,075.48
UNL Sponsored Programs (Perception Study)	-\$28,154.72
Inlaw Construction (Water control structure)	-\$12,000.00
INCREASE IN PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	
	<u><u>-\$0.00</u></u>
INCREASE IN ASSETS	
	\$336,733.57
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	
	<u>\$19,624.81</u>
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	
	<u><u>\$356,358.38</u></u>