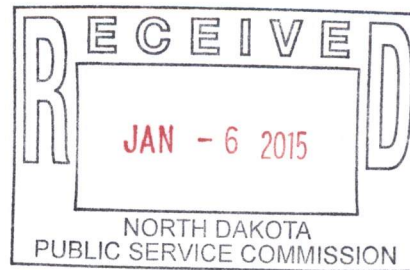


BRIDGER PIPELINE LLC

Environmental Division

Bob Dundas, P.G., Environmental Coordinator
Kate Forsting, Assistant Environmental Coordinator



Reply to:

P.O. Drawer 2360 (82602)
455 North Poplar
Casper, WY 82601
Phone: (307) 237-9301
Fax: (307) 266-0357

January 2, 2015

Patrick Fahn
Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RE: Case No. PU-09-750 – Four Bears Pipeline Tree/Shrub Mitigation Update

Dear Mr. Fahn:

As an update to the subject corridor number 115 and route permit number 125, Bridger Pipeline LLC has received written confirmation (see attached) from the North Dakota Forest Service that the Four Bears Pipeline Tree and Mitigation planting project to satisfy the requirements of the PSC tree and shrub mitigation related permit conditions has been completed.

Key components of the completed project include:

- Successful planting over three growing seasons of the required 97,278 trees and shrubs, planting of an additional 9,378 trees and shrubs to account for potential mortalities resulting in a total tree and shrub planting of 106,656.
- Oversight of the entire planting project by the NDFS using the Trees for North Dakota Trust Fund.
- Preparation of a final annual project summary report documenting the project scope of work, planting locations, numbers planted at a location.

Bridger Pipeline LLC is excited about completing this partnership with the NDFS and the successful completion of the tree and shrub planting project. Bridger Pipeline LLC believes it has met or exceeded all of the requirements of the PSC tree and mitigation plan and respectfully requests closure of the reclamation matter.

Please call me at (307) 266-0411 or email at bob.dundas@truecos.com should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bob Dundas".

Bob Dundas, P.G.
Environmental Coordinator

Attachments

File: BPLLC Four Bears Pipeline



NORTH DAKOTA FOREST SERVICE

"To care for, protect and improve forest and natural resources to enhance the quality of life for present and future generations."

December 22, 2014

Bob Dundas, Environmental Coordinator
Bridger Pipeline, LLC
P. O. Drawer 2360
Casper, WY 82602

Dear Mr. Dundas,

Attached is the 2014 Annual Project Summary for the North Dakota Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership Program between the North Dakota Forest Service and Bridger Pipeline, LLC. The document serves as the final report for the approved program to replace 97,278 trees and shrubs lost as a result of the Four Bears Pipeline and to comply with the North Dakota Public Service Commission mitigation requirements. This three-year program was financed through an award from Bridger Pipeline Company, LLC to the North Dakota Forest Service.

The program was initiated by the North Dakota Forest Service on September 1, 2011, following the receipt of the tree planting mitigation payment. An advance payment of \$259,310.66 representing 1/3 of the total program amount was deposited in the Trees For North Dakota Trust Fund on August 15, 2011. A second installment payment of \$259,310.66 was received on September 5, 2012. The remaining final amount of \$259,310.68 was provided to the North Dakota Forest Service on October 7, 2013.

As of December 31, 2014, 106,656 trees and shrubs have been planted. Observations of the plantings indicate a 74.54% survival rate. This rate is slightly below the 75% survival rate targeted in the proposal. The additional 9,378 trees and shrubs that have been planted should provide an adequate number of surviving trees and shrubs to meet the mitigation obligation. The goals of this Tree Planting Partnership have been met.

Thank you for the opportunity to assist Bridger Pipeline, LLC with its mitigation tree planting obligations set forth by the North Dakota Public Service Commission. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you need further assistance or information.

Sincerely,

Larry A. Kotchman
State Forester

Enclosure

Four Bears Pipeline Tree Mitigation

2014 Project Status Update



Prepared for:

Bob Dundas

Bridger Pipeline, LLC

PO Drawer 2360

Casper, WY 82602



Larry Kotchman, State Forester
NDSU- North Dakota Forest Service

307 First Street East

Bottineau, ND 58318

December 10, 2014

Overview

Mitigation criteria established by the Public Service Commission (PSC) ensures that trees and shrubs lost or destroyed during construction projects are replaced at a 2:1 ratio. As a result of the Four Bears Pipeline (a Bridger Pipeline, LLC Project,) up to a maximum number of 97,278 trees and shrubs must be planted to satisfy the mitigation requirements for this project. An additional number of trees and shrubs will be planted to offset unanticipated mortality. If at the end of three growing seasons it is determined that 75% of the replacement trees and shrubs planted are not living, ND Forest Service (NDFS) will replant an adequate number of trees to satisfy the offset mortality and reach 75% or greater success rate. Landowners impacted by the project have been offered a choice of having replacement trees and shrubs planted on their property or planted elsewhere at alternative locations. The remaining number of trees and shrubs will be planted at alternative locations through cooperative projects with tree planting entities and private landowners.

The NDFS is administering a mitigation tree planting program in cooperation with local soil conservation districts and private tree planting vendors. Interested landowners desiring to establish appropriate conservation tree plantings may apply with the NDFS for assistance. Eligible landowners will be encouraged to work directly with local soil conservation district partners and private tree planting vendors to secure professional tree planting design assistance and tree planting services. Mitigation project funding will be made available for a variety of conservation tree planting practices that are not otherwise eligible for cost-share. These practices will be designed using the standard USDA conservation tree planting plan (CONS-4). Conservation practice specifications will be influenced by species suitability, soil characteristics, topography, land-use and the landowner's objectives. Eligible conservation tree planting practices include, but are not limited to, living snow fences, windbreaks, wildlife plantings, riparian restoration and buffers, and vegetative fuel breaks.

2014 Update

As of December 31, 2014, the tree and shrub mitigation planting requirements resulting from the Four Bears Pipeline Project have been satisfied.

Year	Number of Planting Sites	Number of Trees and Shrubs Planted
2012	89	28,380
2013	62	37,755
2014	95	40,521
TOTAL	246	106,656

The total number of trees and shrubs planted exceeds the 97,278 stems indicated in the tree planting partnership. Observations of the conservation tree and shrub plantings conducted in 2013 and 2014

indicate an overall survival rate of 74.54%. This rate is below the 75% survival rate required to meet the mitigation requirements. An additional 9,378 trees and shrubs have been planted to compensate for the higher than anticipated mortality that has been observed.

Detailed planting information can be found in tables attached as Appendix A.

The following table describes the activities to be undertaken and the status of each as of December 2014.

Activity	Status December 2014
North Dakota Forest Service (NDFS) develops tree planting summary sheet for Soil Conservation Districts (SCDs) and vendors outlining Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership procedures.	Completed.
Contact county SCD offices to explain the Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership framework. Application materials are made available.	Completed.
NDFS provides contact information for impacted landowners and tree/shrub needs to vendors.	Completed.
Prepare a tree/shrub spreadsheet to track accomplishments and survival by county, landowner and site.	Completed.
SCD or vendor meets with landowner on site to design tree planting. All plantings will follow conservation practice specifications and ND CONS-4 (tree planting planning worksheets) are completed.	Completed.
Plans are reviewed by NDFS. NDFS develops award letters and agreements. Agreements are signed with landowners.	Completed.
Class I & III Cultural Resource Surveys are completed by qualified contractor.	Completed.
Sites are prepared for tree planting by mechanical or chemical means. Trees are ordered from nurseries. Trees are delivered from nurseries and stored in coolers. Site is inspected and staked for planting. Trees are planted. Fabric weed barrier is installed.	Completed.

Invoice sent to NDFS. Reimbursements made through NDSU Business Office.	Completed.
Landowners maintain projects as per agreement.	Ten year agreements initiated in 2012, 2013, 2014.

Appendix A- Planting Information

2014- Conservation Trees					
County	Quarter	Section	Township	Range	Trees Planted
Bottineau	SE	13	160	79	293
Bottineau	NW	7	162	75	287
Bottineau	NW	9	162	75	159
Bottineau	NW	9	160	76	324
Bottineau	SE	11	161	74	115
Bottineau	NE	20	161	75	101
Bottineau	SW	31	162	76	174
Bottineau	SE	5	160	74	159
Bottineau	NE	9	162	81	115
Bottineau	NE & SW	31	163	74	775
Burleigh	SW	28	138	79	108
Burleigh	E2E2	24	137	79	560
Burleigh	SW	8	140	79	280
Burleigh	SW	23	141	75	670
Burleigh	SW	4	137	78	880
Burleigh	NE	9	140	79	600
Burleigh	NE	16	140	80	705
Burleigh	NW	21	137	77	762
Burleigh	SW	36	143	79	400
Burleigh	NE	23	138	79	560
Burleigh	SE	32	140	78	800
Burleigh	SE	14	139	80	225
Burleigh	SE	14	139	80	225
Burleigh	SE	18	140	80	595
Burleigh	NW	15	142	81	920
Dunn	SW	29	142	97	2
Dunn	NE	3	143	97	175
Dunn	NE	30	145	94	31
Dunn	NE	5	145	96	50
Dunn	NE	26	146	96	224
Dunn	SE	30	146	95	71
Dunn	NE	4	145	95	26
Dunn	NW	30	143	95	253
Dunn	NW	13	145	94	608
McKenzie	N2/S2	29/20	149	95	30
McKenzie	SW	1	149	96	239
McKenzie	SW	18	152	95	73
McLean	NW	34	143	80	190
McLean	NW	32	148	80	258
McLean	Lot 7	34	143	80	221
McLean	NW	6	146	82	172
McLean	NE	36	147	81	173
McLean	NE	10	144	81	2645
McLean	NE	31	147	79	313
Mercer	NW	14	144	87	392
Mercer	SE	15	145	86	417
Mercer	NE	36	147	86	297

Mercer	NE	29	145	85	330
Mercer	SW	28	145	87	364
Mercer	NW	27	147	85	386
Mercer	NE	26	144	88	141
Mercer	SW	2	145	86	143
Mercer	SW	22	144	90	140
Morton	NW	13	140	82	403
Morton	NW	14	138	84	392
Morton	SW	33	137	81	400
Morton	NW	24	139	85	196
Morton	NW	1	138	86	495
Morton	NW	28	136	83	383
Morton	SW	32	136	81	569
Morton	W2W2	4	135	81	766
Morton	SW	29	137	81	308
Renville	SE	3	161	84	530
Stark	SW	6	140	99	1335
Stark	NW	28	139	94	1001
Stark	SW	2	140	98	176
Stark	NE	15	140	94	345
Stark	NW	15	138	97	150
Stark	NE	31	139	94	303
Stark	SE	25	140	96	587
Stark	NE	6	138	96	168
Stark	SE	14	140	97	181
Stark	SW	26	140	98	223
Stark	NW	33	139	94	299
Stark	SW	23	139	97	802
Stark	NE	36	141	93	419
Stark	SW	22	139	95	300
Stark	SW	17	138	95	745
Stark	SE	12	140	96	274
Stark	NW	24	137	91	1111
Stark	SW	16	140	96	161
Stark	SE	18	140	96	242
Stark	SE	21	140	99	584
Stark	NW	6	140	93	660
Stark	SE	12	140	96	499
Stark	SW	16	138	92	516
Stark	NE	2	137	100	765
Stark	SW	30	141	93	2301
Stark	NE	33	139	96	772
Towner	W	12	159	66	470
Towner	SE	2	158	68	233
Towner	SE	26	162	67	245
Towner	S	13	162	67	373
Towner	SE	33	162	68	283
Towner	SE	11	158	67	400
2014 Total					40,521

2013- Conservation Trees					
County	Quarter	Section	Township	Range	Trees Planted
Barnes	NW	20	138	61	224
Billings	SE	19	139	100	234
Bottineau	NE	14	162	75	136
Bottineau	SW	31	162	76	226
Bottineau	SE	2	161	76	226
Bottineau	NE	13	162	76	378
Burke	SE	32	159	93	334
Burke	NW	8	162	91	377
Burleigh	SE	10	143	80	409
Burleigh	SW	35	141	80	853
Burleigh	NW	4	140	79	413
Burleigh	NE	23	138	79	606
Burleigh	NE	29	137	78	586
Burleigh	NW	36	140	80	383
Burleigh	NE	13	137	78	375
Cavalier	SENE	4	162	58	243
Dunn	NE	30	145	97	113
Dunn	SE	4	142	95	463
Foster	NW	3	145	66	551
Foster	NW	17	146	64	195
Golden Valley	NE	15	140	105	180
Grand Forks	NW	17	154	52	214
Grand Forks	NE	21	151	51	81
Grand Forks	NE	21	151	51	272
Grand Forks	NE	19	151	51	181
Grand Forks	SW	35	150	50	341
Grand Forks	SW	12	152	54	146
Grand Forks	NW	10	150	51	104
Grant	SW	23	134	89	3
LaMoure	NE	11	133	59	379
LaMoure	NW	6	134	66	230
LaMoure	SW	3	134	64	565
LaMoure	NE	17	133	64	314
McLean	SE	17	146	84	985
McLean	NW	34	143	80	145
McLean	SW	21	146	82	230
McLean	NW	9	148	81	207
McLean	SW	11	143	80	396
McLean	SW	13	144	82	80
McLean	NW	25	146	84	104
McLean	NE/NW	12	147	81	324
McLean	SW	4	150	78	109
Mercer	NE	29	145	85	343
Mercer	SW	28	145	87	93
Mercer	SW	17	145	84	387
Mercer	NE	17	144	86	221
Mercer	SE	32	144	87	446

Mercer	SE	14	144	89	251
Mercer	SE	25	144	86	172
Mercer	SE	24	141	88	117
Morton	SW	12	138	89	1,384
Oliver	SW	32	143	81	2,394
Pembina	SW	9	160	53	137
Pembina	SW	36	162	54	132
Pembina	NW	4	162	56	118
Pembina	NW	32	162	56	122
Pembina		9	163	56	385
Pembina	SW	28	162	56	95
Pembina		10 & 14	162	53	144
Pembina	SE/SE	6&1	163	53&52	183
Ramsey	NE	3	154	65	301
Ransom	NW	16	135	57	788
Stark	SE	11	141	96	301
Stark	SE	25	140	96	484
Stark	SE	25	140	96	725
Stark	SW	32	140	95	220
Stark	SW	32	140	95	228
Stark	SW	34	140	94	300
Stark	NE	14	140	95	464
Stark	NE	31	139	94	391
Stark	NW	15	138	97	306
Steele	NE	29	148	54	191
Steele	SW	5	148	56	297
Stutsman	NE	5	140	64	92
Stutsman	NW	4	140	65	242
Stutsman	NW	7	142	62	223
Towner	NE	18	163	65	109
Towner	SE	5	161	66	110
Towner	E	16	158	66	135
Walsh	NW	21	157	55	145
Walsh	SE	19	157	56	117
Walsh	NW	35	156	57	170
Ward	SW	2	153	83	668
Wells	NW	8	149	68	223
Wells	NW	13	147	69	303
Wells	NW	12	148	70	46
Wells	SW	8	149	72	222
Wells	NW	31	148	70	212
Wells	SW	26	146	72	328
2013 TOTAL					28,380

2012- Conservation Trees						
County	Quarter	Section	Township	Range	Trees Planted	
Adams	NE	20	130	91	562	
Adams	NE	8	130	91	233	
Billings	NE	3	141	100	263	
Burke	SE	21	160	94	181	
Burleigh	SE	22	142	75	1,007	
Burleigh	SW	33	139	75	276	
Burleigh		22, 27 & 28, 26	137	76 & 77	1,050	
Burleigh	NE	22	139	79	892	
Burleigh	NWNW	13	137	78	443	
Burleigh	NE	13	137	78	933	
Burleigh	SW	17	141	79	1,480	
Burleigh	SW	28	141	79	275	
Burleigh	NE	29	137	78	657	
Burleigh	SE	26	144	78	549	
Burleigh	NE	27	144	77	973	
Burleigh	SW	29	139	76	323	
Burleigh	NW	4	140	79	665	
Burleigh	SW	20	140	80	1,537	
Burleigh	SW	12	138	79	291	
Burleigh	NE	17	139	75	514	
Burleigh	NW & SW	18	141	77	347	
Burleigh	NW & SE	18	139	79	634	
Burleigh	NE	7	141	77	295	
Burleigh	SW	32	137	75	385	
Burleigh	NW	32	140	79	741	
Burleigh	SE	1	140	80	735	
Burleigh	NE & SE	24	137	79	700	
Divide	NE	23	163	99	737	
Divide	S	5	163	96	664	
Divide	SE	2	161	95	256	
Divide	NW	25	162	97	603	
Divide	SE	34	164	95	1,466	
Divide	NW	3	163	95	1,521	
Grant	NW&NE	24	135	90	437	
McKenzie	NW & SE	3 & 34	151 & 152	58	1,516	
McKenzie	SE/NE	6 & 31	150 & 151	98	3,194	
McLean	NW	34	143	80	265	
McLean	SE	17	146	84	1,575	
McLean	SE	24	143	80	265	
McLean	SW	19	144	81	403	
McLean	NE	21	148	81	634	
McLean	SE	10	144	82	87	
McLean	NE	4	143	81	149	

McLean	NW	10	145	79	48
McLean	SW	4	143	80	382
McLean	SE & SW	11	147	80	457
McLean	SE	3	147	79	654
Mercer	SW	26	145	86	152
Mercer	NE	26	146	86	390
Mercer	NW	7	144	86	284
Mercer	SE	3	145	85	171
Morton	SW	3	139	83	892
Morton	SE	4	139	81	200
Morton	SE	8	140	86	330
Morton	NE	19	140	81	397
Morton	NW	13	140	18	420
Oliver	SW/SE	14	142	84	524
Sioux	NW	3	130	80	355
Stark	SW	2	140	98	83
Ward	SE	7	160	88	196
Williams	SW	8	159	102	894
Williams	NW	15	156	101	213
2012 TOTAL					37,755