

Hornaday Award Project Summary

Project Category: Fish and Wildlife Management

Raptor Stock Tank Escape Ladders

Plan: My plan is to make twenty-four (24) bird escape ladders, and install them in stock tanks around the Pawnee Grasslands. The purpose of the ladders is to allow birds a method of escaping the tank so they do not drown. Then I will generate a flyer with information about prairie birds and distribute them to organizations around Greeley involved with conservation.

Leadership: The first thing I did was finding a ladder design. Then I made a letter of donation and got the expanded metal. I recruited and organized a small group of Boy Scouts to cut the metal. Then I took the templates and enlisted a professional fabricator to shape them. Then, to prevent rust, I got them powder coated. After all of the ladders were made, I organized two teams to distribute them among the Pawnee Grasslands. I made a flyer with information of 5 different prairie raptors, including food, habitat, and identification. I gave these flyers to the Poudre River Learning Center and the Pawnee National Grasslands Greeley office.

Result: The escape ladders are more effective than any makeshift ladders. The powder coating will dramatically increase the life of the ladders. And the design will intercept the birds from any angle, making escape possible. The flyers I made will hopefully introduce to and educate people about the many raptors living in the grasslands.

Date Completed: 7/15/07

Number of People involved: 28

