Projects

The NDDOT Research Program focuses on the materials and methods used to construct and preserve infrastructure on North Dakota’s State and Federal highway system. Research is conducted in three venues – Internal Research, University Research, and Pooled Fund Studies.

Internal Research:
These are research topics proposed by NDDOT Management, Central Office Divisions, or Field Districts. Research is conducted internally by NDDOT Research Program staff. The term of these projects may be 1 to 20 years.

University Research:
These are research topics that may be proposed by North Dakota University Researchers or may have been identified internally as an NDDOT research need where university research staff may have a particular resource or expertise. This research is conducted by the Universities on behalf of the NDDOT. The term of these projects is typically 1 to 2 years.

Pooled Fund Studies:
These are regional or national research topics that are often too large in scope, or require a financial commitment too large for one state to fund on its own. State agencies with a common interest in the research topic will “pool” their technical and financial resources. Participation in Pooled Fund Studies provides the NDDOT a “seat” on a Technical Advisory Committee and opportunity to offer input and guidance to the pooled fund research team. The term of these projects varies with the research topic and purpose.

Structure

The NDDOT Research Program operates within the Materials and Research Division, part of the NDDOT Office of Project Development.

Funding
Primary funding is derived from FHWA State Planning and Research – Subpart B funds, with additional NDDOT State matching funds.

Staff
Staff consists of six employees with work responsibilities approximately 20-25% committed to research duties.

Facilities
The NDDOT research offices and library are housed in the NDDOT Materials and Research central laboratory building. Research staff make use of the NDDOT central laboratory testing facilities and field data collection and evaluation equipment.

NDDOT Research Website
https://www.dot.nd.gov/divisions/materials/materials.htm