

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Fergus Falls Wetland Management District Provides Opportunities for Disabled Hunters**

The Fergus Falls Wetland Management District, part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has installed three new disabled accessible waterfowl hunting blinds. The blinds are located at the Nicholson Waterfowl Production Area in Otter Tail County, Odens Waterfowl Production Area in Douglas County, and Bah Lakes Waterfowl Production Area in Grant County.

The hunting blinds are specially designed for a disabled person and a companion to hunt waterfowl or observe and photograph wildlife. Blinds can be reached by an access road and mowed path.

“These blinds will provide a quality hunting experience for hunters who would otherwise be unable to participate,” said Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls Wetland Management District Manager.

Hunters must certify that they are unable to step from a vehicle without the aid of a wheelchair, crutches, braces, or other mechanical support or prosthetic device, or are unable to walk any distance due to permanent lung, heart, or other internal disease requiring supplemental oxygen.

The blinds must be reserved in advance, and non-disabled hunters should refrain from utilizing the blinds to preserve the experience for those in need of an accessible site.

For more information or to make a reservation, hunters should contact the Prairie Wetlands Learning Center by phone at 218-736-0938 x 10, by e-mail at [prairiewet@fws.gov](mailto:prairiewet@fws.gov), or by stopping by the Prairie Wetlands Learning Center, located at 602 State Hwy 210 East in Fergus Falls, between 8 am and 4 pm, Monday through Friday.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 96-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, which encompasses 545 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 69 national fish hatcheries, 63 Fish and Wildlife Management offices and 81 ecological services field stations. The Fergus Falls Wetland Management District manages over 43,000 acres in Otter Tail, Grant, Douglas, Wilkin and Wadena Counties.