



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Western South Dakota WMD Complex
Sand Lake NWR/WMD
39650 Sand Lake Drive
Columbia, South Dakota 57433



In Reply Refer to:
FWS/IR05/IR07

February 15, 2022

Dear Cooperator:

The Sand Lake Wetland Management District (WMD) is seeking cooperators to submit a sealed bid(s) for grazing opportunities within the WMD. A map showing all lands offered within the Sand Lake WMD is enclosed. Please familiarize yourself with the WMD Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA) that have been put forth for grazing. Please review the bid prospectus for each WPA before submitting your bid. Each grazing unit will have requirements for fencing (possibly external fence replacement or maintenance and/or internal electric fence), water (only if no natural source is available), and possible livestock rotation.

All bids remain sealed and will be opened on the same day and high bidders will be notified promptly of their selection. Bids received after the closing date will be returned to the bidder unopened. Bids not in conformance with the advertised terms of the sale will be rejected. You may submit bids for multiple WPAs. The Sand Lake WMD reserves the right to reject any or all bids that do not meet the requirements identified in the bid prospectus. Furthermore, the Sand Lake WMD also reserves the right to reject bids from any bidders that have previously violated the terms of grazing Special Use Permits (SUP).

Winning bidders must complete a Cooperative Agricultural Agreement (CAA) with a Sand Lake WMD Refuge Manager within three weeks of winning bid notification, and before any livestock is released onto the grazing unit. The CAA will include the Commercial Special Use Permit and an Annual Plan of Operations.

Your bid package must include: (1) a completed first page of the Commercial Activities Special Use Permit Application, USFWS Form 3-1383-C; and (2) a signed bid worksheet. The bid form can be mailed, emailed, faxed, or hand-delivered to our office. Grazing bids will be accepted until **March 11, 2022**. Please mail, email (shilo_comeau@fws.gov), fax (605-885-6333), or hand-deliver your bids. If you do not have access to a computer, contact us and we will send information via mail. Thank you for showing interest in our programs and call me at (605)885-6262 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Shilo Comeau
Sand Lake WMD Manager

INTERIOR REGION 5 MISSOURI BASIN

KANSAS, MONTANA*, NEBRASKA, NORTH DAKOTA,
SOUTH DAKOTA

*PARTIAL

INTERIOR REGION 7 UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN

COLORADO, NEW MEXICO, UTAH, WYOMING

Sand Lake Wetland Management District 2022 Grazing Units Edmunds County



0 2.5 5 10 Miles



Stotz Waterfowl Production Area (WPA)- Edmunds County

You are bidding on grazing this unit for 3 years (2022 to 2024), and the AUM bid rate is for the life of the Cooperative Agricultural Agreement (CAA). Every year the permittee will be required to develop an annual Plan of Operations with Sand Lake WMD. There will be a minimum of 248 AUMs in 2022, but the AUMs the remaining years will be determined during the annual Plan of Operations. Grazing will be conducted for 6 weeks (45 days) which can start as early as the 1st of May.

WPA Description and Conditions

The WPA is a total of 803 acres containing approximately 229 acres of wetland habitat. This WPA has a permanent fence around the exterior boundary that is in good condition. Known water sources exist in all grazing cells (see attached map for fence and water). Natural wetlands provide water in each cell. Vegetation in the WPA consists of a combination of grasses and sedges including cool-season tame grass as well as cool and some cool-season native grass species.

Legal Description: T. 122 N., R 72., Section 18 (Cloyd Township)

Acres Available for Grazing: A minimum of 360 acres annually.

Lessor Responsibilities

Fencing: As much as one mile of the interior electric fence must be constructed each year of the CAA (2022-2024) to separate the WPA into grazing paddocks (see attached map). Materials will be the responsibility of the permittee and all electric fences will be removed one month after the final grazing date.

Water Source(s): The available sources will likely provide adequate amounts for livestock during the length of the grazing period, but this is not guaranteed and should be checked throughout the grazing period. If circumstances arise where water is inadequate, then water will need to be supplied by the permittee.

Salt and Minerals: Salt and mineral containers need to be moved throughout the grazing period and placed away from water sites.

Rotation: In 2022, livestock must be rotated between two paddocks. Grazing will occur in Cell 2 first for approximately 10 days, then moved to the Cell 1 paddock for approximately 35 days. For 2023 and 2024, the rotation will be determined during the annual plan of operations.

Payment: The Sand Lake WMD will submit a bill to the Interior Business Center (IBC) by September 1st, then IBC will generate an invoice that will be sent to the permittee. Payment is due 30 days after the invoice is received and is accepted through a check or credit card.

****Please refer to the Special Conditions section for all other permittee responsibilities.***

Sand Lake Wetland Management District Grazing Unit Stotz- Edmunds County



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles



Grazing Special Conditions

- To be eligible to bid you must be a current livestock owner/operator.
- The entire amount of AUM's specified must be utilized during the period specified. More livestock for a shorter period will be allowed upon mutual agreement between the Cooperator and the WMD.
- Confinement of livestock to the unit is the responsibility of the permittee as is any damage to surrounding lands caused by the permittee's livestock.
- Permittee is responsible for all fence maintenance and repairs. **The permittee will be responsible to provide all materials necessary to maintain existing fences.** The USFWS will provide all materials used for a new or replacement permanent fence greater than a quarter mile. All permanent fences will become the property of the USFWS after the grazing agreement has expired. Temporary electric cross fences remain the property of the permittee and are to be removed one month after the removal of livestock.
- If permanent fence installation is needed, it will be required that the permittee follow the fence specifications of the USFWS. All new fences will have 4 strands of 12-gauge barbed wire; h-braces (if replaced) will be (2) 8-inch posts with associated cross-post and 9-gauge smooth wire; gates (if replaced) will be 4 strand wire with stays, and the maximum spacing for steel posts will be 16 feet.
- If additional areas, not identified on the map, need a fence to be replaced during the life of the CAA, the costs associated with such fence replacement may be negotiated between the permittee and the Sand Lake WMD at that time.
- Natural water sources may exist on each WPA. Known water sources will be indicated on maps for each WPA. It is the permittee's responsibility to check the condition of the water sources. If water sources are inadequate, the permittee will need to provide water. Costs associated with providing water should be considered by the permittee before submitting a bid.
- The use of salt and minerals are allowed but should be located away from water sources to reduce overuse of the area by livestock. Mineral must be moved at the same time the livestock are rotated. All minerals must be removed at the end of the grazing period.
- Supplemental feeding will not be permitted (i.e., creep feeders, hay).
- With the exceptions of ear tags, no insecticide may be used on livestock while they are on the WPA. Treatment may be done before livestock are brought to the WPA.
- Subletting is strictly prohibited.
- The permittee must notify the Refuge Manager of deceased livestock. Deceased livestock

must be removed from the WPA within 48 hours of discovery.

- Any damage to government property must be reported to the local Refuge Manager immediately and replaced by the permittee.
- All liability relating to livestock and livestock management, including all persons working for the permittee, is strictly that of the permittee listed on the CAA.
- Permittee must comply with all state and local livestock health regulations.

THE USFWS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MODIFY OR TERMINATE THE CAA IF HABITAT CONDITIONS WARRANT. IF CHANGES TO THE PERMIT ARE DEEMED NECESSARY, THE PERMITTEE AGREES TO ABIDE BY THE CHANGES OR THE PERMIT WILL BE VOIDED. THE PERMITTEE WILL BE NOTIFIED AHEAD OF TIME IF ANY SUCH CHANGES ARE IMPLEMENTED.

ANY VIOLATION OF THE ABOVE REGULATIONS MAY RESULT IN THE IMMEDIATE CANCELLATION OF YOUR GRAZING PERMIT AND FORFEITURE OF FUTURE BIDDING ON GRAZING UNITS.

THE U. S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS.

To submit a bid please submit the Sand Lake WMD Bid Form and the Special Use Permit Application Form. Please turn in your bids to the FWS Sand Lake Wetland Management District office no later than **4:00 PM March 11th, 2022**. **All envelopes must be marked WPA Grazing Bid in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope.** Bids will be received in person or by:

Mail: Sand Lake WMD
39650 Sand Lake Drive
Columbia, SD 57433
Email: shilo_comeau@fws.gov
Fax: (605)885-6333

Sealed bids will be opened by the WMD and permittees selected on March 14th, 2022 at 9:00 AM.

For any questions or further information please contact the Sand Lake Wetland Management District:

Shilo Comeau email: shilo_comeau@fws.gov
Station Manager phone: (605)885-6262

Examples of how to calculate stocking rates:

The stocking rate for cow/calf pairs, using 180 AUM's (Animal Unit Months), 1.2 AUE (Animal Unit Equivalents), and the grazing period ratio of 42 days/30.5 days= 1.38 months

Step 1: AUM's / AUE → 180 AUM's / 1.2 AUE = 150 Animals

Step 2: Number of Animals/Grazing Period → 150 Animals/1.38 Months= 109 cow/calf pairs

The stocking rate for yearlings, using 180 AUM's (Animal Unit Months) and 0.7 AUE (Animal Unit Equivalents)

Step 1: AUM's / AUE → 180 AUM's / 0.7 AUE = 257 Animals

Step 2: Number of Animals/Grazing Period → 257 Animals/1.38 Months= 186 yearlings

Stocking Requirements: Sand Lake Wetland Management District will use 1.2 AUE's (Animal Unit Equivalents) to define a cow with a nursing calf less than 6 months of age. Other livestock will have AUE rates calculated according to the chart below.

Animal Unit Equivalents:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1 mature cow | 1.0 AUE |
| 1 cow/calf pair | 1.2 AUE |
| 1 bull | 1.5 AUE |
| 1 weaner calf..... | 0.6 AUE |
| 1 yearling (9-18 months)..... | 0.7 AUE |

Sand Lake WMD Grazing Bid Form

All bid amounts must be submitted in a dollar amount per AUM (\$00.00/AUM).

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Name of Waterfowl Production Area: _____

Amount bid per AUM: \$_____ (Minimum bid allowed \$21.50/AUM)

Total annual bid: **248 AUMs** X \$_____ /AUM = \$_____ annually

Signature

Date



COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION



National Wildlife Refuge System

Refuge Name:

Address:

Attn: (Refuge Official)

E-Mail:

Phone #:

For Official Use Only:

Approved Permit #:

Station #:

Permit Term: from to

Note: We do not require all information for each use. See instructions at the end of the notice and contact the refuge to determine applicability of a particular item.

1a) Identify the type of Permit you are applying for: New ☐ Renewal ☐ Modification ☐ Other ☐

1b) Have you applied, or do you intend to apply, to any other refuges for this same activity? ☐ Yes ☐ No

1c) If yes, which refuges?

Applicant Information

2) Full Name: 3) Title:

4) Business Name:

5) Physical Address:

City/State/Zip:

6) Mailing Address: (if different than above)

City/State/Zip:

7) Business Phone #: 8) Business Fax #:

9) E-mail: 10) Business Tax ID #:

11a) Within the past 5 years, has the company (entity) , its owners, or any employees who have or will be expected to operate on the refuge, been convicted, pled nolo contendere, forfeited collateral, or are currently under charges for any violations of any State, Federal, or local law, or regulations related to fish and wildlife or permit activities? ☐ Yes ☐ No

11b) If you answered "YES" to question #11a, provide the individual's name, date of charge, charge(s), location of incident, court, and action taken for each violation.