



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.

Grazing Bid Package Information

COMPLEX: Christopherson Slough	TRACT: Hanson WPA
LEGAL: T100N/R35W/NW ¼ Sec 13 (Superior TWP)	ACRES: 21 +/- grass
YEAR(s): 2023 & 2024	MAP: SEE ATTACHED
BID FORMAT: \$/AUM	AUM: 20 Total Animals +/- As Approved

Year # 1 & # 2

Target Grazing Period: May 15 to July 15th (62 grazing days/2 months)

NOTES– Targeted Grazing Period may vary according to ground conditions and active mgmt. needed to achieve the intended mgmt. goals. Animal Units may be increased or decreased to meet mgmt. objectives by the Wildlife Mgmt. Biologist.

Grazing in 2024 is contingent upon prescribed fire prior to the grazing period as scheduled. Prescribed fire is required to meet the project’s intended mgmt. goals and if not burned grazing may not be suspended in 2024 on the remnant prairie.

Stocking Rate: 10 Cow/Calf Pairs +/-

Animal Unit Defined as follows:

- Mature cow – 1.0
- Cow/calf pair – 1.2
- Yearling (9-18 months) – 0.7
- Weaner calf – 0.5
- Bull – 1.5

Fence Status: There is no existing fence around 3 sides of the intended grazing paddock. Two strand electrical fences will be installed for cow / calf pairs as needed. Temporary electric fence will be installed and adjusted as directed by the Wildlife Mgmt. Biologist for the grazing period. All materials and installation for the temporary electric fence will be the responsibility of the tenant. Interested bidders may offset this time and expense in their bid for the project if so desired.

Gates: Gates are not required and the tenant may install 1 electrical gate as needed for the grazing period to enter / exit the paddock.

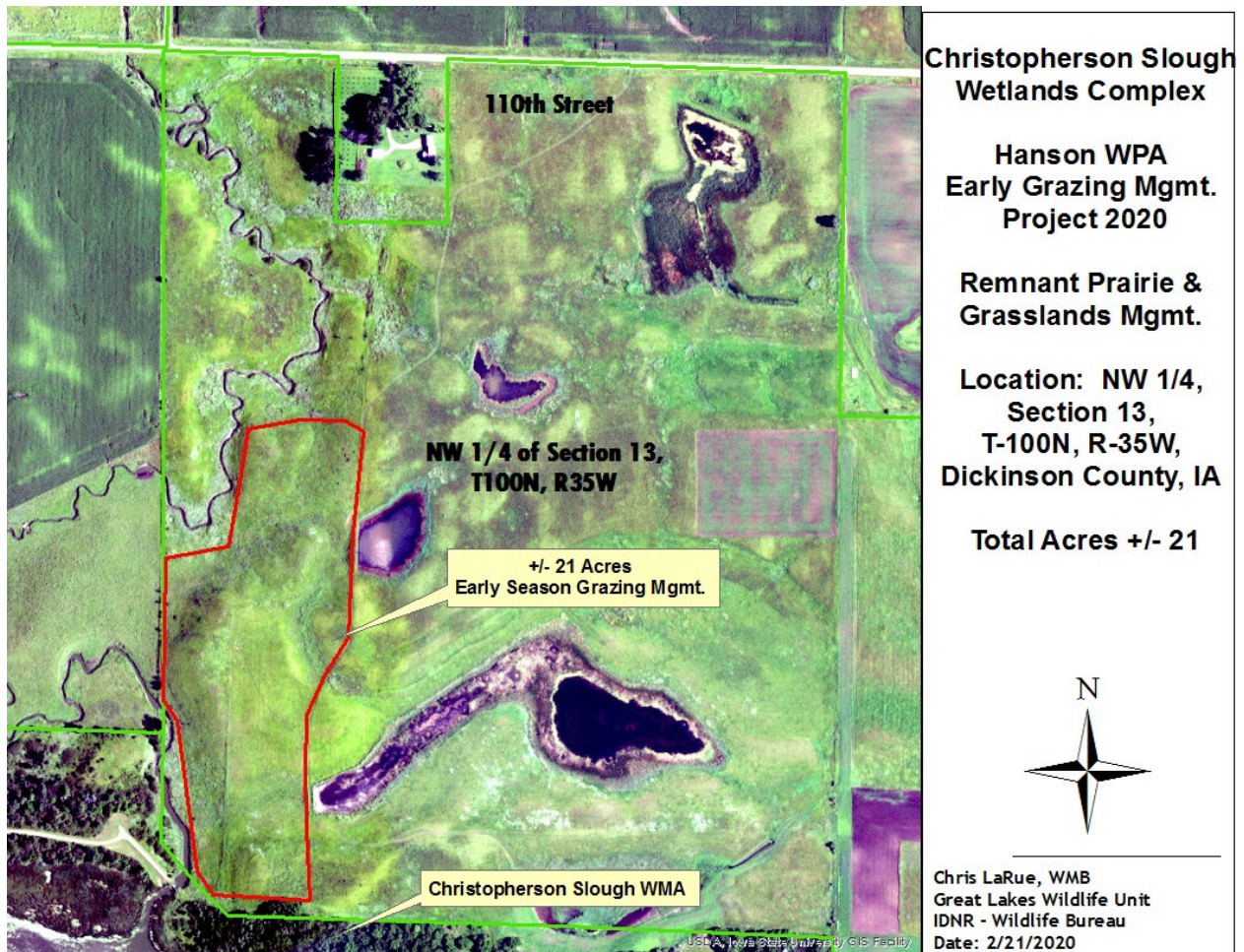
Water Source: Supplemental watering will be the primary source at this time. Any methods and locations of supplemental watering on Service lands must be approved by the Refuge Manager. All water tanks and any other miscellaneous items must be removed from the property within one week from when the cattle are removed. Secondary watering may be provided via existing wetlands or existing stream but only if approved by the Wildlife Mgmt. Biologist.

Forage Types: The site consists of primarily cool season grasses with a moderate percentage of native prairie grass / forb plant composition.

Grazing Targets:

Plants: Impact community composition by reducing cool season grass competition to allow for expression and expansion of remnant native prairie plant community. Create structural heterogeneity utilizing cattle grazing patterns to increase required habitat for grassland birds, insects, reptiles, amphibians, and mammals.

Animals: Increase nest attempts, successes, and brood raising potential for waterfowl and prairie obligate birds. Increase insect diversity by increasing vigor and abundance of native forb community. Increase basking areas and wetland openings for reptiles and amphibians.



Grazing Special Conditions

- 1) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reserves the right to modify or terminate the Special Use Permit if habitat conditions warrant.
- 2) Cattle will be purged using corn stalks or other weed free alternative food sources as approved by the Refuge Manager for 2 weeks prior to the described grazing period
- 3) All liability relating to livestock and livestock management to include all persons working for the permittee, whether related, hired or as a partner is strictly that of the permittee as listed on the Special Use Permit. The permittee must have/acquire liability insurance that covers the livestock being grazed on Service Lands. A copy of the liability insurance must be provided to the Refuge Manager.
- 4) The permittee must be in compliance with the respective state and local livestock health regulations.
- 5) All equipment for grazing, including ATVs and UTVs, must be clean and free of invasive plant material including seeds before entering any Refuge, Waterfowl Production Area (WPA), or Service easement. The Refuge Manager reserves the right to inspect and deny the use of any equipment/vehicle/horse etc. that appears to contain invasive species plant material or seeds.
- 6) The permittee will not use any pesticides (includes insecticides, herbicides and fungicides) on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lands.
- 7) Any livestock management action including branding or dehorning on Service land must be approved by the Refuge Manager.
- 8) Subletting is not allowed. As approved by the Refuge Manager, partnering with another rancher will be allowed should the number of livestock needed to achieve the desired outcome not be obtainable by a single rancher. If partnering is allowed, the initial permittee will be solely responsible for the total payment, management, liability and all special conditions of the permit.
- 9) Fence maintenance is the responsibility of the permittee. Any permanent fence constructed on National Wildlife Refuge System lands will become property of the Service.
- 10) Livestock watering will generally be provided via existing wetlands. During dry periods when wetlands do not contain water, supplemental watering will be allowed. Any methods and locations of supplemental watering on Service lands must be approved by the Refuge Manager. All water tanks and any other miscellaneous items must be removed from the property within one week from when the cattle are removed.
- 11) The permittee must notify the Refuge Manager of deceased livestock. Deceased livestock must be removed from Service lands within 48 hours of discovery unless other arrangements have been approved by the Refuge Manager.
- 14) Supplemental feeding is not permitted on the unit.
- 15) Use of minerals (salt or protein) will NOT be allowed
- 16) The Service is not responsible for providing alternative pasture if the Special Use Permit is terminated.

Grazing Bid Sheet

COMPLEX: Christopherson Slough
LEGAL: T100N/R35W/NW ¼ Sec 13 (Superior TWP)
YEAR(s): 2 (2023 & 2024) As Specified In Mgmt. Plan

TRACT: Hanson WPA
ACRES: 21 grass +/-

Bid (\$/AUM): _____

Cooperator Name (Printed)

Cooperator Address **City** **State** **Zipcode**

Cooperator Home Phone **Cell Phone**

Cooperator Signature **Date**

For Additional Information Contact:

Chris LaRue Biologist
Iowa DNR – Great Lakes Wildlife Unit
712-330-4543

Send Completed Bid Sheets to:

Thompson WPA Grazing Bid
AgriLand Inc
905 South Grand Ave
Spencer, IA 51301
712-580-3553