



# 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

February 10, 2023

Dear Agricultural Producer:

The Sand Lake Wetland Management District (WMD) is seeking operators to submit applications for grazing opportunities within the WMD. A map showing 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 WPA maps and descriptions before submitting your application(s). Each grazing unit will have requirements for fencing (possibly boundary fence maintenance or replacement and/or internal electric fence), water (only if no source is available), and possible livestock rotation.

All applications will be opened on the same day and each applicant will be evaluated using a competitive ranking process. Applicants will be ranked by the WMD based on a series of questions included with the application(s). You may submit applications for multiple WPAs; however, only one WPA can be grazed. The exception to this will be if no other applications for a WPA are received, at which time an applicant who has already applied for and received a unit will be eligible for additional unit(s). If you have grazed more than one unit being offered in the past, please rank the units in your order of preference. Sand Lake WMD reserves the right to reject any or all applications that do not meet the requirements identified in the application. Furthermore, the Sand Lake WMD also reserves the right to reject applications from any operator that has previously violated the terms of grazing Special Use Permits (SUP).

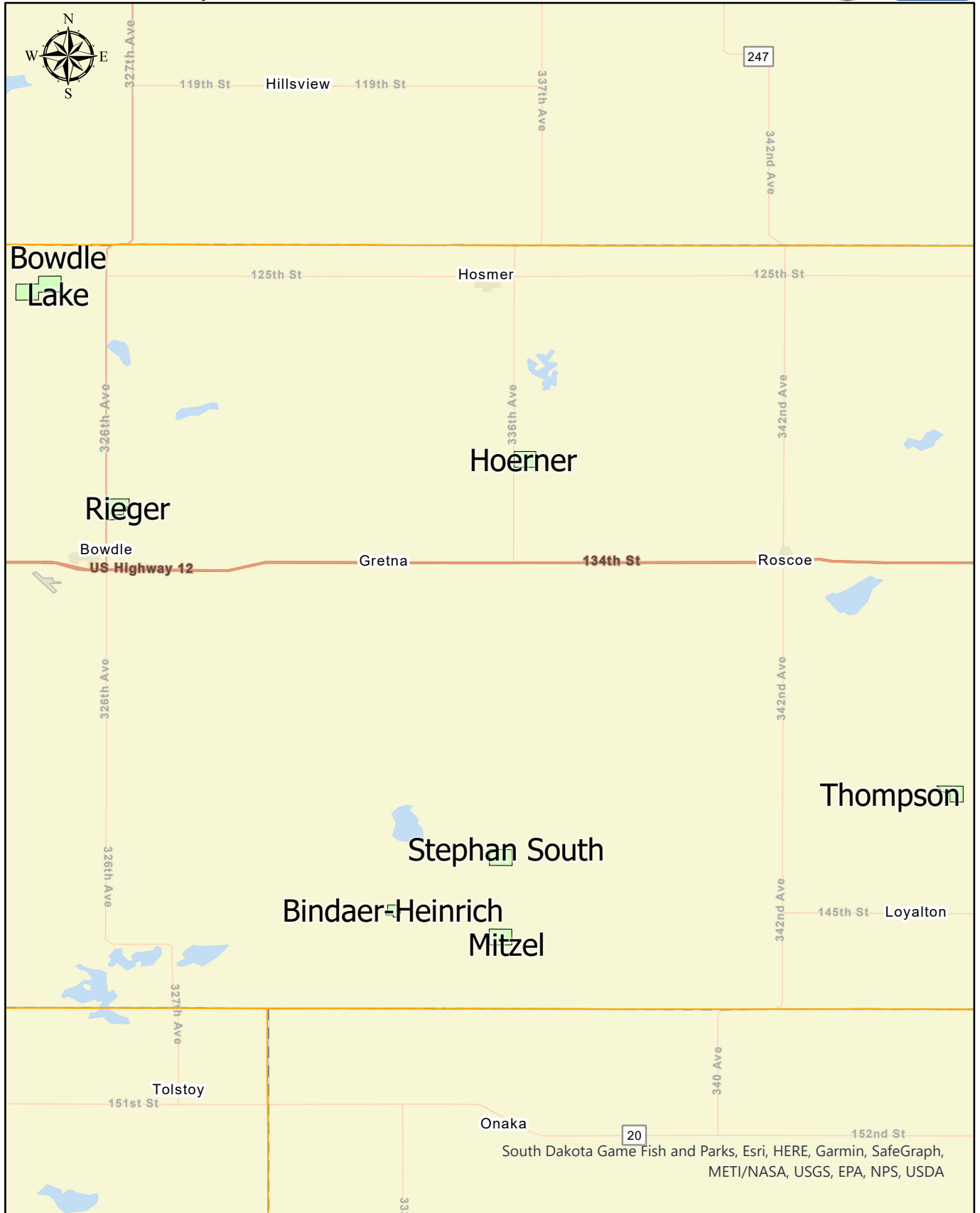
Selected operators will be notified by the WMD March 7, 2023. Successful applicants must complete a Cooperative Agricultural Agreement (CAA) with a Sand Lake WMD Refuge Manager within three weeks of notification, and before any livestock is released onto the grazing unit. The CAA will include the: (1) Commercial SUP and (2) an Annual Plan of Operations.



The application form can be submitted via the postal service, email, fax, or hand-delivered to our office. Grazing applications will be accepted until **March 1, 2023**. Applications received or post marked after March 1, 2023, will be returned unopened. Please mail to the address above, email ([shilo\\_comeau@fws.gov](mailto:shilo_comeau@fws.gov)), or fax (605-885-6333). Thank you for showing interest in our cooperative agriculture program and call me at (605)885-6262 with any questions.

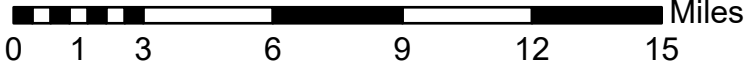
Sincerely,

Shilo Comeau  
Sand Lake WMD Manager

# Sand Lake Wetland Management District 2023 Grazing Units Edmunds County



-  Grazing Unit
-  County Line



South Dakota Game Fish and Parks, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA

## **Binder-Heinrich Waterfowl Production Area (WPA)- Edmunds County**

**You are applying to graze this unit for 2 years (2023 to 2024), and the AUM application 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 29 AUMs in 2023, but the AUMs in 2024 will be determined during the annual Plan of Operations. Grazing will be conducted for 4 weeks (29 days) which can start as early as May 1, 2023.**

### **WPA Description and Conditions**

The WPA is a total of 60 acres containing approximately 30 acres of wetland habitat. This WPA has a permanent fence around the exterior boundary that is in fair to good condition. A large, natural wetland in the middle of the WPA provide water (see attached map for fence and water). Vegetation in the WPA consists of a combination of grasses and sedges including cool-season tame grass as well as cool and warm-season native grass species.

**Legal Description:** T. 121 N., R 72., Section 15 & 22 (Madison Township)

**Acres Available for Grazing:** A minimum of 30 acres annually.

### **Lessor Responsibilities**

**Fencing:** As much as 225 feet of electric fence must be constructed each year of the CAA (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 and deductions from grazing fees will be applied.

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

**Grazing Period:** The permittee must make a good faith effort to follow the grazing days more so than the grazing dates. The permittee must make the Refuge Manager aware of such deviations from the planned grazing dates before adjustments occur. The permittee must maintain records of livestock stocking rates and grazing dates and provide them to the Refuge Manager within 15 days after the grazing period has concluded for the year.

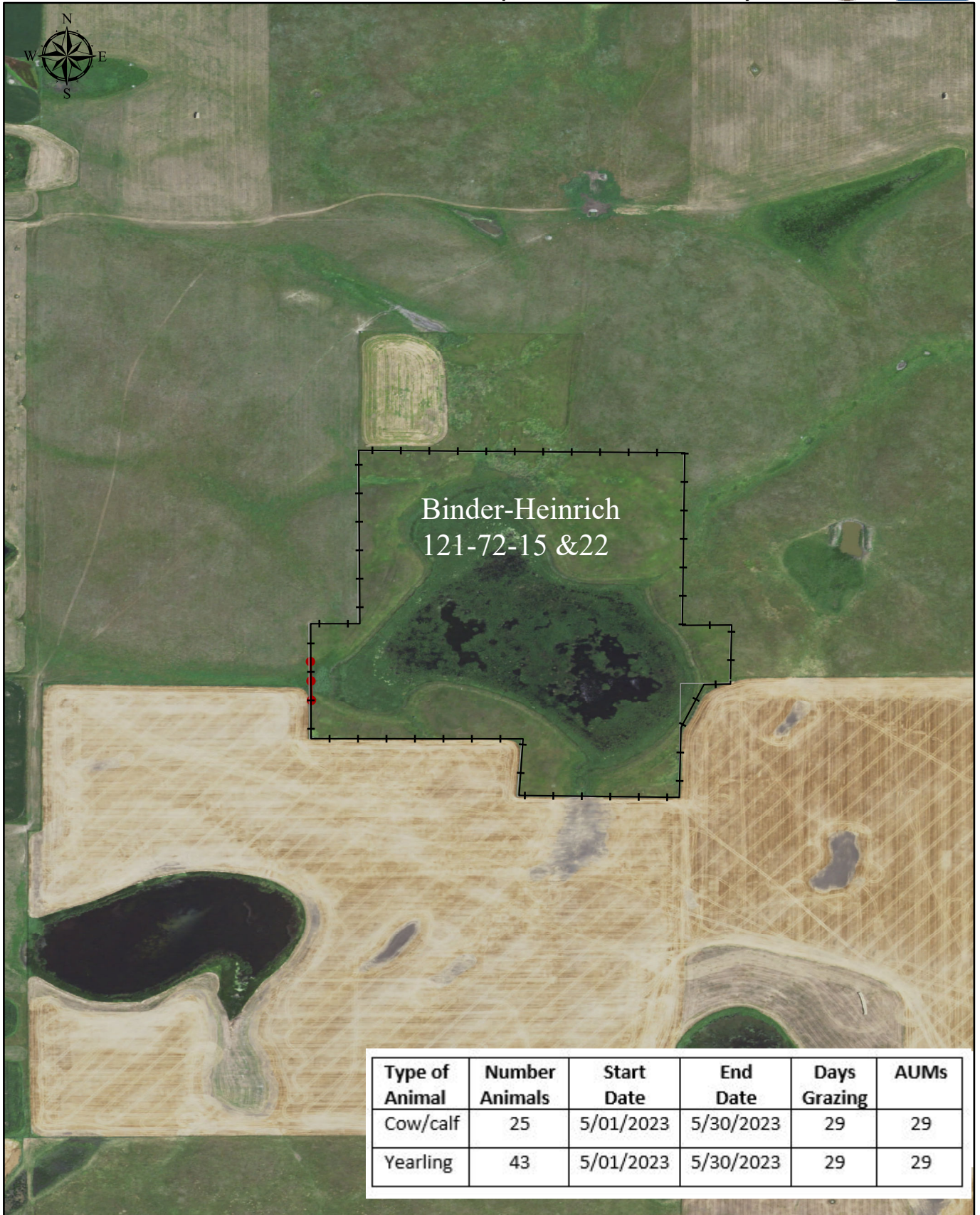
**Payment:** The Sand Lake WMD will submit a bill to the Interior Business Center (IBC) by September 29<sup>th</sup>, then IBC will generate an invoice that will be sent to the permittee. Payment is due 30 days after the invoice is received and is accepted through a check or credit card.

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



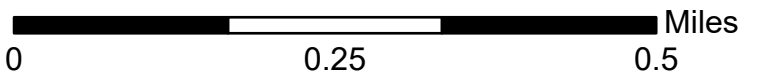


# Sand Lake Wetland Management District 2023 Grazing Unit Binder-Heinrich WPA - Madison Township - Edmunds County



Type of Animal	Number Animals	Start Date	End Date	Days Grazing	AUMs
Cow/calf	25	5/01/2023	5/30/2023	29	29
Yearling	43	5/01/2023	5/30/2023	29	29

- Grazing Unit
- Permanent Fence
- Electric Fence



**You are applying to graze this unit for 2 years (2023 to 2024), and the AUM application 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 170 AUMs in 2023, but the AUMs in 2024 will be determined during the annual Plan of Operations. Grazing will be conducted for 10 weeks (72 days) which can start as early as April 20, 2023. Grazing Cells 1 and 2 will be grazed for the first 30 days and Grazing Cell 2 only will be grazed the last 42 days.**

**WPA Description and Conditions**

The WPA is a total of 318 acres containing approximately 95 acres of wetland habitat. This WPA has a permanent fence around the exterior boundary that is in good to fair condition. A natural wetland provides water in cell 2 (see attached map for fence and water). Vegetation in the WPA consists of a combination of grasses and sedges including cool-season tame grass as well as cool and warm-season native grass species.

**Legal Description:** T. 124 N., R 73., Section 8 (Modena Township)

**Acres Available for Grazing:** A minimum of 199 acres annually.

**Lessor Responsibilities**

**Fencing:** As much as 0.58 a mile of the interior electric fence must be constructed each year of the CAA 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 and deductions from grazing fees will be applied.

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

**Rotation:** Planned grazing rotation start and end dates are approximations and are a guide; it is understood by both parties that deviation from the planned dates will occur. The permittee must make a good faith effort to follow the grazing days more so than the grazing dates. The permittee must make the Refuge Manager aware of such deviations from the planned grazing dates before adjustments occur. The permittee must maintain records of livestock stocking rates and grazing dates and provide them to the Refuge Manager within 15 days after the grazing period has concluded for the year.

**Payment:** The Sand Lake WMD will submit a bill to the Interior Business Center (IBC) by September 29<sup>th</sup>, 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.***

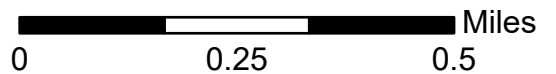




# Sand Lake Wetland Management District 2023 Grazing Unit Bowdle Lake WPA - Modena Township - Edmunds County



- Grazing Unit
- Permanent Fence
- Electric Fence



## Hoerner Waterfowl Production Area (WPA)- Edmunds County

**You are applying to graze this unit for 2 years (2023 to 2024), and the AUM application 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 67 AUMs in 2023, but the AUMs in 2024 will be determined during the annual Plan of Operations. Grazing will be conducted for 9.5 weeks (57 days) which can start as early as April 22, 2023.**

### WPA Description and Conditions

The WPA is a total of 146 acres containing approximately 82 acres of wetland habitat. This WPA has a permanent fence around the exterior boundary that is in fair to poor condition. Natural wetlands provide water (see attached map for fence and water). Vegetation in the WPA consists of a combination of grasses and sedges including cool-season tame grass as well as some cool- season native grass species.

**Legal Description:** T. 123 N., R 71., Section 6 (Glen Township)

**Acres Available for Grazing:** A minimum of 78 acres annually.

### Lessor Responsibilities

**Fencing:** As much as one mile of the interior electric fence must be constructed each year of the CAA (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 and deductions from grazing fees will be applied.

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

**Grazing Period:** The permittee must make a good faith effort to follow the grazing days more so than the grazing dates. The permittee must make the Refuge Manager aware of such deviations from the planned grazing dates before adjustments occur. The permittee must maintain records of livestock stocking rates and grazing dates and provide them to the Refuge Manager within 15 days after the grazing period has concluded for the year.

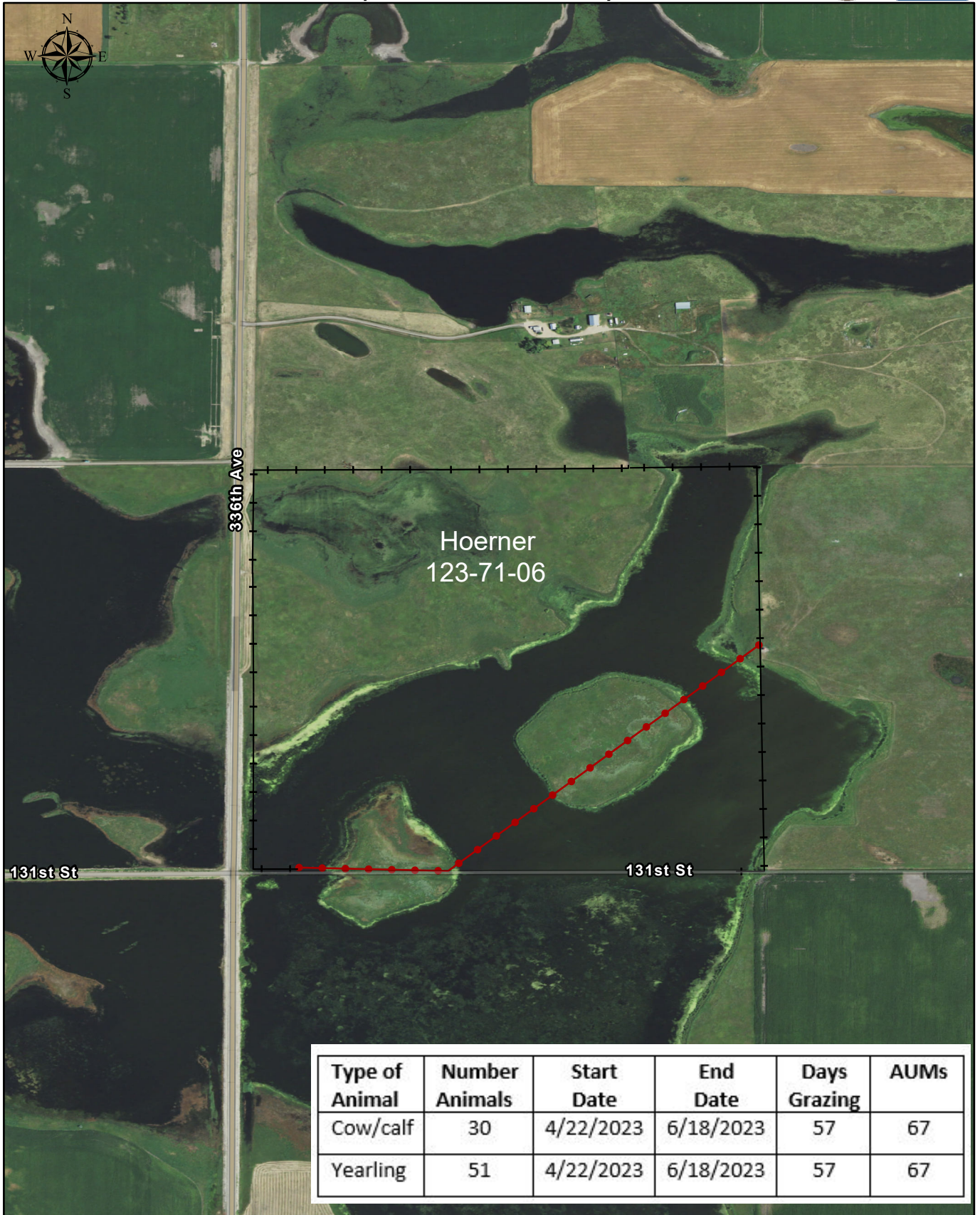
**Payment:** The Sand Lake WMD will submit a bill to the Interior Business Center (IBC) by September 29<sup>th</sup>, then IBC will generate an invoice that will be sent to the permittee. Payment is due 30 days after the invoice is received and is accepted through a check or credit card.

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



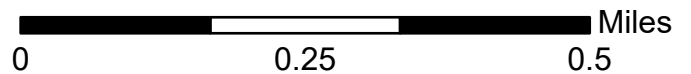


# Sand Lake Wetland Management District 2023 Grazing Unit Hoerner WPA - Glen Township - Edmunds County



Type of Animal	Number Animals	Start Date	End Date	Days Grazing	AUMs
Cow/calf	30	4/22/2023	6/18/2023	57	67
Yearling	51	4/22/2023	6/18/2023	57	67

- Grazing Unit
- Permanent Fence
- Electric Fence





## Mitzel Waterfowl Production Area (WPA)- Edmunds County

**You are applying to graze this unit for 3 years (2023 to 2025), and the AUM application 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 135 AUMs in 2023, but the AUMs in 2024 and 2025 will be determined during the annual Plan of Operations. Grazing will be conducted for 6 weeks (43 days) which can start as early as June 24, 2023. Grazing Cells 1 and 2 will be grazed for the first 21 days, then livestock moved to Cell 1 only for 13 days, and finally Cell 2 only for 8 days. The unit is scheduled for a prescribed burn prior to the grazing period.**

### WPA Description and Conditions

The WPA is a total of 160 acres containing approximately 37 acres of wetland habitat. This WPA has a permanent fence around the exterior boundary that is in fair to good condition. Known water sources exist in all grazing cells (see attached map for fence and water). Natural wetlands and WEB Water provide water in each cell, and there is one dugout located in cell 1. Vegetation in the WPA consists of a combination of grasses and sedges including cool-season tame grass as well as some cool and warm-season native grass species.

**Legal Description:** T. 121 N., R 72., Section 24 (Madison Township)

**Acres Available for Grazing:** A minimum of 150 acres annually.

### Lessor Responsibilities

**Fencing:** As much as one half mile of the interior electric fence must be constructed each year of the CAA 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 and deductions from grazing fees will be applied.

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

**Rotation:** Planned grazing rotation start and end dates are approximations and are a guide; it is understood by both parties that deviation from the planned dates will occur. The Permittee must make a good faith effort to follow the grazing days more so than the grazing dates. The permittee must make the Refuge Manager aware of such deviations from the planned grazing dates before adjustments occur. The permittee must maintain records of livestock stocking rates and grazing dates and provide them to the Refuge Manager within 15 days after the grazing period has concluded for the year.

**Payment:** The Sand Lake WMD will submit a bill to the Interior Business Center (IBC) by September 29<sup>th</sup>, 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.



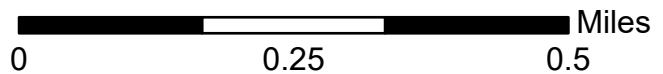
# Sand Lake Wetland Management District 2023 Grazing Unit Mitzel WPA - Madison Township - Edmunds County



Rotation	Start Date	End Date
Cell 1 & 2	6/24/2023	7/14/2023
Cell 1 only	7/15/2023	7/26/2023
Cell 2 only	7/27/2023	8/06/2023

Type of Animal	Number Animals	Start Date	End Date	Days Grazing	AUMs
Cow/calf	80	6/24/2023	8/06/2023	43	135
Yearling	137	6/24/2023	8/06/2023	43	135

- Grazing Unit
- Permanent Fence
- Electric Fence





## Rieger Waterfowl Production Area (WPA)- Edmunds County

**You are applying to graze this unit for 2 years (2023 to 2024), and the AUM application 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 93 AUMs in 2023, but the AUMs in 2024 will be determined during the annual Plan of Operations. Grazing will be conducted for 10 weeks (72 days) which can start as early as April 20, 2023.**

### WPA Description and Conditions

The WPA is a total of 165 acres containing approximately 59 acres of wetland habitat. This WPA has a permanent fence around the exterior boundary that is in poor to fair condition. A natural wetland provide water (see attached map for fence and water). Vegetation in the WPA consists of a combination of grasses and sedges including cool-season tame grass as well as some cool and warm-season native grass species.

**Legal Description:** T. 123 N., R 73., Section 15 (Bowdle Township)

**Acres Available for Grazing:** A minimum of 106 acres annually.

### Lessor Responsibilities

**Fencing:** Some electric fence may be required along 326<sup>th</sup> Ave. 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 and deductions from grazing fees will be applied.

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

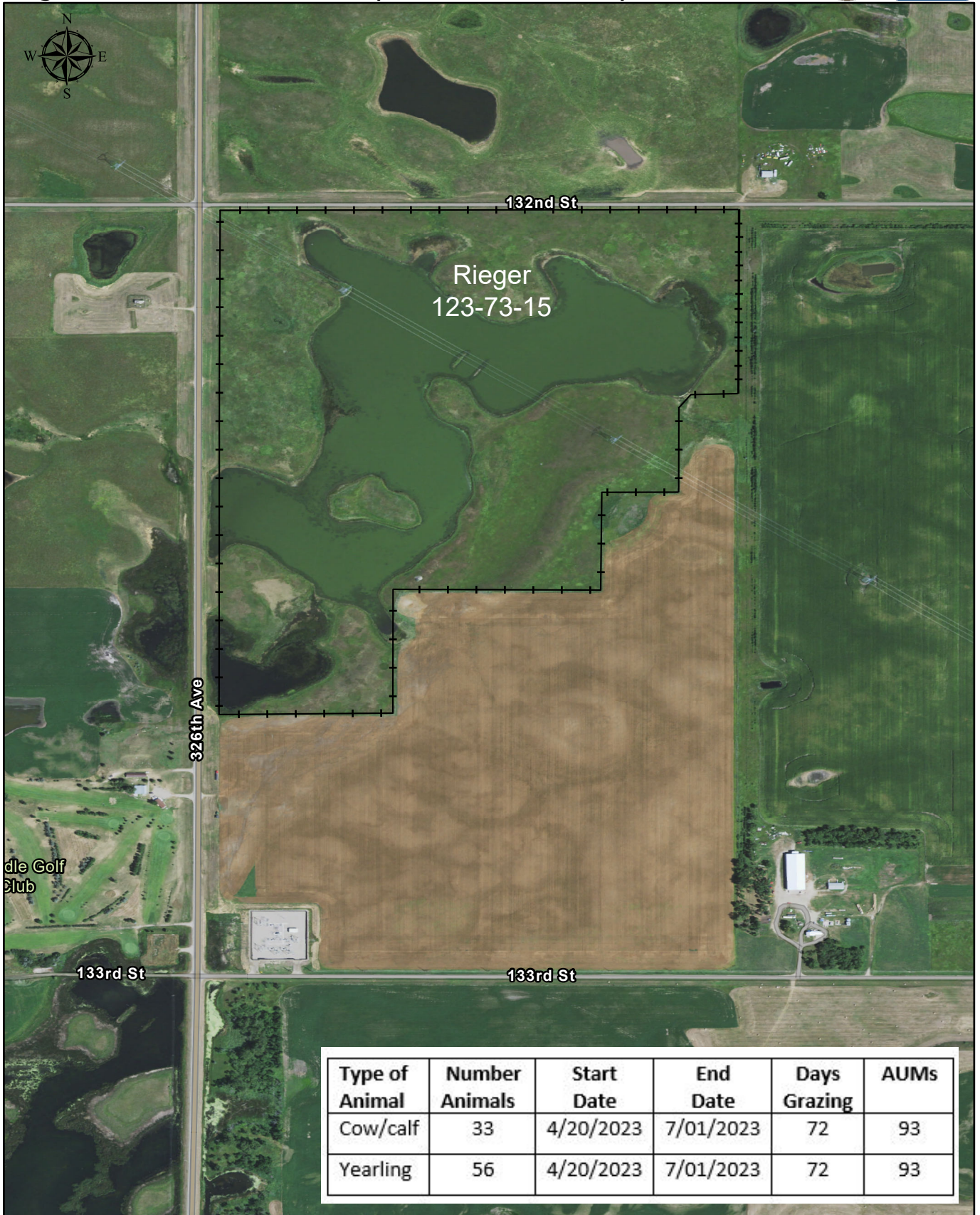
**Grazing Period:** The permittee must make a good faith effort to follow the grazing days more so than the grazing dates. The permittee must make the Refuge Manager aware of such deviations from the planned grazing dates before adjustments occur. The permittee must maintain records of livestock stocking rates and grazing dates and provide them to the Refuge Manager within 15 days after the grazing period has concluded for the year.

**Payment:** The Sand Lake WMD will submit a bill to the Interior Business Center (IBC) by September 29<sup>th</sup>, 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 2023 Grazing Unit Rieger WPA - Bowdle Township - Edmunds County



Type of Animal	Number Animals	Start Date	End Date	Days Grazing	AUMs
Cow/calf	33	4/20/2023	7/01/2023	72	93
Yearling	56	4/20/2023	7/01/2023	72	93

Grazing Unit  
 Permanent Fence

Miles  
 0 0.25 0.5



## **Stephan South Waterfowl Production Area (WPA)- Edmunds County**

**You are applying to graze this unit for 2 years (2023 to 2024), and the AUM application 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 111 AUMs in 2023, but the AUMs in 2024 will be determined during the annual Plan of Operations. Grazing will be conducted for 7 weeks (47 days) which can start as early as May 1, 2023.**

### **WPA Description and Conditions**

The WPA is a total of 160 acres containing approximately 38 acres of wetland habitat. This WPA has a permanent fence around the exterior boundary that is in fair to good condition. Natural wetlands provide water and there is one dugout located in the southwest corner (see attached map for fence and water). Vegetation in the WPA consists of a combination of grasses and sedges including cool-season tame grass as well as some cool and warm-season native grass species.

**Legal Description:** T. 121 N., R 72., Section 12 (Madison Township)

**Acres Available for Grazing:** A minimum of 136 acres annually.

### **Lessor Responsibilities**

**Fencing:** Exterior electric fence may be required along the south boundary must be constructed each year of the CAA (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 and deductions from grazing fees will be applied.

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

**Grazing Period:** The permittee must make a good faith effort to follow the grazing days more so than the grazing dates. The permittee must make the Refuge Manager aware of such deviations from the planned grazing dates before adjustments occur. The permittee must maintain records of livestock stocking rates and grazing dates and provide them to the Refuge Manager within 15 days after the grazing period has concluded for the year.

**Payment:** The Sand Lake WMD will submit a bill to the Interior Business Center (IBC) by September 29<sup>th</sup>, 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.***



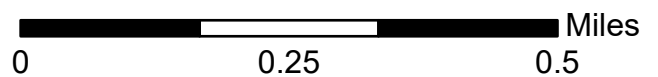
# Sand Lake Wetland Management District 2023 Grazing Unit Stephan South WPA - Madison Township - Edmunds County



Stephan South  
121-72-12

Type of Animal	Number Animals	Start Date	End Date	Days Grazing	AUMs
Cow/calf	60	5/01/2023	6/17/2023	47	110
Yearling	103	5/01/2023	6/17/2023	47	110

Grazing Unit  
 Permanent Fence





## Thompson Waterfowl Production Area (WPA)- Edmunds County

**You are applying to graze this unit for 2 years (2023 to 2024), and the AUM application 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 59 AUMs in 2023, but the AUMs in 2024 will be determined during the annual Plan of Operations. Grazing will be conducted for 8 weeks (59 days) which can start as early as April 20, 2023.**

### WPA Description and Conditions

The WPA is a total of 123 acres containing approximately 41 acres of wetland habitat. This WPA has a permanent fence around the exterior boundary that is in fair to good condition. A natural wetland provides water (see attached map for fence and water). Vegetation in the WPA consists of a combination of grasses and sedges including cool-season tame grass as well as some cool and warm-season native grass species.

**Legal Description:** T. 122 N., R 70., Section 34 (Montpelier Township)

**Acres Available for Grazing:** A minimum of 82 acres annually.

### Lessor Responsibilities

**Fencing:** As much as 0.16 mile of the exterior electric fence may be constructed each year of the CAA (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 and deductions from grazing fees will be applied.

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

**Grazing Period:** The permittee must make a good faith effort to follow the grazing days more so than the grazing dates. The permittee must make the Refuge Manager aware of such deviations from the planned grazing dates before adjustments occur. The permittee must maintain records of livestock stocking rates and grazing dates and provide them to the Refuge Manager within 15 days after the grazing period has concluded for the year.

**Payment:** The Sand Lake WMD will submit a bill to the Interior Business Center (IBC) by September 29<sup>th</sup>, 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.***

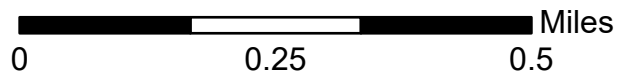


# Sand Lake Wetland Management District 2023 Grazing Unit Thompson WPA - Montpelier Township - Edmunds County



Type of Animal	Number Animals	Start Date	End Date	Days Grazing	AUMs
Cow/calf	30	4/20/2023	6/18/2023	59	70
Yearling	52	4/20/2023	6/18/2023	59	70

- Grazing Unit
- Permanent Fence
- Electric Fence





## Grazing Special Conditions

- To be eligible to apply 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 Permittee 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.
- You are responsible for the care of your livestock, i.e., moving them on the specified dates and into the correct pastures, ensuring they have water, etc. You are liable for any damage to neighboring lands should your livestock escape the WPA. 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 SUP.
- The permittee is responsible for all existing permanent and electric fence maintenance and repairs. The USFWS can provide materials used for a new or replacement permanent fence greater than a quarter mile or deduct the material costs from the grazing fee after receipts are provided. 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.
- 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 applying.
- 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.
- All private property, including containers for minerals, salt, or other supplemental feeds or feeders, must be removed at the end of the grazing period.
- 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.
- The permittee must own at least 50% of the livestock that are to be grazed under the permit.

If you use another person's livestock, you can only collect the same dollar amount per AUM you are being charged by the USFWS. As the person named on the permit, you are responsible for 100% of the livestock grazed, the amount paid and compliance with all conditions of this permit. Subletting is not permitted. **We urge you not to increase the size of your herd based on the availability or the expectation of annually grazing FWS lands.**

- 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 Permittee must maintain records of livestock stocking rates and grazing dates and provide them to the Refuge Manager within 15 days after the grazing period has concluded for the year.

**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 APPLICATION 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 APPLICATIONS ON GRAZING UNITS.**



To apply please submit the Sand Lake WMD application form and the ranking questionnaire. 18  
Please turn in your applications to the FWS Sand Lake Wetland Management District office no  
later than **March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**. **All envelopes must be marked WPA Grazing Application in the  
lower left-hand corner of the envelope.** Applications will be received in person or by:

Mail: Sand Lake WMD  
39650 Sand Lake Drive  
Columbia, SD 57433  
e-mail: shilo\_comeau@fws.gov  
Fax: (605)885-6333

For any questions or further information please contact me (605)885-6262 at the Sand Lake  
Wetland Management District.

### **Grazing Fee Rates**

The permittee will be charged rates consistent with the South Dakota State University Extension  
Report Grazing Rental Rate Survey for 2022. Grazing fee rates will be for the term of the CAA  
and annual stocking rates (AUMS) are specified on the annual Plan of Operations.

### **Examples of how to calculate stocking rates:**

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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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Waterfowl Production Area and Rank\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
 (\*If you are applying for multiple WPAs please rank your preferences- 1 being the highest, 2 being the second highest)

**Grazing rate fee per AUM: \$33 (qualifying deductions may apply)**

**Please check Yes or No to the following questions and return with the application.**

Competitive Ranking Factor	Yes	No
Have you ever been involved with the planning, infrastructure maintenance and/or grazing management on this unit?		
Have you ever had grazing privileges revoked by the USFWS?		
Do you own or rent grazing lands immediately adjacent to this unit?		
Are you able to respond to an animal or infrastructure emergency within 2 hours (e.g., cattle outside unit)?		
Are you willing to follow prescribed grazing management based on vegetation utilization which may vary from year to year?		
Do you have the number of grazing animals needed to meet grazing objective?		
Can you demonstrate that you have followed a rotational grazing program in the past on your own or rented land?		
Are you willing to maintain fences and remove temporary fences at the end of the grazing season? (boundary fence materials may be provided by the Refuge)?		
Are you willing to provide water to grazing unit that may not have a reliable water source?		
Are you willing to mow the ROW adjacent to maintained county or township road as requested by the FWS?		



*Qualifying Deductions with verification-*

- Deductible expenses may be the cost of materials, labor, equipment, or infrastructure necessary to implement practices within the management unit e.g., fixing existing boundary fence
- Grass and forb seed
- Fencing materials, fence removal/construction including the installation and removal of electric fence
- Hauling and pumping water
- Livestock watering infrastructure maintenance, repair, or installation
- Livestock rotations and transportation as directed by the annual Plan of Operations
- Onsite livestock herder(s)