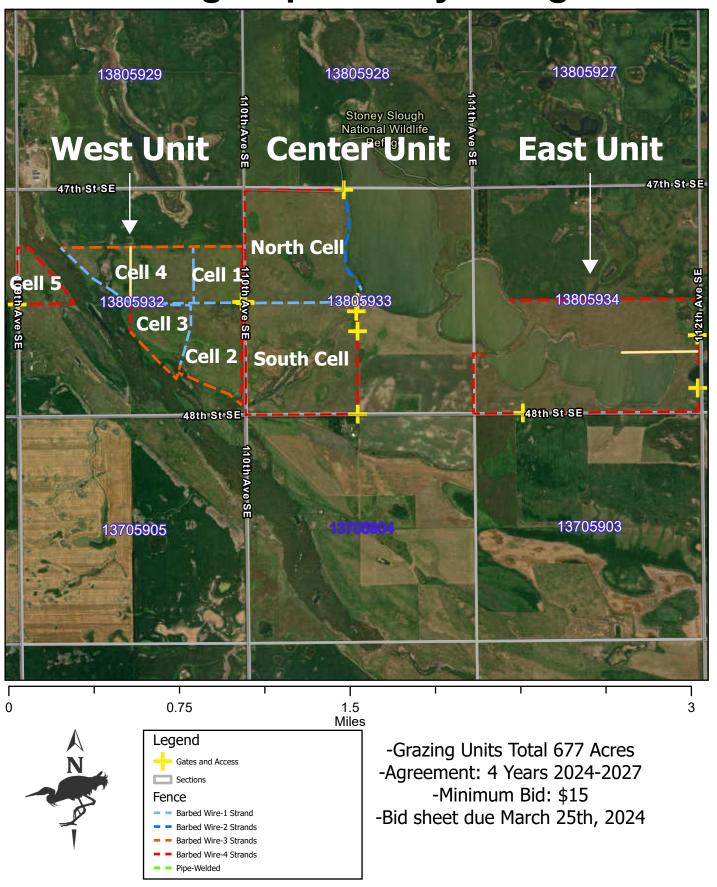


#### U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Barnes County 138-59-32, 33, 34

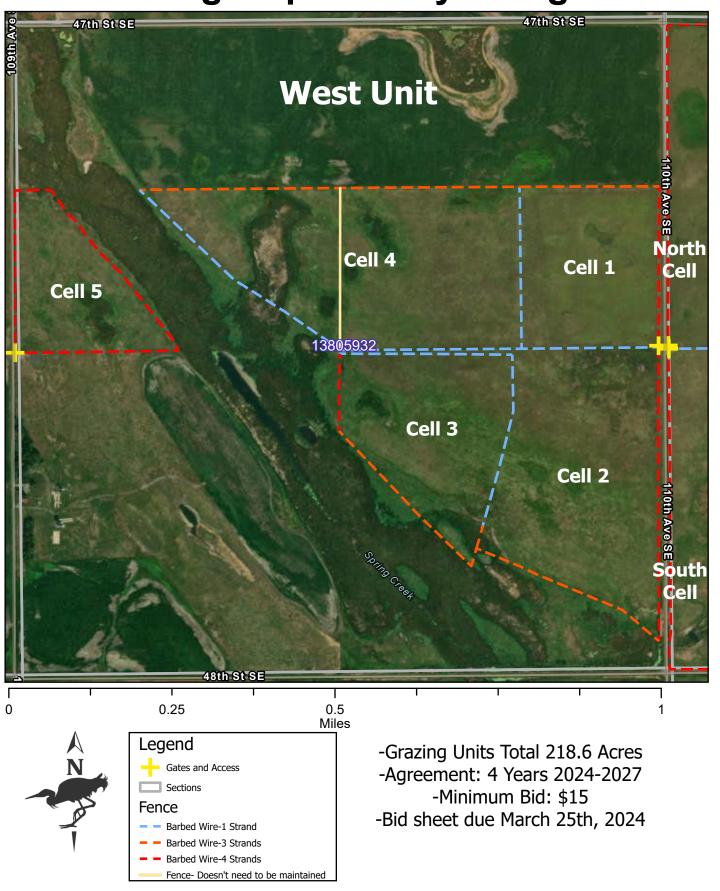
### **Grazing Map- Stoney Slough WPA**





# U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

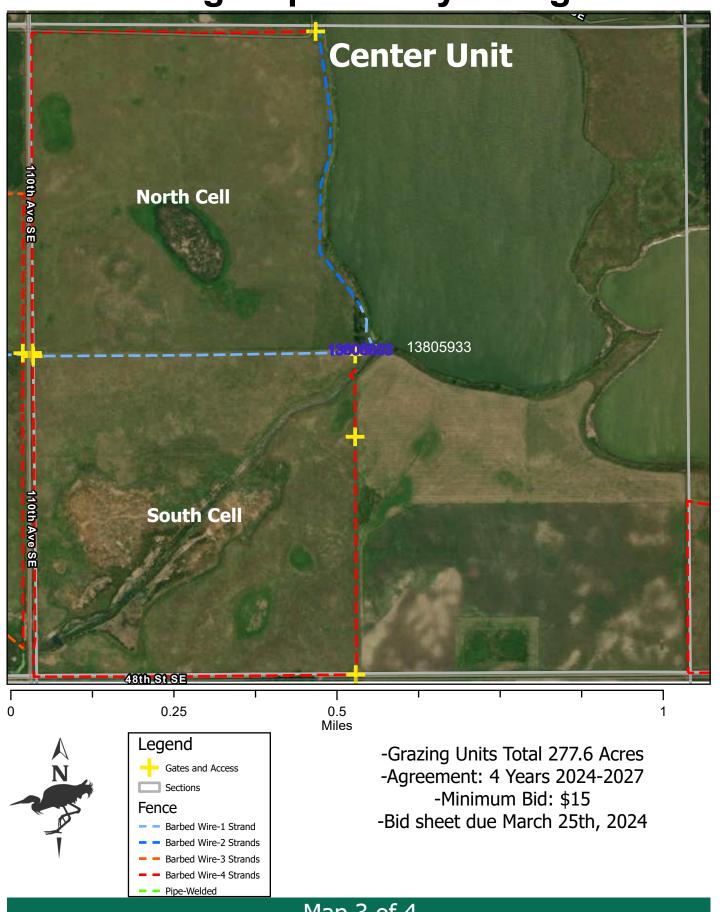
#### **Grazing Map- Stoney Slough WPA**







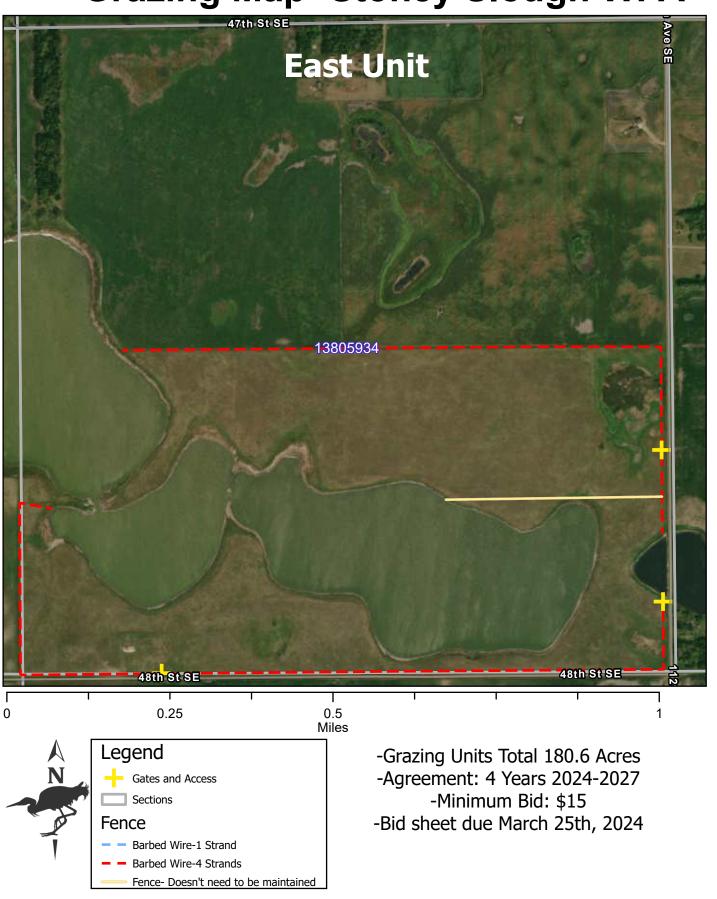
## **Grazing Map-Stoney Slough WPA**





#### U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# **Grazing Map-Stoney Slough WPA**



#### Special Terms and Conditions for Livestock Grazing on Stoney Slough Waterfowl Production Area (WPA) 2024-2027

- 1. **Description of age classes:** Animal Unit/Month (AUM) conversion factors for cow/calf pairs, yearlings (heifers), and bulls will be determined by the Regional Office in Denver, Colorado.
- **2. Grazing Length:** The contract will begin in 2024 and go through 2027 (4 years). The Stoney Slough WPA has a total of 677 grazable acres. The length of grazing may change from year to year. The number of livestock and precipitation levels will determine length of grazing in each pasture during the year. Failure to remove livestock within the specified dates maybe a cause for termination of the permit.

To get a better estimate of the approximate length of time contact Marissa Kirby at (701)840-3327 or email Marissa\_Kirby@fws.gov with your number of cattle and she can provide an approximate length of time range.

**3. Fencing:** The amount of feet of fence per unit is West Unit: 25,500 ft, Center Unit: 18,570 ft, East Unit: 13,330 for a total of 57,400 ft of internal and external fence. The type of fence is indicated in the Unit Maps. The exterior and interior fence needs to be able to keep cows from getting out of the grazing cells and unit.

All repairs and upgrades to the boundary fence become property of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The permittee will supply all labor to repair permanent boundary fence. Additional fencing may be needed from year to year due to degradation by weather or other animals. Labor and material costs should be figured into the permittees bid for grazing. All temporary fencing materials needed to contain livestock on agreed upon units will be supplied and erected by the permittee. All fences must be adequate to keep cattle in the unit. All temporary fencing materials must be removed after contract is over. All fences, gates or other WPA structures or facilities damaged or altered must be repaired, restored, or replaced per Unit Manager's specifications.

**4. Unit Management:** This unit has been rested for 2 years and is a combination of smooth brome & native grasses. The grass utilization will be at a moderate to full class where 40%-60% of the current year's growth gets grazed down. To get to the desired outcome a minimum of 205 animal units (AUs) or 170 cow/calf pairs are needed.

The grazing system will be a rotational graze. Cattle will be split up into two heards. Heard #1 will stay in the Center Unit and will be rotated from the north cell to the south cell. Heard #2 will start in the East Unit as a continuous graze of the whole unit. Later majority of Heard #2 will then be moved to the West Unit-Cell 2 rotated to cell 3, cell 4, and end at cell 1. The rest of the animals will be put in the West Unit-Cell 5.

- **5. Watering Livestock:** Permittee may use existing slough water on site or bring in water at their expense. Water will have to be brought into the West Unit.
- **6. Notification of Cattle Moves:** Unit Manager will provide permittee with cattle entry and removal dates for the grazing units. The first year of the agreement the livestock will be on the unit no later than June 15<sup>th</sup>, this is to allow time to fix the fence. For the rest of the agreement livestock will go on the unit middle to the end of May, weather permitting.

- **7. Payment:** The USFWS will provide a detailed bill. Permittee will pay 75% to the Valley City WMD to go toward habitat improvement projects such as seed, fencing projects, etc. The other 25% will be paid to the Regional Office. Permittee must pay their bill on an annual basis and before the date provided on the bill. Failure to do so will result termination of the contract.
- **8. Subleasing:** No leasing is permitted. Subleasing will result in revocation of the Special Use Permit. Permittee must own their cows. Documentation may be requested by district staff.
- **9. Off Road Travel:** Off road travel is normally not allowed. Use of trucks, tractors, or other large vehicles for driving or gathering cattle is not permitted. Horses and ATV's may be used for moving and checking cattle and/or the checking and repair of fences. Trucks can only be used in emergency situations with FWS staff approval.
- **10. Insurance:** Permittee must insure cattle. USFWS is not liable for any loss, stolen, killed, or injured cattle.
- 11. Pesticide Usage: Dust bags, oilers, or other insecticide treatment or sprays may not be used on the WPA. Treated ear tags may be used.
- **12. Other Chemicals:** Application of herbicide, fungicide or insecticide on the Waterfowl Production Area by the permittee is prohibited.
- 13. Supplemental Feeding: Supplemental feeding may be allowed in a grazing unit, only with prior authorization by the manager. The small supplemental feeders contain mineral blocks and can easily be moved by hand as needed to reduce soil erosion caused by the heavy animal impact. All supplemental feeding devices must be removed from the grazing unit within 30 days of the cattle removal. Any devices left after this date will be disposed of by refuge staff.
- 14. Control and Care of Cattle: Permittee is responsible for maintaining control of their cattle and preventing damage to any neighboring property. Permittee is also responsible for care of their cattle. Refuge personnel will not assist with fence building, watering, and herding or gathering stray animals. Permittee is responsible for maintaining insurance in case of damage to other private lands.
- **15**. **State Livestock Laws:** The permittee will be required to comply with all North Dakota state livestock laws.
- **16**. **Padlocks:** If locks on gates are needed, the refuge must provide the locks and keys for the gates.
- 17. **Permit Compliance:** Failure to comply with these terms and conditions may result in forfeiture of future cooperative agriculture opportunities or additional fees. Failure to remove cattle after request by Unit Manager may lead to a penalty fee of \$1.00 per head/per day. If circumstances arise that prevent the permittee to complying with permit conditions, the permittee must provide notice to staff in advance.