



# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Mountain-Prairie Region

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
FWS/R6/

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Post Office Box 25486  
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Denver, Colorado 80225-0486

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134 Union Boulevard  
Lakewood, Colorado 80228-1807

## Grazing Application

March 14, 2025

J Clark Salyer Wetland Management District—Ward County  
Upham, North Dakota



Applications Due:  
**April 14, 2025**

Mail To:  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Upper Souris NWR  
17705 212<sup>th</sup> Ave NW  
Foxholm, ND 58718

Points of Contact:  
Katie Figaro – Deputy Refuge Manager  
[katherine\\_figaro@fws.gov](mailto:katherine_figaro@fws.gov)  
1-701-468-5467 x112

14 March 2025

Dear Applicant,

In 2022, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service established a new policy for awarding Cooperative Agricultural Agreements (CAAs). The new policy requires an open and competitive process for awarding CAAs.

If you are interested in applying for a CAA (grazing permit), you must return application(s) to Upper Souris NWR/WMD office by April 14, 2025. A separate application is required for each unit. Cooperators will be selected based on answers provided within the application. Applicants who receive the highest score for a particular unit will be awarded a Special Use Permit (SUP). Please be advised, falsifying information on the ranking application will result in forfeiture of the application.

SUPs will be valid for a period of up to 5 years without competition. Grazing rates and timing will be determined annually, although there may not be grazing allowed every year. Grazing rates and deductions will be determined similar to previous years, i.e. deductions are given for temporary fencing, boundary fence repair, spraying noxious weeds, etc.

All applications must be returned to Upper Souris NWR/WMD by **April 14, 2025**, to be considered. Mail applications to 17705 212<sup>th</sup> Ave NW, Foxholm, ND 58718 or email them to [katherine\\_figaro@fws.gov](mailto:katherine_figaro@fws.gov). Cooperators will be selected and notified by **April 21, 2025**.

Applications, units available, and more information can be found at [www.fws.gov/refuge/upper-souris/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/upper-souris/).

Katie Figaro  
Deputy Refuge Manager  
[katherine\\_figaro@fws.gov](mailto:katherine_figaro@fws.gov)  
Office: 701-468-5467, ext. 112  
Cell: 701-871-5676

**J Clark Salyer WMD—Ward County  
Waterfowl Production Areas  
Units with available Grazing Permits  
2025-2029**

<b>County</b>	<b>WPA (Unit) Name</b>	<b>Township Location</b>	<b>Legal Description</b>	<b>Approximate Grazeable Acres</b>
Ward	Blum	Shealy	T154N R87W Section 24	157
Ward	Danielson	Spring Lake	T151N R84W Section 15&22	172
Ward	Day	Hilton	T152N R84W Sections 21&28	115
Ward	Galusha	Lund	T153N R87W Section 26	159
Ward	McCulloch	Evergreen	T155N R87W Section 24&25	178
Ward	Nelson	Spring Lake	T151N R84W Section 6	125
Ward	Peterson	Vang	T153N R85W Section 36	124
Ward	Rovig	Evergreen	T155N R87W Section 3, 10, & 11	652

**\*\* See attached Maps and Permit Conditions for each Unit**

**APPLICATION FOR CONSERVATION GRAZING COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURE  
AGREEMENT  
TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT**

APPLICANT  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

WPA FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING \_\_\_\_\_

**Fees**

Fees for grazing will be adjusted annually, based on the average grazing fee rates published in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) annual publication of Agricultural Prices. If the district unit is below the base rate for grazing, we will increase the yearly fee by \$1.00/Animal Unit Month (AUM) per year until the base rate is reached. Once the USDA base rate is reached, the rate will then be based on the USDA's annual rate reported. If the base rate goes below the current rate, the reduced rate will be matched.

J. Clark Salyer WMD has adopted the definition of an AU and AUM referenced in the "Study of Fees for Grazing Livestock on Federal lands, A Report from The Secretary of the Interior and The Secretary of Agriculture, dated October 21, 1977." An AU, as defined by the Society for Range Management, is "...one cow of about 1,000 pounds. Thus, one cow on the range for 1 month is an AUM. If livestock other than cattle are used for grazing, or different aged calves or bulls are grazed, the following conversion factors will be used to calculate grazing fees.

<b>Class of animal</b>	<b>Factor</b>
Yearling (9-18 months)	0.70
Weaner Calf	0.50
Cow	1.00
Cow/Calf Pair	1.20
Bull	1.50
Mature Sheep or goat	0.20
Ewe w/lamb or nanny w/kid	0.30
Horse or mule	1.20
Bison	1.00

**Cost-sharing and deductions**

Materials for habitat improvement (such as fence maintenance/construction or herbicides may be provided by J. Clark Salyer WMD. Alternatively, the cost of materials may be reimbursed to the cooperator through deductions in grazing fees. Receipts must be provided at years end to request

deductions for materials. Materials provided by USFWS is the preferred method for improvements on refuge lands.

Approved standard deductions are as follows:

#### Barbed Wire Fence

*Barbed Wire Fence Maintenance	\$0.05/FT	X	_____	Feet
**New Construction (3 Strand)	\$0.70/FT	X	_____	Feet
**New Construction (4 Strand)	\$0.80/FT	X	_____	Feet
***Old Barbed Wire Fence Removal	\$0.20/FT	X	_____	Feet

\*Barbed Wire fencing materials will be supplied by the WMD for fence construction and repairs (Barbed Wire, Wire Clips, Steel T Posts and Wood Posts).

\*\*New Fence Construction prices vary dependent on terrain. The prices will be higher on rough and/or rolling topography.

\*\*\*Old Fence Removal prices vary dependent on terrain and old fence condition.

#### Electric Fence

Install & Remove (District Materials)	\$0.05/FT	X	_____	Feet
Install & Remove (Cooperator Materials)	\$0.07/FT	X	_____	Feet
Water Gap Fencing	\$0.30/FT	X	_____	Feet
Water Hauling	\$15/Day	# of Days	Water Hauled	_____
Livestock Moves	\$25/Move	# of Livestock	Moves	_____

Other deductions may be approved by the District Manager dependent on unit work needs.

#### **Other Considerations**

Occasionally there are conditions which may impact timelines and/or operations. These may include, but are not limited to drought, prescribed fire, wildfire, habitat conditions (such as flooding or poor vegetation production), other habitat management actions, or unforeseeable emergencies which may require modifications to stocking rates, grazing rotations, or timelines for starting and/or removing cattle. These considerations should be communicated between both parties wherever possible and in the most expedient manner possible.

#### **Selection criteria**

The Selection Committee will evaluate proposals based on a competitive ranking using the following criteria (listed in no specific order):

1. Operational capacity and qualifications.
2. Proximity of operations
3. Experience with USFWS grazing operations on National Wildlife Refuges or Waterfowl Production areas, or other public conservation lands.
4. Understanding of grazing management practices focused on conservation.

5. Past Performance under USFWS cooperative agreements.

**Ranking Criteria**

Answer the following questions. Yes answers are worth 5 points, No answers are worth 0 points. The applicant with the most points will be awarded the permit. In the case of a tie, a random drawing between the highest scoring applicants will be conducted and a permittee selected. To be eligible for a Grazing Permit the Cooperator must be: 1) be at least 18 years of age; 2) a current livestock operator with a herd of at least 20 livestock.

1. Within the last year, have you participated in the grazing operations on a Wetland Management District or National Wildlife Refuge?  
Y or N \_\_\_\_\_
  2. Within the last three years, have you been the permittee of record on other FWS lands?  
Y or N \_\_\_\_\_
  3. Do you own the animals necessary to implement the rotational grazing system as described?  
Y or N \_\_\_\_\_
  4. Can you rotate or move cattle within +/-two days of planned rotations prescribed in a grazing system?  
Y or N \_\_\_\_\_
  5. Can you maintain a record of livestock moves throughout the grazing system and provide those records to the refuge manager within one week of the close of the grazing season?  
Y or N \_\_\_\_\_
  6. Are you willing and able to complete and or pay contractors for necessary grazing program materials, maintenance, or infrastructure installation on assigned grazing units knowing these expenses will be deducted from your annual grazing fees?  
Y or N \_\_\_\_\_
  7. Do you have control of adjacent private land through ownership or lease for the life of this proposed grazing system, which you are willing to graze in rotation with refuge lands?  
Y or N \_\_\_\_\_
- Total Points \_\_\_\_\_

By signing below, I agree that my answers are true and can be fulfilled through the grazing seasons of 2025 – 2029. I further understand that this grazing system is not a guarantee of grazing rights on J Clark Salyer WMD and can be cancelled by either party with 45 days' notice if either party is not carrying out their roles and responsibilities of the agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date