

Windom WMD Grazing Invitation News Release – April 1, 2025

The Windom Wetland Management District in Windom, Minnesota, is accepting bids for seven new grazing opportunities in Jackson, Martin, Murray and Rock counties of southern Minnesota for the 2025 grazing season. The seven new sites range in size from 56.5 to 140.0 acres. Producers must follow all federal and state regulations.

Applicants must submit a completed bid sheet from the bid packet by 4:00 p.m. on April 23, 2025. A Special Use Permit will also be required for each successful bidder.

Bid packets are available on the district website [Windom Wetland Management District | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \(fws.gov\)](https://www.fws.gov/windom) or by contacting assistant manager Todd Hauge at (507) 831-2220 or todd_hauge@fws.gov. Packets include maps and all details for each activity and unit.

Bids may be mailed to or dropped off at: Windom WMD, Attn: Grazing Bid, 49663 County Road 17, Windom 56101, or emailed to todd_hauge@fws.gov.

Units will be allocated using a competitive bidding process. The winning bidders will be notified by April 30, 2025. Any additional questions, please contact Assistant Manager Todd Hauge.



BID SHEET
National Wildlife Refuge System

Windom Wetland Management District
49663 County Road 17, Windom, MN 56101



APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name (Proposal Submitter): _____

Partner Name (if applicable): _____

Name of Business or Farm: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Tax ID #: _____ Phone Number: _____ ☐ Work ☐ Cell

E-mail Address: _____

BID INFORMATION: *Grazer will be selected based on receipt of sealed high bid per Animal Unit Month (AUM). Grazing will occur approximately May 1 to June 30. Each unit will be grazed for a three-year period, bid price is per year. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reserves the right to modify or terminate the SUP if refuge staffing levels are insufficient to administer the grazing program and/or if habitat conditions warrant. Some units may require the cooperator to rotate grazing on that unit, each year, to meet management goals. The bid includes installation and removal of temporary fencing. Write your bid amount for the corresponding Unit(s) in the space(s) provided below. If you are not bidding on a particular unit, leave that space blank or write N/A. **BID DEADLINE IS 4:00 pm APRIL 23, 2025.***

Cash Rent Bids:

County	Unit Name	Grazable Acres	Maximum AUMs per year	Bid Amount \$ per AUM
Jackson	Bisaillon WPA	79.5	79.5	
Jackson	La Crosse WPA	96.0	96.0	
Jackson	Minnesota WPA	135.0	135.0	
Martin	Pierce Lake WPA	127.0	127.0	
Martin	Primrose WPA	56.5	56.5	
Murray	Mason WPA	140.0	140.0	
Rock	Touch the Sky Prairie	120.0	120.0	

Animal Unit (AU): Mature Cow = 1 AU, Cow-calf Pair = 1.2 AU, Yearling (9-18 months) = 0.70 AU, Weaner Calf = 0.5 AU, Bull = 1.5 AU, Mature Sheep/Goat = 0.2 AU, Ewe w/lamb or Nanny w/kid = 0.30 AU, Horse/Mule = 1.2 AU, and Bison = 1.0 AU. One cow on the range for one month = AUM.

I understand that a signed Commercial Activities Special Use Permit and Proof of Insurance are required to be in place before grazing or fencing activities can begin. I have read and, if selected, agree to the permit conditions listed in the bid package and the 2025 Windom WMD Grazing Regulations. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The 2025 Windom WMD Grazing Regulations and maps are attached.

Contact Todd Hauge if there are any questions at 507-822-0222 or email at todd_hauge@fws.gov or Cell 507-822-0326. Please ask any questions you have before you bid.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

NOTICES

All information you provide will be considered in reviewing this application. False, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations made in the application may be grounds for revocation of the permit and may be punishable by fine or imprisonment (18 U.S.C. 1001).

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Authority: The information requested is authorized by the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act (16 U.S.C. 668dd-ee) and the Refuge Recreation Act (16 U.S.C. 460k-460k-4).

Purpose: To collect the applicant's information to process permits allowing for commercial activities such as: guiding hunters, anglers or other outdoor users; commercial filming; agriculture; rental of cabins and trapping while on the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Routine Uses: The information will be used by the refuge's administrative office for processing Commercial Activity Special Use permits. More information about the routine uses may be found in the Systems of Records Notice, FWS-5 National Wildlife Refuge Special Use Permits.

Disclosure: Providing the information is voluntary. However, submission of information is required to process and approve commercial activity usage on the National Wildlife Refuge System.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT

We are collecting this information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501) to evaluate the qualifications, determine eligibility, and document permit applicants and to respond to requests made under the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act of 1974. The information that you provide is required to obtain or retain a benefit; however, failure to provide all required information is sufficient cause for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to deny a permit. False, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations made in the application may be grounds for revocation of the Special Use Permit and may be punishable by fine or imprisonment (18 U.S.C. 1001). According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. OMB has approved this information collection and assigned control number 1018-0102.

ESTIMATED BURDEN STATEMENT

The public reporting burden for this information collection varies based on the requested specific refuge use. We estimate the relevant public reporting burden for the Commercial Activity Special Use Permit Application form to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Service Information Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: AMAD-ARM-PPM, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803, or via email to Info_Coll@fws.gov. Please do not send your completed form to this address.

2025 WINDOM WMD GRAZING REGULATIONS

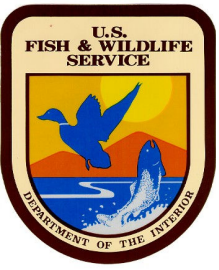
1. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reserves the right to modify or terminate the grazing Special Use Permit (SUP) **if refuge staffing levels are insufficient to administer the grazing program** or if habitat conditions warrant."
2. Use of minerals (salt or protein) will be allowed. Permittee must provide product labeling to the Refuge Manager for approval prior to use. Minerals must be in a container that minimizes spillage and are easily moved and placed as required by the Refuge Manager.
3. Supplemental feeding will not be permitted, all supplements need prior Refuge Manager Approval.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. The permittee must be in compliance with the respective state and local livestock health regulations.
7. All equipment for grazing, including ATVs and UTVs, must be clean and free of invasive species 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.
8. The use of pesticides requires advance U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approval. The permittee shall provide the Refuge Manager with product labeling and/or the Material Safety Data Sheet 30 days prior to use to provide adequate time to determine approval or disapproval of the product. Permittee is required to report pesticide use if approved by **[September 1]**.
9. Any livestock management action including branding or dehorning on Service land must be approved in advance by the Refuge Manager.
10. 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.
11. Fence maintenance is the responsibility of the permittee. All temporary fence needs to be removed at the end of the grazing plan. Any repairs to or permanent fence constructed on National Wildlife Refuge System lands will become property of the Service.
12. Water will be available using area wetlands on Waterfowl Production Area. Methods of supplemental watering must be approved by the Refuge Manager.
13. 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. Following the completion of the final year of the permitted grazing season, removal of all temporary fencing and other equipment provided by the permittee is required. Failure to remove materials within 1 month

after the completion of the final grazing season will result in a monetary fine and potential loss of consideration for future grazing permits.

15. The Permittee must provide the Refuge Manager, within 5 working days, the date, type, and number of cattle at the start and end of grazing each year or anytime cattle are added or moved off a unit.
16. The permittee shall not prohibit the public from entering Service lands or harass/interfere the public in any way that would distract from their enjoyment of the Service lands whether their livestock are currently grazing in the unit or not.
17. Permittee must provide a tax identification number or SS# for billing purposes.

I have read the above grazing regulations and understand failure to comply could result in revocation of grazing privileges.

Permittee Signature_____ Date_____



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District




Bisaillon WPA

Total Acres: 80.0

2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing 79.5 Acres

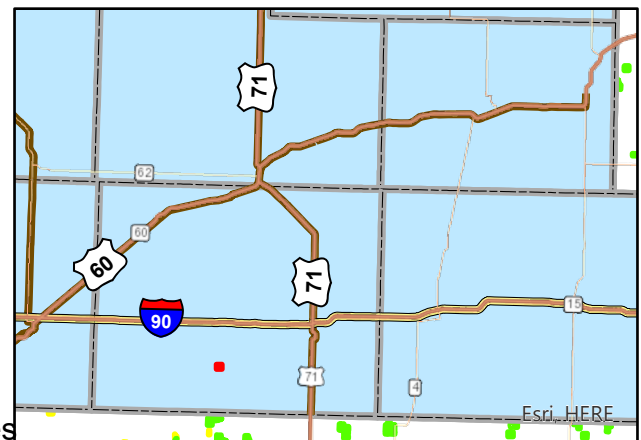
Bisaillon WPA

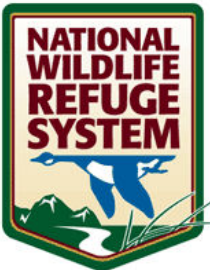
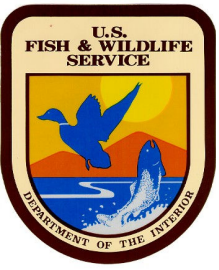
Bisaillon WPA
Jackson County
Minneota Township
(T101N R36W)
Section 8 (N½NW¼)
2025 Grazing Unit
Total Area Grazed: 79.5 Acres

-  2025 Grazing
-  FWS Fee Title
-  USFWS Easements



0 0.04 0.07 0.15 Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

La Crosse WPA

Total Acres: 101.15

2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing 96.0 Acres



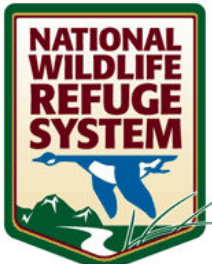
La Crosse WPA Jackson County
La Crosse Township (T104N R38W)
Section 15 & 16 2025, 2026 & 2027
Grazing Unit Total Area Grazed: 96.0 Acres

- 2025 Grazing LaCrosse WPA
- FWS Fee Title
- USFWS Easements
- WRP 2022
- CRP 2019
- State Prairie Bank
- Easement Boundaries



0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

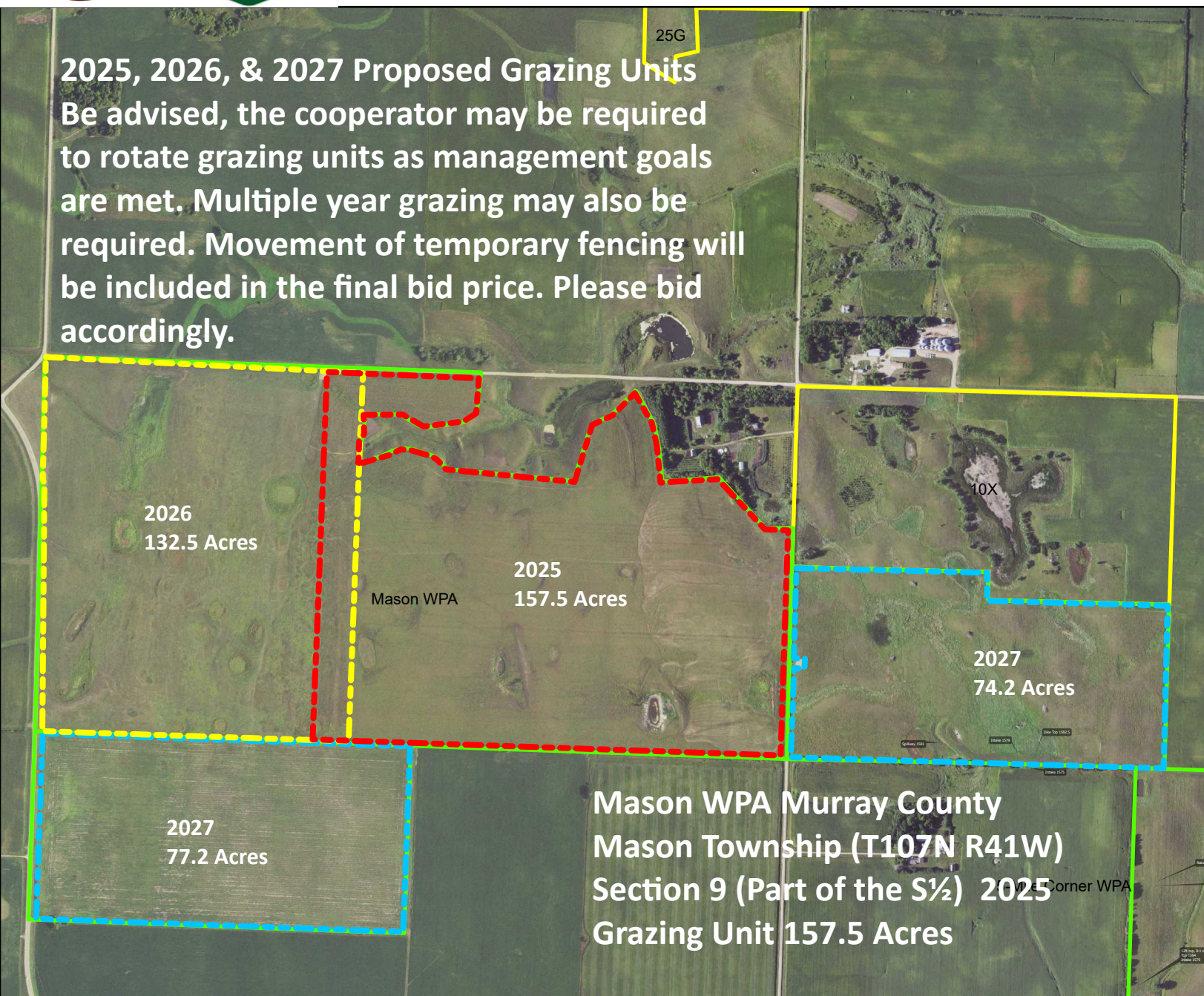
Windom Wetland Management District

Mason WPA

Total Acres: 435.48

2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing Units

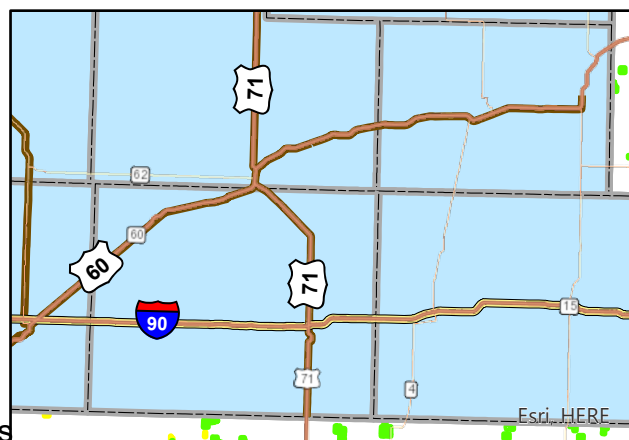
Be advised, the cooperator may be required to rotate grazing units as management goals are met. Multiple year grazing may also be required. Movement of temporary fencing will be included in the final bid price. Please bid accordingly.



- 2025 Grazing Unit
Mason WPA
- 2026 Grazing Unit
Mason WPA
- 2027 Grazing Unit
Mason WPA
- FWS Fee Title
- USFWS Easements



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles





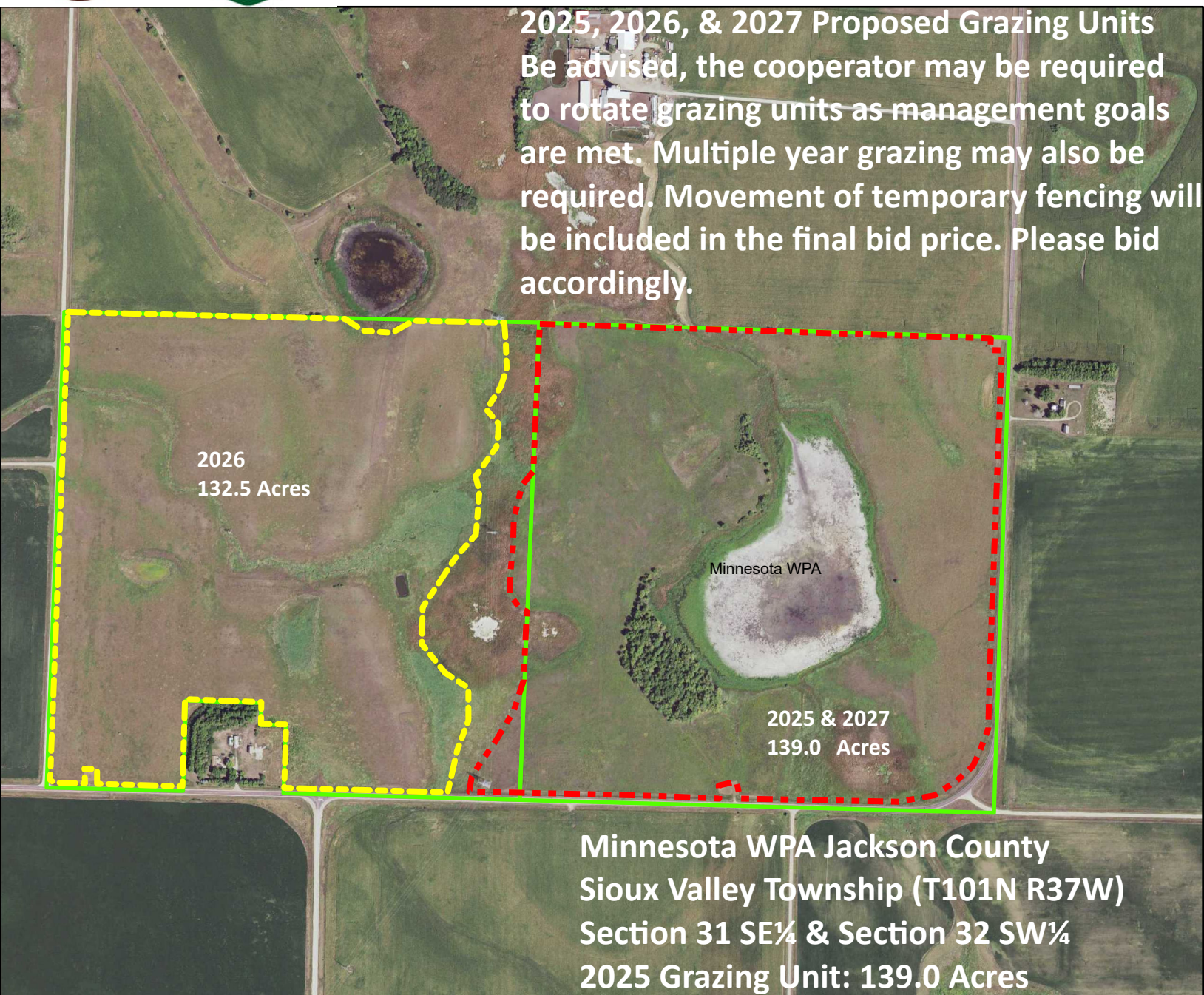
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Minnesota WPA

Total Acres: 313.78

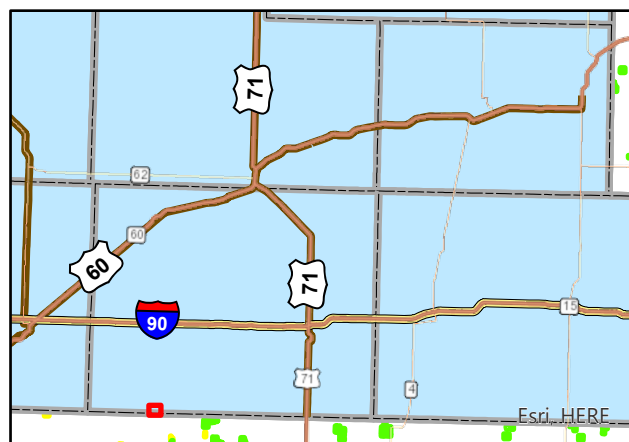
2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing Units
Be advised, the cooperators may be required to rotate grazing units as management goals are met. Multiple year grazing may also be required. Movement of temporary fencing will be included in the final bid price. Please bid accordingly.

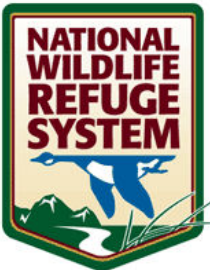
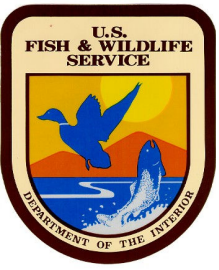


- 2025 & 2027
Grazing Units
Minnesota WPA
- 2026 Grazing Unit
Minnesota WPA
- FWS Fee Title
- USFWS Easements



0 0.07 0.15 0.3 Miles



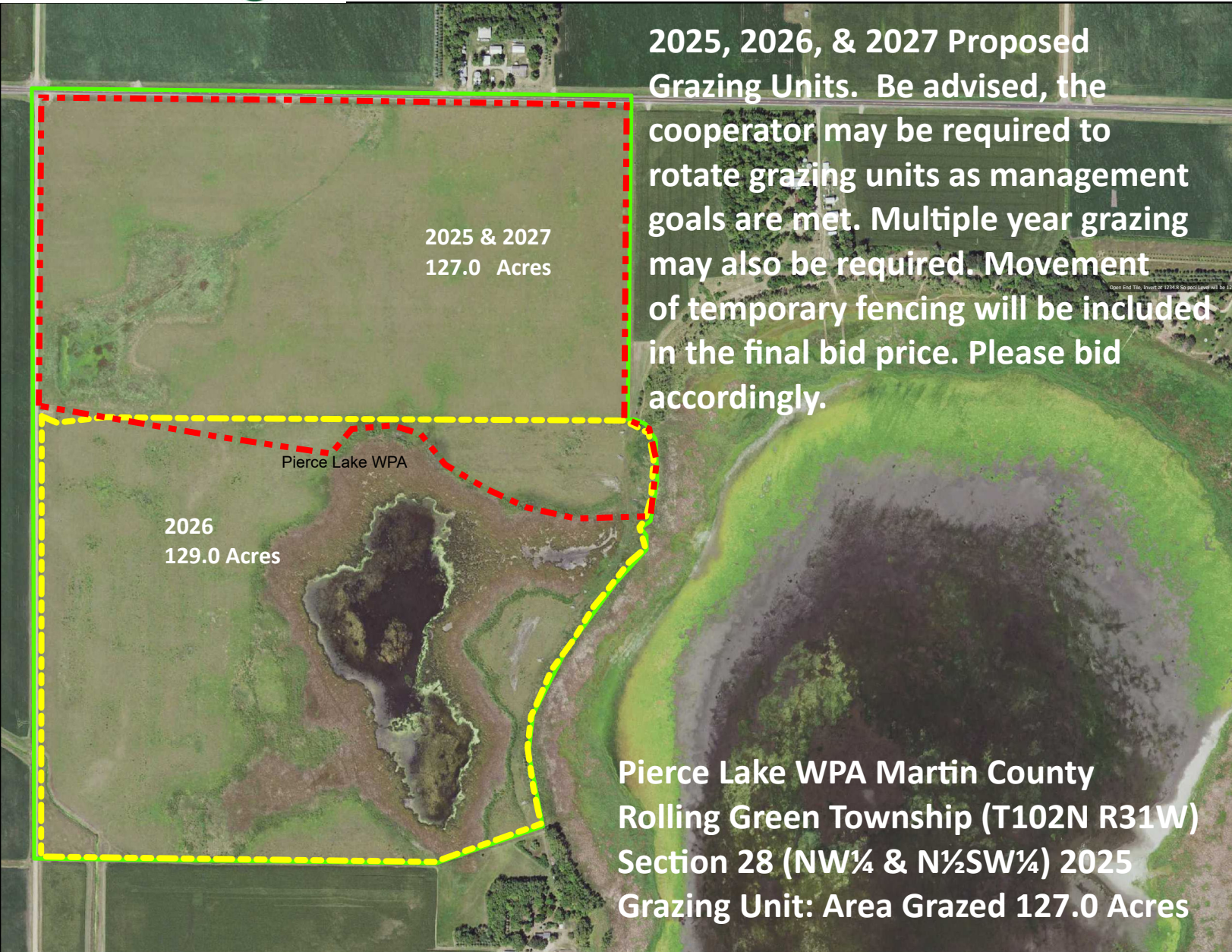


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Pierce Lake WPA

Total Acres: 263.0



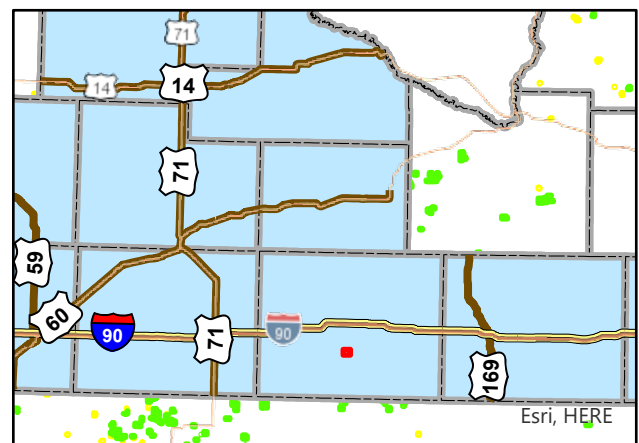
2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing Units. Be advised, the cooperators may be required to rotate grazing units as management goals are met. Multiple year grazing may also be required. Movement of temporary fencing will be included in the final bid price. Please bid accordingly.

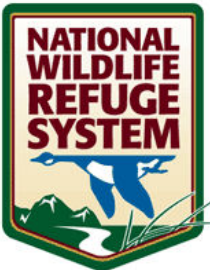
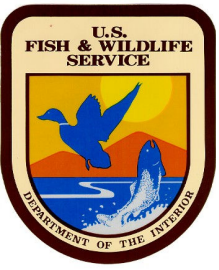
Pierce Lake WPA Martin County
Rolling Green Township (T102N R31W)
Section 28 (NW¼ & N½SW¼) 2025
Grazing Unit: Area Grazed 127.0 Acres

- 2025 & 2027
Grazing Unit
- Pierce Lake WPA
- 2026 Grazing Unit
- Pierce Lake WPA
- FWS Fee Title
- USFWS Easements
- CRP 2019
- State Prairie Bank
- Easement
- Boundaries



0 0.07 0.15 0.3 Miles





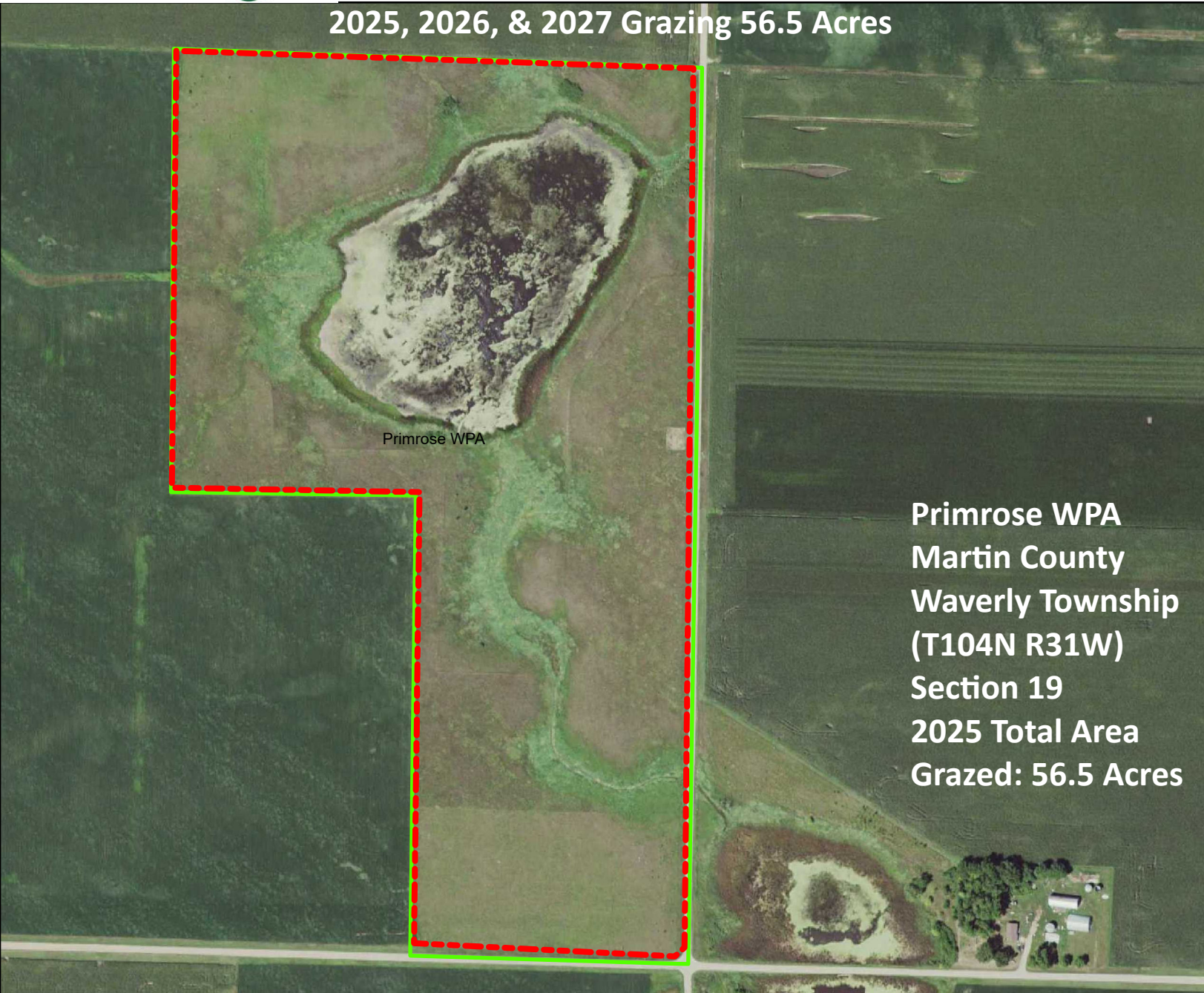
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Primrose WPA

Total Acres: 70.89

2025, 2026, & 2027 Grazing 56.5 Acres

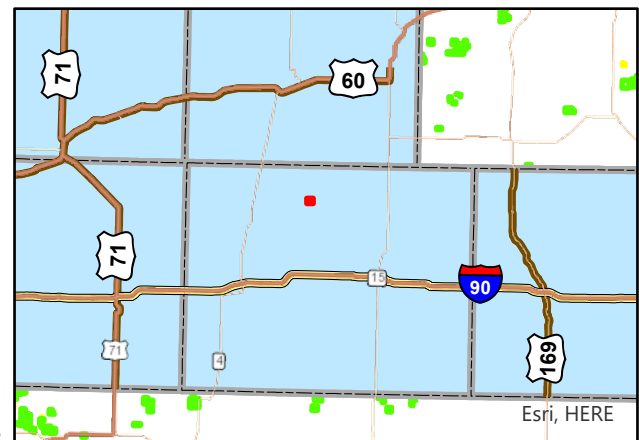


Primrose WPA
Martin County
Waverly Township
(T104N R31W)
Section 19
2025 Total Area
Grazed: 56.5 Acres

- Grazing 2025
- Primrose WPA
- FWS Fee Title
- USFWS Easements



0 0.04 0.08 0.16 Miles





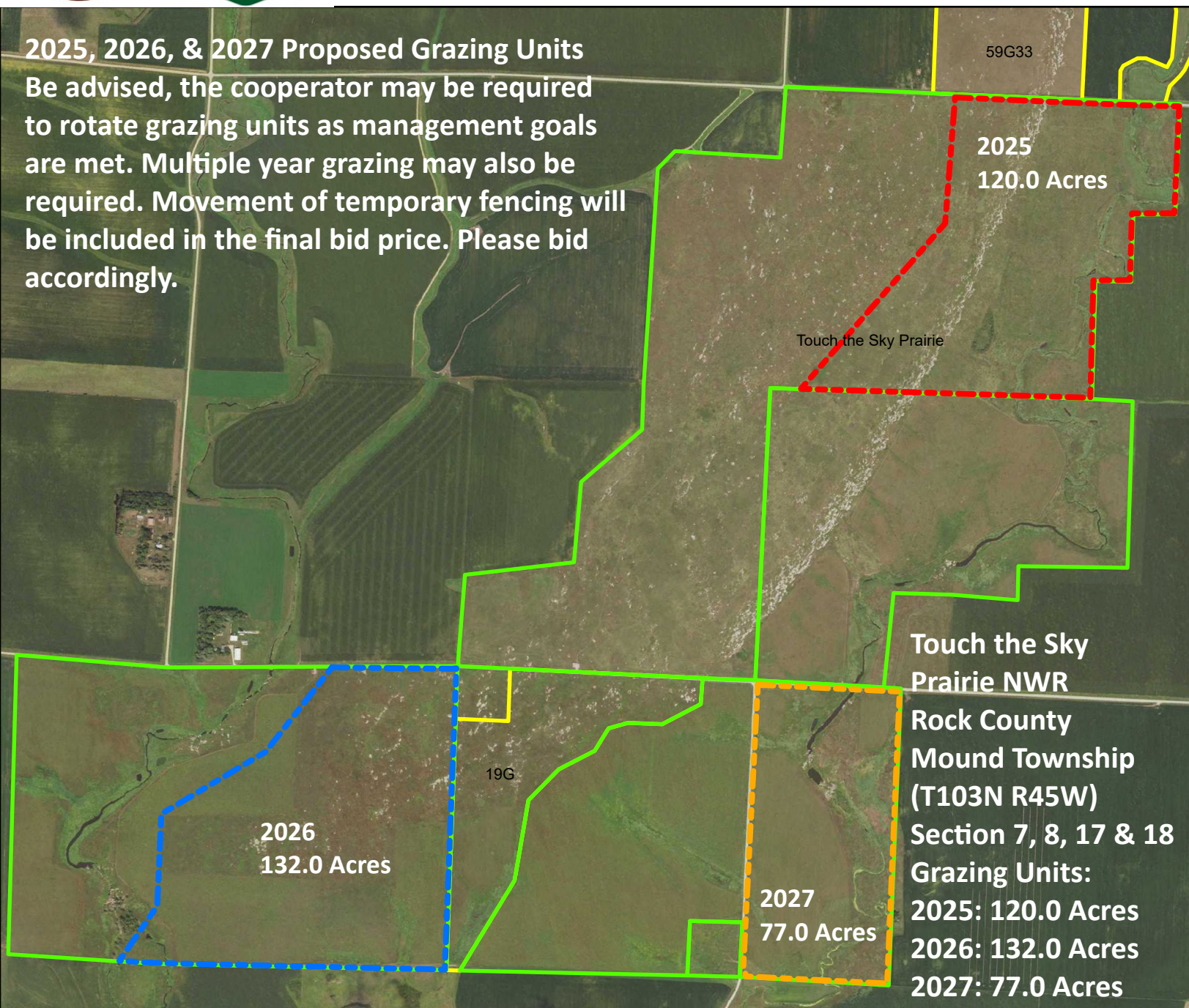
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Touch the Sky NWR Total Acres: 1050.75

2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing Units

Be advised, the cooperator may be required to rotate grazing units as management goals are met. Multiple year grazing may also be required. Movement of temporary fencing will be included in the final bid price. Please bid accordingly.



2025_Grazing Touch the

2026_Grazing Touch the

2027_Grazing Touch the

FWS Fee Title

USFWS Easements

WRP 2022

CRP 2019



0 0.13 0.25 0.5
Miles

