



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



2025 HAYING BID INVITATION FORM

ATTENTION COOPERATORS

Haying will be used to reduce vegetation litter in preparation for grassland restoration and to enhance/manage grassland habitat to improve conditions for nesting waterfowl. The haying bid package including maps of each site can be found on the District website:

<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/windom-wetland-management-district>

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Windom Wetland Management District (District) is now accepting bids for haying on the following Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA):

Christiania WPA (87.5 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Christiania Township, Section 10

Graham Lake WPA (72.0 Acres): Nobles County, MN, Graham Lake Township, Section 20

Holy Trinity WPA (107.5 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Hunter Township, Section 34

Jack Creek WPA (75 Acres): Nobles County, MN, Graham Lake Township, Section 29

Jerry Schotzko WPA (63.4 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Minneota Township, Section 36

Kiester WPA (75.0 Acres): Faribault County, MN, Kiester Township, Section 35

Lake Bella WPA (61.5 Acres): Nobles County, MN, Bigelow Township, Section 27

Lake Julia WPA (20 Acres): Murray County, MN, Dovray Township, Section 25 & 26

Minnesota WPA (90 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Sioux Valley Township, Section 31

Sioux Forks WPA (87.2 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Minneota Township, Section 18 & 19

Sioux Forks WPA (110.0 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Minneota Township, Section 19

Talcot Lake WPA (95 Acres): Murray County, MN, Belfast Township, Section 26

Watonwan River WPA (90 Acres): Cottonwood County, MN, Dale Township, Section 11

Winnebago WPA (50 Acres): Faribault County, MN, Delavan Township, Section 8

Wood Lake WPA (15 Acres): Watonwan County, MN, Adrian Township, Section 12



BID SHEET
National Wildlife Refuge System

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



Please fill out one Bid Sheet (next page) for each unit you want to bid. Return the signed and dated bid sheet along with the signed 2025 Windom WMD Haying Regulations to the Windom Wetland Management District.

Bids are to be at the District Headquarters Office no later than 4:00pm, July 18, 2025.

Windom Wetland Management District
49663 County Road 17
Windom, MN 56101
Phone: 507-831-2220
Fax: 507-831-5524
Email: todd_hauge@fws.gov

You can mail, fax, email, or walk in bids. Bids will be opened and the permittee selected by Monday, July 21, 2025.

Cooperators will be selected through an open and competitive process. Haying permits will be awarded to the highest bid per acre for each unit.

Cooperators are required to rake all units to remove as much vegetation as possible. Haying can begin on August 1st and must be completed by September 1st. All bales must be removed by September 15, 2025.

The bid price includes all costs associated with haying the units including, haying, raking, baling, and removal. Depending on the condition of the site, the amount of hayable acres may change. Conditions on the ground may result in some adjustment of the actual acreage. Final acres/billing will be established after the area is cut.

These are natural areas, field conditions are not guaranteed. Be aware of rocks, holes, tree stumps, debris and/or other items that may damage equipment. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for any damage to equipment.

Abbreviations: ac = acres



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: _____

Phone Number: _____ ☐ Work ☐ Cell

E-mail Address: _____

BID INFORMATION:

Write your bid amount for the corresponding Unit in the space provided below. If you are bidding on more than one unit complete a sheet for each unit.

Unit Name: _____

Bid Amount (\$/acre): _____

Haying Bid: \$ _____ per acre X _____ acres = total \$\$ _____

I have read and, if selected, agree to the 2025 haying regulations listed in the bid package. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- a. 2025 Windom WMD Haying Regulations. (see attached)
- b. A SPECIAL USE PERMIT will be written for the successful bidder, and will need to be signed and approved before haying can start.
- c. Cutting can begin on August 1st and must be completed before September 1st.
- d. All bales must be removed within 15 days of cutting and no later than September 15.
- e. The areas to be cut are designated on the attached maps. Actual conditions on the ground may result in some adjustment of the actual acreage. Final bill will be established after the area is cut.

Contact: Todd Hauge with questions at 507-822-0326 or todd_hauge@fws.gov. Fax 507-831-5524.

Please ask questions before you bid, not afterwards.



BID SHEET
National Wildlife Refuge System

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



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 maybe 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.



United States Department of the Interior

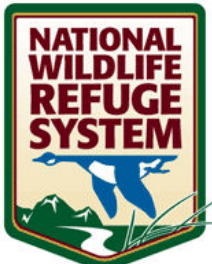
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Windom Wetland Management District
49663 County Road 17
Windom, MN 56101
Phone: (507) 831-2220



2025 WINDOM WMD HAYING REGULATIONS

1. A Special Use Permit (SUP) will be written for all haying and must be signed and approved before any haying activity can take place.
2. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reserves the right to modify or terminate the Special Use Permit (SUP) if habitat conditions warrant.
3. Cutting should be completed as soon as possible after August 1st and before September 1st.
4. The Permittee will be required to rake unit to remove as much vegetation as possible.
5. All bales must be removed within 15 days of cutting and no later than September 15th.
6. Areas to be cut are designated on the site maps. The permittee is responsible for staying within the designated areas. Please cut all parking lots and township road ditches within the designated areas. Actual conditions on the ground may result in some adjustment of the final acreage. Final bill will be based off actual acres cut.
7. All liability relating to haying and removing bales from the units including all persons working for the permittee, whether related, hired or as a partner is strictly that of the permittee as listed on the SUP.
8. All equipment for haying 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 etc. that appears to contain invasive species plant material or seeds.
9. The Permittee must ensure sites conditions are dry enough, so equipment does not leave ruts or cause damage. The permittee will be responsible for repairing any ruts or damage.
10. Subletting is not allowed, unless approved by the Refuge Manager. Partnering with another cooperator will only be allowed if the original permittee is unable to hay the unit by the desired dates. If partnering is allowed, the initial permittee will be solely responsible for the total payment, management, liability, and all special conditions of the permit.

Permittee Signature _____ Date _____

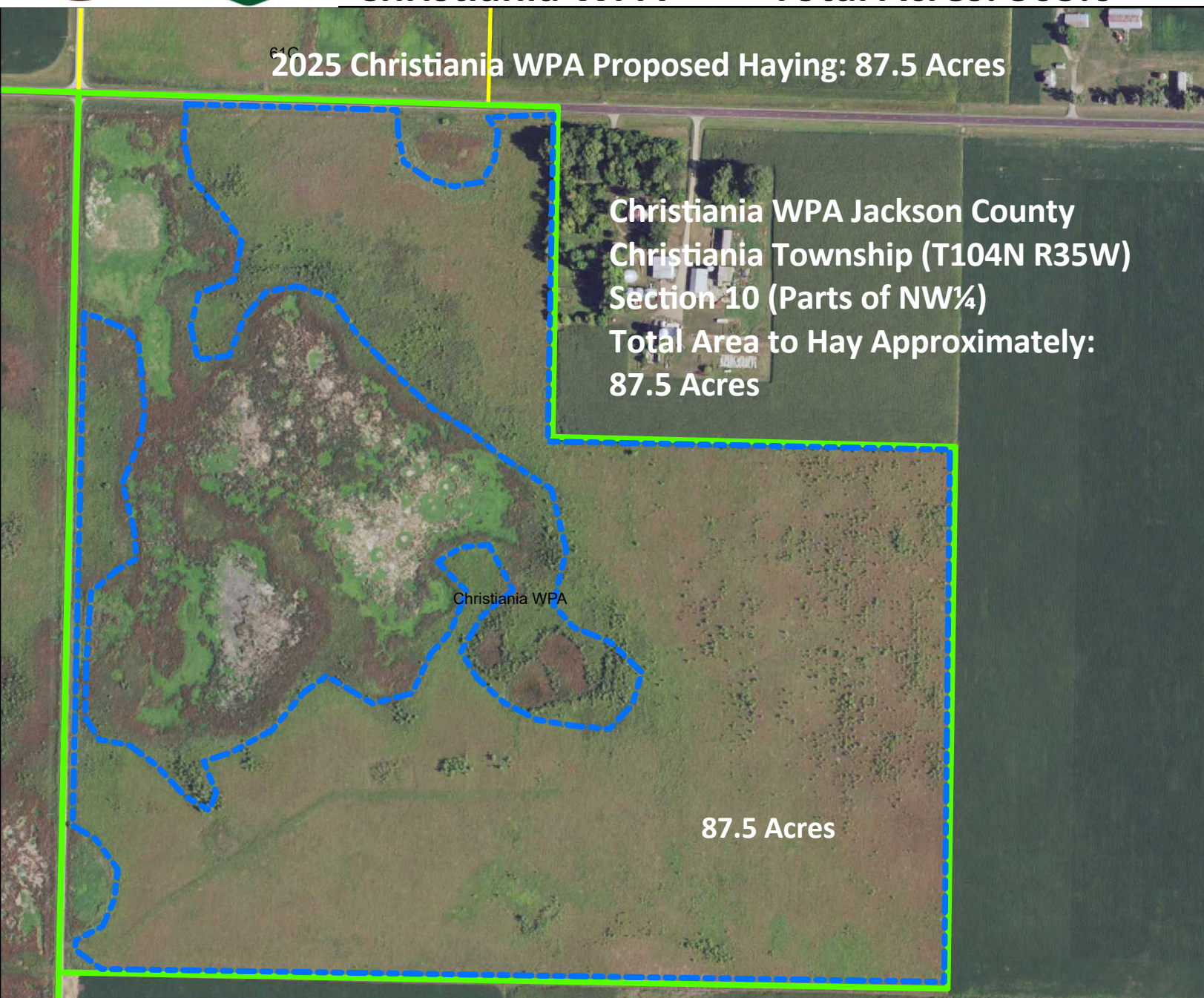


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Christiania WPA

Total Acres: 303.0



access



2025 Haying
Christiania WPA



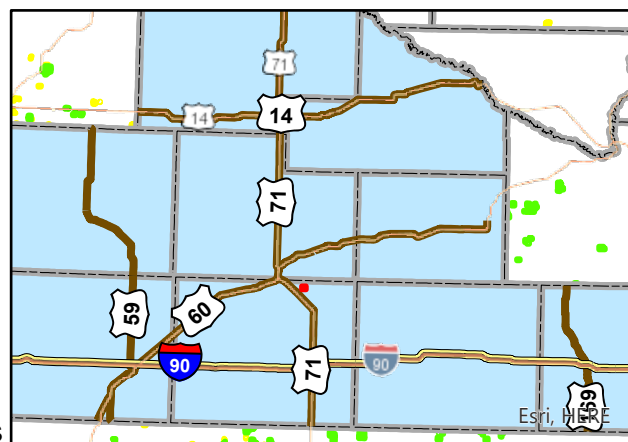
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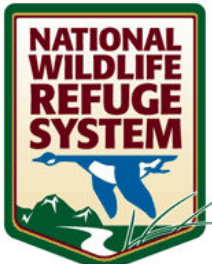


USFWS Easements



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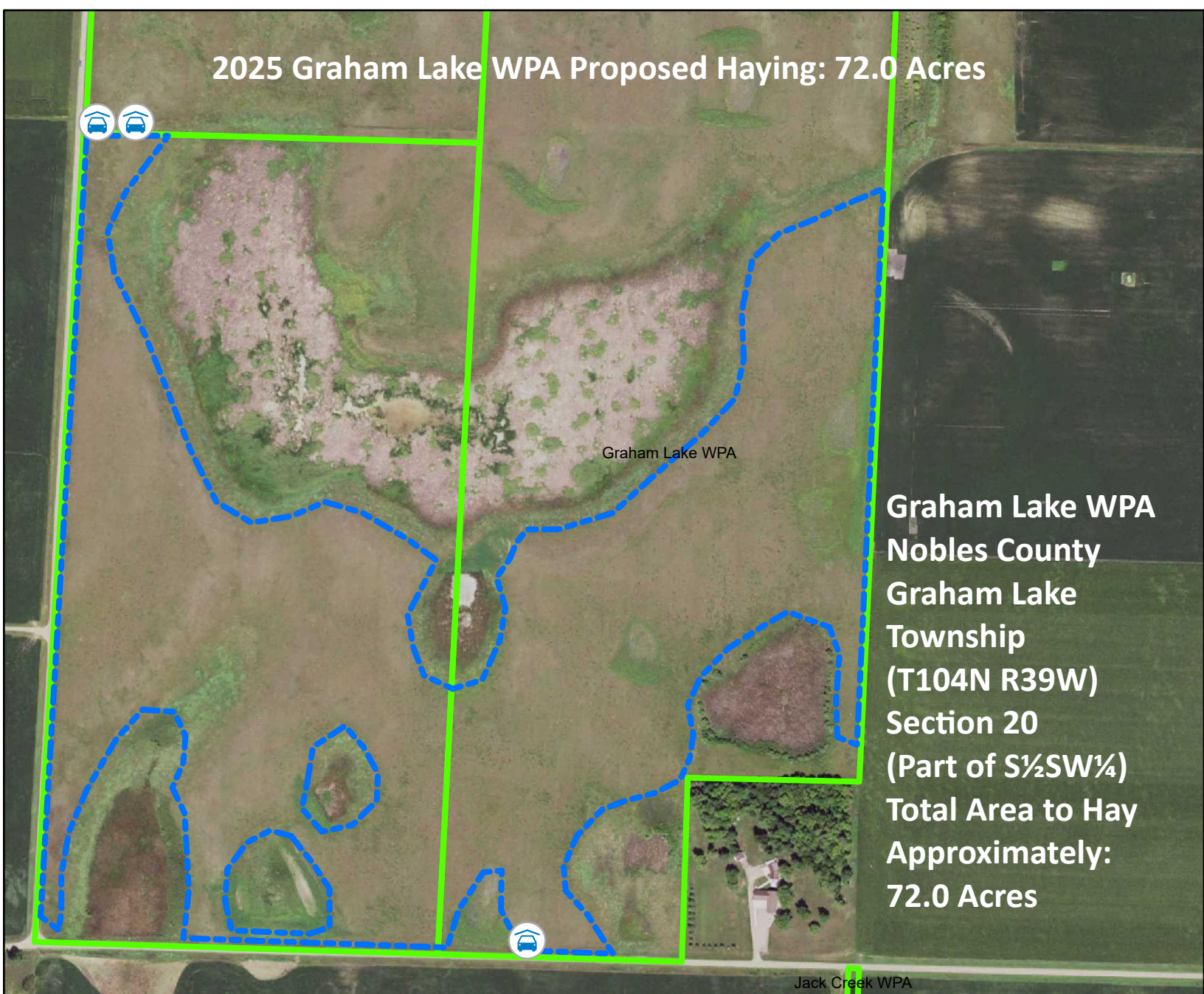
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Graham Lake WPA

Total Acres: 245.0

2025 Graham Lake WPA Proposed Haying: 72.0 Acres



Graham Lake WPA
Nobles County
Graham Lake
Township
(T104N R39W)
Section 20
(Part of S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$)
Total Area to Hay
Approximately:
72.0 Acres

Jack Creek WPA



access



2025 Haying
Graham Lake WPA



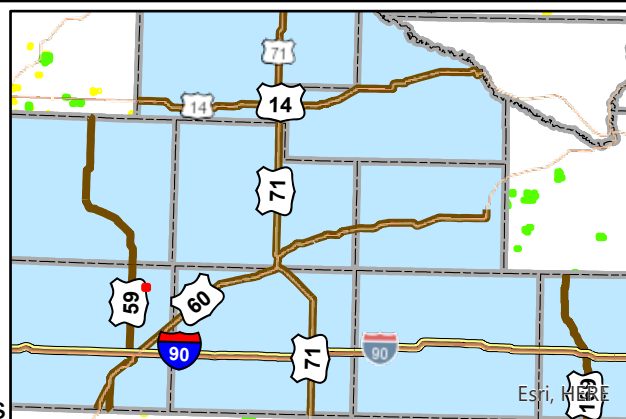
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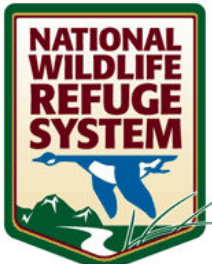


USFWS Easements



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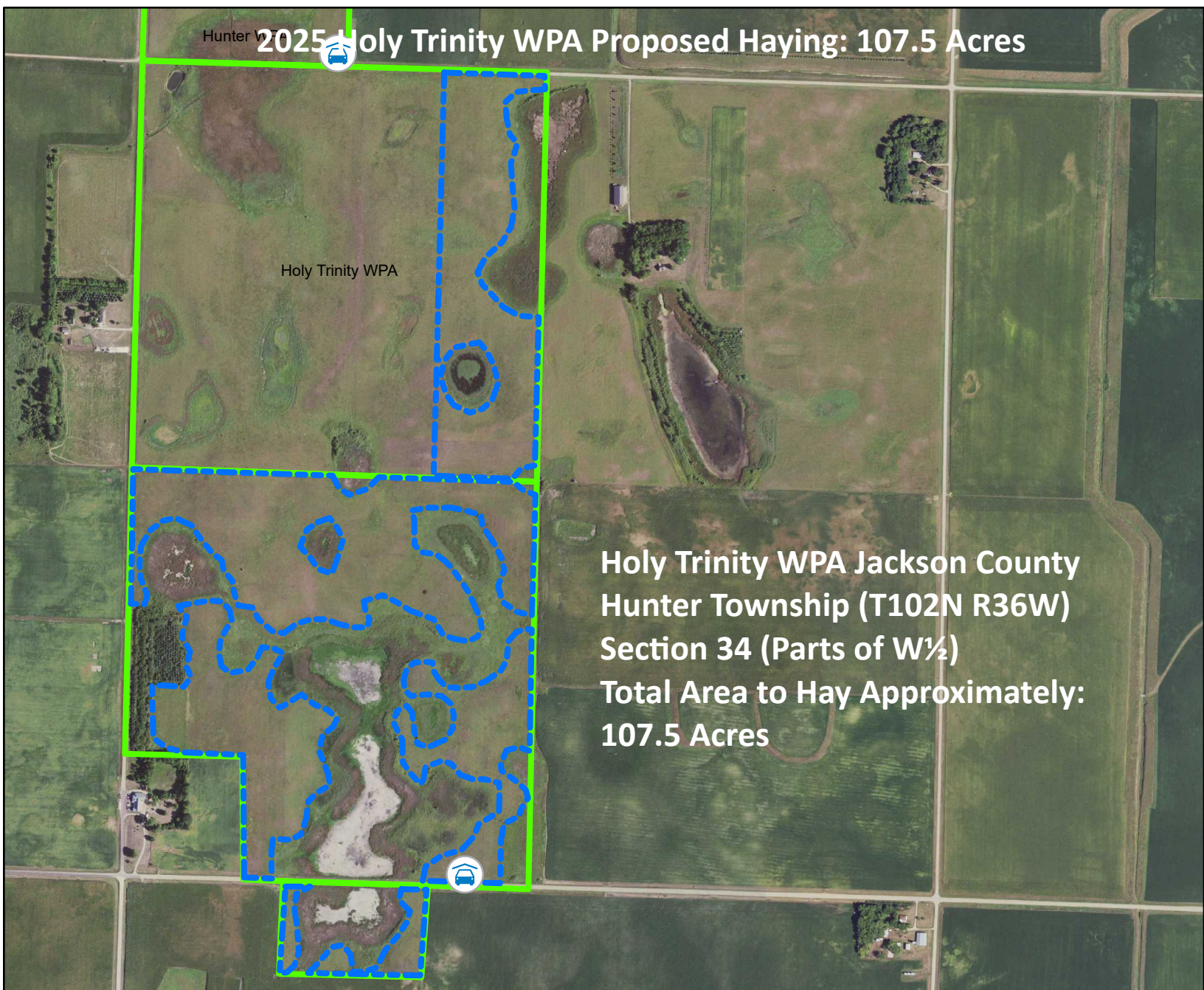


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Holy Trinity WPA

Total Acres: 318.8



access



2025 Haying Holy Trinity WPA



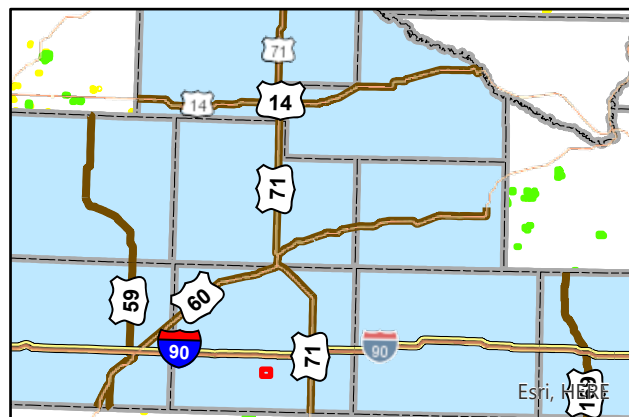
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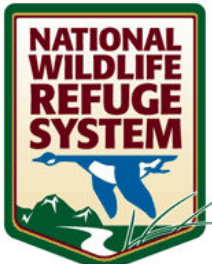


USFWS Easements



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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

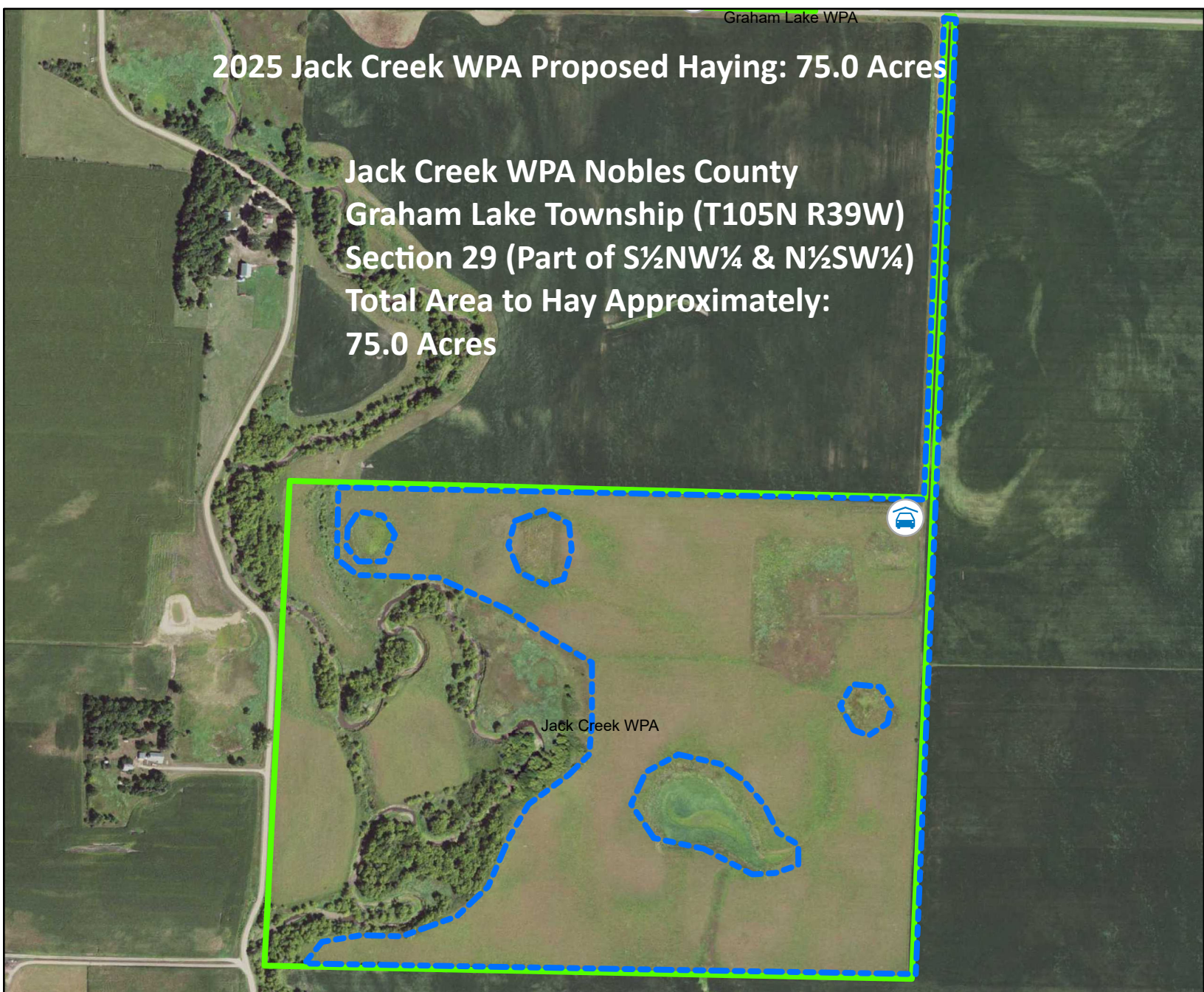
Windom Wetland Management District

Jack Creek WPA

Total Acres: 121.75

2025 Jack Creek WPA Proposed Haying: 75.0 Acres

Jack Creek WPA Nobles County
Graham Lake Township (T105N R39W)
Section 29 (Part of S½NW¼ & N½SW¼)
Total Area to Hay Approximately:
75.0 Acres



access



2025 Haying Jack
Creek WPA



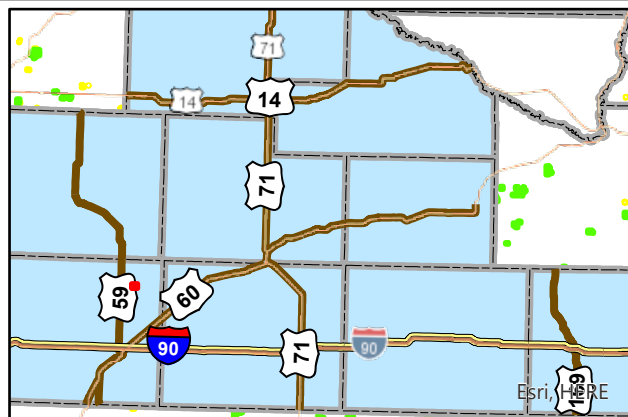
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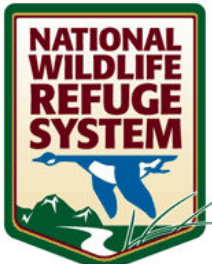


USFWS Easements



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Miles



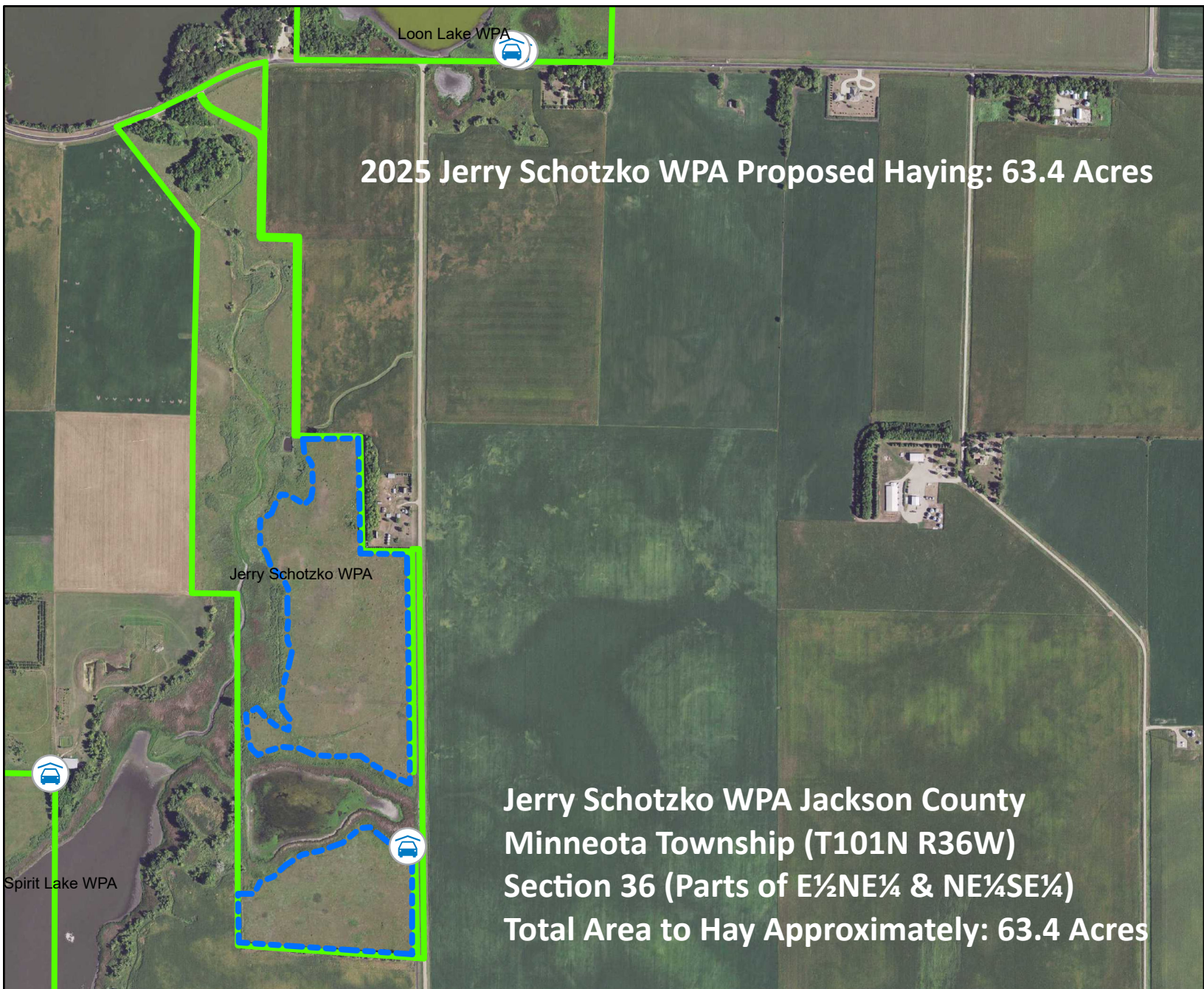


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Jerry Schotzko WPA

Total Acres: 160.86



access



2025 Haying Jerry Schotzko WPA



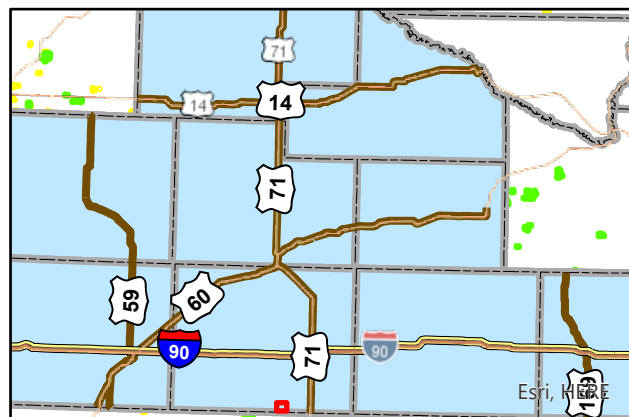
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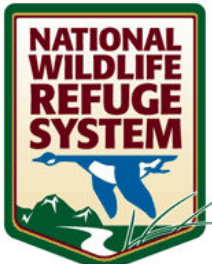


USFWS Easements



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Kiester WPA

Total Acres: 136.39

2025 Kiester WPA Proposed Haying: 75.0 Acres



Kiester WPA
Faribault County
Kiester Township
(T101N R24W)
Section 35
(Part of SW¼)
Total Area to Hay
Approximately:
75.0 Acres



access



2025_Haying_KiesterWPA



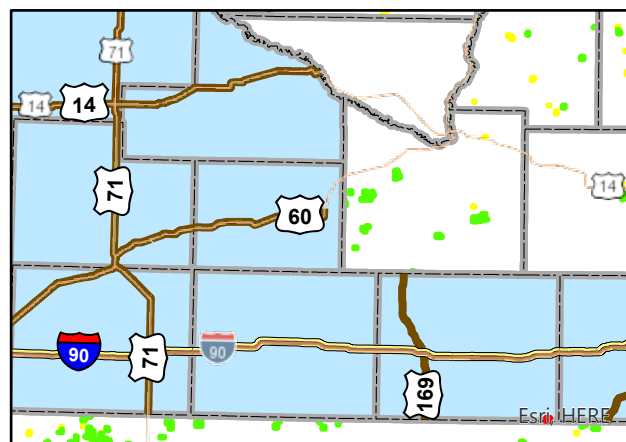
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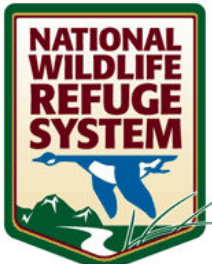


USFWS Easements



0 0.04 0.09 0.18 Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Lake Bella WPA

Total Acres: 72.6



access



2025 Haying Lake
Bella WPA



FWS Fee Title



USFWS Easements



0 0.04 0.08 0.16
Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

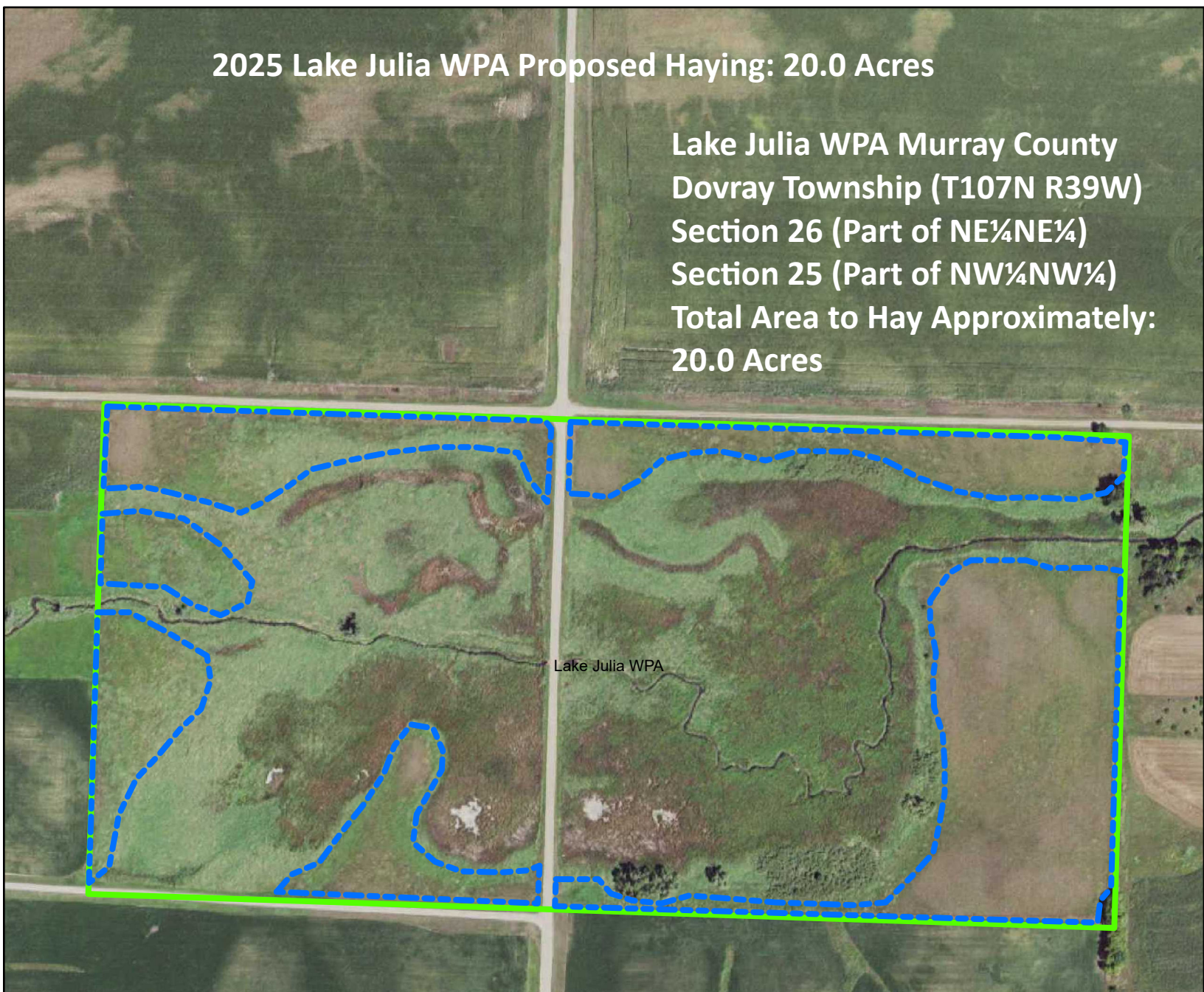
Windom Wetland Management District

Lake Julia WPA

Total Acres: 63.89

2025 Lake Julia WPA Proposed Haying: 20.0 Acres

Lake Julia WPA Murray County
Dovray Township (T107N R39W)
Section 26 (Part of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$)
Section 25 (Part of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$)
Total Area to Hay Approximately:
20.0 Acres



access



2025 Haying Lake
Julia WPA



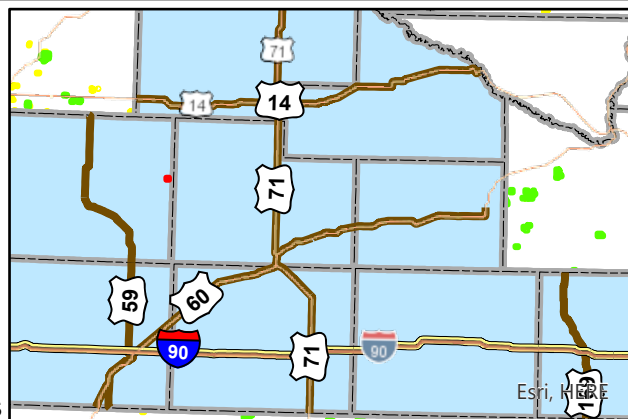
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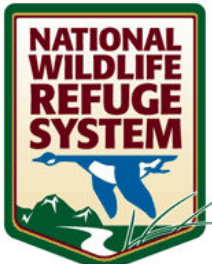


USFWS Easements



0 0.03 0.07 0.13 Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Sioux Forks WPA

Total Acres: 994.15



access



2025 Haying Sioux
Forks WPA



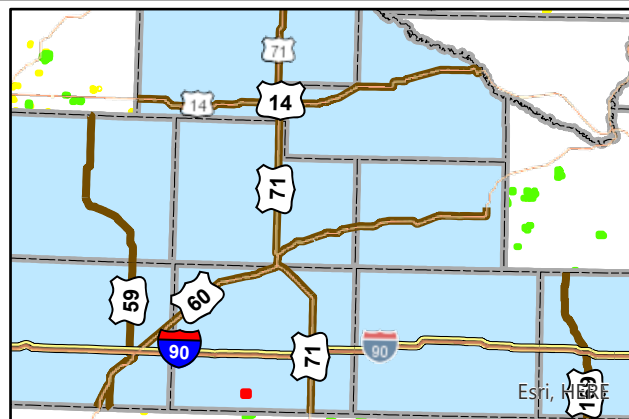
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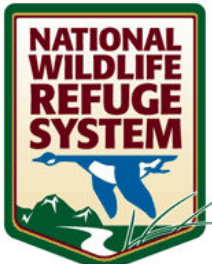


USFWS Easements



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Miles





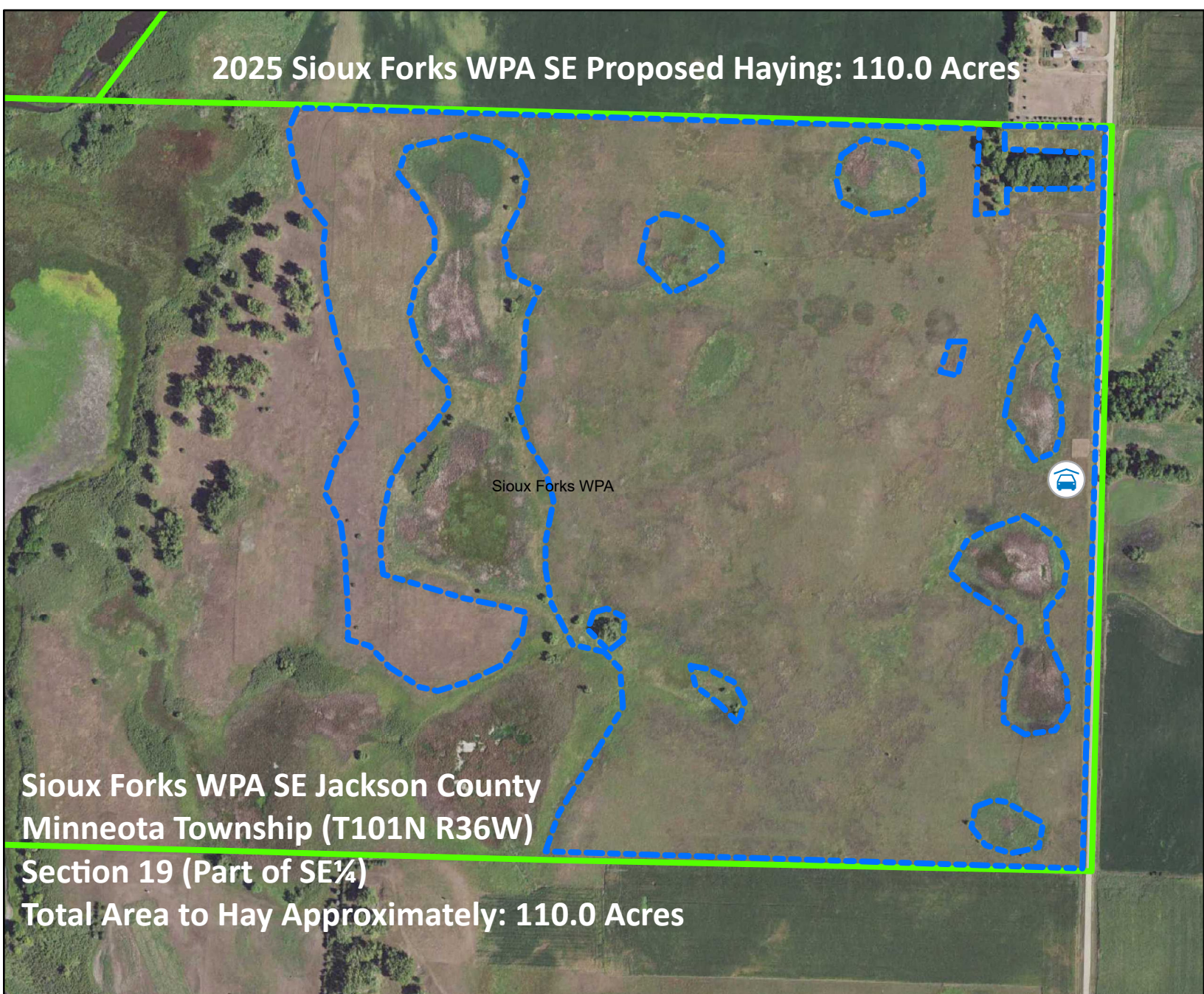
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Sioux Forks WPA

Total Acres: 994.15

2025 Sioux Forks WPA SE Proposed Haying: 110.0 Acres



access



2025 Haying Sioux
Forks WPA SE



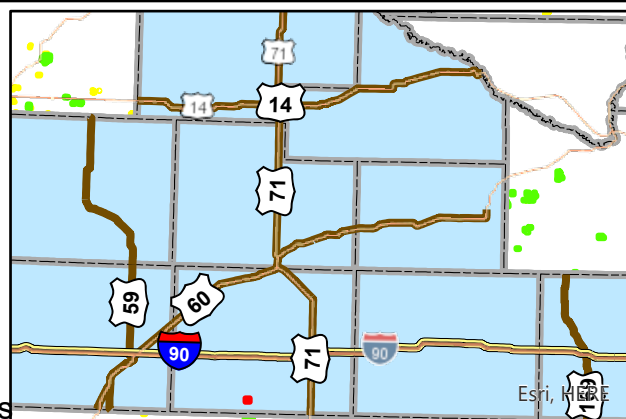
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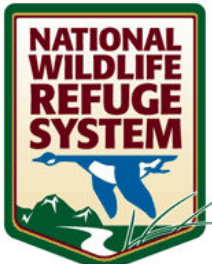


USFWS Easements



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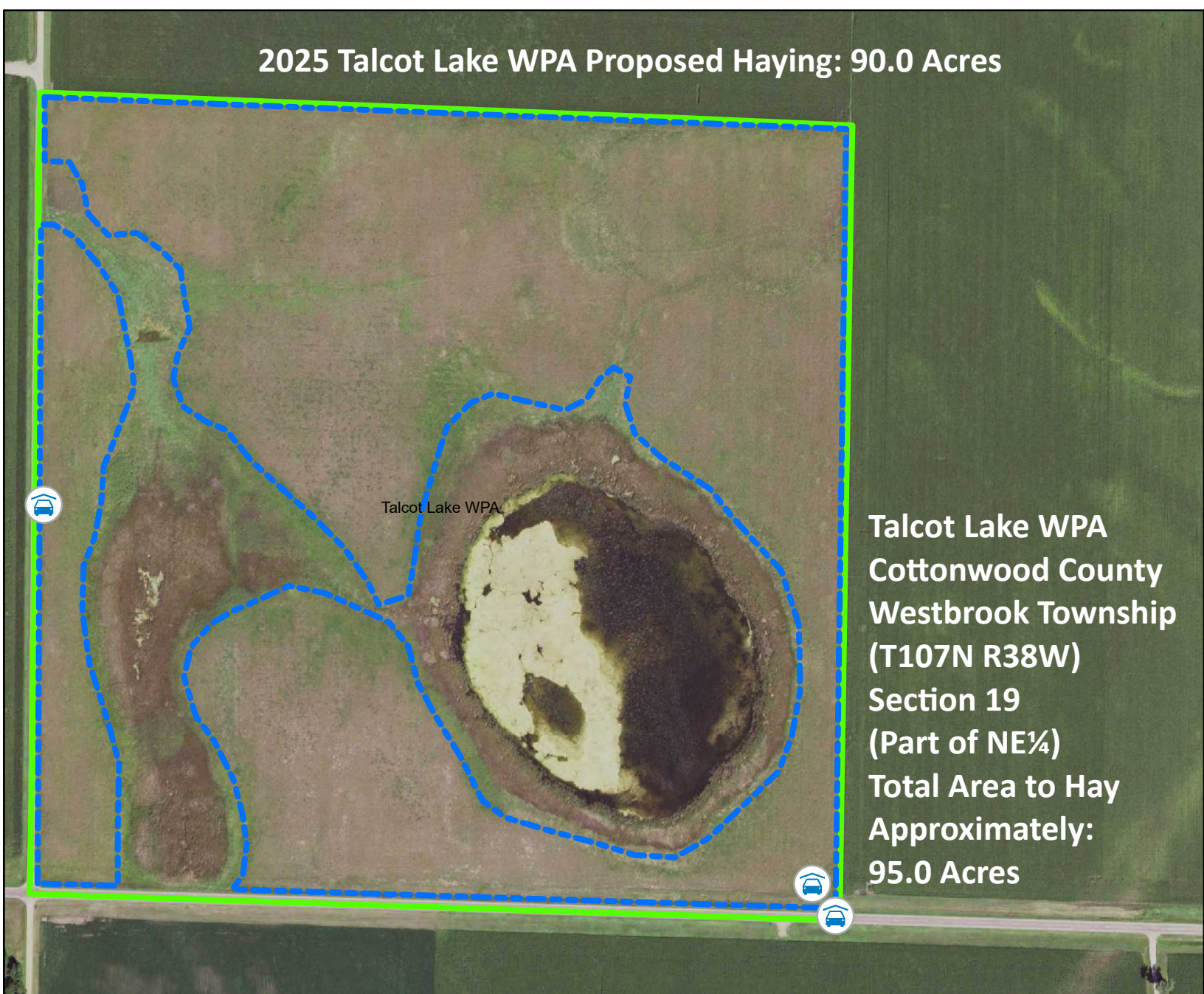
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Talcot Lake WPA

Total Acres: 160.0

2025 Talcot Lake WPA Proposed Haying: 90.0 Acres



Talcot Lake WPA
Cottonwood County
Westbrook Township
(T107N R38W)
Section 19
(Part of NE¼)
Total Area to Hay
Approximately:
95.0 Acres



access



2025 Haying Talcot
Lake WPA



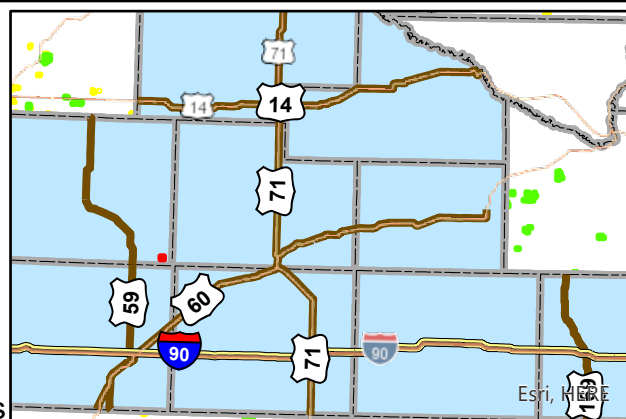
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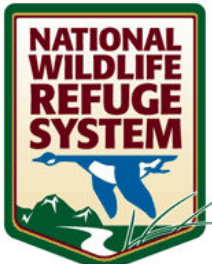


USFWS Easements



0 0.04 0.09 0.18 Miles



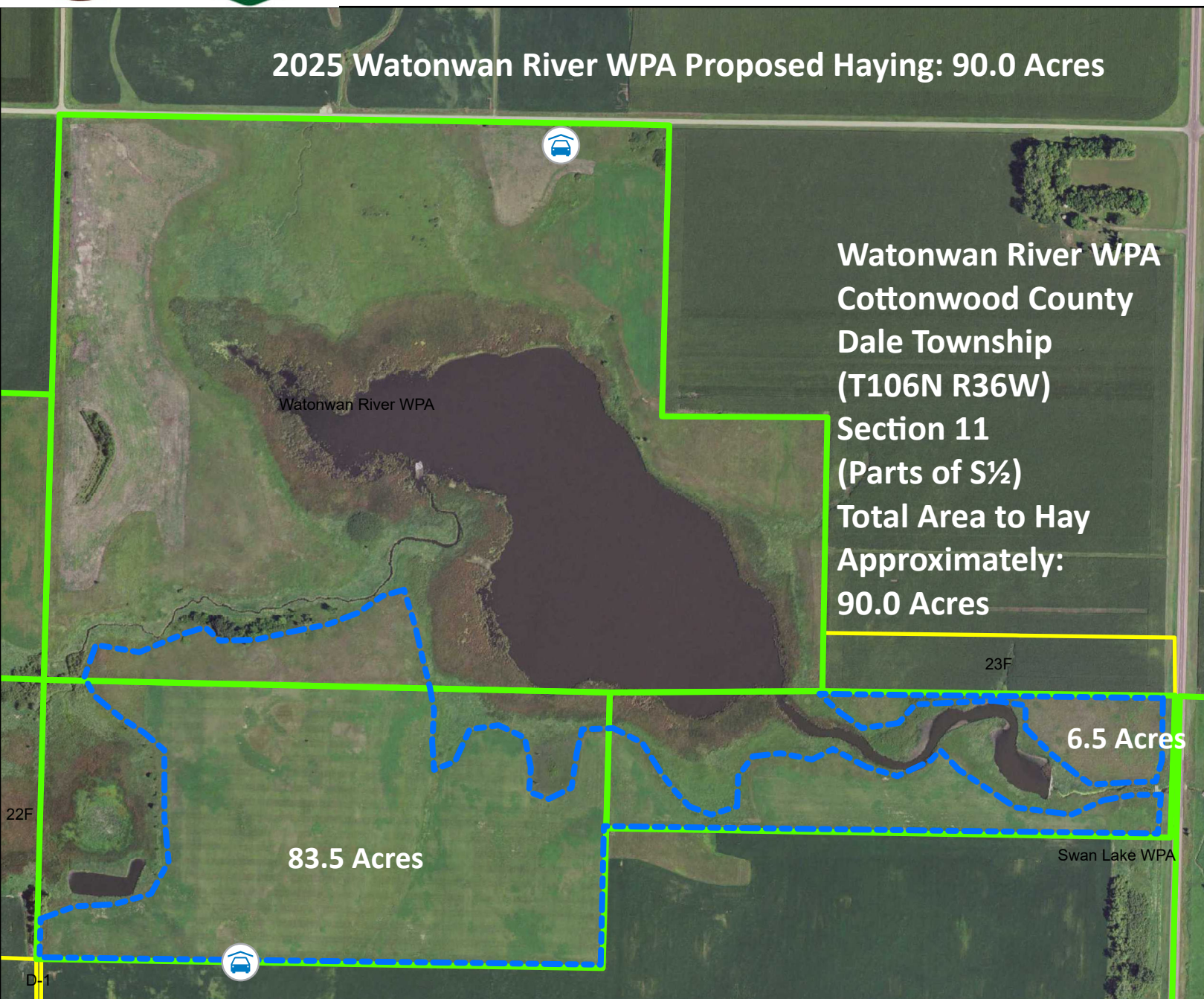


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Watonwan River WPA Total Acres: 358.5

2025 Watonwan River WPA Proposed Haying: 90.0 Acres



access

2025 Haying



Watonwan River
WPA



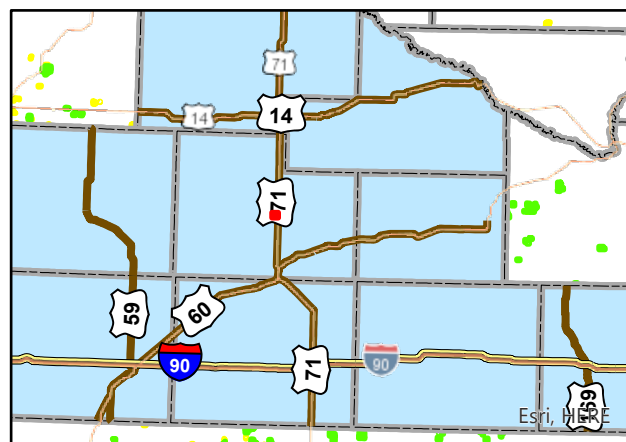
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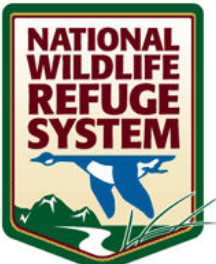


USFWS Easements



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Miles





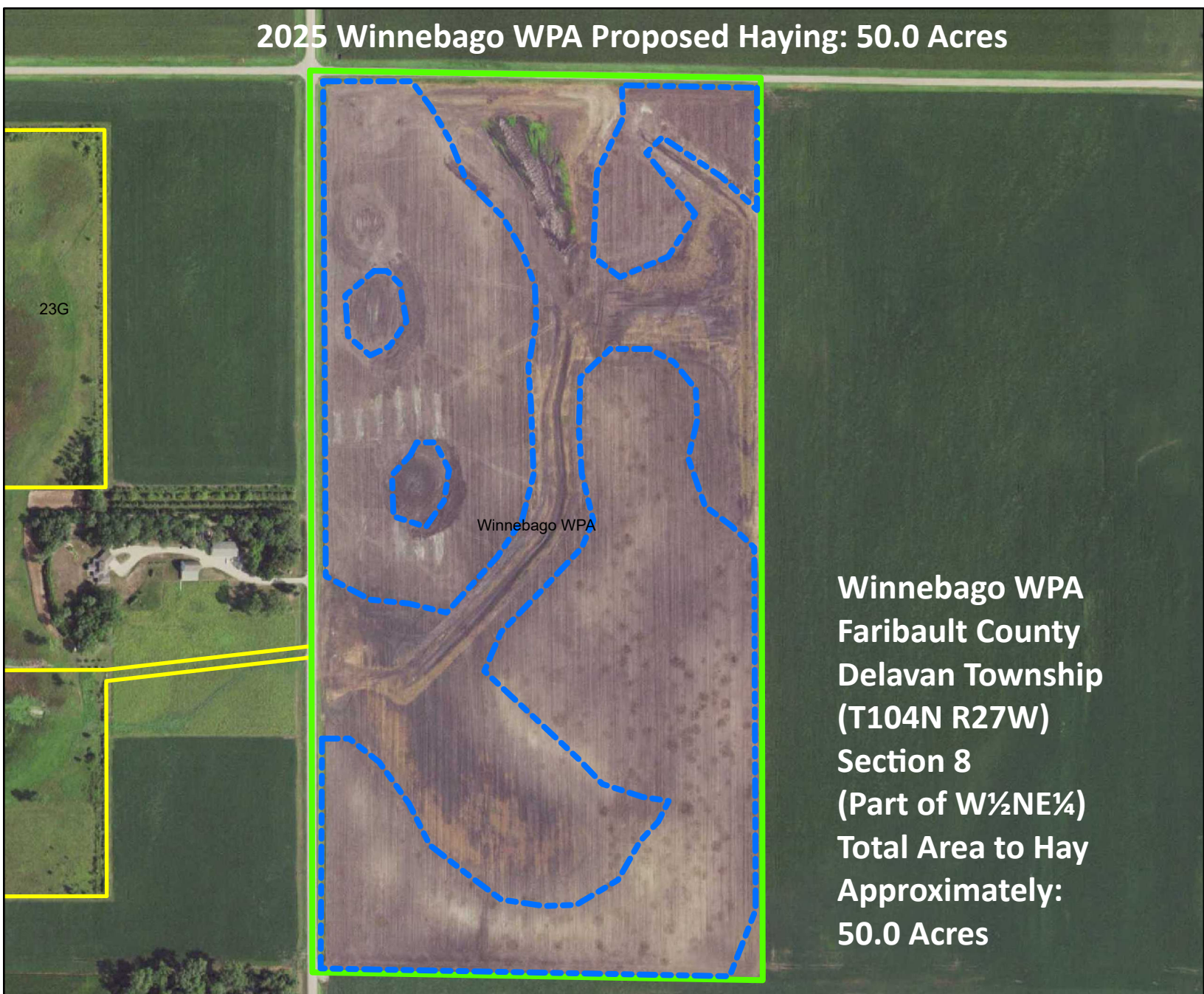
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Winnebago WPA

Total Acres: 81.0

2025 Winnebago WPA Proposed Haying: 50.0 Acres



Winnebago WPA
Faribault County
Delavan Township
(T104N R27W)
Section 8
(Part of W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$)
Total Area to Hay
Approximately:
50.0 Acres



access



2025 Haying
Winnebago WPA



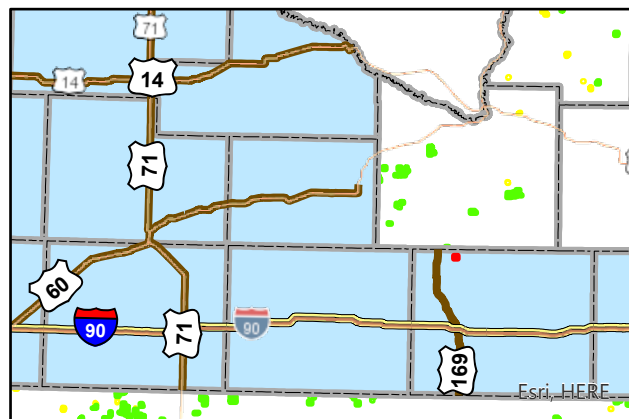
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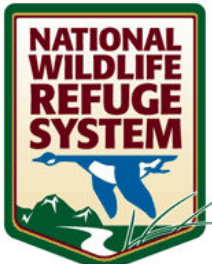


USFWS Easements



0 0.04 0.08 0.16 Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Wood Lake WPA

Total Acres: 55.7

2025 Wood Lake WPA Proposed Haying: 15.0 Acres



Wood Lake WPA
Watsonwan County
Adrian Township
(T107N R33W)
Section 12
(Part of NW¼)
Total Area to Hay
Approximately:
15.0 Acres



access



2025 Haying Wood
Lake WPA



FWS Fee Title



USFWS Easements



0 0.04 0.08 0.16 Miles

