

Grazing Bid Package Information

Tract Location: Blazing Star WPA (West) – T99N, R29W (Harrison Township), Part of N ½ SE ¼ of Section 26 (approximately 75 acres)

UTM: 400582 4801632

Years: 2026-2028

Bid Format: \$/AUM

Target AUM: Fall 2026 – Build fence after harvest to prep for grazing in 2027
Spring 2027 – 37 AUM
Fall 2028 – 37 AUM

Grazing Period: Spring 2027: April 15, 2027-June 3, 2027 – 49 days
Fall 2028: September 1, 2028-October 20, 2028 – 49 days

Stocking Rate: Fall 2027: 23 Animal Units as defined below (~19 cow/calf pairs)
Spring 2028: 23 Animal Units as defined below (~19 cow/calf pairs)

Animal Unit Defined as follows: Mature cow – 1.0
Cow/calf pair – 1.2
Yearling (9-18 months) – 0.7
Weaner calf – 0.5
Bull – 1.5

Fence Status: No existing fence. Cooperator will need to construct a fence after adjacent cropland has been harvested in fall 2026. The cost to construct the fence needs to be accounted for in your grazing bid. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will supply the materials for either a barbed wire (4 strand) or high tensile electric fence (**minimum of 3 strand**). The fence must be capable of keeping cattle inside the graze unit. Fence will include wooden brace posts that are no more than ¼ mile apart and metal line posts that are no more than 50 feet apart. Cooperator is responsible for supplying a power source for an electric fence.

Gates: Two wire gates (30 feet wide) need to be installed as part of fence construction. The location of the gates is shown on the attached map. The gates need to be constructed in such a way that it can be easily opened to allow passage of trucks, tractors and other equipment.

Water source: This tract of land contains a large, drained wetland that may serve as a water source. If the wetland is dry, the cooperator will need to haul water to this site. Watering will occur at a location agreed to with the Refuge Manager. All water tanks and any other miscellaneous items must be removed from the property within one week from when the cattle are removed.

Location Map: Attached

Grazing Special Conditions

- 1) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reserves the right to modify or terminate the Special Use Permit (SUP) 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) 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 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.
- 4) The permittee must comply with the respective state and local livestock health regulations.
- 5) All equipment for grazing and fence construction/maintenance, including ATVs and UTVs, must be clean and free of invasive 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.
- 6) The permittee will not use any pesticides (includes insecticides, herbicides and fungicides) on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lands.
- 7) Any livestock management action including branding or dehorning on Service land must be approved by the Refuge Manager.
- 8) 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.
- 9) Fence maintenance is the responsibility of the permittee. Any permanent fence constructed on National Wildlife Refuge System lands will become property of the Service.

10) Livestock watering may be provided via existing wetlands. During dry periods when wetlands do not contain water, supplemental watering will be allowed. Any methods and locations of supplemental watering on Service lands must be approved by the Refuge Manager.

11) 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.

12) Supplemental feeding is not permitted on the unit.

13) Cooperators will report cattle numbers (with age/sex information) and dates in and out to the Refuge Manager on the attached grazing calculation worksheet.

14) Permittee will remove all personal property (mineral block container, etc.) at the end of the grazing period.

Grazing Bid Sheet

Unit Name: _____

Bid (\$/AUM): _____

Cooperator Name: _____

Cooperator Address: _____

Cooperator Phone: (Home) _____ **(Cell)** _____

Grazing Calculation Worksheet

Please complete the following information needed for the grazing calculation worksheet and billing and return at the completion of grazing.

Date(s) in and number of animals (with age/sex information – (for example May 1, 2020 - 10 cow/calf pairs, 1 bull):

Date(s) out and number of animals (with age/sex information)- (for example July 31, 2020 - 10 cow/calf pairs, 1 bull):

120th Ave

Blazing Star WPA
West Grazing Unit
Harrison Twp (T99N R29W), Sect 26
+/- 74 acres

26

25

Entry

Entry

410th St

35

36

