



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



2026 HAYING BID INVITATION FORM

ATTENTION COOPERATORS

Haying will be utilized to control woody vegetation and enhance grassland habitats, ultimately improving conditions for nesting waterfowl and migratory birds. The haying bid package, including detailed maps of each site, is available 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 currently accepting bids for haying operations on the following Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA):

Martin J. Baker WPA (93.8 Acres): Cottonwood County, MN, Amo Township, Section 11

Bloom WPA (77.5 Acres): Nobles County, MN, Bloom Township, Section 20

Graham Lake WPA (77.0 Acres): Nobles County, MN, Graham Lake Township, Section 20

Hunter WPA (50.9 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Hunter Township, Section 27

Little Sioux WPA (34.0 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Minneota Township, Section 30

Minnesota WPA (100.8 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Sioux Valley Township, Section 31

Sioux Valley WPA (41.0 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Sioux Valley Township, Section 30

Skunk Creek WPA (75.5 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Sioux Valley Township, Section 29

Slaughter Slough WPA (120.0 Acres): Murray County, MN, Murray Township, Section 2 & 3

Spirit Lake WPA (67.7 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Minneota Township, Section 36

Ulbricht WPA (46.8 Acres): Jackson County, MN, Rost Township, Section 21

Watowwan River WPA (77.0 Acres): Cottonwood County, MN, Dale Township, Section 11

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



BID SHEET
National Wildlife Refuge System

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



For each unit you wish to bid on, please complete a separate Bid Sheet (see the next page). Submit your signed and dated bid sheet together with the signed 2026 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 22, 2026.

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

You can mail, email, or walk in bids. Bids will be opened and the permittee selected by Thursday, July 23, 2026.

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, 2026.

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 separate 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 2026 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. 2026 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.

Please address any inquiries before submitting your bid.



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 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.



United States Department of the Interior

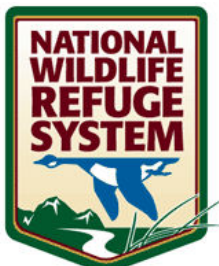
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Windom Wetland Management District
49663 County Road 17
Windom, MN 56101
Phone: (507) 831-2220



2026 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 each 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.
11. 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 field conditions or any damage to equipment.

Permittee Signature _____ Date _____



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Martin J. Baker WPA Total Acres: 715.8

2026 Martin J. Baker WPA Proposed Haying: 93.8 Acres



Access



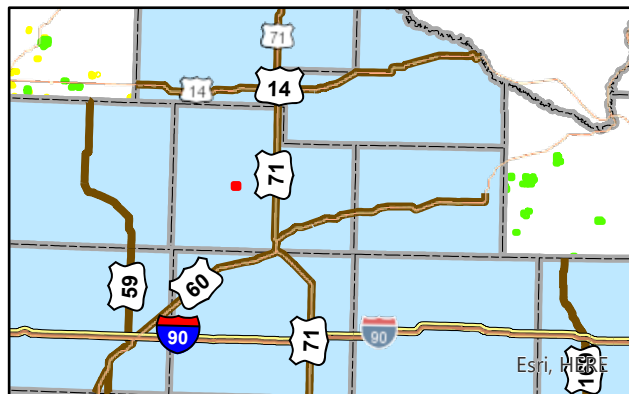
2026 Haying Martin J. Baker WPA

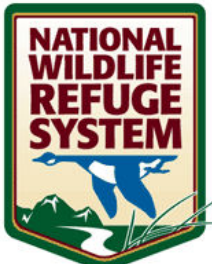


USFWS Fee Title



0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles





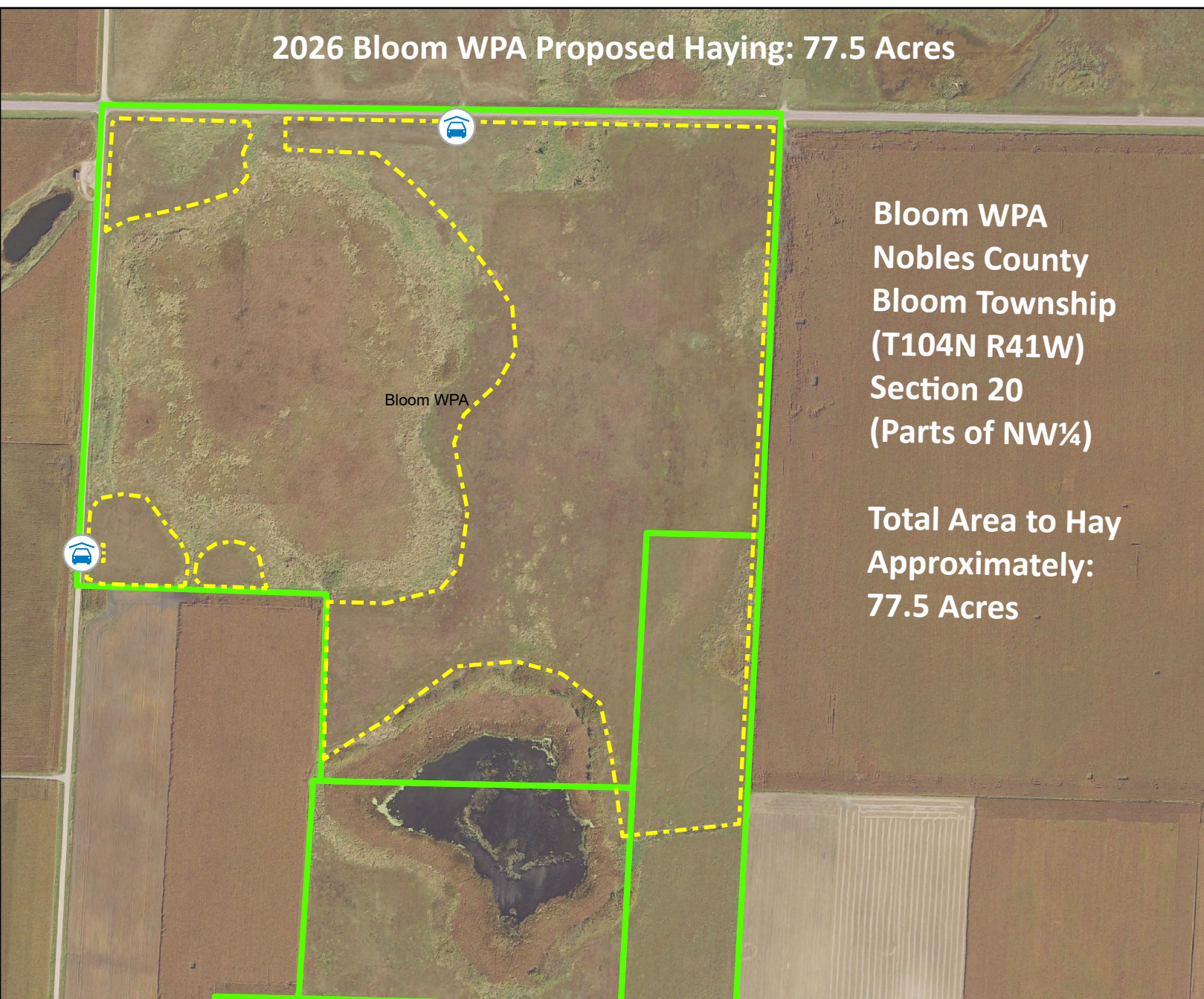
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Bloom WPA

Total Acres: 256.0

2026 Bloom WPA Proposed Haying: 77.5 Acres



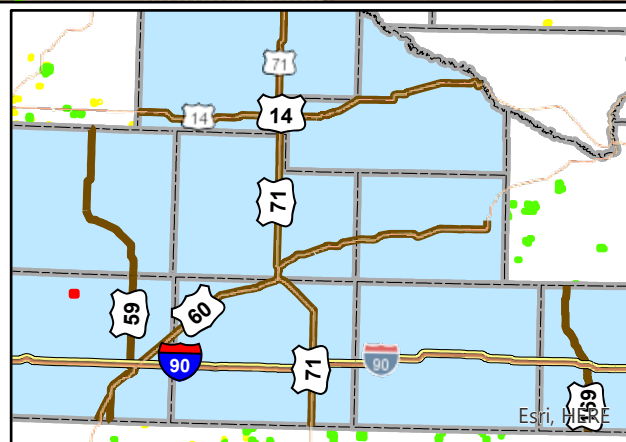
access

2026_Haying_Bloom

FWS Fee Title



0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles





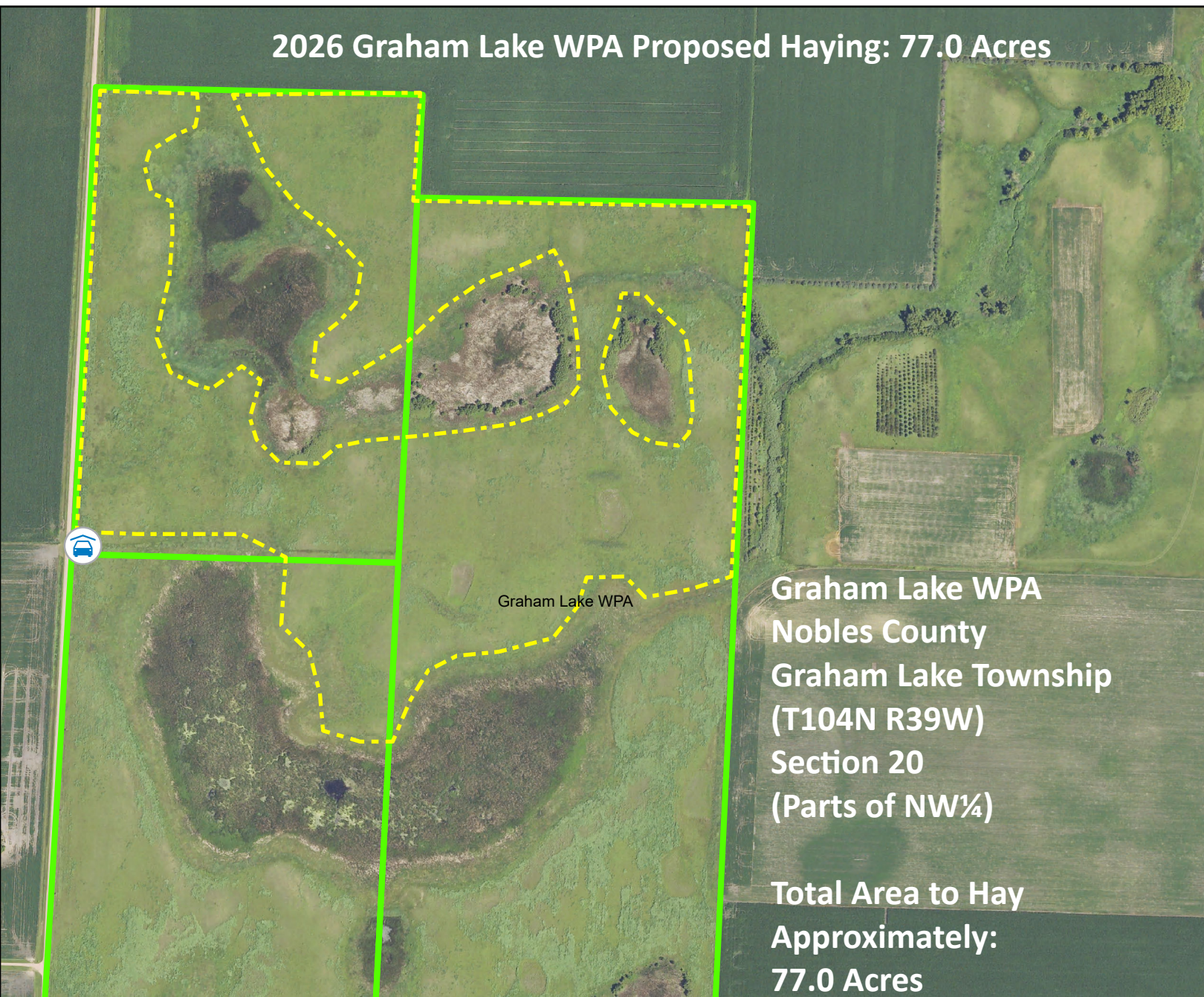
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Graham Lake WPA

Total Acres: 245.0

2026 Graham Lake WPA Proposed Haying: 77.0 Acres



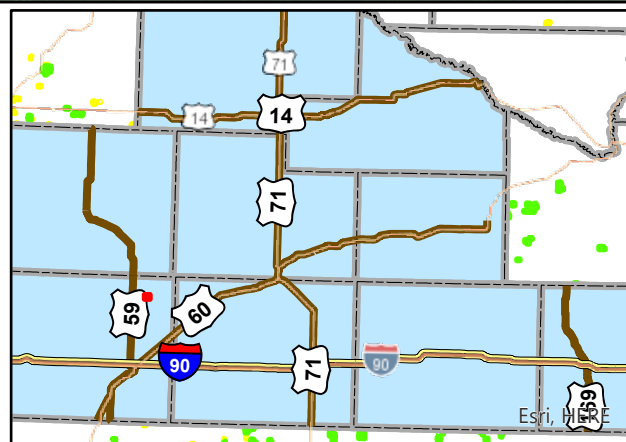
access

2026_Haying_Graham_Lake

FWS Fee Title



0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Windom Wetland Management District Hunter WPA Total Acres: 199.4

2026 Hunter WPA Proposed Haying: 50.9 Acres



Access



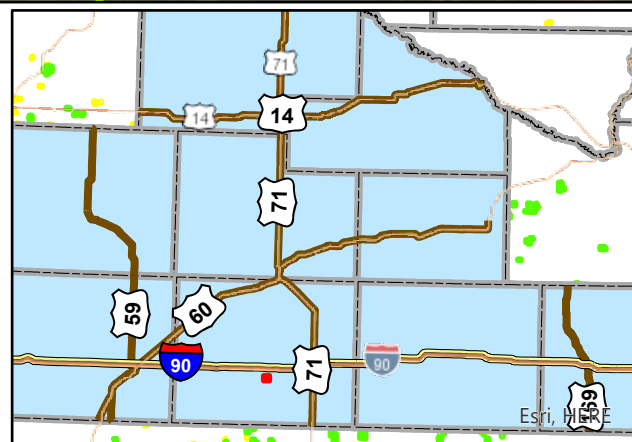
2026 Haying Hunter



USFWS Fee Title



0 0.05 0.1 0.2
Miles





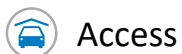
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Windom Wetland Management District Little Sioux WPA Total Acres: 182.8

2026 Little Sioux WPA Proposed Haying: 34.0 Acres



Little Sioux WPA
Jackson County
Minneota Township
(T101N R36W)
Section 30
(Parts of SE1/4)

Total Area to Hay
Approximately:
34 Acres



Access

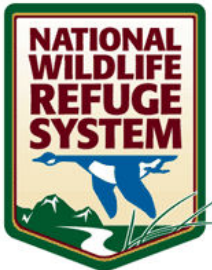
2026 Haying Little Sioux

USFWS Fee Title



0 0.05 0.1 0.2
Miles



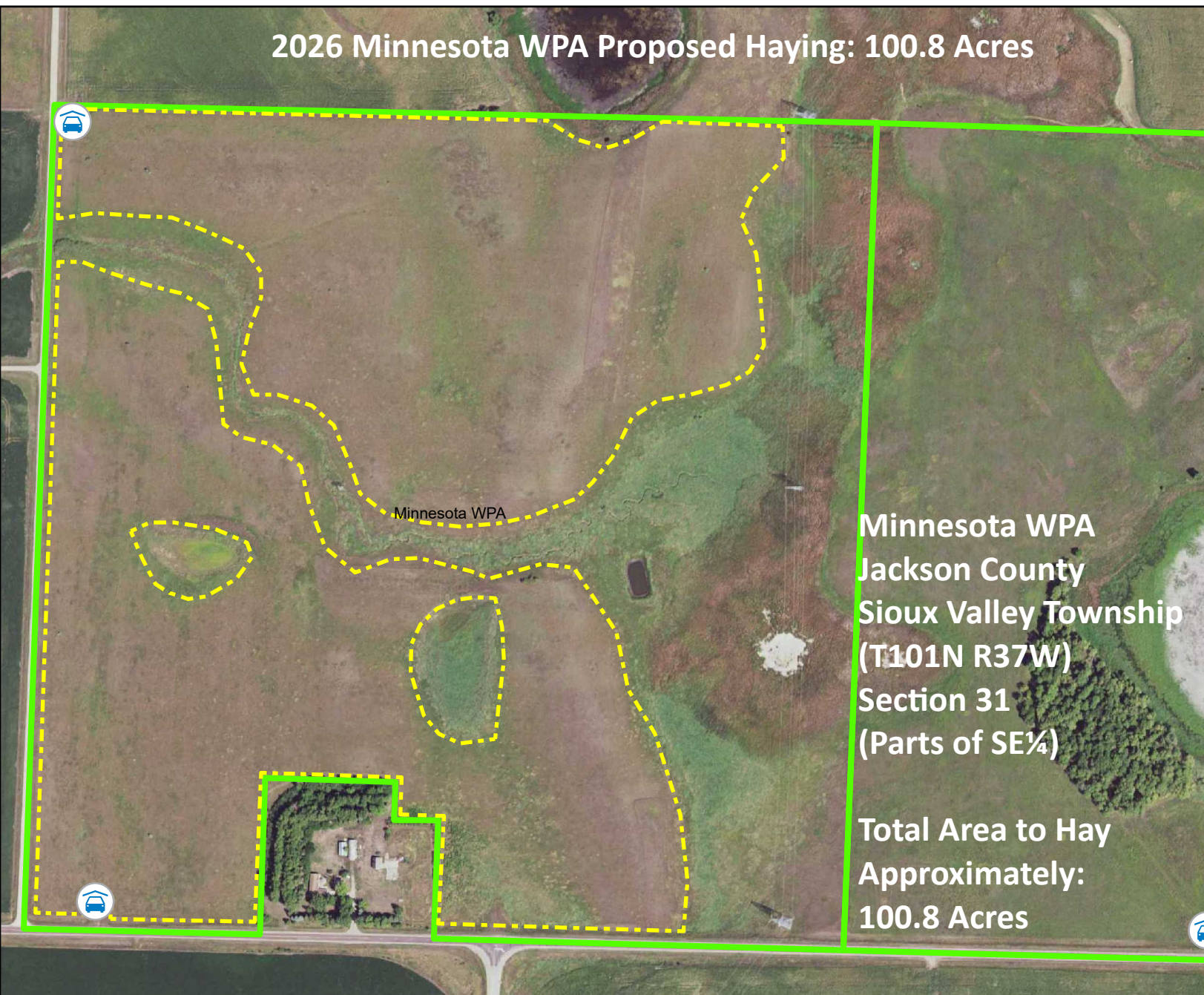


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Minnesota WPA Total Acres: 315.8

2026 Minnesota WPA Proposed Haying: 100.8 Acres



Minnesota WPA
Jackson County
Sioux Valley Township
(T101N R37W)
Section 31
(Parts of SE¼)

Total Area to Hay
Approximately:
100.8 Acres



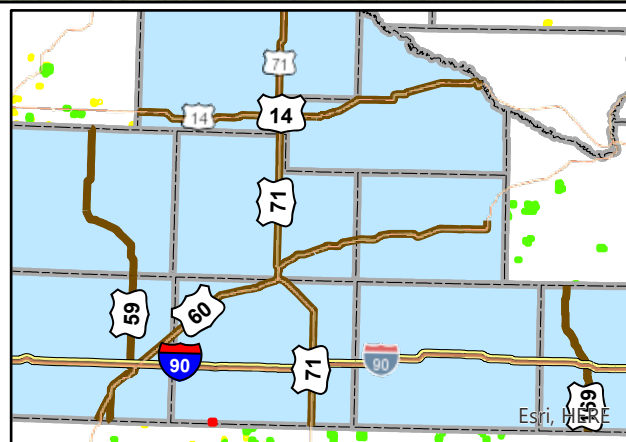
access

 2026 Minnesota Haying

 FWS Fee Title



0 0.04 0.09 0.18
Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Windom Wetland Management District Sioux Valley WPA Total Acres: 103.3

2026 Sioux Valley WPA Proposed Haying: 41.0 Acres

West Fork WPA

Sioux Valley WPA

Sioux Valley WPA
Jackson County
Sioux Valley Township
(T101N R37W)
Section 30
(Parts of SE¼)

Total Area to Hay
Approximately:
41.0 Acres



Access

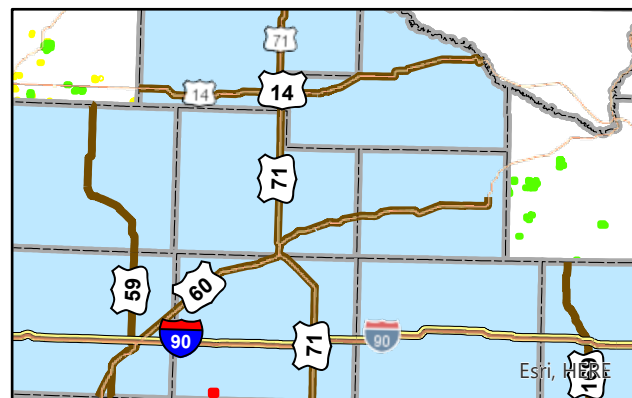


2026 Haying Sioux Valley



FWS Fee Title

0 0.05 0.1 0.2
Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Skunk Creek WPA Total Acres: 235.1

2026 Skunk Creek WPA Proposed Haying: 75.5 Acres

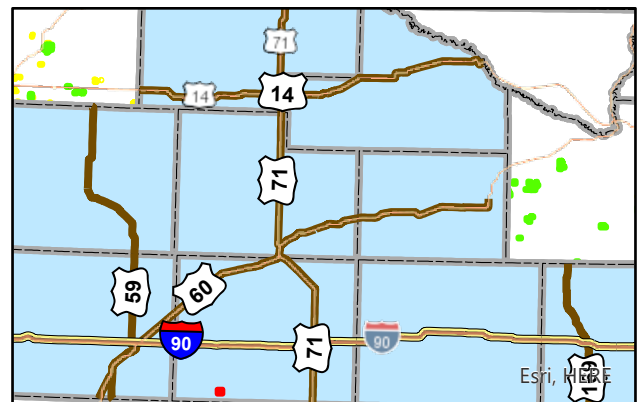


Access

2026 Haying Skunk Creek WPA

USFWS Fee Title

0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles

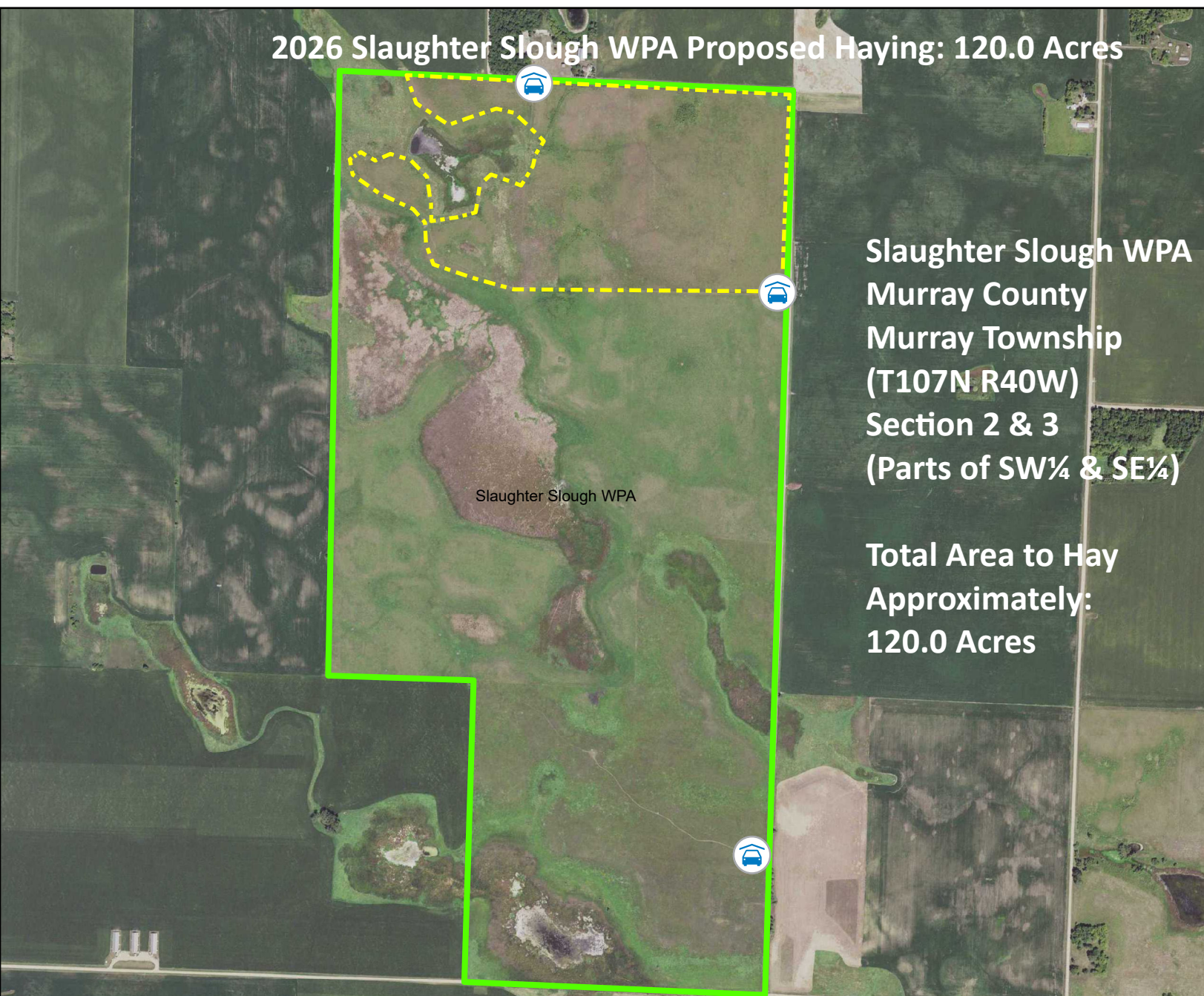




U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

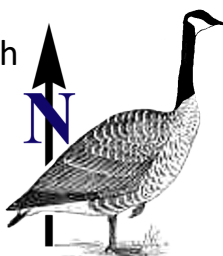
Slaughter Slough WPA Total Acres: 640.0



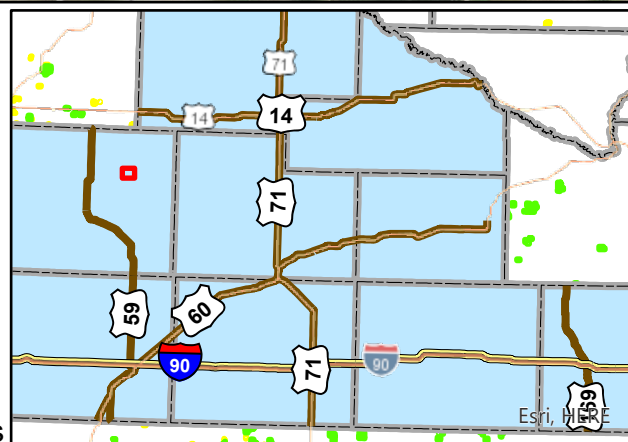
 access

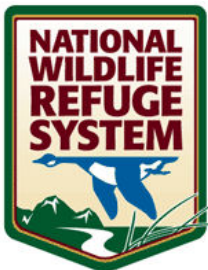
 2026_Haying_Slaughter_Slough

 FWS Fee Title



0 0.13 0.25 0.5
Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Windom Wetland Management District Spirit Lake WPA Total Acres: 163

2026 Spirit Lake WPA Proposed Haying: 67.7 Acres



Spirit Lake WPA
Jackson County
Minneota Township
(T101N R36W)
Section 36
(Parts of SW1/4)

Total Area to Hay
Approximately:
67.7 Acres



Access



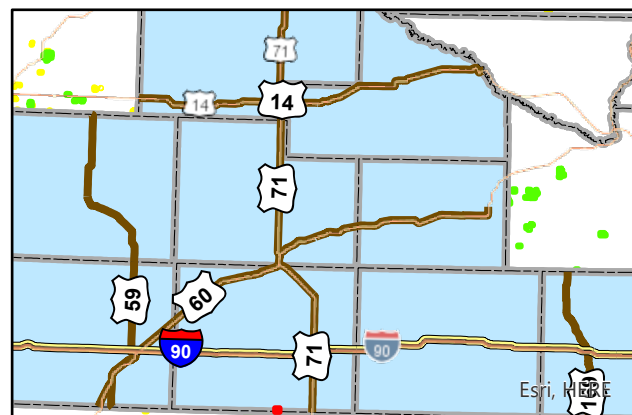
2026 Haying Spirit Lake WPA



FWS Fee Title



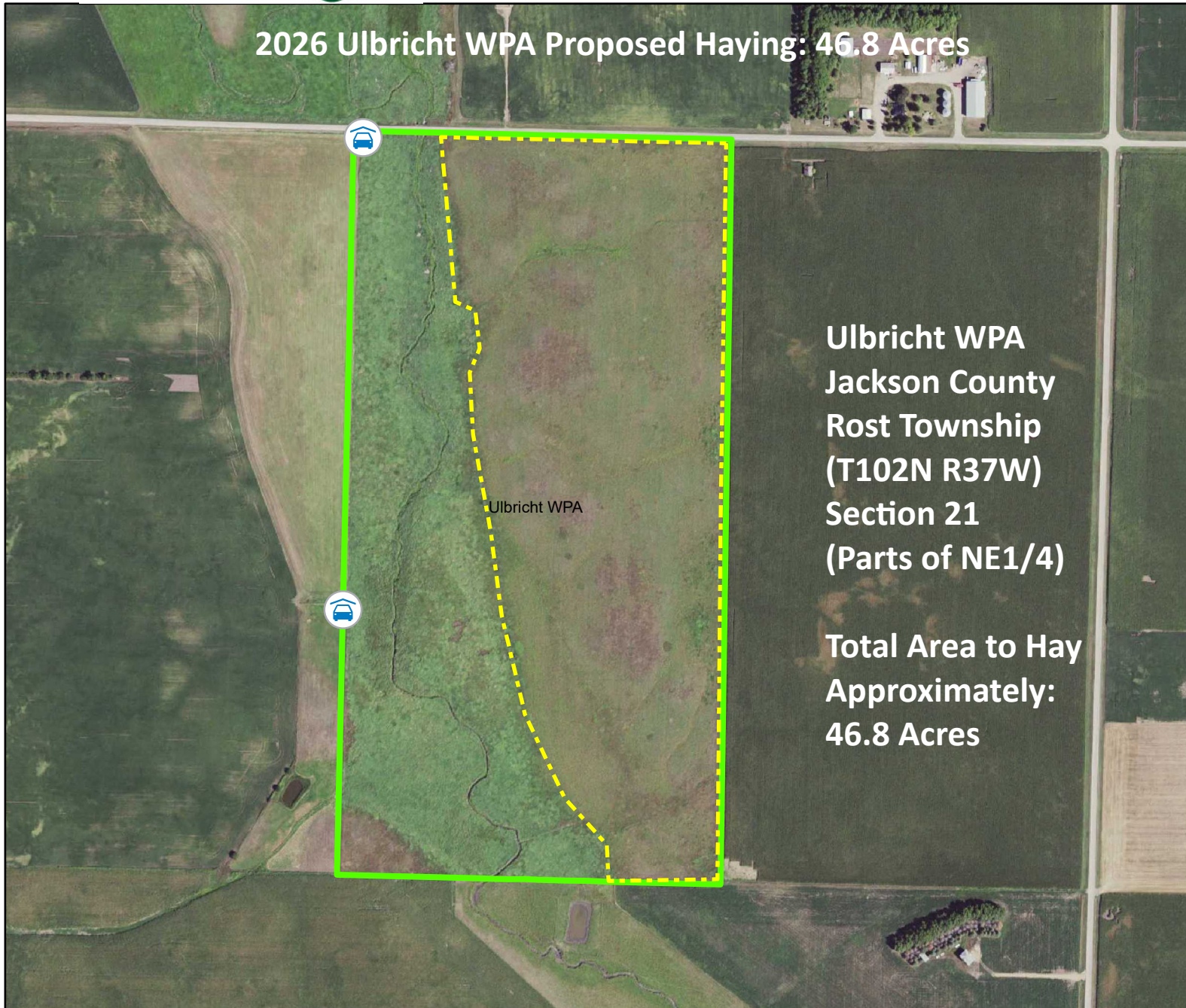
0 0.05 0.1 0.2
Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Windom Wetland Management District Ulbricht WPA Total Acres: 80

2026 Ulbricht WPA Proposed Haying: 46.8 Acres



Access

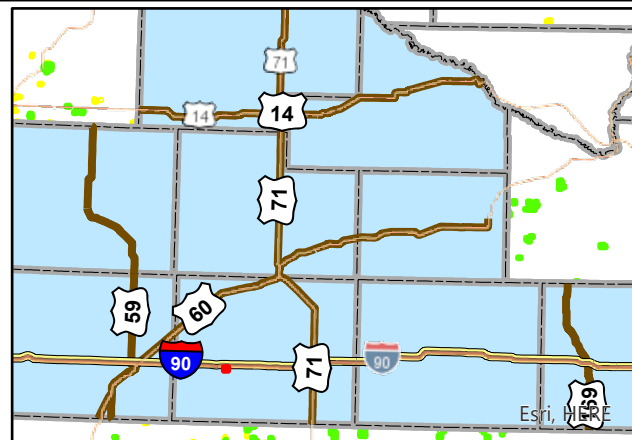


2026 Haying Ulbricht WPA



FWS Fee Title

0 0.05 0.1 0.2
Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Watowan River WPA Total Acres: 358.5

2026 Watowan River WPA Proposed Haying: 77.0 Acres

Watowan River WPA
Cottonwood County
Dale Township
(T106N R36W)
Section 11
(Parts of N½)

Total Area to Hay
Approximately:
77.0 Acres



Access



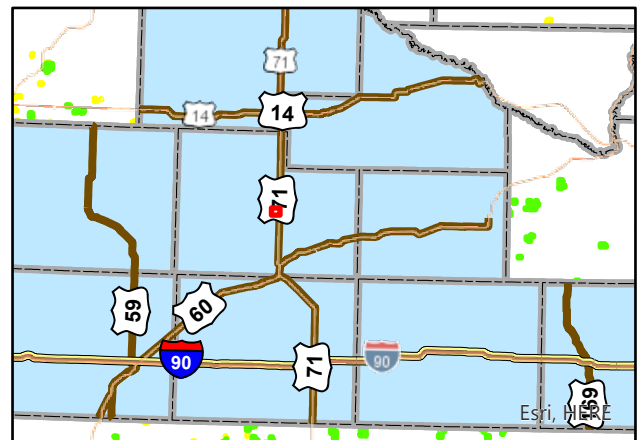
2026 Haying Watowan River WPA

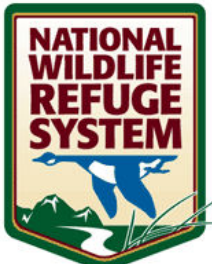


USFWS Fee Title



0 0.07 0.15 0.3
Miles





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Windom Wetland Management District

Wood Lake WPA

Total Acres: 55.7

2026 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



2026 Haying Wood
Lake WPA



FWS Fee Title



0 0.04 0.08 0.16 Miles

