

News Release



U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
FLINT HILLS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
P.O. Box 128, Hartford, Kansas 66854

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Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge announces crop share opportunities near Hartford, Kansas

Hartford, Kan.- Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) in Coffey and Lyon Counties, Kansas is announcing opportunities for cooperative farming on the Refuge to interested members of the farming community starting in March 2022. Cooperative farming is an important part of the Refuge's management, as it provides food for migrating waterfowl and other wildlife, while supporting the rich agricultural heritage of the region.

919 acres of suitable farm ground are available on the Refuge for cash rent. The Refuge plans to offer this farmland in four units through Cooperative Agricultural Agreements. These contracts will be awarded by the Refuge through a competitive bid process (cash rent per acre).

The Refuge will accept sealed bids until 9:00 a.m. Central Time on Friday, February 11th, 2022, at which time, bids will be opened to award the contract to the highest bidder. The bid opening will be held at the Refuge office at 530 W. Maple Ave., in Hartford, KS, and is open to the public. Please contact Refuge Headquarters for information about the cooperative agricultural program or to obtain a bid package at 620-392-5553.

National Wildlife Refuges offer cooperative farming opportunities to provide benefits to both wildlife and to the people in the community. To support wildlife conservation there are certain requirements for farming on the Refuge which include: seeds planted on the Refuge are required to be non-GMO as indicated by the seed supplier and free of seed treatments that include neonicotinoids. For a copy of the "Cooperative Farming Conditions" please contact the Refuge office at 620-392-5553.

Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 560 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System, the nation's premier network of lands managed for fish and wildlife conservation. Many units of the National Refuge System, including the Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge, work closely with local agricultural producers to provide crop share opportunities that support both agricultural and wildlife conservation needs.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service.

For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, , visit www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie, and connect us at www.facebook.com/USFWSMountainPrairie, <http://twitter.com/USFWSMtnPrairie>, www.youtube.com/usfws and www.flickr.com/photos/usfwsmtnpairie.



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