

2013 – 2014 TRAPPING PROPOSAL

SHIAWASSEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

1. Reassessment of Refuge Trapping Program

Furbearer trapping on Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge is an important management tool in meeting refuge goals and objectives. Wetland habitats, dike maintenance, and migratory bird management are influenced by furbearer management.

A sealed-bid application system will be used to issue trapping permits. The primary targets of the trapping program are muskrat and raccoon, but other species can be taken pursuant to State of Michigan Trapping laws. River otter and coyote cannot be trapped legally on Shiawassee NWR.

Refuge trapping units are comprised of two units: **Unit 1)** Refuge marsh area west of the Flint River; east bank of the Flint River south of Pool 2; Pool 1a; Grefe Pool; designated refuge ditches; the Spaulding and Birch Run Drains within the refuge; the main branch of the Ferguson Bayou; and the Cass River Unit in Bridgeport; **Unit 2)** River banks and marshes along the Shiawassee and Cass Rivers; Pool 2; and Evon Road marshes and ditches (maps attached).

2. Habitat Conditions

In 2013, there was a large spring flood that occurred in April and May in which most of the Refuge was inundated for several weeks. Pool 1a, Grefe Pool, and Pool 2 were managed at full water capacity throughout the entire 2013 growing season. The units east of Spaulding drain, south of the Shiawassee River, and north of Evon Road were managed at lower water levels (i.e., North Marsh, Butch's Marsh, and Eagle Marsh) for habitat restoration projects.

3. Trapping Season and Hours

The furbearer trapping season and hours on Shiawassee will be consistent with State of Michigan regulations, with the following exception, beaver trapping will not be permitted during March to prevent road damage unless approved by Refuge Manager.

4. Other Pertinent Items

See attached Special Trapping Regulations.

Shiawassee NWR Trapping Regulations 2013-2014 Season

1. The trapping season on the refuge will be concurrent with the State of Michigan trapping season. Violation of any regulation (State of Michigan or Shiawassee NWR) is punishable and will result in the revocation of the trapping permit.
2. Two trapping units will be available for bid:
 - a. **Unit 1**) Refuge marsh area west of the Flint River, east bank of the Flint River south of Pool 2, Pool 1a, Grefe Pool, designated refuge ditches, the Spaulding and Birch Run Drains within the Refuge, the main branch of the Ferguson Bayou, and the Cass River Unit in Bridgeport (See attached Trapping unit1 maps).
 - b. **Unit 2**) River banks and marshes along the Shiawassee and Cass Rivers, Pool 2, and Evon Road marshes and ditches (See attached Trapping Unit 2 map).
2. Target species shall include all furbearer species that can legally be taken in Zone 3 (Michigan's southern trapping zone), except for river otter and coyote.
3. A minimum bid of \$200 is required per unit, payment will be made only if successful. A sealed bid including "The application for Refuge Fur Trapping Permit" (last page of this packet), is due in the refuge office by 1:00 P.M., Friday October 11, 2013. A public opening of the bids will be held at 1:05 P.M. on the same day. Successful applicants shall make a full bid payment by 3:00 P.M., October 18, 2013. Checks shall be made payable to "U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service".
4. Whether as an applicant or partner, a person's name can appear on only one bid application per year. If bid applicants wish to have a trapping partner the partner's name and other pertinent information must appear on the bid application. No trapping partners will be accepted at a later date.
5. Information provided on the application may not be altered once the bid has been submitted. Inaccurate, misleading, or missing information on the application shall void the application.
6. Beaver trapping will not be permitted during March to prevent road damage unless approved by Refuge Manager.
7. The permittee shall remove from the refuge all target species trapped before skinning. Carcasses shall not be left or deposited on the refuge.
8. Permittee shall report all animals taken each week using the attached daily trapping log to the Wildlife Biologist (via in-person drop off, fax, or scan and e-mail) by noon Monday or as otherwise requested.

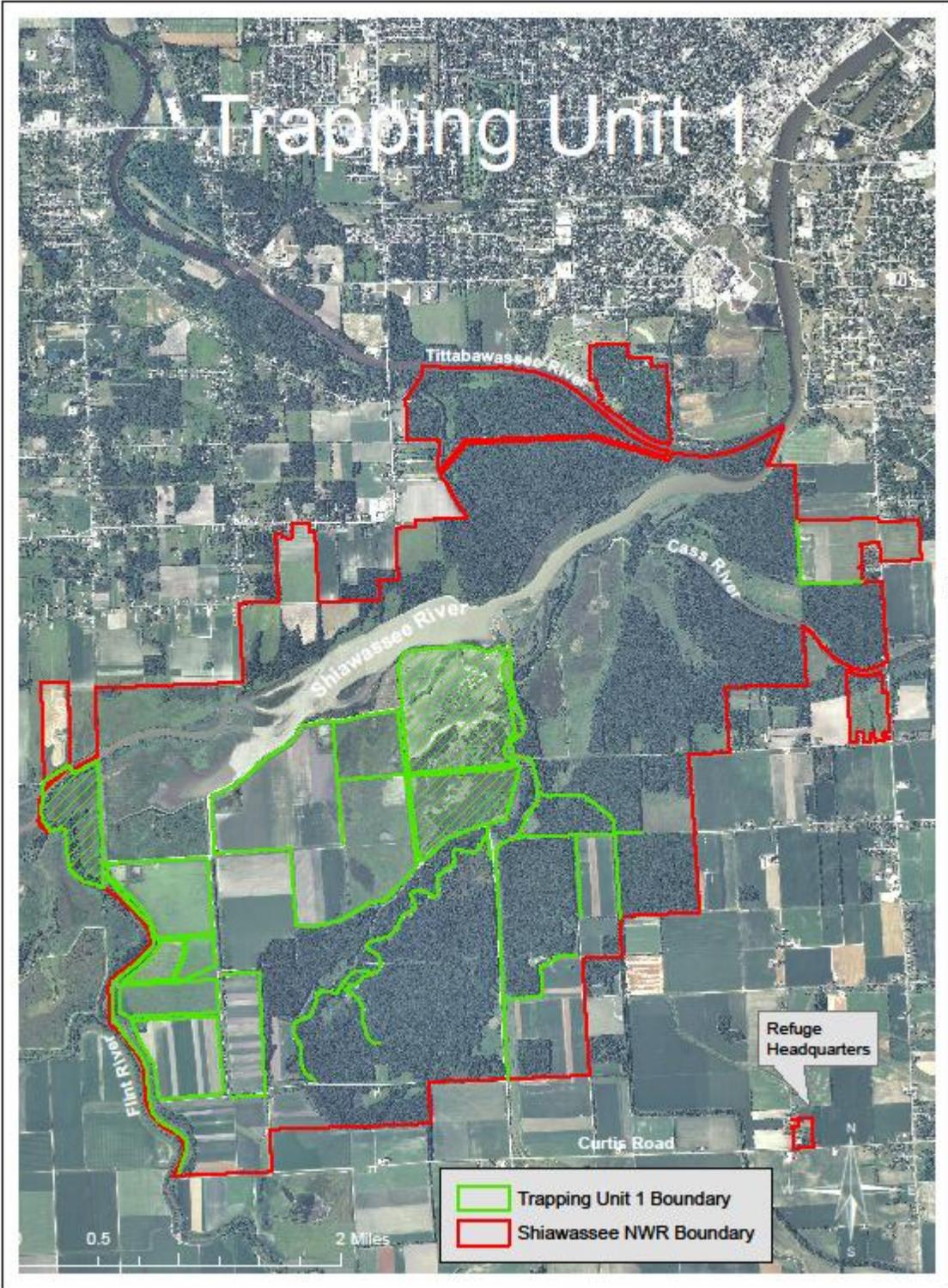
9. All non-target species trapped and found in satisfactory condition shall be released immediately. Non-target species found injured or dead must be reported to the Shiawassee NWR staff and included in the daily trapping log.
10. Only the permittee plus partner named in the permit application are authorized admittance to the refuge. Entry upon other areas of the refuge not designated by the permit map constitutes trespassing.
11. The permittee shall know and restrict all trapping to within the assigned trapping unit boundaries.
12. Vehicle travel is allowed only on existing gravel roads. Snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles may be permitted at the discretion of the Refuge Manager. Roads will not be maintained for the convenience of the permittee. If the situation necessitates, roads or portions thereof may be closed to vehicle use by the Refuge Manager. At the Manager's discretion, alternate routes may be authorized if available and if compatible with refuge operations.
13. The permittee's vehicle and equipment are subject to complete inspection at any time while on refuge property.
14. Pets are prohibited on the refuge, including those kept in vehicles.
16. All traps and trapping equipment including flagging and stakes shall be removed by the last day of the permit trapping season.
17. The trapping permit shall not restrict Shiawassee NWR from carrying out any refuge management tasks including but not limited to water level manipulation, controlled burning, and any repair, construction, or agricultural activity.
18. Gasoline outboard engines and airboats are not permitted in the managed units (i.e., Pool 2, Pool 1a, Grefe Pool, North Marsh, Butch's Marsh, Eagle Marsh, etc)
19. November 15 – 18, 2013 there will be a Non-ambulatory white-tailed deer hunt that will be occurring throughout the refuge. Hunters will be hunting from blinds and will be assisted by volunteers. Successful trappers will need to coordinate their trapping schedule during those days with Shiawassee NWR staff.

Table 1. Trapping summary by unit, species, and year for Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, Saginaw, Michigan.

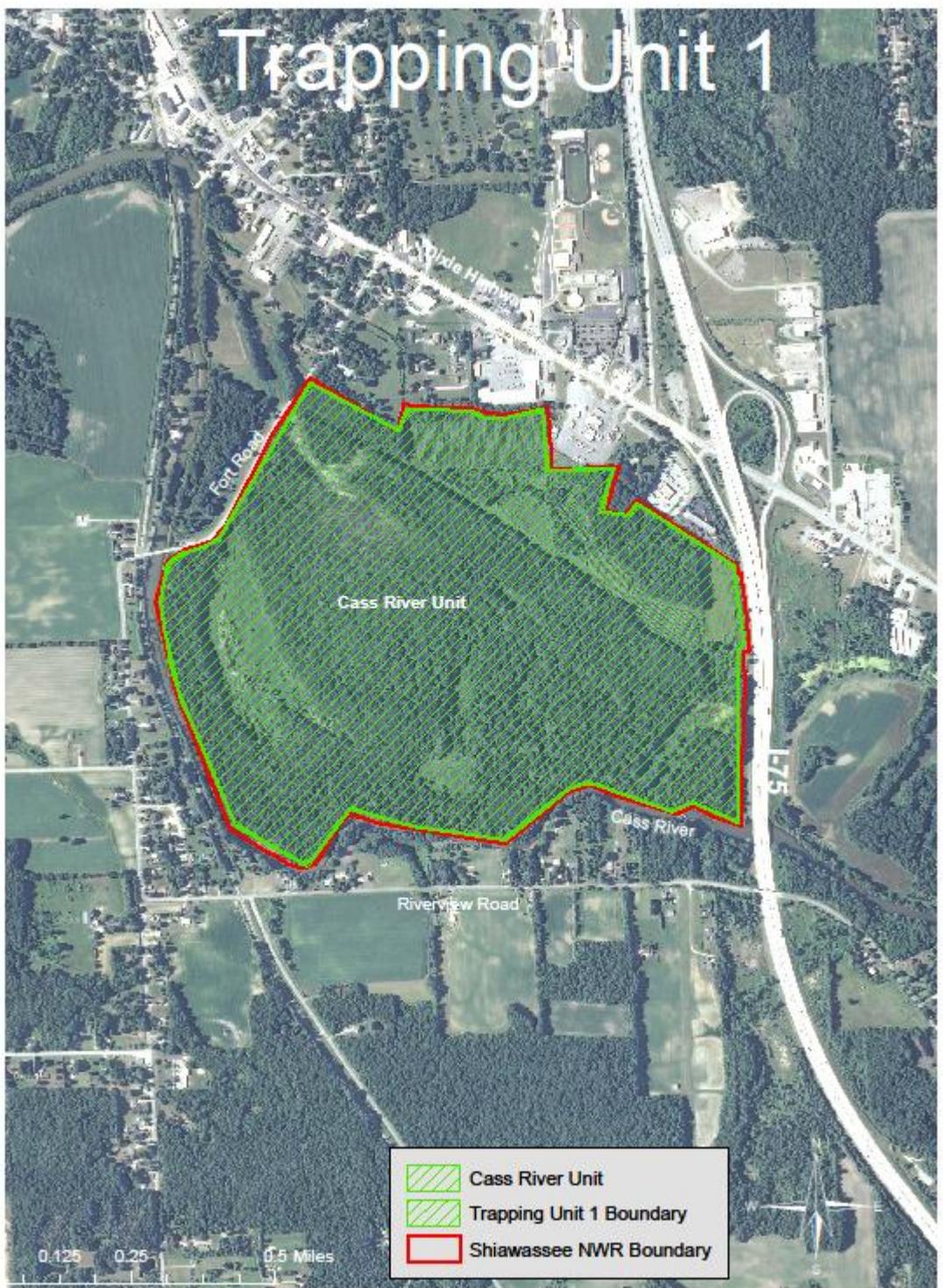
Year	Trapping Unit 1						Trapping Unit 2					
	Muskrat	Raccoon	Beaver	Fox	Mink	Opossum	Muskrat	Raccoon	Beaver	Fox	Mink	Opossum
1990 - 1991	237	0	0	0	0	-	325	3	0	0	1	-
1991 - 1992	440	36	0	1	3	13	638	0	5	0	0	0
1992 - 1993	342	25	1	0	1	1	560	0	5	0	0	0
1993 - 1994	312	24	0	0	1	6	123	3	0	0	0	1
1994 - 1995	1153	32	7	0	0	9	376	2	4	0	0	0
1995 - 1996	133	34	0	0	1	4	175	13	0	0	0	16
1996 - 1997	351	47	1	0	0	38	148	1	4	0	3	1
1997 - 1998	396	26	12	0	2	22	1038	10	2	0	0	17
1998 - 1999	701	21	0	0	8	11	484	0	0	0	0	0
1999 - 2000	252	34	4	0	5	41	944	23	3	0	0	21
2000 - 2001	306	0	4	0	1	0	195	12	0	0	2	4
2001 - 2002	568	1	4	0	0	1	224	57	9	0	1	7
2002 - 2003	1727	25	3	0	5	10	459	34	0	0	3	12
2003 - 2004 ^a	554	18	1	0	4	26	336	0	0	0	1	0
2004 - 2005	786	39	4	0	8	5	243	94	2	0	4	20
2005 - 2006	592	26	3	0	3	10	380	24	0	0	2	2
2006 - 2007	1450	93	10	0	3	18	1659	1	4	0	2	0
2007 - 2008	324	9	0	0	1	16	716	81	4	0	2	19
2008 - 2009	718	63	5	0	2	23	547	85	1	0	0	10
2009 - 2010	451	39	1	0	2	6	455	21	0	0	1	5
2010 - 2011	878	29	0	0	1	0	212	90	0	0	2	8
2011 - 2012	83	3	0	0	0	0	361	47	1	0	3	12
2012 - 2013	516	79	0	0	0	12	423	22	0	1	9	26

^a 1 least weasel and 1 skunk trapped in Ditches/Pool

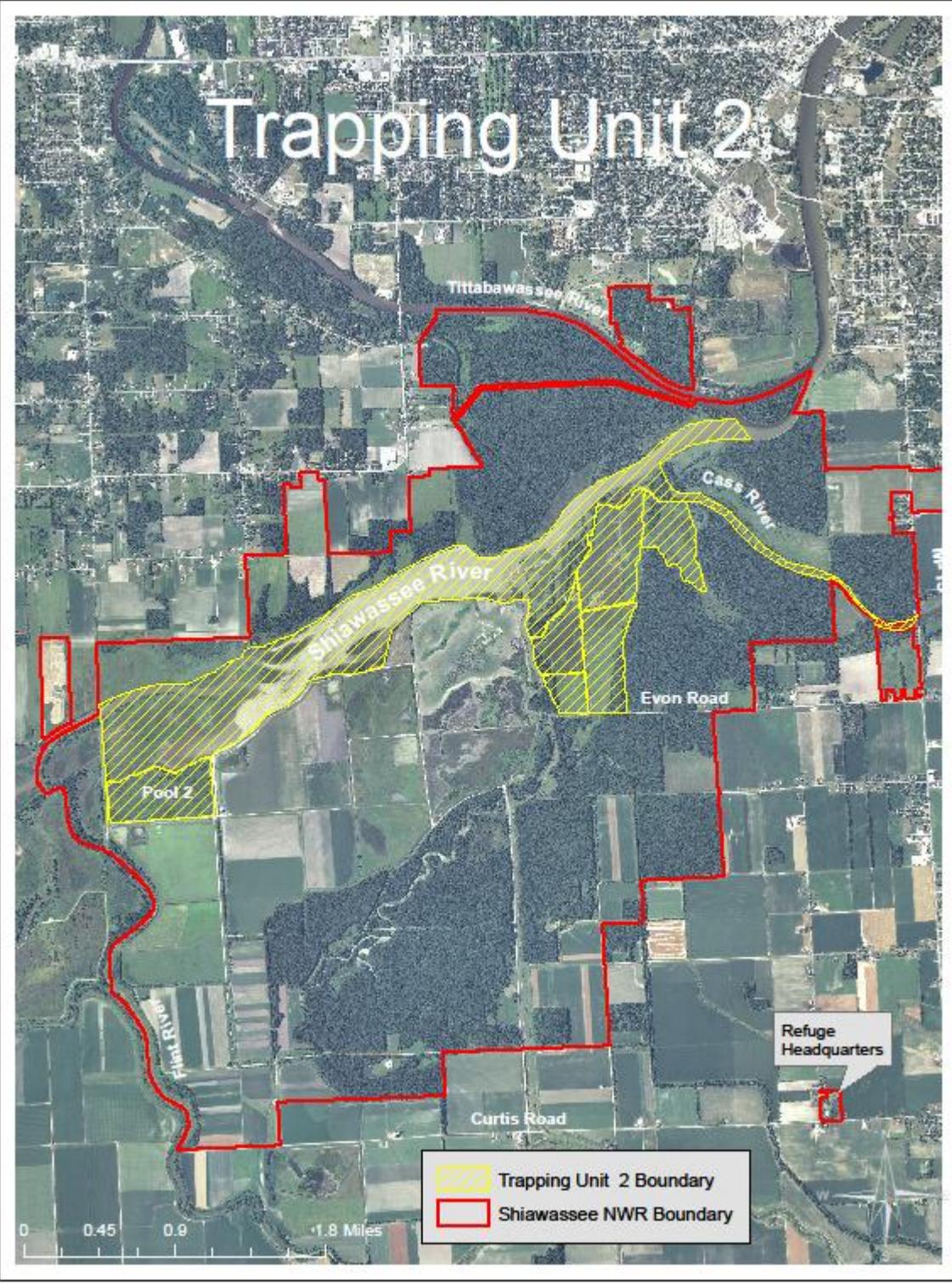
Trapping Unit 1



Trapping Unit 1



Trapping Unit 2





DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



APPLICATION FOR REFUGE FUR TRAPPING PERMIT

Notice:

In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a, please be advised that:

1. The permitting of trapping on lands of the National Wildlife Refuge System is authorized by the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act 116 U.S.C. 666a-d-666e-f and the Refuge Recreation Act, 16 U.S.C. 420k-3, implemented by regulations in 43 CFR 24.3 and 50 CFR 31.16.
2. The application form will be used by Service personnel to evaluate the qualifications and conclude the eligibility of each applicant.
3. Routine use disclosures may also be made (1) to the U.S. Department of Justice when related to litigation or anticipated litigation; (2) of information indicating a violation or potential violation of a statute, regulation, rule, order or license, to appropriate Federal, State, local or foreign agencies responsible for investigating or prosecuting the violation or for enforcing or implementing the statute, rule, regulation, order or license; (3) from the record of an individual in response to an inquiry from a Congressional office made at the request of that individual [42 FR 19063; April 31, 1977].
4. The information requested in this application form is purely voluntary, but failure to answer questions may jeopardize the eligibility of individuals to receive permits.

Refuge name, address and telephone number:

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

NAME _____ AGE* _____
*Applicant must have obtained the age of majority in the State in which trapping will occur.

ADDRESS: STREET/BOX _____ CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ TELEPHONE _____

NAME OF PARTNER _____
(Note: Partnerships must be authorized by the Refuge Manager, and each partner must complete an application.)

THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO CERTAIN REFUGES REQUIRING FINANCIAL COMMITMENT OR REMITTANCE AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION

A. Indicate amount of bid or fee for each unit or area you wish to trap. (Note: There may be restrictions on the number of units an individual may trap. Certain units may also have special restrictions. See special conditions.)

<u>unit/area</u>	<u>bid/fee</u>	<u>unit/area</u>	<u>bid/fee</u>	<u>unit/area</u>	<u>bid/fee</u>
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____

B. My deposit or payment of \$ _____ is enclosed. (Payment shall be by cashier's check, or bank or postal money order payable to "U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service." If you do not qualify or are not selected, payment will be returned.)

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

Previous trapping experience:

- A. Species, and estimated number of each, trapped previously (average per year for most recent 5 years of trapping, e.g. muskrat-200, fox-25, etc.): _____

- B. Trap system (trap types and sets etc.) used previously: _____

- C. Location(s) (county and State) and dates of previous trapping experience: _____

- D. Please list one person (not related to you and other than your partner) who has knowledge of your trapping experience and qualifications. (Include name, address, and telephone number). _____

If you have a current State trapping license for the State(s) in which refuge trapping will be done, please provide license number(s). (Give State and number.)

Note: A State license will be required prior to issuance of permit.

Do you have, or can you obtain, the necessary equipment specified in the special refuge trapping conditions? _____

Have you participated in any class or other trapper orientation or training program?

_____ If so, give date and location. _____

If selected, are you willing to attend such a program if required? _____

I certify that I have read and understand the general and specific conditions and regulations contained in the trapping permit and supplied herewith, and agree to abide by these provisions. I certify that all of the statements made in this application are true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I understand I may be disqualified if any information on this application is found to be false.

Signature of Applicant _____

Date _____

Form 3-2001
Date 1978

To Be Completed by Refuge Manager:

QUALIFIED	UNQUALIFIED*	DATE & INITIALS

*Reasons for rating to be attached