

2014 – 2015 TRAPPING PROPOSAL

SHIAWASSEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

1. 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; Grege Pool; Trinklein Marshes (new for 2014); 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; Miller Road Tract (new for 2014), and Evon Road marshes and ditches (maps attached).

2. Habitat Conditions

In 2014, Pool 1a was drawn down and will remain dry throughout most of the fall due to a dike relocation project along the Spaulding Drain. Grege Pool and Pool 2 were managed at full water capacity throughout the entire 2014 growing season. The units east of Spaulding drain, south of the Shiawassee River, and north of Evon Road were managed at higher water levels than previous years (i.e., North Marsh, Butch's Marsh, and Eagle Marsh) for habitat restoration projects. North Marsh had 12 to 18 inches of water over most of the unit throughout the growing season. Butch's marsh had lower water levels for most of the growing season but water was pumped into this unit in late August, with the majority of the water in the center of the unit. A prescribed fire is planned for late October 2014 for the prairies and all or portions of the marshes off of Evon Road (North and Butch's Marshes).

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
2014-2015 Season

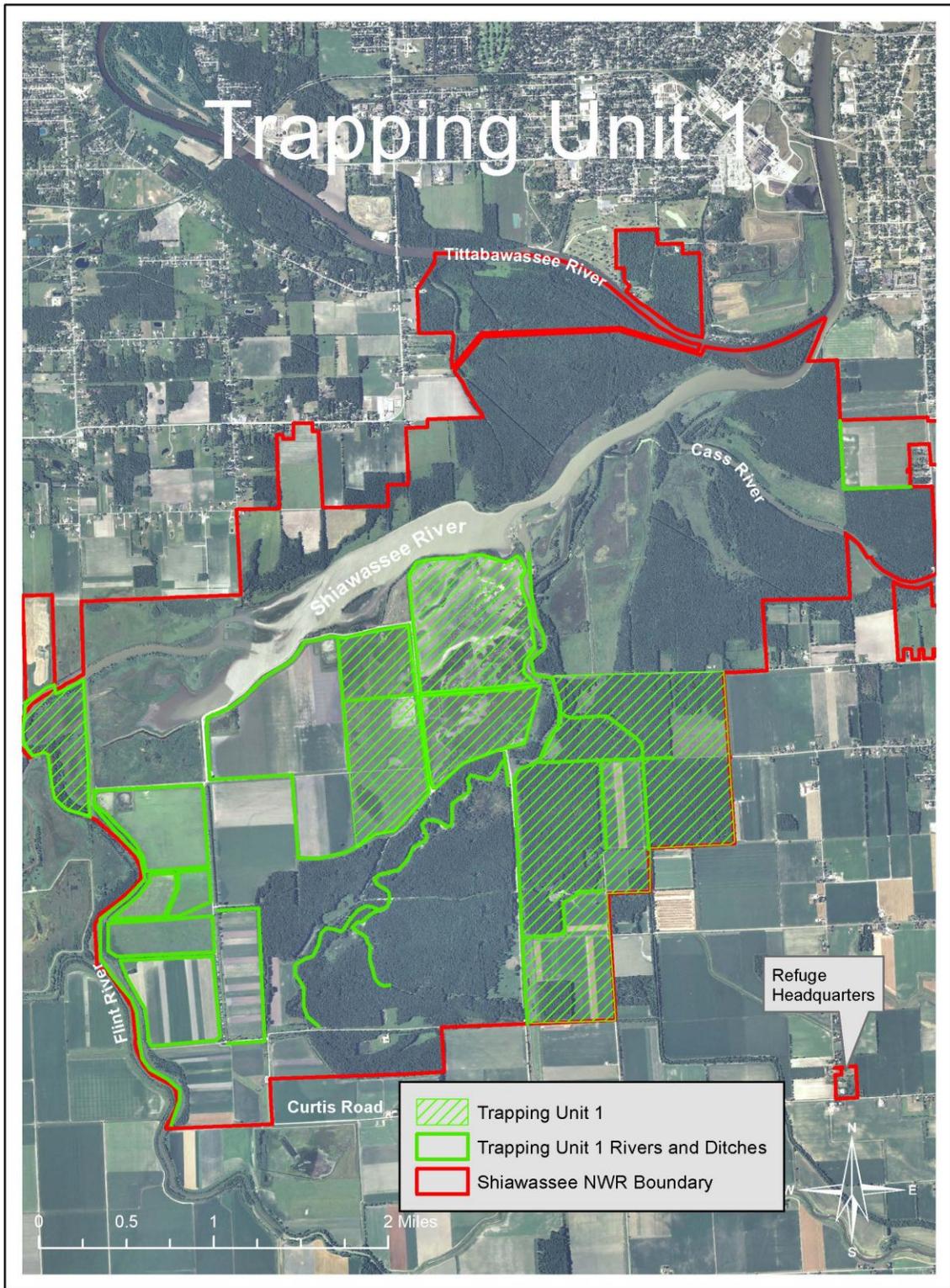
1. The trapping season on the refuge will be concurrent with the State of Michigan trapping season. Violation of any regulation (State of Michigan or Shiawassee NWR) is punishable and will result in the revocation of the trapping permit.
2. Two trapping units will be available for bid:
 - a. **Unit 1)** Refuge marsh area west of the Flint River, east bank of the Flint River south of Pool 2, Pool 1a, Grefe Pool, Trinklein marshes (new for 2014), 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, Miller Road Tract (new for 2014), and Evon Road marshes and ditches (See attached Trapping Unit 2 map).
3. 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.
4. A minimum bid of \$200 is required per unit, payment will be made only if successful. A sealed bid including "Shiawassee NWR Trapping Bid" (last page of this packet), is due in the refuge office by 1:00 P.M., Friday October 10, 2014. 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 17, 2014. Checks shall be made payable to "U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service". Trapping parties may bid on both trapping units but parties can only win one of the trapping units (i.e., 1 party cannot win and trap both units). If a trapping party is the highest bidder for both units that party will have the choice for which unit they want to trap, the second highest bidder for the other unit will win that unit.
5. 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.
6. Youth trappers (17 and under) may accompany the winning trapping party (trapper and their partner) under the following criteria to promote youth education and mentorship: the youth trapper is properly licensed under the State of Michigan hunting and trapping regulations, the youth must accompany the trapper and/or partner at all times, youth trappers will not be permitted to run a trap line independently (unless the youth trapper is the winning trappers partner).
7. 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.

8. Beaver trapping will not be permitted during March to prevent road damage unless approved by Refuge Manager.
9. The permittee shall remove from the refuge all target species trapped before skinning. Carcasses shall not be left or deposited on the refuge.
10. 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 e-mail; electronic copies of trapping log available upon request) by noon Monday or as otherwise requested.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. The permittee shall know and restrict all trapping to within the assigned trapping unit boundaries.
14. 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.
15. The permittee's vehicle and equipment are subject to complete inspection at any time while on refuge property.
16. Pets are prohibited on the refuge, including those kept in vehicles.
17. All traps and trapping equipment including flagging and stakes shall be removed by the last day of the permit trapping season.
18. 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.
19. Gasoline outboard engines and airboats are not permitted in the managed units (i.e., Pool 2, Pool 1a, Grefe Pool, Trinklein, North Marsh, Butch's Marsh, Eagle Marsh, etc)
20. November 15 – 18, 2014 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.

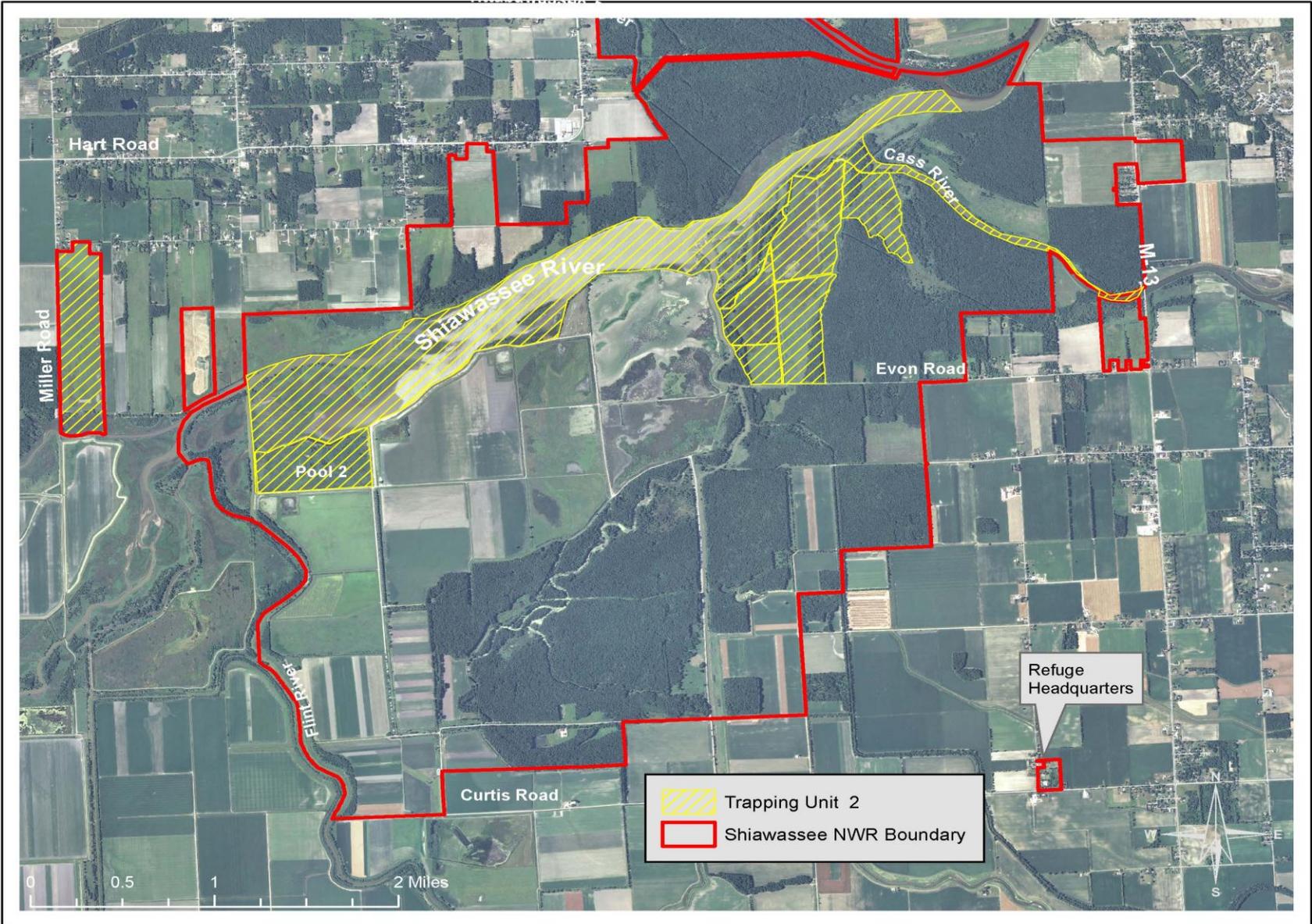
Year	Trapping Unit 1						Trapping Unit 2					
	Muskrat	Raccoon	Beaver	Fox	Mink	Opossum	Muskrat	Raccoon	Beaver	Fox	Mink	Opossum
1990 - 1991	237	0	0	0	0	-	325	3	0	0	1	-
1991 - 1992	440	36	0	1	3	13	638	0	5	0	0	0
1992 - 1993	342	25	1	0	1	1	560	0	5	0	0	0
1993 - 1994	312	24	0	0	1	6	123	3	0	0	0	1
1994 - 1995	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
2013 - 2014	558	4	0	0	0	3	667	32	0	0	0	29

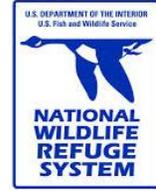
^a 1 least weasel and 1 skunk trapped in Ditches/Pool



Trapping Unit 1







Shiawassee NWR Trapping Bid

All bids must be sealed in an envelope and be returned to Shiawassee NWR Office (6975 Mower Road, Saginaw, MI 48601) by 1:00 p.m. Friday October 10, 2014.

Name:

Partner Name:

Address:

Partner Address:

Phone Number:

Partner Phone Number:

Trapping Unit 1 Bid ^{a,b}:

Trapping Unit 2 Bid ^{a,b}:

^a Minimum \$200 bid/unit

^b Trapping party may bid on one or both units but a trapping party may only win and trap one unit. If a trapping party is the highest bidder for both units that party will have option to select which unit they want to trap. The second highest bidder for the other unit will win the remaining unit.