

2016 – 2017 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 four units: **Unit 1)** Pool 2 including Eastwood Drainage ditch east of Pool 2 to the mouth of the Shiawassee River, Walker Tract (located at Miller and Hart Road), and Cass River Unit (located south of Dixie Highway and west of I-75 in Bridgeport along the Cass River; **Unit 2)** All the marshes north of the center line of Evon Road and east of the center of the Spaulding drain, all of the Shiawassee River marshes (unit begins as the toe of the dike where trapping units 1 and 3 share a boundary with this unit), and upland areas north of the Shiawassee River and the Woodland Trail hiking area (no trapping within 50 ft. of the Woodland hiking trail); **Unit 3)** Pool 1a, Grefe Pool, Maankiki Marsh (also known as Farm Unit 1 and Trinklein Conversion area); **Unit 4)** Pools 3 and 5 including all of the Ferguson Bayou (no trapping within 50 ft. of the Ferguson Bayou Hiking Trail), all areas east of the center of Spaulding drain (in area where trapping units 3, 2, and 4 share a boundary) and south of the center of Evon Road, all the moist soil units (7, 6, 2E, 2W, and 1) and ditches on the west side of the Refuge.

2. Habitat Conditions

In 2016, Grefe pool was drawn down in spring to promote annual plant growth, it was shallowly flooded in September and water will be added throughout the fall. Pool 2 was partially drawn down (water loss throughout the summer was from evapotranspiration) resulting in most of the north half of the unit being dry throughout much of the growing season. The south half of Pool 2 had approximately one foot of water throughout most of the growing season. A broken culvert has prevented the north half of the unit from being flooded, the repair should be completed in October 2016 and pumping will begin immediately after repair is complete. The units east of Spaulding drain, south of the Shiawassee River, and north of Evon Road (i.e., North Marsh, Butch's Marsh, and Eagle Marsh) were drawn down for a cattail biomass harvest project. The units will be flooded to full pool by the second week of October. Maankiki marsh (940 acres included in trapping unit 3) has been kept dry throughout the entire growing season in order to build two new dikes and install three water control structures. The unit will remain mostly dry throughout the 2016 trapping season to allow the new dikes to become vegetated prior to flooding.

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 **2016-2017 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. Four trapping units will be available for bid:
 - a. **Unit 1**) Pool 2 including Eastwood Drainage ditch east of Pool 2 to the mouth of the Shiawassee River, Walker Tract (located at Miller and Hart Road), and Cass River Unit (located south of Dixie Highway and west of I-75 in Bridgeport along the Cass River
 - b. **Unit 2**) All the marshes north of the center line of Evon Road and east of the center of the Spaulding drain, all of the Shiawassee River marshes (unit begins as the toe of the dike where trapping units 1 and 3 share a boundary with this unit), and upland areas north of the Shiawassee River and the Woodland Trail hiking area (no trapping is allowed within 50 ft. of the Woodland hiking trail);
 - c. **Unit 3**) Pool 1a, Grefe Pool, Maankiki Marsh (also known as Farm Unit 1 and Trinklein Conversion area).
 - d. **Unit 4**) Pools 3 and 5 including all of the Ferguson Bayou (no trapping within 50 ft. of the Ferguson Bayou hiking trail), all areas east of the center of Spaulding drain (in area where trapping units 3, 2, and 4 share a boundary) and south of the center of Evon Road, all the moist soil units (7, 6, 2E, 2W, and 1) on the west side of the Refuge.
3. No trapping is permitted within 50 ft. of the Woodland and Ferguson Bayou Hiking Trails.
4. 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.

5. 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., Thursday October 13, 2016. 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 20, 2016. Checks shall be made payable to "U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service". Trapping parties may bid on all trapping units but parties can only win one of the trapping units (i.e., 1 party cannot win and trap all units). If a trapping party is the highest bidder for multiple units that party will have the choice for which unit they want to trap, the second highest bidder for the other units will win that unit. If units are not bid upon, winning parties will then be offered the remaining units based upon the amount of their bid for those units.
6. 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.
7. 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).
8. 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.
9. Beaver trapping will not be permitted during March to prevent road damage unless approved by Refuge Manager.
10. The permittee shall remove from the refuge all target species trapped before skinning. Carcasses shall not be left or deposited on the refuge.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. The permittee shall know and restrict all trapping to within the assigned trapping unit boundaries.

15. 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.
16. The permittee's vehicle and equipment are subject to complete inspection at any time while on refuge property.
17. Pets are prohibited on the refuge, including those kept in vehicles.
18. All traps and trapping equipment including flagging and stakes shall be removed by the last day of the permit trapping season.
19. 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.
20. 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)
21. November 15 – 18, 2016 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						Trapping Unit 3 ^a						Trapping Unit 4 ^a					
	Muskrat	Raccoon	Beaver	Fox	Mink	Opossum	Muskrat	Raccoon	Beaver	Fox	Mink	Opossum	Muskrat	Raccoon	Beaver	Fox	Mink	Opossum	Muskrat	Raccoon	Beaver	Fox	Mink	Opossum
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	1,038	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	1,727	25	3	0	5	10	459	34	0	0	3	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2003 - 2004	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	1,450	93	10	0	3	18	1,659	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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2014-2015	1,718	41	0	1	4	1	650	1	0	0	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2015-2016	1,313	1	0	0	0	0	1,006	19	1	0	1	3	1,096	0	0	0	2	0	234	81	5	0	3	10

^aTrapping units 3 and 4 were created during the 2015-2016 trapping season, prior to this trapping season there were only 2 trapping units on Shiawassee NWR.

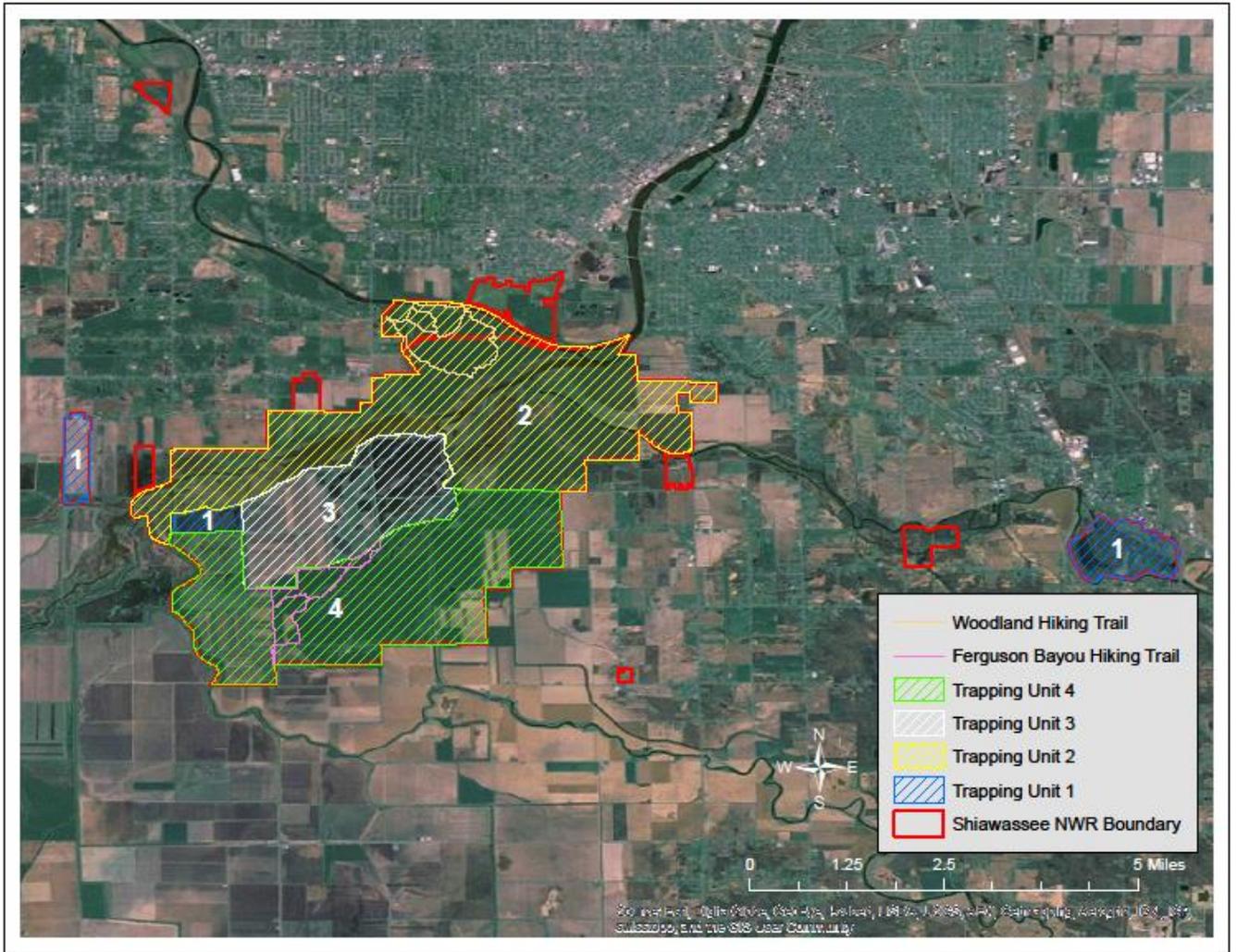


Figure 1. Trapping unit boundaries for the 2016 to 2017 furbearer trapping program at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, Saginaw, MI.

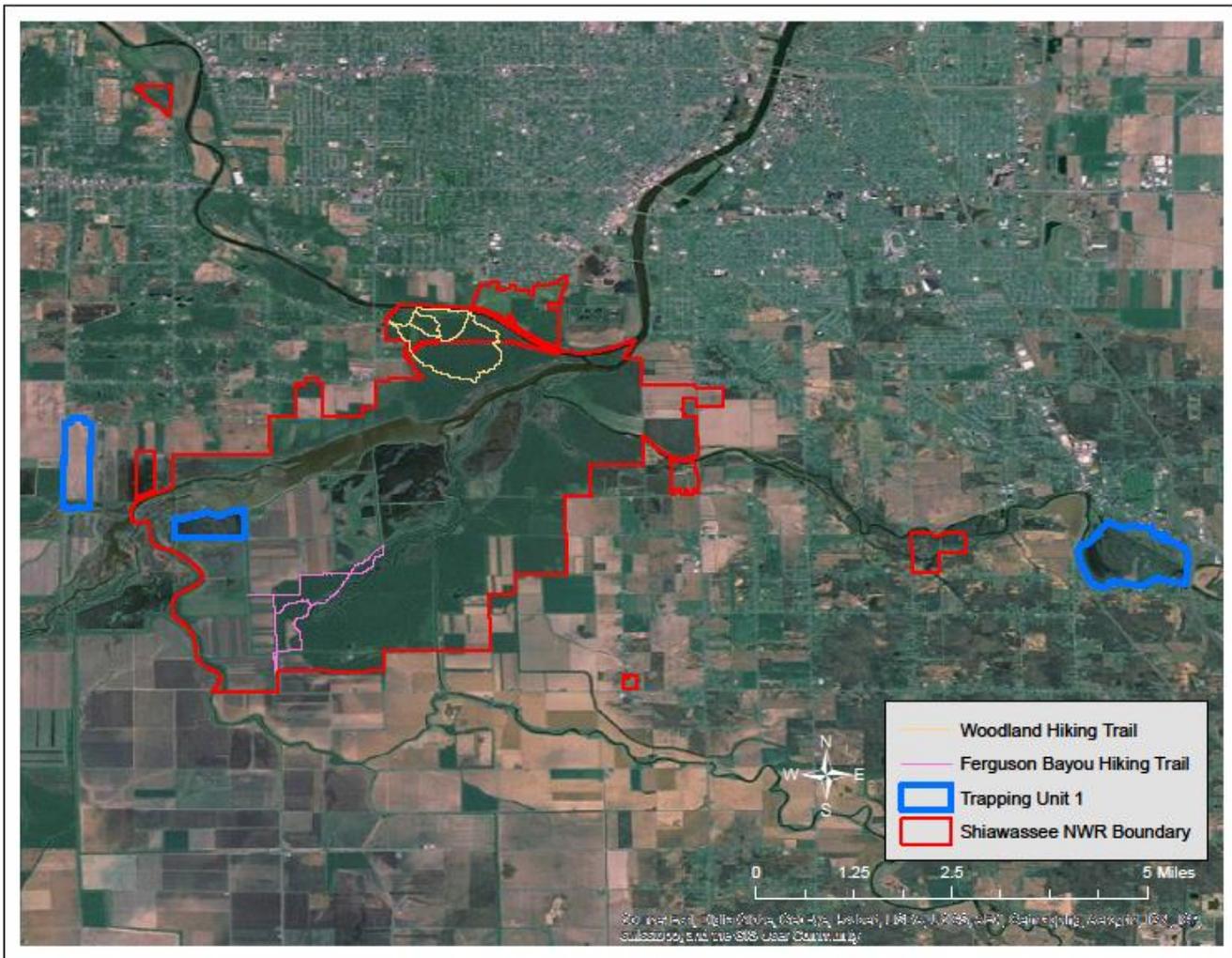


Figure 2. Trapping unit 1 boundary for the 2016 to 2017 furbearer trapping program at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, Saginaw, MI.

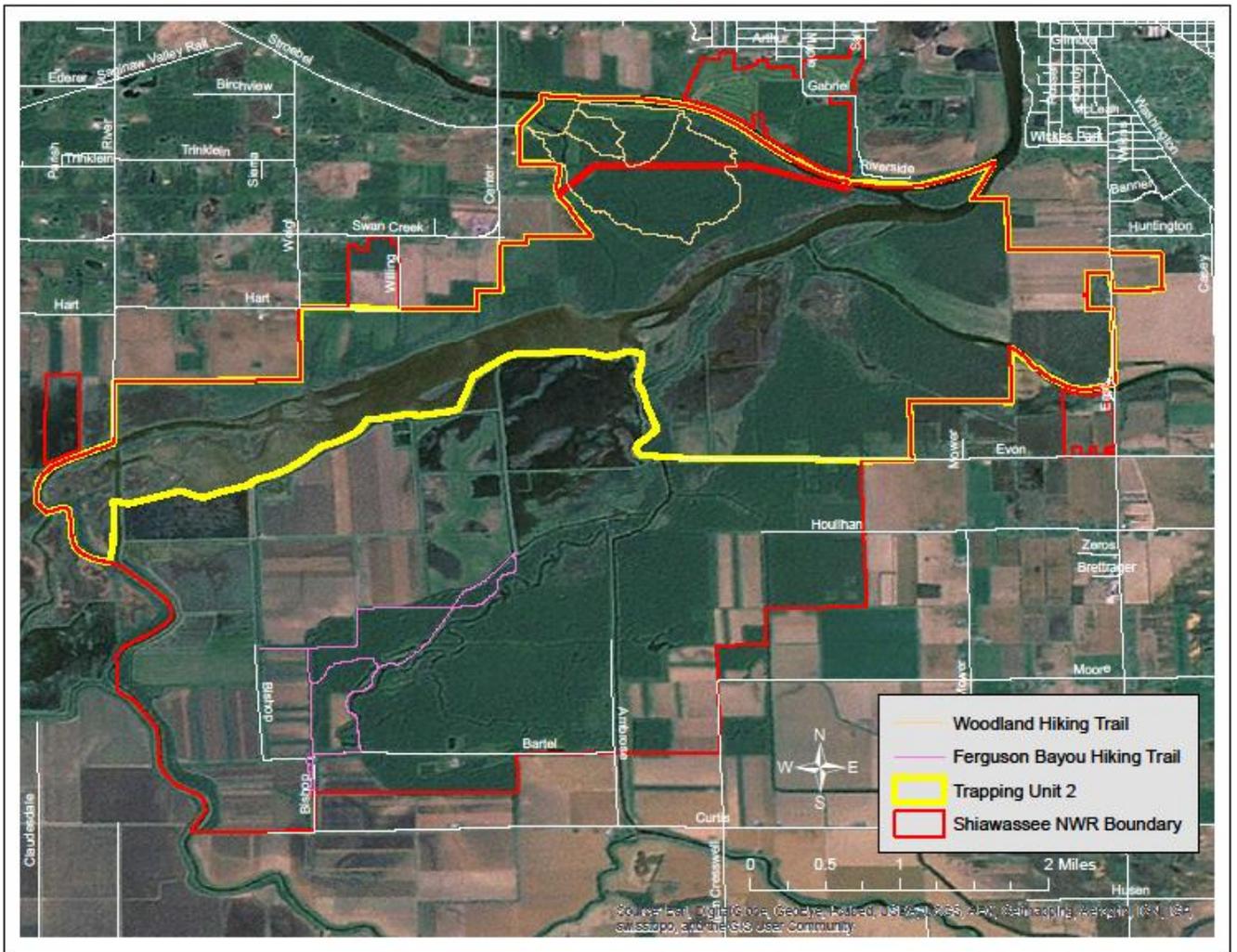


Figure 3. Trapping unit 2 boundary for the 2016 to 2017 furbearer trapping program at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, Saginaw, MI.

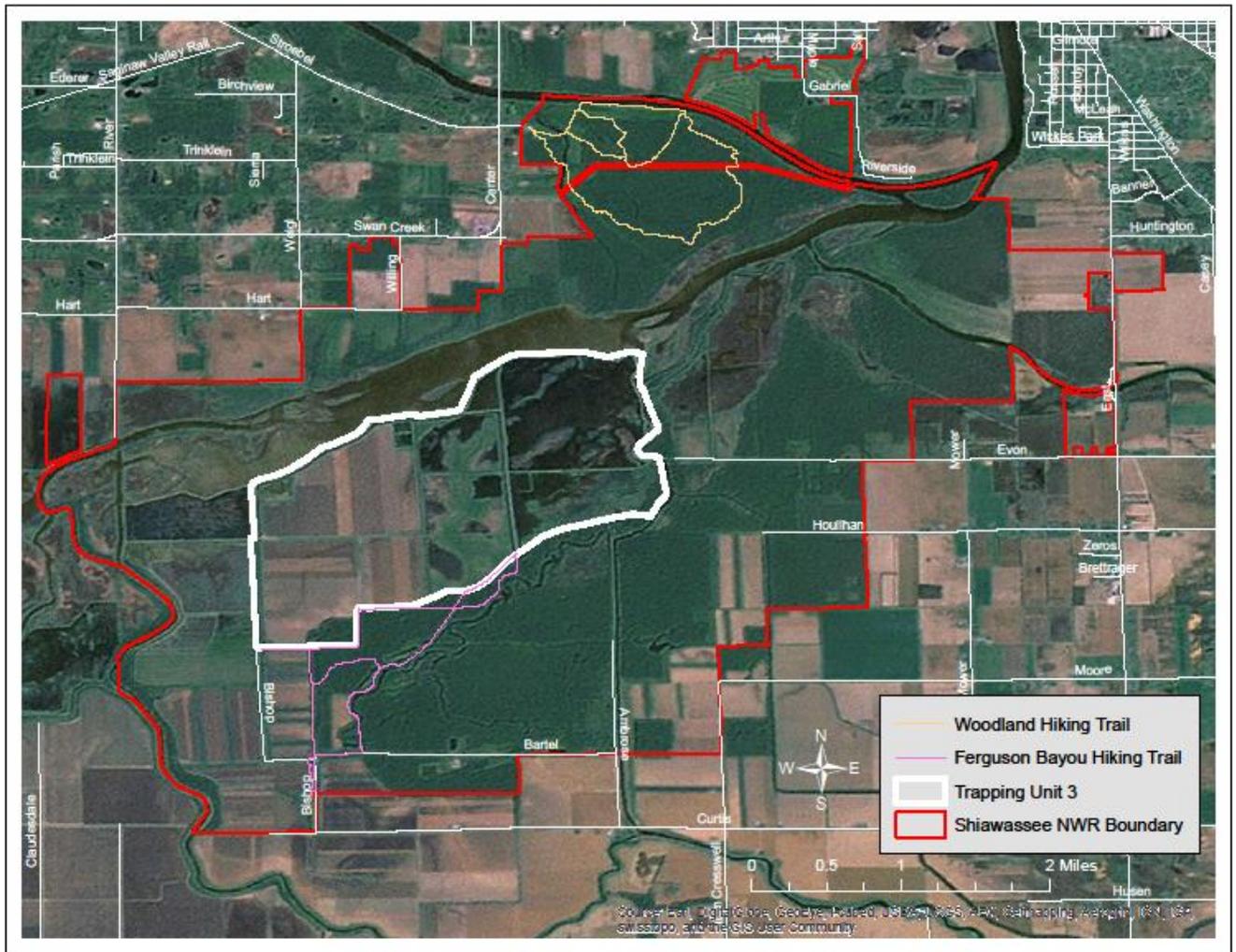


Figure 4. Trapping unit 3 boundary for the 2016 to 2017 furbearer trapping program at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, Saginaw, MI.

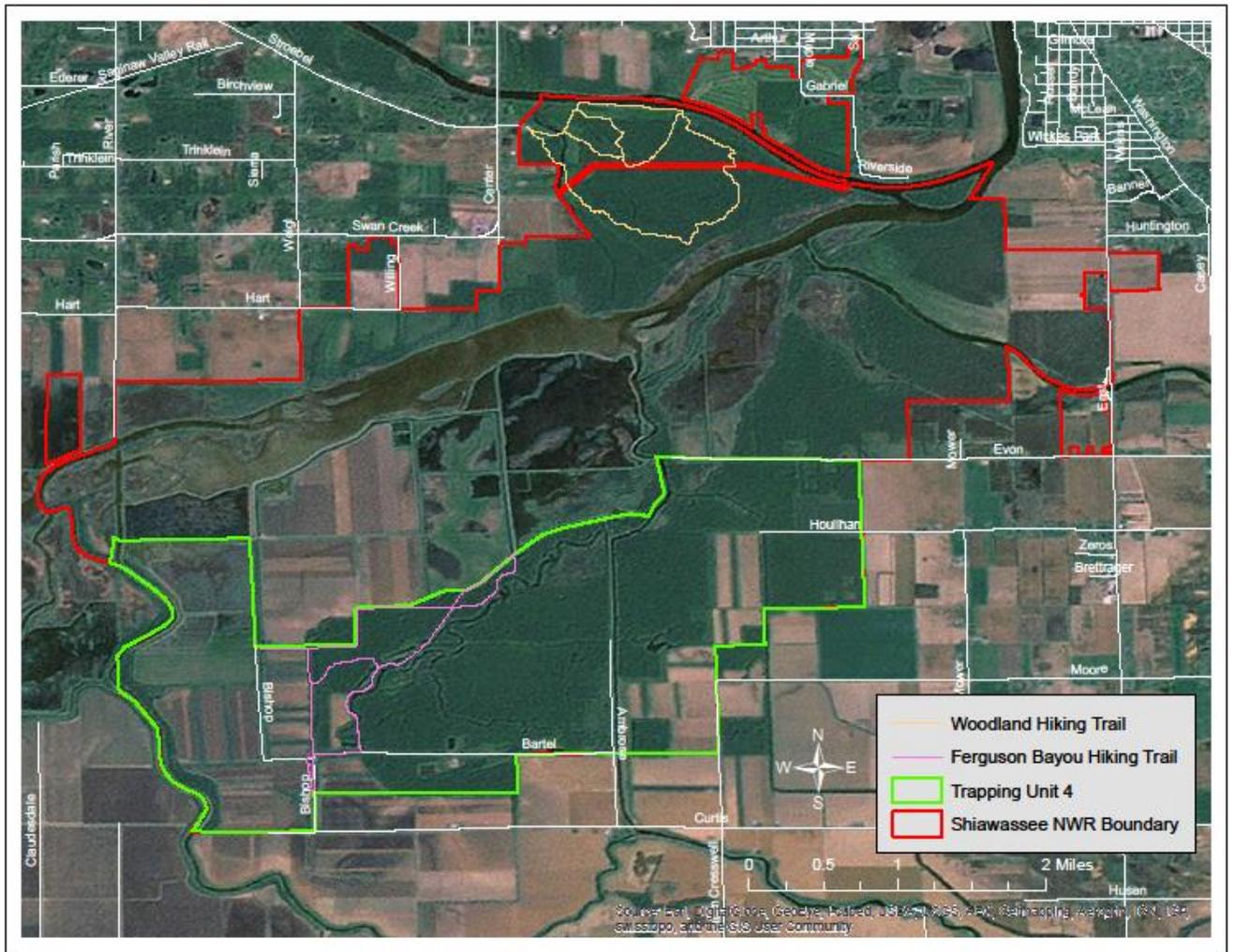
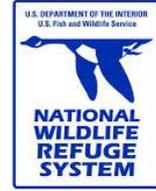


Figure 5. Trapping Unit 4 boundary for the 2016 to 2017 furbearer trapping program at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, Saginaw, MI.



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. Thursday October 13, 2016.

Name:

Partner Name:

Address:

Partner Address:

Phone Number:

Partner Phone Number:

Trapping Unit 1 Bid ^{a,b}:

Trapping Unit 2 Bid ^{a,b}:

Trapping Unit 3 Bid ^{a,b}:

Trapping Unit 4 Bid ^{a,b}:

^a Minimum \$200 bid/unit

^b Trapping parties may bid on all trapping units but parties can only win one of the trapping units (i.e., 1 party cannot win and trap all units). If a trapping party is the highest bidder for multiple units that party will have the choice for which unit they want to trap, the second highest bidder for the other units will win that unit. If units are not bid upon, winning parties will then be offered the remaining units based upon the amount of their bid for those units.