

Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area - Attachment 4 Bid Sheet Instructions:

1. Complete this Bid Sheet (**Attachment 4**).
2. Complete 1st Page of Special Use Permit Application (**Attachment 5**).
3. Place Bid Sheet and Special Use Permit Application in an envelope and seal.
4. Mail or deliver sealed envelope to Patoka River NWR & MA by **Friday, February 26, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.**

Proposals are to be submitted to the Refuge Headquarters in a sealed envelope marked Cooperative Farming Proposal, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area, 510 ½ W. Morton St. Oakland City, IN 47660 or mailed to P.O. Box 217 Oakland City, IN 47660. The envelopes may be submitted either by mail or hand delivery to the refuge office. All proposals will be opened on Monday March 1, 2021. The individual with the highest ranked proposal will be notified within 10 days of selection.

Interested cooperators should complete the additional information section below. Cooperators will be selected through an open and competitive process where applications will be scored and ranked by a panel using the following criteria:

- Experience in cultivation of crops, including knowledge of soil composition, chemistry, moisture, fertility, water needs, and pest problems.
- Experience in cultivation of crops, including personal experience on NWR lands or comparable conservation land.
- Demonstrated ability to successfully cultivate crops under restrictions listed above (e.g. non- GMO crops, non-neonicotinoid pesticides, and limitations on pesticides).
- Ownership or access to the proper equipment, materials, labor, or other resources to participate in the Cooperative Agriculture Agreement (equipment and personnel).
- Dollar bid amount per acre.* Please evaluate the attached Crop Plan and place your bid based upon the average you would pay per acre each year. This will be your competing bid. Your annual rent will be your bid amount per acre multiplied by acreage by farm year for each Farm Unit you are bidding on. (*Note: Cooperator will be scored and ranked based on the entirety of the above criteria, not solely on bid amount (e.g. highest bid does not guarantee selection))

Be as detailed as possible when filling out the attached bid sheet. Applicants must address in their application how they will meet the criteria outlined in the above bulleted points (attach additional sheets if necessary). In the event of a tie, the winning applicant will be randomly drawn from a pool of equally ranked competing applicants.

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Applicant Information:

Name (Proposal Submitter) Partner (if applicable) _____

Name of Business or Farm _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____ E-mail address _____

Current Pesticide Applicator's License: Yes/No (Circle one)

Type: _____ Expiration: _____

Bid Information:

Write your bid amount for the corresponding Farm Unit(s) in the space(s) provided below.

Bid Amount (\$/acre) Unit 1: _____ **Bid Amount (\$/acre) for an**

average of 391 acres

harvested per year for 3 years

Additional Information:

Describe your experience in farming operations (including number of years, cultivation of crops, pest problems, etc.) or other related experience:

(Continued on next page)

Describe your experience specific to farming on National Wildlife Refuges or comparable conservation lands:

List all available equipment in good working condition, for example harvesters, tractors, implements, trucks & trailers. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Equipment:

Personnel available:

Describe your experience cultivating crops under restrictions such as non-GMO and non-neonicotinoid treated seeds and limitations on pesticides:

(Continued on next page)

Who would be doing your herbicide applications?

I have read and if selected agree to the permit conditions listed in the bid package.

Signature: _____

Date: _____