

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

National Wildlife Refuge System

News Release

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Upgrade of Water Control Structures Planned at Hamden Slough National Wildlife Refuge

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, together with Ducks Unlimited, will begin a project to remove four water control structures on the southern portion of the Hamden Slough National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) beginning in mid-October. These structures have been in place for almost over 20 years and are beginning to fail. They will be replaced with sheet pile weirs and concrete box water control structures which will reduce plugging, improve water management capability, and enhance overall habitat management. The water level in Homstad wetland will be raised 1 foot, significantly enhancing wetland habitat. Work on this project will continue until weather no longer allows for the required construction and then resume in the spring as conditions allow. Replacement of these water control structures will help U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service meet the wetland goals and objectives stated in the Hamden Slough Comprehensive Conservation Plan (2012) and the Habitat Management Plan (2017).

Hamden Slough NWR is not open to waterfowl hunting, thus no seasons will be impacted by this work. Muzzleloader deer season begins November 28th and is unlikely to be impacted by this work due to construction timeline and lack of appropriate habitat in work zone. Please visit the Refuge website for the most up-to-date information including a map of the work zone/project sites. Additional questions should be directed to Laurel Kullerud at (218) 849-3105 or laurel_kullerud@fws.gov.

Ducks Unlimited takes a continental, landscape approach to wetland conservation. Since 1937, DU has conserved more than 14 million acres of waterfowl habitat across North America. While DU works in all 50 states, the organization focuses its efforts and resources on the habitats most beneficial to waterfowl. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. Becker County enjoys an impressive diversity of both plants and wildlife as a result of its location where the eastern deciduous forest meets the prairie. Plan a visit to experience Tamarac, Hamden Slough, or one of the many Waterfowl Production Areas and enjoy your public lands.





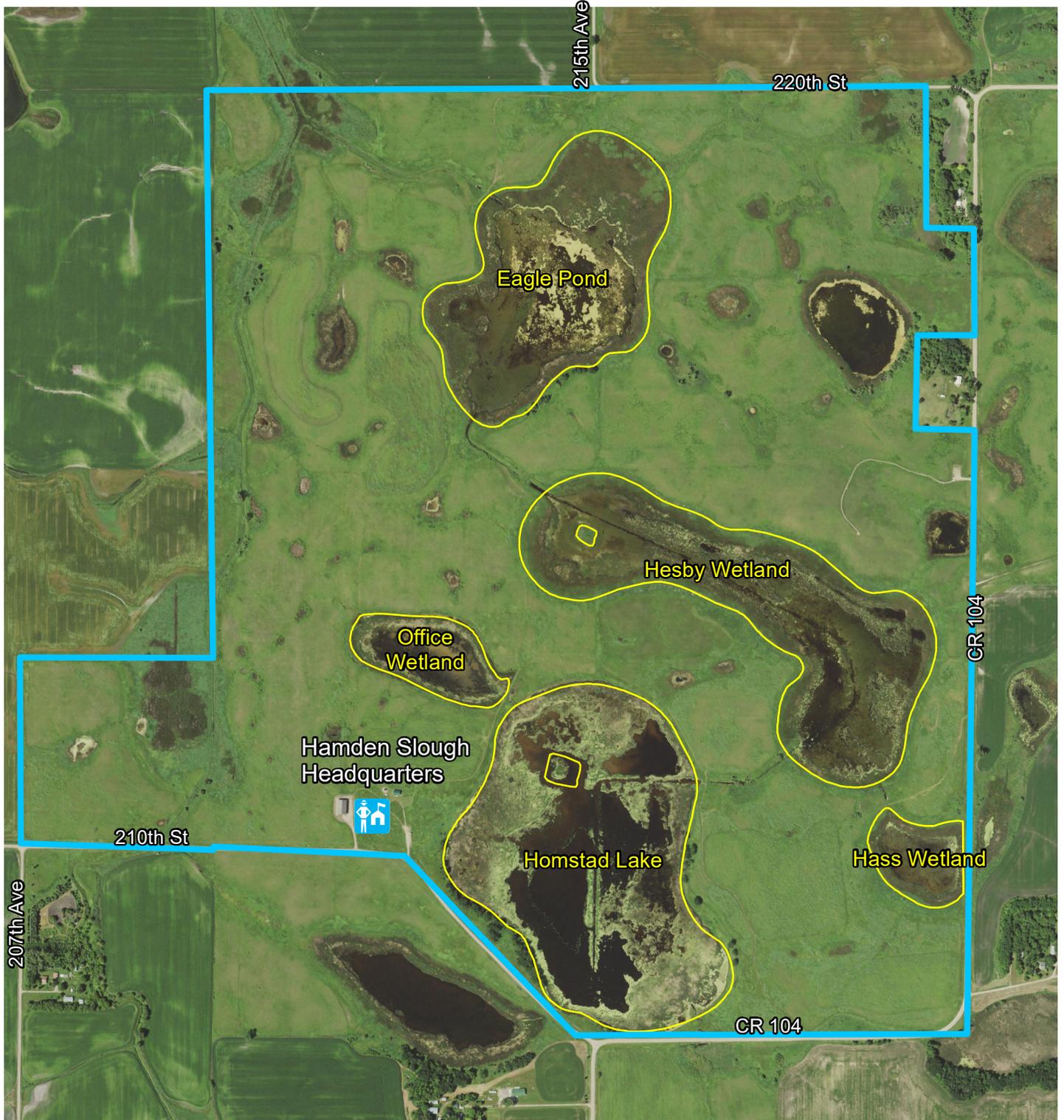
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Hamden Slough National Wildlife Refuge

Audubon Township Sections 2 & 11

T.139N., R.42W., Sections 2 & 11

Becker County, Minnesota



-  Hamden Slough NWR
-  Hamden Wetlands

