

News Release



TEWAUKON NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE COMPLEX
9754 143 1/2 Avenue SE
Cayuga, ND 58013

For Immediate Release
January 25, 2021

“Tewaukon Refuge Complex Farming Bid Packages Available”

Contact: Kristine Askerooth, (701) 724-3598 ext. 3, kristine_askerooth@fws.gov
Pat Fitzmorris, (701) 724-3598 ext. 2, patrick_fitzmorris@fws.gov

CAYUGA, ND – The Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) will be opening up three different units to farming on the Refuge in Sargent County. These units will be farmed for 3-5 years and then seeded back to wildlife grassland habitat. Please contact the Refuge Office to get maps and details regarding each unit.

The three units will be allocated using a competitive bidding process. The agreements will be for five years. Each unit is unique in size and has different conditions. There are strict limitations on the type, application, and use of herbicides on these units—only herbicides approved by the Refuge staff may be used. Records will be kept and seed labels provided to staff. No GMO crops are allowed except for Round-up Ready soybeans. No insecticides, fungicides, or pre-emergent chemicals can be used including but not limited to no Neonicotinoids seed treatments. The type of crop is agreed upon each year by the Refuge staff and the cooperators. Fields within in the unit vary by size and will be farmed from 3-5 years and then re-seeded to native grasses and wildflowers by the Refuge staff. No harassment or hazing of wildlife will be allowed. There may be some roadside mowing responsibilities included in the agreement. Interested parties will need to bid on a per acres basis. Payment is due by December 31st each year.

Information including location of the units, maps, a bid sheet and special conditions may be requested from the Refuge office at 701-724-3598 or by e-mail at kristine_askerooth@fws.gov. Bids need to **be received in the office no later than 2:00 p.m. on February 24, 2021** and will be opened at 2:00 p.m. on February 25, 2021. **No phone or e-mail bids will be accepted.** The public is welcome attend the opening via Zoom at 2:00 p.m. on the 25th in the office. Please contact the Refuge if you would like to receive a link to view the opening.

If you have any questions or would like a bid packet, give the Refuge Office a call at 701-724-3598 during business hours, Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm or send us an email.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service.

For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit <http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/>. Connect with our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/USFWSMountainPrairie>, follow our tweets at <http://twitter.com/USFWSMtnPrairie>, watch our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwsmtmprairie/>.

– FWS –