



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Huron Wetland Management District
20721 392nd Ave
Wolsey, SD 57384

In Reply Refer to:
FWS/IR05/NWRS

June 10, 2024

Dear Interested Haying Cooperator:

Enclosed you will find a list of Waterfowl Production Areas available for haying in the Huron Wetland Management District. Along with this list, I have enclosed a map which shows the locations and names of each hay unit in the District. **Contact this office to request an aerial image map of those areas you are interested in.** Maps can also be found on our website at [Huron Wetland Management District | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \(fws.gov\)](https://www.fws.gov/huron-wetland-management-district). All of the acreages are approximate depending on the amount of water/wet areas on the unit. Exact acreage will be determined after the unit is hayed.

Review the enclosed 2023 Haying Regulations before bidding on the units. Notice that haying may not begin until **August 1**. This date allows more late nesting waterfowl species to successfully complete the nesting process and young grassland birds to fledge before haying activities begin. Pay close attention to other dates including the hay completion date (August 21) and the equipment and bale removal date (September 15). Failure to remove the hay and equipment by September 15 will result in forfeiture of future bidding privileges on haying units, or issuances of a fine and/or both.

Pay attention to Condition Number 9. Clipping of noxious weeds allows us to reduce the production and spread of noxious weeds while at the same time preparing the sites for a fall herbicide application. These units are marked with an asterisk (*) on the list of available units. Please mark any new weed species you may find (leafy spurge, etc.) on a map and send it in to us.

Be aware that you may bid on multiple hay units, however, if you are the high bidder on units in which we receive multiple bids, you will be limited to one unit of your choice. If you are the high bidder on one unit and the only bidder on another unit(s), you may hay all units.

Bids must be postmarked or received in the office by 4:00 pm on July 15. Bids will be opened on July 17 at 9:00 am. No PHONE OR EMAIL bids will be accepted. The public is welcome to attend the opening at 9:00 am in the office.

If you have any questions regarding the bid process or about any of the Waterfowl Production Areas listed, please contact us at (605) 350-0712.

Sincerely,

Fred Oslund
Wetland District Manager

INTERIOR REGION 5
MISSOURI BASIN

KANSAS, MONTANA*, NEBRASKA, NORTH DAKOTA,
SOUTH DAKOTA

*PARTIAL

INTERIOR REGION 7
UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN

COLORADO, NEW MEXICO, UTAH, WYOMING

2024 HAYING REGULATIONS HURON WETLAND MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

1. To be eligible to bid, you must be a current livestock operator.
2. Haying operations may begin on August 1.
3. Haying operations must be completed by August 21.
4. Litter and thatch will be removed from the hayed area using a rake or discbine etc.
5. All bales and equipment must be removed from the WPA by September 15. Failure to remove hay and equipment will result in the loss of future bidding privileges and/or a violation notice with a fine.
6. **Hay harvested from the WPA must be used in your personal livestock operations and cannot be sold, traded, or given away.**
7. You may bid on multiple units. However, you cannot combine units. If you are the successful bidder on more than one unit in which multiple bids are received, you will be limited to one tract of your choice.
8. If you are the sole bidder on more than one unit, you may reject only one area. You will be financially responsible for all other units for which you were the successful bidder.
9. Acreages are approximate and will vary depending on wetland expansion, noxious weeds, rocky areas, rough areas, and equipment capabilities.
10. **All weedy areas within the specified unit must be cut, baled, and the bales removed from the WPA. Exceptions to this are leafy spurge. These areas must be cut, but the hay should be left lying.**
11. Vehicle travel to and from the hay areas should be limited to one trail. Do not drive over un-mowed areas on the WPA.
12. Any fences or gates which are altered for access must be repaired/replaced to their original condition. **Close all gates when bales are removed from the unit.**
13. Excessive haying outside the unit boundaries will result in payment of twice the bid price and revocation of future haying privileges.
14. Payment due for hay will be calculated after the haying has been completed. A bill for collection will be sent to you with directions to make payments.
15. Failure to pay bill will result in loss of future bidding privileges, and you will be subject to late fees and/or Collections.
16. In cases where no bids were received for units, applicants that were interested may be contacted after the bid opening.
17. All liability related to haying to include all persons working for the cooperator is strictly that of the cooperator.
18. All equipment used in pasture management must be clean and free of invasive species plant material including seeds before entering the WPA.
19. The USFWS reserves the right to modify or terminate the CAA if habitat conditions warrant. If changes to the permit are deemed necessary, the permittee agrees to abide by the changes or the permit will be voided. The permittee will be notified ahead of time if any such changes are implemented.
20. Minimum bids for hay will be \$25.00/acre. This price is determined based on the three year average hay price listed in the "South Dakota Agricultural Land Market Trends, 1991-2023 (sdstate.edu)" Prices are adjusted due to August 1-21 haying date; reduced protein value, and above normal litter amounts.
21. Any damage to Government property must be reported to the District Manager immediately and replaced by the permittee.

Application and Cooperative Agricultural Agreement

The Cooperator will be selected through an open and competitive process. Interested Cooperators will be evaluated based on the proposed bid (\$/acre), and experience and qualifications that demonstrate an ability to meet the resource management objectives of the District.

All bids remain sealed and will be opened on the same day. Apparent high bidders will be notified promptly of their selection. Bids received after the closing date will be returned to the bidder unopened. Bids not in conformance with advertised terms of the sale will be rejected. The

Huron District reserves the right to reject any or all bids that do not meet the requirements identified in the bid prospectus. Furthermore, the Huron District also reserves the right to reject bids from any bidders that have previously violated the terms of any Special Use Permits (SUP).

Winning bidders must complete a Cooperative Agricultural Agreement (CAA) with the Huron District Refuge Manager within two weeks of winning bid notification, and prior to any haying on to the WPA. The CAA will include the Special Use Permit and an annual Plan of Operations.

Bids must be postmarked or received at the Huron Wetland Management District office by close of business on July 15. Bids will be accepted by mail or hand delivery, but the bids must be in a sealed envelope. All envelopes must be marked WPA Hay Bid. Haying permits will be awarded on July 17.

Bids must received by July 15 by mail or hand delivery to:

**Huron Wetland Management District
20721 392nd Ave
Wolsey, SD 57384**

ANY VIOLATION OF THE ABOVE REGULATIONS MAY RESULT IN THE IMMEDIATE CANCELLATION OF HAY PERMIT AND FORFEITURE OF FUTURE HAY BIDDING PRIVILEGES.

THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS.

If you have any questions on the haying units or regulations, please contact us at this address or phone number with any questions: Huron Wetland Management District; 20721 392nd Ave Wolsey, SD 57384 or 605-350-0712.