## Cooperative Agricultural Opportunity

at

## Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is seeking bids to farm multiple land parcels in one unit (Farm Unit 2) within the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area (NWR & MA). Cooperative Agriculture is used at Patoka River NWR & MA to achieve wildlife management objectives by providing and restoring habitat and supplementing natural food resources. As a result, this farming program requires that agricultural crops be planted, cultivated, and harvested in accordance with Special Conditions for Farming (Attachment 1) and other requirements described below.

## I. What and Where:

**Unit 2** is approximately 249 acres comprised of: 211 acres of farmland, 36 acres of conservation buffers, and 2 acres of levee.

- 1. Farm Unit will be rented for a period of three crop years beginning February 15, 2025 and ending December 31, 2027.
- 2. Farm Unit 2 is located within the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area near Oakland City, IN in Gibson County.

## II. How to Bid:

- 1. Review General Conditions for Bids and Crop Plans (see #III and IV below).
- 2. Complete and return Bid Sheet(s) (Attachment 4) along with the Special Use Permit Application (Attachment 5) by **COB** on **Friday December 20, 2024** to:

In Person: 510 ½ West Morton Street, Oakland City, IN 47660

If you plan on delivering the bid in person please contact the office to set up an appointment time. 812-749-3199

By Mail: Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area, P.O. Box 217

Oakland City, IN 47660

or via email

heath hamilton@fws.gov

3. Cooperators will be selected through an open and competitive process where applications will be scored and ranked by a panel according to objective criteria outlined on Bid Sheet

(Attachment 4). Please Note: cooperators will be scored and ranked based on the entirety of the selection criteria, not solely on bid amount (9 criteria will be evaluated for each applicant, each worth 10% of the total score, except the Bid Amount which is worth 20%).

4. Questions regarding the bid process: contact Heath Hamilton, Wildlife Refuge Specialist, at 812-749-3199 or heath hamilton@fws.gov.

## **III.** General Conditions for Bids

- 1. Bids will be on a per acre basis. Bidders will need to determine what they are willing to pay per acre potentially harvested for each year's cropping plan; then take that average for the three years. This average price per acre will be the bid. This is the price the bidder will pay each year for acres farmed. The bid should take into account all services and other payments (i.e. planting and managing cover crops, mowing, disking, etc. if specified in the cropping plan). Bids will need to be recorded in the appropriate place, on the Bid Sheet (Attachment 4).
- 2. Bids will be valid for a 3-year period with a Special Use Permit issued in Year 1 and renewed annually for the two subsequent years. If the Cooperator does not honor the bid, farming rights will be given to the next highest ranking applicant in this bid cycle or rebid at the discretion of the Service. If it is re-bid, the original Cooperator will not be allowed to bid at that time.
- 3. Once a bid is accepted, 25% of the annual payment must be made each year by February 15 upon the issuance of the Special Use Permit. The remaining 75% of the payment will be made each year by December 1.

## Farm Unit 2 Example:

\$50/acre x 211 acres (potentially harvested acres) = \$10,550 total annual rental payment (paid each year for three years)

Year	Feb. 1	Dec. 1	Total
1	\$2,637.50	\$7,912.50	\$10,550
2	\$2,637.50	\$7,912.50	\$10,550
3	\$2,637.50	\$7,912.50	\$10,550
		Total Payment	\$31,650
		for 3 Years	

## IV. Crop Plans:

## 1. Unit 2 Crop Plan

The Crop Plan for Farm Unit 2 offers the opportunity to plant crops on 211 acres. Additional costs associated with Farm Unit 2 are:

• maintaining (mow), disk, and/or spray 36 acres of field buffers (1-2 times per year) as directed by Refuge staff

• mowing (bush hog) a ¾ mile levee at Field 8 (once in early summer and once in late summer/fall as directed by Refuge staff)

## 2. Risk and Liability

The Cooperator accepts all risk and liability for annual payments. Annual payments will be based on all tillable acreage identified in the Farm Unit Crop Plan for the given year. If the Cooperator chooses not to carry crop insurance, the Cooperator accepts all risk and liability for annual payments. Annual payment amounts will not be reduced.

## V. Permitting

- 1. Before work onsite, the Cooperator must have an approved Special Use Permit (FWS form 3-1383-C) for the year farmed. The Special Use Permit will be issued and approved by the Refuge Manager and include an annual farm plan that identifies crops to be planted, use of pesticides, use of best management practices, and special conditions. The Special Use Permit also requires the Cooperator to submit a final Harvest Report identifying acres planted along with herbicide applications. The Special Use Permit is completed, issued, and signed by the Refuge Manager.
- 2. The Cooperator will be required to sign the Special Conditions for Farming (Attachment 1)

## VI. Reporting Requirements

- 1. The Cooperator will be required to submit a final Harvest Report (Attachment 6) by December 31.
- 2. Certified seed labels and receipts must be submitted to the Refuge Manager by the Cooperator **Before** any planting occurs.
- 3. **3.**Pesticide notification must be submitted to Refuge Manager within 10 days after applying any chemicals. Receipts must identify chemicals used, application methods, and application rates.
- 4. **4.**Upon completion of the farming year, the Cooperator will receive a successful or unsuccessful rating from the Refuge Manager. This determination will be made by using the Farming Checklist and Evaluation (Attachment 7). If the Cooperator receives an unsuccessful rating, farming rights will be given to the next highest ranking applicant from the bidding process or if none of the original applicants are interested it will be rebid. The Cooperator may receive an unsuccessful rating for not complying with crop plans, meeting planting deadlines of specified crops, or other general conditions.

## VII. Summary of Cooperative Agriculture Program

Individuals have the opportunity to submit a bid/per acre for the Cooperative Agricultural Opportunity at Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge Management Area. The selected

Cooperator will be responsible for the following specifications for the Cooperative Agriculture Program:

## Farm Unit 2:

- A. Plant specified acreage for Farm Unit(s) to crop rotation designated in the annual farm Unit Crop Plan for a 3- year period.
- B. Mow, disk, and/or spray up to 36 acres of field buffers (1-2 times per year as directed by Refuge staff).
- C. Mow (bush hog) a 3/4 mile levee at Field 8 (once in July and once in September)
- D. Follow Special Conditions for Farming (Attachment 1).
- E. Submit Harvest Report (Attachment 6).
- F. Follow guidelines on pesticide use and end of year reporting requirements (Attachments 1 & 8).

## Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge Management Area Attachment 1 Special Conditions for Farming – Unit 2

- A. The government share of the total farm acreage will consist of services including maintaining field buffers, levees and drainages as specified by Refuge staff. See **Attachment 2** for the total farmable acreage of crop for each Farm Unit.
- B. Cooperator is required to implement and/or maintain site specific Best Management Practices (BMPs):
  - 1. Land alterations included but not limited to, ditching, land leveling, filling, and clearing will be done only upon approval of Refuge Manager.
  - 2. No disking is allowed without prior approval from Refuge Manager.
  - 3. All buffer strips and levees will be mowed, disked, and/or sprayed 1-2 times annually at the request of Refuge staff.
- C. The use of GMO (genetically-modified organisms) crops is not allowed on the Refuge.
- D. No neonicotinoid-treated (or other insecticide-treated) seed can be used. Neonicotinoids are a class of insecticides chemically similar to nicotine. They are marketed and distributed in various forms including sprays, powders and seed treatments. Trade names containing neonictinoids may include (but are not limited to) Acceleron®, Acetamiprid®, Actara®, Adage®, Adjust®, Admire®, Advantage®, Alpine®, Arena®, Assail®, Belay®, Calypso®, Celero®, Centric®, Clutch®, Confidor®, Cruiser®, Dinotefuran®, Encore®, Flagship®, Gaucho®, Helix®, Inside®, Intruder®, Ledgend®, Merit®, Meridian®, Nipsit®, Platinum®, Poncho®, Pravado®, Premise®, Regent®, Safari®, Scorpion®, Titan®, Touchstone ®, Tristar®, and Venom®. Active ingredients include: acetamiprid, clothianidin, dinotefuran, imidacloprid, nithiazine, sulfoxaflor, thiacloprid, and thiamethoxam.
- E. An approved Pesticide Use Proposal is required before pesticide application and the Cooperator is required to follow associated guidelines:
  - 1. See attached list for chemicals that will be available for approval through an Annual Pesticide Use Permit (**Attachment 8**). This list normally stays the same each year, but could be adapted due to Regional Herbicide Policy changes. Requests for pesticides that are not on the approved list should be made as soon as possible and accompanied with detailed justification. Approval of chemicals not occurring on the list cannot be guaranteed by the Service.
  - 2. Pesticides/herbicide may not be applied until an approved Annual Pesticide Use Permit for the chemical has been received by the Cooperator.
  - 3. Chemical application on any other vegetation is prohibited.

## Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area Attachment 2 Farm Unit Crop Plan and Unit Description

# Farm Unit 2 Cropping Acres Per Year acreage does not include conservation buffers and levee\*

Field	Year 1 Planted/Harvested	Year 2 Planted/Harvested	Year 3 Planted/Harvested
6	26/26	26/26	26/26
8	185/185	185 / 185	185 / 185
Total Field Acreage	211/211	211/211	211/211

## Farm Unit 2 Soil Descriptions (from USDA Web Soil Survey)

Field	Acres Farmed	Field Descriptions
6	26	57.8% Henshaw silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded; 25.0% Petrolia silt loam, frequently flooded; 9.9% Patton silty clay loam; 7.3% Bonnie silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded
8	185	98% Petrolia silty clay loam, frequently flooded, very long duration; 2.0% Petrolia silt loam, frequently flooded
Total	211	

- 4. Pesticide label application instructions will be adhered to and efforts will be made by the Cooperator to reduce use of chemicals through alternative nonchemical pest control techniques.
- 5. The Cooperator is required to report pesticide application on the Harvest Report (Attachment 6) and furnish to Refuge Manager by December 31.
- 6. Misuse of approved chemicals or use of any unapproved chemicals will result in termination of this farming agreement.
- F. The Cooperator may begin farming operations **March 15**.
- G. The permittee is required to notify Refuge Manager of enrollment in FSA program(s). All acreage reporting will be the responsibility of the permittee.
- H. Additional acreages may be added to Farm Units upon agreement between the Refuge Manager and Cooperator (i.e. newly acquired Refuge lands still in agriculture). Likewise, acreages can be subtracted from Farm Units upon agreement between the Refuge Manager and Cooperator. Any changes in bid package acreages will be made in writing, by an addendum, which is attached to and becomes part of the agreement.
- I. Cooperator agrees that the agricultural crops of the type and acreages specified in the Farm Unit Crop Plan must be planted, cultivated, and harvested during the year of the agreement. Should weather conditions limit planting time frames for a particular crop (i.e. fields are too wet planting corn in time), crops may be substituted with prior approval from the Refuge Manager. Changes in the agreement must be made prior to planting, in writing by an addendum, which is attached to and becomes part of the agreement.
- J. All crops shall be planted and harvested as early as possible with a target date for completion of harvesting operations of **November 15**. Refuge crops will be fertilized at the same rate as the Cooperator's and receive every other like kind treatment (crop scouting, pesticides, tillage, etc.).
- K. The Cooperator will abide by all appropriate State and Federal regulations pertaining to storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials (oils, solvents, pesticides, pesticide containers, etc.). The Cooperator will immediately notify Refuge Manager in event of any accidental hazardous material release and take appropriate measures to contain the release.
- L. Burning of any kind is not permitted on the refuge by the Cooperator.
- M. Any violation of these conditions will be grounds for termination or non-renewal of this agreement.

I understand and agree to all special conditions of the Cooperative Farming Agreement.

Cooperator's Signature	Date	

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

- 1. Complete this Bid Sheet (Attachment 4).
- 2. Complete 1<sup>st</sup> Page of Special Use Permit Application (Attachment 5).
- 3. Place Bid Sheet and Special Use Permit Application in an envelope and seal.
- 4. E-mail, mail or deliver sealed envelope to Patoka River NWR & MA by <u>COB Friday</u> <u>December 20, 2024.</u>

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 or emailed to Heath\_Hamilton@fws.gov. If you plan on delivering the bid in person please contact the office to set up an appointment time. 812-749-3199. The envelopes may be submitted either by mail or hand delivery to the refuge office. The individual with the highest ranked proposal will be notified within 30 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.

# Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area – Attachment 4 Bid Sheet

# Applicant Information: Name (Proposal Submitter) and 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 2: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Bid Amount (\$/acre) for farming 211 acres per year for 3 years and following all other practices specified in the farming packet.

## **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)

Attachment 4

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)
Attachment 4

Who would be doing your herbicide application	ns?
have read and if selected agree to the permit c	onditions listed in the bid package.
Signature:	D-4
oignature:	Date:

FWS Form 3-1383-C U.S. Department of the Interior



# COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION

# OMB Control No. 1018-0102 Expires 01/31/2024

## **National Wildlife Refuge System**

efuge Name:	For Official Use Only:
ddress:	Approved Permit #:
ttn: (Refuge Official)	Station #:
-Mail:	Permit Term: from to
hone #:	
lote: We do not require all information for each use. See instructions at t pplicability of a particular item.	he end of the notice and contact the refuge to determine
1a) Identify the type of Permit you are applying for: New O Renewal	Modification Other O
1b) Have you applied, or do you intend to apply, to any other refuges for this	same activity?
1c) If yes, which refuges?	
Applicant Information	
2) Full Name: 3) Title	e:
4) Business Name:	
5) Physical Address:	
City/State/Zip:	
6) Mailing Address: (if different than above)	
City/State/Zip:	
7) Business Phone #: 8) Business F	ax #:
9) E-mail: 10) Bu	usiness Tax ID #:
(11a) Within the past 5 years, has the company (entity), its owners, or any empleen convicted, pled nolo contendere, forfeited collateral, or are currently under regulations related to fish and wildlife or permit activities? Yes No. (11b) If you answered "YES" to question #11a, provide the individual's name, daken for each violation.	er charges for any violations of any State, Federal, or local lav

Name/Business Address Phone #

Name/Business Address Phone #

Activity Information:

13a) Choose a Commercial Activity: Guided Recreation Audio/Visual Recording Recreation Events Cabins Transportation Services Agricultural Use Marine Salvage/Storage Mineral Lease Other O

13b) Specify Type of Activity if 'Other' was chosen:

Note: Depending on the activity for which you are requesting a permit, we may ask you for the following activity information. Please contact the refuge where the activity is being conducted to determine what information is required.

14) Describe activity by specifically identifying timing (occupancy timeline), frequency, and how the activity is expected to proceed:

12) List known assistants/subcontractors/subpermittees: (Only required if the assistants/subcontractors/subpermittees will be operating on the refuge without the

15)	Specifically identify location(s) and/or attach a map: (GPS location(s) preferred)
16)	If drones will be used, describe why the drone is needed and provide specifics on how it will be used:

17) For Guided Operations estimate number of clien	nts if applicable: Per Da	y Per Seas	on
18) Inquire with refuge if Plan of Operation is require	ed. Is a Plan of Operatior	n attached? Yes O No O	N/A O
19) Inquire with refuge if a trip schedule is required.	Is a trip schedule attach	ed? Yes ONo ON/A	)
License/Insurance Coverage/Ce	ertification/Per	mit	
Note: Contact the refuge where the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s). We meet the activity is go insurance(s), certification(s), or permit(s), certification(s), or permit(s), certification(s), certification(s	oing to be conducted to nay process this Specia	o determine if we will require al Use Permit while the appli	cant obtains them.
License Type		Number	Expiration Date
21) List and attach any <b>insurance coverage(s)</b> you evacuation, or others, if required:	•	ability, aviation, grounding liabi	lity, contaminants applicator, med
Insurance Type		Carrier	Expiration Date
2) List and attach any <b>certifications</b> you have such	n as rat free, hull inspect	ions, CPR/First Aid, or others,	if required:
Certificate Type		Expiration Date	e
23) List and attach other Federal, State, or Tribal <b>pe</b>	ermits, if required:		
Permit Type		Permit Number	Expiration Date
1			

## **Logistics and Transportation**

a) Does the activity require per	sonnel to stay overnight on the refuge?	Yes O No O N/A	$\bigcirc$
		res O No O N/A	O
b) If yes, list names of personn	ei invoived:		
List Names	List Names	List Names	List Names
Identify and describe all major	equipment/gear and materials needed f	or activity, if required:	
Duradala datatival información a			
) Provide detailed information of	n the logistics for onsite, intersite, and/or	ship-to-shore transportation	n to or on the refuge, if required:
Provide detailed information of	n the logistics for onsite, intersite, and/or	ship-to-shore transportation	n to or on the refuge, if required:
) Provide detailed information of	n the logistics for onsite, intersite, and/or	ship-to-shore transportation	n to or on the refuge, if required:
) Provide detailed information of	n the logistics for onsite, intersite, and/or	ship-to-shore transportation	n to or on the refuge, if required:
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) Provide detailed information of	n the logistics for onsite, intersite, and/or	ship-to-shore transportation	n to or on the refuge, if required:
Provide detailed information of	n the logistics for onsite, intersite, and/or	ship-to-shore transportation	n to or on the refuge, if required:
	n the logistics for onsite, intersite, and/or		
) Provide descriptions, license	plate and/or identification numbers of ve	ehicles used for onsite trans	portation, if required:
) Provide descriptions, license	plate and/or identification numbers of ve	ehicles used for onsite trans	portation, if required:
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) Provide descriptions, license	plate and/or identification numbers of ve	ehicles used for onsite trans	portation, if required:
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Provide descriptions, license  Vehicle Type  Provide descriptions, license	plate and/or identification numbers of ve	ehicles used for onsite trans  Vehicle Type  Phicles used for intersite trans	portation, if required:  Plate/I.D./Registration#  Insportation, if required:
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) Provide descriptions, license  Vehicle Type  ) Provide descriptions, license	plate and/or identification numbers of ve	ehicles used for onsite trans  Vehicle Type  Phicles used for intersite trans	portation, if required:  Plate/I.D./Registration#  Insportation, if required:
vehicle Type  Vehicle Type  Provide descriptions, license	plate and/or identification numbers of ve	ehicles used for onsite trans  Vehicle Type  Phicles used for intersite trans	portation, if required:  Plate/I.D./Registration#  Insportation, if required:

26d) Provide descriptions, license plate and/or identification numbers of vehicles used for ship to shore transportation, if required:

Vehicle Type	Plate/I.D./Registration #	Vehicle Type	Plate/I.D./Registration #

27a) Is fuel cache needed? Yes No No N/A	
27b) Specific location(s) of fuel caches: (GPS Coordinate	tes preferred)
28) Is a Safety Plan attached? Yes No N/A  Work and Living Accommodation	ons
29) Specifically describe onsite work and/or living ac	
30) Specifically describe on or offsite hazardous mat	terial storage or other on or offsite material storage space: (Including on and offsite fuel caches.)
conform to the information I have provided in thi	e refuge for processing. By signing this application, I agree my operations will a sapplication, and I understand that any deviations or changes to this information
must receive prior written approval.	
31) Signature of Applicant:	Date of Application:

## OMB Control No. 1018-0102 Expires 01/31/2024

## **NOTICES**

No Members of Congress or Resident Commissioner shall participate in any part of this contract or to any benefit that may arise from it, but this provision shall not pertain to this contract if made with a corporation for its general benefit.

The Permittee agrees to be bound by the equal opportunity "nondiscrimination in employment" clause of Executive Order 11246.

## **PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT**

**Authority:** The information requested is authorized by the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act (16 U.S.C. 668dd-ee) and the Refuge Recreation Act (16 U.S.C. 460k-460k-4).

**Purpose:** To collect the applicant's information to process permits allowing for commercial activities such as: guiding hunters, anglers or other outdoor users; commercial filming; agriculture; rental of cabins and trapping while on the National Wildlife Refuge System.

**Routine Uses:** The information will be used by the refuge's administrative office for processing Commercial Activity Special Use permits. More information about the routine uses maybe found in the Systems of Records Notice, FWS-5 National Wildlife Refuge Special Use Permits.

**Disclosure:** Providing the information is voluntary. However, submission of information is required to process and approve commercial activity usage on the National Wildlife Refuge System.

## PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT

We are collecting this information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501) to evaluate the qualifications, determine eligibility, and document permit applicants and to respond to requests made under the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act of 1974. The information that you provide is required to obtain or retain a benefit; however, failure to provide all required information is sufficient cause for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to deny a permit. False, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations made in the application may be grounds for revocation of the Special Use Permit and may be punishable by fine or imprisonment (18 U.S.C. 1001). According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. OMB has approved this information collection and assigned control number 1018-0102.

## **ESTIMATED BURDEN STATEMENT**

The public reporting burden for this information collection varies based on the requested specific refuge use. We estimate the relevant public reporting burden for the Commercial Activity Special Use Permit Application form (Commercial) to average 4 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Service Information Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: PRB (JAO/3W), Falls Church, VA 22041-3803, or via email to Info Coll@fws.gov. Please do not send your completed form to this address.

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Responsibility of Permittee: The permittee, by operating on the premises, shall be considered to have accepted these premises with all facilities, fixtures, or improvements in their existing condition as of the date of this permit. At the end of the period specified or upon earlier termination, the permittee shall give up the premises in as good order and condition as when received except for reasonable wear, tear, or damage occurring without fault or negligence. The permittee will fully repay the Service for any and all damage directly or indirectly resulting from negligence or failure on his/her part, and/or the part of anyone of his/her associates, to use reasonable care.
- 2) Operating Rules and Laws: The permittee shall keep the premises in a neat and orderly condition at all times, and shall comply with all municipal, county, and State laws applicable to the operations under the permit as well as all Federal laws, rules, and regulations governing national wildlife refuges and the area described in this permit. The permittee shall comply with all instructions applicable to this permit issued by the refuge official in charge. The permittee shall take all reasonable precautions to prevent the escape of fires and to suppress fires and shall render all reasonable assistance in the suppression of refuge fires.
- 3) Use Limitations: The permittee's use of the described premises is limited to the purposes herein specified and does not, unless provided for in this permit, allow him/her to restrict other authorized entry onto his/her area; and allows the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to carry on whatever activities are necessary for: (1) protection and maintenance of the premises and adjacent lands administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and (2) the management of wildlife and fish using the premises and other U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lands.
- 4) Transfer of Privileges: This permit is not transferable, and no privileges herein mentioned may be sublet or made available to any person or interest not mentioned in this permit. No interest hereunder may accrue through lien or be transferred to a third party without the approval of the Regional Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the permit shall not be used for speculative purposes.

- 5) Compliance: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's failure to require strict compliance with any of this permit's terms, conditions, and requirements shall not constitute a waiver or be considered as a giving up of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's right to thereafter enforce any of the permit's terms or conditions.
- 6) Conditions of Permit not Fulfilled: If the permittee fails to fulfill any of the conditions and requirements set forth herein, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service shall retain all money paid under this permit to be used to satisfy as much of the permittee's obligation as possible.
- 7) Payments: All payment shall be made on or before the due date to the local representative of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by a postal money order or check made payable to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- 8)Termination Policy: At the termination of this permit the permittee shall immediately give up possession to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service representative, reserving, however, the rights specified in paragraph 11 below. If he/she fails to do so, he/she will pay the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as liquidated damages, an amount double the rate specified in this permit for the entire time possession is withheld. Upon yielding possession, the permittee will still be allowed to reenter as needed to remove his/her property as stated in paragraph 11 below. The acceptance of any fee for the liquidated damages or any other act of administration relating to the continued tenancy is not to be considered as an affirmation of the permittee's action nor shall it operate as a waiver of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's right to terminate or cancel the permit for the breach of any specified condition or requirement.
- 9) Revocation Policy: The Regional Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may revoke this permit without notice for noncompliance with the terms hereof, or for violation of general and/or specific laws or regulations governing national wildlife refuges, or for nonuse. It is at all times subject to discretionary revocation by the Director of the Service. Upon such revocation the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, by and through any authorized representative, may take possession of said premises for its own and sole use, and/or may enter and possess the premises as the agent of the permittee and for his/her account.
- 10) Damages: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service shall not be responsible for: any loss or damage to property including but not limited to crops, animals, and machinery; injury to the permittee or his/her relatives or to the officers, agents, employees, or any other(s) who are on the premises from instructions; the sufferance from wildlife or employees or representatives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service carrying out their official responsibilities. The permittee agrees to hold the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service harmless from any and all claims for damages or losses that may arise to be incident to the flooding of the premises resulting from any associated government river and harbor, flood control, reclamation, or Tennessee Valley Authority activity.
- 11) Removal of Permittee's Property: Upon the expiration or termination of this permit, if all rental charges and/or damage claims due to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have been paid, the permittee may, within a reasonable period as stated in the permit or as determined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service official in charge, but not to exceed 60 days, remove all structures, machinery, and/or equipment, etc., from the premises for which he/she is responsible. Within this period the permittee also must remove any other of his/her property including his/her acknowledged share of products or crops grown, cut, harvested, stored, or stacked on the premises. Upon failure to remove any of the above items within the aforesaid period, they shall become the property of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING APPLICATION

You may complete the application portion verbally, in person, or electronically and submit to the refuge for review. Note: Please read instructions carefully as not all information is required for each activity. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine applicability of a particular item. We may add special conditions or permit stipulations to permit prior to approval.

- 1a-c) Identify if permit application is for new, renewal, or modification of an existing permit, whether or not you have or will be applying to another refuge for the same activity, and for which refuge(s). Permit renewals may not need all information requested. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine applicability of this requirement.
- 2-9) Provide applicant and/or business full name, organization or business name (if applicable), physical and mailing address, phone, fax, and e-mail.
- 10) Provide tax identification number of business or individual.
- 11a-11b) Check box answering the question regarding any violations of State, Federal, or local law, or regulations related to fish and wildlife or permit activities, if required. If **you answered yes to question 11a**, supply the detailed information requested in question 11b. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine if we require information on violations of State, Federal, or local law, or regulations related to fish and wildlife or permit activities.
- 12) Provide the names and addresses of known assistants, subcontractors, or subpermittees. We may require names and address if the assistants, subcontractors, or subpermittees will be operating on the refuge without the permittee being present. Volunteers, assistants, subcontractors, or subpermittees that are accompanied by the permittee need not be identified.
- 13) Activity type: identify commercial activity type (such as, guided recreation, audio/visual recording, recreational events, agriculture activities such as haying, grazing, crop planting, logging, beekeeping, and other agricultural products, building or occupying cabins, or other commercial uses). Describe other commercial uses if not one of the listed categories. Applicants in Alaska should contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted if you have questions regarding commercial or subsistence activities.

- 14) Describe Activity: provide detailed information on the activity, including timing and occupancy timeline, frequency, how the activity is expected to proceed, etc. Permit renewals may not need activity descriptions if the activity is unchanged from previous permit. Most repetitive activities do not require an activity description for each visit. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine applicability of this requirement.
- 15) Location: identify specific location (GPS coordinates preferred) if not at a named facility, and/or attach a map with location. Most repetitive activities may not require identification of a location. In addition, permit renewals may not require a location if the activity is essentially unchanged from the previous permit. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine if a location is required.
- 16) If a drone will be used for this activity, describe in detail why the drone is necessary to complete the activity and provide specifics on how the drone will be used.
- 17) Estimate number of clients per day or per season.
- 18) Attach a Plan of Operation, if required. Most repetitive activities do not require a Plan of Operations for each visit. In addition, permit renewals may not require a Plan of Operations if the activity is essentially unchanged from the previous permit. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office listed where the activity is going to be conducted to determine if a Plan of Operations is required.
- 19) Attach trip schedule, if required. Most repetitive activities will require trip schedules for each visit. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine if trip schedules are required.
- 20) Specifically identify types and numbers of licenses and attach a copy, as required. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine the types of licenses required, and to coordinate the simultaneous application for multiple types of licenses. We may process this Special Use Permit while licenses are being sought, but we may or may not issue the Special Use Permit until appropriate licenses are obtained.
- 21) Specifically identify names, types, carriers of insurance, and attach copies if required. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine the types of insurance required, and to coordinate obtaining several types of insurance simultaneously with this permit. We may or may not issue this Special Use Permit while other types of insurance are being obtained.
- 22) Specifically identify types and numbers of other certifications and attach copies if required. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine the types of certifications required, and to coordinate the simultaneous application of multiple certifications. We may or may not issue this Special Use Permit while other certifications are being obtained.
- 23) Specifically identify types and numbers of other State, Federal or tribal permits and attach copies, if required. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine the types of permits required, and to coordinate the simultaneous application of multiple State, Federal or tribal permits. We may process this Special Use Permit while other State, Federal or tribal permits are being sought, but we may or may not issue the Special Use Permit until other appropriate State, Federal or tribal permits are obtained.
- 24a-24b) Provide name(s) of any personnel required to stay overnight, if applicable.
- 25) Identify all equipment and materials that will be used, if required. Most repetitive activities do not require a list of equipment. In addition, permit renewals may not require a list of equipment if the event is essentially unchanged from the previous permit. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine if a list of equipment is required.
- 26a-26d) Describe and provide vehicle descriptions and license plate or identification numbers of all vehicles, including boats and airplanes, if required. Motor vehicle descriptions are only required for permittee vehicle, and/or if the vehicle will be operated on the refuge without the permittee being present. Motor vehicles that are accompanied by the permittee as part of a group (convoy) activity need not be identified if cleared in advance by refuge supervisor. Specifically describe ship-to-shore, intersite (between islands, camps, or other sites) and onsite transportation mechanisms, and license plate or identification numbers, if required.
- 27a-27b) Identify specific location(s) of fuel cache(s) (GPS coordinates preferred), if required.
- 28a-28b) Attach safety plan if required. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine if we require a safety plan.
- 29) Specifically describe onsite work and/or living accommodations, if required. Include descriptions and locations (GPS coordinates preferred) of spike camps or other remote work and/or living accommodations that are not part of the base of operations. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine if we require descriptions of on-site work and/or living accommodations.
- 30) Specifically describe onsite or offsite hazardous material storage, or other material storage space (including on and offsite fuel caches), if required. Contact the specific refuge headquarters office where the activity is going to be conducted to determine if we require descriptions of hazardous material storage or other on-site material storage.
- 31) Print the application (if using the fillable version). Date and sign the application and return to refuge for processing. By signing this application, you agree your operations will conform to the information you have provided in this application, and understand that

any deviations or changes to this information must receive prior written approval. The refuge official will review and, if approved, fill out a Special Use Permit, sign, and return a copy to you for signature and acceptance.

# SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF FORM 3-1383-C FOR APPLICATIONS FOR COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURE OPPORTUNITIES ON THE NWRS

- 14) Describe how your proposed activity, based on your background, knowledge and experience, meets the objective criteria by which the Service will evaluate your application as outlined in the Service's Notice of Cooperative Agricultural Opportunity (Notice). In addition, if applicable, please identify how your proposed activity is different from the description of the cooperative agricultural opportunity outlined in the Notice.
- 18) Does not need to be filled out at time of application. However, this section must be filled out, in coordination with the Service, after the opportunity is awarded and before applicant begins any cooperative agricultural on the NWRS.

Logistics and Transportation

24a-30) Do not need to be filled out at time of application. However, these sections must be filled out, in coordination with the Service, after the opportunity is awarded and before applicant begins any cooperative agricultural on the NWRS.

THIS APPLICATION FORM IS NOT VALID AS A PERMIT
BUT MAY BE USED AS A REFERENCE DOCUMENT ATTACHED TO THE OFFICIAL PERMIT.
ONLY OFFICIAL REFUGE PERSONNEL MAY ASSIGN A VALID PERMIT NUMBER AND PERMIT TERM
TO THIS APPLICATION FORM AFTER THE PERMIT HAS BEEN APPROVED.

## Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area—Attachment 6 Final Harvest Report

Please complete the form and return to Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area by December 31.

Field	Crop Acres	Acres Planted	Crop	Yield/ Acre	Pesticides and Specific Pest Targeted	# Applications & Rates
6	26					
8	185					
Total Acreage	211					

Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area is located at 510 1/2 W. Morton St. Oakland City, IN 47

## Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area Attachment 7 Farming Checklist and Evaluation

1. Special Use Permit #	
2. Cooperator Name:	
3. Special Use Permit signed and issued prior to s	start of farming activities? Yes or No
4. 25% of annual payment received by 2/15? <b>Yes</b>	or No
• Amount: \$	
• Date:	
5. Pesticide Use Proposals requested and issued p	rior to pesticide application? Yes or No
6. Special Use Permit submitted to county Farm S	Service Agent? Yes or No
7. Seed labels and receipts submitted to Refuge M	Manager prior to seeding? Yes or No
8. Chemical receipts submitted within 10 days of	all chemical applications? Yes or No
9. Crop Plan, Services, and other as identified in t	the SUP was carried out? Yes or No
10. Final Harvest Report submitted to Refuge Man	ager by December 31st? Yes or No
11. 75% of annual payment received by 12/1? Yes	or No
• Amount: \$	
• Date:	
Rating:	
Cooperator	Date
Refuge Manager	Date

# Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area—Attachment 8 Pesticides granted field station level approval in Region 3 under limited conditions.

Pesticide	Some Trade Names			
Sethoxydim	Grass Getter, Poast, Poast Plus, Sethoxydim SPC, Sethoxydim E- Pro			
Imazapic	Plateau, Cadre			
Imazapyr	Arsenal, Chopper, Ecomazapyr 2 SL, Gullwing, Groundclear, Habitat, Imazapyr 2 SL, Imazapyr 4 SL, Polaris, Polaris AC, Polaris SP, Rotary 2 SL, Stalker, etc.			
Imazethapyr	Clearpath, Newpath, Pursuit, Thunder			
Metsulfuron	Accurate, Escort, Manor, MSM 60, Patriot, Rometsol			
Rimsulfuron	Basis, Matrix, Matrix FNV, Matrix SG, Resolve DF, Resolve SG, Resolve Q			
Thifensulfuronmethyl	Harmony, Affinity Broadspec, First Shot SG, Resolve Q			
Tribenuronmethyl	Express, First Shot SG, Afinity, Harmony Extra SG			
2,4-D amine	2,4-D Amine 4, Amine 4 2,4-D Weed Killer, Clean Amine, DMA 4 IVM, Dri- Clean, Orchard Star, Saber, Temstyle, Weedar 64, Weedaxe, Weedestroy, AM-40 Amine, etc.			
Aminopyralid	Milestone Specialty, Milestone VM			
Clopyralid	Clopyralid 3, Clean Slate, Garrison, Spur, Star Thistle Killer, Stinger, Transline, etc.			
Triclopyr amine	Element 3A, Garlon 3A, Grandstand CA, Green Light Cut Vine & Stump Killer, Image, Kraken, Platform, Renovate 3, Tahoe 3A Turflon Amine, etc.			
Triclopyr ester	Element 4, Forestry Garlon XRT, Garlon 4, Garlon 4Ultra, Pathfinder II, Relegate RTU, Remedy, Remedy Ultra, Tahoe 4E, Turflon Ester, etc.			
Glyphosate	Accord Concentrate, Accord SP, Accord XRT, Accord XRT II, Alecto 41S, Aquamaster, AquaNeat, Aqua Star, Buccaneer, Buccaneer Plus, Cornerstone, Cornerstone Plus, Eraser AQ, Extra Credit 5, GlyphoMate 41, Glyphos, Glyphos Aquatic, Glyphosate 4+, Glyphosate 5.4, Glyphosate Pro 4, Glyphos X-TRA, Gly Star Original, Gly Star Pro, Honcho, Honcho Plus, KleenUp Pro, Makaze, Mirage, Mirage Plus, Prosecutor, Ranger Pro, Razor Pro, Remuda, Rodeo, Roundup Original, Roundup OriginalMAX, Roundup PowerMax, Roundup Pro, Roundup Pro Concentrate, Roundup ProMax, Roundup UltraMax, Roundup WeatherMAX, etc.			