

## Windom WMD Grazing Invitation News Release – October 10, 2024

The Windom Wetland Management District in Windom, Minnesota, is accepting bids for eleven new grazing opportunities in Cottonwood, Jackson, Martin, and Murray counties of southern Minnesota for the 2025 grazing season. The eleven new sites range in size from 56.5 to 180.0 acres. Producers must follow all federal and state regulations.

Applicants must submit a completed bid sheet from the bid packet by 4 p.m. on October 23, 2024. A Special Use Permit will also be required for each successful bidder.

Bid packets are available on the district website [Windom Wetland Management District | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \(fws.gov\)](#) or by contacting assistant manager Todd Hauge at (507) 831-2220 ext. 12 or [todd\\_hauge@fws.gov](mailto:todd_hauge@fws.gov). Packets include maps and all details for each activity and unit.

Bids may be mailed to: Windom WMD, Attn: Grazing Bid, 49663 County Road 17, Windom 56101, or faxed to 507-831-5524, or emailed to [todd\\_hauge@fws.gov](mailto:todd_hauge@fws.gov).

Units will be allocated using a competitive bidding process. The winning bidders will be notified by October 25, 2024. Any additional questions, please contact Assistant Manager Todd Hauge.



**BID SHEET**  
**National Wildlife Refuge System**



**Windom Wetland Management District**  
 49663 County Road 17, Windom, MN 56101

**APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

Name (Proposal Submitter): \_\_\_\_\_

Partner Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Business or Farm: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tax ID #: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  Work  Cell

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**BID INFORMATION:** *Grazer will be selected based on receipt of sealed high bid per Animal Unit Month (AUM). Grazing will occur approximately May 1 to June 30. Each unit will be grazed for a three-year period, bid price is per year. Some units may require the cooperators to rotate grazing on that unit, each year, to meet management goals. The bid includes installation and removal of temporary fencing. Write your bid amount for the corresponding Unit(s) in the space(s) provided below. If you are not bidding on a particular unit, leave that space blank or write N/A.*

**BID DEADLINE IS 4:00 pm October 23, 2024.**

**Cash Rent Bids:**

County	Unit Name	Grazable Acres	Maximum AUMs per year	Bid Amount \$ per AUM
Cottonwood	Clear Lake WPA	158.3	158.3	
Cottonwood	Storden WPA	150.0	150.0	
Jackson	Bisailon WPA	79.5	79.5	
Jackson	Minnesota WPA	139.0	139.0	
Jackson	Timber Lake WPA	180.0	180.0	
Martin	Pierce Lake WPA	127.0	127.0	
Martin	Primrose WPA	56.5	56.5	
Murray	Big Slough WPA	154.0	154.0	
Murray	Buffalo Lake WPA	73.4	73.4	
Murray	Iona WPA	78.2	78.2	
Murray	Mason WPA	157.5	157.5	

Animal Unit (AU): Mature Cow = 1 AU, Cow-calf Pair = 1.2 AU, Yearling (9-18 months) = 0.70 AU, Weaner Calf = 0.5 AU, Bull = 1.5 AU, Mature Sheep/Goat = 0.2 AU, Ewe w/lamb or Nanny w/kid = 0.30 AU, Horse/Mule = 1.2 AU, and Bison = 1.0 AU. One cow on the range for one month = AUM.

**I understand that a signed Commercial Activities Special Use Permit and Proof of Insurance are required to be in place before grazing or fencing activities can begin. I have read and, if selected, agree to the permit conditions listed in the bid package and the 2025 Windom WMD Grazing Regulations. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reserves the right to reject any or all bids.**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The 2025 Windom WMD Grazing Regulations and maps are attached.**

Contact Todd Hauge if there are any questions at 507-822-0326 (cell) or email at [todd\\_hauge@fws.gov](mailto:todd_hauge@fws.gov) or Fax 507-831-5524. Please ask questions before you bid.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## NOTICES

All information you provide will be considered in reviewing this application. False, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations made in the application may be grounds for revocation of the permit and may be punishable by fine or imprisonment (18 U.S.C. 1001).

## 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 to average 1 hour 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: AMAD-ARM-PPM, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803, or via email to [Info\\_Coll@fws.gov](mailto:Info_Coll@fws.gov). Please do not send your completed form to this address.

## 2025 WINDOM WMD GRAZING REGULATIONS

1. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reserves the right to modify or terminate the SUP if habitat conditions warrant.
2. Use of minerals (salt or protein) will be allowed. Permittee must provide product labeling to the Refuge Manager for approval prior to use. Minerals must be in a container that minimizes spillage and are easily moved and placed as required by the Refuge Manager.
3. Supplemental feeding will not be permitted, all supplements need prior Refuge Manager Approval.
4. All liability relating to livestock and livestock management to include all persons working for the permittee, whether related, hired or as a partner is strictly that of the permittee as listed on the SUP.
5. The permittee must have/acquire liability insurance that covers the livestock being grazed on Service Lands. A copy of the liability insurance must be provided to the Refuge Manager.
6. The permittee must be in compliance with the respective state and local livestock health regulations.
7. All equipment for grazing, including ATVs and UTVs, must be clean and free of invasive species plant material including seeds before entering any Refuge, Waterfowl Production Area (WPA), or Service easement. The Refuge Manager reserves the right to inspect and deny the use of any equipment/vehicle/horse etc. that appears to contain invasive species plant material or seeds.
8. The use of pesticides requires advance U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approval. The permittee shall provide the Refuge Manager with product labeling and/or the Material Safety Data Sheet 30 days prior to use to provide adequate time to determine approval or disapproval of the product. Permittee is required to report pesticide use if approved by **[September 1]**.
9. Any livestock management action including branding or dehorning on Service land must be approved in advance by the Refuge Manager.
10. Subletting is not allowed. As approved by the Refuge Manager, partnering with another rancher will be allowed should the number of livestock needed to achieve the desired outcome not be obtainable by a single rancher. If partnering is allowed, the initial permittee will be solely responsible for the total payment, management, liability, and all special conditions of the permit.
11. Fence maintenance is the responsibility of the permittee. All temporary fence needs to be removed at the end of the grazing plan. Any repairs to or permanent fence constructed on National Wildlife Refuge System lands will become property of the Service.
12. Water will be available using area wetlands on Waterfowl Production Area. Methods of supplemental watering must be approved by the Refuge Manager.
13. The permittee must notify the Refuge Manager of deceased livestock. Deceased livestock must be removed from Service lands within 48 hours of discovery unless other arrangements have been approved by the Refuge Manager.
14. Following the completion of the final year of the permitted grazing season, removal of all temporary fencing and other equipment provided by the permittee is required. Failure to remove materials within 1 month after the completion of the final grazing season will result in a monetary fine and potential loss of consideration for future grazing permits.

- 15. The Permittee must provide the Refuge Manager, within 5 working days, the date, type, and number of cattle at the start and end of grazing each year or anytime cattle are added or moved off a unit.
- 16. The permittee shall not prohibit the public from entering Service lands or harass/interfere the public in any way that would distract from their enjoyment of the Service lands whether their livestock are currently grazing in the unit or not.
- 17. Permittee must provide a tax identification number or SS# for billing purposes.

I have read the above grazing regulations and understand failure to comply could result in revocation of grazing privileges.

Permittee Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



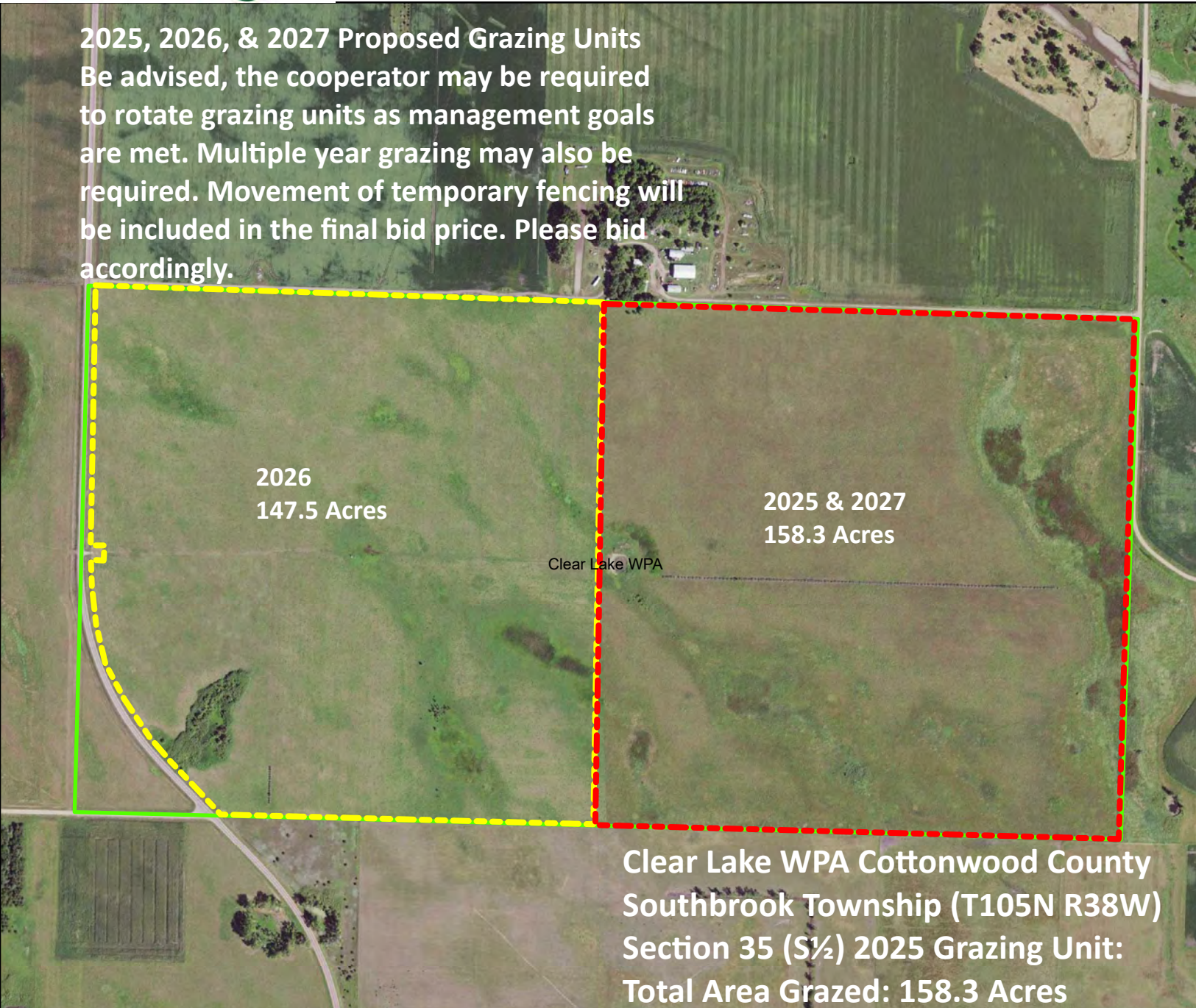
# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service





## Windom Wetland Management District

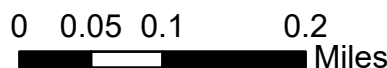
### Clear Lake WPA

Total Acres: 320.0

2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing Units  
Be advised, the cooperators may be required to rotate grazing units as management goals are met. Multiple year grazing may also be required. Movement of temporary fencing will be included in the final bid price. Please bid accordingly.



-  2025 & 2027 Grazing Clear Lake WPA
-  2026 Grazing Unit Clear Lake WPA
-  FWS Fee Title
-  USFWS Easements





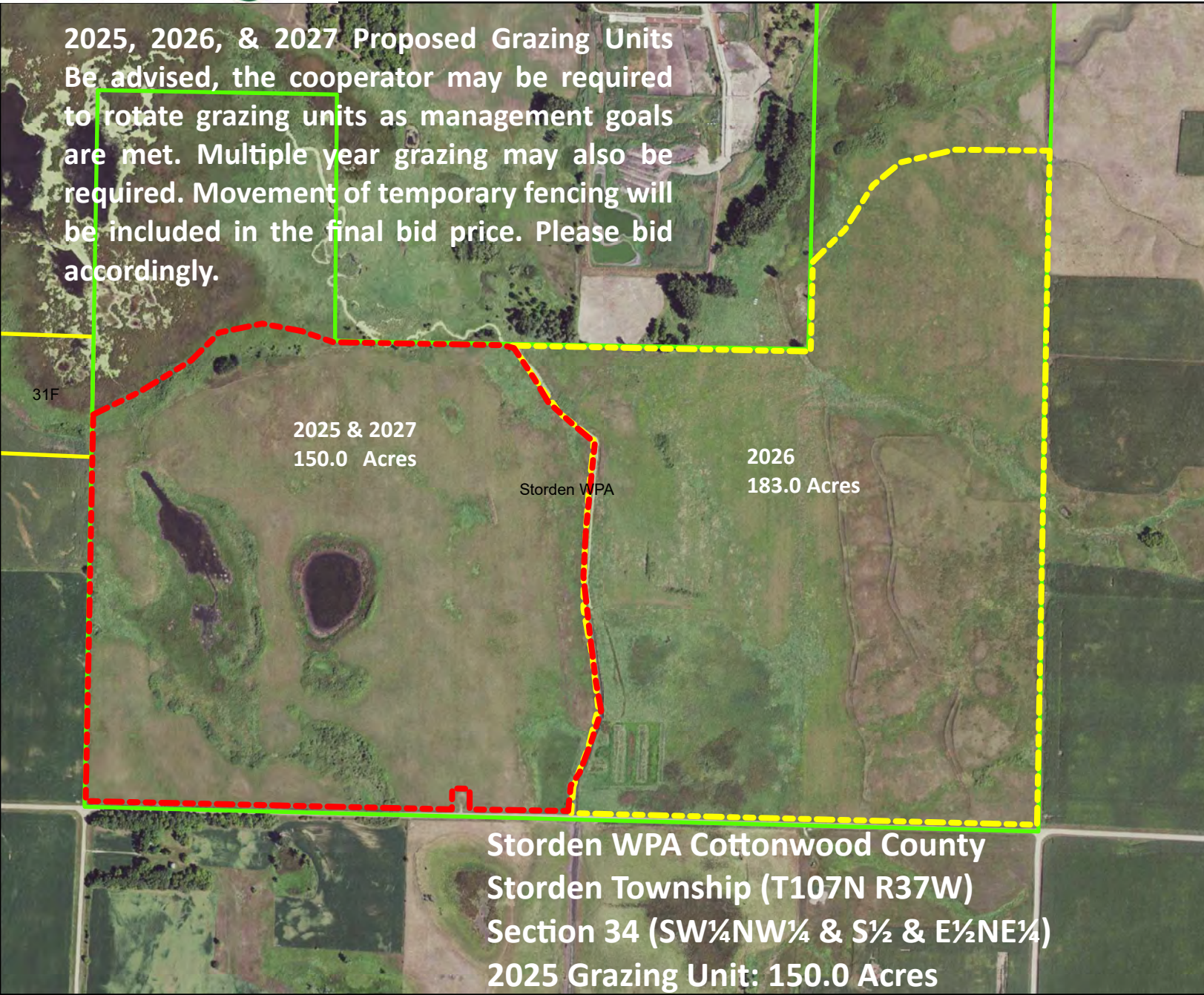
# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Windom Wetland Management District

### Storden WPA

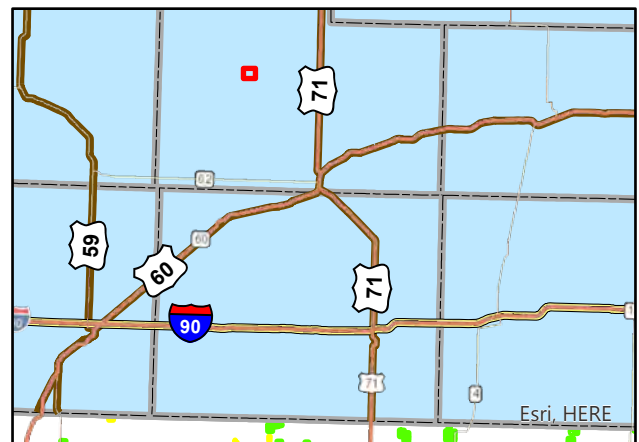
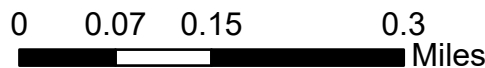
Total Acres: 440.0

2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing Units  
Be advised, the cooperators may be required to rotate grazing units as management goals are met. Multiple year grazing may also be required. Movement of temporary fencing will be included in the final bid price. Please bid accordingly.



Storden WPA Cottonwood County  
Storden Township (T107N R37W)  
Section 34 (SW¼NW¼ & S½ & E½NE¼)  
2025 Grazing Unit: 150.0 Acres

- 2025 & 2027 Grazing Unit Storden WPA
- 2026 Grazing Unit Storden WPA
- FWS Fee Title
- USFWS Easements





# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Windom Wetland Management District

### Bisaillon WPA





Total Acres: 80.0

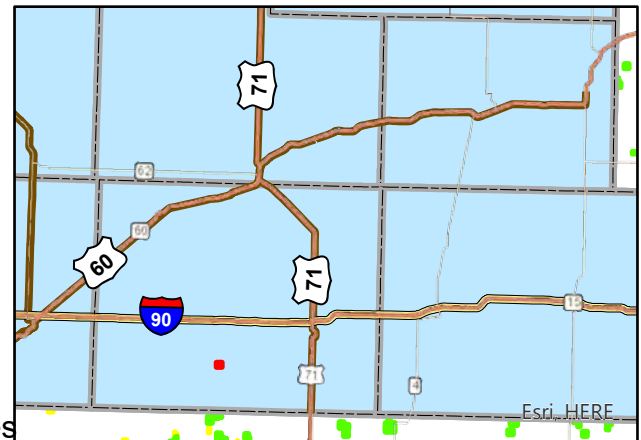
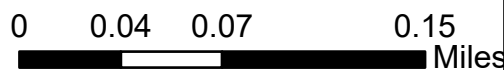
2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing 79.5 Acres



Bisaillon WPA

**Bisaillon WPA**  
**Jackson County**  
**Minneota Township**  
**(T101N R36W)**  
**Section 8 (N½NW¼)**  
**2025 Grazing Unit**  
**Total Area Grazed: 79.5 Acres**

-  2025 Grazing
-  Bisaillon WPA
-  FWS Fee Title
-  USFWS Easements











# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

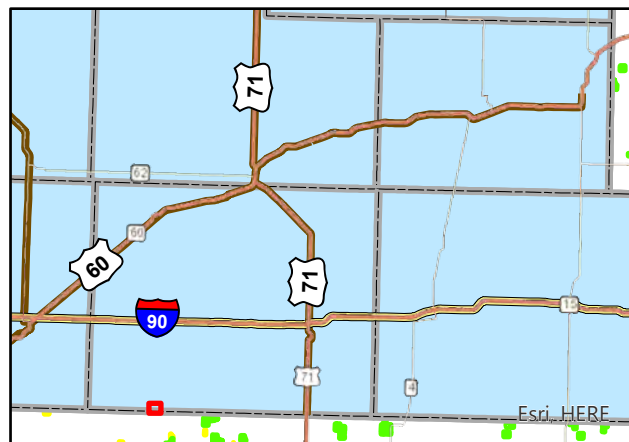
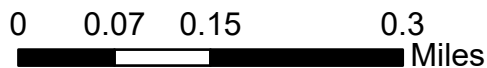
## Windom Wetland Management District

### Minnesota WPA

Total Acres: 313.78



-  2025 & 2027 Grazing Units
-  2026 Grazing Unit
-  FWS Fee Title
-  USFWS Easements



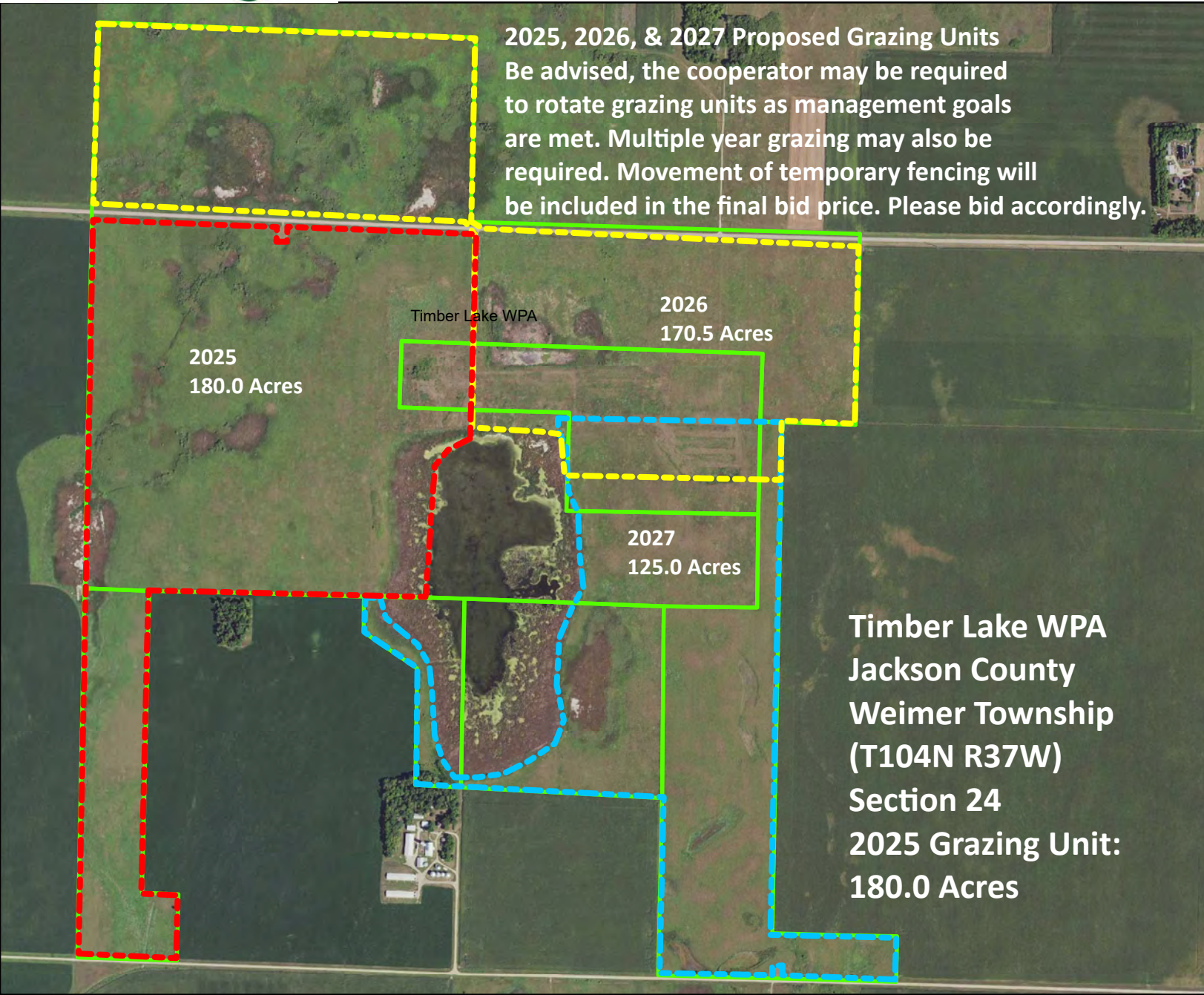


# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

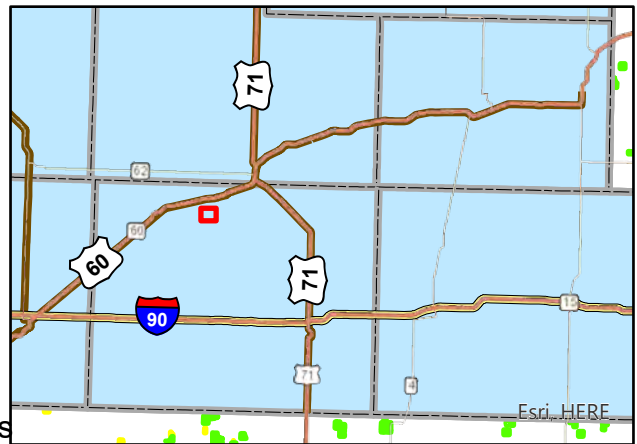
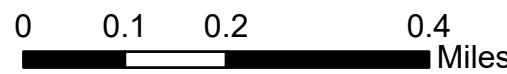
## Windom Wetland Management District

### Timber Lake WPA

Total Acres: 529.03



-  2025 Grazing Timber Lake WPA
-  2026 Grazing Unit Timber Lake WPA
-  2027 Grazing Unit Timber Lake WPA
-  FWS Fee Title
-  USFWS Easements



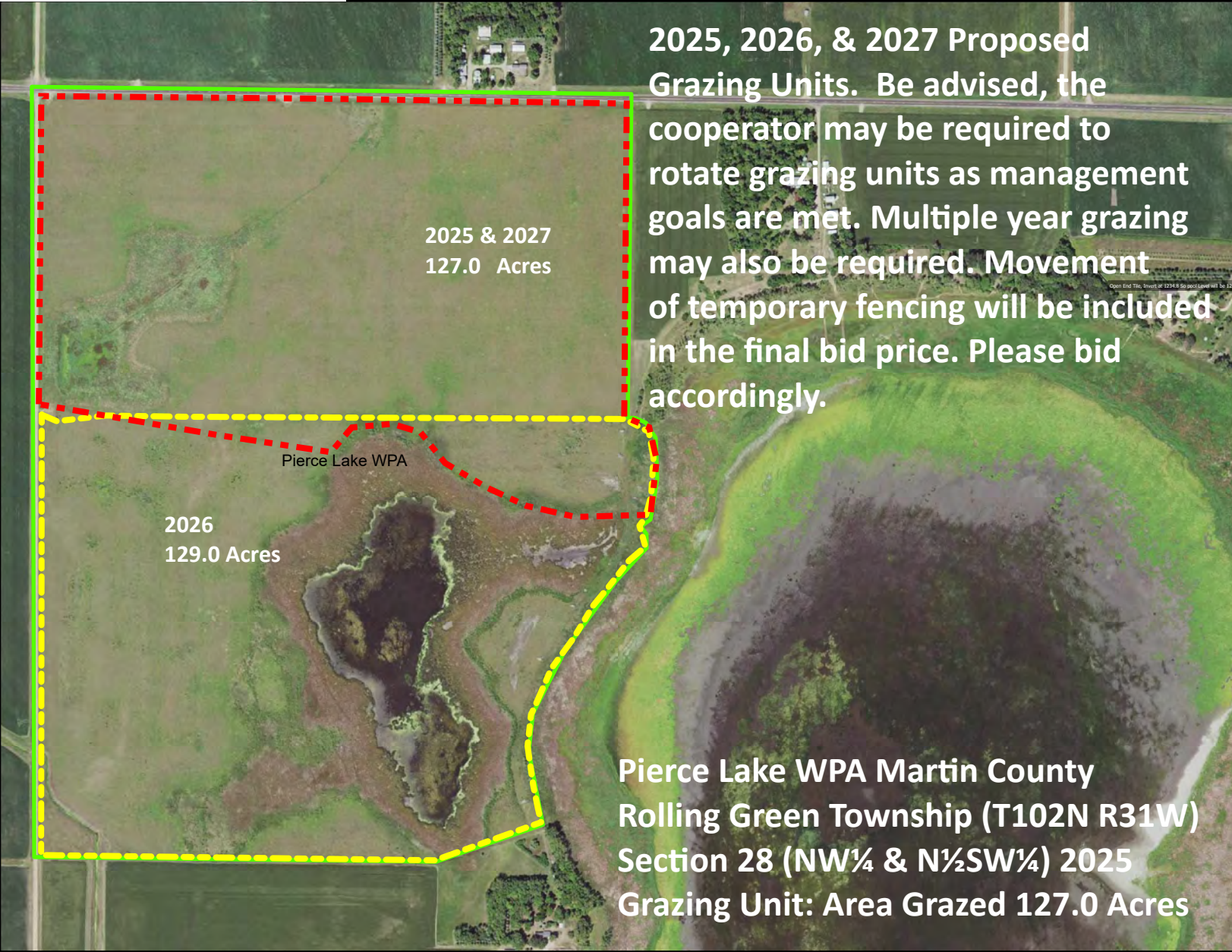


# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Windom Wetland Management District

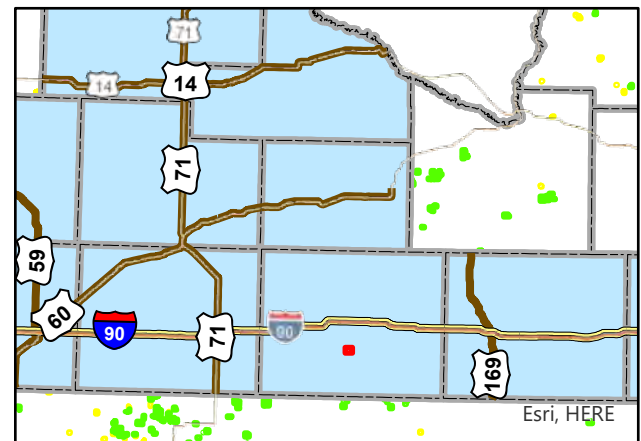
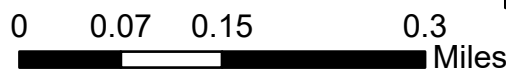
### Pierce Lake WPA

Total Acres: 263.0



2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing Units. Be advised, the cooperator may be required to rotate grazing units as management goals are met. Multiple year grazing may also be required. Movement of temporary fencing will be included in the final bid price. Please bid accordingly.

- 2025 & 2027 Grazing Unit
- Pierce Lake WPA
- 2026 Grazing Unit
- Pierce Lake WPA
- FWS Fee Title
- USFWS Easements
- CRP 2019
- State Prairie Bank
- Easement Boundaries



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# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service





## Windom Wetland Management District

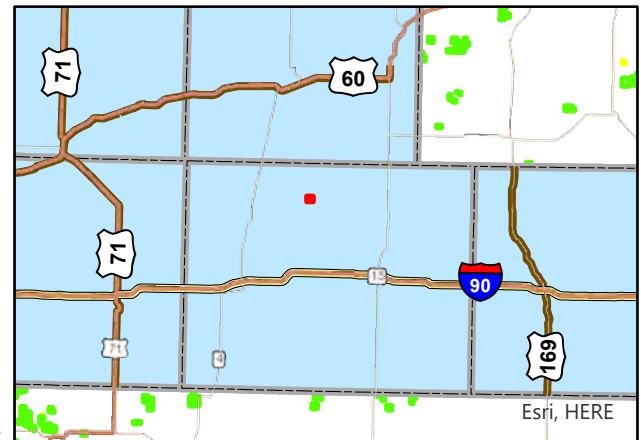
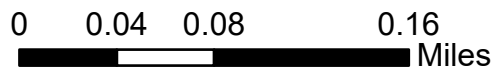
### Primrose WPA

Total Acres: 70.89

2025, 2026, & 2027 Grazing 56.5 Acres



-  Grazing 2025
-  Primrose WPA
-  FWS Fee Title
-  USFWS Easements





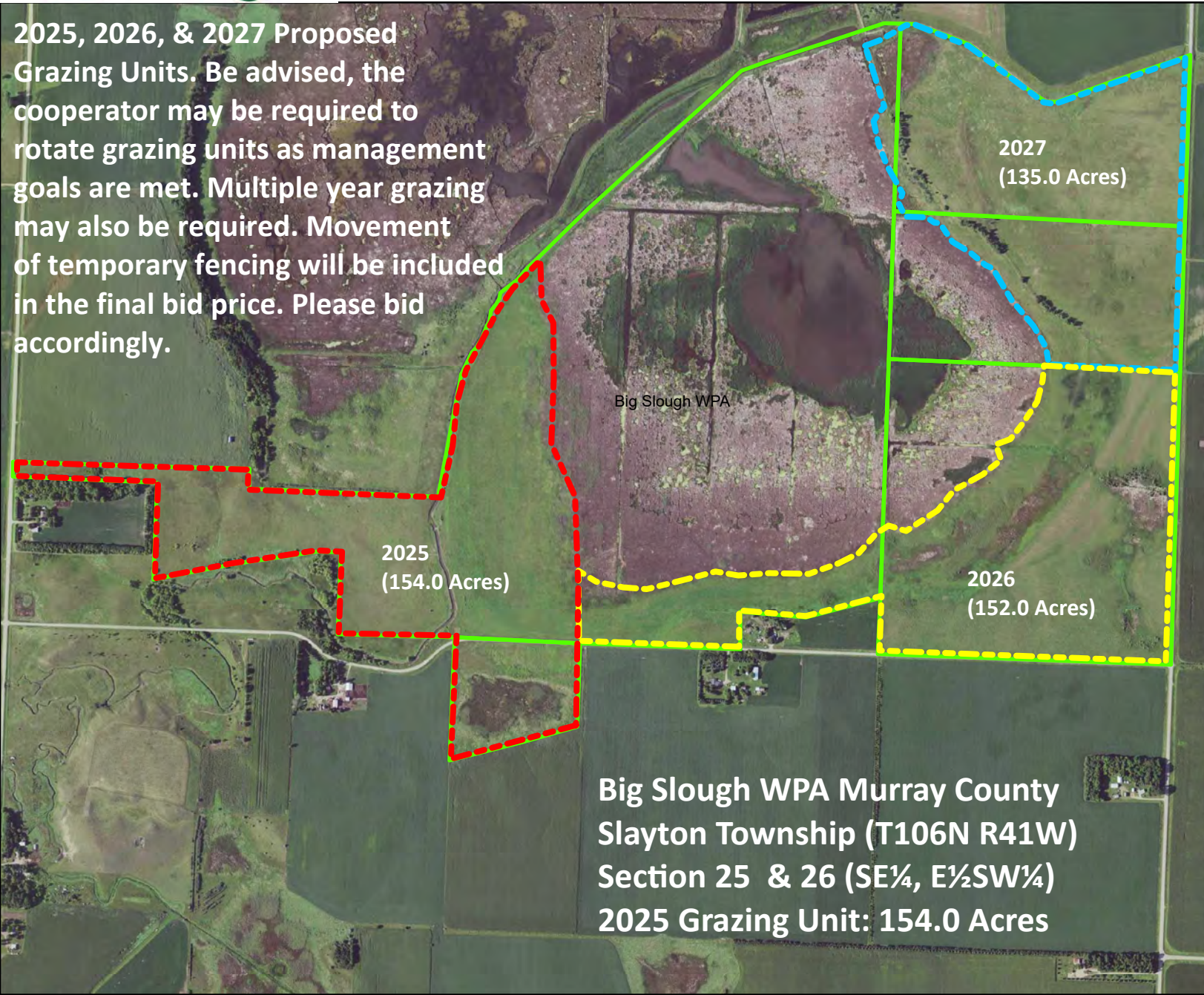
# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service


## Windom Wetland Management District

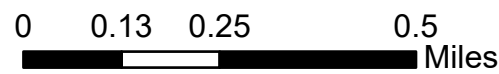
### Big Slough WPA

Total Acres: 807.1

2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing Units. Be advised, the cooperators may be required to rotate grazing units as management goals are met. Multiple year grazing may also be required. Movement of temporary fencing will be included in the final bid price. Please bid accordingly.



-  2025 Grazing Area
-  Big Slough WPA
-  2026 Grazing Area
-  Big Slough WPA
-  2027 Grazing Area
-  Big Slough WPA
-  FWS Fee Title
-  USFWS Easements



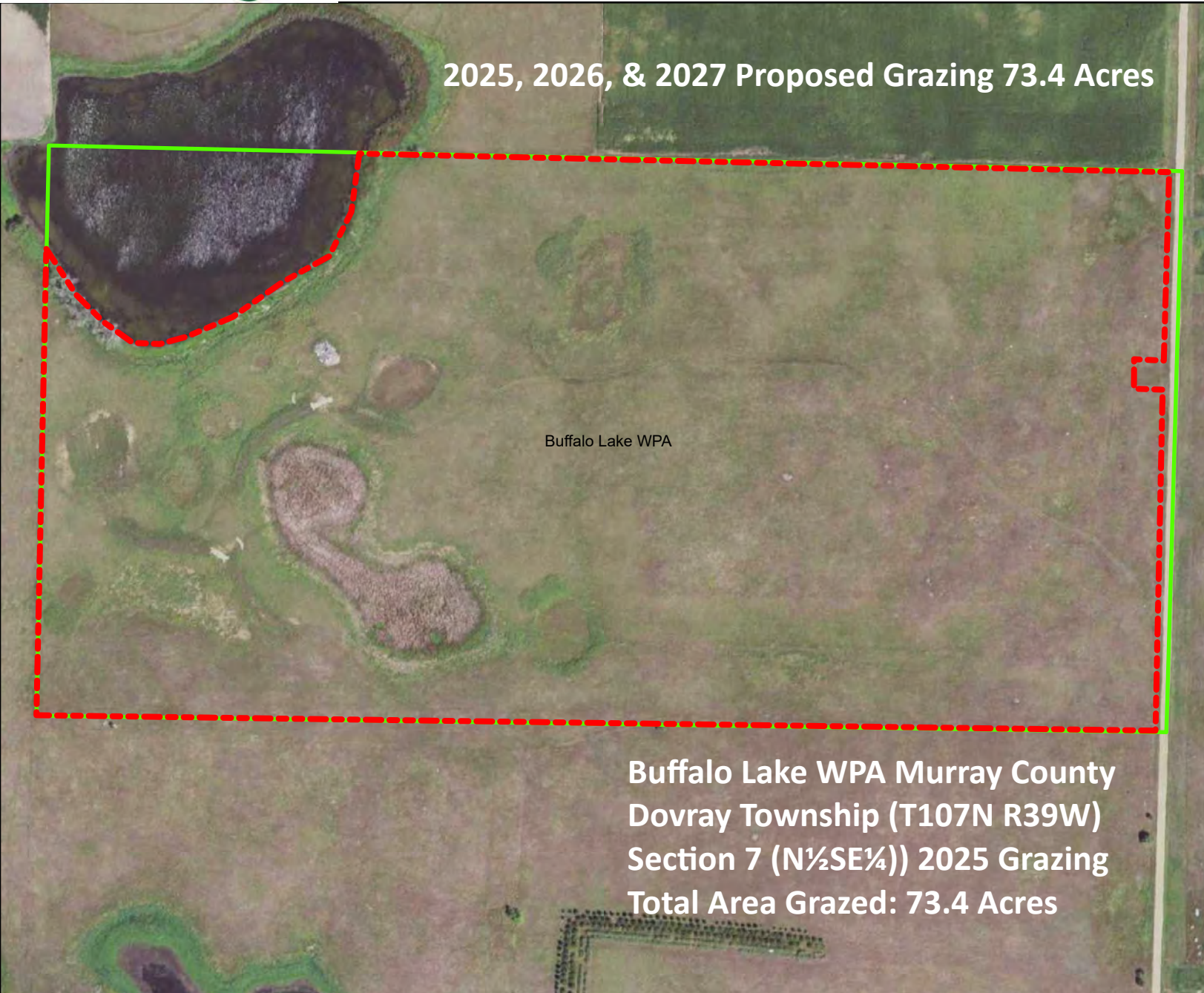





# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

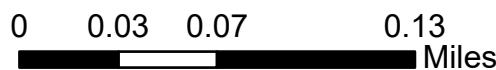
## Windom Wetland Management District

### Buffalo Lake WPA

Total Acres: 80.0



-  2025 Grazing
-  FWS Fee Title
-  USFWS Easements





# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Windom Wetland Management District




### Iona WPA

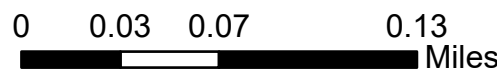
Total Acres: 80.0

2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing 78.2 Acres



Iona WPA Murray County  
 Fenton Township (T105N R42W)  
 Section 13 (N½SE¼) 2025 Grazing  
 Total Area Grazed: 78.2 Acres

-  2025 Grazing Iona WPA
-  FWS Fee Title
-  USFWS Easements





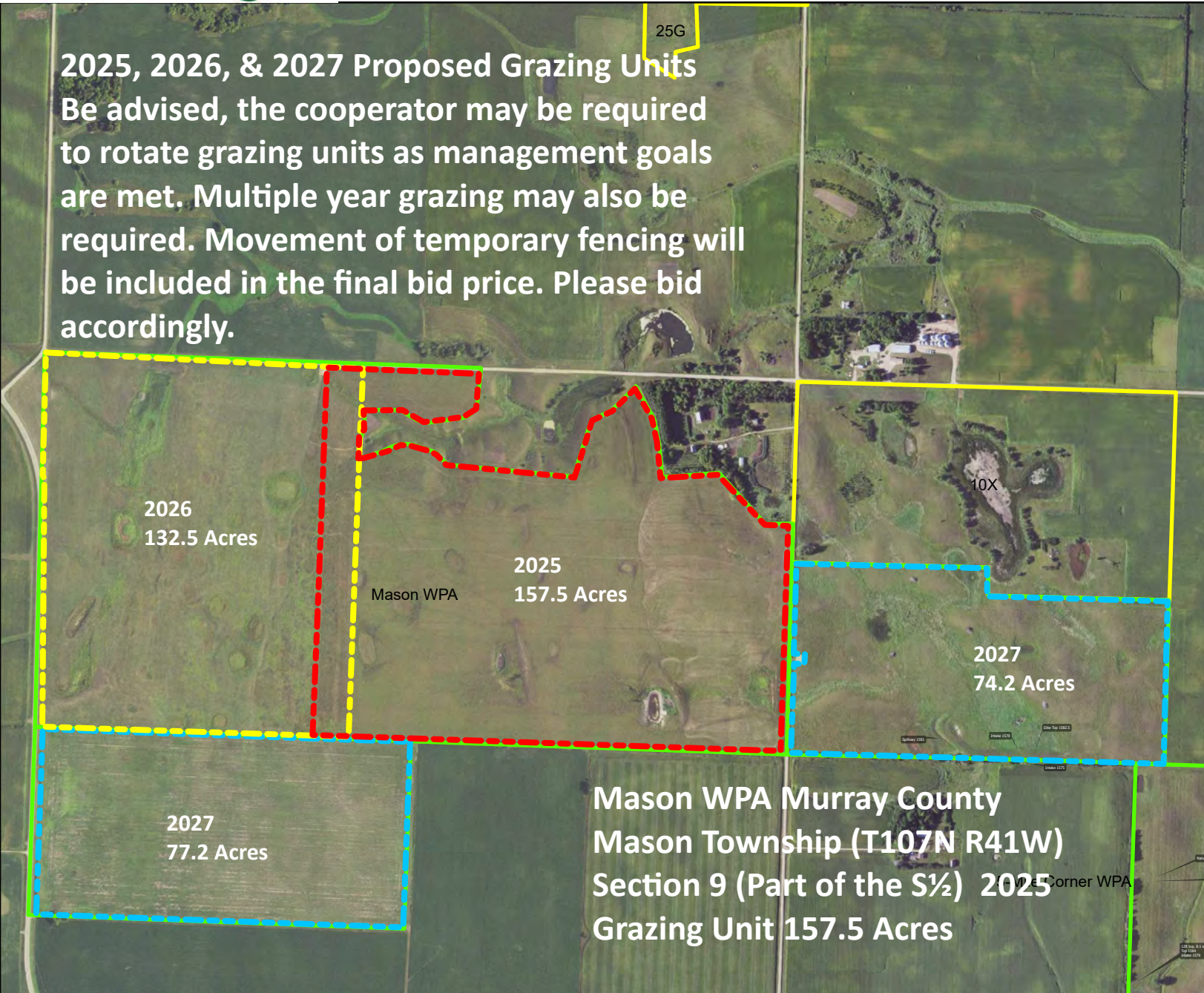
# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service






## Windom Wetland Management District

### Mason WPA

Total Acres: 435.48

2025, 2026, & 2027 Proposed Grazing Units  
Be advised, the cooperators may be required to rotate grazing units as management goals are met. Multiple year grazing may also be required. Movement of temporary fencing will be included in the final bid price. Please bid accordingly.



-  2025 Grazing Mason WPA
-  2026 Grazing Unit Mason WPA
-  2027 Grazing Unit Mason WPA
-  FWS Fee Title
-  USFWS Easements

