

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

August 7, 2019

PROSPECTUS FOR
HAY CUTTING, BALING AND REMOVAL ON
HAY UNITS
1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
MIDEWIN NATIONAL TALLGRASS PRAIRIE
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

BID OPENING DATE: Monday, August 26th, 2019 OPENING TIME: 2:00 PM CDT

SUBMIT BIDS TO: PRAIRIE SUPERVISOR

MIDEWIN NATIONAL TALLGRASS PRAIRIE
30239 SOUTH STATE ROUTE 53
WILMINGTON, ILLINOIS 60481

LIMITING CONDITIONS

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PROSPECTUS WAS TAKEN FROM THE BEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION. THE SOURCES ARE CONSIDERED RELIABLE, BUT NO WARRANTY OF THE ACCURACY THEREOF IS MADE. ALL BIDDERS ARE EXPECTED TO MAKE THEIR OWN APPRAISAL OF THE PROPOSAL HEREIN OFFERED. THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE SPECIAL USE PERMIT AND CONSIDERED PART OF THE PERMIT. ALL BIDDERS SHOULD MAKE THEIR OWN INVESTIGATION AS TO THE FACTS ABOUT THE AREAS, ACRES AND REFERENCE TO ANYTHING INDICATED IN THIS PROSPECTUS.

PROSPECTUS

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this prospectus is to solicit bidders interested in the cutting, baling and removing of hay on approximately 318 acres on Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie.

Six Hay Units are available for hay cutting, baling and removal by November 30, 2019.

BID PROCEDURE

Sealed bids subject to terms and conditions set forth in this prospectus will be received by the Prairie Supervisor, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, 30239 South State Route 53, Wilmington, Illinois 60481, until 2:00PM on Monday, August 26th to cut and harvest hay on Hay Units 1-6 (See attached map). The bid opening will be open to the public; bidders will be notified of the results.

Each bid submitted must be accompanied by a Cashier's Check or Money Order deposit in the amount of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), payable to the USDA Forest Service. Checks or Money Orders will be returned to all unsuccessful bidders. If the high bidder cannot fulfill the terms of the Special Use permit, the bid deposit will be forfeited, the Special Use Permit will be terminated, and the prospectus may be reissued. For each successful bid, a Bill for collection and Special Use Permit will be issued upon signature by the Prairie Supervisor. No activities will be permitted on any of the sites until payment is received and the Special Use Permit is approved.

Bidders must submit separate bid packages for each bid item and must submit a separate one hundred dollar (\$100.00) Cashier's Check or Money Order deposit with each bid package. Bidders may bid on all or any combination of items offered. Each bid item will be awarded separately to the successful bidder.

The Forest Service reserves the right to extend the date for receiving bids, to reject any or all bids and to waive any technical defects.

GENERAL INFORMATION

OWNERSHIP

All facilities and land covered by this prospectus are owned by the United States and administered by the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture. All bidders should make their own investigation as to the facts about the areas and estimates of hay production capabilities/revenues without reference to anything indicated in this prospectus. Prospective bidders are urged to consult with Jeff Martina at (815)423-6370 to discuss permit conditions, inspect the sites and acquire other pertinent information.

Any oral statement by any representative of the Forest Service, modifying or changing any condition of this prospectus is an expression of opinion only, and confers no right to the bidder.

The Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie is approximately five miles north of the town of Wilmington, Illinois and twelve miles south of the city of Joliet, Illinois. State Route 53 provides access to this site.

The hay units being offered are part of many tracts identified within the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie for agricultural activities. Soils and physical features of the hay units being offered indicate that the most efficient use of this land would be hay production.

AREA DESCRIPTION

This offering includes six bid units suitable for hay cutting and removal described as follows:

1. **BID ITEM NO. 1** UNIT 1 (Tracts 123 & 124) - this unit contains an estimated 37 acres suitable for hay production purposes on the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie; this tract is located in Wilmington Township T33N R9E Sections 14 & 15. **NOTE: Tract 124 MUST be cut, baled and removed by 9/26/2019 on this Unit.**
2. **BID ITEM NO. 2** UNIT 2 (Tract 76 1 & 2)- this unit contains an estimated 36 acres suitable for hay production purposes on the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie; this tract is located in Florence Township T33N R10E Section 8.
3. **BID ITEM NO. 3** UNIT 3 (Tract 33)- this unit contains an estimated 66 acres suitable for hay production purposes on the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie; this tract is located in Florence Township T33N R10E Section 9.
4. **BID ITEM NO. 4** UNIT 4 (Tract 34 & 48)- this unit contains an estimated 70 acres suitable for hay production purposes on the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie; this tract is located in Florence Township T33N R10E Sections 15 & 16.
5. **BID ITEM NO. 5** UNIT 5 (Tract 45)- this unit contains an estimated 72 acres suitable for hay production purposes on the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie; this tract is located in Florence Township T33N R9E Section 2.
6. **BID ITEM NO. 6** UNIT 9 (Tracts 44 & 40)- this unit contains an estimated 37 acres on two units suitable for hay production purposes on the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie; this tract is located in Florence Township T33N R10E Section 2.

OFFERING

The offerings involved in this prospectus are for cutting, baling and removing hay. Hay must be removed by November 30, 2019. The high bidder(s) will be awarded exclusive authorization through the issuance of Special Use permits. Six separate bid items are offered: Hay Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are separate bid items. **Bidders must submit bid packages and deposits for each bid item.** The offering is for one season only: August 30, 2019 to November 30, 2019 and will not be extended.

TYPES OF SPECIAL USE PERMIT

Special Use Permits issued will be effective from August 30, 2019 through November 30, 2019 and will be issued to the successful bidders.

PERMIT AWARD

Bids will be judged on the monetary return to the United States only. It is assumed that all bidders will comply with the terms of the Special Use Permit.