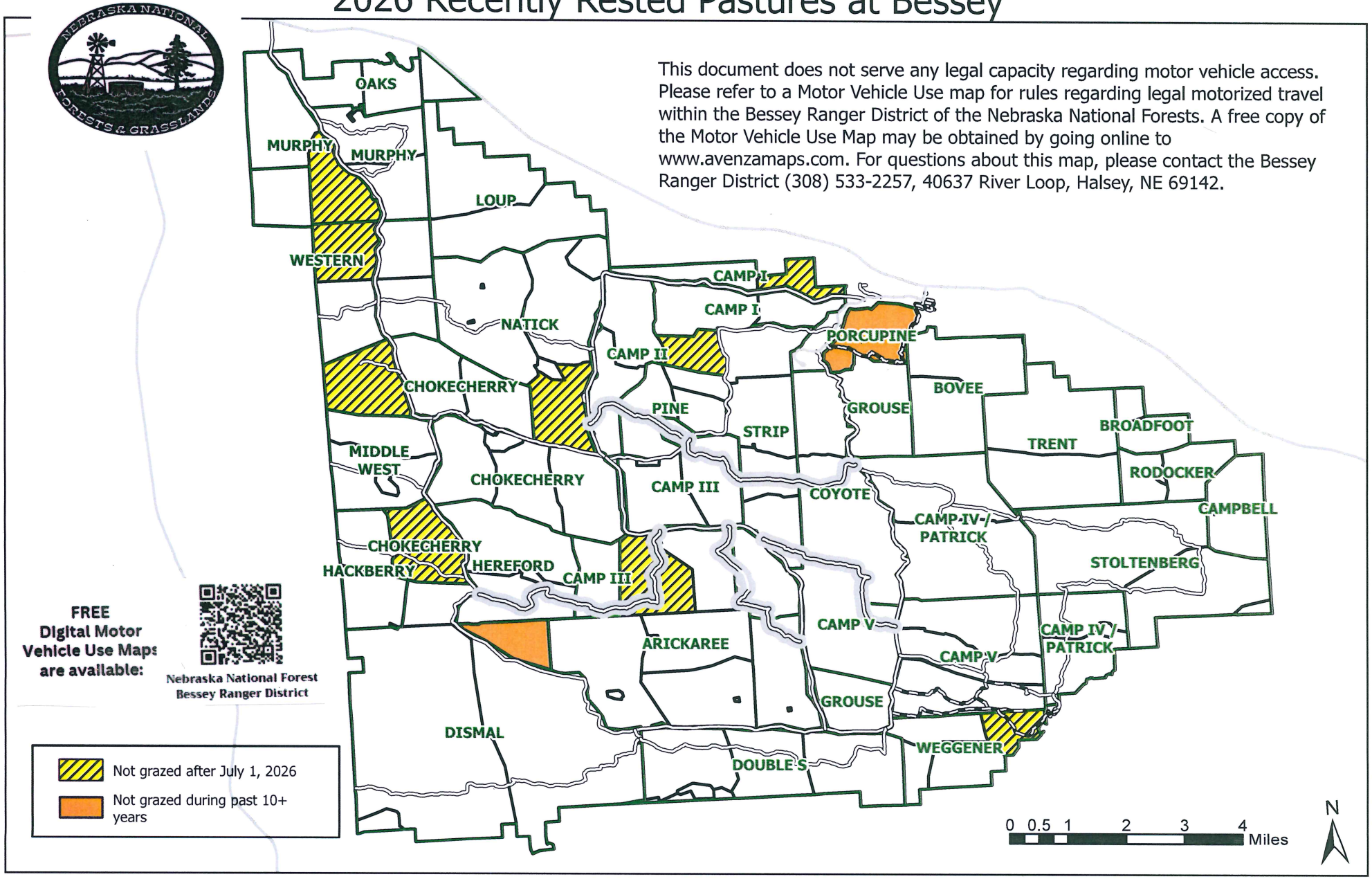
USDA Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

2026 Recently Rested Pastures at Bessey



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Date:8/12/2026

Harvest Summary

Prairie grouse populations are cyclical and respond to a number of variables, including habitat conditions and climatic events. Prairie grouse wing collection helps resource managers determine trends in sharp-tailed grouse and greater prairie chicken populations, as well as the recreational activity of grouse hunting. They also provide a useful index of prairie grouse productivity. Wings collected by hunters on public lands in the sandhills (right) provide a glimpse at the number of birds harvested by hunters since the late 1970's. Thank you for your participation, and good luck.

HAL = Halsey (Bessey Ranger District)

SRM = Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest

VNWR = Valentine National Wildlife Refuge

