

NDG&F March 14th Newsletter

Producers Have Opportunities with Conservation Reserve Program

Producers interested in submitting bids to enroll land in Conservation Reserve Program acres have a deadline of April 15. Applications received during the current sign up period will be ranked against others according to the Environmental Benefit Index.

Kevin Kading, North Dakota Game and Fish Department private land section leader, said there are some things producers can do to increase their chances of being accepted into CRP. "Producers can receive assistance from private land biologists with the Game and Fish Department, Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants Forever," Kading said.

Private land biologists can help producers find the best possible combination of factors that will positively influence their EBI score, which will increase their likelihood of being accepted into the program.

North Dakota Game and Fish Department offers incentives and cost share if producers enroll their CRP into the department's Private Land Open To Sportsmen program to allow walk-in access for hunting.

"This is an option producers should keep in mind when applying for CRP," Kading said.

Land currently enrolled in CRP with an expiration date of Sept. 30 is eligible. In addition, new acreage may also be offered into this sign-up if cropping history and other eligibility requirements are met.

Producers should contact the following biologists for more information, or attend a local workshop.

NDGF Private Land Biologists

Ty Dressler, Dickinson – 227-7431 (Stark, Hettinger, Adams, Slope, Bowman)

Terry Oswald, Jr., Bismarck – 328-6647 (Burleigh, Emmons, Kidder, Oliver)

Nate Harling, Devils Lake – 662-3617 (Bottineau, Rolette, Towner, Cavalier, Ramsey, Pembina, Walsh, Grand Forks, Nelson)

Ryan Huber, Williston – 774-4320 (Divide, Burke, Williams, Mountrail, McKenzie)

Caroline Littlefield, Lonetree – 324-2211 (Sheridan, Wells, Eddy, Foster, Benson, Pierce)

Renae Martinson, Jamestown – 253-6480 (Stutsman, Barnes, Lamoure, Dickey, Sargent, Griggs, Cass, Richland, Ransom, Steele, Traill, McIntosh, Logan)

John Bauer, Riverdale – 654-7475 (McLean, Mercer, McHenry, Ward, Renville)

Kory Richardson, Lake Ilo NWR – 548-8110 (Dunn, Billings, Golden Valley)

Jon Roaldson, Bismarck – 328-6308 (Grant, Morton and Sioux)

PF Farm Bill Biologists

Rachel Bush, Jamestown – 252-2521 ext. 129 (Stutsman, Barnes, Lamoure)

Jeff Potts, Dickinson – 225-3811 ext. 118 (Stark, Hettinger, Adams and other western counties)

Matt Olson, Forman – 724-3247 ext. 101 (Sargent, Richland, Ransom, Dickey)

Megan Moore, Hettinger – 567-2661 ext. 113 (Adams, Bowman, Slope and other western counties)

DU Conservation Program Biologists

Mathew Shappell, Napoleon – 754-2234 ext. 3 (Emmons, McIntosh, Dickey, Logan, Kidder)

Krista Reiser, Turtle Lake – 448-2377 (McLean, Burleigh, Sheridan)

CRP Landowner Workshops

March 16 – Mott, Hettinger County Courthouse, 10 a.m., 690-6484
March 16 – New England, Memorial Hall, 1 p.m., 690-6484
March 21 – Hettinger, Hettinger Research Extension Center, 10 a.m., 567-2661 ext. 113
March 22 – Dickinson, Elks, Sodbuster Room, 12 p.m., 690-6484
March 23 – Richardton, American Legion Club, 10 a.m., 690-6484
March 24 – Beach, Ambulance Building, 11 a.m., 690-6484
March 28 – Edgeley, Edgeley Coffee Shop, 10 a.m., 252-2521 ext. 129
March 28 – LaMoure, The Omega Room, 2 p.m., 252-2521 ext. 129
March 29 – Bowman, Bowman Public Library, 10 a.m., 567-2661 ext. 113
March 29 – Amidon, Slope County Courthouse, 1:30 p.m., 567-2661, ext. 113
March 30 – Valley City, VFW Hall, 2 p.m., 252-2521 ext. 129

Nonresident Any-Deer Bow Licenses All Issued for 2011

North Dakota's nonresident any-deer archery licenses, good for either whitetail or mule deer, have all been issued by lottery drawing for the 2011 bow season.

A total of 1,091 licenses were available, with 1,172 nonresidents submitting an application by the March 1 deadline. Unsuccessful applicants have their name placed on a waiting list if any licenses are returned.

Nonresidents can still purchase a white-tailed deer bow license. There is no limit to the number of whitetail bow licenses issued each season, but there is a limit of one deer bow license per hunter.

The number of nonresident any-deer bow licenses available is 15 percent of the previous year's mule deer gun license allocation. The Game and Fish Department issued 7,275 mule deer licenses in the 2010 deer gun lottery.

Bighorn Sheep License Sells for \$41,000 at Auction

North Dakota's bighorn sheep license garnered the highest bid among states offering an auction license at the March 5 Midwest Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation annual meeting in Bloomington, Minn.

North Dakota's 2011 bighorn sheep auction license, which allows the winning bidder the rare privilege of pursuing a North Dakota bighorn on a self-guided hunt, sold for \$41,000. An additional \$15,000 was dedicated to sheep management in North Dakota.

One hundred percent of the auction license proceeds are used to enhance bighorn sheep management in North Dakota.