

## **Mowing Dense Cattail and *Phragmites* at St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area**

### **Statement of Work Exhibit A**

**Project:** Mowing Dense Cattail and *Phragmites* Vegetation

**Location:** St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area – East Marsh Unit (zones 31-40’s)

**Project Performance Period:** July 15, 2023 – September 8, 2023

#### **Bids and Site Visit:**

All bids are to be submitted on a “PER ACRE” unit-price basis, a bid for each project area and a combined bid. If the Contractor would like a site visit prior to submitting a bid for this Project, please contact Andy Hinickle (Audubon Great Lakes, 607-342-7328, [Andrew.Hinickle@audubon.org](mailto:Andrew.Hinickle@audubon.org)) or John Darling (Michigan Department of Natural Resources, 810-459-1197, [DarlingJ@michigan.gov](mailto:DarlingJ@michigan.gov)). Bids should be submitted using the bid sheet provided.

#### **Location:**

The project area is located within the East Marsh unit of the St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area (see attached map).

#### **Project Information:**

The primary goal of this project is to enhance habitat conditions for waterfowl, marshbirds, and Black Terns at St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area, which doubles as an Audubon Important Bird Area and Michigan Wetland Wonder, by reducing cattail monoculture, managing *Phragmites*, and improving hemimarsch conditions. This will be accomplished by mowing six large pockets of various sizes, totaling 13 acres (see pink polygons in map, attached), twenty 0.2 acre pockets along two canals, totaling 2 acres (see purple polygons in map, attached), and three additional acres for miscellaneous needs (to be determined by local Michigan Department of Natural Resources staff), for a grand total of 20 acres. All cutting will occur in the East Marsh Unit (zones 31-40’s) in such a manner that mimics muskrat feeding behavior where stems are cut at least 3 inches below the water surface and cut debris is left floating and intact, in an effort to provide nesting and cover material. By leaving cut stems underwater, openings should remain open into the hunting season and beyond, increasing waterfowl hunting opportunities.

#### **Description of Work:**

This is a non-personnel services contract order for the mowing of all cattail and *Phragmites* within the outlined polygons, measuring UP TO 20 acres within the East Marsh Unit (zones 31-

40's) of St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area. The objective of this Contract will be for the Contractor to mechanically cut and leave behind cattail and *Phragmites* debris utilizing heavy equipment such as an aquatic vegetation cutter, "cookie-cutter" or Swamp Devil. **It is highly recommended that the Contractor visit the site prior to bidding.**

The Contractor shall provide all personnel, labor, equipment, supplies, transportation, tools, materials, supervision, and other non-personnel services necessary to perform the requirements of this Contract and shall plan, schedule, coordinate, and ensure effective performance of required services for the entire duration of the Contract.

St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area is within St. Clair County, MI on Harsens Island and is currently owned by Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division. Contractor equipment will need to use Champion's Auto Ferry to get on-island. The performance dates for this contract are from **July 15, 2023 through September 8, 2023** and this is a firm-fixed price commercial contract.

Contractor must comply 100% with the agreed-upon Statement of Work. Method of treatment will be by via heavy equipment/aquatic mowers that are capable of cutting into dense stands of cattail and *Phragmites*, below the water's surface, with minimal impacts to the soil substrate. Aquatic vegetation cutters, cookie-cutters, or Swamp Devils are preferred. Stems must be cut 3 inches below water level. Rolling stems is not sufficient. All cattail and *Phragmites* must be treated within the polygons identified on the map. If the Contractor's preferred equipment differs from above, please contact the Project Manager for approval prior to submitting a bid. The Contractor must comply with all EPA, FAA, OSHA, and other Federal, State and Local Government statutes and regulations while performing the services stated in this Statement of Work. The Contractor shall have and provide the Project Manager with a safety/spill response plan. Care should be taken to avoid soil disturbance or erosion. If soil disturbance occurs, the Contractor will take actions to correct the disturbance.

The Contractor will provide the Project Manager with contact information for all personnel and information about vehicles and equipment to be used or parked at sites. All Contractor personnel involved in performing this Contract, as well as the equipment used, will be appropriately licensed and certified for the work to be done as stated in this Statement of Work.

The Contractor is responsible for the repair or replacement of any faulty or sub-standard equipment during the course of the Contract. The Contractor will notify the Project Manager within 48 hours of discovery of necessary repair or replacement during the course of the cattail mowing Contract. The payment will only be made for actual acres treated which are agreed upon between the Contractor and the Project Manager prior to commencement of mowing operations. All 20 acres must be treated before payment for services is made.

The Contractor shall be responsible for collecting the following data for the Project Manager: operation start and end dates, location (longitude & latitude or UTM), number of acres treated, equipment used, and hours worked.

**Contractor-furnished Property and Services:**

1. General - The Contractor shall provide all labor, equipment, supervision, transportation, operating supplies, and incidentals needed to perform the work.
2. The Contractor must possess any/all required state and federal licenses applicable to this job.
3. Provide equipment with mowing and mulching attachments, operators, fuel and all other staff and associated supplies needed to complete the Project.
4. Leave cut vegetation behind in the Project Areas.
5. All cattail and *Phragmites* stems must be cut below the water's surface in order for cut stems to be flooded to prevent regrowth.
6. Equipment Maintenance: Throughout the period of performance, machines used to accomplish this Contract shall be maintained in good and safe working order, and shall be free of fluid leaks in order to protect the Wildlife Area environment. All equipment shall be cleaned prior to operation on federal lands (all dirt, grease, and plant parts shall be removed, to minimize risks of contamination of the Wildlife Area).

**Safety:**

- At all times, the Contractor will ensure the safety of all personnel involved in the operation including the mandatory use of all prescribed personal protective equipment. All equipment & personnel provided under this project shall meet and comply with all Federal, State, and occupational safety & health administration (OSHA) regulations.
- The Contractor agrees to abide by all local standards, protocols, instructions and briefings related to access the various sites. Any accident or injury resulting from the Contractor's actions will be the sole responsibility of the Contractor.

**Contractor Safety and Experience:**

- Contractor and all employees assisting will have an excellent safety record.
- At all times, the Contractor will ensure the safety of all personnel involved in the operation including the mandatory use of all prescribed personal protective equipment.
- Contractor will be fully insured to the amount that Audubon requires (see Contract) and will provide Audubon proof of insurance.

**Equal Employment Opportunity:**

Audubon promotes a diverse workplace and is an equal opportunity employer. It is the policy of Audubon to contract with the best-qualified person regardless of race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or marital status.

**Funding Information:**

Audubon's funding for the services to be performed under this Agreement is made pursuant to the following government grant agreement(s) (the "Master Grant(s)"), attached hereto as Exhibit A, the terms of which are incorporated herein: Michigan Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Habitat Grant Program, Project # WH22-123, Titled "Phase II: St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration for Waterfowl and Marsh Birds" approved on 9/14/2022. IC acknowledges and agrees to comply with all the terms and conditions of the Master Grant(s) with which Audubon must comply, as if IC was named therein in place of Audubon.

**Project Managers:**

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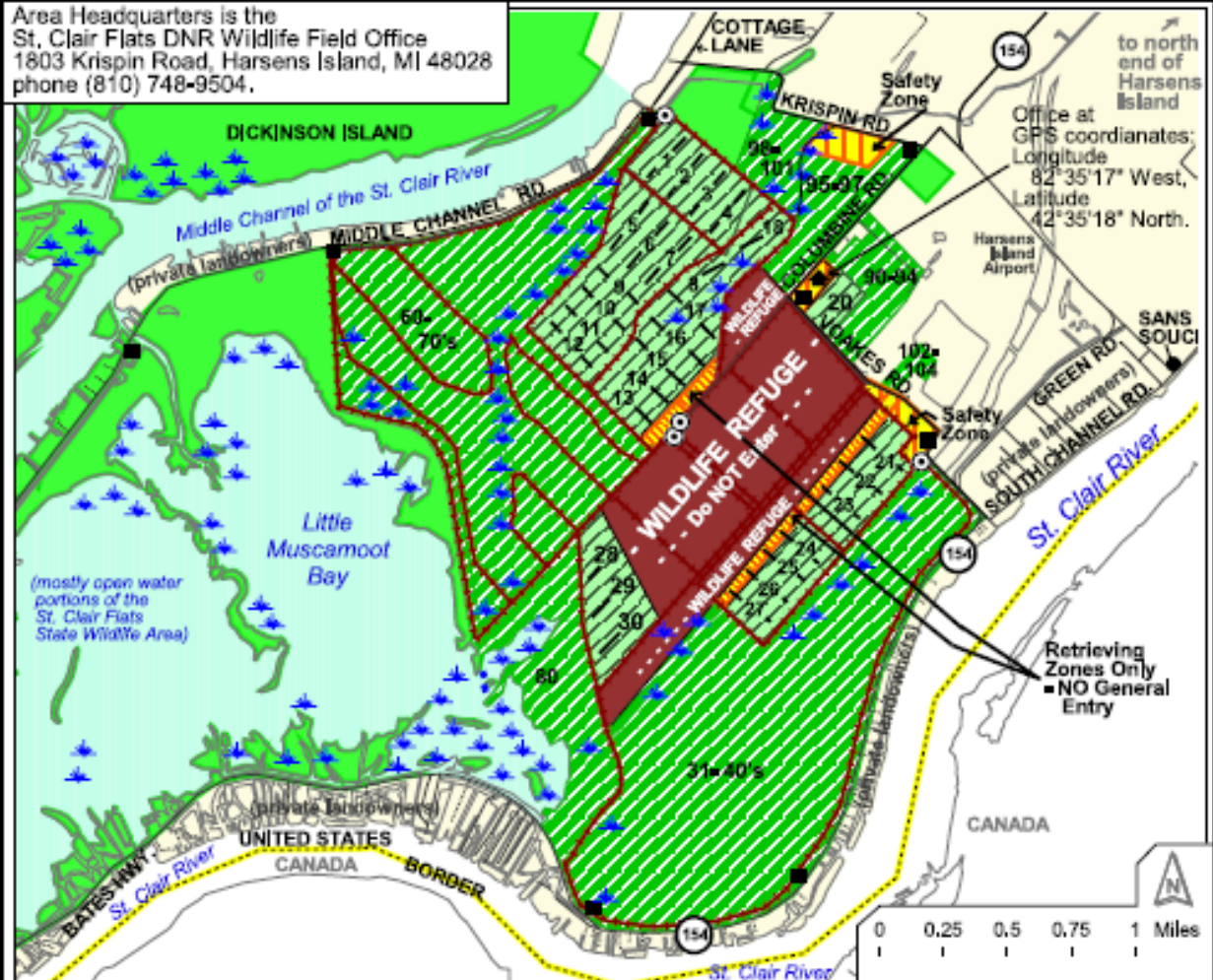
STATE OF MICHIGAN • DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# ST. CLAIR FLATS STATE WILDLIFE AREA HARSENS ISLAND UNIT

- Managed Hunt Area Map -  
ST. CLAIR COUNTY



Area Headquarters is the  
St. Clair Flats DNR Wildlife Field Office  
1803 Krispin Road, Harsens Island, MI 48028  
phone (810) 748-9504.



- Legend**
- General Area - Open to Hunting, No local permit required.
  - Managed Hunting Zone - Zones 1-30 Hunting by Permit Only, 2-4 Hunters per Party.
  - Managed Hunting Zone - Zones 31-104 Hunting by Permit Only.
  - Corn Strip (in Managed Hunt Areas)
  - Retrieving Zone Only - No General Entry
  - Wildlife Refuge - DO NOT ENTER
  - Safety Zone - No hunting
  - Area Headquarters
  - Parking Area
  - Boat Launch/ Access
  - Pumping Station
  - Open Water / Wet Marsh
  - Dike & Ditch Areas - No hunting on Dikes!
- Important Reminders:** 150 yards (450 feet) Hunter Safety Zones are enforced around all structures which could be occupied. Be Safe! Always be careful around water and the dikes/ditches for deep water!
- Highways, Paved Roads
  - Dirt Roads, Two-Tracks, Trails
  - Railroads
  - Township-Range-Section Lines - Sections numbered (1-36) near center
  - Water, Lakes, Ponds
  - Waterways, Rivers, Streams
  - Seasonal Streams, Drains



For more information on this or other areas, contact DNR offices, or visit online: [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)  
Have you tried **MI-Hunt**? [www.michigan.gov/mihunt](http://www.michigan.gov/mihunt)

Portions of this area are designated Watchable Wildlife viewing areas, and are great areas to get outdoors!



## Hunter Monies Help Make This Area Possible

DNR Wildlife Map - area 740202 (Rev. 02/19/2016-WLD/MLS)

## Cattail Mowing Locations – Up to 20 Acres St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area



**Bid Sheet**  
**Audubon Great Lakes**  
**Mowing Dense Cattail**  
**At St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area**

**Legal Description:** Mowing up to **20 acres** of dense cattail vegetation at St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area – East Marsh Unit (zones 31-40’s) in St. Clair County, MI.

Item No.	Work or Material	Quantity	Per Acre Price	Number of Times	Total Amount
	Mowing of cattail and <i>Phragmites</i>				
1	Project Area 1	20 Acres			

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

BIDDERS SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF EQUIPMENT FO BE USED: \_\_\_\_\_

**Terms & Conditions of Payment**

- Finance Charges will not be paid by Audubon Great Lakes
- Payment will be made upon the completion of the project

**Terms & Conditions**

- This Project will be completed following the attached Statement of Work.
- The Project will be completed on the areas as shown on the attached map by September 8, 2023 or before.