

Request for Proposals (RFP) for the administration of hunting at the Cougar Wetland Unit on the Cosumnes River Preserve

The 154-acre Cougar Wetland Unit is a series of three seasonally managed ponds largely free of visual intrusions located approximately 3 miles west of the city of Galt CA. The US Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in cooperation with a variety of organizations has managed hunts on the area for youth, women, and disabled hunters for over 10 years. Hunter success at the Cougar Wetland is variable, with an overall average of a little over 1 bird per hunter day; however the area has the potential to provide a quality hunting experience and is big enough for 3-4 groups with 2-4 hunters each to hunt on a given day.

The BLM is seeking a qualified organization to administer waterfowl hunting for youth, women and disabled hunters on its Cougar Wetland at the Cosumnes River Preserve (CRP). The organization selected will receive a permit (BLM Form 2930-2) to administer waterfowl hunts at Cougar Wetland during the 2014-2015 waterfowl hunting season.

To be considered, all interested organizations must submit a detailed, written proposal that includes:

- A primary point of contact for the proposal,
- A statement on why the interested party wants to run the program at the CRP,
- Qualifications, experience, verifiable capabilities and past performance to run the program and provide the needed reports with little or no supervision,
- General hunt plan including schedule and how participants will be selected
- Anticipated plan to recruit youth, women and disabled hunters to the Cougar Wetland,
- Cost share benefit
- Steps your organization would take to ensure hunter safety.

This is a competitive process so all proposals must contain enough details to allow the BLM to conduct an objective analysis of the proposal.

Proposals will be ranked numerically on the following factors

1. Past experience and qualifications organizing and administering waterfowl hunting programs, (10 points)
2. General Hunt Plan (10 points)
3. Hunt Safety and Emergency Plan ; (10 points)
4. Plan for recruitment and equitable representation of women, youth and disabled hunters. (10 points)
5. References and Reputation for providing high quality hunting opportunities (10 points)
6. Cost share benefit to the Cosumnes River Preserve (10 points)

Deadlines: **Proposals are due no later than August 21, 2014**

Please submit a written proposal/application package to: BLM Wildlife Biologist Mark Ackerman, Cosumnes River Preserve, 13501 Franklin Blvd., Galt CA 95632. Or via email to mackerma@blm.gov

The selected organization will be responsible for:

- Providing a completed BLM Form 2930-1 and a check for \$105 made out to USDI, Bureau of Land Management no later than September 20th, 2014
- Providing an insurance certificate naming the US Bureau of Land Management as additionally insured prior to accessing the property;
- Assuring that disabled hunters have at least one and not more than two able bodied assistants;
- Assuring that youth hunters have at least one experienced hunter in the blind with them;
- Assuring that all hunting laws and safe hunting practices are followed;
- Maintaining the blinds;
- Keeping the area free of all trash, including shell casings;
- Properly opening and closing the gate to the area;
- Submitting a brief weekly report to the CRP Biologist;
- Submitting an Annual Report in March that includes photos and details hunter use, hunter success, how hunters were recruited, work accomplished, and suggestions for improvement.

The BLM will:

- Provide the Special Recreation Permit (SRP)
- Provide overall supervision;

Cosumnes River Preserve

