

FLORIDA FOREST SERVICE
LAKELAND DISTRICT
(863) 648-3160
(863) 648-3169 FAX



5745 SOUTH FLORIDA AVENUE
LAKELAND, FLORIDA 33813

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES COMMISSIONER ADAM H. PUTNAM

Please Respond to:
Florida Forest Service
5745 South Florida Ave.
Lakeland, FL 33813

September 17, 2012

Dear Prospective Bidder:

Attached are a bidder acknowledgement form, bid form, grazing agreement and map regarding a cattle grazing lease on 439 acres at the following location:

State Forest: Lake Wales Ridge Tract: Prairie

Parcels: West County: Polk

Section: 32; Township: 30 South; Range: 30 East Section: 33; Township: 30 South; Range: 30 East

Pasture: 342 acres Mixed pine: 70 acres Ponds: 3 acres Seasonal Wetlands: 24 acres

Length of Contract: Five (5) years + a Two (2) year optional extension.

Please review all of the conditions in the enclosed bid package and inspect the lease area prior to submitting a sealed bid. If you wish to submit a bid, please fill out the enclosed bid form and seal it in an envelope marked as follows:

Sealed Bid – Prairie West 2012 Grazing Agreement – Lake Wales Ridge State Forest

Sealed bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. EDT, October 19, 2012. All bids must be received by 2:00 p.m. on October 19, 2012 to be considered. Bids will be received at the Lakeland District Office, 5745 South Florida Avenue, Lakeland, Florida 33813. An optional informational pre-bid meeting will be held out on the property on October 16th at 9 a.m. to answer questions and to allow prospective bidders to view the property. For information about the pre-bid meeting contact the state forest office at (863)635-7801.

For your information, the Bidder Acknowledgement Form is essentially a cover letter which provides General Conditions concerning the grazing agreement. This form should not be returned with your bid. However, if you do not bid, you have the option of returning it and explaining why you did not bid. Bids will be posted for a 72 hour posting period with the recommended award indicated on the bid tabulation. The grazing lease cannot be awarded to the successful bidder until after the posting period.

Additional conditions are as follows:

1. Sealed bids must be submitted on the attached Florida Forest Service Bid Form. Amount of the bid should be plainly written and the bidder's signature is required. No minimum acceptable bid is published for this grazing agreement. A minimum bid will be determined and enclosed in a sealed envelope and will only be revealed if no submitted sealed bid meets or exceeds the minimum bid value.

2. The successful bidder must sign the state forest grazing agreement, and pay the amount due within 14 days after he/she is notified that the Florida Forest Service accepted his/her bid.

3. Bidders should carefully examine both the agreement and the lease area on the ground before placing a bid. Contact my office to schedule an inspection.

4. All checks are to be made payable to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

5. The Florida Forest Service reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

6. In cases of a tie for high bid, the successful bidder will be determined by a random drawing.

Please contact Dave Butcher, Forestry Resource Administrator, 863-635-7801, if you have any questions concerning this project.

Sincerely,

Adam H. Putnam
Commissioner of Agriculture

Dave Butcher
Forestry Resource Administrator

DKB/

cc: Steve Jennings, State Land Supervisor
Gary Zipprer, Lakeland District Manager
David Speake, State Lands Management Coordinator

**BID FORM
CATTLE GRAZING AGREEMENT
LAKE WALES RIDGE STATE FOREST
PRAIRIE WEST 2012 GRAZING AGREEMENT**

	Fee per Acre per year	Total Price per year
Cattle Grazing –4391 acres	_____	_____

I certify that this bid is made without prior understanding, agreement or connection with any corporation, firm, or person submitting a bid for the grazing lease, and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. I agree to abide by all conditions of this bid and certify that I am authorized to sign this bid for the bidder and that the bidder is in compliance with all requirements of the Invitation to Bid.

Bidder Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Telephone Number: () _____ () _____

Federal Employer's Identification Number (FEID) or Social Security Number:

Bidder Signature: _____ Date: _____

Bidder Signature (Printed/Typed): _____