



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Edger Waterfowl Production Area Barry County, Michigan

On April 23, 2007, the Edger Waterfowl Production Area (WPA) was established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to preserve wetlands and grasslands for waterfowl and other wildlife. The Edger family owned the property for more than 125 years, farming the land for crops and managing a small herd of dairy cows.

Land was acquired from the family through a partnership among the Service, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Ducks Unlimited (DU) and the North American Wetlands Conservation Council. Funds for the acquisition were provided by the Service, a North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant, DU and Wetlands Foundation of West Michigan. WPAs are part of the National Wildlife Refuge System, administered by the Service. Edger WPA is jointly managed by the Service and DNR Wildlife Division.



The Edger WPA is open for public use including hunting and other wildlife-dependent activities such as wildlife observation, photography, and environment education. The WPA is open to foot traffic only – no vehicles of any kind or horses are allowed on the property. State hunting regulations apply to the area. Hunting dogs are allowed provided they are under the immediate control of the hunter at all times and only during State-approved hunting seasons. Hunters using shotguns must use nontoxic shot. Please observe and respect the property boundaries of residents and surrounding landowners.

Hayfields are being converted to native warm-season grasses and wild flowers. Wetland basins may be enhanced. These actions will improve habitat for waterfowl, grassland-dependent migratory birds, and other wildlife. Improvements will be completed through a partnership among the Service, MDNR, Pheasants Forever, & DU.

The Edger WPA is located in Barry County, approximately four and one-half miles due west of the courthouse in Hastings. From Hastings, go west on three roads: M-37 to M-43 to M-179 (Chief Noonday Road). The WPA is on the north side on Chief Noonday Road, west of Irving Road. The areas around the two residences are closed to the public. No public parking is available off of Chief Noonday Road. There is a small parking lot off Irving Road to provide public access to the WPA.

For more information, please contact:

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