



TENNESSEE WILDLIFE RESOURCES AGENCY

SHARE CROP LEASE PROGRAM

CROP YEAR 2014



Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

Annual Report

Sharecrop Lease Program

Calendar Year 2014

This report is provided annually to the State Building Commission (SBC) verifying that all requirements under the "Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency Procedures for Crop Leases" set up by the State Building Commission are in compliance.

The Sharecrop Lease Program is based on a calendar year rather than a fiscal year to accurately reflect revenue from the year in which TWRA leases operate. This was approved by the By-laws, Policy & Procedure of the State Building Commission in January 2011.

During this calendar year the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) processed 13 new sharecrop leases which began in the 2014 crop year. All requirements specified by the SBC were followed in awarding these 13 new leases, including advertising and a bidding procedure in which the highest bidder is awarded the contract. All these leases are within the maximum period of five years.

In total, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency awarded 164 active Sharecrop Leases issued under the State Building Commission Procedures. Sharecrop Leases are categorized by Cash or Service Leases. In 2014 there were 75 Cash Sharecrop Leases, and 89 Service Sharecrop Leases, with the agency managing 17,963 acres under the sharecropping program throughout the TWRA's four regions.

CASH LEASES: The 75 Cash Leases managing 9,274 acres are leases that return revenue to the TWRA. In 2014, there was \$509,996 (rounded) received from farm leases. There was also \$616,978 worth of services provided by the lease farmer in lieu of cash payment.

Work performed in lieu of cash is calculated using a University of Tennessee Technical Report that indicates the value of different services either by the acre or by the hour. Some examples of the type of services provided to TWRA managers are backhoe or dozer work to fix failing levees or planting of crops on adjacent land for habitat. Both the cash received and the in lieu of cash services help TWRA offset program expenses. Management of habitats on these lands through a sharecrop program reduces the cost to the hunters, and also to the taxpayers.

SERVICE LEASES: The other 89 leases are Service Leases utilizing 8,689 acres. Service Leases cover agricultural work in which a percentage of crops are left in the field, as well as haying operations in which wildlife forage is provided.

The Sharecrop Program is administered by the Wildlife Division who insures documentation and bid requirements for new and existing contracts have been followed throughout the four regions of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. The last audit of the Sharecrop Program was completed in 2013 and was addressed in last year's Annual Report. Implementations to improve record keeping have been followed by land managers and central office.

The continued use of the Crop Lease Submission Form assists Field Managers as a check-list to insure that all leases stay in compliance of the Sharecrop Program requirements. Any delinquent payments from a crop year are pursued by area managers and if unsuccessful, are turned over to the TWRA Legal Division. There were no cancellations due to nonpayment in 2014. There were 12 Crop Leases that were cancelled in 2014 for non-compliance of their lease terms. These 12 were not included in the reported totals.

As habitat improvement costs increase, management of these wildlife habitats through the Sharecrop Lease Program continues to provide revenue and services which contributes to the reduction of costs to those who purchase hunting licenses. Whether through hunting or through passive wildlife recreation these lands and the wildlife using these lands are enjoyed by a great number of Tennesseans.

Included in this report is a list of new leases issued for Cash and Service Leases in the 2014 calendar year, as well as a copy of the *Crop Lease Check List & Submission Form* that is submitted with each lease.

*Prepared and submitted by Susan Mann,
Contracts Administrator for the Wildlife Division of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.*

NEW SERVICE CONTRACTS (Type A) for Calendar Year 2014

Sharecrop Contract #	County	Manager	Farmer	Acres	Services Due under Contract
31AA-1-14-17	Cumberland	Jim Lane	Chris Hughes	490	21% left for food
32AG-1-14-18	Meigs	Rob Klippel	Marvin Weaver	220	25% left for food
32AG-1-14-18	Meigs	Rob Klippel	Marvin Weaver	50	27% left for food
32AG-1-14-18	Meigs	Rob Klippel	Marvin Weaver	25	25% left for food
33AG-2-14-18	Rhea	Bernie Swiney	Marvin Weaver	118	25% left for food
33AG-3-14-18	Rhea	Bernie Swiney	Marvin Weaver	52	25% left for food
33AG-33-14-18	Rhea	Bernie Swiney	Jim Tollett	42	31% left for food
33RY-1-14-18	Rhea	Bernie Swiney	Marvin Weaver	380	31% left for food
3432-3-14-18	Meigs	Jason Jackson	Walter Hickman	92	15% left for food
42AK-12-14-18	Cocke	David Sams	Rusty Williams	84	20% left for food

NEW CASH CONTRACTS (Type B) for Calendar Year 2014

Sharecrop Contract #	County	Manager	Farmer	Acres	Cash Due under Contract	
					Original Per Acre Amt.	Calculated Amt
11RW-1-14-18	Dyer	Jason Maxedon	R&M Farms	288	\$156.00	\$44,928.00
12RM-1-14-18	Shelby	Chris Park	BAC Farms	540	\$231.00	\$124,740.00
1320-1-14-18	Decatur	Pete Creech	Trent Blankenship	335	\$131.00	\$43,885.00



CROP LEASE CHECK LIST & SUBMISSION

(Please print legibly.)



Supervisory Sign-off _____ Date _____
Wildlife Manager IV

TWRA Crop Lease # _____ (A) County _____ (B)

Farm Service Agency # _____ (D)

Name of Field Rep _____

Region / WMA _____ / _____ (C)

Name of Farmer _____ (E)

Farmer's Mailing Address _____

Farmer's Phone Number _____ Acres _____ (F)

Service Contract (Type A) _____ % left in field (G)

Cash Contract (Type B) \$ _____ per acre (G) = \$ _____ (Amt. Due)

Date of Submission _____

Justification for Crop Lease _____

Attach additional sheet if more space is needed.

ITEMS TO BE SUBMITTED: Please check off if enclosed.

- H. Lease (3 notarized originals enclosed) Start date: _____
- I. Insurance Verification – Required on 75 or more acres. Desired on all crop leases.
- J. Affidavit of Advertisements – Lands without access and land whose access is across privately held land do not have to be advertised or bid. Advertisements must be published on two consecutive weeks.
- K. Invitation to bid
- L. Copy of All Bids Received – Number of bids received _____
- M. Copy of bond surety, cash bond check or Irrevocable Letter of Credit – If contract amount is over \$1000.
- N. GPS Coordinates
- O. Aerial photographs – Available from Farm Service Agency.
- P. Pre-payment sent (if applicable) – Contracts under \$1000 must be paid in advance \$ _____

Any Amendments to Contracts _____

- Accident Reports, if any, should follow as soon as possible. – Add date filed: _____
- Any amendments to contracts must be reported in writing to the central office.
- **ITEMS "J, K & L" must be sent prior to receiving Director's signature on all Type A (Service) Contracts.**
- **ITEMS "J, K, L & M" must be sent prior to receiving Director's Signature on all Type B (Cash) Contracts.**
- **ITEM "I" IS DESIRED ON ALL LEASES & REQUIRED ON 75 OR MORE ACRES, and must be sent to Nashville prior to any work commencing.**
- Leases & Field Orders may be downloaded from Tennessee.gov.
- **Lease Start Date:** Lease start date must not pre-date TWRA Director's signature of the lease. Please allow a minimum of two weeks for submission to TWRA for Director's Signature.
- Please include TWRA contract numbers on all documentation.
- All pertinent documentation *must* be submitted with lease in order to obtain TWRA Director's Signature.
- No work may commence until all documentation is received in the Nashville Office.

