06 June, 2018

TO: Those interested in purchasing the CARC 2018 hay via bid

FROM: Pat Carr, Superintendent/Associate Professor

The MSU Central Ag Research Center (CARC) is inviting bids to hay/buy the dryland alfalfa, perennial grass and hay barley acres at the CARC facility west of Moccasin, MT There are more than 90 acres of alfalfa, alfalfa-grass mix and grass, and around 12 acres of hay barley. We anticipate the alfalfa to be ready to hay mid-June. The barley was seeded in May, so anticipate it to be ready mid-July.

Hay will be sold on a share basis, with CARC’s share being 50% of the hay that is harvested if yields are at least 2 tons/acre. If yields are less than 2 tones/acre, CARC’s share declines according to the table below. The bidder must agree to purchase CARC’s share for a minimum purchase price of $60/ton. Bales must be removed from fields within 14 days after swathing and removed from the research center with 20 days after swathing, unless weather conditions at CARC prevent this time table from being met. Similarly, barley should be swathed within 8 days of heading to minimize the likelihood of viable seed forming prior to baling and hay removal, unless prohibitive weather conditions occur. In both instance, CARC will negotiate with the bidder for timely hay and removal of the bales from CARC.

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| Average Forage Yield | CARC Forage Share |
| lb/acre | % |
| Less than 1000 | 0 |
| 1000 to 2000 | 25 |
| 2000 to 3000 | 35 |
| 3000 to 3500 | 40 |
| 3500 to 3999 | 45 |
| 4000 or more | 50 |

A minimum bid of $35/acre will be acceptable. The highest bidder must have a current Montana Private Contractors License to hay any field at CARC. **Bids to purchase and hay CARC hay acres should be submitted to CARC office or via phone to Lorrie Linhart on or before noon, June 15, 2018.**