



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge

July, 2005 Planning Update #5

Thank you!

We wish to thank all the individuals and organizations who assisted in developing the Sacramento River NWR Comprehensive Conservation Plan.

Hundreds of people participated over the past four years to make this plan a reality. THANK YOU!



Sacramento River, photo copyright Greg Golet

Comprehensive Conservation Plan Receives Final Approval!

In March, 2005, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service signed the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) adopting Alternative B, the preferred Alternative described in the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP). Signing the FONSI means that the planning process is complete and implementation of the adopted alternative may begin. This is the last Update we will distribute for this planning project. We will need help implementing the CCP, if you would like to become a refuge volunteer contact us at 530-934-2801.

Alternative B was selected from three alternatives to be the CCP for Sacramento River NWR. The CCP outlines how the Refuge will fulfill its legal purposes and contribute to the National Wildlife Refuge System's wildlife, habitat and public use

goals. Implementation of the CCP will occur incrementally, as funding allows, for the next 15 years.

The Refuge is located in Tehama, Butte, Glenn and Colusa counties and stretches along 77 miles of the Sacramento River from Red Bluff to Princeton. The Refuge contains approximately 10,304 acres of riparian forest, valley oak woodlands, grasslands, freshwater wetlands, and agricultural habitats.

Where You Can Find the CCP

The Final CCP and FONSI are available at Sacramento NWR Complex, and online at <http://pacific.fws.gov/planning> or <http://sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov>. Copies of the document have also been placed in libraries in Tehama, Butte, Colusa, and Glenn counties.

What Will Be Implemented?

Sacramento River NWR will continue to restore and maintain riparian habitat for threatened and endangered species, migratory birds, anadromous and native fish, wildlife, and plants.

Almost 80 percent of the Refuge will be opened to compatible wildlife-dependant public uses including wildlife observation, photography, interpretation, environmental education, fishing and hunting. This fall 5,096 acres will be opened to the various public uses with the remaining 3,165 acres opening later. Refuge units will be opened as described in the plan, as signing requirements, facility upgrades, and restoration are completed.

Approximately 52 percent of the Refuge will be opened for hunting dove, waterfowl, coot, common moorhen, pheasant, quail, snipe, turkey, and deer. These units will also be opened to fishing, photography, wildlife observation, environmental education, and interpretation. This fall approximately 3,356 acres will be opened for hunting; with the

remaining 1,967 acres identified for hunting opening later as described in the plan. Hunting will be limited to shotgun or archery only. Twenty-three riverbank miles and seasonally submerged areas will be opened to sport fishing consistent with State regulations. Camping will be allowed on gravels bars below the ordinary high water mark.

Need More Information?

We are available to provide additional information regarding the refuge and this planning process. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us:

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