

# Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Spring 2007 – Planning Update No. 4

## Draft Visitor Facilities Environmental Assessment Available

### Greetings!

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is providing this update to inform you about the status of the Comprehensive Conservation Plan and related planning efforts on the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex. In planning update #3, we announced our decision to prepare a separate Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed visitor facilities and habitat restoration projects on Desert National Wildlife Refuge. We have completed a Draft EA which evaluates the environmental effects of the Proposed Action and alternatives and identifies mitigation measures to minimize adverse effects.

**The Draft EA is available for public review at:**

- Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex Office at 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada;
- Desert National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters at Corn Creek; and
- <http://www.fws.gov/desertcomplex/>.

**Public Review Period:**  
June 20 - July 15, 2007

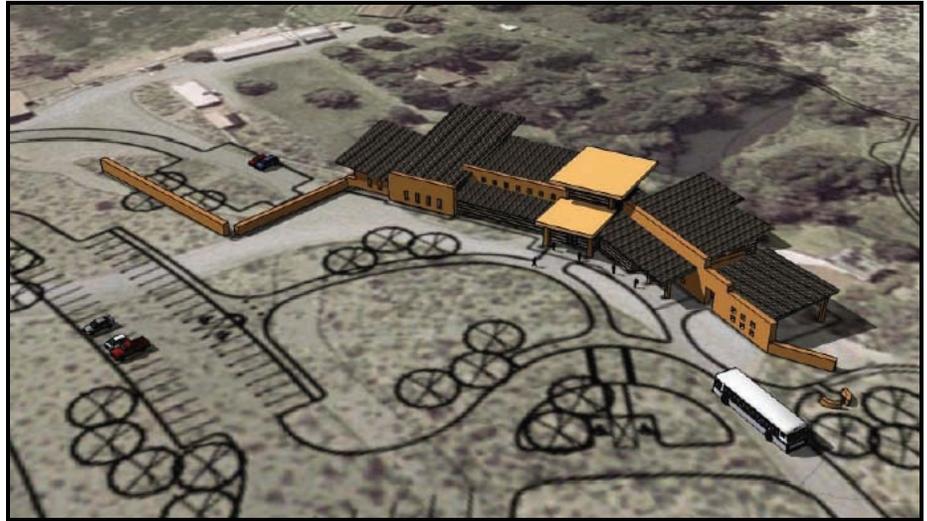
**Email comments to:**

[fw8plancomments@fws.gov](mailto:fw8plancomments@fws.gov)

**Submit written comments to:**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Desert National Wildlife Refuge

Attn: Amy Sprunger, Refuge Manager  
HCR 38, Box 700  
Las Vegas, NV 89124



*The proposed visitor center will improve visitor services, increase wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities, and protect the unique natural, cultural, and historical resources of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge.*

### Introduction from the new Complex Manager

My name is Cynthia Martinez and I have been the Manager of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex (Complex) since February of this year. Prior to taking this position, I served as the Assistant Field Supervisor for the Fish and Wildlife Service's Southern Nevada Field Office for almost six years.

I'm excited about the opportunity to manage four exceptionally unique and diverse refuges in southern Nevada, which protect habitat for an incredible array of wildlife: from the elusive bighorn sheep, to numerous migratory birds, and rare fish and plants occurring no where else on earth. Each refuge offers opportunities for you to enjoy and learn about these important resources. In fact, new opportunities are being developed right now.

A draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for one such opportunity, a new visitor facility/administrative office, interpretive trails, and habitat restoration project at Desert National Wildlife Refuge is now available for comment.

We look forward to receiving your input on this important planning process. Your comments will be addressed in the Final EA, which is scheduled for completion this summer.

We continue to make progress on the Comprehensive Conservation Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement (CCP/EIS) for the Complex. An administrative draft CCP/EIS is currently being reviewed and we plan to distribute a draft CCP/EIS later this summer requesting your comments.

Please contact myself or Mark Pelz, Refuge Planner, if you have any questions. See the next page for our contact information.

Cynthia Martinez  
Complex Manager,  
Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex

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**Please feel free to contact us!**

We are available to provide additional information about the refuges' resources, visitor services, and accomplishments to date, and to answer any question about the planning process. Feel free to call, write, e-mail, or come to see us.

If you did not receive this Planning Update through the mail and would like to be on our mailing list, please contact us. If you would like to be removed from the list or are receiving multiple copies of these notices, please let us know.

**Cynthia Martinez, Manager**

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**Mark Pelz, Refuge Planner**

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Or check out the following site on the Web:

<http://www.fws.gov/desertcomplex>

**Please pass this *Planning Update* along to anyone you think might be interested in reviewing the Draft EA. Thank you!**



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex  
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Las Vegas, Nevada 89130

*Address correction requested*