

Reader's Guide

The FWS will manage the Monument through an approved CCP and in accordance with a permit and Memorandum of Agreement with the DOE. The CCP provides long-range guidance on Monument management through its vision, goals and objectives. The CCP also provides a basis for a long-term adaptive management process, including implementation, monitoring progress, evaluating and adjusting, and revising plans accordingly.

This CCP is a landscape-scale plan and addresses what areas are open to what uses. It provides the basis for protection of natural, cultural, scenic and recreational resources, setting the goals that the FWS will strive to meet in management of the Monument. The specific details of those uses and protection mechanisms, and how they will be achieved, will require additional step-down planning. For example, the management of invasive species—an Integrated Pest Management Plan—was included in the draft CCP as a draft step-down plan for public comment; it will be finalized following the signature of an ROD on this CCP. Other step-down plans will follow on everything from habitat management to visitor use.

This document combines both a CCP and an EIS. The draft CCP/EIS was released for review and comment by the public, tribes, special interest organizations, and local, state and federal agencies (see Chapter 5 for details). Based on the comments received, the FWS modified the draft as necessary and appropriate and selected a final Preferred Alternative. Following publication of this final CCP/EIS, the FWS will publish an ROD that identifies the alternative selected as the CCP. The FWS will then publish a stand-alone CCP comprised of parts of Chapter 1, the selected alternative from Chapter 2, appropriate sections of Chapters 3 and 5, and the necessary appendices.

The following chapter and appendix descriptions are provided to assist readers in locating and understanding the various components of this combined document.

Chapter 1: Introduction, Purpose, Need For Action, and Issues, includes the regional context, establishment and purposes of the Monument; the vision for future management; and the purpose of, and need for, a CCP. This chapter also provides background on major planning issues identified by FWS staff; federal, tribal, state and local agencies; and the general public.

Chapter 2: Management Goals, Objectives and Alternatives, describes ten management goals, the objectives to meet those goals, and eight management alternatives. Each alternative represents a potential CCP for the Monument. Alternative A describes current management on the Monument. Alternative B places a heavy emphasis on resource protection. Alternative B-1 mirrors Alternative B and considers an elimination of recreational hunting on the Monument. Alternative C outlines a method of using social engineering to protect resources. Alternative C-1 uses Alternative C as its base, but pulls in elements of Alternatives D and E. Alternative D,

while still protecting resources, places an increased emphasis on recreational use of the Monument. Alternative E, provided by the FAC, combines elements from Alternatives C and D. Alternative F, provided by the CTUIR, overlays a use-permit system over Alternative B.

Chapter 3: Affected Environment, describes the existing physical and biological environment, public uses, cultural resources, and socioeconomic conditions. These represent baseline conditions for the comparisons made in Chapter 4.

Chapter 4: Environmental Consequences, describes the potential impacts of each of the eight alternatives on the resources, programs and conditions outlined in Chapter 3.

Chapter 5, Consultation, Coordination and Preparation, provides details on public involvement, interagency coordination, and tribal consultation during the planning process. It also presents the people who prepared this CCP/EIS.

Appendix A – Glossary & Abbreviations, contains acronyms, abbreviations and definitions of terms used in this document.

Appendix B – Comments Received & Responses, provides a summary of the public, agency and tribal comments received on the draft CCP/EIS and how the FWS addressed the comments.

Appendix C – Monument Proclamation, includes the Presidential Proclamation signed by President Clinton that established the Monument and a White House background paper providing management direction.

Appendix D – Public Laws 100-605 and 104-333, Section 404, is the text of the legislation that initiated the study of the conservation of DOE lands and the subsequent legislation that amended the original legislation to permanently protect the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River from certain types of water projects.

Appendix E – Laws, Executive Orders, and Policies of Impact, contains brief descriptions of some of the more pertinent laws, executive orders, and policies applicable to management of the Monument.

Appendix F – Permit To Operate A National Wildlife Refuge, includes the agreement signed between the DOE and FWS to manage DOE lands as part of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Appendix G – Hanford Reach National Monument Federal Advisory Committee, includes the members that helped to shape this draft CCP.

Appendix H – Appropriate Uses, considers the possible public uses of the Monument and if they are appropriate for the Monument, in consideration of applicable laws, FWS policies, the Monument Proclamation, and resource protection.

Appendix I – Compatibility Determinations, describe uses, anticipated impacts, stipulations and a determination of compatibility or non-compatibility for existing and proposed public uses on the Monument.

Appendix J – Common & Scientific Names of Plants & Animals Identified in the CCP, represents a cumulative list of all the plants and animals mentioned in the CCP.

Appendix K – Common Vascular Plants on the Monument, lists the more common plants that have been observed on the Monument.

Appendix L – Summary of Plant Communities, lists the different plant communities and associations that have been observed on the Monument.

Appendix M – Plant Communities by Management Unit, lists the different plant communities and associations that have been observed on the Monument by unit for all units, except the Arid Lands Ecology Area, according to a 2003 study.

Appendix N – Reptiles and Amphibians on the Monument, lists reptiles and amphibians that have been observed on the Monument.

Appendix O – Fish Species in the Hanford Reach and Monument Waters, lists fish species found in the Hanford Reach, WB-10 Ponds, and Saddle Mountain Lake.

Appendix P – Birds on the Monument, lists birds that have been observed on the Monument, as well as when they can be found.

Appendix Q – Mammals on the Monument, lists mammals that have been observed on the Monument.

Appendix R – National Wildlife Refuge System Strategic Goals and the Hanford Reach National Monument RONS and MMS Project Lists, briefly describes projects and costs associated with the current management of the Monument as well as projects anticipated under Alternative A.

Appendix S – Monument Staffing Needs, describes the current and staffing levels needed to fully implement any of the alternatives.

Appendix T – Literature Cited, provides bibliographic references for the citations in this document.

Appendix U – Distribution List, contains the list of federal, tribal, state and local agencies; non-government organizations; academic institutions; and individuals who received planning updates, summaries and other mailings associated with this planning effort, including the release of this draft CCP/EIS.