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## Appendix F: Compatibility Determinations

In accordance with the Refuge Improvement Act of 1997, no uses for which the Service has authority to regulate may be allowed on a unit of Refuge System unless it is determined to be compatible. A compatible use is a use that, in the sound professional judgment of the refuge manager, will not materially interfere with or detract from the fulfillment of the National Wildlife Refuge System mission or the purposes of the national wildlife refuge. Managers must complete a written compatibility determination for each use, or collection of like-uses, that is signed by the manager and the Regional Chief of Refuges in the respective Service region. Draft compatibility determinations applicable to uses described in this CCP were published with the Draft CCP and EA and received 30 days of public review.

Signed compatibility determinations are on file at Rice Lake NWR for the following activities:

- # Interpretation and Environmental Education
- # Recreational Fishing
- # Hunting
- # Ceremonial use of sacred sites on Indian Point by the Mille Lacs (East Lake) Band of Ojibwe
- # Archeological Investigations
- # Research projects by third parties (Rice Lake NWR and Sandstone Unit)
- # Research projects by third parties (Mille Lacs NWR)

- # Temporary work outside existing rights-of-way
- # Trapping
- # Tree harvest by third parties for habitat management purposes
- # Wildlife Observation and photography (including the means of access, such as automobile driving, hiking, biking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, canoeing, kayaking and boating and the incidental use of picnicking)

