



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building
1 Federal Drive
Fort Snelling, MN 55111-4056

IN REPLY REFER TO:

FWS/NWRS-CP

August 4, 2008

Dear Reviewer:

We are pleased to provide you with this Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Assessment (EA) for Seney National Wildlife Refuge (NWR).

Seney NWR was established in 1935 by Executive Order under the Migratory Bird Conservation Act for the protection and production of migratory birds and other wildlife. The Refuge encompasses approximately 95,238 acres; of this area, 25,150 acres comprise the Seney Wilderness Area, which includes the Strangmoor Bog National Natural Landmark. While management for migratory birds is paramount, the Refuge provides habitat for a diversity of wildlife species, both migratory and non-migratory. Approximately 20 species of reptiles and amphibians, 48 species of mammals, 26 species of fish, and over 200 species of birds have been documented on the Refuge. Many of these species are Conservation Priorities for the Midwest Region of the Service.

The CCP will guide management of the Refuge for the next 15 years and will help the Refuge meet its purpose and contribute to the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The CCP will provide both broad and specific guidance on various issues; describe a vision, goals, and measurable objectives; and list strategies for reaching the objectives.

We invite you to review and comment on the Draft CCP and EA. By sharing your thoughts, you can help ensure that the final CCP is both visionary and practical. We will host an open house where you will be able to ask questions and voice concerns and suggestions. A meeting date and location will be announced through the media and other means.

Written comments are also welcome during the 30-day comment period and should be addressed to: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Seney NWR, Attention: CCP Comment, 1674 Refuge Entrance Road, Seney, MI 49883. You may also send comments to us through the following web address: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/planning/seney>

To be considered in preparing the Final CCP, comments must be received by October 8, 2008.

We look forward to continuing the dialogue on the future of the Refuge, and thank you for your continued interest in keeping this Refuge a special place for wildlife and people.

Sincerely,

Gary Muehlenhardt
Regional Conservation Planner

