

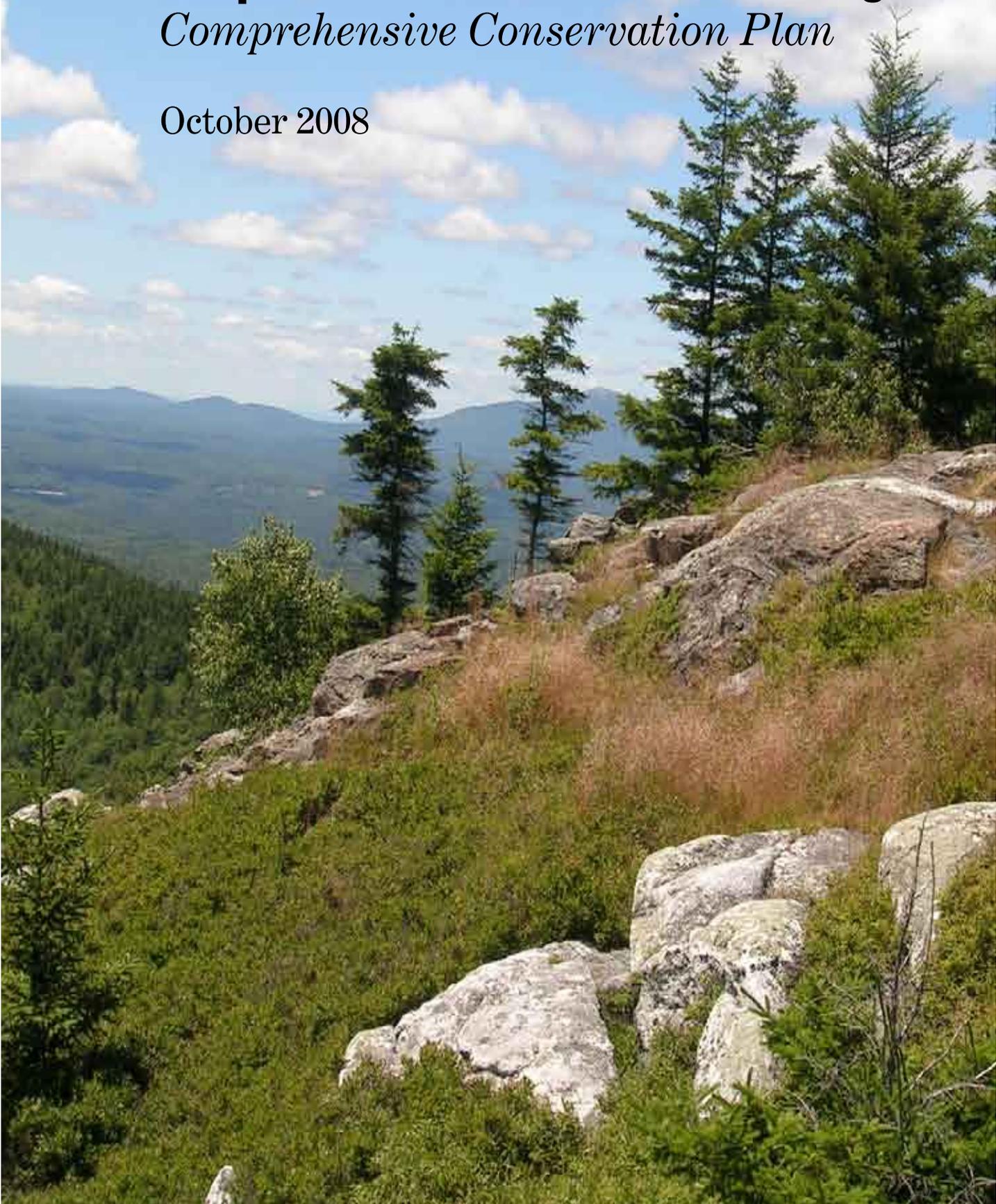


**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

# **Wapack National Wildlife Refuge**

## *Comprehensive Conservation Plan*

October 2008



**Cover Picture:** *View from North Pack Monadnock.* Lelaina Marin/USFWS



*This goose, designed by J.N. “Ding” Darling, has become the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.*

The *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service* is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 97-million acre National Wildlife Refuge System comprised of more than 548 national wildlife refuges and thousands of waterfowl production areas. It also operates 69 national fish hatcheries and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces Federal wildlife laws, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, administers the Endangered Species Act, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Assistance Program which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state wildlife agencies.

Comprehensive Conservation Plans provide long term guidance for management decisions and set forth goals, objectives, and strategies needed to accomplish refuge purposes and identify the Service’s best estimate of future needs. These plans detail program planning levels that are sometimes substantially above current budget allocations and, as such, are primarily for Service strategic planning and program prioritization purposes. The plans do not constitute a commitment for staffing increases, operational and maintenance increases, or funding for future land acquisition.



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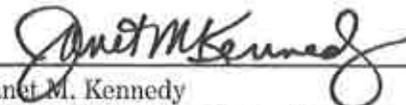
October 2008

**Submitted by:**

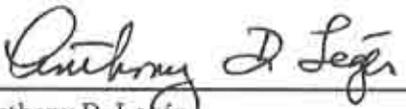
  
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Oct. 23, 2008  
Date

**Concurrence by:**

  
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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

10-31-08  
Date

# Wapack National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan October 2008

## Abstract

Type of Action:	Administrative
Lead Agency:	U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
Location:	Wapack National Wildlife Refuge Greenfield and Temple, NH
Administrative Headquarters:	Parker River National Wildlife Refuge Newburyport, MA
Responsible Official:	Marvin Moriarty, Regional Director, Region 5, Northeast
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This Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for the 1,625 acre Wapack National Wildlife Refuge (refuge) is the culmination of a planning effort involving New Hampshire Fish and Game, local partners, refuge neighbors, private landowners, and the local community. The CCP establishes 15-year management goals and objectives for wildlife and habitat, and public use and access.

Under this plan, we make improvements to our biological and visitor services program through partnerships with other federal agencies, state agencies, town departments, local conservation organizations, and individuals. We formalize our partnerships to maintain trails, trailheads, and pursue a new parking area. We will improve our presence and visibility at the refuge and in the local community. We will also work with land conservation partners to help them identify land that should be protected for wildlife and help them choose the best methods/techniques for managing those areas.



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### **Refuge Vision Statement**

Encompassing the North Pack Monadnock Mountain in southern New Hampshire, the Wapack National Wildlife Refuge provides exceptional mature spruce-fir and northern hardwood-mixed habitat for wildlife, particularly migratory birds. We will manage the refuge to preserve its natural conditions in a setting which appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature.

All visitors are welcome to enjoy opportunities to observe and photograph nature along refuge trails, including a 4-mile segment of the Wapack trail. The rock outcrop and cliff on the mountain peak afford an ideal location to view migrating hawks each fall. Old and new partnerships with other federal agencies, state agencies, local conservation organization, and volunteers will foster public stewardship of this refuge and its resources, and enhance public understanding of the role of the National Wildlife Refuge System in conserving our nation's trust resources.



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