

Appendix G



Red-tailed hawk
Dave Menke/USFWS

ESA Section 7 Consultation

INTRA-SERVICE SECTION 7 BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION FORM

Originating Person:

Nancy McGarigal, Refuge Planner
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035

Telephone Number: (413) 253-8562

Date: October 22, 2008

I. Region: R5

II. Service Activity (Program): National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS)

III. Pertinent Species and Habitat:

A. Listed species and/or their critical habitat within the action area:

None documented

B. Proposed species and/or proposed critical habitat within the action area:

None documented

C. Candidate species within the action area:

None documented

D. Include species/habitat occurrences on a map.

Not applicable

IV. Geographic area or station name and action:

Wapack National Wildlife Refuge

V. Location:

See map G-1

A. Ecoregion Number and Name:

27/Northern New England

B. County and State:

Hillsborough County, New Hampshire

C. Section, township, and range (or latitude and longitude):

Greenfield and Temple, New Hampshire

D. Distance (miles) and direction to nearest town:

Six miles east of Peterborough, NH, six miles south of Greenfield, NH

E. Species/habitat occurrence:

A variety of habitats, including northern hardwood-conifer forest, hemlock-hardwood-pine forest, spruce-fir forest, old field, scrub-shrub, talus slopes, and rock ridges are found throughout the refuge. A total of 51 bird species have been observed on the refuge, including two species of raptors. Five of those species are listed in the New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan as species of concern or regional concern (NHFG 2005). At this time, no surveys have been conducted for mammals, reptiles, or amphibians.

VI. Description of proposed action

The draft CCP/EA evaluated two alternative scenarios for managing the refuge over the next 15 years. The CCP Planning Team and the NWRs Senior Leadership Team identified alternative B as the Service-preferred alternative. After public distribution of the draft CCP/EA in March 2008, and review of public comments received, the planning team prepared a final CCP based on Alternative B. Alternative B proposes that we focus on improving our biological and visitor services programs by expanding our partnerships with other federal and state agencies, town departments, local conservation organizations, and individuals. We would assess and monitor threats to the integrity of refuge habitat and gather baseline data on plant and wildlife populations on the refuge. Since there are no known federal- or state-listed threatened or endangered species documented on the refuge, the proposed action would not have an impact on them. The possibility exists that surveys conducted in the future under the Service-preferred alternative may reveal the presence of the following state-listed species: northern harrier, peregrine falcon, three-toed woodpecker, and eastern small-footed bat.

VII. Determination of effects:**A. Explanation of effects of the action on species and critical habitats in items III. A, B, and C (attach additional pages as needed):**

Not applicable

B. Explanation of actions to be implemented to reduce adverse effects:

Not applicable

VIII. Effect determination and response requested: [* = optional]

A. Listed species/designated critical habitat:

No listed species or designated critical habitat

B. Proposed species/proposed critical habitat:

No listed species or designated critical habitat

/s/ Nancy McGarigal
Project Biologist (Requestor)

10/22/2008
Date

IX. Reviewing ESFO Evaluation:

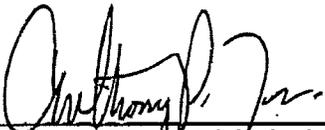
A. Concurrence Nonconcurrence

B. Formal consultation required

C. Conference required

D. Informal conference required

E. Remarks (attach additional pages as needed):



Endangered Species Biologist (Reviewer),
New Hampshire Field Office

10/30/2008
Date

Literature Cited

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). 2005. Global Climate Change and Its Impact on New Hampshire's Forests and Timber Industry. Concord, NH. View source at <http://www.des.state.nh.us/factsheets/ard/ard-27>.

