

Appendix A: Finding of No Significant Impact

Finding of No Significant Impact

Environmental Assessment and Comprehensive Conservation Plan for Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District, Minnesota

An Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to identify management strategies to meet the conservation goals of Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge and Tamarac Wetland Management District. The EA examined the environmental consequences that each management alternative could have on the quality of the physical, biological, and human environment, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The EA evaluated four alternatives for the future management of Tamarac NWR and three alternatives for Tamarac WMD.

The alternative selected for implementation on the refuge is *Alternative 1*. The preferred alternative would encourage a future trend toward wildlife habitats that are native to the area and maintained, where feasible, by natural processes. The preferred alternative also includes increased opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, environmental education and interpretation. Wildlife needs always receive priority when in conflict with visitor services.

The alternative selected for the wetland district is *Alternative 1*. The preferred alternative will result in a more active and growing district. Wildlife resources of concern will be identified and targeted for protection and enhancement. Growth of the WMD will include fee and easement acquisitions as funding is available. Priority will be given to core areas, corridors and critical sites.

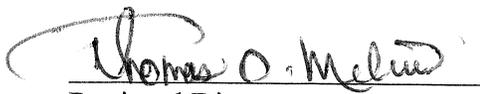
For reasons presented above and below, and based on an evaluation of the information contained in the Environmental Assessment, we have determined that the action of adopting Alternative 1 as the management alternatives for Tamarac NWR and Tamarac WMD is not a major federal action which would significantly affect the quality of the human environment, within the meaning of Section 102 (2) (c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Additional Reasons:

1. Future management actions will have a neutral or positive impact on the local economy.
2. This action will not have an adverse impact on threatened or endangered species.

Supporting References:

Environmental Assessment
Comprehensive Conservation Plan


Regional Director

9/24/10
Date

