

Texas Mid-coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex

*Draft Comprehensive Conservation
Plan and Environmental Assessment*

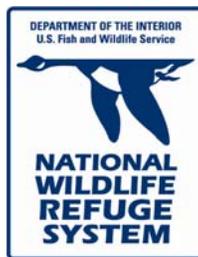


August 2012



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Mission Statement

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.



National Wildlife Refuge System Mission Statement

The mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and, where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.

-National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997

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.



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103



Dear Reader:

Enclosed is the Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Assessment for the Texas Mid-coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex (Complex). The CCP identifies the role that this Complex will play in support of the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The final CCP will guide management of the Complex for the next 15 years.

The CCP has been sent to you because public involvement in the planning process is essential for development of an effective plan. Please review and provide comment on the CCP's contents by **September 15, 2012**. Comments should be specific, addressing merits of the alternatives and adequacy of the environmental analysis. We will consider your comments as we prepare the Final CCP. A public open house meeting will be held on August 29, 2012 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Complex Headquarters, 2547 CR 316, Brazoria, Texas.

All public comments received, including respondent names and addresses will be included in the planning record which will be available for public review. If you, as an individual, wish us to withhold your name or address, state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. We will honor your request to the extent allowed by law. All comments from organizations, businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representative or officials of organizations and businesses, will be available for public inspection. Anonymous comments will not be considered.

Comments should be mailed, e-mailed, or provided orally by **September 15, 2012** to:

Carol Torrez, Lead Planner and NEPA Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NWRS
Division of Planning
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, NM 87103
Phone: (505) 248-6821, Email: carol_torrez@fws.gov

Thank you for your participation in our planning process. Your comments will help us prepare a better plan for the future of the Complex.

Sincerely,

Jose Viramontes
Chief, Division of Planning

**DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION PLAN AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

***TEXAS MID-COAST NATIONAL
WILDLIFE REFUGE COMPLEX***

Brazoria, Fort Bend, Matagorda and Wharton Counties, Texas

Prepared by:

**Texas Mid-coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex
2547 CR 316
Brazoria, TX 77422**

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www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/Plan/planindex.html

Reddish egret at Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge.
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