

**ADDENDUM TO:**

**CACHE RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

**FISHING PLAN & HUNTING PLAN**

**Purpose:**

On April 28th 2005 Secretary of Interior Gale Norton announced the rediscovery of the endangered Ivory-billed Woodpecker (*Campephilus principalis*), once thought to be extinct by many birding authorities, on the Cache River NWR. The Ivory-billed Woodpecker (IBWO) was observed on refuge land along Bayou DeView near Cotton Plant, Arkansas. Immediate measures including the establishment of an IBW Managed Access Area (MAA) and closure of the MAA to the public occurred to protect the IBW simultaneously with the public announcement of the discovery. This Fishing Plan and Hunting Plan Addendum addresses the re-opening of the refuge land within the MAA to limited public fishing and hunting. A Compatibility Determination and Section 7 Endangered Species Evaluation are also being prepared addressing public use (including hunting & fishing) within the MAA. These finalized and approved documents will become part of this addendum and be attached to the current plans and address public fishing and hunting in the MAA.

**Management Plan Revisions:**

The MAA will be open to limited public use including fishing throughout the year and hunting during refuge seasons. The MAA will be divided into 5 sub-units. The sub-units are as follows:

- Sub-Unit A - Bayou DeView area from AR HWY 38 South to AR HWY 17
- Sub-Unit B - Bayou DeView area from AR HWY 17 South to Dagmar WMA
- Sub-Unit C - Robe Bayou area north of Dagmar WMA
- Sub-Unit D - Bull Lake Area
- Sub-Unit E – Area South of US HWY 70

A map of the MAA along with the sub-units is included within this addendum.

Daily permits will be issued for each individual sub-unit within the MAA on a first come basis. The permits will be equally divided between consumptive (hunters and fisherpersons) and non-consumptive (birding, wildlife observation, photography) users. The number of permits per category will be as follows for each sub-unit:

- Sub-Unit A – five per category for a total of 10 daily permits
- Sub-Unit B – three per category for a total of 6 daily permits

Sub-Unit C – ten per category for a total of 20 daily permits  
Sub-Unit D – ten per category for a total of 20 daily permits  
Sub-Unit E – ten per category for a total of 20 daily permits

No guiding will be allowed in the MAA. This includes all guiding (hunting, fishing, or wildlife observation). There will be no commercial fishing allowed in the MAA as well.

Permits may be picked up at the Cache River NWR office beginning the day prior to use and will be issued for only one day at a time. Permits for Saturday and Sunday will only be available on the preceding Friday. The daily permits are non-transferable and must be picked up in person. A valid hunting or fishing license will be required to obtain a permit for consumptive use permits and the appropriate hunting or fishing equipment must be possessed in the field. Consumptive use permits for hunting will only be valid during refuge open seasons and permit holders must adhere to all applicable state, refuge, and federal laws and regulations. USFWS employees are not eligible for daily permits for sub-units A and B.

The permit system may be modified or curtailed at any time to address impacts, conflicts, to facilitate continued research and survey projects for the IBW, or for any other management or protection concern.

All recreational and commercial fishing in refuge waters outside the MAA will continue as defined by the Fishing Plan with no adjustments due to the IBWO discovery. The same is true for hunting and guiding of hunters.

The fishing and hunting programs may provide positive benefits to the refuge system and the IBWO recovery through more sightings of the bird. The amount of annual fishing and hunting use days should not increase due to the discovery of the IBWO, therefore the fishery and wildlife resources will not be impacted.

Currently there is no funding allocated specifically for the fishing and hunting programs, therefore refuge operations and maintenance funding is utilized to fund the fishing and hunting programs. The estimated annual cost to administer the total refuge programs including the MAA daily permit system is as follows.

Administration	\$ 2,000.00
Regulation Brochures	\$ 4,000.00
Law Enforcement (2 FTE)	\$ 80,000.00
Administrative Assistant (1 FTE)	<u>\$ 40,000.00</u>
Average Annual Total Cost	\$126,000.00

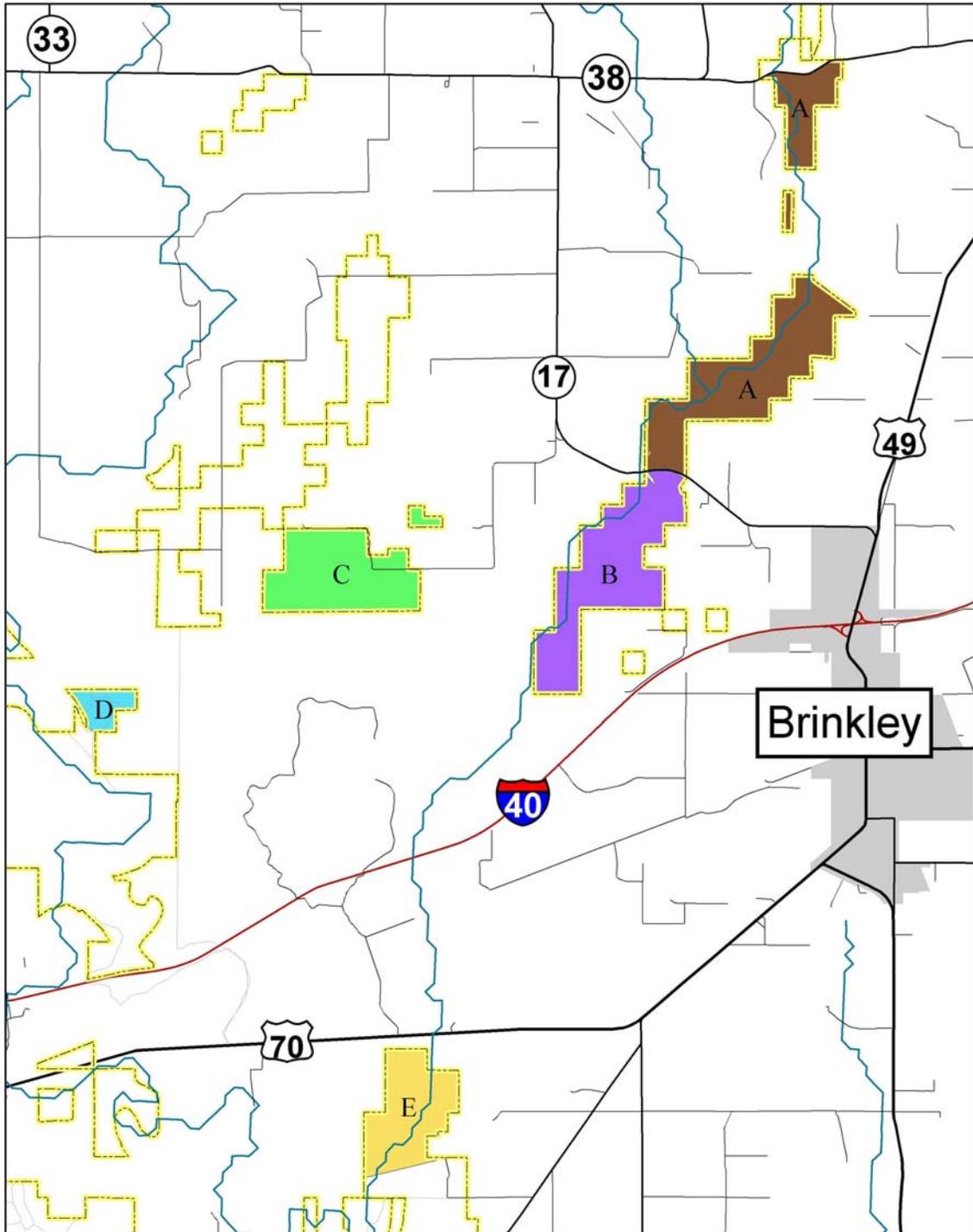
Additional LE personnel will be detailed to this refuge during peak use periods to assist with protection of the ivory billed woodpecker.

Signatures/Approvals:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Refuge Manager                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Refuge Supervisor                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Division of Refuges                      Date



**Legend**



**Refuge Lands**



**Sub Units**

