

# John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit P30, Cape San Blas, Florida Summary of Final Recommended Changes

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**Type of Unit:** System Unit

**Location of Unit:** Gulf County, Florida

**Congressional District:** 2

**Date of Final Recommended Maps:**

October 7, 2016

**Number of Maps:** Unit P30 is depicted on two maps.

**Base Map Imagery Source and Date:** U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agriculture Imagery Program, 2013

**Establishment of Unit:** The Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) (Pub. L. 97-348 enacted on October 18, 1982) originally established Unit P30.

**Public Comments:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) held a 45-day public comment period on the draft maps dated May 16, 2016, from July 7 through August 22, 2016. For a summary of the comments received and the Service's responses, see the document entitled *Summary of Public Comments Received on Draft Maps for John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Units P30/P30P and P31/P31P*, and *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Responses and Recommendations*, which is available on the Service's website at: [www.fws.gov/cbra](http://www.fws.gov/cbra).

**Changes between Proposed and Final Recommended Boundaries:** There are no changes between the proposed boundary of Unit P30 depicted on the draft maps dated May 16, 2016, and the final recommended boundary of the unit depicted on the maps dated October 7, 2016.

**Final Recommended Changes to**

**Unit:** The final recommended maps dated October 7, 2016, modify the boundary of Unit P30 to remove from the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) 47 acres (containing about 40 structures) within the Cape

Breezes subdivision. The Service's assessment indicates that this area is appropriate for removal from Unit P30 because it had a full complement of infrastructure on-the-ground when it was included within the CBRS in 1982.

The boundary of the unit is also modified to add to the CBRS areas located to the northeast of St. Joseph Peninsula and along the eastern side of St. Joseph Bay. The Service's assessment indicates that these areas are appropriate for addition to the CBRS because they meet the CBRA criteria for an undeveloped coastal barrier (16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(1)).

Additionally, the boundary of the unit is modified to reclassify William J. Rish Recreational Park, owned by the State of Florida, from System Unit P30 to Otherwise Protected Area (OPA) Unit P30P. The Service's assessment indicates that Rish Park is appropriate for reclassification because it was held for conservation and/or recreation purposes at the time it was added to the CBRS in 1982.

Unit P30 currently includes portions of the St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve, owned by the State for conservation and/or recreation purposes. However, because these areas were not held for conservation and/or recreation at the time they were added to Unit P30 in 1990, they are not recommended for reclassification to adjacent Unit P30P. Additionally, Unit P30 includes portions of the St. Joseph Bay Aquatic Preserve that are recommended to remain within the unit. Florida State Aquatic Preserves, Outstanding Florida Waters, and other areas of open water that are not associated with conservation and/or recreation areas are generally classified within the CBRS as System Units because they do not meet the CBRA definition of an OPA (Section 12 of the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act; Pub. L. 101-591).

The Service's final recommended maps depict changes to the CBRS that will only take effect if the updated maps are adopted through legislation enacted by Congress.

## Cape San Blas Unit P30, Florida

### Acreage, Shoreline, and Structures:

	<i>Total Acres</i>	<i>Fastland Acres*</i>	<i>Associated Aquatic Habitat Acres**</i>	<i>Shoreline Miles</i>	<i>Structures***</i>
Existing Unit	45,075	1,770	43,305	13.0	
Added to the CBRS	478	33	445		0
Removed from the CBRS	65	52	13		40
Reclassified Area	(59)	(76)	17		
Final Recommended Unit	45,429	1,675	43,754	13.0	
Net Change	354	(95)	449	0.0	(40)

\*Land above mean high tide.

\*\*Associated aquatic habitat includes wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and open water landward of the coastal barrier, but does not include open water seaward of the shoreline. This information is derived from an interpretation of 2013 aerial imagery in consultation with National Wetlands Inventory data and other data sources as necessary.

\*\*\*Approximate structure count derived from 2013 aerial imagery. Structures without walls and a roof (e.g., picnic shelters) and structures with fewer than 200 square feet are not included in this structure count because they do not meet the definition of a "structure" in 16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(2).

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