

## Appendix O. Glossary

**Adaptive Management.** The rigorous application of management, research, and monitoring to gain information and experience necessary to assess and modify management activities. A process that uses feedback from refuge research and monitoring and evaluation of management actions to support or modify objectives and strategies at all planning levels. (Service Manual [602 FW 1.4](#))

**Alternative.** Different sets of objectives and strategies or means of achieving refuge purposes and goals, helping fulfill the Refuge System mission, and resolving issues (Service Manual [602 FW 1.6](#)). The “no action” alternative is current refuge management, while the “action” alternatives are all other alternatives.

**Anadromous.** Fish that hatch and rear in fresh water, migrate to the ocean (salt water) to grow and mature, and migrate back to fresh water to spawn and reproduce. ([www.streamnet.org/glossary.html](http://www.streamnet.org/glossary.html))

**Appropriate Use.** A proposed or existing use on a refuge that meets at least one of the following four conditions:

- (1) The use is a wildlife-dependent recreational use as identified in the Improvement Act.
- (2) The use contributes to fulfilling the refuge purpose(s), the Refuge System mission, or goals or objectives described in a refuge management plan approved after October 9, 1997, the date the Improvement Act was signed into law.
- (3) The use involves the take of fish and wildlife under State regulations.
- (4) The use has been found to be appropriate as specified in section 1.11 of the USFWS Appropriate Use Policy. ([603 FW 1](#))

**Approved Acquisition Boundary.** National wildlife refuge boundary approved by the National Fish and Wildlife Service Director for potential acquisition of lands by the Service.

**Approved Refuge Boundary.** A national wildlife refuge boundary approved by the National or Regional Fish and Wildlife Service Director. Within this boundary, the Service may negotiate with landowners to acquire lands not already owned by the Service. (Modified from Region 1 Landowner Guide, USFWS Division of Refuge Planning)

**Archaeology.** The scientific study of material evidence remaining from past human life and culture. ([www.merriam-webster.com](http://www.merriam-webster.com))

**Avifaunal.** All the birds present in a region, environment, or period of time. (Encarta Dictionary)

**Benefiting Resources.** Those species, species groups, or resources expected to benefit from actions taken for a **Resource of Concern**.

**Big Six.** Wildlife-dependent recreational uses under Refuge System Improvement Act include hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation.

**Bioaccumulation.** A process where chemicals are retained in fatty body tissue and increase in concentration over time. (U.S. EPA Pesticide Glossary, <http://epa.gov/pesticides/glossary/>)

**Biological Diversity (also Biodiversity).** The variety of life and its processes, including the variety of living organisms, the genetic differences among them, and communities and ecosystems in which

they occur (Service Manual [601 FW 3](#)). The Refuge System's focus is on indigenous species, biotic communities, and ecological processes.

**Biological Integrity.** Biotic composition, structure, and functioning at genetic, organism, and community levels comparable with historic conditions, including the natural biological processes that shape genomes, organisms, and communities. (Service Manual [601 FW 3](#))

**Biome.** A division of the world's vegetation that corresponds to a defined climate and is characterized by specific types of plants and animals (e.g., tropical rain forest or desert). (Encarta Dictionary)

**Birds of Conservation Concern.** A category assembled by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Migratory Birds identifying the migratory and nonmigratory species (beyond those already designated as Federally threatened or endangered) that represent the Division's highest conservation priorities. (FWS, Division of Migratory Birds)

**Board of Control; the Boise Project.** Boise Project Board of Control and the Payette Division irrigation districts coordinate reservoir releases for irrigation, power generation, flood protection, municipal and industrial water use, recreation, water quality, and a healthy fishery. (Reclamation, [www.usbr.gov/pn/project/boise\\_index.html](http://www.usbr.gov/pn/project/boise_index.html))

**Bureau of Reclamation.** The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public. (Reclamation, [www.usbr.gov/library/glossary](http://www.usbr.gov/library/glossary))

**Candidate Species.** Plant or animal species for which FWS or NOAA Fisheries has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threats to support a proposal to list as endangered or threatened. (FWS, Endangered Species Glossary, <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/glossary.html>)

**Categorical Exclusion.** A category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and have been found to have no such effect in procedures adopted by a Federal agency pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. ([40 C.F.R. 1508.4](#))

**Colonial (Nesting).** A group of individuals that nest in the same area at the same time. Grebes, great blue herons, and gulls are examples of colonial nesting species at Deer Flat NWR. ([www.fws.gov/birds/documents/whichbirdscolonial.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/birds/documents/whichbirdscolonial.pdf)).

**Compatibility Determination.** A written determination signed and dated by the refuge manager and regional chief signifying that a proposed or existing use of a national wildlife refuge is a compatible use or is not a compatible use. The Director makes this delegation through the Regional Director. (Service Manual [603 FW 2](#))

**Compatible Use.** A wildlife-dependent recreational use or any other use of a refuge that, in the sound professional judgment of the Director, will not materially interfere with or detract from the fulfillment of the mission of the Refuge System or the purposes of the refuge (Service Manual [603 FW 2.6](#)). A compatibility determination supports the selection of compatible uses and identifies stipulations or limits necessary to ensure compatibility.

**Composition (Plant).** The inventory of plant species found in any particular area.

**Comprehensive Conservation Plan.** A document that describes the desired future conditions of a refuge or planning unit and provides long-range guidance and management direction to achieve the purpose(s) of the refuge; helps fulfill the mission of the Refuge System; maintains and, where appropriate, restores the biological integrity, diversity, and environmental health of each refuge and the Refuge System; helps achieve the goals of the National Wilderness Preservation System, if appropriate; and meets other mandates. (Service Manual [602 FW 1.4](#))

**Concern. See Issue.**

**Connectivity.** The arrangement of habitats that allows organisms and ecological processes to move across the landscape; patches of similar habitats are either close together or linked by corridors of appropriate vegetation. The opposite of **Habitat Fragmentation**.

**Conservation Targets** (also see **Resources of Concern; Priority Species, Species Groups, and Communities**). Term used by land management agencies and conservation organizations to describe the resources (ecological systems, ecological communities, species, species groups, or other natural resources) selected as the focus of conservation actions. (**Consumptive Use.** Recreational activities, such as hunting and fishing that involve harvest or removal of wildlife or fish, generally to be used as food by humans.

**Contaminants or Environmental Contaminants.** Chemicals present at levels greater than those naturally occurring in the environment resulting from anthropogenic or natural processes that potentially result in changes to biota at any ecological level ([USGS Open File Report 99-108](#), Assessing Environmental Contaminant Threats to Lands Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). Pollutants that degrade other resources upon contact or mixing. (Adapted from Webster's II)

**Cooperative Agreement.** An official agreement between two parties.

**Cover.** The estimated percentage of an area, projected onto a horizontal surface, occupied by a particular plant species.

**Cultural Resource Inventory.** A professionally conducted study designed to locate and evaluate evidence of cultural resources present within a defined geographic area. Inventories may involve various levels, including background literature search, comprehensive field examination to identify all exposed physical manifestations of cultural resources, or sample inventory to project site distribution and density over a larger area. Evaluation of identified cultural resources to determine eligibility for the National Register follows the criteria found in [36 C.F.R. 60.4](#). (Service Manual [614 FW 1.7](#))

**Cultural Resources.** The physical remains, objects, historic records, and traditional life ways that connect us to our nation's past. (FWS, Considering Cultural Resources, [http://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/graphics/Cultural\\_Resources\\_Overview.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/graphics/Cultural_Resources_Overview.pdf))

**Department of the Interior.** The U.S. Department of the Interior serves as steward and guardian of the nation's natural resources and cultural heritage. It manages federal lands, such as national parks and refuges; honors the nation's trust responsibilities to tribal communities; and promotes conservation and wise use of natural resources. (U.S. Department of the Interior website)

**Decadence.** Marked by decay or decline. For plants, showing little or no new growth. (Adapted from Merriam-Webster online dictionary, [www.merriam-webster.com](http://www.merriam-webster.com))

**Dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene (DDE).** A chemical compound formed by the loss of hydrogen chloride (dehydrohalogenation) from DDT, of which it is one of the more common breakdown products. DDT is an organochlorine pesticide that was once widely used to control insects on agricultural crops. Consuming large amounts of DDT over a short time would most likely affect the nervous system. (Public Health Statement of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Centers for Disease Control)

**Direct Loss.** Loss of food or loss of habitat as nonnative species out-compete native species.

**Distinct Population Segment (DPS).** A subdivision of a vertebrate species that is treated as a species for purposes of listing under the Endangered Species Act. To be so recognized, a potential distinct population segment must satisfy standards specified in a FWS or NOAA Fisheries policy statement (See the February 7, 1996, Federal Register, pages 4722-4725). The standards require it to be separable from the remainder of and significant to the species to which it belongs. (FWS, Endangered Species Glossary, <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/glossary.html>)

**Disturbance.** Significant alteration of habitat structure or composition, or of the behavior or wildlife. May be natural (e.g., fire) or human-caused events. (e.g., aircraft overflight).

**East Pool.** That part of Lake Lowell that is east of the Narrows (see Map 3).

**Ecosystem.** A dynamic and interrelating complex of plant and animal communities and their associated nonliving environment.

**Ecosystem Management.** Management of natural resources using system-wide concepts to ensure that all plants and animals in ecosystems are maintained at viable levels in native habitats and basic ecosystem processes are perpetuated indefinitely.

**Elevation.** The elevation above sea level of the surface water at Lake Lowell.

**Endangered Species (Federal).** An animal or plant species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. (FWS, Endangered Species Glossary, <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/glossary.html>)

**Endangered Species (State).** A plant or animal species in danger of becoming extinct or extirpated in a state within the near future if factors contributing to its decline continue. Populations of these species are at critically low levels or their habitats have been degraded or depleted to a significant degree.

**Enhance.** To improve the condition of an area or habitat, usually for the benefit of certain native species.

**Environmental Assessment (EA).** A concise public document, prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, that briefly discusses the purpose and need for an action, alternatives to such action, and provides sufficient evidence and analysis of impacts to determine whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or finding of no significant impact. ([40 C.F.R. 1508.9](http://www.ecfr.gov))

**Environmental Education Study Sites.** Outdoor locations where groups of students engage in hands-on activities within an environmental education curriculum.

**Environmental Health.** Composition, structure, and functioning of soil, water, air, and other abiotic features comparable with historic conditions, including the natural abiotic processes that shape the environment. (Service Manual [601 FW 3](#))

**Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).** A detailed written statement required by Section 102(2) (C) of the National Environmental Policy Act, analyzing the environmental impact of a proposed action, adverse effects of the project that cannot be avoided, alternative courses of action, short term uses of the environment versus the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity and any irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources. (Adapted from [40 C.F.R. 1508.11](#) and [42 U.S.C. 4332](#))

**Ethnography.** The study and systematic recording of human cultures; also: a descriptive work produced from such research.

**Executive Order.** A President's or Governor's declaration which has the force of law, usually based on existing statutory powers, and requiring no action by the Congress or state legislature.

**Experimental Population.** A population (including its offspring) of a listed species designated by rule published in the Federal Register that is wholly separate geographically from other populations of the same species. An experimental population may be subject to less stringent prohibitions than are applied to the remainder of the species to which it belongs. (FWS, Endangered Species Glossary, <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/glossary.html>)

**Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).** A document prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, supported by an environmental assessment, that briefly presents why a Federal action will have no significant effect on the human environment and for which an environmental impact statement, therefore, will not be prepared. ([40 C.F.R. 1508.13](#))

**Fluviatile.** Belonging to, existing in or about, or produced by the action of streams or rivers. (Webster's Third New International Dictionary Unabridged online)

**Focal Conservation Target.** A suite of conservation targets that for purposes of planning are sorted and condensed to represent threats to biological integrity diversity and environmental health at the refuge level.

**Goal.** Descriptive, open-ended, and often broad statement of desired future conditions that conveys a purpose but does not define measurable units. (Service Manual [602 FW 1.6](#))

**Habitat.** Suite of existing environmental conditions required by an organism for survival and reproduction. The place where an organism typically lives.

**Habitat Fragmentation.** The division of continuous patches into smaller pieces which are partly or fully disconnected from one another by infrastructure, agricultural fields, or human settlements ([www.biology-online.org](http://www.biology-online.org)). The opposite of **Connectivity**.

**Habitat Management Plan.** A plan that provides refuge managers a decision-making process; guidance for the management of refuge habitat; and long-term vision, continuity, and consistency for habitat management on refuge lands. (Service Manual [620 FW 1.4](#))

**Habitat Restoration.** Management emphasis designed to move ecosystems to desired conditions and processes and/or to healthy ecosystems.

**Herptiles.** A general term for amphibians and reptiles.

**Historic Conditions.** Composition, structure, and functioning of ecosystems resulting from natural processes that we believe, based on sound professional judgment, were present prior to substantial human-related changes to the landscape. (Service Manual [601 FW 3](#))

**Hydrology.** study of the occurrence, distribution, movement and properties of the waters of the earth and their relationship with the environment within each phase of the water cycle (USGS website <http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/hydrology.html>).

**Hydrophytic.** Hydrophytic vegetation is the community of macrophytic plant life that occurs in areas where the frequency and duration of inundation or soil saturation produce permanently or periodically saturated soils of sufficient duration to exert a controlling influence on the plant species present (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual).

**Hypolimnion.** The lower zone of a thermally stratified lake, below the thermocline, and usually depleted in oxygen during summer stagnation. ([www.streamnet.org/glossary.html](http://www.streamnet.org/glossary.html))

**Important Bird Area.** A site that provides essential habitat for one or more species of bird and that is recognized as being important on a global, continental, or state level.

**Indicator.** A measurable characteristic of a key ecological attribute that strongly correlates with the status of the key ecological attribute, something that serves as a sign or symptom.

**Inholding.** Refers to lands within an **Approved Refuge Boundary** that are not owned by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These can be private lands or lands owned by City, County, State, or other Federal agencies.

**Integrated Pest Management (IPM).** The use of pest and environmental information in conjunction with available pest control technologies to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to persons, property, and the environment. (U.S. EPA Pesticide Glossary, <http://epa.gov/pesticides/glossary/f-1.html#i>)

**Interpretation.** A teaching technique that combines factual information with stimulating explanation, frequently used to help people understand natural and cultural resources. ([www.yourdictionary.com](http://www.yourdictionary.com))

**Invasive.** Nonnative species disrupting and replacing native species. ([www.thebiotechdictionary.com](http://www.thebiotechdictionary.com))

**Inventory.** A survey of the plants or animals inhabiting an area.

**Inviolate Sanctuary.** Management purpose for migratory birds under the Migratory Bird Conservation Act ([16 U.S.C. 715d](#)).

**Issue.** Any unsettled matter that requires a management decision (e.g., an initiative, opportunity, resource management problem, threat to the resources of the unit, conflict in uses, public concern, or the presence of an undesirable resource condition). (Service Manual [602 FW 1.6](#))

**Key Ecological Attributes.** Those aspects of the environment, such as ecological processes or patterns of biological structure and composition that are critical to sustain the long-term viability of the target. These key ecological attributes are further divided into measurable indicators.

**Lacustrine.** Pertaining to, produced by, or inhabiting a lake. (U.S. EPA, Terms of Environment)

**Macrophyte.** A macroscopic plant, commonly used to describe aquatic plants that are large enough to be visible to the naked eye. ([www.biology-online.org](http://www.biology-online.org))

**Maintenance.** The upkeep of constructed facilities, structures, and capitalized equipment necessary to realize the originally anticipated useful life of a fixed asset. Maintenance includes preventative maintenance; cyclic maintenance; repairs; replacement of parts, components, or items of equipment, periodic condition assessment; periodic inspections, adjustment, lubrication and cleaning (non-janitorial) of equipment; painting, resurfacing, rehabilitation; special safety inspections; and other actions to assure continuing service and to prevent breakdown.

**Maintenance Management System (MMS).** A national database of refuge maintenance needs and deficiencies. It serves as a management tool for prioritizing, planning, and budgeting purposes. (RMIS descriptions)

**Methylmercury.** CH<sub>3</sub>Hg<sup>+</sup>, organic form of mercury and the form of mercury that is most easily bioaccumulated in organisms; a neurotoxin. Methylmercury can accumulate up the food chain in aquatic systems and lead to high concentrations in fish, which, when consumed by humans, can result in an increased risk of adverse effects in highly exposed or sensitive populations. (USGS, Toxic Substances Hydrology Program)

**Migration.** The seasonal movement from one area to another and back.

**Migratory Birds.** Those species of birds listed under [50 C.F.R. 10.13](#). (Service Manual [720 FW 1](#))

**Monitoring.** The process of collecting information to track changes of selected parameters over time.

**National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).** Requires all Federal agencies, including the Service, to examine the environmental impacts of their actions, incorporate environmental information, and use public participation in the planning and implementation of all actions. Federal agencies must integrate NEPA with other planning requirements, and prepare appropriate NEPA documents to facilitate better environmental decision-making. ([40 C.F.R. 1500](#))

**National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).** The nation's master inventory of known historic properties administered by the National Park Service. Includes buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts that possess historic, architectural, engineering, archeological, or cultural significance at the national, state, and local levels. (USFWS, Considering Cultural Resources, [http://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/graphics/Cultural\\_Resources\\_Overview.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/graphics/Cultural_Resources_Overview.pdf))

**National Wildlife Refuge.** A designated area of land, water, or an interest in land or water within the Refuge System, excluding coordination areas. (Service Manual [601 FW 1.3](#))

**National Wildlife Refuge System.** Various categories of areas administered by the Secretary of the Interior for the conservation of fish and wildlife, including species threatened with extinction; all lands, waters, and interests therein administered by the Secretary as wildlife refuges; areas for the protection and conservation of fish and wildlife that are threatened with extinction; wildlife ranges; game ranges; wildlife management areas; or waterfowl production areas.

**National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997** ([Public Law 105-57](#)). A Federal law that amended and updated the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 ([16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee](#), et seq.).

**Native.** With respect to a particular ecosystem, a species that, other than as a result of an introduction, historically occurred or currently occurs in that ecosystem. (Service Manual [601 FW 3](#))

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU).** A unit measuring the lack of clarity of water, used by water and sewage treatment plants, in marine studies, and so on. Water containing 1 milligram of finely divided silica per liter has a turbidity of 1 NTU.

**Nonconsumptive Recreation.** Recreational activities that do not involve harvest, removal, or consumption of fish, wildlife, or other natural resources.

**Noxious Weed.** A plant species designated by Federal or State law as generally possessing one or more of the following characteristics: aggressive or difficult to manage; parasitic; a carrier or host of serious insect or disease; or nonnative, new, or not common to the United States. According to the Federal Noxious Weed Act (Public Law 93-629), a noxious weed is one that causes disease or had adverse effects on humans or their environment and therefore is detrimental to the agriculture and commerce of the United States and to public health.

**Objective.** A concise statement of what we want to achieve, how much we want to achieve, when and where we want to achieve it, and who is responsible for the work. Objectives derive from goals and provide the basis for determining strategies, monitoring refuge accomplishments, and evaluating the success of strategies. Objectives should be attainable, time-specific, and measurable. (Service Manual [620 FW 1](#))

**Obligate Species.** A plant or animal that occurs only in a narrowly defined habitat such as a tree cavity, rock cave, or wet meadow. ([www.streamnet.org/glossary.html](http://www.streamnet.org/glossary.html))

**Operations.** Activities related to the normal performance of the functions for which a facility or item of equipment is intended to be used. Costs such as utilities (electricity, water, sewage) fuel, janitorial services, window cleaning, rodent and pest control, upkeep of grounds, vehicle rentals, waste management, and personnel costs for operating staff are generally included within the scope of operations.

**Organochlorines.** Compounds that contain carbon, chlorine, and hydrogen. Their chlorine-carbon bonds are very strong, which means that they do not break down easily. They are highly insoluble in water, but are attracted to fats. Since they resist metabolism and are readily stored in fatty tissue of any animal ingesting them, they accumulate in animals in higher trophic levels. (USFWS, Pacific

Region Ecological Services, <http://www.fws.gov/Pacific/ecoservices/envicon/pim/reports/contaminantinfo/contaminants.html>)

**Otoliths.** A structure of the inner ear of vertebrates. In fish, this structure is used for balance, orientation and sound detection. The otoliths of fish provide useful information on age, growth rate, life history, recruitment, and taxonomy of individuals (Alaska Department of Fish and Game <http://tagotoweb.adfg.state.ak.us/oto/>).

**Outreach.** The process of providing information to the public on a specific issue through the use of the media, printed materials, and presentations.

**Pacific Flyway.** One of several major north-south travel corridors for migratory birds. The Pacific Flyway is west of the Rocky Mountains.

**Palustrine.** Pertaining to a marsh or wetlands; wet or marsh habitats. (U.S. EPA, Terms of Environment)

**Passerine.** Of or relating to the largest order (Passeriformes) of birds, which includes over half of all living birds; birds having feet that are adapted for perching, including all songbirds. ([www.OxfordDictionaries.com](http://www.OxfordDictionaries.com))

**Permanent Wetland.** Characterized by saturated soil and shallow ponding of water (6 inches deep) throughout winter and early spring.

**Piscivorous.** Habitually feeding on fish; fish-eating.

**Planning Team.** The primary U.S. Fish and Wildlife staff and others who played a key role in developing and writing a CCP. Planning teams are interdisciplinary in membership and function. Teams generally consist of a Planning Team Leader, Refuge Manager, staff biologists, a state natural resource agency representative, and other appropriate program specialists (e.g., social scientist, ecologist, recreation specialist). Other Federal and Tribal natural resource agencies are asked to provide team members, as appropriate. The planning team prepares the CCP and appropriate NEPA documentation. (Service Manual [602 FW 1.6](#))

**Plant Association.** A classification of plant communities based on the similarity in dominants of all layers of vascular species in a climax community **Plant Community.** An assemblage of plant species unique in its composition; occurs in particular locations under particular influences; a reflection or integration of the environmental influences on the site such as soils, temperature, elevation, solar radiation, slope, aspect, and rainfall; denotes a general kind of climax plant community.

**Preferred Alternative.** This is the alternative determined (by the decision maker) to best achieve a refuge's purpose, vision, and goals; to best contribute to the Refuge System mission; to best address the significant issues; and to be consistent with principles of sound fish and wildlife management.

**Preplanning.** The first phase of comprehensive conservation planning process. It includes identifying the planning area and data needs; establishing the planning team and planning schedule; reviewing available information; preparing a public involvement plans and conducting internal scoping.

**Priority Public Uses.** Hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, environmental education and interpretation, where compatible, are identified under the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 as the six priority public uses of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

**Propagule.** A structure (such as a cutting, a seed, or a spore) that propagates a plant.

**Public.** Individuals, organizations, and groups; officials of Federal, State, and local government agencies; Indian tribes; and foreign nations. It may include anyone outside the **Planning Team**. It includes those who may or may not have indicated an interest in Service issues and those who may be affected by Service decisions.

**Public Land Order.** Public lands consist of that class of land remaining from the original public domain that was acquired by the United States by treaty, purchase, or cession from a foreign power.

**Quality Hunt.** Each refuge includes input during development of a CCP that helps define and evaluate wildlife dependent recreation programs such as hunting and contains the following attributes:

- (1) Minimizes conflicts with neighboring landowners;
- (2) Promotes accessibility and availability to a broad spectrum of the American people;
- (3) Promotes resource stewardship and conservation;
- (4) Promotes public understanding and increases public appreciation of America's natural resources and our role in managing and conserving these resources;
- (5) Provides reliable/reasonable opportunities to experience wildlife;
- (6) Uses facilities that are accessible to people and blend into the natural setting; and
- (7) Uses visitor satisfaction to help define and evaluate programs.

**Refuge Operating Needs System (RONS).** A national database of unfunded refuge operating needs required to meet and/or implement station goals, objectives, management plans, and legal mandates. It is used as a planning, budgeting, and communication tool describing funding and staffing needs of the Refuge System.

**Refuge Purpose(s).** The purposes specified in or derived from the law, proclamation, executive order, agreement, public land order, donation document, or administrative memorandum establishing, authorizing, or expanding a refuge, refuge unit, or refuge subunit. For refuges that encompass congressionally designated wilderness, the purposes of the Wilderness Act are additional purposes of the refuge. (Service Manual [602 FW 1.6](#))

**Resource of Concern (ROC).** All plant and/or animal species, species groups, or communities specifically identified in refuge purpose(s), System mission, or international, national, regional, state, or ecosystem conservation plans or acts. For example, waterfowl and shorebirds are a resource of concern on a refuge whose purpose is to protect "migrating waterfowl and shorebirds." Federal or state threatened and endangered species on that same refuge are also a resource of concern under terms of the respective endangered species acts. (Service Manual [620 FW 1.4](#))

**Restore.** To bring back to a former or original condition. (Webster's II)

**Salmonid.** A bony soft-finned fish of the family Salmonidae, Order Salmoniformes, that includes salmon, trout, whitefish, and char. (Encarta Dictionary)

**Scoping.** A stage in the development of a CCP in which a refuge uses news releases, and other appropriate media to notify the public of the opportunity to participate in the planning process and to help identify issues, concerns, and opportunities related to the project.

**Species of Concern (Federal).** An informal term referring to a species that might be in need of conservation action. This may range from a need for periodic monitoring of populations and threats to the species and its habitat, to the necessity for listing as threatened or endangered. Such species receive no legal protection and use of the term does not necessarily imply that a species will eventually be proposed for listing. (FWS, Endangered Species Glossary, <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/glossary.html>)

**Step-down Management Plan.** A plan that provides specific guidance on management subjects (e.g., habitat, public use, fire, safety) or groups of related subjects. It describes strategies and implementation schedules for meeting CCP goals and objectives. (Service Manual [602 FW 1.6](#))

**Strategy.** A specific action, tool, technique, or combination of actions, tools, and techniques used to meet unit objectives. (Service Manual [602 FW 1.6](#))

**Stress.** The impairment or degradation of a key ecological attribute for a conservation target. (TNC 2000)

**Threatened Species (Federal).** An animal or plant species likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. (FWS, Endangered Species Glossary, <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/glossary.html>)

**Threatened Species (State).** A plant or animal species likely to become endangered in a state within the near future if factors contributing to population decline or habitat degradation or loss continue.

**Traditional Cultural Property.** A historic property that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community that (a) are rooted in that community's history, and (b) are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community. (National Register Bulletin 38, Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties)

**Transmissivity.** The rate which groundwater flows horizontally through an aquifer.

**Trophic.** A position in a food chain occupied by a group of organisms with similar feeding mode. ([www.biology-online.org](http://www.biology-online.org))

**Trust Species.** A resource such as endangered species or migratory birds and fish that the government holds in trust for the people through law or administrative act. Federal trust species include threatened and endangered species, as well as migratory birds (e.g., waterfowl, wading birds, shorebirds, neotropical migratory songbirds).

**Upland.** Any area that does not meet the definition of a wetland because the associated hydrologic regime is not sufficiently wet to elicit development of vegetation, soils, and/or hydrologic

characteristics associated with wetlands. (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual)

**Vegetation Type (Also Habitat Type, Forest Cover Type).** A land classification system based upon the concept of distinct plant associations.

**Vision Statement.** A concise statement of what the planning unit should be, or what we hope to do, based primarily upon the Refuge System mission and specific refuge purposes, and other mandates. The vision statement for the refuge is tied to the mission of the Refuge System; the purpose(s) of the refuge; the maintenance or restoration of the ecological integrity of each refuge and the Refuge System; and other mandates. (Service Manual [602 FW 1.6](#))

**Waterfowl.** Resident and migratory ducks, geese, and swans.

**Water Quality.** A term used to describe the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water, usually in respect to its suitability for a particular purpose.

**Watershed.** The land area that drains water to a particular stream, river, or lake. It is a land feature that can be identified by tracing a line along the highest elevations between two areas on a map, often a ridge. Large watersheds, like the Mississippi River Basin, contain thousands of smaller watersheds.

**West Pool.** That part of Lake Lowell that is west of the Narrows (see Map 3).

**Wetlands.** Wetlands are lands transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water at some time during the growing season of each year. (Service Manual [660 FW 2](#); Cowardin et al. 1979)

**Wildlife-dependent Recreational Use.** A use of a refuge involving hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, or interpretation. These are the six priority public uses of the Refuge System as established in the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, as amended. Wildlife-dependent recreational uses, other than the six priority public uses, are those that depend on the presence of wildlife. The Service will also consider these other uses in the preparation of refuge CCPs; however, the six priority public uses always will take precedence. (Service Manual [602 FW 1.6](#))