

News Release



Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge
13751 Upper Embankment Road
Nampa, ID 83686
<http://www.fws.gov/deerflat/> 208 467-9278

October 25, 2011

Contact: Jennifer Brown-Scott, 208 467-9278
deerflat@fws.gov

Update on Comprehensive Conservation Planning at Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) recently completed a second round of scoping for the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Comprehensive Conservation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (CCP/EIS) on July 29, 2011. This effort sought the public's feedback on the preliminary draft alternatives. As a result of the comments received, changes will be made to the draft action alternatives. Planning Update 4, which summarizes some of the comments that were received, may be downloaded from the Refuge website (<http://www.fws.gov/deerflat/refugeplanning.html>) or picked up at the Refuge Visitor Center.

The final formal comment period in this planning process will occur in Spring 2012 when the draft CCP/EIS will be released for public review. The final CCP, expected to be completed in Fall/Winter 2012, will guide the next 15 years of Refuge management. Anyone who would like to receive updates on Deer Flat NWR's CCP is asked to contact the Refuge and request to be placed on the mailing list.

Email: deerflat@fws.gov
Mail: Jennifer Brown-Scott, Refuge Manager
Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge
13751 Upper Embankment Road
Nampa, ID 83686
Phone: (208) 467-9278
Fax: (208) 467-1019

When Congress amended the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act (Act) in 1997, it provided the Service with guidance for managing refuges to ensure the long-term conservation of fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. It also established six priority public uses on National Wildlife Refuges: wildlife observation and photography, hunting, fishing, interpretation, and environmental education. The Act also requires all lands within the Refuge System to be managed in accordance with a CCP to ensure that the management of each refuge reflects the purposes of that refuge and the mission, policies, and goals of the Refuge System.

Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1909 by President Theodore Roosevelt to provide a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife. The refuge includes two units. The Lake Lowell Unit includes Lake Lowell and surrounding lands southwest of Nampa. The Snake River Islands Unit includes over 100 islands along 113 river miles between the Canyon-Ada County line and Farewell Bend in Oregon.

###

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. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service.

For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.