

News Release

Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge

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Date: 16 September 2010

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge to Hold Work Sessions about Management Plan

Work sessions are by invitation, but the public is welcome to observe.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be hosting two work sessions to brainstorm ideas to assist in the development of preliminary draft alternatives for a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge). Once completed, this plan will guide the next 15 years of Refuge management. Topics that will be discussed during the work sessions were derived from the numerous issues raised during public scoping. They include surface water recreation, upland recreation, and hunting at the Lake Lowell Unit of Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge.

Participation in the work sessions is by invitation. Invitees include citizens who have offered ideas for future management, members of non-profit organizations, members of the CCP Interagency Coordinating Team and Extended Team, and agency partners. The public is welcome to observe the sessions.

There will be two separate 2-day work sessions. The first is Thursday, September 23 from 2 - 4:30 PM and Friday, September 24 from 9 AM - 12:30 PM. The second is Friday, September 24 from 6 - 8:30 PM and Saturday, September 25 from 9 AM - 12:30 PM. The work sessions will be held at the Refuge Visitor Center, 13751 Upper Embankment Road in Nampa, Idaho.

The 2-year process to develop a CCP for the Lake Lowell and Snake River Island Units of Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge recently kicked off with a public scoping comment period that ended on September 10. Over 800 comments were received during this comment period. A planning update will be released in the fall of 2010 summarizing progress on the CCP to date.

Additional opportunities to provide comments and feedback to the Refuge will occur in spring 2011 and spring 2012, as draft documents are completed and made available for public review. Anyone who



would like to receive updates on Deer Flat NWR's CCP is asked to call the Refuge office at (208) 467-9278 or email deerflat@fws.gov and request to be placed on our mailing list.

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