



Pat Fisher  
1920 Loras Blvd.  
Dubuque, IA 52001

**Dubuque Audubon Society**  
P.O. Box 3174  
Dubuque, Iowa 52004

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Office  
Attn: CCP Comments  
Room 101  
51 E. Fourth Street  
Winona, MN 55987

2430

The Dubuque Audubon Society would like to go on record as supporting Alternative D of the UMWR Comprehensive Plan.

We are very pleased with the proposed 31 observation areas, 16 hiking trails, 21 canoe trails, 5 biking trails, 3 auto trails, 3 observation towers, and 3 photography blinds. We are hoping that there will be restoration of the John Deere Dyke in Dubuque. We are hopeful that it can again become an area filled with waterfowl as it once was.

We are pleased to see sections addressing a mussel management plan, turtle ecology, invasive species management, and projects to increase fish and wildlife. One concern is the decline in the Scaup population. We support closing hunting in areas where Scaup need protection.

We are also in favor of exclusively using steel shot.

We would like to see "No wake areas" or even a restriction to 4 cycle and/or electric motors in areas of the refuge that contain nesting red-shouldered hawks, eagles, and herons.

We would like to see the offering of educational programs and interpretive events that would raise awareness of this unique area. Dubuque Audubon Society would be happy to assist in sponsoring these activities.

We suggest including measures that would improve water quality in the Upper Mississippi watershed. We would also like to see an expansion in the acquisition of property or conservation easements along the river, including the blufflands, as protection for migratory birds, both waterfowl and non-waterfowl.

We are in support of a plan that reduces the impact that all of us have on the natural resources of the refuge.

Pat Fisher, President