

Appendix I: Compatibility Determinations

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In accordance with the Refuge Improvement Act of 1997, no uses for which the Service has authority to regulate may be allowed on a unit of Refuge System unless it is determined to be compatible. A compatible use is a use that, in the sound professional judgment of the refuge manager, will not materially interfere with or detract from the fulfillment of the National Wildlife Refuge System mission or the purposes of the national wildlife refuge. Managers must complete a written compatibility determination for each use, or collection of like-uses, that is signed by the manager and the Regional Chief of Refuges in the respective Service region.

Draft compatibility determinations were included in the Draft EIS/CCP to allow public review and comment. Compatibility determinations based on Alternative C, the preferred alternative in the Final EIS/CCP, are available on the planning website at:

<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/planning/trempealeau>

Final compatibility determinations will be signed following release of the Record of Decision and will be available for viewing at the Refuge office. A list of compatibility determinations, a list of future uses that will require a case-by-case compatibility determination, and a list of uses that are generally prohibited and therefore not subject to compatibility follows:

- Archeological investigations and surveys
- Canoeing and kayaking
- Commercial fishing
- Deer Hunting
- Environmental education
- Fruits of the soil harvest
- Interpretation, wildlife observation, and photography
- Migratory Bird Hunting
- Recreational Fishing
- Research by Third parties
- Temporary work outside of existing rights-of-way
- Trapping of furbearers
- Tree harvest

Case-by-case compatibility determinations (not included in CCP and EIS)

- Special events, non-Refuge sponsored
- Commercial filming
- Military exercises
- New or expanded rights-of-way
- Mosquito and other pest control (e.g. gypsy moth)
- Predator control by others
- Research by third parties, not related to refuge management information needs

Generally prohibited uses – no compatibility determination required

- Business, commercial or industrial
- Civilian aircraft landing
- Tally ho fox hunting
- Sand and gravel extraction
- Off road vehicle use (including ATVs, golf carts, airboats)
- Snowmobiling
- Horseback riding
- Field trials
- Beekeeping
- Wild rice harvest
- Rock hounding
- Geo-caching
- Paintball games
- Antler collecting
- Harvest of plants or plant parts (other than raspberries, blackberries, or mushrooms)
- Kite flying
- Turtle Harvest
- Night-lighting fish or wildlife

