

Appendix B: Glossary

Appendix B: Glossary of Terms

Alternative

A set of objectives and strategies needed to achieve refuge goals and the desired future condition.

Biological Diversity

The variety of life forms and its processes, including the variety of living organisms, the genetic differences among them, and the communities and ecosystems in which they occur.

Closed Area

Closed Area, Existing Condition: closed to all migratory bird hunting. Other hunting and trapping is only allowed beginning the day after the close of the state duck hunting season, until season closure or March 15, whichever comes first, except turkey hunting is allowed during state seasons.

Closed Area, CCP: closed to all migratory bird hunting. Other hunting and trapping is only allowed beginning the day after the close of the state duck hunting season, until season closure or March 15, whichever comes first, except turkey hunting is allowed during state seasons. The public will be asked to practice Voluntary Avoidance (VA) i.e. limiting entry, on all closed areas (“Large” and “Small”) October 15 to the end of the respective state duck hunting season and in addition there will be a “no motor” restriction on Small closed areas October 15 to the end of the regular state duck hunting season. Large closed areas are greater than 1,000 acres and small closed areas are ~1,000 acres or less. “No motors” means the use of motors on watercraft is not allowed

Compatible Use

A wildlife-dependent recreational use, or any other use on a refuge that will not materially interfere with or detract from the fulfillment of the mission of the Service or the purposes of the refuge.

Comprehensive Conservation Plan

A document that describes the desired future conditions of the refuge, and specifies management actions to achieve refuge goals and the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Cultural Resources

“Those parts of the physical environment -- natural and built -- that have cultural value to some kind of sociocultural group ... [and] those non-material human social institutions...”(King, 1988) Cultural resources include historic sites, archeological sites and associated artifacts, sacred sites, traditional cultural properties, cultural items (human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony) (McManamon, 1997), and buildings and structures.

Drawdowns

The process of temporarily lowering water levels of Pools during the summer months to stimulate the growth of aquatic plants in the lower to middle portions of the pools.

Ecosystem

A dynamic and interrelated complex of plant and animal communities and their associated non-living environment.

Ecosystem Management

Management of an ecosystem that includes all ecological, social and economic components that make up the whole of the system.

Electric Motor Areas

Areas closed year-round to all motorized vehicles and watercraft except watercraft powered by electric motors or non-motorized means. The possession of other watercraft motors is not prohibited, only their use. For example, anglers could switch to an electric trolling motor when entering these areas.

Endangered Species

Any species of plant or animal defined through the Endangered Species Act as being in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range, and published in the Federal Register.

Environmental Impact Statement

A systematic analysis to determine if proposed actions would result in a significant effect on the quality of the environment.

Environmental Management Program

This program is funded and administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to construct habitat rehabilitation and enhancement projects and to conduct long-term resource monitoring of biological and physical features of the Upper Mississippi River System

Environmental Pool Plans

These plans identify a desired future habitat condition within Pools 2-22 toward which agencies and other river interests can strive. They are endorsed by the River Resources Forum and River Resources Coordinating Committee, (U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, St. Paul and Rock Island District, respectively), whose members include public and private organizations, and whose charters are based on a balanced approach to river resource management.

Extirpation

The local extinction of a species that is no longer found in a locality or country, but exists elsewhere in the world.

Fiscal Year

Federal Government budget year beginning October 1 and ending September 31.

Goals

Descriptive statements of desired future conditions.

Interjurisdictional Fish

Fish that occur in waters under the jurisdiction of one or more states, for which there is an interstate fishery management plan or which migrates between the waters under the jurisdiction of two or more states.

Issue

Any unsettled matter that requires a management decision. For example, a resource management problem, concern, a threat to natural resources, a conflict in uses, or in the presence of an undesirable resource condition.

National Wildlife Refuge System

All lands, waters, and interests therein administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as wildlife refuges, wildlife ranges, wildlife management areas, waterfowl production areas, and other areas for the protection and conservation of fish, wildlife and plant resources.

Objectives

Actions to be accomplished to achieve a desired outcome.

Open Water Hunting

Open water means any water beyond a natural growth of vegetation that offers whole or partial concealment to the hunter. In Wisconsin, open water hunting is allowed by state regulations only in the Grant County portion of the Refuge, where hunters use boats/blinds so long as they are securely anchored. Minnesota does not allow open water hunting on the Mississippi River. Iowa and Illinois permit open water hunting. A traditional hunting method uses low-profile scull, or lay-out boats in open water.

Pool

The area of water impounded behind (upstream) a dam.

Preferred Alternative

The Service's selected alternative identified in the Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan.

Project Leader

Refuge manager or District Manager.

Sanctuary

This term applies to a Refuge area where no entry is allowed. In waterfowl sanctuaries, no entry is allowed between October 1 and the end of the regular state duck hunting season.

Scoping

A process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed by a comprehensive conservation plan and for identifying the significant issues. Involved in the scoping process are federal, state and local agencies; private organizations; and individuals.

Slow, No Wake Areas

From March 16 through October 31 in these areas, watercraft must travel at slow, no-wake speed and no airboats or hovercraft are allowed. Respective state definitions for what constitutes “slow, no wake” speed or operation will apply as appropriate. The airboat and hovercraft prohibition refers to operation. For example, they could be propelled by electric motors or other means at slow, no wake speed inside these areas during the dates specified.

Slow, No Wake Zones

These zones require boats to travel slowly to reduce the size of wakes to protect shorelines from eroding and/or minimize safety hazards posed by heavy traffic and blind spots in narrow channels. Respective state definitions for what constitutes slow, no wake speed or operation apply in these zones.

Species

A distinctive kind of plant or animal having distinguishable characteristics, and that can interbreed and produce young. A category of biological classification.

Strategies

A general approach or specific actions to achieve objectives.

Threatened Species

Those plant or animal species likely to become endangered species throughout all of or a significant portion of their range within the

foreseeable future. A plant or animal identified and defined in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act and published in the Federal Register.

Vegetation

Plants in general, or the sum total of the plant life in an area.

Vegetation Type

A category of land based on potential or existing dominant plant species of a particular area.

Water Level Management

Management that involves a temporary increase or decrease in water levels for the benefit of fish and wildlife habitat.

Watershed

The entire land area that collects and drains water into a stream or stream system.

Wetland

Areas such as lakes, marshes, and streams that are inundated by surface or ground water for a long enough period of time each year to support, and that do support under natural conditions, plants and animals that require saturated or seasonally saturated soils.

Wildlife-dependent Recreational Use

A use on a refuge that involves hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, environmental education, or interpretation, as identified in the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997.

