

## Chapter 5



USFWS

*Public scoping meeting*

# Consultation and Coordination

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## Introduction

This chapter describes how we engaged others in developing this CCP. It details our efforts to encourage the involvement of the public and conservation partners, including other Federal and State agencies, county officials, civic groups, non-government conservation and education organizations, and user groups. It also identifies who contributed significantly to the content or writing of the plan.

According to Service policy, we must review and update our final CCP at least once every 15 years. We may need to revise it sooner, either in response to significant new information that would markedly change management direction, or if the Service Director or our Regional Director deem it necessary. If so, we will once again announce our revised planning and encourage your participation.

## Planning Process

<b>March 12, 2009</b>	Attended a GBRPP meeting in New Hampshire along with representatives from NHFG, TNC, New Hampshire Audubon, SPNHF, and USDA–Natural Resource Conservation Service.
<b>March 25, 2009</b>	Attended a Seabrook, New Hampshire, Estuary Meeting along with Sue Foote of the Seabrook Conservation Commission and Seabrook Selectmen Theresa Walker.
<b>April 15, 2009</b>	Attended a Pease International Airport Wildlife/Bird-Air Strike Hazard Meeting along with representatives of New Hampshire Air National Guard, USDA, New NHFG, and Pease International Tradeport.
<b>April 2009</b>	Conducted a cultural resources site assessment at the Great Bay Refuge in coordination with Regional Service cultural resource staff.
<b>May 20, 2009</b>	Conducted Congressional outreach visits in Washington, D.C., with Senator Jeanne Shaheen, Senator Judd Gregg, and Congresswomen Carol Shea-Porter.
<b>June 2009</b>	Distributed a Great Bay Refuge CCP issues workbook and planning newsletter to approximately 142 individuals. The workbook was also available at refuge headquarters and at outreach events.
<b>June 11, 2009</b>	Attended a GBRPP meeting and distributed copies of the Great Bay CCP issue workbook and planning newsletter to meeting's attendees.
<b>June 17, 2009</b>	Published a Notice of Intent in the <i>Federal Register</i> announcing that we have initiated the planning process for the refuge.
<b>June 18, 2009</b>	Held an Open House and Public Scoping meeting at Town Hall in Newington, New Hampshire; 22 people attended.
<b>June 19, 2009</b>	Attended a Mountain View Hiking Club meeting.
<b>June 25, 2009</b>	Attended a PREP Meeting in New Hampshire along with representatives from the UNH, NHFG, and many other conservation partners.

<b>July 8, 2009</b>	Held a State and Federal agencies partners meeting at Great Bay Discovery Center, in Stratham, New Hampshire.
<b>April 2009–February 2010</b>	Held six core planning team meetings to discuss goals, objectives, and strategies for each alternative.
<b>March 26, 2010</b>	Held a briefing on the progress of the draft CCP/EA for the Service’s Northeast Regional Office Senior Leadership Team.
<b>May 24, 2010</b>	Held a site visit at Great Bay Refuge with State and Federal partners to discuss alternatives for impoundment management on Peverly Brook system.
<b>November 17, 2010</b>	Met with two representatives from the SHPO onsite to look at existing and potentially historic structures.
<b>February 10, 2012</b>	Announced the availability of the draft CCP/EA in the <i>Federal Register</i> for 39 days of public review and comment. We also distributed a newsletter and sent out a press release announcing the public comment period and encouraging people to participate. The <i>Federal Register</i> notice, newsletter, press release, and our planning Web site also announced the two open houses/public meetings we planned for March 8, 2012.
<b>March 8, 2012</b>	Hosted two open houses/public meetings in Newington, New Hampshire. A total of 27 individuals attended the meetings. At each of the meetings, we gave a short overview of the refuge and the CCP planning process. We also recorded all the comments and suggestions provided at the meetings.
<b>March–April 2012</b>	Compiled all of the responses we received during the public comment period. In total, we received 25 written responses representing 23 different signatures and 78 individual comments.
<b>April–May 2012</b>	Considered all the public comments we received and drafted a response to each substantive comment. Based on these substantive comments, we reviewed and revised, where appropriate, the draft CCP/EA. Appendix K summarizes these comments and our responses to them.
<b>June–August 2012</b>	Compiled the final CCP for our Regional Supervisor, Regional Chief, and Regional Solicitor’s Office before submitting it to the Regional Director for review and approval. After approval from our Regional Director, we will publish a notice of availability in the <i>Federal Register</i> announcing that the final CCP is complete and explaining how to get a copy of the final plan.

**Contact Information**

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**Planning Team**

**Charlie Bridges** *Habitat and Diversity Program Administrator,*  
 New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

**Frank Drauszewski** *Deputy Manager, Parker River National Wildlife Refuge,*  
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Sarah Janson** *Biological Technician, Parker River National Wildlife*  
 Refuge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Mao Lin** *Former Assistant Planner, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,*  
 National Wildlife Refuge System, Region 5 (has transferred  
 to Ecological Services – Gulf of Maine Program)

**Nancy McGarigal** *Refuge Planner, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National*  
 Wildlife Refuge System, Region 5

**Nancy Pau** *Refuge Biologist, Parker River National Wildlife Refuge,*  
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Graham Taylor** *Refuge Manager, Parker River National Wildlife Refuge,*  
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Peter Wellenberger** *Retired, Manager, Great Bay National Estuarine Research*  
 Reserve, New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

**Other Service Program  
Involvement**

**Meredith Bixby** *Assistant Planner, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National*  
 Wildlife Refuge System, Northeast Regional Office

**Laura Eaton** *Assistant Regional Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife*  
 Service, National Wildlife Refuge System, Northeast  
 Region

**Sarah Morgan** *Former Assistant Planner, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,*  
 National Wildlife Refuge System, Northeast Regional  
 Office (has transferred to the private sector)

**Rick Schauffler** *GIS Specialist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National*  
 Wildlife Refuge System, Northeast Region

**Shelley Small** *Archaeologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National*  
 Wildlife Refuge System, Northeast Regional Office

**Doug Smithwood** *Fisheries Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Central*  
 New England Fisheries Office

<b>Janith Taylor</b>	<i>Former Regional Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wildlife Refuge System, Northeast Region (currently Regional Program Chief, Natural Resources Division, National Wildlife Refuge System, Northeast Regional Office)</i>
<b>John Wilson</b>	<i>Cultural Resources Team Leader, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wildlife Refuge System, Northeast Regional Office</i>

## Partners Involved in Refuge Planning

Refuge programs received a great deal of support and input from outside the Service during our planning process. Many of these partners help us with biological surveys, enhancing public use and refuge programs, restoring habitat, law enforcement, and protecting land. Our partnerships will continue to expand under the increasing interest in conserving refuge resources. During the development of the CCP, the following organizations provided input:

- Town of Newington.
- New Hampshire Fish and Game Department: Steve Fuller, Heidi Holman, Glenn Normandeau, Cheri Patterson, Ed Robinson, Lindsay Webb, Steve Weber.
- New Hampshire Coastal Program: Chris Williams.
- Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership: Jennifer Hunter, Derek Sowers.
- The Nature Conservancy: Mark Zankel.
- Ibis Wildlife Consulting: Ellen Snyder (Plan Preparer).