

# News Release

## Region 5

## Eastern Massachusetts National Wildlife Refuge Complex

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**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to Re-start the Comprehensive Conservation Planning process for Monomoy and Nomans Land Island National Wildlife Refuges**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announced today that a Notice of Intent (NOI) will appear in the Monday, December 13 edition of the Federal Register. This will officially re-start the Comprehensive Conservation Planning process for Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Chatham, Massachusetts and Nomans Land Island NWR, which is an island south of Martha's Vineyard.

The Service initially began the planning process in 1998 for eight refuges in eastern Massachusetts. The process for Monomoy and Nomans Land Island was stopped in 2001 to focus on three other refuges.

Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCP), which are required by law, guide all aspects of refuge management. When the plans are completed, they will provide a framework for management that will last for 15 years.

Staff from the Service have been reviewing information that we received in 1999 and 2001 from the public during meetings and responses to a planning workbook that was distributed. The Service has been contacting some groups that will likely be affected by refuge management in the future.

Public meetings will be held later this winter to provide additional information and to offer an opportunity for further

input. In the meantime, visit the refuge website at <http://monomoy.fws.gov/plan> to review information and join the CCP mailing list.

The Service has determined that an Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared along with the CCP. It is likely that the plan will take 3 years to complete.

***The planning process is being coordinated by the refuge planner, Bill Perry. If you would like to be on the mailing list for the CCP or if you have any questions you can reach him by email at [Bill\\_Perry@fws.gov](mailto:Bill_Perry@fws.gov) or phone at 978-443-4661 ext.32 or mail at Eastern Massachusetts National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 73 Weir Hill Rd., Sudbury, MA 01776.***

Monomoy and Nomans Land Island NWRs are part of the Eastern Massachusetts National Wildlife Refuge Complex. The other 6 refuges all of which are in Massachusetts are Assabet River in the Maynard/Sudbury, area; Great Meadows in the Concord/Sudbury area; Mashpee in Falmouth and Mashpee; Massasoit in Plymouth; Nantucket on the island of Nantucket; and Oxbow in the Harvard/Ayer area.

