

News Release

Silvio O. Conte

National Fish and Wildlife Refuge

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The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (we, our) is pleased to announce that a draft version of the comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and environmental assessment (EA) for John Hay National Wildlife Refuge (NWR, the refuge) is available for review and public comment through March 31, 2010. The CCP summarizes the refuge purposes, vision and goals and will guide refuge management for the next 15 years. The EA describes the three alternatives that the planning team evaluated in detail to achieve the refuge purposes, vision and goals, and analyzes their affects on the environment. This release announces the public meeting scheduled and how to obtain a copy and comment on the draft CCP/EA.

Our public meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2010, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Newbury Town Building in Newbury, NH 03255. Directions to the Newbury Town Building can be found at http://www.newburynh.org/Public_Documents/index. There will be a short presentation on the draft plan, and then we will record any comments you would like to provide.

You may request a hard copy or CDROM of the draft plan from our office at Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge in Sunderland, MA or by e-mailing barry_parrish@fws.gov. You may also view and download the draft CCP/EA online at <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/planning/johnhay/ccphome.html>.

We invite you to share your comments about the draft plan either in person at our public meeting or in writing. We will accept letters, faxes, and emails (northeastplanning@fws.gov; include "John Hay NWR" in the subject line). To be considered, all comments must be emailed or postmarked by March 31, 2010. Please mail comments to Carl Melberg, 73 Weir Hill Rd., Sudbury, MA 01776, Phone: 978-443-4661 ext. 32, Fax: 978-443-2898.

