

**Notice of Availability of the  
Draft Environmental Assessment for the  
Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge,  
Jericho Lane Trailhead Enhancement Project**

**Comment Closing Date:** On or before August 25, 2024 at 11:59pm

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge (NWR, refuge) is proposing to enhance the Jericho Lane Trailhead in accordance with the goals, objectives, and strategy outlined in the refuge's Comprehensive Conservation Plan. The Jericho Lane Trailhead is located on White Marsh Road in Suffolk, Virginia.

In cooperation with several local and regional partners, FWS proposes to construct an indoor/outdoor wildlife- and history-oriented recreation and education facility. The project will include construction of a future visitor contact/education facility, habitat enhancement and trail, outdoor restroom, interpretive information, and signage.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared to evaluate the effects associated with this proposed action and complies with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500-1509) and Department of the Interior (43 CFR 46; 516 DM 8) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (550 FW 3) regulations and policies. NEPA requires examination of the effects of proposed actions on the natural and human environment.

We seek comments from the public as well as Federal, Tribal, State, and local governments. We will consider all information presented during the public comment period. Comments may or may not result in changes to the proposed action; however, comments received will be taken into account in the final analysis and decision.

Learn More:

- Attend a public session on Thursday August 15, 2024 at 5:00pm at the Refuge Headquarters; 3100 Desert Road, Suffolk, VA 23434
- Speak to the Refuge Manager: 757-986-3705

Reviewing document: You may obtain a copy of the document by any of the following:

- Internet: Download a copy at:  
[fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2024-08/jericho-trailhead-ea-and-cd-lr2.pdf](https://fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2024-08/jericho-trailhead-ea-and-cd-lr2.pdf)
- Email Request: [greatdismalswamp@fws.gov](mailto:greatdismalswamp@fws.gov)
- Telephone Request: 757-986-3705

Submitting comments: Submit your **comments in writing by August 25, 2024 at 11:59pm** by one of the following methods:

- U.S. mail: Refuge Manager, GDSNWR, 3100 Desert Road, Suffolk, VA 23434; or,

- Email: [greatdismalswamp@fws.gov](mailto:greatdismalswamp@fws.gov)

**Public Availability of Comments:** All comments received, including names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses or other personal identifying information, will become part of the decision record and will be available to the public. If you submit a hardcopy comment that includes personal identifying information, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

