



# Public Notice

Public Affairs Office  
PO Box 1306  
Albuquerque, NM 87103  
505/248-6911  
505/248-6915 (Fax)

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**Southwest Region (Arizona • New Mexico • Oklahoma • Texas) [www.fws.gov/southwest/](http://www.fws.gov/southwest/)**

## **Refuge Seeks Input on Farming Program Draft Compatibility Determination**

Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) is soliciting public comments on a draft Compatibility Determination (CD) that assesses the compatibility of cooperative farming with achieving the Refuge purpose. The public is invited to review the draft CD and provide comments to the Refuge by December 5, 2010.

A CD is a written determination that a Refuge use will not materially interfere with or detract from the fulfillment of the System mission or the purposes of the refuge. In compliance with The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Policy on National Wildlife Refuge System Uses (603 FW 2), refuges are required to prepare CDs for Refuge uses, defined as recreational uses, refuge management economic activities, or other uses of a refuge by the public. Cooperative farming at Las Vegas NWR is a refuge management economic activity due to the generation of a commodity that is sold for income or revenue. Therefore, the CD prepared by the Refuge provides documentation that cooperative farming is compatible with the purpose for which the Las Vegas NWR was established.

This announcement initiates a the 30-day public comment period. Copies of the draft CD are available at Refuge Headquarters and on the Southwest Region Division of Planning website located at: <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/Plan/planindex.html>

Comments will be accepted until December 5, 2010, and will assist the Refuge in finalizing their CD. Comments should be sent to [Rob\\_Larranaga@fws.gov](mailto:Rob_Larranaga@fws.gov); or mailed to Refuge Manager, Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge, Route 1, Box 399, Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701

This review of the Refuge's farming program is part of a nationwide review of all Refuge farming programs. The status of all farming programs being reviewed throughout the southwest and draft documents are available at the aforementioned website as well.

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