

News Release

**Department of the Interior / U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Southwest Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex
Cameron Prairie, Lacassine, Sabine and Shell Keys National Wildlife
Refuges
1428 Highway 27
Bell City, LA 70630
337-598-2216**

For Immediate Release
August 30, 2010

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337-912-2189

Southwest Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex Announces the Availability of the Sabine National Wildlife Refuge Draft Feral Hog Management Plan, Environmental Assessment, and Compatibility Determination

Project Leader Donald Voros has announced the availability of the Sabine National Wildlife Refuge Draft Feral Hog Management Plan, Environmental Assessment, and Compatibility Determination for public review and comment. A copy of the documents can be obtained at the Southwest Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex Headquarters Office, located at 1428 Highway 27, nine miles north of Creole, Louisiana or on our web site at www.fws.gov/swlarefugecomplex. Click the Hunt Regulations button and it will bring up links for the *Sabine Draft Feral Hog Management Plan*, the *Draft Feral Hog Management Environmental Assessment*, and the *Draft Feral Hog Management Compatibility Determination*. Public comments concerning the documents will be accepted from September 1-30, 2010 and should be mailed to:

Sabine Feral Hog Management Plan Review
Sabine NWR
1428 Highway 27
Bell City LA 70630-9618

During 2007 the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) completed the Sabine NWR Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Assessment, which went through an extensive public scoping and comment process. The CCP addressed the need to control hogs through an animal control plan. The implementation of the *Sabine Feral Hog Management Plan* will bring

the USFWS into compliance with the CCP and provide the tools needed to begin an aggressive control effort.

The purpose of the Environmental Assessment is to evaluate the feasibility of feral hog removal through the use of four management tool options on the Sabine NWR. The compatibility determination serves to determine if feral hog removal is compatible with the purposes for which the refuge has been established.

For additional information about this plan or the Southwest Louisiana National Wildlife Refuges please call 337-598-2216.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 95-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System that encompasses more than 540 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands, and other special management areas. It also operates 70 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resource offices and 78 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

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Diane

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