



## **COMMENT PERIOD ON DRAFT COMPATIBILITY DETERMINATION FOR COOPERATIVE FARMING ON REFUGE LANDS BEGINS MAY 13<sup>TH</sup>**

For Immediate Release: May 12, 2011

**GROSSE ILE, MICHIGAN** – A 14-day public comment period on a draft Compatibility Determination for cooperative farming on Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge (DRIWR) lands begins on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> and runs through Thursday, May 26, 2011. This draft Compatibility Determination is being issued to ensure that farming is compatible with the DRIWR's purpose and mission. If any use is determined to be "incompatible", it will not be allowed on Refuge lands. The Compatibility Determination will be available for public review and comment at the DRIWR office located at 9311 Groh Road, Grosse Ile, MI 48138 for the 14-day period identified above.

The public is invited to provide written comments to Steve Dushane, Assistant Refuge Manager of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge (9311 Groh Road, Grosse Ile, MI 48138; [steve\\_dushane@fws.gov](mailto:steve_dushane@fws.gov)) by 5 PM on May 26, 2011.

The DRIWR incorporates more than 5,700 acres along 48 miles of the lower Detroit River and western Lake Erie. The DRIWR focuses on conserving, protecting, and restoring habitat for 29 species of waterfowl, 23 species of raptors, 31 species of shorebirds, over 100 species of fish, and over 300 species of birds. It is the first international refuge in North America and one a few urban ones in the nation. Unique habitats being managed within the Refuge include islands, coastal wetlands, marshes, shoals and waterfront lands.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is, working with others, to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

For more information, contact Assistant Refuge Manager Steve Dushane (734.692.7604) or Refuge Manager John Hartig (734.692.7608).

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