

**COMPREHENSIVE
CONSERVATION
PLANS FOR
NATIONAL WILDLIFE
REFUGES**

PURPOSE

**Develop a Management Plan
for Refuges Dealing with:**

- Wildlife Management**
- Habitat Management**
- Public Use**
- Law Enforcement**
- Land Use**
- Management of Adjacent Land**
- Compatibility of the Public
Use With Refuge's Mission**

**COMPREHENSIVE
CONSERVATION
PLANNING
STEPS**

1. PREPLANNING

- Establish Vision and Goals**
- Determine Planning Area**
- Assemble Available Data**
 - Wildlife Populations**
 - Vegetative Communities**
 - Geology and Soils**
- Identify Data Gaps**

2. INITIATE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND OUTREACH

- Federal Register Notices**
- Letters to Interested Parties**
- Press Releases**
- Public Forums**
- Invitations for Comments**

3. IDENTIFY THE ISSUES

- Biology Issues**
 - Threatened and Endangered Species**
 - Other Trust Species and Priority Species**
 - Habitat Requirements**
- Land Management Issues**
 - Burning**
 - Water Control**
 - Forest Management**
 - Agriculture**

- **Public Use Issues**
 - **Hunting**
 - **Fishing**
 - **Wildlife Observation**
 - **Wildlife Photography**
 - **Environmental Interpretation**
 - **Environmental Education**
- **Law Enforcement Issues**
 - **Safety**
 - **Access and Trespass**
- **Research**
 - **Monitoring**
 - **Data Collection**
 - **Applied Technology**

- **Human Resources**
 - **Staffing Needs**
 - **Volunteer Program**
 - **Friends Groups**
 - **Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society**
 - **Partners**

4. DEVELOP AND ANALYZE ALTERNATIVES

- Based on:

- Public Input

- Staff Recommendations

- Best Available Scientific Data

- Subject Matter Experts

5. PREPARE DRAFT PLAN

- Determine Compatibility
e.g., Beach Access vs.
Loggerhead Sea Turtle
Nesting**
- Review Internally**
- Review By Public at Public Forums**

6. PREPARE AND ADOPT FINAL PLAN

- Public Comment Analysis**
- Public Comment Response**
- Environmental Assessment**
- Internal Review**
- Public Notice in Federal Register**

7. IMPLEMENT PLAN MONITOR RESULTS EVALUATE RESULTS

- Analyze Effects of Plan**
- Monitor Wildlife**
- Monitor Vegetation**
- Evaluate Public Use Impacts**
- Evaluate Law Enforcement**

8. REVIEW AND REVISE PLAN

-Analyze Results of Monitoring

-Revise Plan to Improve Results

e.g., Alter Frequency of

Burning or Timing of Water

Management to Change

Effects

-Revise Plan to Reflect Budget

Constraints

-Maintain Public Involvement

**POCOSIN
LAKES
NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
REFUGE**

ESTABLISHMENT AND ACQUISITION

AUTHORITY

THE FISH AND WILDLIFE ACT OF 1956 PROVIDED THE BASIC AUTHORITY, AND THE MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING STAMP ACT OF 1934 AND THE WETLANDS ACQUISITION ACT OF 1964 PROVIDED THE FUNDS FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND ACQUISITION OF THE PUNGO UNIT OF THE POCOSIN LAKES NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE IN 1963.

IN 1990, ADDITIONAL ACREAGE WAS ACQUIRED BY THE CONSERVATION FUND AND DONATED TO THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE TO BRING THE TOTAL LAND TO 113,674 ACRES.

REFUGE PURPOSES

PROTECT AND ENHANCE HABITAT FOR THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

PROVIDE A NESTING AND FEEDING AREA FOR WINTERING WATERFOWL ON THE COASTAL PLAIN

PROVIDE BREEDING HABITAT FOR THE WOOD DUCK AND AMERICAN BLACK DUCK

PROVIDE HABITAT FOR OTHER MIGRATORY BIRDS AND RESIDENT GAME BIRDS AND ANIMALS

PROVIDE OUTDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE VISITING PUBLIC

WILDLIFE SPECIES OF MANAGEMENT CONCERN

RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER

BACHMAN'S SPARROW

HENSLOW'S SPARROW

BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER

SWAINSON'S WARBLER

PRAIRIE WARBLER

FIELD WARBLER

WORM-EATING WARBLER

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER

RED WOLF

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH

WATERFOWL

BOBWHITE QUAIL

AMERICAN WOODCOCK

SHORT-EARED OWL

NORTHERN PARULA

STILT SANDPIPER

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER

SOLITARY SANDPIPER

COMMON LOON

TUNDRA SWAN

BLACK BEAR

**WILDLIFE HABITAT
(113,674 ACRES TOTAL)**

56,000 ACRES HIGH POCOSIN

38,600 ACRES LOW POCOSIN

7,000 ACRES OPEN WATER

2,800 ACRES CYPRESS/TUPELO SWAMP

1,000 ACRES BOTTOMLAND HARDWOOD

800 ACRES WHITE CEDAR FOREST

50 ACRES NATURAL SHORELINE

OTHER LAND AREAS

1800 ACRES CANALS

1700 ACRES ROADS

1650 ACRES FIREBREAKS

1250 ACRES FARMLAND

500 ACRES MOIST SOIL UNITS

20 ACRES ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS

HABITAT MANAGEMENT

PRESCRIBED BURNING

WATER MANAGEMENT FOR WATERFOWL

WATER MANAGEMENT FOR POCOSIN RESTORATION

MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL CONTROL OF NOXIOUS WEEDS

REFORESTATION OF WETLAND TREE SPECIES

COOPERATIVE FARMING

**NON-CONSUMPTIVE
RECREATION**

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

ENVIRONMENTAL INTERPRETATION

HIKING/WALKING

PICNICKING

WILDLIFE OBSERVATION

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY

BOATING/CANOEING

CONSUMPTIVE RECREATION

FISHING

HUNTING

**NORTH CAROLINA
NATURAL HERITAGE AREAS**

PHELPS LAKE AND PUNGO LAKE

AREA IMMEDIATELY AROUND PHELPS LAKE

AREA IMMEDIATELY AROUND PUNGO LAKE

REFUGE AREA EAST OF PHELPS LAKE

LAW ENFORCEMENT

**PROVIDED BY ONE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SHARED BETWEEN
POCOSIN LAKES AND MATTAMUSKEET NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
AND TWO COLLATERAL DUTY OFFICERS AT POCOSIN LAKES
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

ISSUES

**DUMPING/LITTERING
POACHING**

TREE CUTTING

**WATERFOWL BLINDS
BAITING WILDLIFE**

TRAFFIC ACCESS