

Landholding Agency: Interior  
 Property Number: 61201220006  
 Status: Excess  
 Comments: Narrow strip of land;  
 construction or structures are prohibited;  
 assemblage to an adjoining parcel; as  
 standalone parcel does not conform to  
 county regs. for residential or commercial  
 use

[FR Doc. 2012-11091 Filed 5-10-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-67-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-R-2012-N080;  
 FXRS1265040000S3-123-FF04R02000]

#### Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge, FL; Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service,  
 Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request  
 for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the Fish and Wildlife  
 Service (Service), announce the  
 availability of a draft comprehensive  
 conservation plan and environmental  
 assessment (Draft CCP/EA) for  
 Chassahowitzka National Wildlife  
 Refuge (NWR) in Citrus and Hernando  
 Counties, Florida, for public review and  
 comment. In this Draft CCP/EA, we  
 describe the alternative we propose to  
 use to manage this refuge for the 15  
 years following approval of the final  
 CCP.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, we  
 must receive your written comments by  
 June 11, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** You may obtain a copy of  
 the Draft CCP/EA by contacting Mr.  
 Michael Lusk via U.S. mail at  
 Chassahowitzka National Wildlife  
 Refuge, 1502 SE. Kings Bay Drive,  
 Crystal River, Florida 34429.  
 Alternatively, you may download the  
 document from our Internet Site at  
<http://southeast.fws.gov/planning> under  
 "Draft Documents." Comments on the  
 Draft CCP/EA may be submitted to the  
 above postal address or by email to:  
[ChassCCP@fws.gov](mailto:ChassCCP@fws.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms.  
 Mary Morris at 850/567-6202  
 (telephone); or via email at:  
[ChassCCP@fws.gov](mailto:ChassCCP@fws.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Introduction

With this notice, we continue the CCP  
 process for Chassahowitzka NWR  
 started through a notice in the **Federal**

**Register** on June 8, 2009 (74 FR 27173).  
 For more about the refuge and our CCP  
 process, please see that notice.

Located about 60 miles north of  
 Tampa, the 30,843-acre Chassahowitzka  
 NWR was established by authority of  
 the Migratory Bird Conservation Act on  
 June 15, 1943, as "an inviolate  
 sanctuary" for wintering waterfowl and  
 other migratory birds. In 1976, Congress  
 designated roughly three-quarters of the  
 refuge (23,579 acres) as wilderness  
 under the Wilderness Act of 1964 (16  
 U.S.C. 1131-1136).

The refuge's diverse ecosystems,  
 including prime, estuarine habitat, hosts  
 a myriad and abundance of flora and  
 fauna. The marshlands, swamplands,  
 shallow bays, and tidal streams provide  
 both the quantity and quality of aquatic  
 plant and animal life required to  
 support thousands of wintering  
 waterfowl, marsh and waterbirds,  
 shorebirds, fishes, and a variety of  
 animal species that depend on a marine  
 environment. The refuge also has 2,560  
 acres of hardwood swamplands and 250  
 acres of upland forest. Notable  
 imperiled species include Florida  
 manatees and an experimental  
 population of whooping cranes  
 introduced to the marsh habitats over a  
 decade ago by means of a partnership.

##### Background

###### *The CCP Process*

The National Wildlife Refuge System  
 Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C.  
 668d-668ee) (Administration Act), as  
 amended by the National Wildlife  
 Refuge System Improvement Act of  
 1997, requires us to develop a CCP for  
 each national wildlife refuge. The  
 purpose for developing a CCP is to  
 provide refuge managers with a 15-year  
 plan for achieving refuge purposes and  
 contributing toward the mission of the  
 National Wildlife Refuge System,  
 consistent with sound principles of fish  
 and wildlife management, conservation,  
 legal mandates, and our policies. In  
 addition to outlining broad management  
 direction on conserving wildlife and  
 their habitats, CCPs identify wildlife-  
 dependent recreational opportunities  
 available to the public, including  
 opportunities for hunting, fishing,  
 wildlife observation, wildlife  
 photography, and environmental  
 education and interpretation. We will  
 review and update the CCP at least  
 every 15 years in accordance with the  
 Administration Act.

Priority resource issues addressed in  
 the Draft CCP/EA include: (1) Priority  
 imperiled species (e.g., manatees and  
 whooping crane); (2) determining the  
 habitat needs of migratory birds and the

cause of waterfowl population declines  
 on the refuge since the 1970s; (3)  
 evaluating the external threats of  
 potential loss of water quality and  
 quantity; (4) controlling invasive plant  
 and pest animal species; (5)  
 documenting climate change effects on  
 refuge resources (6) protecting natural,  
 cultural and wilderness resources; (7)  
 limited accessibility issues; (8)  
 administrative resources; and (9)  
 partnerships.

##### CCP Alternatives, Including Our Proposed Alternative

We developed three alternatives for  
 managing the refuge (Alternatives A, B,  
 and C), with Alternative C as our  
 proposed alternative. A full description  
 of each alternative is in the Draft CCP/  
 EA. We summarize each alternative  
 below.

###### *Alternative A: Current Management (No Action)*

This refuge is closer to pristine and  
 has much less public use than most  
 areas of Florida, so the goal under all  
 three alternatives is to maintain its  
 resources. To date, this has been done  
 with minimal management by a small  
 staff. Under this alternative, ongoing  
 programs would continue. Species of  
 Federal responsibility, such as  
 threatened and endangered species and  
 migratory birds, would continue to be  
 monitored at present levels. High-  
 profile, imperiled species, such as  
 manatees and whooping cranes, would  
 remain the focus. Additional species  
 monitoring would occur as  
 opportunistic events when contacts  
 outside our staff offer support. Current  
 habitat management, including  
 prescribed fire, would continue (to  
 improve crane habitat and to address  
 fuel loads in uplands). Management of  
 exotic, invasive, and nuisance animal  
 and plant species would continue to be  
 opportunistic. The public use programs  
 of hunting, fishing, wildlife observation,  
 wildlife photography, and  
 environmental education and  
 interpretation and other existing uses  
 would continue at present levels.  
 Acquisition of inholding lands into the  
 refuge would occur as willing sellers  
 and funding become available. There is  
 no staff dedicated exclusively to this  
 refuge; instead, refuge staff draws from  
 the staff assigned to the Crystal River  
 NWR Complex (Complex), which also  
 includes the Tampa Bay Refuges. This  
 includes mostly the manager, deputy  
 manager, wildlife biologist, and three  
 park rangers (i.e., two wildlife officers  
 and one visitor services staff).  
 Alternative A presents the baseline  
 upon which the other two alternatives

are expanded, but with differing management approaches.

*Alternative B: Increased Research and Management via Partnerships*

Alternative B proposes increased research and management capability, primarily through the use of cooperative partnerships and outside funding, with a modest increase of staff (three positions for the Complex). Research would be enhanced beyond priority, high-profile imperiled species. Because much baseline data are needed beyond the current surveying and monitoring protocols, this alternative would seek to initiate studies of a broader suite of species and to document noted declines of refuge habitat and species (waterfowl) and climate-change impacts. Since the refuge is accessible mostly by water from off-site, non-Service-owned ramps, we would provide more complete information to help the public locate the refuge via water. Studies would be conducted to assess visitor and commercial use effects on refuge resources; further, in Citrus County, commercial uses would require a special use permit issued by the refuge. A volunteer coordinator position is proposed to expand the volunteer corps and programs and to train and use volunteers to promote interpretation, voluntary compliance with refuge regulations, and the new environmental education programs of the refuge.

*Alternative C: Adaptive Management (Proposed Alternative)*

Alternative C would also heavily rely on our extensive partnerships and promote some new ones. We would rely on and use a volunteer corps for every program area and investigate the use of prison crews for maintenance work. This alternative assumes Service funding above current levels for research studies and facilities development and proposes additional staffing (eight positions for the Complex), to provide optimal resource protection and management capability. Research would include a broader suite of species, as well as habitat studies to adaptively manage for wildlife populations. The impacts of commercial and visitor use and external threats to the refuge would be studied and the results of those studies applied to refuge management and public use. Upland uses would be promoted through the development of improved facilities and access, and an observation platform and kayak landing would be added to the Dog Island facility, accessed by boat. The addition of key positions, such as a law enforcement officer, a volunteer coordinator, and biological and

computer-mapping technicians, would allow for greater resource study, mapping, data analysis, and enforcement. The hiring of a wildlife refuge specialist and office assistant would support staff and provide a dedicated outreach coordinator. Refuge facilities would be improved for both visitor services and personnel, including projects to replace the headquarters office (to reduce flooding potential) and build a pole barn and make other smaller improvements to the maintenance area and shop. For all alternatives, "green" options, materials, and energy efficiency would be included in the design and construction of new facilities and in equipment replacement.

**Next Step**

After the comment period ends, we will analyze the comments and address them.

**Public Availability of Comments**

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Authority**

This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.).

Dated: April 17, 2012.

**Mark J. Musaus,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Indian Affairs**

**Renewal of Agency Information Collection for Bureau of Indian Education Collection Activities; Request for Comments**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is seeking comments on renewal of Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

approval for the collection of information for the Tribal Colleges and Universities Application for Grants, authorized by OMB Control Number 1076-0018, and the Tribal Colleges and Universities Annual Report Form, authorized by OMB Control Number 1076-0105. Both of these information collections expire September 30, 2012.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before July 10, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on the information collection to Juanita Keesing, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Education, 1849 C Street NW., Washington, DC 20240; email: [Juanita.Keesing@bie.edu](mailto:Juanita.Keesing@bie.edu).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Juanita Keesing, (202) 208-3559.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

Each tribally-controlled college or university requesting financial assistance under the Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Assistance Act of 1978, as amended, 25 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.* (Act) is required by 25 U.S.C. 1807(a) and 25 CFR 41.8 to provide information for the purpose of securing a grant. Similarly, each tribally-controlled college or university that receives financial assistance under the Act is required by 25 U.S.C. 1808(c)(1) and 25 CFR 41.9 to provide a report on the use of funds received.

**II. Request for Comments**

The BIA requests your comments on these collections concerning: (a) The necessity of this information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (hours and cost) of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Ways we could enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Ways we could minimize the burden of the collection of the information on the respondents, such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and an individual need not respond to, a collection of information unless it has a valid OMB Control Number.

It is our policy to make all comments available to the public for review at the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. Before including your address, phone number, email address or other personally identifiable information, be