

geese. Because of their feeding activity, light geese have become seriously injurious to their habitat as well as to habitat important to other migratory birds. This poses a serious threat to the short- and long-term health and status of some migratory bird populations. We believe that the number of light geese in the midcontinent region has exceeded long-term sustainable levels for their arctic and subarctic breeding habitats and that the populations must be reduced. Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 21 provides authority for the management of overabundant light geese.

Regulations at 50 CFR 21.60 authorize States and tribes in the midcontinent and Atlantic flyway regions to control light geese within the United States through the use of alternative regulatory strategies. The conservation order authorizes States and tribes to implement population control measures without having to obtain a permit, thus significantly reducing their administrative burden. The conservation order is a streamlined process that affords an efficient and effective population reduction strategy, rather than addressing the issue through our permitting process. Furthermore, this strategy precludes the use of more drastic and costly direct population-reduction measures such as trapping and culling geese. *States and tribes participating in the conservation order must:*

- Designate participants and inform them of the requirements and conditions of the conservation order. Individual States and tribes determine the method to designate participants.
- *Keep records of activities carried out under the authority of the conservation order, including:*

(1) Number of persons participating in the conservation order;

(2) Number of days that people participated in the conservation order;

(3) Number of persons who pursued light geese with the aid of a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells;

(4) Number of persons who pursued light geese with the aid of an electronic call;

(5) Number of persons who pursued light geese during the period one-half hour after sunset;

(6) Total number of light geese shot and retrieved during the conservation order;

(7) Number of light geese taken with the aid of an electronic call;

(8) Number of light geese taken with the fourth, fifth, or sixth shotgun shell;

(9) Number of light geese taken during the period one-half hour after sunset; and

(10) Number of light geese shot, but not retrieved.

- Submit an annual report summarizing the activities conducted under the conservation order on or before September 15 of each year. Tribal information can be incorporated in State reports to reduce the number of reports submitted.

II. Data

OMB Control Number: 1018-0103.

Title: Conservation Order for Light Geese, 50 CFR 21.60.

Service Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Extension of currently approved collection.

Description of Respondents: State and tribal governments.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

Frequency of Collection: Annually.

Number of Respondents: 39.

Number of Annual Responses: 39.

Completion Time per Response: 74 hours (collect information from respondents, maintain records, and prepare reports).

Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,886.

Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost: \$97,500, primarily for overhead costs (materials, printing, postage, etc.)

III. Comments

We invite comments concerning this information collection on:

- Whether or not the collection of information is necessary, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;
- The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information;
- Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this IC. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail 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.

Dated: May 19, 2011.

Tina A. Campbell,

Chief, Division of Policy and Directives Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2011-12810 Filed 5-23-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R9-IA-2011-N105; 96300-1671-0000-R5]

Receipt of Application for Approval

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of application for approval; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The public is invited to comment on the following application for approval to conduct certain activities with birds that are protected in accordance with the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992.

DATES: Written data, comments, or requests for a copy of this application must be received by June 23, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Documents and other information submitted with this application are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice to: Chief, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 212, Arlington, VA 22203; fax 703/358-2298.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Craig Hoover, Chief, Branch of Operations, Division of Management Authority, at 703-358-2095.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The public is invited to comment on the following application for approval to conduct certain activities with bird species covered under the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 112(4) of the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992, 50 CFR 15.26(c). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of this complete application should be submitted to the Chief (address above).

Applicant: Ms. Heather E. Bright, Parker, Colorado.

The applicant wishes to establish a cooperative breeding program for the Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor*). The approval would be for the cooperative breeding program and all its members, including the applicant. If approved, the program will be overseen by the Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail 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.

Dated: May 18, 2011.

Craig Hoover,

Chief, Branch of Operations, Division of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 2011-12756 Filed 5-23-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-R-2011-N054; 40136-1265-0000-S3]

Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge, LA; 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 Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in St. Martin and Iberville Parishes, Louisiana, 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 23, 2011.

ADDRESSES: You may obtain a copy of the Draft CCP/EA by contacting Ms. Tina Chouinard, via U.S. mail at Fish and Wildlife Service, 3006 Dinkins Lane, Paris, TN 38242, or via e-mail at tina_chouinard@fws.gov. 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 e-mail address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Tina Chouinard, at 731/432-0981 (telephone).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

With this notice, we continue the CCP process for Atchafalaya NWR. We started the process through a **Federal Register** notice on January 9, 2009 (74 FR 915). For more about the refuge and our CCP process, please see that notice.

Atchafalaya NWR is one of eight refuges managed as part of the Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex (Complex). Atchafalaya NWR is in the lower Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System in Louisiana. Atchafalaya NWR is bounded on the north by U.S. Highway 190, on the south by Interstate 10, on the west by the Atchafalaya River, and on the east by the East Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee.

Atchafalaya NWR was established in 1986, when 15,255 acres were purchased from the Iberville Land Company. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have also purchased fee title lands adjacent to and within the Atchafalaya NWR, bringing the total to approximately 44,000 acres. The USACE has authority to purchase additional lands within the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System.

Approximately 12 percent of the refuge is inundated open water, with isolated cypress trees and willow stands. Bottomland hardwood forest is the primary habitat.

Background

The CCP Process

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd–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.

Significant issues addressed in this Draft CCP/EA include: (1) Forest management; (2) biological inventorying and monitoring; (3) land protection; (4) oil and gas operations; (5) enhancing wildlife-dependent public use; and (6) increasing permanent staff.

CCP Alternatives, Including Our Proposed Alternative

We developed three alternatives for managing the refuge and chose Alternative B as the 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 alternative is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and is the “no-action” or “status quo” alternative, in which we would not initiate major management changes. This alternative also provides a baseline to compare the current habitat, wildlife, and public use management to the two action alternatives.

Alternative A continues current management strategies, with little or no change in budgeting or funding. We would continue to focus on maintaining the biological integrity of the refuge’s habitats. Under this alternative, we would protect and maintain all refuge lands, primarily focusing on the needs of threatened and endangered species, with additional emphasis on the needs of migratory birds and resident wildlife.

Conservation of federally listed threatened and endangered species would be continued through current habitat management and monitoring programs, to be accomplished primarily through established partnership and research projects.

Current management of migratory birds would continue to provide suitable habitat for waterfowl, contributing to the objective of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. The current levels of surveying, monitoring, and managing of migratory and resident birds would continue. We would also continue to provide for their basic needs of feeding, resting, and breeding.

Mostly opportunistic monitoring and management of resident wildlife would occur under this alternative. Only current refuge wildlife management programs would continue to be maintained, and since little baseline biological information would be gathered on non-managed species or groups of species, new management activities would be unlikely.

The Complex would continue habitat management of existing greentree