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Dated: August 15, 2007.

Lillian L. Deitzer,

*Departmental Paperwork Reduction Act
 Officer, Office of the Chief Information
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment for Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge in Chesterfield County, South Carolina.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service intends to gather information necessary to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment for Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge. This notice is furnished in compliance with the Service's comprehensive conservation planning policy to advise other agencies and the public of our intentions, and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to be considered in the planning process.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments must be received by October 9, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Comments, questions, and requests for more information regarding Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge should be sent to: Allyne H. Askins, Refuge Manager, Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge, 23734 U.S. Highway 1, McBee, SC 29101; Telephone: 843/335-8401; Fax: 843/335-8406; e-mail: fw4rwc Carolinasandhills@fws.gov. You may find additional information concerning the refuge at the refuge's Internet site: <http://www.fws.gov/carolinasandhills>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee), requires the Service to develop a comprehensive conservation plan for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose in developing a

comprehensive conservation plan is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year strategy 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 Service policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, plans identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation. Public input in this planning process is essential.

Each unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System is established with specific purposes. These purposes are used to develop and prioritize management goals and objectives with the National Wildlife Refuge System mission, and to guide which public uses will occur on the refuge. The planning process is a means for the Service and the public to evaluate management goals and objectives for the best possible conservation efforts of this important wildlife habitat, while providing for wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities that are compatible with the refuge's establishing purposes and the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

A comprehensive conservation planning process will be conducted that will provide opportunities for Tribal, State, and local governments; agencies; organizations; and the public to participate in issue scoping and public comment. The Service invites anyone interested to respond to the following questions:

1. What problems or issues do you want to see addressed in the comprehensive conservation plan?
2. What improvements would you recommend for Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge?

The above questions have been provided for your optional use. You are not required to provide any information. The Planning Team developed these questions to gather information about individual issues and ideas concerning the refuge. The Planning Team will use comments it receives as part of the planning process; however, it will not reference individual comments or directly respond to them.

Special mailings, newspaper articles, and other media announcements will be used to inform State and local government agencies and the public of the opportunities for input throughout the planning process. An open house

style meeting will be held to solicit comments during the scoping phase of the planning process. The date and time will be announced through local mailings, newspaper articles, and other media outlets.

The environmental review of this project will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); NEPA regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508); and other appropriate Federal laws and regulations. All comments received become part of the official public record. 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.

Congress established Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge in 1939. The refuge comprises more than 45,000 acres of longleaf pine and is home to the largest population of the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker on Service-owned lands. Management of the refuge focuses on longleaf pine restoration, endangered species recovery, migratory and upland game birds, and wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.

Authority: This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105-57.

Dated: July 24, 2007.

Cynthia K. Dohner,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. E7-16611 Filed 8-21-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge, Wells, York County, ME

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability: Final comprehensive conservation plan and finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of the final Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Finding of No Significant Impact for Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge (NWR).