

APPENDIX A—HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUNDING AWARDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006—Continued

Housing Agency	Address	Units	Award
VIRGINIA HSG DEV AUTH .....	601 SOUTH BELVIDERE STREET, RICHMOND, VA 23220 .....	101	774,726
HA OF THE CITY OF BREMERTON .....	110 RUSSELL RD, BREMERTON, WA 98312 .....	6	37,705
HA OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE .....	809 NORTH BROADWAY, MILWAUKEE, WI 53201 .....	30	179,749
TOMAH HA .....	819 SUPERIOR AVE, TOMAH, WI 54660 .....	2	7,821
WISCONSIN HSG & ECON DEV AUTH .....	PO BOX 1728, MADISON, WI 53701 .....	16	72,650
Total for Housing Tenant Protection .....		16,061	\$142,748,149
<b>HOPE VI Vouchers</b>			
CITY OF FRESNO HA .....	1331 FULTON MALL, FRESNO, CA 93776 .....	44	245,673
STAMFORD HA .....	22 CLINTON AVE, STAMFORD, CT 06904 .....	84	1,108,174
MIAMI DADE HA .....	1401 NW 7TH STREET, MIAMI, FL 33125 .....	0	2,591,250
HA OF THE CITY OF FORT MYERS .....	4224 MICHIGAN AVE, FORT MYERS, FL 33916 .....	220	208,727
NEWPORT HA .....	301 SOUTHGATE, NEWPORT, KY 41072 .....	130	308,651
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE COUNTY HA .....	300 NEW CIRCLE ROAD, LEXINGTON, KY 40505 .....	150	141,240
LONG BRANCH HA .....	PO BOX 336 GARFIELD COURT, LONG BRANCH, NJ 07740 .....	134	775,720
PLEASANTVILLE HA .....	156 NORTH MAIN STREET, PLEASANTVILLE, NJ 08232 .....	50	269,159
SAN MIGUEL COUNTY HA .....	COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX BLDG, LAS VEGAS, NM 87701 .....	65	369,096
THE MUNICIPAL HA .....	1511 CENTRAL PARK AVE, YONKERS, NY 10710 .....	75	420,657
AKRON MHA .....	100 W. CEDAR STREET, AKRON, OH 44307 .....	70	80,286
HA OF PORTLAND .....	135 SW ASH STREET, PORTLAND, OR 97204 .....	98	108,776
MEMPHIS HA .....	700 ADAMS AVE, MEMPHIS, TN 38105 .....	385	455,578
PORTSMOUTH REDEV&H/A .....	801 WATER STREET, STE 200, PORTSMOUTH, VA .....	300	368,580
Total for HOPE VI Vouchers .....		1,805	\$7,451,567
Grand Total .....		23,099	\$179,445,332

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**Notice of Availability of the Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Finding of No Significant Impact for Grand Cote National Wildlife Refuge in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Fish and Wildlife Service announces that a Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Finding of No Significant Impact for Grand Cote National Wildlife Refuge are available for distribution. The plan was prepared pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and describes how the refuge will be managed for the next 15 years. The compatibility determinations for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, environmental education and interpretation, all-terrain vehicle use, cooperative farming, and

resource research studies, are also available within the plan.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of the plan may be obtained by writing to the Grand Cote National Wildlife Refuge, 401 Island Road, Marksville, Louisiana 71351. The plan may also be accessed and downloaded from the Service's Website <http://southeast.fws.gov/planning/>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Grande Cote National Wildlife Refuge is located about 5 miles west of the city of Marksville, Louisiana (population 6,087), and 20 miles southeast of Alexandria, Louisiana (population 46,000), south of Highway 1, west of Highway 115, and north and east of Highway 114. The refuge is part of the central Louisiana National wildlife Refuge Complex, which includes Grand Cote, Lake Ophelia, and Cat Island National Wildlife Refuges and several fee and easement Farm Service Agency sites. The refuge covers 6,075 acres but could reach 13,000 acres if all land within the approved acquisition boundary is purchases. The refuge was established in 1989 to provide wintering habitat for mallards, pintails, blue-winged teal, and wood ducks, as well as production habitat for wood ducks to meet the goals of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. The refuge consists of a complex of bottomland hardwood forests,

agricultural lands, moist-soil areas, and direct access roads and trails. annually, more than 2,000 visitors participate in refuge activities.

The availability of the Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for a 45-day public review and comment period was announced in the **Federal Register** on June 16, 2006 (71 FR 34955). The draft plan and environmental assessment identified and evaluated three alternatives for managing the refuge over the next 15 years. alternative 1 represents o change from current management of the refuge. Under this alternative, 6,075 acres of refuge lands would continue to be protected, maintained, restored, and enhanced for resident wildlife, waterfowl, and threatened and endangered species. Under Alternative 2, the "preferred alternative," more staff, equipment, and facilities would be added in order to maximize management and restoration of the refuge's wetland and moist-soil habitats and hydrology in support of migratory and resident waterfowl and other wildlife, especially white-tailed deer and woodcock. Alternative 3 would add more staff, equipment, and facilities in order to maximize bottomland hardwood forest restoration in support of migratory birds and other wildlife.

Based on the environmental assessment and the comments received, the Service adopted Alternative 2 as its preferred alternative. This alternative was considered to be the most effective for meeting the purposes of the refuge by conserving, restoring, and managing the refuge's wetlands and moist-soil habitats and hydrology. Alternative 2 best achieves national, ecosystem, and refuge-specific goals and objectives and positively addresses significant issues and concerns expressed by the public.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tina Chouinard, Natural Resource Planner, Central Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex, telephone: 318/253-4238; fax: 318/253-7139; e-mail: [tina\\_chouinard@fws.gov](mailto:tina_chouinard@fws.gov); or by writing to the Natural Resource Planner at the address in the **ADDRESSES** section.

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

Dated: September 12, 2006.

**Cynthia K. Dohner,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

Editorial Note: This document was received at the Office of the Federal Register on December 21, 2006.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Availability of Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge in Brevard and Volusia Counties, Florida

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Fish and Wildlife Service announces that a Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge are available for review and comment. The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, 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.

**DATES:** Comments on the Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge must be received no later than February 26, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of the draft plan and environmental assessment is available on compact diskette or hard copy, and may be obtained by contacting the refuge at: Telephone: 321/861-0667; E-mail: [MerrittIslandCCP@fws.gov](mailto:MerrittIslandCCP@fws.gov); or by writing to: Merritt Island NWR CCP, P.O. Box 6504, Titusville, Florida 32782-6504. You may also access or download a copy of the plan and environmental assessment at the following Web site address: <http://southeast.fws.gov/planning/>. Comments should be mailed to the refuge at the above address or e-mailed to: [MerrittIslandCCP@fws.gov](mailto:MerrittIslandCCP@fws.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The draft comprehensive conservation plan addresses several priority issues raised by the Service, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, other governmental partners, and the public, including: the spread of exotic, invasive, and nuisance species; the threats to threatened, endangered, and other imperiled species; the threats and impacts of an ever-increasing human population and the associated demand for public use activities; the management/maintenance of impounded wetlands; the coordination between intergovernmental partners; and the decline in migratory birds and their habitats.

To address these priority issues, four alternatives were developed and evaluated during the planning process.

Alternative A continues current refuge management activities and programs. Under this alternative, the refuge would continue to maintain 550 Florida scrub jay family groups across 15,000 acres, 11-13 nesting pairs of bald eagles, and 6.3 miles of sea turtle nesting beaches.

Alternative B expands refuge management actions on needs of threatened and endangered species. The refuge would aggressively manage for Florida scrub jays, restoring and maintaining 19,000-20,000 acres in optimal condition to support 900 family

groups. Habitat management activities would support the number of nesting pairs of bald eagles to expand to 20, with increased protection of nest sites, development of artificial nesting platforms, and increased cultivation of future nest areas and nesting trees.

Alternative C focuses refuge management actions on the needs of migratory birds. Current management activities for threatened and endangered species would remain the same or would be decreased. The refuge would manage intensively for waterfowl, increasing the acres of impounded wetlands managed to over 16,000 acres and annually supporting targets of 250 breeding pairs of mottled duck, 60,000 lesser scaup, 25,000 dabbling ducks, and 38,000 diving ducks. The refuge would also intensively manage for shorebirds, increasing to over 5,000 acres managed in impounded wetlands.

Alternative D, the Service's proposed alternative, takes a more landscape view of the refuge and its resources, focusing refuge management on wildlife and habitat diversity. The refuge would support 500-650 Florida scrub jay family groups with 350-500 territories in optimal conditions across 15,000-16,000 acres. With active management, the refuge would support 11-15 nesting pairs of bald eagles; maintain 6.3 miles of sea turtle nesting beaches; and maintain 100 acres of habitat for the southeastern beach mouse, while the refuge population would serve as a source for reintroduction of the beach mouse to other sites. Manatee-focused management would be re-established on the refuge. The refuge would manage 15,000-16,000 acres in impounded wetlands with a waterfowl focus and would support targets of 250 breeding pairs of mottled ducks, 60,000 lesser scaup, 25,000 dabbling ducks, and 38,000 other diving ducks. Visitor services, programs, and messages would be focused on wildlife and habitat diversity, while also including threatened and endangered species and migratory birds.

The actions outlined in the draft plan and in two included step-down plans provide direction and guidance for management of Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. Successful implementation will depend on coordination and partnerships between the public, the Service, and other governmental agencies.

After the review and comment period for the draft plan and environmental assessment, all comments will be analyzed and considered by the Service. All comments from individuals become part of the official public record. Requests for such comments will be