

Vermont  
 4 Buildings  
 Appalachian National Scenic Trail  
 563 Bartlett Brook Rd.  
 Pomfret VT 05067  
 Landholding Agency: Interior  
 Property Number: 61201540006  
 Status: Excess  
 Directions: Bartlett Barn, Bartlett Calf House,  
 Milkhouse, Bartlett Sugarhouse  
 Comments: Documented deficiencies:  
 Structurally unsound; extremely  
 dilapidated conditions; clear threat to  
 physical safety  
 Reasons: Extensive deterioration  
 [FR Doc. 2015-33189 Filed 1-7-16; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 4210-67-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R5-R-2015-N216; BAC-4333-99]

#### Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge and Wallops Island National Wildlife Refuge, Accomack County, VA; Record of Decision for Final Environmental Impact Statement

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; final comprehensive conservation plan and record of decision.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of the final comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and record of decision (ROD) for Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and Wallops Island NWR. We prepared this ROD pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and its implementing regulations. The Service is furnishing this notice to advise the public and other agencies of our decision and of the availability of the ROD.

**DATES:** The ROD was signed on November 6, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** You may view or obtain copies of the final CCP and ROD by any of the following methods.

*Agency Web site:* Download a copy of the document at [http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Chincoteague/what\\_we\\_do/conservation.html](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Chincoteague/what_we_do/conservation.html).

*Email:* Send requests to [northeastplanning@fws.gov](mailto:northeastplanning@fws.gov). Include "Chincoteague NWR" in the subject line of your email.

*U.S. Mail:* Thomas Bonetti, Natural Resource Planner, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Westgate Center Drive, Hadley, MA 01035.

*In-Person Viewing or Pickup:* Visit during regular business hours at refuge

headquarters, 8231 Beach Road, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Thomas Bonetti, Natural Resource Planner, 413-253-8307 (phone); [northeastplanning@fws.gov](mailto:northeastplanning@fws.gov) (email).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Introduction

With this notice, we finalize the CCP process for Chincoteague NWR and Wallops Island NWR. We began this process through a notice of intent in the **Federal Register** (75 FR 57056) on September 17, 2010. For more about the initial process and the history of the refuges, see that notice. On May 15, 2014, we announced the release of the draft CCP/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to the public and requested comments in a notice of availability in the **Federal Register** (79 FR 27906). We subsequently extended the public comment period in another notice in the **Federal Register** (79 FR 41300) on July 15, 2014. We released the final CCP/EIS for public review on September 11, 2015 (80 FR 54799).

In the draft and final CCP/EIS, we evaluated three alternatives for managing the refuge and completed a thorough analysis of the environmental, social, and economic considerations of each alternative. Based on comments received on the draft CCP/EIS, we made minor modifications to alternative B, the Service's preferred alternative in the final CCP/EIS. During the public review period for the final CCP/EIS, we did not receive any comments that raised significant new issues, resulted in changes to our analysis, or warranted any further changes to alternative B.

In accordance with NEPA (40 CFR 1506.6(b)) requirements, this notice announces our decision to select alternative B for implementation and the availability of the ROD and final CCP for Chincoteague NWR and Wallops Island NWR. The final CCP will guide our management and administration of the refuges over the next 15 years.

##### Background

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee) (Refuge Administration Act), as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, requires us to develop a CCP for each NWR. The purpose for developing a CCP is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year plan for achieving refuge purposes and goals and contributing to the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System (Refuge System). CCPs should be

consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and our policies, as well as respond to key issues and public concerns. 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 and photography, and environmental education and interpretation. We will review and update the CCP at least every 15 years, in accordance with the Refuge Administration Act.

##### CCP Alternatives

During the scoping phase of the planning process, we identified issues and concerns based on input from the public, State or Federal agencies, other Service programs, and our planning team. We developed refuge management alternatives to address issues; help achieve refuge goals, objectives, and purposes; and support the Refuge System mission. Our draft CCP/EIS (79 FR 27906) and final CCP/EIS (80 FR 54799) fully analyze three alternatives for the future management of the refuge: (1) Alternative A, Current Management; (2) Alternative B, Balanced Approach; and (3) Alternative C, Reduced Disturbance. Alternative A satisfies the NEPA requirement of a "No Action" alternative. Both the draft and final plans identify alternative B as the Service-preferred alternative. Please refer to the final CCP/EIS for more details on each of the alternatives.

##### Basis for Selected Alternative

Our decision is to adopt alternative B, as described in the final CCP. We provide a brief summary of our decision below. For the full basis of our decision, please see the ROD (see **ADDRESSES**).

The decision to adopt alternative B for implementation was made after considering the follow factors: (1) The impacts identified in Chapter 4, Environmental Consequences, of the draft and final CCP/EIS; (2) The results of public and agency comments; (3) How well the alternative achieves the stated purpose and need for a CCP and the seven goals presented in the final CCP/EIS chapter 1; (4) How well the alternative addresses the relevant issues, concerns, and opportunities identified in the planning process; and (5) Other relevant factors, including fulfilling the purposes for which the refuge was established, contributing to the mission and goals of the Refuge System, and statutory and regulatory guidance.

Compared to the other two alternatives, alternative B includes the

suite of actions that best meet the factors above using the most balanced and integrated approach, and with due consideration for both the biological and human environment. Alternative B will best fulfill the CCP's biological goals, by managing for particular Federal trust species and habitats that are of regional conservation concern. It clearly defines which Federal trust species and habitat will be a management priority in both uplands and wetlands, and details specific objectives and strategies for their management. The refuge's establishment purposes emphasize the conservation of migratory birds; thus, protecting the biological integrity, diversity, and environmental health of Chincoteague NWR and its habitat and wildlife, particularly migratory birds, is paramount.

In summary, we selected alternative B for implementation because it best meets the factors identified above when compared to alternatives A and C. Alternative B provides the greatest number of opportunities for Chincoteague NWR and Wallops Island NWR to contribute to the conservation of fish, wildlife, and habitat in the Region, will increase the capacity of the refuges to meet their purposes and contribute to the Refuge System mission, and will provide the means to better respond to changing ecological conditions within the surrounding environment.

#### Public Availability of Documents

You can view or obtain the final CCP and ROD as indicated under **ADDRESSES**.

Dated: December 9, 2015.

**Wendi Weber,**

*Regional Director, Northeast Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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**BILLING CODE 4333-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

[156A2100DD/AAKC001030/  
A0A501010.999900 253G]

#### Proclaiming Certain Lands as Reservation for the Mashpee Wampanoag

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice of Reservation Proclamation.

**SUMMARY:** This notice informs the public that the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs proclaimed approximately 321.34 acres, more or less, as the initial reservation of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe on December 30, 2015.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Sharlene Round Face, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Division of Real Estate Services, MS-4642-MIB, 1849 C Street NW., Washington, DC 20240, at (202) 208-3615.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by part 209 of the Departmental Manual.

A proclamation was issued according to the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984; 25 U.S.C. 467) for the lands described below. The land was proclaimed to be the Mashpee Wampanoag Reservation of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. The approximate acreages described below are those identified in Attachment I of the Record of Decision signed by the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs on September 18, 2015.

#### Parcel 1—213 Sampsons Mill Road (Assessor's Parcel 63-10-0-R)

Description of land in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, County of Barnstable, Town of Mashpee on the east side of Quippish Road, and the south side of Sampsons Mill Road more particularly shown as Lot 6 on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Mashpee, Mass. Jill Slaymaker in Mashpee, Ma. Scale 1" = 100', Date March 22, 1985" prepared by Edward E. Kelley Reg. Land Surveyor and recorded in Barnstable County Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 401 Page 97. Bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a concrete bound at the intersection of Quippish Road and Linwood Street and the southwesterly corner of the parcel herein described;

Thence N 01°28'19" W along the easterly sideline of Quippish Road a distance of 258.98 feet to a concrete bound;

Thence N 14°02'10" W along the easterly sideline of Quippish Road on a distance of 209.57 feet to a concrete bound;

Thence N 20°57'57" W along the easterly sideline of Quippish Road a distance of 266.53 feet to a point near a concrete bound disturbed at the land now or formerly of Willowbend Community Trust;

Thence N 68°19'49" E along land now or formerly of Willowbend Community Trust a distance of 335.86 feet to a concrete bound;

Thence N 18°23'09" W along land now or formerly of Willowbend Community Trust a distance of 391.81 feet to a concrete bound at the easterly sideline of Quippish Road;

Thence N 18°23'09" W along the easterly sideline of Quippish Road a

distance of 355.84 feet to a mag nail set at the southerly sideline of Sampsons Mill Road;

Thence S 70°51'50" E along the southerly sideline of Sampsons Mill Road a distance of 528.32 feet to a concrete bound at the point of curvature;

Thence easterly along the southerly sideline of Sampsons Mill Road a curve to the left having a radius of 191.36 feet, an arc distance of 132.25 feet, a chord bearing N 89°20'15" E and a chord length of 129.63 feet to point of tangency;

Thence N 69°32'13" E along the southerly sideline of Sampsons Mill Road a distance of 195.68 feet to a point of curvature;

Thence easterly along the southerly sideline of Sampsons Mill Road a curve to the right having a radius of 171.59 feet, an arc distance of 120.46 feet, a chord bearing N 89°38'54" E and a chord length of 118.00 feet to point of tangency;

Thence S 70°14'27" E along the southerly sideline of Sampsons Mill Road a distance of 114.00 feet to the medial line of the Santuit River;

Thence numerous courses along the medial line of Santuit River;

Thence S 26°12'29" W along the medial line of the Santuit River a distance of 21.27 feet to a point;

Thence S 06°37'27" E along the medial line of the Santuit River a distance of 98.31 feet to a point;

Thence S 49°39'30" W along the medial line of the Santuit River a distance of 40.85 feet to a point;

Thence S 38°48'36" W along the medial line of the Santuit River a distance of 43.45 feet to point;

Thence S 30°48'45" E along the medial line of the Santuit River a distance of 27.64 feet to a point;

Thence S 53°29'40" E along the medial line of the Santuit River a distance of 31.73 feet to a point;

Thence S 29°39'25" E along the medial line of the Santuit River a distance of 73.97 feet to a point;

Thence S 05°07'08" W along the medial line of the Santuit River a distance of 81.61 feet to a point;

Thence S 19°19'45" W along the medial line of the Santuit River a distance of 55.78 feet to a point;

Thence S 14°31'54" E along the medial line of the Santuit River a distance of 146.35 feet to a point;

Thence S 27°27'03" E along the medial line of the Santuit River a distance of 94.14 feet to a point;

Thence S 51°23'03" E along the medial line of the Santuit River a distance of 56.47 feet to a point;