

Chapter 5



Public meeting
USFWS photo

Consultation and Coordination with Others

- 1995-1998 Environmental Impact Statement for Protecting Maine Coastal Nesting Islands and Managing Petit Manan Refuge
- 1999-2004 Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for Petit Manan Refuge Complex

1995-1998 Environmental Impact Statement for Protecting Maine Coastal Nesting Islands and Managing Petit Manan Refuge

October 1995

Outreach activity: Newsletters: Issues Workbook (October 1995)

Purpose: To collect people's ideas, thoughts and concerns regarding important issues associated with Maine coastal nesting islands

Number of non-Service participants: 1,100 copies of workbook distributed either through mailings or handed out at Public Open Houses; 140 completed workbooks were returned

Audience: Any individual, group, Federal or State agency interested in Maine coastal nesting islands

Topics discussed: The Issues Workbook newsletter was a series of questions directed to readers to solicit comments on what they value most about the islands, their vision for the future of the islands, and the Service's role in helping to protect them.

Summer-Fall 1995

Outreach activity: Four public forums

Purpose: To promote protection of Maine coastal islands

Number of non-Service participants: 250

Audience: Meetings were co-sponsored by the Service and 33 conservation groups; invitees included seabird experts, aquaculture and fishery industry representatives, land trust representatives, and local agency officials

Topics discussed: To discuss the significance of Maine coastal islands, and to solicit input on what people value about these islands and what they think should be done to protect them

November 1995

Outreach activity: Six public Open House meetings; Ellsworth, Machias, Rockport, Brunswick, Wells, and Augusta, ME

Purpose: To let people know what the Service was doing and share what we have learned with regards to Maine coastal nesting islands, and to solicit input on what people value about these islands and what they think should be done to protect them.

Number of non-Service participants: 60

Audience: Any interested public, organization, State or Federal agency personnel

Topics discussed: Biological information describing the importance of wildlife and habitats on Maine coastal islands, current island protection efforts, and potential future protection by the Service, State agencies, National Park Service, and conservation organizations.

May 1996

Outreach activity: Newsletter; summary of Issues Workbook Responses

Purpose: To share the comments received from the Issues Workbooks

Number of non-Service participants: 1,100 entries on the mailing list

Audience: Any individual, group, Federal or State agency interested in Maine coastal nesting islands

Topics discussed: A summary of the 140 workbooks received

May 1996

Outreach activity: 2-day facilitated workshop

Purpose: To work with stakeholders and identify potential management actions and strategies for protecting, managing, and restoring coastal nesting islands

Number of non-Service participants: 24

Audience: Participants included island owners, local land trusts, conservation organizations, town officials, sea kayaking companies, tour boat operators, representatives from the aquaculture industry, property rights supporters, and State and Federal agencies.

Topics discussed: The latest information gathered on seabird, wading bird, and eagle populations and current island ownership and protection status. Also discussed was the results of public scoping, including the main issues identified. Work groups were formed to identify potential management actions and strategies available for protecting, managing, and restoring coastal nesting islands.

1999-2004 Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for Petit Manan Refuge Complex

February 2000

Outreach activity: Briefing paper and presentation for Gulf of Maine Ecosystem Team

Purpose: To describe why a new planning process was started, provide an overview of the CCP process, identify the potential issues to be addressed, the requirement for a wilderness review, and State involvement, and to solicit input as to what additional issues, concerns, and opportunities to address.

Number of non-Service participants: 20

Audience: Interagency (Federal and State) Gulf of Maine Ecosystem Team

Topics discussed: CCP process, the range of potential issues to be addressed in the CCP, specific issues the CCP team has already identified, potential Refuge Complex expansion, potential wilderness designation, MDIFW involvement.

March 24, 2000

Outreach activity: Newsletter; request for involvement in planning process

Purpose: To notify interested individuals, organizations and State and Federal agencies that we initiated the CCP process (a new start from the 1995-1998 effort); share some preliminary issues identified by the CCP team, and invite them to the public Open Houses in Augusta (April) and in along the coast (June)

Number of non-Service participants: 1,500 entries on mailing list

Audience: Any interested public, organization, State or Federal agency personnel

Topics discussed: The Open House meeting dates, preliminary issues identified by the team, and requests for comments on land acquisition and wilderness designation.

April 12, 2000

Outreach activity: Public Open House; Augusta, ME

Purpose: To provide an overview of the CCP process and solicit input as to what public issues, concerns, and opportunities to address

Number of non-Service participants: 25

Audience: Any interested public, organization, State or Federal agency personnel

Topics discussed: CCP process, the range of potential issues to be addressed in the CCP, specific issues the CCP team has already identified, potential Refuge Complex expansion, potential wilderness designation.

June 2000

Outreach activity: Newsletter; request for involvement in planning process

Purpose: To notify (remind) interested individuals, organizations and State and Federal agencies that we started the CCP process; share some preliminary issues identified by the CCP team, and invite them to the public Open Houses later in the month

Number of non-Service participants: 1,500 entries on mailing list

Audience: Any interested public, organization, State or Federal agency personnel

Topics discussed: The June Open House meeting dates, preliminary issues identified by the team, and requests for comments on land acquisition and wilderness designation.

June 27, 2000

Outreach activity: Public Open House; Milbridge, ME

Purpose: To provide an overview of the CCP process and solicit input as to what public issues, concerns, and opportunities to address

Number of non-Service participants: 45

Audience: Any interested public, organization, State or Federal agency personnel

Topics discussed: CCP process, the range of potential issues to be addressed in the CCP, specific issues the CCP team has already identified, potential Refuge Complex expansion, potential wilderness designation.

June 28, 2000

Outreach activity: Public Open House; Rockport, ME

Purpose: To provide an overview of the CCP process and solicit input as to what public issues, concerns, and opportunities to address

Number of non-Service participants: 8

Audience: Any interested public, organization, State or Federal agency personnel

Topics discussed: CCP process, the range of potential issues to be addressed in the CCP, specific issues the CCP team has already identified, potential Refuge Complex expansion, potential wilderness designation.

June 29, 2000

Outreach activity: Public Open House; Brunswick, ME

Purpose: To provide an overview of the CCP process and solicit input as to what public issues, concerns, and opportunities to address

Number of non-Service participants: 11

Audience: Any interested public, organization, State or Federal agency personnel

Topics discussed: CCP process, the range of potential issues to be addressed in the CCP, specific issues the CCP team has already identified, potential Refuge Complex expansion, potential wilderness designation.

November 2000

Outreach activity: Newsletter; summary of public scoping comments

Purpose: To notify interested individuals, organizations and State and Federal agencies of the results of our initial public scoping; share the list of significant issues to be addressed in the CCP team, and to present the next steps in the process, including developing alternatives and a wilderness review

Number of non-Service participants: 1,390 entries on mailing list

Audience: Any interested public, organization, State or Federal agency personnel

Topics discussed: The Open House meeting dates, preliminary issues identified by the team, and requests for comments on land acquisition and wilderness designation.

May 2, 2001

Outreach activity: Meeting with partners at Refuge Complex Rockport Office

Purpose: Discussions on developing a Project Identification Document (PID) for a mid-coast Environmental Education Center

Number of non-Service participants: 6

Audience: Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Maine Audubon Society, National Audubon Society, Maine Island Trails Association, Maine Bureau of Public Lands, Coastal Mountains Land Trust, interested individual

Topics discussed: a vision for environmental education in the mid-Coast area, each organizations respective role in that vision, local resources available, the components of a PID, and discussions on an interpretive philosophy, mission and goals, building and site needs, and some general interpretive themes.

May 15, 2001

Outreach activity: Open House/Public Information Meeting at Camden Hills Regional High School, Rockport

Purpose: To solicit feedback from the general public on ideas for a mid-coast environmental education center, and to describe the PID process

Number of non-Service participants: 8

Audience: General public

Topics discussed: Concepts of a mid-coast environmental education center, ideas for location and building needs, the components of a PID.

June 20, 2001

Outreach activity: Information meeting with Congresspersons

Purpose: To inform Senators Snowe and Collins and Representative Allen of issues at all three Maine National Wildlife Refuges: Petit Manan Refuge Complex, Rachel Carson Refuge, and Moosehorn Refuge

Number of non-Service participants: 3

Audience: Dan Demerit, Legislative Assistant for Senator Collins; Ginny Worrest, Legislative Assistant for Senator Snowe; and, Shawna Friedman, Legislative Assistant for Representative Allen.

Topics discussed: Current issues faced by all 3 refuges in Maine, including: visitor facilities, invasive plant control, wetland restoration, threatened and endangered species, funding for land acquisition, and Comprehensive Conservation Planning. An update on the Petit Manan CCP was provided, including the alternatives for land acquisition. Handouts on the CCP process, and CCP planning update newsletters (June 2001 Congressional Update) were left with the staffers.

September 2001

Outreach activity: Newsletter presenting Highlights of the Draft CCP/EIS alternatives

Purpose: To notify interested individuals, organizations and State and Federal agencies of the vision, goals, and five management alternatives to be fully analyzed in the Draft CCP/EIS. Specific actions and strategies associated with each alternative were presented and the Service's Preferred Alternative was identified. Questions and comments on the proposals were solicited.

Number of non-Service participants: 1,390 entries on mailing list

Audience: Any interested public, organization, State or Federal agency personnel

Topics discussed: The Open House meeting dates, preliminary issues identified by the team, and requests for comments on land acquisition and wilderness designation.

November 2001

Outreach activity: Distributed Environmental Education Facility Project Identification Document (PID) for review

Purpose: To solicit feedback on the draft PID document

Number of non-Service participants: 20

Audience: Everyone attending previous PID meetings and other interested individuals

Topics discussed: Recommended changes to PID which were considered in the development of the final PID, completed December 2001 (but not yet approved).

February 7, 2002

Outreach activity: Informational exchange

Purpose: To share the process for and status of a land protection plan for the Refuge Complex

Number of non-Service participants: 3

Audience: Maine Coast Heritage Trust

Topics discussed: We presented an overview of the CCP process and how potential land acquisition and refuge expansions are incorporated into the process. We discussed lands currently approved for acquisition, but not yet acquired by the Service, and some new islands being considered by the Service for acquisition.

April 27, 2002; August 16, 2002; January 8, 2003; March 12, 2003

Outreach activity: Presentation/discussion

Purpose: To update the Friends of Maine Seabird Islands Executive Board and their membership of the status of the CCP

Number of non-Service participants: at least 11

Audience: The Friends Group's eleven-member Executive Board consisting of:

- Thomas Arter - Damiscotta River Association
- Kathleen Blanchard, PhD - Director, Quebec Labrador Foundation
- David Cadbury - Vice President Cadbury Consultants
- Donald Hudson Jr., PhD - Director, The Chewonki Foundation
- Christopher Hamilton - Director of Communications, Maine Coast Heritage Trust
- Susan March - Development Officer, University of Maine System
- Rachel Nixon - Trail Manager, Maine Island Trail Association
- Dennis Schultz - Outdoor Photographer
- William Silliker - Wildlife Photographer
- Theresa Torrent-Ellis - Director, Maine Coastal Program
- Hank Tyler - Maine State Planning Office

Topics discussed: Provided updates on the status of the CCP; the latest developments and highlights of the Preferred Alternative.

September 23, 2002

Outreach activity: Informational exchange

Purpose: To report to the Northeast Region of The Wilderness Society the status of Wilderness reviews being worked on in conjunction with CCP.

Number of non-Service participants: 2

Audience: A Northeast Regional Associate and Research Associate with The Wilderness Society (TWS)

Topics discussed: We presented an overview of the CCP process and how wilderness reviews are incorporated into the process. We talked about specific CCP projects, including Petit Manan Refuge Complex, and the results of the wilderness inventory. In the case of Petit Manan Refuge Complex CCP, we let TWS know that 13 islands met the minimum criteria for wilderness and that we would be evaluating these for wilderness designation in the Draft CCP/EIS.

October 19, 2002

Outreach activity: Informational exchange/symposium

Purpose: To share the status of seabirds and seabird restoration in Maine

Number of non-Service participants: 50

Audience: Members of the Friends of Maine Seabird Islands, non-governmental conservation organizations, university contacts

Topics discussed: Both Refuge Complex and MDIFW staff presented information on seabird population trends, current restoration activities, and future restoration activities including long term goals and objectives evaluated in the CCP.

January 17, 2003

Outreach activity: Discussion on Draft CCP/EIS alternatives

Purpose: To present the goals, objectives, actions and strategies related to the Draft CCP/EIS alternatives, with emphasis on the Preferred Alternative actions

Number of non-Service participants: 4

Audience: MDIFW

Topics discussed: We presented and discussed in detail the objectives, actions and strategies in the Draft CCP/EIS Service's Preferred Alternative. We highlighted the seabird restoration work, Refuge expansion, wilderness recommendations, and new public use infrastructure proposed in the alternative.

April 2, 2003

Outreach activity: Informational meeting with Tribal natural resource coordinators in Maine

Purpose: To describe the CCP process, the status of CCP planning on Maine refuges, and discuss cooperative planning opportunities.

Number of non-Service participants: 6

Audience: Trevor White (Passamaquoddy Tribe: Indian Township Reservation); Steve Crawford (Passamaquoddy Tribe: Pleasant Point Reservation), John Banks (Penobscot Nation); Sharri Venno (Houlton Band of the Maliseet); and, Fred Corey and Dave Macek (Aroostook Band of the Micmac).

Topics discussed: Presented the steps in the CCP process, gave an update on where each of the Maine refuges are in the planning process and their schedules for completion, discussed ways to improve communication and cooperation with the Tribes during the planning process and in other Refuge programs.

April 10, 2003

Outreach activity: Presentation to Gulf of Maine Ecosystem Team

Purpose: To provide an update on the status of the CCP

Number of non-Service participants: 10

Audience: Service personnel on the Gulf of Maine Ecosystem Team

Topics discussed: Presented highlights of the Service's Preferred Alternative in the Draft CCP/EIS including the seabird restoration work, Refuge Complex expansion, wilderness recommendations, and proposed public use infrastructure.

July 18, 2003

Outreach activity: Briefing to Senators Snowe and Collins staffers

Purpose: To provide an update on the status of the CCP, including land acquisition

Number of non-Service participants: 2

Audience: Gail Kelly, Senator Snow's Office; Judy Cutty, Senator Collin's Office

Topics discussed: Presented highlights of the Service's Preferred Alternative in the Draft CCP/EIS including land acquisition and wilderness recommendations.

August 28, 2003

Outreach activity: Information meeting and field visit with Tribal natural resource coordinators in Maine.

Purpose: To provide an update on the status of the Petit Manan CCP, specifically highlighting the Service's Preferred Alternative, and to visit an active seabird restoration site on Petit Manan Island

Number of non-Service participants: 6

Audience: Trevor White (Passamaquoddy Tribe: Indian Township Reservation); Steve Crawford (Passamaquoddy Tribe: Pleasant Point Reservation), John Banks (Penobscot Nation); Sharri Venno (Houlton Band of the Maliseet); Fred Corey (Aroostook Band of the Micmac); Donald Soctomah, Cultural and Historic Preservation Officer for the two Passamaquoddy Tribes.

Topics discussed: Presented highlights of the Service's Preferred Alternative in the Draft CCP/EIS, including proposed land acquisition and developing an MOU with interested Tribes.

March 10, 2004

Outreach activity: Briefing on the CCP

Purpose: To provide an update on the status of Petit Manan CCP, specifically highlighting the Service's preferred Alternative, including land acquisition

Number of Non-Service participants: 10

Audience: Friends of Maine Seabird Islands Board of Directors

Topics discussed: Presented highlights of the Service's Preferred Alternative in the Draft CCP/EIS, including proposed land acquisition

March 17, 2004

Outreach activity: Briefing on the CCP

Purpose: To provide an update on the status of the CCP

Number of Non-Service participants: 20

Audience: Gulf of Maine Seabird Working Group

Topics discussed: Presented highlights of the Service's Preferred Alternative in the Draft CCP/EIS, including proposed land acquisition, and timelines for completion

April 21, 2004

Outreach activity: Briefing on the CCP

Purpose: To provide an update on the status of the CCP

Number of Non-Service participants: 6

Audience: Maine Coast Heritage Trust

Topics discussed: Presented highlights of the Service's Preferred Alternative in the Draft CCP/EIS, including proposed land acquisition, and timelines for completion

- May 16, 2004**
- Outreach activity:** Briefing on the CCP
- Purpose:** To provide an update on the status of the CCP
- Number of Non-Service participants:** 10
- Audience:** Friends of Maine Seabird Islands Board of Directors
- Topics discussed:** Presented highlights of the Service's Preferred Alternative in the Draft CCP/EIS, including proposed land acquisition, and timelines for completion
- June 1, 2004**
- Outreach activity:** Informational Meetings and Public Hearings
- Location:** Rockland Public Library, Rockland, ME
- Purpose:** To receive comments on the Draft EIS/CCP
- Number of Non-Service participants:** 28
- Topics discussed:** Proposed actions, land acquisition, hunting on Petit Manan Point, environmental education, Coastal Education Center.
- June 2, 2004**
- Outreach activity:** Informational Meetings and Public Hearings
- Location:** Milbridge Town Hall, Milbridge, ME
- Purpose:** To receive comments on the Draft EIS/CCP
- Number of Non-Service participants:** 35
- Topics discussed:** Proposed actions, land acquisition, hunting on Petit Manan Point, environmental education, and Coastal Education Center.
- June 8, 2004**
- Outreach activity:** Informational Meetings and Public Hearings
- Location:** Pine Tree State Arboretum, Augusta, ME
- Purpose:** To receive comments on the Draft EIS/CCP
- Number of Non-Service participants:** 9
- Topics discussed:** Proposed actions, land acquisition, hunting on Petit Manan Point, environmental education, Coastal Education Center.
- June 9, 2004**
- Outreach activity:** Informational Meetings and Public Hearings
- Location:** Falmouth Public Library, Falmouth, ME
- Purpose:** To receive comments on the Draft EIS/CCP
- Number of Non-Service participants:** 13
- Topics discussed:** Proposed actions, land acquisition, hunting on Petit Manan Point, environmental education, Coastal Education Center.

July 13, 2004

Outreach activity: Briefing on the CCP

Purpose: To provide an update on the status of the CCP

Number of Non-Service participants: 70

Audience: Boothbay Land Trust hosted a boat tour of the Boothbay region as a fund-raising event and invited Charlie Blair, Refuge Manager, to brief the audience on the CCP

Topics discussed: Presented highlights of the Service's Preferred Alternative in the Draft CCP/EIS, including proposed land acquisition, and timelines for completion

August 12, 2004

Outreach activity: Briefing on the CCP

Purpose: To provide an update on the status of the CCP

Number of Non-Service participants: 75

Audience: Gulf of Maine Seabird Working Group

Topics discussed: Presented highlights of the Service's Preferred Alternative in the Draft CCP/EIS, including proposed land acquisition, and timelines for completion

September 15, 2004

Outreach activity: Briefing on the CCP

Purpose: To provide an update on the status of the CCP

Number of Non-Service participants: 10

Audience: Friends of Maine Seabird Islands Board of Directors

Topics discussed: Presented highlights of the Service's Preferred Alternative in the Draft CCP/EIS, including proposed land acquisition, and timelines for completion

September 23, 2004

Outreach activity: Briefing on the CCP

Purpose: To provide an update on the status of the CCP

Number of Non-Service participants: 1

Audience: Ken Elowe, Director of Resource Management for MDIFW

Topics discussed: Presented highlights of the Service's Preferred Alternative in the Draft CCP/EIS, including proposed land acquisition, and timelines for completion

