# Getting the Printed Products You Need



This document is designed to help offices of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service which need printing and publishing services. These services include layout, design, printing and distribution. The following information provides an overview of the processes for getting the product you need.

#### Introduction

Federal Agencies must obtain their printing services from the Government Printing Office (GPO). FWS offices coordinate their printing needs through their respective Regional Publishing Coordinator or the Washington Office's Printing and Publications Unit. These offices will make sure that your publication has been approved through the Service's review process and that they comply with the Service's graphic standards.



Fillable form at www.fws.gov/r9pdm/forms/3-550.pdf

With the exception of internal documents and general site brochures for refuges and hatcheries, all Service publications must be cleared through the "Publications Approval Request" process, FWS Form 3-550, before design and printing can start. The request form ensures that your publication is approved by the appropriate offices within the Service. It also puts your project on the "radar screen" of your Publications Coordinator. You should allow three weeks for this process.



The Directorate of the Fish & Wildlife Service has adopted a "corporate" image for the Service which includes graphic standards. These standards provide a distinctive visual identity. The Service will use them in conjunction with its major outreach initiatives to increase public recognition for its programs and its more than 600 facilities. These standards apply to every printed product from internal newsletters to books for the general public. The only exceptions to this rule are a few multi-agency publications or products produced in conjunction with cooperating associations.

This brochure contains a "Publication Time Line" to help you understand the steps in the design and printing process and determine what steps you need to take when. The "What Does Your Publication Coordinator Need From You" section gives you the technical information you need so that you can provide materials in the format that will allow for the smooth transition of your work into a quality printed product — and for insuring your product gets distributed to the right audience on time. To help you get your job printed and distributed with as little frustration as possible, we've included a "Tips" section. By reviewing the "Publication Planning Checklist" before you contact your Publication Coordinator, your office will be ready for a successful publishing experience.



Note: The Service will place all publications in a "Portable Document Format" (PDF) in its World Wide Web Online Conservation Library. If you are using copyrighted materials in your publication or product, make sure that you have permission to use them in both the printed version and the PDF version of the publication. Attach a copy of the written permission to all copyrighted materials.

#### **Publication Time Line**

This "ideal" time line is based on the date that the approved materials and acquisition request are received by your Publications Coordinator. The time line can be compressed, but keep in mind that cutting production time increases costs dramatically.

Remember: With the exception of internal documents and general site brochures for refuges and hatcheries, all Service publications must be cleared through the "Publications Approval Request" process, FWS Form 3-550, before design and printing can start. You should allow three weeks for this process.

- The average time for layout and design, including review of the designs and any subsequent changes, is four to five weeks
- The average time for GPO procurement, printing and distribution, including review of the proof documents, any subsequent changes, and any necessary press inspections, is five to six weeks
- GPO charges a flat rate of 7 percent of the total procurement cost of your printing job for their services. GPO will procure "RUSH" jobs for an additional surcharge of 7 percent of the total procurement cost.

## Publication Time Line FWS Layout Procurement, Form 3-550 and Printing and Approval Design Distribution 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

Weeks

To plan for delivery, you should work back from the date the publication is needed. For example, if you need your publication for an August 16 meeting, you will need to have all the materials to your Publications Coordinator by close of business on May 31. This allows for the full 11 weeks needed to design, print and distribute your publication. It also allows for unforeseeable problems, such as last-minute changes by the author, changes to proposed designs, or poor-quality printing.

Remember: Cutting production time increases your costs dramatically



What Does Your Publication Coordinator Need From You?

When your text is ready, you've selected the photographs and illustrations you're going to use, and you've got a completed Publications Approval Request form in hand, it's time to schedule a meeting with your Publications Coordinator. Here's what you'll need to have ready:

Text

Preferred Media: 3.5-inch diskettes, 100 MB Zip disk, CD-ROM, or camera ready copy (laser 600 dpi or higher). If you provide a disk, you should also provide a hard copy of the contents. Mark the disk with its contents and format, for example, "Migration of Birds" WordPerfect 6.0.

Preferred Format: WordPerfect 6.0, Word 97, PageMaker 6.5, QuarkXPress 4.0

Photographs

Preferred Format: 35 mm slides, 4 x 5 transparencies, or high resolution TIFF (Tagged Image File Format) format scans on disk or Compact Disc (CD), 150 line screen for color scans and 133 line screen for black and white scans. If you are using copyrighted images, you must also provide written permission from the copyright holder allowing their use in both the printed and PDF versions of your publication.

 $Distribution\ List$ 

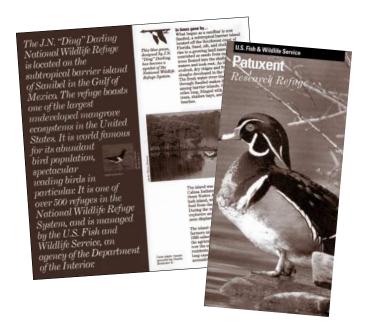
Preferred Media: 3.5-inch diskettes or 100 MB Zip disk. You should also have a hard copy of the contents along with the disk. Mark the disk with its contents and format, for example, "Endangered Species Bulletin" dBASE IV.

Preferred Format: WordPerfect 6.0, dBASE III or higher, or self-adhesive labels (all alike — no mix and match labels will be accepted). Note: Self adhesive labels are placed on the publications by hand. This is a time consuming and costly procedure. Save money and provide a disk!

#### **Tips**

Keep in mind the following when preparing your publication:

- Ensure that your publication has been approved through the 3-550 process.
- Do as much of the typing as possible, including the tables if you can. Run spell check and proofread the document yourself. The graphic designer will flow your text into a template and drop in photos as designated. As a rule, designers are not editors. They assume you are providing clean text for them to work with. While they can type and make corrections to text, designer's charge in excess of \$50.00 per hour for their services. Don't waste your program's money and the designer's time.
- Convert tables from Excel and Lotus to a word processing format, such as Word, or WordPerfect.
- Pick out photographs and prepare captions before you meet with your Publications Coordinator.



- If you must use copyrighted photographs, obtain written permission to use them in both the printed and PDF versions of your publication. This will allow you to add your publication to the Internet's World Wide Web. You must provide a copy of the written permission along with the copyrighted photographs.
- Prepare a distribution list.
  WordPerfect or dBaseIII or higher are the preferred formats If you are providing self adhesive labels, provide only like labels. Your Publications Coordinator will not accept mix and match labels. Remember: Self adhesive labels are placed on the publications by hand. This is a time consuming and costly procedure. Save money and provide a disk!
- Contract carriers such as Federal Express, Airborne, DHL, and UPS, do not deliver to P.O. Boxes. A street address and telephone number are required by these carriers.



#### **Publication Planning Checklist**

"If you fail to plan — your plan will fail"

Yes	No	
		Has publication been approved via the 3-550 process?
		Has text been written and edited?
		Does the publication meet USFWS Design Standards?*
		Have photographs and illustrations been selected?
		Have you created captions and photo credits for your illustrations?
		If you are using copyrighted photographs, do you have written permission for their use in both the printed version, and World Wide Web version?
		Does your publication require layout and design?
		Do you need to meet with a Graphic Designer to discuss specific requirements?
		Do you know the number of copies you'll need?
		Have you included "stock copies" for the USFWS Publication Unit (100 copies) and Conservation Library (25 copies) at NCTC in this number?
		Have you prepared your distribution list?
		*Only a limited number of multi agency publications and publications

\*Only a limited number of multi agency publications and publications produced with cooperating associations do not have to use the Service Design Standards.

#### Publication Coordinators

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911 NE 11th Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-4181

503/872 2701

Region 2 Art Needleman
Division of Refuges

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Region 3 Chuck Traxler

Office of External Affairs 1 Federal Drive Fort Snelling, MN 55111

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Region 7 Laura Whitehouse Office of External Affairs

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